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## FEWER STRIKES LAST YEAR THAN IN MANY YEARS

285 Strikes and Lockouts During 1920 Involving 52,150 Employes and 1,272 Employers.

OTTAWA.—During the year 1920 there was reduced strike activity in Canada and a consequent reduction in time loss. In fact, the time loss due to strikes was practically back to the average of the past 27 years, says the Labor Gazette.

There were 285 strikes and lockouts in Canada during the calendar year. Of this number, fourteen were carried over from 1919, making a net total of 271 strikes commencing in 1920. The number of employes involved in the 285 disputes was 52,150 and the number of employers was 1,272. The total time loss was estimated at 585,754 working days. This is ascertained by multiplying the number of men directly affected through strike or lockout by the number of working days they are so affected during the time the firm or establishment is involved.

A strike or lockout, counted as such by the Department of Labor, is a cessation of work involving six or more employes and of not less than forty-eight hours' duration. Unless a dispute corresponds to this definition it is not classified as a strike or lockout, and is not included in the officially published statistics, although, for Departmental purposes, it is recorded. There were 47 of these disputes involving 4,759 employes and a time loss of 4,507 working days during 1920.

There were several prominent strikes which contributed largely to the total time loss. Among these were: A strike of shipyard employes at Halifax from June 1 to August 11, involving 2,600 employes and a time loss of 104,000 working days; a strike of power development employes, engaged on the Chippawa canal project, from June 19 to July 12, involving 2,600 employes and a time loss of 38,000 working days; a strike and lockout of steamfitters, metal workers and machinists at Montreal, from August 13 to August 21, involving 2,000 employes and a time loss of 48,000 working days; and a strike of miners in the Alberta coal fields from October 5 to October 19, involving 3,402 employes and a time loss of 38,073 working days.

In about 3 per cent. of the strikes, 1,950 or more employes were involved, and in about 60 per cent. of the strikes less than 100 employes were involved. As to duration, 46 per cent. of the strikes were in existence for 10 days and under; about 57 per cent. were under 15 days' duration, and about 22 per cent. were over 30 days' duration. Four were unintermittent at the end of the year.

The class of industry most affected during 1920 was Metals, Machinery and Conveyances in which there were 42 strikes, involving 13,250 employes and a time loss of 132,500 working days. Forty-five strikes, involving 11,790 employes and a time loss of 145,599 working days, occurred in the Mines, Smelters, Refractories and Clay Products group. Thirty-four strikes, involving 4,840 employes and a time loss of 79,054 working days occurred in the Building and Construction group. Thirty-three strikes, involving 3,852 employes and a time loss of 79,054 working days occurred in the Lumbering industry. The above four industrial groups sustained the greatest time loss through strikes.

Classified by causes, 295 of the 285 strikes recorded involved wages. Of this number, 194 were solely for increased wages, 40 for increased wages and shorter hours, 24 for increased wages and other changes, and 7 were because of a reduction in wages. Twenty-one strikes involved union recognition or were in protest against non-union labor, and 23 strikes were in protest against discharge of employes.

The record shows that 125 of the strikes terminated in favor of employes and 66 in favor of the employers; 49 were compromise settlements, while 25 were indefinite or unintermittent.

As regards methods of settlement 116 strikes terminated as a result of direct negotiations between the parties in dispute, 42 terminated through the efforts of conciliation or mediation (almost entirely of the Department of Labor), 4 by arbitration and 7 by the operation of the Industrial Disputes Investigation Act. In 67 strikes, the employes refused work on their employer's terms, and in 36 strikes the strikers were replaced.

### HAMILTON LABOR OPPOSES BOARD OF EDUCATION PROPOSAL

HAMILTON.—Organized labor in Hamilton is protesting against a proposal of the Board of Education that work on castings and hydrants be done at the technical schools instead of the city yard. The proposal, by the officials of the Labor Council, is a breach of faith on the part of the Board of Education. When the technical schools were established in Hamilton the Trades and Labor Council welcomed the idea and assisted the Board of Education in their establishment, with the distinct understanding that the productions of the technical school would not be placed in competition with tradesmen. Already a number of the local organizations have sent strong protests to the Board of Education.

### WILL DREAM COME TRUE?

The Toronto Contract Board should immediately start a bureau column for such items as the following which appeared in its issue of March 2:

"Erection of store is contemplated by Allied Trades and Labor Association, Labor Rooms, Ottawa."

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Our patrons will, we feel, be glad of the opportunity to witness a demonstration of the famous Hoover, in our centre aisle, on the main floor, each afternoon

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ELECTRIC SUCTION SWEEPER  
IT BEATS... AS IT SWEEPS AS IT CLEANS

Demonstration at your Home

If more convenient, just phone Rideau 86 and we will send a Hoover representative to your home, to demonstrate The Hoover on your own rugs, without any obligation on your part, to buy!

## EMPLOYERS MUST CHANGE ATTITUDE ELSE WARFARE

Tom Moore Tells of Campaign For the Open Shop Now Prevalent in U. S.

OTTAWA.—Unless there is a distinct change of attitude on the part of the employers, United States and Canada, to a certain extent, will be involved in serious industrial warfare," said Mr. Tom Moore, president of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, upon his return from Washington where he conferred with the executive of the American Federation of Labor and representatives of international unions.

The object of the conference was to deal with what they believed to be a strong attack upon organized labor in a non-union shop campaign by employers and in the action of the United States courts declaring unconstitutional practically all the laws they had for the protection of labor.

"Employers in the United States are not hesitating to openly declare their determination to destroy the power of labor organizations," Mr. Moore said. The newspapers of all the large cities are full of paid advertisements by the employers' associations attempting to influence the public mind against organizations of labor. A tremendous amount of money is being spent in that way. On the other hand, labor forces are well organized now, and in a good position to defend themselves. They are confident of the outcome of the struggle that they are entering into to maintain the position they have achieved for themselves, and their standards of living.

"If all leads to one thing—unless there is a distinct change of attitude on the part of employers, United States and Canada, to a certain degree, will be involved in serious industrial warfare."

A change of attitude towards the League of Nations was noticeable in the political atmosphere.

"Without wishing to prophesy, I got the distinct impression from Washington circles that the United States would soon be part of the League of Nations in a similar form of international association, whatever it might be called."

Prices and commodities were approximately the same as in Canada. While some items were reduced, the general cost of food and other every-day articles was still maintained on a fairly high level.

## HONOR "BILL" WILSON; CLEAR-CUT UNIONIST

Efforts Being Made to Destroy U. S. Dept. of Labor.

WASHINGTON.—As the first secretary of Labor, William B. Wilson made his last address before organized labor at a reception given in his honor by the Central Labor Union on the eve of his retirement from office. President Gompers, Secretary Morrison and other members of the A. F. of L. executive council, together with other trade union executives, joined in praising the trade unionist's administration of an office that is so entwined in the life of the American people, and especially the wage earners.

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ments, the guest stated that for several years there has been a campaign waged to destroy the Department of Labor, carried on under the guise of attempts to establish a department of welfare. He said that the advocates of this plan did not dare openly attack the Department of Labor, but hoped to cut it to pieces by transferring bureaus now under its jurisdiction to the new department. He said the women's bureau, the children's bureau and other branches of the department have been included in the tentative draft of the new scheme, which would leave the Department of Labor only the conciliation division and the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The retiring official was presented with a gold watch.

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