

LABOR PARLIAMENT OPENS SESSIONS

Congress Refuses to Pass on Committee's Motion to Repeal M.S.A.

CRITICISM ILLEGAL

Executive Report Deals With Growth of Organized Labor During Year.

Quebec, Sept. 16.—The Trades and Labor Congress initiated the first business sessions of its convention here in Columbus Hall this afternoon with four spirited debates on questions upon which the delegates were clearly divided. The first was a motion to pass on to the resolutions committee recommendation that the Military Service Act should be repealed. The congress refused, by a large majority, to let the resolutions committee consider the matter. The second was the application of a number of Russian workers in Toronto to allow their delegates to be heard on the floor of the convention. The request was refused because the Russians were not members of the trade unions. The third was the recommendation that a message of greeting be sent from the congress to the Canadian army. This was opposed because it had not come up as a recommendation of the resolutions committee, but was submitted to the convention by P. Draper, secretary at the request of Senator Robertson, and finally carried amid cheers. The last issue dealt with the time and day of electing officers and was indicative of the keenest interest with which the election is regarded. The recommendation in reference to the Military Service Act came from Local No. 3 of the International Machinists' Union of Montreal. It reads as follows: "We demand the immediate repeal of the Military Service Act."

May Not Criticize Act. Secretary Draper pointed out that, as the recommendation was in the form of a resolution and had not been deposited with him ten days before the congress, it would require a two-thirds vote to get it considered by the congress. He reminded the delegates that at the last session of the congress in Ottawa legal advice was taken upon the question of criticizing the Military Service Act and it was then found that it was illegal to condemn the act. He asked that a vote be taken as to what disposal was to be made of the resolution. J. D. Houston, Montreal, said he supported the motion to send the resolution to the committee, because "we were now making war on the Russians without asking the people for their endorsement." Michael Bulahy, Montreal, said he thought it would be all right to discuss the matter in the light of present conditions. After a two-hour debate on the constitutional side of the matter, during which all consideration of the merits of the resolution was vigorously vetoed by President Watters, the congress decided, by a vote of 304 to 116, to refuse to pass the motion on to the resolutions committee. Would Not Hear Russians. The application of the Russian workers for permission for their delegates to speak at the convention was made by W. C. Cassidy of Montreal. Secretary Draper summarized the case for those opposing the Russians by saying that if the congress opened its doors to every movement and handed its business instead of the affairs of trade unionism, it would never get its work done. He advised the Russians to join unions if they did not want to be persecuted. Among the greetings sent the congress was the message from Senator Robertson, who urged that a message should be sent to the soldiers in France. Secretary Draper moved that greetings be sent to "our army," as suggested. Mr. Kavanagh said the motion should be debatable or sent to the resolutions committee. He objected to the congress being stamped by a message from Senator Robertson. A vote taken on the motion the congress favored sending the greetings to the soldiers was carried overwhelmingly.

The question of election day for officers brought out two motions, one by T. A. Stevenson, that Thursday, at 10 a. m. be chosen, and another by John M. Bruce, Toronto, that they select Friday at three. There were four amendments to the motion submitted by Mr. Stevenson and several speakers to take his place in the convention to run for office again, under an amendment to the constitution passed at Ottawa last year. The Executive Report. The report of the executive committee recorded the growth of the organized labor movement. At the close of 1917, the membership for all classes of trades unions was 204,680, compared with 174,000 in 1916. During the year 1917 there were 4893 trade unionists enlisted for active service. With the enforcement of conscription, the total of unionists with the army rose to 32,000. The increase in membership had bettered the movement for increased wages, and the industrial disturbances had been few.

In the political field considerable progress had been made. Since the entry of the Union government into the war, representatives of organized labor had been invited to Ottawa to confer with the war council and the cabinet, with reference to many vital questions. The Imperial War Conference had also changed its policy and the friction which was so evident last year had disappeared. The most important advancement had been the organizing of labor in seven provinces for political action along the lines of the British Labor party. The uniting of the trades unionists and Socialists had given good prospects for a strong and aggressive national labor party. The enfranchisement of women had made it all the more necessary

that they should be industrially organized.

With regard to the war the report reaffirmed the position that the congress is with the German Government and not with the people, while, however, organized labor was co-operating in every way in assisting the Dominion, the interests of the working classes must not be overlooked or neglected.

Government Railway Control. Touching on government of railways the report approved of the acquisition of the C.N.R. and the G.T.P. but urged the inclusion of the C.P.R. It also demanded from the government a declaration of policy on the question of ownership and control of aircraft; regrets that the government has done nothing to meet the wishes of the congress with reference to the increasing of the pensions of soldiers; recommends that its executive be authorized to press for amendments to the Industrial Disputes Investigation Act; urges that the committee be entrusted with the work of organizing women workers and suggests that the folly of expecting new industries requiring technically trained men can be successfully conducted in Canada without a progressive policy of technical education be pointed out to the government. In conclusion the executive council expresses "particular satisfaction at this gathering in the Province of Quebec, the home of our French-Canadian fellow workers as it demonstrates the unity and universality of labor interests."

President's Report. The report of President J. C. Watters, on his work as parliamentary representative gave a synopsis of all legislation dealt with at Ottawa during the last session of parliament and also detailed the part he had been called upon to play in the settlement of industrial disputes. Addresses of welcome were tendered the delegates by Sir Lomer Gouin, on behalf of the province, the Hon. L. A. Taschereau, minister of public works and labor, of Quebec; Mayor Lavigne and J. W. Walsh, president of the Quebec Trades and Labor Council.

President Watters Replies. The congress appointed John H. Kennedy, Toronto, who was fraternal delegate to the British Trades and Labor Congress, in a similar capacity to the International Allied Labor and Socialist Congress to open this week in London.

VESSEL TORPEDOED WITHOUT WARNING

Hundreds of Survivors of Galway Castle Arrive at Plymouth.

Plymouth, Sept. 16.—Heartrending scenes were witnessed here when hundreds of survivors of the torpedoed steamer Galway Castle arrived at Plymouth. The survivors were landed at 7 o'clock Thursday morning. The passengers were mostly women and children, and it is believed that whole families have been lost. Among the survivors were little tots scarcely able to walk, crying in vain for their parents. Parents were searching in all directions for news of their children, and women were seeking vainly for their lost husbands. It mattered nothing that warm, dry clothing was distributed to all the survivors snatched as they left the ship. Their one thought was to get news of their relatives and friends. There seems no reason to doubt the vessel was torpedoed without the slightest warning. The explosion occurred between the engine-room and the stockhold, a fact which is taken to rule out any possibility that the ship struck a mine. The explosion caused comparatively little noise, but caused the ship to buckle in a most extraordinary manner. She was injured at the extreme bottom and was bent and torn clear to the upper deck. She seemed likely to break in two at any moment.

MONSTROUS THING TO FLOUT PROPOSAL

Manchester Guardian Favors Some Expression of Views.

Manchester, Eng., Sept. 16.—The Guardian, discussing the Austrian peace note, asks if the central powers would be willing to restore the countries they have over-run, reverse the Brest-Litovsk treaty set Russia free and leave Poland, Lithuania and the Baltic to determine their own destinies.

"These are among the questions which the allied governments are entitled to ask before consenting to enter upon confidential negotiations," The Guardian declared. The newspaper considers, however, that it would be a monstrous thing to flout this proposal as proposals have been floated before, and thinks the allied governments should request some expression of views to the possibilities of a settlement on such lines as those President Wilson and Premier Lloyd George have laid down.

"The fact that dominates the moment," adds The Guardian, "is that the people of both Germany and Austria are wavering. As the Bavarian minister of the interior said, many have become faint-hearted and moral firmness and the resolve to hold out have wavered. Let us, above all things, be careful not to reply in such terms as will give the wavering fresh resolution."

ALLIES NEED MEN FOR VOLGA FRONT

Released Prisoners of War Compel Bolsheviks to Fight.

UKRAINE MAY REVOLT

Berlin Fears Untoward Happenings—Can Operate in Winter.

Olovanaya, Transbaikalia, Sept. 16.—If the allies intend to combat the German forces in Russia and to save the Russians from falling under the German yoke it is absolutely essential that troops be sent immediately to the present eastern front along the Volga. This is the opinion of General Galda, the commander of the Czechoslovak fighting on the Volga, who has arrived here from the west. Along the Volga the Czechoslovak units, aided by newly organized Russian units, the general said, are attempting to press westward against greatly superior enemy forces which increase daily owing to the mobilization of released Austro-German prisoners. The Bolshevik red guards, he added, would have stopped fighting but for these prisoners, who were ordered to enter the Bolshevik ranks by Berlin when it became known there of the situation in Siberia. Berlin also fears untoward happenings in the Ukraine. There is unbounded enthusiasm throughout Siberia owing to the deliverance from Bolshevik rule through the activities of the Czechs. East of the Urals mountains volunteers are flocking to the Siberian railway to join the new Siberian army. Twenty thousand men already have taken arms. The 1918 and 1919 classes have been ordered mobilized and are making a splendid response.

Enthusiasm in Siberia. General Galda said he believed it would be fatal if the present enthusiasm in Siberia was permitted to die out. In a few months Russia would possess an army capable of driving the Germans to the frontier, if the allies will send troops to aid the Czechs in their work of reorganization.

Within the territory freed from the Bolsheviks by the Czechs are between 800,000 and 400,000 Austro-German prisoners. Formerly they roamed about the country at will, but they now have been placed at useful work. To guard the prisoners and protect the railways, lines of communication and important towns a considerable portion of the Czech forces east of the Urals are required. Included in this number is the contingent commanded by General Dietrichs. It is declared that there is sufficient food and supplies in Siberia for the maintenance of a large army. The winter period is quite suitable for military operations in south Russia. "We are all impatiently awaiting the arrival of allied troops," declared General Galda, "and the moment when we shall fight side by side on a far larger scale than previously on the new Russo-German front."

Canadian Officers Reported Wounded

Canadian Associated Press Cable. London, Sept. 16.—The following Canadian officers are reported to be wounded: Capt. J. W. Maynard, cheek; C. M. Boswell, shoulder; Lieut. D. J. Mac Gillivray, elbow; A. V. Noble, arm; A. C. Komisar, slight; Lieut. C. Morash, back and chest, dangerous. At Boulogne—Lieut. S. H. Robinson, hands, slight. At Oxford—Lieut. D. M. Cole, hand, severe; A. D. Duncan, knee, slight. At Winchester—Lieut. R. Mitchell, thigh, slight; T. N. Rowing, face, severe. In London—Capt. Pinault, multiple; P. Wade, side; Lieut. A. T. Barrett, thigh, fractured; Lieut. J. Min, nose; W. S. Collins, lower body; C. S. Henson, shoulder; Lieut. J. Mac Gendreau, side; G. A. Grant, abdomen, all severe. At Bath—Capt. A. D. McRae, nose; H. A. Reid, knee; P. J. Switzer, nose; and face; J. H. Ferguson, leg; A. F. Hichon, hand; Lieut. E. Salsbury, shoulder; W. V. McKinnon, leg, slight; Frithard, hand; and thigh; R. R. G. S. Phillips, shoulder; V. G. G. Campbell, wrist, humerus; R. T. Chipman, thigh; P. H. Paul, foot; MacKenzie, thigh; J. J. Steel, shoulder; G. F. Adams, lower body; W. H. French and V. G. Innan.

ALLIES GIVEN CHANCE TO SET FORTH WAR AIMS

London, Sept. 16.—The Westminster Gazette considers that the Austrian note gives the entente powers an opportunity to set forth anew our idea of the world as it should be after the war, the world of a league of nations. "That and not the contemptuous negotiation which some people seem to favor is the right way to challenge the German war aims and to appeal beyond them to the peoples of Austria and Germany."

Referring to Vice-Chancellor von Papen's speech, which the newspaper says is an unqualified German victory in the east, The Westminster Gazette concludes: "In answering the note we must make it clear to the enemy peoples that our principles apply to the east and to the west."

LACROSSE PLAYER DEAD.

St. Catharines, Sept. 16.—Word was received today that Serg. Howard "Pinky" Brown, who was on Saturday reported, gassed and seriously ill at Bologna, had died. For several years he played cover point on the Athletic Lacrosse Club.

DIED OF TETANUS.

St. Catharines, Sept. 16.—Mrs. H. T. Bell, of this city, formerly of Grimsby, died at the hospital today from tetanus and blood poisoning. At Montebello Park a week ago, during the sports at the picnic of the College street military hospital patients and nurses she fell and broke her wrist.



That HE may NOT need in vain

From across the sea there comes a plea to the loyal hearts of Canada. On the blood-soaked field of battle, suffering the intense anguish of a mortal wound, many a brave Canadian lad is calling, pleading, praying for the relief, the comfort, the assistance of those for whom he is fighting. He has nobly borne his cross, but the barbarism of a heathen foe has placed him helpless at your mercy, and from out the awful abyss comes to YOU his voice, begging in all the pathos of his agony for the relief which YOU can give.

Won't you give as freely of YOUR MONEY as HE has of HIS BLOOD?

There is absolutely no distinction of race or creed. All soldiers are administered to alike.

The amount asked of the good people of Canada during the week of September 15th to 23rd is absolutely necessary to supply the comfort, recreation and relief our boys at the front so badly need.

WON'T YOU GIVE THEM WHAT YOU WOULD WANT IF YOU WERE "OVER THERE"?

SEPTEMBER 15th to 23rd Catholic Army Huts Dominion Wide Appeal

Appeal for Toronto and Counties of York, Ontario and Peel Postponed until Week Commencing September 30th.

Headquarters for Canada 95 LAURIER AVENUE WEST, OTTAWA

REJECTED BALLOTS NOW DISCOVERED

Enquiry Into Soldiers' Votes in Chambly - Vercheres Election Resumed.

Ottawa, Sept. 16.—Resumption here today of the investigation by Judge MacLennan of Montreal into the Chambly-Vercheres election charges led to protracted examination of piles of military votes. Envelopes containing the military ballots allocated to the division were reviewed individually to pick out the rejected ones on which the charges made by Mr. Archambault, M.P., last session were based. It developed during the course of this morning's enquiry that since the adjournment of the inquiry at St. Johns, Que., on Friday Mr. Chadwick, acting clerk of the crown in Chancery, had discovered two boxes containing returned soldiers' ballots from the Province of Quebec. One of these boxes contained the rejected Chambly-Vercheres ballots. It took the court about an hour to go thru these ballots this morning with the result that 517 envelopes containing ballots cast in nine different polling sub-divisions where members of the Engineers' Training Depot at St. Johns voted, were found. The ballots showed that in replying to the question on the envelopes as to their place of residence the voters had either stated "I cannot answer" or "I cannot say." In addition there were six envelopes containing negative answers as to residence, which were not signed. The deputy presiding officers who made the returns which included these envelopes were: Lieut. H. J. Young, Major Milne, Lieut. Wright, Lieut. Emery, Lieut. H. Macbeth, Lieut. J. M. McCullough, Lieut. R. Knight and Lieut. Holland.

Envelopes as Exhibits. After the search for rejected ballots was concluded, the examination of Mr. Chadwick commenced at St. Johns, was continued. He was asked by Mr. Geoffrion to file as exhibits the envelopes found.

BAD STAGE MANAGEMENT IN AUSTRIAN INITIATIVE

Amsterdam, Sept. 16.—The Berlin Tagesspiegel editorially expresses the opinion that the "independent action" of Austria-Hungary will probably cause the entente to redouble its military efforts. The Austria-Hungary offer, coming on top of the program announced by Vice-Chancellor von Papen, it comments, betrays bad stage management.

AUSTRIAN PEACE NOTE INSPIRED BY GERMANY

Paris, Sept. 16.—The newspapers in general declare that no attention must be paid to the Austria-Hungary propositions, arguing that Germany's ally is merely acting as her cat's paw. They see in the new peace offensive a proof of the weakness of the enemy, who is endeavoring to re-establish unity among the powers in the Teutonic alliance while creating division among the entente allies. All the newspapers agree that it would be a most serious mistake for the entente to fall into the trap.

Judge MacLennan is Appointed Labor Appeal Board Chairman

Ottawa, Sept. 16.—The minister of labor has appointed Hon. Justice F. S. MacLennan of Montreal, chairman of the labor appeal board, which has been constituted for the purpose of reviewing findings of boards of conciliation. The other members of the board are: G. H. Duggan and Gustave Franco of Montreal, and John W. Bruce and B. F. Parsons of Toronto.

ANOTHER CADET KILLED.

E. Warden Victim of Aeroplane Crash Near Camp Rathburn. Camp Rathburn, Deseronto, Sept. 16.—Cadet E. Warden, 15463, was killed instantly in an aeroplane crash two miles east of here today. His next of kin is L. E. Warden of Colville, Wash.

GERMANS UNABLE TO CHECK FRENCH

Counter-Attacks of Enemy Fail, With Terrific Losses.

With the French Army in France, Sept. 16.—The sacrifices the Germans are making to stay the slow and steady advance of General Mangin's force toward the Chemin des Dames are made evident by the large number of the enemy dead found on the field of Saturday's and Sunday's operations. The number of prisoners, which increased during the day to more than 8500, is very large for the length of front attacked.

The dead are thickest around La-faux mill and east of Vauxaillon, where the enemy counter-attacked violently today in a vain effort to regain the positions he lost Saturday. General Mangin's troops not only maintained all their gains, but pushed on from Vauxaillon and captured the plateau to the southeast, which gives them a vantage ground of great importance. Extending the field of battle to the south, the French also made appreciable gains by occupying the Mennejean farm and ground considerably to the east of that position. Further south they took by storm Hill No. 169, north of Celles-sur-Aisne.

The Germans came back repeatedly in strong force all along the front and fought stubbornly, but with no other result than to increase their extremely heavy losses. While these actions seem to be only details when compared with the recent larger operations, their significance appears clearly from the valiant efforts made to stop them.

Further advances by the French on the high ground west and south of the Chemin des Dames will make the German positions there very precarious.