

be met by the government, is it not possible to take some steps to remedy the grievances, if such exist, as set out in the petition received by the Minister of Railways from the Dominion Institute of Amalgamated Engineers?

5. Have any such steps been taken?

Still nothing was done. On the 23rd of March the hon. member for West Toronto (Mr. Clarke) gave notice of the following question:

1. What answer, if any, has been made to the protest received by the government on the 16th of March, 1904, from the Dominion Institute of Amalgamated Engineers, respecting the employment of aliens on the surveys being made in connection with the National Transcontinental Railway?

2. Have any instructions been issued by the Department of Labor—and, if so, on what date, and of what nature?—respecting enforcement of the Alien Labor Law by the deporting of aliens alleged to be employed on the surveys being made in connection with the National Transcontinental Railway?

3. Is it the intention of the government, in its new agreement with the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway Co., to provide for the employment of British subjects as surveyors and engineers, in the work of surveying and construction of the new Transcontinental Railway?

Minister of Labor Takes No Action.

And so we see that day after day this matter was brought before the Minister of Labor and still no action was taken by him. On the 5th of April the House began the discussion of the motion to go into committee on the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway Bill, and on the following day the hon. member for West Toronto (Mr. Clarke) gave notice of the following question:

1. Has the Minister of Labor received any communication from Mr. George L. Griffith, of Winnipeg, provincial secretary for Manitoba of the Dominion of Canada Institute of Amalgamated Engineers, calling attention to the number of aliens employed on the surveys of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway, and giving the names of aliens employed in connection with such work at Winnipeg and Edmonton?

2. When was such communication received?

3. Is it the intention of the government to take action upon Mr. Griffith's communication, and to order the deportation of the aliens complained of?

That, Mr. Speaker, was on the 6th of April. No action whatever was taken upon it. On 11th of April the hon. member for Winnipeg (Mr. Puttee) gave notice of this inquiry:

1. Has the Minister of Labor received from the Dominion of Canada Institute of Amalgamated Engineers a request for the deportation of the following men, brought into Canada under contract by the Grand Trunk or the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway Company?

Then follows the list of names which it is not necessary that I should read. And the question proceeds:

2. What reply has been given to the request?

3. Has the minister taken any steps to ascertain the total number of men imported under contract from the United States in connection with the survey of the proposed Transcontinental Railway?

The Minister of Labor did absolutely nothing even after all these inquiries. On 25th April the leader of the opposition (Mr. R. L. Borden) gave notice of motion, and this was the first thing that led the minister to take some action in this matter, for it seems that, after this, at least a communication was addressed to Mr. Hays of the Grand Trunk Railway making inquiry on this subject. The notice of motion given by the leader of the opposition was as follows:

For copies of all letters, correspondence, memorials, petitions and documents in the possession of the government, relating to the employment, or requesting the employment, by the Grand Trunk Railway Company, or by the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway Company, of British subjects as engineers in the surveying and construction of the proposed National Transcontinental Railway; and generally all correspondence and documents in the possession of the government, in any way complaining of or protesting against, the employment of aliens as engineers in railway surveying or construction on the line of the proposed National Transcontinental Railway.