

B. of L. E. Representative is Commissioner

APPOINTMENT APPROVED OF LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATIVE ON RLY. COMMISSION GIVING DIRECT REPRESENTATION

Official approval has been given of the appointment to the Railway Commission of Calvin Lawrence, of Ottawa, legislative representative of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers. Mr. Lawrence will go on the Commission to fill the position made vacant by the death of the late A. S. Goodeve. He has resided in Ottawa for several years but is a native of St. Thomas, and has been a familiar figure around parliament in the interest of his order. He used to drive a Michigan Central locomotive. Commissioner Lawrence in an interview given to an Ottawa paper, said: "Railwaymen have wanted an active service representative on the Board of Railway Commissioners for some time," discussing his appointment to the Railway Commission, succeeding the late A. S. Goodeve. "We think such a man can render valuable assistance to the Board."

EMPLOYERS REFUSED ARBITRATION, SO STRIKE CONTINUED

Prospects for an early settlement of the strike of 10,000 milk wagon drivers, salesmen and platform men varied when the Milk Conference Board, the employers' organization, voted against submitting the matter in dispute to arbitration. The board of arbitrators, composed of representatives of the strikers' meeting at Madison Square Garden, said: "We deem it undesirable and unwise for the public interest to merely defer a problem where conditions call for a solution." Earlier in the day union leaders agreed to recommend to the strikers that they return to their jobs on the terms of the old wage agreement, pending a round table discussion with their employers. The contract under which the men had been working expired Nov. 1. The men demanded an increase of five dollars a week in their new contract. The employers had proposed a general wage reduction. Before starting with the letter for Madison Square Garden, Commissioner Copeland declared the employers had taken a stand against the public interests and were sacrificing human life in an effort to break the union. "The employers, he added, "want the open shop, and I hold them responsible for breaking up the plan for arbitration."

MINISTER OF LABOR'S REPLY TO CANDIDATES STATEMENTS

Asked regarding the assertions made by James Murdoch, of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen, former member of the Board of Commerce, and Liberal candidate in Toronto South, that the government had cut rates of pay to railway employees, Hon. Gideon Robertson, Minister of Labor said: "All of the railway employees in train service on government owned lines in Canada had their wages reduced on July 16 last, as was done on all other lines in both Canada and the United States, except that in United States the reduction dated from July 1. The Government does not employ one single man in train service that is not governed by the general agreement recently effected through a Board of Conciliation and

LONDON TRADES COUNCIL ON USE OF SCHOOLS

The London Herald report of the Trades Council states what appeared to be a purely business meeting of the trades council in the London Memorial Trades and Labor Temple last night ended in some rather lively discussions. A suggestion was put forward by delegate Hessel that the Labor Forum instead of holding all its meetings in the Labor Temple should move out and hold the meetings in the schools in various parts of the city and thus reach the children who are not attending the Labor Forum. His suggestion also included the university extension, lectures to be given workers this coming winter by the faculty of the Western University. Mr. Eggett took objection to this on the stand that we were placing the lives of our children in peril owing to the contagion of disease, and said that he would never give his consent to the use of the schools for such meetings unless the schools had an auditorium and sufficient lavatory equipment to accommodate the public. Delegate Mould raised an objection to closing the schools at night when they could be used to a good advantage for educational purposes. Delegate Ingles said that he has been standing on his hind legs for years preaching the eight-hour day and why at such a time as this talk of closing schools up in schoolrooms at night after being in factory, mill or mine all day. Delegate Mould did not let this pass without explaining that he did not mean to keep kids up, but he spoke for the men who wished to advance his knowledge of public affairs. A communication was read from the Fraternal Carpenters Ball League, but was too late to act on as the deadline for the league had already been drawn. The matter up for the north also asked for the signing of a petition to assist them in regaining their script which they had been cheated by a millionaire. Edmonted by fraudulent practices. A committee was appointed to visit the theater managers of this city in support of advertising in Labor's paper, The Herald. The delegate in charge, the matter up said that they advertise in an unfair sheet and expect organized men to patronize their shows. A donation of \$50 was given to the London Labor Party by a unionist. Also \$50 to the city makers of this city to assist them in their fight, this being the tenth month of the struggle. Also a letter will be sent to each local in the city asking for their support for the strike. No. 1 committee reported that they had visited No. 1 committee of the City Council in company with members of the allied printing trades in an endeavor to have the city council agree through the office in the city, by so doing would

CONGRESS OFFICIAL NOW CHIEF



After almost twenty years service at the Government Printing Bureau at Ottawa Mr. P. M. Draper, secretary-treasurer of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, has been made Director of that institution. Mr. Draper has made this top position by steady progress having served first at the case and gone through the various steps of promotion. Sheer merit and his aggressiveness have brought this latest acknowledgment and general acclaim is being extended to him from both inside and outside labor's ranks from his wide circle of friends.

E. C. SEEKS ASIATIC EXCLUSION

The legislature unanimously passed a resolution submitted by G. S. Hanes, M.L.A., North Vancouver, seconded by Major R. J. Burde, Alberni, to the effect that the Lieutenant Governor should ask the Dominion Government to amend the Immigration Act of Canada to totally restrict immigration from the Asiatic into this province. "Keeping in view the wishes of the people of British Columbia that this province be preserved for people of the European race and that the Dominion government support the provincial authorities on the proposed amendment."

Items of Interest from Overseas

WELSH MINERS - In the Aberllynny district, with a population of 30,000, no fewer than 12,000 persons are at the present time dependent on Poor Law relief. The sharpness of these disorders occurred in Blaenau it is over three thousand out of a population of 15,000 are on Poor Law relief. The rates are 2s. in the £ including a poor rate of 2s. in the £. George Barker, M.P., is giving these facts to Correspondent, attributed the distress very largely to the action of the Ebbw Vale Company in stopping work at its coal pits. "The pits, he said, "are in excellent order and there is coal easily accessible. Yet this company, which made over £2,000,000 profits out of the collieries and steel works during the war, now deprives thousands of people of their livelihood by closing the Federation funds. The Glamorgan and Monmouth County Councils have asked the Minister of Health to deal with this district as a "special area."

SOVIETS IN ENDLESS CHAIN SEARCH

Moscow—Addressing the congress of tinners workers here, M. Kalinin, head of the Russian central commission for famine relief, declared that Russian industries "are suffering from bad management and a wrong system of paying workers," which gives them "little interest in their tasks." "We are not grown up to the idea of a Socialist state," he added. "Every one of us strives to give the Government as little as possible and to get all we can in a material way from the Government. Our supplies are exhausted; we have used more than we have produced. A new economic policy, and a new rate of wages, according to the piece work system, will call forth an initiative beneficial to workers and the Government alike. The introduction of a system requiring payment to the Government for every service will make us more economical. Some persons are doubtful whether the new system would further the ultimate goal we seek, but I do not agree with these sceptics. Thanks to the new policy, we will be able to re-establish our economic life, strengthen the state industry, and bring nearer to realization our communistic ideas."

ONTARIO GOVERNMENT TO OPEN SAVINGS OFFICES

"We intend to push vigorously our policy of establishing government saving offices or sub-treasury branches," said Peter Smith the provincial treasurer. "We have everything nearly ready, although the offices have not been definitely located. Mr. Mackenzie, the director of sub-treasury offices, will begin work. Branches will be established in places like Guelph, Ingersoll, St. Thomas, London, and Stratford, besides Toronto."

SYDNEY STEEL WORKERS ASK FOR BOARD

A request for a government board to investigate the Cape Breton steel industry with particular reference to the additional ten per cent. wage cut put in effect on December 1 by the Dominion Steel Corporation, was wired to Hon. G. D. Robertson, minister of labor, by the Sydney Steel Workers' Union. "Progressive reductions since the first of the year have lowered steel wages here by three per cent. from the 1920 standard and only short time work has been available, the workers say. The steel union followed the telegram with a letter in which it is set forth that the workers are not satisfied that the latest wage reduction is necessary."

WILSON'S OPINION

A conference of delegates representing ships stewards and cooks, called by the National Sailors and Firemen's Union, was held in London, to discuss the position which has arisen since the secession of the union from the National Transport Workers' Federation, and the controversy regarding the organization of stewards and cooks. Mr. Havelock Wilson, M.P., who presided, said he noticed announcements of the formation of a new union called the Amalgamated Marine Workers, and there was much talk about democracy. The men who talked most of democracy were generally the worst democrats. Generally they were autocrats. (Cheers.) It was said that he was the arbitrator, and that when he pulled the strings everybody danced like marionettes. At any rate, the arbiter had had the courage to give the men of the catering department in all the ports the opportunity to consider their own destiny. A handful of officials of two other unions—the National Union of Cooks and Stewards, and the British Seafarers' Union—had, it was reported, decided to amalgamate. Up to the present the members had not been consulted, although he believed there was to be a ballot later on. Mr. Wilson declared that his seafaring men eat of every 10 had never heard of the latter organization. He made an attack on certain officials, one of whom he accused of having

RAILROAD MANAGERS OF U.S. IN DOUBT AS TO EFFECT

With the withdrawal of the strike order by the railroad brotherhood executives, railroad financiers and managers are not sure that they have won. The strike order was annulled when the railroad labor board announced that it would consider the wage reduction demands after working conditions were considered. This means a postponement, although the railroads will press their demand for lower wages. Financial writers, expressing the views of bankers and railroad owners, clearly indicate that the owners wanted a strike. One writer in a Washington newspaper expresses this opinion: "Sentiment generally favors the view that the progress of the railroads toward readjustment has been seriously halted through the stopping of the strike; that such a venture would have been fatal; that the railroads in short order, and that thereby the needed readjustment in wages might speedily be accomplished whereas under the agreement with the labor board, wage cuts may be suggested, but it is not likely that any actual reductions will be made for months to come." Much publicity is now devoted to the need for supplying the railroad labor board with "bribe" to enforce its decisions, but this claim was not heard when the railroads were violating decisions by the labor board. Neither have the railroads been censured for ignoring the railroad labor board when they issued their

MONTREAL TRADES COUNCIL HEAR RETURNED REPRESENTATIVE

The Labor World reported the regular meeting of the Montreal Trades and Labor Congress, when the delegates were entertained and deeply interested in the address made by delegate J. T. Foster, who made a very brilliant expose of his observations while travelling in Europe, incident to his visit to the British Trades Congress as a fraternal delegate for the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada. He stated that the British workers had decided to attain their emancipation through their political strength which would build some battleships, at the Clyde Navy Yards so that work might be given to unemployed. So he continued it is well to cultivate moderation in the ranks of labor, as it was more difficult to be carried than to criticize. Other matters of importance came up. One was a letter from the Carpenter's Union which censured the custom of allowing gangs of workers to drink out of the same cup, which was used to carry beer to the workers in unsanitary places. The whole matter was finally turned over to the Executive. This occasioned a speech from one of the delegates who denounced the Health Department of the City as absolutely inefficient. He referred also to certain Chinese restaurants as unsanitary places. The whole matter was finally turned over to the Executive. Another letter was read from the same organization, which asked the Council to take some action in respect to the tramway service at the hours when workers are going to and from work. This was also referred to the Executive. The Jean Painters' Union wrote reminding that the Council should take some action to prevent the increase of rents next Spring. The Allied Printing Trades Council reported that it was important that all badges and buttons should be printed at union shops and that delegates should be printed at union shops. The impertinent of strike breakers in the printing trade, the Trades Congress reported that owing to the activities of the Council, the Department of Labor had deported three printers, strike breakers, who had been imported to Montreal. The Trades and Labor Congress informed the Council that they had issued a questionnaire to be presented to all candidates in the Federal election campaign. The Council endorsed the action. Special attention was brought to the Council by a communication from the American Federation of Labor that the delegates from suspended unions could not be seated in affiliated Councils.

COMMITTEE OF GRAND TRUNK REJECT AGREEMENT

Word sent in Ottawa was to the effect that the general committee of Grand Trunk employees, members of the Canadian Brotherhood of Railroad Employees meeting at Toronto had unanimously rejected what was termed "the so-called tentative agreement" as to wages on the Grand Trunk, which was signed at Montreal last week. This matter was before the conciliation board, headed by John M. Coffey, and the claim was then made by representatives of the C. B. R. E. that the men who had signed the agreement on behalf of the body had done so under a misapprehension, and in signing had exceeded their authority. The matter, C. B. R. E. delegates said, must be brought before the general committee for acceptance or rejection before the agreement would be considered valid. The Grand Trunk, through its representatives, took the stand that the agreement was binding and in effect. The company had negotiated with committee of its employees, and with them had signed the agreement. Therefore they took the stand that they had gone as far in the negotiations as they could. The rejection of the agreement, however, will have the effect of de-

HULL STREET RAILWAY PROPOSE REDUCTIONS

Constitution was caused among the employees of the Hull Electric Railway by an announcement of the company that, starting on December 1, the salaries and wages in all departments of the road would be reduced by 10 per cent. The reduction in wages, as the reason for the reduction that the cost of living had materially come down recently, and was now at the figures of 1918. There is no wage agreement in existence between the company and its men. An attempt to reach one some time ago failed. The employees are having a meeting of their union, and it is likely that a conference between the men and the company will be held for. The reduction in wages, the announcement makes clear, touches every department of the road.

MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

Returns from eighty of the prin-