

publishing special statistics concerning the relations between capital and labor. Without entering into the question itself, I may say that it has often been stated as one of the grievances of the laboring classes that the different statistics obtained by Governments and published by them were not such as would put their claims, their wants, their just demands before the public and before Parliament. The necessity for the establishment of a bureau of statistics has been often admitted, and it has been brought under the consideration of Government and of Parliament, by the trades unions and the other labor organizations of the country. Promises were made, that the attention of Parliament would be called to this matter, and that a measure would be introduced with that effect. This is the measure. In this we are following the example given to us by the neighboring country, where a Labor Bureau is established. This Bill consists in provisions for the organization of such a bureau. It is proposed to establish a new branch under the Minister of Agriculture, as a branch to attend to labor statistics. The Minister presiding over that Department will be the Commissioner of Labor Statistics. He will have the right to appoint an assistant whose duty it will be to collect these statistics. I may say here that, if this measure has not been presented by the Minister of Agriculture, it is because I was charged at the beginning of the Session with matters affecting the relations between capital and labor. I have prepared this Bill, which is a very inoffensive one, and there should be no need to say, as some of the press of the country have said, that it was a slur upon one of my colleagues because this Bill was prepared by the Secretary of State, who is the general channel of communication with the outside world. It is provided that it shall be the duty of the commissioner to collect from Dominion, Provincial and Municipal officers, and of all officers of any public institutions in the nature of boards of trade, harbor commissioners, and of all trades unions, mutual benefit associations and other working-men's associations, all the information in their power necessary to assist in carrying out the objects of this Act. The amount of \$10,000 is to be appropriated to provide for the working of the new Department, including the publishing of the report of the Commissioner of Labor. The principal objects of investigation will be agricultural, mining, mechanical and manufacturing industries, transportation, clerical and all other skilled and unskilled labor, that amount of capital invested in lands, buildings and machinery respectively, and the means of production and distribution generally; the number, age, sex and condition of persons employed, the nature of their employment, the extent to which the apprenticeship system prevails in the various industries requiring skilled labor, the number of hours of labor per day, the average time of employment per annum, and the net wages received in each of the industries and employments in Canada; the number and condition of the unemployed, and their age, sex and nationality, together with the cause of their idleness; the sanitary condition of lands, workshops and dwellings, the number and size of rooms occupied by workers, etc.; the number, and condition of the Chinese in Canada; the number, condition and nature of the employment of the inmates of prisons, and so on, and all such other information as the commissioner deems essential to further the objects of the Act.

WE recently mentioned the fact that the employees of the McCleary Manufacturing Company, London, Ont., had organized a social club under the name of the McCleary Club. It has been in operation but a few weeks, and at this time it has about 18; members of whom thirty-three are ladies. Meals are served to the members at all hours at a very low rate, and on an average fifty-five a day so far have availed themselves of this convenience. A large restaurant in connection furnishes the members and the general public with refreshments.

The amusement department comprises billiards, cards, checkers, chess and everything that would tend to keep the members from wandering about the streets, and furnish them with amusements which are harmless and enjoyable. The ladies' department contains a fine piano and everything else that would help to make it home-like. A reading-room containing a number of books and the latest papers seems to be well patronized. Altogether the club has seven well-fitted rooms with every convenience, after the most improved pattern. The following from their constitution will give an insight into the working of the organization:

1. Entrance fees for members shall be at the rate of \$4 per annum or \$1 per quarter for men and boys earning over \$5 per week. All girls and boys other than above to be admitted with same privileges at half rates.
2. No intoxicating liquors shall be allowed on the premises.
3. No games or amusements shall take place on Sunday.
4. No member shall be permitted to gamble on the result of any games.
5. The punishment for an infringement of these rules to be suspension or dismissal.

Mayor W. M. Gartshore, of the McCleary Manufacturing Company, is President of the Club, assisted by sub-officers and committees selected from among the Company's employees. There are a competent steward and stewardess and a first-class cook.

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