Labor News From Coast to Coast.

# CANADIAN LABOR PRESS

Weekly News Letter.

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Dept. of Labor

## NOW FOR FULL SPEED AHEAD IN CANADIAN INDUSTRY

### First National Industrial Conference Closes Breach Between Capital and Labor—Sessions Concluded at Ottawa On Saturday Last.

The first National Industrial Conference held in Canada came to an end on Saturday last at six o'clock. The "leading lights" of the nation's industries sat side by side with the leaders in the International Trade Union Movement in Canada. That much good will come out of the conference goes without saying, and while we did not get all we desired from Capital, still we accomplished much and the barriers which have been placed against Organized Labor in the past will be soon washed away and the ship shall sail over the smooth waters of co-operation with full speed ahead.

The outstanding figure at the Industrial Conference was the President of the Dominion Trades and Labor Congress, Mr. Tom Moore. He proved himself a splendid debater and always struck the nail on the head. The leaders of industry return to their respective organizations with a far different view of the Trade Union Movement in Canada, and the industrial unrest so prevalent in other lands will soon be a thing of the past in Canada. As Tom Moore said at the opening sessions, Labor placed its cards on the table face upwards.

A splendid spirit prevailed throughout the entire debate and it was frequently expressed by delegates on both sides of the conference hall that they had come together much better than would have been anticipated during the first couple of days.

When the reports had all been presented and adopted there was a brief period during which addresses were delivered by Premier Hearst, of Ontario; Premier T. C. Norris, of Manitoba; Hon. C. A. Dunning, of Saskatchewan; Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King, and the final address by Senator Robertson on behalf of the Prime Minister and the Government.

John R. Shaw, Woodstock, presenting the report of the committee on hours of labor, said a unanimous agreement had not been reported. The committee which dealt with right of employees to organize, recognition of unions, and collective bargaining had been unable to reach a common ground for resolutions. He suggested therefore that the chairman lay on the table the findings of these respective committees that they might be placed on Hansard and given to the public.

The unanimity of the committees on all other subjects had given great pleasure, but there must come a time when men could agree to differ. There must always be respect for the opinions of the other side. There must also be respect for the opinions of those men not represented. He suggested that instead of an extended debate there be a brief expression of the opinions of either side.

R. A. Rigg, Winnipeg, said he believed there was practical agreement on the broad question of principle, though there had been differences of opinion in regard to details. Herculean efforts to solve these details had been fruitless, and while the best of spirit had prevailed in attempting to reach a settlement of the problems there was still the fact that the findings of the respective committee would now be before the Government, which could be guided in future legislation.

Mr. Anglin said he wished to make an explanation of the stand reached. In another 24 hours a unanimous report would have been reached. Collective bargaining and recognition had been stumbling blocks. He thought that most employers favored dealing with labor unions, but it was felt that a man should not be forced to enter a union in order to earn a living.

W. L. Best, Ottawa, spoke to the resolution for labor. The committee had endeavored to reach a harmonious resolution. The subjects referred to it were of great magnitude and it was not surprising that there were separate reports.

Labor recognized the right to organize, recognition of unions, and the right to collective bargaining. Recognition of the union, it was pointed out by labor, did not mean a closed shop unless that principle was agreed upon. The report presented by Mr. Best follows:

When such measure came before Government there would be every chance for the respective parties to present their views on the various matters.

Chairman Robertson congratulated the conference on the attitude. There must be a majority of both sides of the conference on resolutions not unanimous and he thought it was better to table the reports than have them voted upon.

J. P. Anglin reporting for the employers' group on "Employes' right to organize; recognition of unions and the right of collective bargaining," gave the following recommendation:

"(A.) Employers admit the right of employes to join any lawful organization.

"(B.) Employers should not be required to recognize unions or to establish closed shops. Employers insist on the right, when so desired, to maintain their plants as open shops, by which they mean that no employer should discriminate against any employe because of the latter's membership or non-membership in any organization, and no employe should interfere with any other employe because of the latter's membership or non-membership in any organization.

"(C.) Employers should not be required to negotiate except directly with their own employes or groups of their own employes."

"With a view to effecting and maintaining harmonious relations between employers and employes, this conference declares the following principles and policies, and urge their adoption by all employers, relative to their respective employes:

"(a) the right of employes to organize;

"(b) the recognition of labor unions;

"(c) the right of employes to collective bargaining.

"In these recommendations, without changing the generality of their terms—

"(a) 'the right of employes to organize,' means the right of employes to organize or form themselves into associations for lawful purposes.

"(b) 'the recognition of labor unions,' means the right of employes o their duly accredited representative or representatives, to recognition of their employer or employers, for the purpose of mutually arranging rules and regulations governing wages and working conditions.

"(c) 'the right of employes to collective bargaining, means the negotiation of agreements between employers or groups of employers, and employes or groups of employes, through the representatives chosen by the respective parties themselves."

Adam C Hay, Winnipeg, asked employers to get rid of the idea that Labor unions were machines built for the purpose of fighting the employers. The little human touch was all that was required to make better conditions in every industry.

Major M. A. McInnes, of Saskatoon, moved the adoption of the supplementary report of his committee on housing. It was as follows:

"Your committee has considered section 69 of the report of the Royal Commission on Industrial Relations with reference to insufficient and poor housing, and begs to endorse the resolution offered to the conference as follows:

"That this conference commends the action of the Dominion and Provincial Governments in their united efforts to improve housing conditions and to provide facilities for the proper and satisfactory housing of our people, and recommends increased co-operation of and investigation by the Dominion and Provincial Governments to find a satisfactory solution of the problem."

The report was seconded by J. R. Shaw, and adopted.

Hugh Blain, of Toronto, made a brief speech, in which he expressed regret that the high cost of living had not come before the commission.

T. R. Deacon, of Winnipeg, expressed the hope that those who attended the conference would not go away and forget it all. A great deal of good had been done by getting together, and it would be a good thing if some of the resolutions carried were crystallised into legislation or practice.

The resolution moved by Calvin Lawrence and seconded by R. P. Rogers as representatives of the third group was as follows:

"We approve of the principle regarding employment and hours of labor set forth in the treaty of peace and in paragraphs 50 to 53, inclusive, of the report of the Royal Commission, and would recommend that the Governments of Canada enact a legislation, providing for such, in all industries where it is now established by agreement, at the earliest opportunity and after investigation by a committee of representatives of employers and employes representing the various industries legislation be enacted by the Governments of Canada providing for the same to be extended in all industries where it can be applied, having due regard to the curtailment of production and distribution."

The employes were emphatic in their declaration that they did not want to decrease production. A commission might be appointed to investigate the effect of shorter hours on production.

Mr. John Bruce asked what was the reason for the widespread discontent prevalent in the world. The only way to quiet unusual unrest was by practical remedies. He had proposed that the conference would go on record as unanimously endorsing the eight-hour day.

"We have an intolerable condition in the country today and the worker is determined to improve it," said Mr. Bruce.

The development of science and invention, he said, made possible increased production with shorter hours. But this increased production was not a gain to the worker because the ratio of poor to rich was growing larger instead of smaller. The total loss of time from strikes for shorter hours since 1901 was 14,937,237.

"I agree with Dr. Strachan that we should not ask for an eight-hour day by legislation, where we have forced it by our economic power. But we are not going to stop with an eight-hour day. We are going on with our demand until every man, woman and child is insured a satisfactory existence," he declared.

S. R. Parsons, in supporting the motion of the employers' group, said that in relegating the matter to a Royal Commission time would be given for an exhaustive investigation. The Mathers' Commission had been unable to give the necessary time for this.

A new commission would be able

### 1,000 DELEGATES EXPECTED AT INTERNATIONAL LABOR CONFERENCE

Acting for the League of Nations, H. B. Butler has arrived at Washington to direct preparations for the organization of the International Labor Conference, provided for in the Peace Treaty.

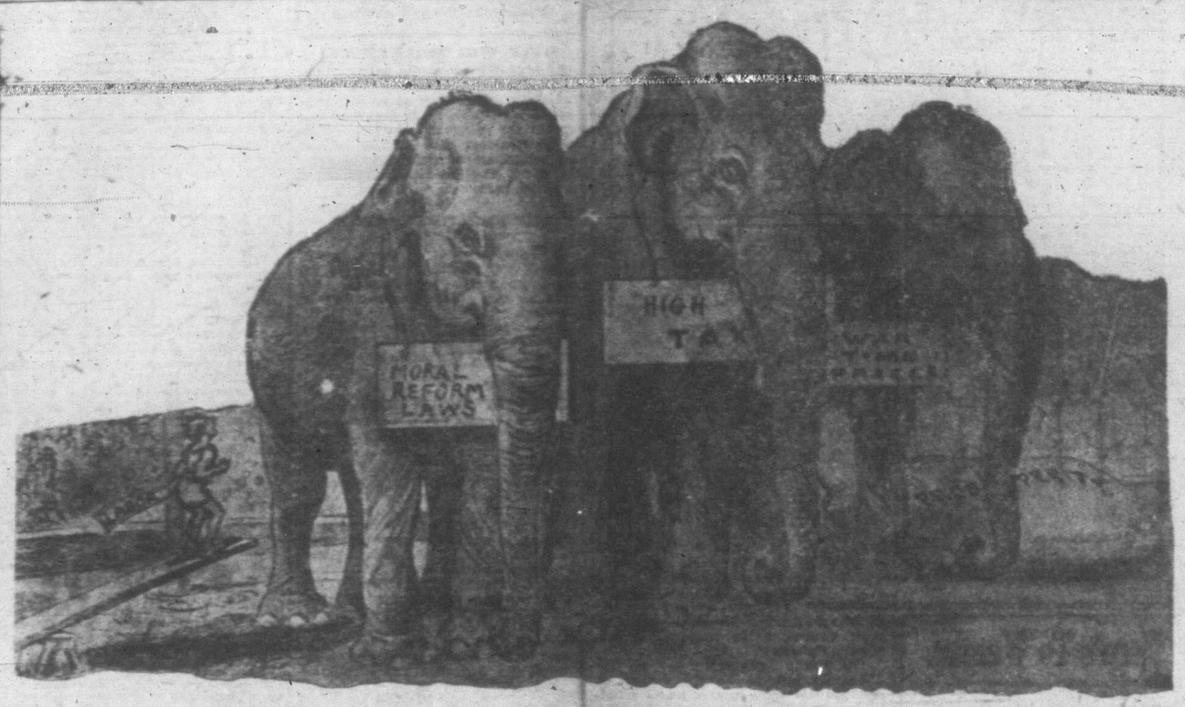
The Conference is scheduled to meet at Washington on October 29th, when upwards of 1,000 delegates from League member countries and neutrals will be in attendance.

Butler, an Englishman, who arrived from London last week is secretary of the committee appointed by the Peace Conference to organize the Labor Conference.

President Wilson, of the United States is to welcome the delegates to the conference at the opening in the hall of the Americas in the Pan-American building.

Subjects to be taken up are the eight-hour day and 44-hour week, child labor, women in industry, unemployment insurance and other matters.

Canada undoubtedly will have representatives at the conference and the Dominion Trades and Labor Congress, recognized by the Government as the dominant labor organization, will be asked to name two delegates while the employers will also send representatives.




SOME JUMP! —From Judge.

## FROM COAST TO COAST

### ST. CATHARINES IRON MOULDERS' BIG VICTORY.

On the day that the Iron Molders came out in St. Catharines for a forty-four-hour work-week and a minimum wage scale of 75 cents an hour, the total membership of the union only amounted to 30, says the Banner. But when the strike, after nine weeks of strenuous battling, ended in a complete victory for the organization, the membership had grown to 110 and the craft was 100 per cent. organized in the Garden City. Every firm, with only two exceptions, conceded all the demands of the union, and these two firms, the Canadian Engineering Works and the Yale and Towne Lock Works, must inevitably fall in line, which they are expected to do at almost any time now. At present only 15 men are drawing strike pay, and the thorough organization of the craft is one of the real big results of the struggle.

In Welland the molders did not come out on strike. The firms in the city had advanced wages to 67½ cents an hour and conceded the eight-hour day, and the members of the union continued to work under protest, but finally determined to demand the same wages and hours as the St. Catharines union had won, namely forty-four hours a week and 75 cents an hour, with the intimation if it was not conceded a strike would be declared. This brought the matter to an immediate head and the local firms granted all demands.

### PICTOU COUNTY COAL INDUSTRY.

The coal trade in Pictou county is fairly active these days. The Sutherland mine continues on the even tenor of its ways. Greenwood is content with 200 tons daily, a portion of which goes to the C.P.R. as well as the C.N.R. The Drummond is doing nicely with an output of 600 tons daily, and shipments monthly of 12,000 tons. The Acadia's average daily output is 1,600 tons, but that is not saying it cannot be enlarged.—New Glasgow Enterprise.

### LETHBRIDGE TRADES COUNCIL SUPPORTS VETS.

At a well-attended meeting of the Lethbridge Trades and Labor Council the delegates went on record as supporting the G.W.V.A. in regard to the bonus scheme, and the following resolution was ordered sent to the secretary of the local branch of the G.W.V.A.:

"Resolved, that this Lethbridge Trades and Labor Council support any action the G.W.V.A. may take regarding the bonus scheme, and that the Trades Council is prepared to render aid in support of any action they take; also condemning the Government's action in refusing a commission."

### WOODSTOCK I. L. P. TO ESTABLISH STORE.

At a recent meeting of the Independent Labor Party at Woodstock, plans were outlined relative to the possible establishment of a co-operative wholesale store in the city. A committee was appointed to stimulate interest in the project and to go ahead with the preliminary details of organization. Considerable enthusiasm was evidenced at the meeting and the committee in charge to call a public meeting in the near future if the general interest grows to the point of warranting it.

### REGINA TEAMSTERS ASK INCREASE.

Teamsters of the Regina Cartage Company have asked for an increase in salary.

The men are asking for a straight salary of $24 a week, and an eight-hour day. They are now receiving 40 cents an hour, and working as a general thing nine hours a day.

### EDMONTON CARPENTERS REORGANIZED.

Local Union No. 1325, United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, Edmonton, have now re-organized with the following officers in charge: President, W. B. Gilchrist; secretary-treasurer, Thos. Gordon,

### POCAHONTAS MINE ONLY ONE NOT OPERATING.

Morgan Lewis, the international representative of the United Mine Workers of America, stated Saturday morning that matters have not yet been adjusted in connection with the Pocahontas mine; that work has not yet been resumed there. Dave Rees, who had been in that district endeavoring to effect a settlement is now at Hamilton attending the Trades Congress, of which he is vice-president. It is confidently expected, however, that work will be resumed at Pocahontas shortly. This is now the only mine in District 18 that is idle.

### RENFREW TRADE UNIONISM ADVANCES RAPIDLY.

Last spring the town of Renfrew was without a labor organization. Today it has in the neighborhood of 1,000 organized workers, thanks to the efforts of Organizer Wm. Lodge of the American Federation of Labor. Last week a mass meeting of the workers was held on the curling rink and the advisability of erecting a labor hall was discussed. At present a great deal of difficulty was experienced in securing a suitable hall in which to hold their meetings, and it had been conceded that the only way to overcome this difficulty was the erection of a labor temple. The outcome of the meeting was the appointing of a special committee to get the necessary information as to the formation of a limited stock company to be called the Labor Temple Co., of Renfrew, and they were also empowered to look for suitable sites and if advisible to take an option on one of these. As soon as the necessary data has been secured another mass meeing will be called, when special committees such as building, finance, etc., pertinent to the work will be struck.

Renfrew has three delegates at the 35th annual convention of the Dominion Trades and Labor Congress, as follows: W. English, representing the Brotherhood of Carpenters, Ignatius Molesky, General Workers, and Miss M. Zivitiski, of the Textile Workers.

### VANCOUVER ELECTRICAL WORKERS' STRIKE.

Inside wiremen of the Electrical Workers' Union to the number of 150 went on strike Wednesday because Vancouver contracting firms refused to grant the new wage scale demanded by the union. Negotiations on the wage agreement have been going on for some time and were brought to a head Wednesday by the walkout. Several firms signed up during Thursday and the prospects of the remainder coming through at an early date looks good. The old wage scale was $6 per day.

### WATERLOO'S LABOR CANDIDATE.

George C. Haehnel was the unanimous choice of the Independent Labor Party at Waterloo last week to contest North Waterloo in the provincial election.

Burt Hughes, President of the Twin City Trades and Labor Council, lost out by seven votes. The selection of a candidate to contest the provincial elections is Labor's first effort to enter the political field in North Waterloo.

### EDMONTON PRESSMEN'S APPRECIATION.

The members of Edmonton Local of the Printing Pressmen and Assistants' Union have taken a very practical means of showing that they appreciate what their organization has accomplished for them. At the meeting of the union on Friday last, the members, says the Free Press, by unanimous vote, decided to donate to the union the whole of their first week's increase under the new scale, which was settled on Friday. The increase will range from $6 to $8.50 per week and the union treasury will be augmented by those amounts from each member receiving the benefit of the new scale.

To the job pressmen whose agreement has just been concluded, it will simply be a matter of waiting one week longer before the increase is noticeable to their own pockets. But the joke is on the newspaper men whose contract was signed in May and who may have to sell an automobile, or something, to pay the union its due. However, they all voted in favor and smiled while they were doing it.

The good feeling that existed throughout the negotiations between the pressmen and employers was a feature of the conferences. The value to the industry of having satisfactory relations existing between employers and employed cannot be estimated in terms of dollars and cents, say both employers and union officials.

### PETERBORO TRADES COUNCIL

Mr. Marchand presided at the last regular meeting of the Peterboro Trades and Labor Council.

A very interesting letter was read from Ex-Alderman Alex. Murray, in which he discussed the Hunter street bridge. He still shows a keen interest in Peterboro's well-being and takes the local papers regularly. He was glad the municipality had accepted the 8-hour day and was paying the fair wage. He dealt with the labor unrest in Britain with advice in keeping with Ald. Murray's views as a Labor man. The letter was received with a feeling of pleasure by the delegates present.

A vote of thanks was tendered to President Bolwell for his activities on the Labor Day celebration which netted considerably over $10 on the right side of the ledger for Council.

The much worn question of street signs was brought up by a delegate, who said it was a shame that people be called upon to carry a pick and shovel around if they wished to find the name of a street in the winter time. After a discussion it was decided to leave it in the hands of the city council, who would no doubt again revive the question at their leisure.

A rather animated discussion took place on the irregular mail service. It was stated that mail is often delayed in transit or other ways from one day to a week. One delegate stated he got a letter this week that was posted in June. A delegate thought that date and hour should be stamped on all mail. One delegate when complaining to the post office officials about the delay of certain mail, was informed that it was only second class matter, to which he replied "the necessary stamps are upon it." This was thought to be an injustice as many a good situation had been lost owing to this delay. A resolution was passed that the secretary write the Postmaster General complaining of the general distribution of the mail. One delegate stated that this condition existed throughout the Province.

### KITCHENER FURNITURE WORKERS ASK INCREASE.

Furniture workers in the city of Kitchener have asked the manufacturers in that city for a new agreement to come into effect on October 1st. The new agreement calls for an eight hour day and a twenty per cent. increase in wages.

### VANCOUVER AND VICTORIA PLUMBERS' AGREEMENT.

Organizer Jack Bruce of the Plumbers' and Steamfitters' International Union, who has been on the Coast for several weeks in connection with his organization, before leaving for Ottawa to attend the Industrial Conference, in addition to securing a new agreement for the plumbers in Vancouver, was able to sign up a closed shop agreement with the employers in Victoria, and at the same rate as secured in Vancouver, namely $7.20 per day of eight hours.

### LONDON CIGARMAKERS ISSUE STATEMENT.

The Cigarmakers' Union of London, Ont., has sent out a circular letter to all local unions in the country, pointing out the system Tucketts' cigar people now employ in the manufacture of the following brands of cigars: Tucketts' Preferred, Club Special and Marguerite. Previous to the Cigarmakers' Union asking for an increase of $1 per thousand, these cigars were made by men only, and were strictly hand-made. The Tuckett company refused to negotiate with the men, and even closed their plant, and left in the neighborhood of 300 cigar makers to starve as far as they were concerned. They are now operating factories in Montreal and London, and the above-mentioned brands are now made by children. They also have a few women working in these plants, and are now working from 10 to 12 hours per day. The circular asks organized labor to register a protest against these conditions by refusing to use any of the Tuckett products. The following cigars are fair and made under union conditions and bear the Cigarmakers' label: The Jap, Armada, David Harum, El Dora, El Sidelo, Bobbie Burns and La Preferencia, and all local-made cigars.

### WINNIPEG O. B. U. SHOWS ITS HAND.

The feeling of friendship held by large sections of the Winnipeg Trades and Labor Council towards the One Big Union has suffered severely through the announcement made recently by radical leaders that their main object in life was to kill International unionism. It is claimed by International officers that Winnipeg is the only centre in which the O.B.U. had any hold, and the fact that Winnipeg members have to contribute to the support of officers of skeleton branches elsewhere is steadily weakening the local council.

### TORONTO TELEGRAPHERS ASK FOR BOARD.

[illegible] Union, press section, Division No. 52, have applied to the Labor Department for a board of conciliation in their dispute with the Canadian Press. The telegraphers have named W. M. Kennedy, of Regina, as their representative on the board. The chief matter in dispute is wages.

### IROQUOIS PAPER WORKERS' WAGE SCHEDULE.

Fourth hands 46c per hour; Fifth hands 45c per hour; Beater men or helpers on boilers 46c per hour; Finishers 50c per hour; Laborers now on pay roll 45c per hour; Weigher 5½c per hour; Head yard man 54c per hour; Engineers (head man) 68c per hour; Engineers 65c per hour; Repair men 65c per hour; Repair men helpers 48c per hour; Head grindermen 56c per hour; Grindermen 47c per hour; Oilers 47c per hour; Cleaners 45c per hour; Head firemen 55c per hour; Firemen 49c per hour.

## AGAIN BAD DISTRIBUTION CAUSES NEEDLESS WASTE

Canadian bacon, purchased to the order of the British Food Controller, has been lying rotting on the docks on the other side of the water, and the public mind has been very much agitated as a result say press despatches. Allegations as to the huge waste in this regard were recently made and have been proved in a large part. Large quantities of bacon were purchased both in Canada and the United States, but on account of the tremendous congestion in British ports, these cargoes have been allowed to lie on the quays for weeks after arrival, and as a result have been spoiled. The bacon is now being disposed of to soap makers.

The trouble seems to have been that purchases of staple goods, such as wheat, sugar and bacon, have arrived at the ports in too great quantities to be handled. They have had to be left in ships' holds or dumped on the quays to remain there, owing to lack of warehouse facilities and the means of transport to the consumers. Ships wait for berths for unconscionable periods, and because railway arrangements are also more or less dislocated, an artificial scarcity of foodstuffs has been created. It is stated, that on account of better curing the Canadian bacon has kept its condition better than American shipments.

The British Food Controller has resumed the control of bacon, ham and lard.

## CANADA'S LABOR LEADERS ASSEMBLE AT HAMILTON

### 35th Annual Convention of Dominion Trades and Labor Congress In Session—Most Important Convention in History of Organization.

This week the 35th annual convention of the Trades and Labor Congress is in session at the Ambitious City. Over 800 delegates, including 120 women are in attendance. The convention is the most important in the history of organized labor in Canada.

Premier Hearst of the Province of Ontario, Hon. G. Robertson, Minister of Labor, and Mayor C. G. Booker, of the City of Hamilton, welcomed the delegates on Monday.

Mayor Booker, in his address of welcome called attention to the great questions the delegates would be called upon to consider, urging them to do their utmost to allay the spirit of unrest prevailing at the present time.

Premier Sir William Hearst, speaking on behalf of the Provincial Government, deplored the fact that such conventions were not held more frequently in order that views might be interchanged for the betterment of industrial conditions and social happiness. Reference was then made to the conference held in Ottawa last week. The Premier declared that questions of vital importance were never so well debated as at that gathering.

Hon. Gideon Robertson was given a vociferous welcome, and at the outset of his address referred to the tremendous stride by labor during the ten years elapsed since he first attended a labor congress. He declared that the Government was anxious to co-operate with representatives of labor.

President Moore in his address stated:—

"The growing power and influence of the Trades and Labor Congress have been amply demonstrated as the year progressed, the Government and numerous public bodies of all kinds exhibiting a keen interest in our attitude and declarations on many important matters affecting labor.

"The work we have carried on has been made more difficult by the action of those who, because of their failure to control, have lost no opportunity to harass and, if possible, destroy the effectiveness of the congress during the past year. Notwithstanding this, and realizing that we are far from having obtained all we set out to accomplish, the Trades and Labor Congress can count the past year's results as the equal, if not superior, to any of the preceding thirty-four years of its endeavors on behalf of the workers of the Dominion of Canada.

"Prior to the declaration of the armistice and the cessation of active warfare on November 11th, 1918, many orders-in-council were issued. Some of these were of a very drastic nature and are referred to in more detail, whilst others were of a less contentious character. Others dealt with the necessary regulations governing departmental and other matters, and referred to food and fuel control regulations, Military Service Act, war gratuities regulations, control of air craft, regulations of the Employment Service Council, Incorporation of Social Service Council, Civil Service Regulations, etc. Many of these which dealt with war activities have already been repealed, including the one creating the Labor Appeal Board, and with the official declaration of peace others will undoubtedly cease to operate unless enacted into legislation at the September session of Parliament, called to deal with this phase of the situation.

"Immediately upon the signing of the armistice I requested the Government to at once institute the eight-hour day upon all Government works, whether done by day labor or contract.

"Later the Labor Committee endorsed this and forwarded a recommendation to the Government along similar lines. The many resolutions passed throughout the country have also been drawn to their attention from time to time, but no legislation has been introduced on this subject. The work on the New Welland Canal, however, has in response to the suggestion made by the Canal Trades Federation, been recently put on an eight hour basis.

The question of the shorter workday is dealt with in the report of the Industrial Relations Commission, and is also placed upon the agenda of the National Industrial Conference being held on September 15, 1919.

"The following organizations of police have been chartered during the year: Quebec, Windsor, Hamilton, Edmonton and Victoria. In December, 1918, a strike occurred in Montreal for the recognition of their union, the men returning to work pending a decision of a Board of Arbitration. This was closely followed by a strike of the Toronto police, caused by the Police Commissioners demanding the disbanding of the Toronto Police Union.

"Shortly after the Quebec Convention ex-President J. C. Watters tendered his resignation as a member of the Labor Sub-Committee, and on the 5th of November I received [illegible] to act in his stead, as they were desirous of having the president of the Trades and Labor Congress continue a member thereof. Since then I have attended 12 meetings. Many important matters of public interest have received consideration by this committee, whose duties throughout have been entirely advisory in nature.

"Shortly after the strike in Winnipeg was called off I received a request for assistance from the Policemen's Union of Winnipeg, and coming to the conclusion that the situation was an involved one, after conference with Secretary-Treasurer Draper, I appointed R. A. Rigg, of Winnipeg, to act as my deputy to give what assistance was possible and also help to re-establish the International Trades Union movement throughout central western Canada. The American Federation of Labor have co-operated fully in the situation, appointing William Varley, of Toronto, as general organizer for Winnipeg and other prairie cities, and A. Farmilo, of Edmonton, as general organizer for Calgary and points west thereof.

"The attacks made by the advocates of the One Big Union complicated considerably an already involved situation; but admirable work has been accomplished by these organizers and the international movement is fast returning to normal conditions.

"As labor is vitally interested in the cost of living, and the Board of Commerce being created primarily to protect the masses, we have made strong representation for one of the commissioners to be from our nomination. Up to the time of compiling this report our request has not been conceded, the third member of the board yet to be appointed. Two lawyers are already members. It is safe to say Labor as a whole will have little faith in such a board if all its members are chosen from an environment where poverty and hardship are not commonly found.

"The year just closing has been a strenuous one. The decisions arrived at have not always been easy to reach, but at all times they have been made with a full knowledge of the varying opinions held by the rank and file of our affiliated bodies, scattered as they are from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and from the 49th parallel to the Arctic regions. Different climatic conditions and other geographical surroundings give workers different views of the same problem and it has been my endeavor at all times to so act as to bring the greatest good to the greatest number.

"In conclusion, as to myself, in office or out, I shall endeavor in the future as in the past to do all that lies in my power towards the upbuilding of the great International Labor movement of which we in Canada are an integral part."

Ben Tillett, M.P., the prominent British labor leader, is attending on behalf of the British Trades and Labor Congress, and the American Federation of Labor is also represented.

The Ottawa delegates left on a special coach on Saturday night. The editor of the Canadian Labor Press is among the Capital City's labor representatives and a full account from the floor of the house will appear in these columns next week.

### MINE WORKERS RETAIN AFFILIATION.

The United Mine Workers of America convention at Cleveland last week denounced militarism and compulsory military service, and rejected a radical resolution to withdraw from the American Federation of Labor. A resolution to substitute May Day for the present Labor Day, introduced by the radical element as a sign of solidarity with the international movement also was defeated. The subject of prohibition was evaded the committee on resolutions declaring this a moral not an economic issue on which each member should be allowed his own opinion. A resolution against the use of convict labor was adopted.

### MAINTENANCE OF WAY EMPLOYES' OFFICERS.

The convention of the International Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employes and Railroad Laborers elected officers as follows:

Vice-presidents for 1919-20: W. T. Turnbull, St. John, New Brunswick; M. J. Powers, Boston; J. D. Molloy, San Francisco; Don Stroud, Monroe, La.; G. H. Flynt, Greensboro, N.C.; J. C. Smock, Indianapolis; William Robson, Detroit; E. F. Grable, Boston; J. J. Farnum, Chicago; S. J. Pegg, St. Louis; W. D. Roberts, Wilkesbarre; A. Gibb, Detroit; M. D. Barker, Parsons, Kan.; G. H. Planten, Altoona, Pa.

### OTTAWA WOMAN MAKING $3.37 A WEEK

That Canada needs a Minimum Wage Law has long since been pointed out by trade unionists throughout the length and breadth of Canada. At the National Industrial Conference at Ottawa last week argument in favor of a Minimum Wage Law was amply put forward by Miss Helena Gutterridge, of Vancouver.

"Two days ago, in the city of Ottawa," she said, "I spoke to a woman who is working here. She worked a whole week and two nights overtime recently on piece work and was paid for her work $3.37."

"This woman was paid at the rate of four cents a dozen on the work she was doing and to obtain a wage of $12 a week she would have to perform the one operation she was engaged in 300 dozen times.

"And that is not all. Part of this same order was [illegible] cents a dozen where this employer I have spoken of paid four cents. He did not have the excuse that he was competing with others."

The very next day the Capitalists' press tell us that in an interview with a leading Ottawa employer he said: "Probably the woman could not earn any more."

Ottawa social workers were astonished at Miss Gutterridge because she did not name the employer. However, the representative of the Garment Workers' Union knew what she was talking about. With her social work is more than "pink teas." She has had to work in the factory and has her information from the inside.

The Canadian Labor Press knows of lady clerks in retail stores in Ottawa receiving $6.00 a week. And we can give anyone the name of the employer at any time.