

Industrial Review From Many Sources I



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Globe Says Minister Will Stick By Gov't Until Parliament

TORONTO.—Senator Gideon D. tobertson is not expected to resign a Minister of Labor before the resent Parliament is dissolved, says he Ottawa correspondent of the lobe. For the past three years, it understood, the Order of Railway elegraphers has been anxious to ave him as its President, and if I any time he had left the Government he could have had this ostion.

ment he could have had this position.

Last summer, before Premier Meighen called around him the old Borden Cabinet as the only possible way to carry on, Senator Robertson had practically decided to accept overtures made him by the telegraphers. However, the new Premier needed his help, and he stayed. Sooner or later, it is expected, he will be back again in the ranks of organized Labor, but those who know him best do not think it will be this summer or fail. However, if his old order were to elect him President, that fact would exert a strong influence on his action. It is not impossible that a salary might be offered him which would make the relinquishment of his portfolio no sacrifice. Now that powerful unions are organized on a nation-wide and even international scale, they are showing a willingness to pay very large salaries in order to-secure the best men to direct their battles and conduct their negotia.

secure the best men to direct their battles and conduct their negotiations.

Senator Robertson's experiences since the end of 1918 as Minister of Labor have enabled him to see Canadian industry in all its many phases. He has remained potentially a trade unionist through its light of the condition of the condition and negotiation as the best means of settling disputes. He has been a firm believer in industrial councils on the Whitley plan, but has held it to be essential that both employers and employes should be organised. As a matter of practical politics he has advocated accepting the American Federation of Labor as the most powerful body of organised labor in Canada, and a conservative body which alone could make way against the One Big Union in the west and the east.

His plans have developed greatly during his term of office, but they are receiving some effects from the open-shop campaign, which the period of severe recession in prices and low production in industry, because of a leasehed demand, greatly favors. Consequently the militant employer has more influence in Ottawa than formerly.

Senator Robertson's course has, however, been acceptable to organized labor, and if he can still control the labor policy of the Government he will be expected to stay on. If not, it is a pleasant thing for him, it will not be the cold world for him, as it will be for most of the ministers defeated at the next general election.

He can also retain his seat in the Senate, although it may be expected that he will find it a more concrete that he will find it a more concrete the defresses it on a labor problem as a representative of a powerful section of organized labor, instead of is a member of the Government of the day.

VOLUNTARY ACTION KEYNOTE OF A. F. OF L.

Demand Investigation of the Lockout of Seamen.

Special to The Labor Press.

DENVER, Colo.—At the close of the first week the convention of the American Federation of Labor finds itself well advanced in its work. Resolutions were being disposed of at a rapid rate when adjournment was taken at the week-end.

Just before the close of the final session a resolution was introduced by unanimous consent and acted on at once, protesting against wage reductions in the packing industry.

A resolution was adopted urging passage by the United States Senate of the LaFollette resolution, providing for an investigation of the lock-out of seamen. The resolution adopted here was introduced by the seamen's delegation and charged "a combination of European and American shipowners, aided by the United States Shipping Board," which has "been busy thwarting the American sepoymers, aided by the Cinited States Shipping Board," which has "been busy thwarting the American seapower corresponding to the American acaboard."

The label committee finished its report, giving the convention what President Gompers described from the chair so "a treatise on the union label." The convention upheld the label committee in amending a resolution providing that A. F. of L. delegates must wear only label garments. The amendment urges the wearing of such garments but does, not make it mandatory. It was the view of the convention that to make the wearing of label garments mandatory would defeat the purpose of the resolution and that the provision in any event would be unenforceable. "Voluntary action," the exponts of A. F. of L. policy, gained the day over compulsion.

CLERGYMAN URGES BRITISH

CLERGYMAN URGES BRITISH WEAKLINGS TO EMIGRATE TO CANADA.

BUCKINGHAM, Eng.—Ose thing Canada wants from the Old Country is young male emigrants, though not the type that come for big salaries, said Rev. George Adams, chairman of the Canadian Congregational Union, speaking here recently.

REHABILITATION COMMITTEE REPORTS FAVORABLE ON BILL

TORONTO—Sergt-Major McNa-mara's rehabilitation committee has reported favorably on a scheme of rehabilitation for workmen injured in industries in Ontario.

Labor and Soviet Russia

mere tit was of a punitive character and was chiefly imposed on members of the bourgeoisle. But gradually, as the Soviet Gonomic system began to paralyze the industry of the country, the Boisheviks were obliged to impose compulsory labor on the peasants also. In the course of 1920 a scheme was drawn up, and partially put into practice, for the property of the country, the single inhabitant, of Soviet Russia, with the exception of the commissars, is guaranteed against the possibility of being sent of the extensive Soviet Republic to do some work totally alsen to his unual occupation. Decrees Cansot Make Productivity. But ever this wide application of Soviet Government out of its difficulty. The acute labor shortage is increasing and production is deilining. It may be possible to mobilize a labor army, but to work the productivity of labor by decrees alone in the winter snow. There is a short a branches of industry house here workers had no boots, and it was impossible to work barefoot in the winter snow. There is a short a branches of industry house for the state of the labor market. There is no need for exerywhere work is at a standstill owing to the want of workmen are hengures speak for the winters snow. There is a short a branches of industrian and Ursal mines, in the liberate and colone, and in all the colones are the workers are short of 76,000 fishermen. The "Ekonomicheskala Zhian" quoter figures illustrating the state of the labor market. There is no need for exerywhere work is at a standstill owing to be the work and in all the colones are the workers are short work and the past of the colones of the past of the pa

three years is shown by the following table:

1918. Supply. Demand.
July-December... 149,253 134,731
1919.
July-December... 70,713 90,907
1929.
July-December... 113,256 188,511
In the different industries the number of situations vacant per 199
applicants was as follows:
Trades. 1918. 1919. 1929.
Metal workers... 83,1 218,6 170,2
Wood workers... 76 159,8 244,1
Textile workers... 53 114.0 210
Manufacture of
foodstuffs... 63 94 110
Printing, etc... 71 128 300
Building trade... 126 142 274
In Petrograd the labor shortage is still greater. The "Economicheskaia Zhizm." February 26, states that in 1920 there were 103,400 workers, men and women, applying for work, whereas there were up to 247,600 situations vacant—i.e. 2.38 per worker out of work. The demand for men was considerably in excess of that for women. There were 448 situations vacant per 100 men, and only 139 per 100 workers.
As regards branches of industry, the record was beaten by the metal workers, as there were [1,844 situations per 100 applicants; then come the woodworkers, 714 situations per 100 applicants; theliors, etc., 612 situations per 100 applicants; the situations per 100 applica

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By V. Isaieff, in "Justice," London, Eng.

With its usual consistency, the Soviet Government introduced forced labor some time ago. At first it was of a punitive character and was chieffy imposed on members of the bourgeoisle. But gradually, as the Soviet economics system began to paralyze the industry of the country, the Bolsheviks were obliged to impose compuisory labor on the peasants also. In the course of 1920 a scheme was drawn up, and partially put into practice, for the regular organization of compuisory labor in almost all branches of industry. Not a single inhabitant, of Soviet Russia, with the exception of the commissare, is guaranteed against the possibility of being selesed and deported to the other.

"We are unable to workers and so on This crisis has been created by the whole system of Soviet economics. Labor, having become compuisory, is now a burden to the compuisory is now a burden to the compuisory that the workers and gives him no material astisfaction. The worken have to get all the necessaries of life—food and ciothing first and forement—from the Government, but there is supply that the workers are short of everything, especially food, footone the regular organization of compuisory labor in almost all branches of industry. Not a single inhabitant, of Soviet Russia, with the exception of the commissaries is guaranteed against the possibility of being "We are unable to work any "We are unable to work any

at an early date, with the object of taking national action with the miners to secure their mutual demands. When Frank Hodges was asked if "national action" meant "strike action," he said: "That is the implication, of course. It certainly means a general strike if the other unions will agree to it."

This action of the miners' executive, following the result of the ballot, stating that the Government offer of f10,000,000 expired June 19. effectually closes the door on further negotiations, and the deadlock is more complete than ever. That other unions will respond to the miners' appeal is doubtful; the engineers are not likely to give it serious consideration while they are taking their own ballot; the transport workers are still negotiating wage cuts, and the railwaymen are working on a silding scale agreement. Something may emanate from the Labor Party's annual conference at Brighton next week, but on the other hand many miners are likely to break away from the federation and return to work.

EMIGRANTS.

BRITISH MINISTRY OF LABOR

ISSUES WARNING TO

Membership Votes to Continue

Struggle Against Reduction

in Wage Standards.

LONDON, Eng .- The miners' ex

of the ballot calling for a continua

duction of wages, has decided to

at an early date, with the object of

ask the various executive by wages disputes to meet the ex-

taking national action with

MANCHESTER. Eng. — The Appointments Department of the Ministry of Labor states that it cannot be too widely known that generally speaking, labor conditions are little, if any, better in the colonies today than in this country, and that openings overseas for either men of professional qualifications or skilled craftsmen are exceedingly tare.

"This, of course, is absolutely un-precedented."—"Punch."

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