

LABOR NEWS FROM COAST TO COAST

OTTAWA.

TRADES COUNCIL.

Much of the time of the last meeting of the Allied Trades and Labor Association was taken up in the discussion of the purchase of the Ottawa Street Railway. The executive brought in a report to the effect that the situation in connection with the acquiring of the Ottawa Electric Railway by the city was favorable. It was decided to be left over till something more definite was available.

Which Delegate P. M. Draper took a leading part. He said that labor, not in Ottawa alone, but organized labor as a whole, was committed to the public ownership of public utilities. However, that does not mean that we will push a white elephant on the municipality. He cited the case of the American railroads, where millions of dollars have been expended under public ownership. He did not think it advisable to place labor's seal on the project until we know what the proposition is.

Controller Cameron explained the proposed plan to the meeting, telling of the legal technicality which threatened making Ald. Ellis' proposal impracticable. He said that when the matter of taking over the railway was first considered it was decided that it should be administered by a commission of three practical men, one of these to be a member of street railway-men's union. He still thought this plan was the right one. He took issue of the opinion that if the railway could be secured at a reasonable figure, that it would be a good thing for the city. One of the things which might result would be the extension of the service into Ottawa East. He said he could see why the present company did not want to go to the expense of building into that district. It was because their charter was just about to expire and they did not know where they were at. He stated that efforts were now being made to secure from the company a good plan of the value of the plant, and if it is secured it may be included in the by-law submitted to the ratepayers.

A recommendation protesting against high medical fees was referred back to the executive.

President Frank Lafortune and ex-President Pat Green, who have recently been appointed organizers, were congratulated by the Central Labor body on their promotion.

A grant of \$10 was made to the Institute for the blind.

The Allied Trades and Labor Association reiterated its previous stand on Proportional Representation and a copy of the resolution was sent to the special committee of the Ontario Legislature, which is investigating this important question.

FIREFIGHTERS' ECHURE.

The third annual echure of the Ottawa firefighters, to be held in St. Anne's Hall, on Monday evening, October 25, promises to be the usual grand success. The arrangements are under the direction of J. Wilton, general secretary, and the public generally, over 50 prizes, have been secured and a special door prize of a course in La Salette Extension University has been arranged. The first prize is a half ton of coal.

HAMILTON.

AMUSEMENTS.

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COURT SETTLES WAGE CASE.

A wage case and strike story was aired in Hamilton Police Court last week, when Frank Wood charged that the National Steel Car Company had refused to pay him wages amounting to \$21.75. Wood and about 50 other men went on strike recently, and were told to get their money at the office. On applying

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these they were refused, owing to having struck.

Wood returned soldier, said he was engaged by the Car Company at \$10 per hour, and on being told yesterday the men would have to turn out a certain amount of work, he told the foreman he could not do so.

The complainant was switched from day work to piece work, according to the superintendent of the company, and when the complainant, together with 70 others, asked for an increase in pay, they were told they would be paid \$10 an hour. They refused this and quit.

"If the men will not go back to work by the end of the week, they will have to wait until pay day for their money."

TORONTO.

TORONTO NEWSY BRIEFS.

The new agreement granted by the Builders' Exchange provides a wage scale stipulating 75 cents an hour for foremen, 65 cents an hour for roofers and 50 cents an hour for helpers, and is satisfactory to the Felt and Composition Roofers Union.

President J. Munroe, of the Machinists' Union, stated last week that he would not be opposed to night shifts for factories providing that there was an actual shortage of power.

An aggressive canvass and speaking campaign for James Higgins, nominee of the Independent Labor Party and various soldiers' organizations for Northeast Toronto, is being planned for remainder of campaign.

The financing and recording secretaries of Local 21 International Union of Metal Polishers are respectively John Walker and T. H. Milk.

James Higgins, Soldier-Labor candidate in Northeast Toronto, is to have the assistance of Dr. W. Stevenson, Labor M.L.A., of London, in his campaign. Tom Moore, president of the Trades and Labor Congress, will also be asked to assist.

Local 235 International Association of Machinists resumed its social parties and dances in Odd-fellows' Hall, Bathurst street, on October 15 and will continue them monthly until next spring.

EASTERN CANADA.

PRESTON MOULDERS STILL OUT.

The moulders strike in the shop of the Electric Fittings and Foundry Company, Preston, which began on August 9th continues.

Last May the men asked for 90 cents an hour for 8 hours. They were then promised whatever the Guelph moulders would get. Guelph moulders then were granted \$4.25 for 8 hours, slightly less than the 90 cent rate the Preston men had wanted and expected but the latter were willing to accept the same rate. The men had been getting 71 7/8 cts. per hour.

MONTREAL PLUMBERS RECEIVE STRIKE PAY.

The strike of the Montreal plumbers is proceeding said J. R. Blais, business agent, on Friday morning, and there are about fifty men still out of employment. "If the remaining employers do not hurry up and sign the new contract, we shall have to ship these men to other cities, where they can easily get work, as we cannot keep them on strike pay when there are jobs open for them."

The first strike pay has been made, and it is probable that the strike pay will be raised from \$12 to \$15, as there are so few men still on strike.

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WESTERN CANADA

CALGARY MEMORIAL TABLET UNVEILED.

The honor roll of the Calgary Musicians' Association was unveiled on Sunday afternoon, October 19, at 6 o'clock, by Brigadier General H. Bell, C.M.G., D.S.O., assisted by Rev. Dean Paget, in the main lobby of the city hall.

The memorial bears the names of 2000 men who served in the great war, and the design and coloring of this particular memorial is a work of art. Of the 2000 men, one major, three captains, four lieutenants, two warrant officers, and seven bandmasters, while one member was awarded the distinguished conduct medal for bravery on the field.

MANY ACCIDENTS REPORTED IN MANITOBA'S INDUSTRIES.

With accidents taking place at the rate of 250 a month, which has been the average for the first nine months of this year, the total figure for 1920 will exceed 3,000. It was learned at the offices of the Manitoba Workmen's Compensation Board last week. Compensation payable under the Workmen's Compensation Act will be more than \$100,000 in excess of any other year. Accidents in industrial plants included under the provisions of the act total 2,879 for the first nine months of the year. Accidents are increasing in proportion to the increase in industrial activity in the province, said Nicholas Fletcher, secretary of the board.

Under the Overseas Settlement Scheme, 150 men who served in auxiliary forces during the war left Liverpool for Canada. — Daily Sketch, London, Eng.

WINNIEPEG LABOR TO NOMINATE CIVIC CANDIDATES.

NOV. 3.

At a recent meeting of the Winnipeg Branch of the Dominion Labor Party it was announced that the party's convention for the nomination of candidates for the civic election would be held on November 3. A lengthy discussion took

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