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 A WEEKLY NEWS LETTER.

COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AND NATIONAL PROSPERITY

It may have escaped the attention of some of the professional economists that, speaking broadly, prosperity and the collective bargain go hand in hand.

The collective bargain means that the employees deal with the employer in an organized way instead of as helpless or defenceless individuals. When an employer declares against the collective bargain, no matter what his professed reasons may be, his real reason is that he wants to deal with his employees one at a time, or in small and helpless groups, so that the employer has all the say about wages and working conditions, and the employee has no potent voice at all.

It is just this difference between the helpless individual employees where the collective bargain is denied, and the upstanding employees that bargain collectively that increases the pay envelopes of the latter. If it were not for this difference the opposition of certain employers to the collective bargain would have no basis.

As a rule, industries that practice collective bargaining operate more steadily and are more free from suspension of production due to strikes or lockouts. When both sides recognize the rights, each of the other, there is a better assurance of a preservation of the industrial peace.

It follows then that workers whose wages are agreed upon by the collective bargain method bring more money per week into general circulation in the community and for more weeks in the year. The known ability of employers to fill orders will yield a few extra weeks work in the year. This is another advantage of peaceful collective bargaining.

Now these increased earnings for a greater number of weeks enters into all local channels of trade. It means more prosperous merchants, grading their merchandise up to a rising standard of living on the part of the workers.

It means stronger banks with increasing deposits from prosperous workers and merchants and it means a community that is strong financially.

The prosperity of workers under the collective bargain also means more home owners and a more settled class of workers in the industry. Permanency of residence due to contentment and prosperity of the workers, under the collective bargain, leads to greater interest in local government and so to higher citizenship.

These are some of the advantages of the collective bargain. Against them, that selfish employer can set nothing but his greed and his determination to dominate and dictate the lives of his employees regardless of the results to them or to the community.

THE MINERS' STRIKE

Since April 1st the United Mine Workers of America have been engaged in a struggle of the greatest magnitude in the history of organized labor on this continent. The strike is without parallel in the number of men engaged, the geographical area affected, the magnitude of the financial interests involved, and the efficiency of its conduct. It constitutes a striking demonstration of the industrial power and influence of the United Mine Workers and the loyalty and determination of its members. The issues of the strike are the upholding of the principles of collective bargaining and the maintenance of a living wage, based upon the American standard of living and proper conditions of employment. In fighting for such principles, the organized mine worker is not merely fighting the battle for himself and his dependents but is waging a fight for the benefit of the wage workers of the country.

The miners report that the strike situation is excellent. The hundreds of thousands of bituminous mine workers, like their anthracite brothers, are standing shoulder to shoulder in this great industrial conflict. The fight is magnificent. In addition to the mine workers in the organized bituminous districts, the union has organized and brought on strike nearly 100,000 men in the states of Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Kentucky, Colorado, Utah and New Mexico who, prior to April 1st, were employed in non-union mines and were not members of our union. The production of coal has in consequence of this situation been curtailed to the greatest degree ever known in the history of the industry. The report of the United States Geological Survey sets forth that the production of anthracite and bituminous coal for the first six weeks of the present strike is 17,000,000 tons behind the production for the first six weeks of the great strike of 1919. This is an astounding record and reveals the efficiency of the present strike in a most startling manner. This record constitutes an effective reply to those critics who have sought to magnify the weakness of the organization rather than to emphasize its elements of strength.

NOVA SCOTIA MINERS

Majority and minority reports in connection with the Nova Scotia mining dispute are in the hands of Hon. James Murdock, Minister of Labor but will not be given to the press before next week.

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CANADA INCREASING HER WATER POWER

New Installation in 1921 Brings Total Horsepower in Operation To 2,763,000.

For two years there has been under way in the water power branch of the Canadian Department of the Interior a careful analysis and computation of the water power resources of the Dominion. The analysis is not yet complete but sufficient progress has been made to enable that Department to reveal the extent of hydro power in Canada. All stream flow and power data, available from Federal and Provincial sources, have been systematically collected; analyzed and co-ordinated with a view to preparing, on a uniform basis from coast to coast; revised estimates of the power available.

Last year was one of substantial progress; there having been brought into operation new installations to the extent of 300,000 horsepower. The installed water wheel capacity now totals to 2,763,000 horsepower, with much new construction actually under way; and many more enterprises in prospect. This stamps 1921 as one of the most progressive years in Canadian water power history, remarkable in view of the fact that during that year the readjustment of values under war-time inflation brought in its train many business and financial difficulties, and the lack of confidence in trading circles generally led to a reluctance of capital to embark upon new enterprises.

The 2,763,000 horsepower thus far installed throughout the Dominion is apportioned to the following uses: 2,013,000 horsepower in central electric stations for general distribution purposes, such as operation of street railways, operation of mines, operation of electro-chemical and electro-metallurgical industries, operation of pulp and paper mills and for general industrial and domestic uses; 476,000 horsepower installed in pulp and paper mills. In addition there is used in the pulp and paper industry 161,000 horsepower, purchased from the central electric stations and pulp and paper mills. The total installation for the Dominion averages 315 horsepower per thousand of population, a figure which places Canada, second only to Norway in the per capita utilization of water power among the countries of the world.

Widespread Development.
 By far the most important use to which the development of water power has been applied in Canada has been in connection with the central electric station industry. The extensive economic radius of modern electrical transmission, combined with the fortunate waterpower sites in relation to centres of industry, has resulted in widespread development of the Dominion's water power resources through central electric stations. The extent of this industry and the important relationship which water power bears to it may be measured by the fact that 91 per cent. of the prime motive power is water power, and that there is now invested about \$437,000,000 in hydro-electric plants and systems engaged in the production of electrical energy for sale and distribution.

Throughout the Dominion there are 282 hydroelectric stations with an installed turbine capacity of 2,013,000 horsepower or a generator installation of 1,701,000 kw.-a. It is of interest to note that of the total turbine capacity, 1,449,000 horsepower is installed in commercial or privately owned stations. The units vary in size from 10 horsepower to the 60,000 horsepower turbines just installed in the Queenstown development of the Ontario hydro-electric commission. The turbine units in the industry average 3,077 horsepower, while the average installation of the central stations is 7,137 horsepower. Continued and systematic progress is being made in the further development of the industry; new units are being installed, new plants constructed and new projects investigated, having in view the necessity for meeting the growing domestic demand for cheap hydro-electric energy.

The manner in which water power has influenced and assisted in the development of the pulp and paper industry throughout the Dominion is demonstrated by the power statistics of the industry. Cheap motive power is almost as important to the production of pulp and paper as is the abundant supply of raw material. The importance of cheap power lies in the fact that it takes practically 100 horsepower to make a ton of paper pulp. It is therefore surprising that motive power used in this industry virtually is restricted to hydroelectric energy, and that Canada's premier position in the pulp and paper field rests on adequate and abundant water powers well distributed among extensive forest reserves.

476,000 Horsepower in Pulp Mills.
 Throughout the Dominion 113 mills operated by water power, are engaged in the manufacture of pulp and paper using in all hydro energy to the extent of 476,000 horsepower actually installed in pulp and paper mills, plus 161,000 horsepower purchased by pulp and paper mills from central electric stations, which derive their energy from water power.

The development of the electric drive in the pulp and paper industry has been marked in recent years. Its advantage lies in an assured uniform speed of operation, and in the fact that it permits the centralized operation of a large mill receiving power from several hydro-electric sources.

This means the economical location of pulp and paper mills having due regard for sources of pulpwood supply, source of power supply and availability for shipping the product. Of the 476,000 horsepower installed in pulp and paper mills, 179,000 is represented by hydroelectric energy purchased from central stations, bringing the total electric drive up to 240,000 horsepower.

Of the total installation listed, the mills are in British Columbia utilizing 18,800 horsepower, forty-one in Ontario, utilizing 242,700 horsepower; fifty-four in Quebec utilizing 312,900 horsepower, three in New Brunswick utilizing 14,700 horsepower, and ten in Nova Scotia utilizing 18,000 horsepower.

APRIL REPORTS ON UNEMPLOYMENT

At the beginning of April the percentage of unemployment among the members of local trade unions stood at 9.6 as compared with 10.6 in March and 16.5 at the beginning of April, 1921, says the Labor Gazette. Short time was again indicated by many of the organizations making returns. According to reports received from over 6,000 employers, employment during April showed a favourable tendency, especially at the beginning of the month. The level of employment continued to be somewhat lower than that indicated by the concerns reporting for the corresponding period last year.

The average cost of the weekly family budget of 29 staples foods in some 60 cities was \$10.26 at the beginning of April as compared with \$10.54 at the beginning of March; \$12.28 in April, 1921; \$15.97 in April, 1920; and \$7.51 in April, 1914. In wholesale prices the index number was 225.0 for April as compared with 225.6 for March; 253.7 for April, 1921; 353.1 for April, 1920; and 136.7 for April, 1914.

The time loss due to industrial disputes during April was much greater than during either March, 1922, or April, 1921. There were in existence during the month 24 strikes, involving about 17,478 workpeople with an estimated time loss of 381,135 working days. Ten of these strikes were reported as having commenced during April, five of which were terminated during the month leaving 19 strikes, involving about 17,071 workpeople on record at the end of the month.

MAYOR OPPOSES ANY REDUCTION IN WAGES

Mayor F. H. Plant's view of the wage question was favorably accepted at the meeting of the Dalhousie ward, South End Municipal Association. The mayor voiced himself as strongly opposed to any reduction in wages for laborers lower than fifty cents an hour. The meeting was presided over by J. J. Prince, Controller. Balharrie upheld Mayor Plant's view of the wage question, while Alderman O'Meara also spoke.

In the course of his address Mayor Plant defied anyone to prove to him that anyone could live on less than fifty cents an hour. He explained that he was strongly in favor of fifty cents an hour being given laborers.

ALL WORKING MEN ARE TREATED ALIKE

The attitude of the Government towards Labor unions was the subject of a statement by the Minister of Labor in the House of Commons, Wednesday, in reply to George Parent, Quebec West.

"The Government does not distinguish between organized and unorganized labor or as between different branches of organized labor," stated Hon. James Murdock.

Mr. Parent asked further how many Labor unions existed in this country, and was informed that the number of local trade union branches reported for the calendar year 1921 was 2,668.

THE MUSKOKA LAKES

The Muskoka region of the "Highlands of Ontario" was for centuries the chosen hunting ground of the Hurons. It was the red man who gave the musical name Muskoka (signifying "clear sky") to this land which held supremacy over all others in his affections, and he christened the islands, promontories, massive rock lakes and rivers in a manner that showed his appreciation of the beauties of his forest home. No happier appellation than "clear sky" could have been adopted, as the climate of the region—one thousand feet above sea level—gives splendid atmospheric conditions. Muskoka spreads its manifold charms to blue skies flecked with soft, white clouds. It is a delectable land, brilliant with rich coloring, its air pungent with the fragrance of the pines, its waters cool and clear; moreover, a land of many pleasures, offering a wide variety of health-giving, open-air sports and pastimes suited to all ages. There are about 100 hotels in the district that cater to those of modest taste as well as to those who are most fastidious. The Canadian National-Grand Trunk Railways have issued a handsomely illustrated booklet with list of hotels and which can be had free on application to—H. E. Charlton, General Advertising Agent, Grand Trunk Railway System, Montreal, P.Q.

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