

Federal Labor Minister Asks Co-Operation

FEDERAL UNION'S REQUESTS TO NEW GOVERNMENT

Associated Federal Employees (Ottawa, Federal Union No. 66, has asked Premier W. L. Mackenzie King a communication urging the reorganization of the government departments at the approaching session to the following needs of the service: A bonus for 1922-1923 on cost-of-living increases since 1918 to be reckoned by the index, or retail budget, of the Department of Labor; a superannuation, preliminary to reorganization of the service; the creation of inter-departmental council, and inter-departmental councils, on the Whitley plan of the Whitley plan, which you have already expressed yourself as favoring. We believe that such a communication, composed equally of representatives appointed by the government and representatives of the public servants, aided by such outside advice as the councils themselves may deem it advisable to call in, afford the only practical method of reorganizing and reclassifying the public service of this country.

DRUMHELLER UNEMPLOYMENT SITUATION

Unemployment in the Drumheller district is becoming acute and at a mass meeting of the unemployed miners on Sunday last it was decided to request the town council to introduce some relief measures. There are about four hundred men out of work in Drumheller, according to the government reports, apart from those on strike at the Callie mine. These latter are receiving relief from District 18. The strike at the Callie mine is proceeding quietly and the men are determined to stay out in their resistance against a wage cut in violation of the agreement. Robert Livett, international board member, and Jas. Conroy, board member of the sub-district of the U.M.W.A., addressed the miners, who passed a resolution promising their support both moral and financial, to the men of the Callie mine.

NEW MINISTER MAKES A STRONG APPEAL SAYS "MUST HAVE INDUSTRIAL PEACE"

Declaring that "Canada needs, must have, and will have, co-operation between employer and employee," Hon. James Murdock, Minister of Labor, in an appeal made public, issues a call to employers and employees to get together on their 1922 wage and working condition agreements in order to prevent the wastage of possible working days during the coming spring and summer. Mr. Murdock points to the condition in the building industry last spring, when many working days were wasted in arbitrating disputes. He appeals to all classes to unite in an endeavor to have 1922 agreements settled before March 31.

LABOR VARIETY

At the session the Conference discussed a resolution moved by Mr. Arthur Greenwood, M.P., that all those engaged in the work of education should support the principle of educational opportunity for all members of the community, irrespective of income or social position.

REGULAR SESSION OF THE OTTAWA TRADES COUNCIL

The Allied Trades and Labor Association wants the Government to pay the prevailing rate of wages on the Rideau Canal Work. A committee of five delegates from the Ottawa Trades and Labor Council, the Ottawa Railway and Canal and the two Ottawa members to present its case. The association also passed a resolution urging City Council to refrain from paying the grant of \$10,000 to the Winter Carnival until such time as the fair wage clause is included in the contract for the creation of the toboggan slide near the Chateau Laurier. Delegate McCaffrey, of the Carpenters' Union, contended that the contractor on the slide had been a party to the agreement signed with the Building Trades for a rate of 75 cents an hour for carpenters. The delegate contended that the contractor paid 65 cents an hour to carpenters on Thursday. He said the rate for laborers was 35 cents. The resolution asking City Council to withhold the grant until the fair wage clause was inserted in the slide contract was carried unanimously.

LABOR PROPAGANDA NEEDED FOR EDUCATIONAL WORK

The recent Federal election provides a splendid illustration for the necessity of Labor propaganda and education in the Dominion of Canada, if a concrete illustration of such a nature were needed. The same contest also illustrated in a marked degree the force of the educational work carried on by the farmers' organizations on the prairies. The British Labor movement possibly provides the best example of Labor educational work and it is interesting to watch the development of the political Labor movement in the midland side by side with the development of educational work. If one were to ask any of the Labor leaders of Britain what was the greatest force in the development of the British labor movement, he would undoubtedly reply, working class education. The educational work of the British Labor party is constantly preparing literature and statistics of economic significance for the benefit of the workers. The Independent Labor Party conducts an educational publicity bureau from which literature is issued, and which is prepared to supply socialist and Labor reading matter to those who are interested. In many other ways the British Labor movement is carrying on educational propaganda and thus preparing the way for advance.

STATISTICS BUREAU PERTINENT RETURNS

While there were 693,116 employees working for wages in Canada during 1918, the number had declined in 1919 to 660,183. Employees working for salaries, on the other hand, increased from 75,221 in 1918 to 88,316 in 1919. The number of industrial establishments in Canada totaled 25,772 in 1918, and 25,744 in 1919. Capital invested increased from \$3,044,991,915 in 1918 to \$3,230,628,268. The cost of fuel decreased from \$77,955,371 to \$60,875,071. Cost of materials also showed a decrease. The value of the 1918 crop was \$1,200,721,025 and in 1919 it was \$1,200,721,025.

ATTACKS STROGHOLD

The Tory stronghold of Sturton, Ontario, was rocked by the Labor candidate, G. H. Jones, when he and Tom Shaw, M.P., addressed a large audience at the town hall on Saturday night. Although the meeting was somewhat hostile to the Labor candidate, the speaker was well received and put forward a constructive program of social reform. The speaker was well received and put forward a constructive program of social reform.

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# Editorial Page of The Canadian Labor Press

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A WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

## MORAL COURAGE NEEDED

One of the conspicuous qualities necessary to successful work in the sphere of labor organization is that of moral courage. It is the distinguishing mark of real motherhood or womanhood. Without it no human being is really free, without it no individual commands respect. The disappointments incident to human effort, the heartaches and the losses are usually attributable to the lack of this admirable trait on the part of those who fail in their undertakings.

What is it that distinguishes the successful from the unsuccessful? Why is it that so many working people are content to plod on in their daily routine of poorly-rewarded physical effort, while others, with no more real ability, pass on and excel in the struggle for existence, achieving and winning where the larger number seem content to serve and to barely exist? The question may be answered briefly by calling attention to the fact, apparent to all close observers, that relatively few possess the courage of their convictions and are willing to risk failure by putting their convictions to the test.

"He either fears his fate too much, or his deserts are small, who fears to put it to the test and win or lose it all," was written by a poet who understood frail human nature. Organized labor needs development of and exercise of moral courage. Then will come into its own, and not before.—Labor Advocate.

## GIVEN THE CORRECT MEANING

The "Machinist" says the union shop is a challenge to absolutism in industry.

In the union shop the employer is shorn of autocratic power to set wages, hours and working conditions. Here, joint bargaining is the rule. The workers have a voice.

In the non-union shop the employer is master. This employer is less frank than the Roman slave owner and the feudal baron, both of whom controlled the lives of their chattels. But their purpose is the same—mastery over the men and women of toil.

He makes no pretense of superiority and divine right, as did other autocrats. He talks of liberty and equal opportunity.

His liberty is to have each worker, single-handed, pit his wit and his need to labor against a trustified industry that is powerful enough to defy government, debauch the judiciary and corrupt public opinion.

His equal opportunity is for the workers to be content with wages set by him or by officials of the State who can be controlled by him.

This employer believes in labor organizations—if he has "the last guess." He must be the court of last resort, have the final word in every dispute.

To talk of liberty where non-unionism exists is mockery. There can be no democracy where employers have personally-controlled company "unions," and welfare systems, as did slave owners who boasted of their kind treatment to vassals.

There are only two systems in industry—union and non-union. The union system rests on collective bargaining and the workers' right to be represented by persons of their own choosing.

The non-union system rests on individual bargaining with the workers pleading his own case or by a person the employer approves.

The non-union system is never referred to as such by feudal employers. Their publicity agents coin catchy phrases to cloak this un-American system.

Their "open shop," "free labor" and similar terms are tricky, deceitful and misleading.

Man's noblest ideals are "gutterized" by these labor exploiters who would destroy independence in their workers.

These non-union employers, these petty autocrats, lack the courage of German militarists who boldly declared: "Might makes right."

The need for trade union agitation and education was never so urgent.

The difference between union and non-union systems should be stressed at mass meetings, by discussion and every other publicity method.

Unionism means resistance to wrong.

Non-unionism means docility, servility and "squaw men."

## WOULD CONCEAL HUNGER

Huntington, W. Va.—Governor Morgan notified a Baltimore newspaper that Minden (Payette county) miners are not in need of assistance, and the Huntington Advertiser repeats this statement in its issue.

"Now that Huntington has responded to the appeal of Mayor Campbell and the commissioners, and Minden's very narrow escape from a deplorable situation has been established, a brief resume of the entire situation would not be amiss," says the Advertiser.

"When the pinch of poverty first hit Minden practically only a dozen families were affected. This increased rapidly day by day. As many as six families were being added to the destitute list every day before conditions at Minden were disclosed to the people of Huntington.

"There was one prevalent comment at Minden last week. It was reflected in every statement for help sent out. It was this: If Minden had gone without outside assistance for another 10 days conditions would have been such as to shame the heart of every citizen of West Virginia.

Mayor Campbell urges further contributions, and calls on West Virginia cities to aid.

## NEWSPAPERS RUN FOR PROFIT: WILL NOT PROBE THEMSELVES

New York.—Let the newspaper of the country probe their attitude on industrial questions, says the Bureau of Industrial Research in its "Challenge to the Press," issued to 700 editors and publishers.

When asked for his comment on this plan, President Gompers replied: "I regret that I can offer no optimistic opinion as to the outcome. The proprietors of great newspapers are primarily employers. Their chief source of income is from other employers, by whom I mean the large advertising interests. It is my opinion that first of all no serious self-examination on the part of the press can be secured, and if it could be secured it would be an examination by a party of biased character and therefore fruitless so far as the general welfare might be concerned."

The Bureau of Industrial Research was associated with the inter-church world movement's investigation of the steel strike. Their report states that the public press "failing notably to acquaint the public with the facts." This general policy of the press has caused the Bureau to issue a questionnaire to editors relative to securing information on industrial questions and on the standard, ability, ethics of reporters assigned to labor matters.

Workers have lost faith in the public press and are establishing publications of their own, says the Bureau.

"The press is challenged by recent events to investigate itself in regard to labor news."

"The gravest duty that confronts the American press today is to bring these questions that have come out of the war into the forum of public discussion. The competent, independent, investigating reporter must come back to his own."

## HUNGER LOWERS WAGE IN TIMBER INDUSTRY

Seattle.—"The starvation policy of the lumber barons has made unheard of wage reductions in this industry possible," says Ray E. Canterbury, president of the International Union of Timber Workers.

"Never at any time has market conditions warranted a suspension of operations in this industry and in fact the mills and camps would have run full blast continually but for the concerted plan on the part of lumber owners," he says.

"Some sections of the country have suffered more than others. The southern pine belt has received the worst of this conspiracy owing to the fact that in part of this nation men are murdered for organizing into unions while in other parts of the nation they are merely starved to death for organizing. Lumber workers in the south are receiving as low as 75 cents for a 12-hour day with the most miserable and oppressive rules that compel them to patronize company stores. In the great lakes section common labor is paid as low as \$16 per month in the woods and \$17.75 for a 10-hour day in the mills. The Pacific coast has nothing to boast of, with wages ranging from \$2.20 to \$3 per day of eight hours, as it is at least \$2 a day under a bare living existence."

## CO-OPS. HAVE GOOD YEAR

Washington.—The weakening of party lines in the national lawmakers body plans the non-partisan element known as the "old guard." For years special interests have secretly operated as a bloc. Nothing was ever said about this bloc by men who are now protesting against the formation of groups that defy party discipline and publicly announce their purpose.

The senate farm bloc is the present complex of special interests and its defenders. Groups representing economic interests, organized along non-partisan lines, is the nightmare of those who have prospered under party discipline.

The weakening of party rule marks the beginning of a new era in legislation, and is in line with 40-year declarations by A. F. of L.

The "old guard" is bewildered because its orders are being ignored. Various methods have been discussed to check the new movement, but to date nothing has been found that will restore the good old days.

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## IMPORING TROUBLE SOUTH AFRICAN STRIKE IS SERIOUS

Outward indications of public reaction of the seriousness of the general strike menace is now apparent throughout the Union of South Africa, says a Greater cable from Johannesburg.

Heavy coal traffic now passes Johannesburg en route for the coast where shipping concerns are anxiously replenishing their reserves. Even cattle cars are being used to haul coal.

A steady stream of police is moving towards Johannesburg to ensure order there while in Johannesburg police is an hourly spectacle.

The situation is naturally regarded seriously in government circles in Pretoria. The Nationalist miners would gladly upset the present government if possible, but there is no threat against the constitution or of any revolutionary intent.

Nevertheless the government is taking measures to guard against the possibility of a blaze, which might be caused by a spark, despite the efforts of the men's leaders to keep things in hand.

The mine workers' propaganda in the Dutch districts consists in the publication of a statement accusing the Chamber of Mines of seeking to remove color bar and give the Kaffir equal status with whites in the mines. The chamber replied denying the assertion and declaring that it desires only a readjustment of the working regulations in order to save the gold mines.

## RAILWAY WORKERS TO TAKE VOTE

Representatives of division 4 of the railroad department of the American Federation of Labor, which has jurisdiction over the shop trades of Canadian railroads from the Dutch districts, has been informed by the Canadian Railway Association that the union workers they represent must accept as permanent a wage reduction of 8c an hour, temporarily made last July, or the railroads will insist upon a reopening of agreements at once.

The attitude of the railway association is being placed before the shop trades by their representatives. A vote has been asked for the result to reach Winnipeg by the end of the month, after which the committee from division No. 4 will have another conference with the representative of the railway association.

It is said that trades have opposed a permanent reduction and the same feeling has been expressed in the voting in other railroad centers.

## BROCKVILLE HEARS ESTIMATE OF UNEMPLOYED

Hon. Geo. P. Graham, Minister of Militia and Defence and Minister of Naval Services, who left Brockville to attend the Liberal convention in South Essex, said he entertained no doubt that he will be re-elected by a large majority if an Opposition candidate is put up.

Regarding unemployment, Hon. Mr. Graham said that so far as can be ascertained, there are now 250,000 out of employment throughout Canada and the Militia Department has now nearly exhausted its supply of blankets, mattresses, etc., in assisting relief work in the larger centres.

## MONTREAL FIRM NOT TO BUILD ICEBREAKER

Canadian Vickers, Limited, at Masonneuve, have received instructions from the Department of Marine not to proceed further with the carrying out of work on the ice-breaker contract for which it has a cost of \$1,580,000, has been agreed by the late government a few days before it was defeated at the polls.

This was the statement of A. B. Gillham, managing director of the concern, who expressed the view that it would accordingly be impossible for his firm to mitigate the unemployment prevalent.

Speaking on behalf of the Canadian Workers' Federation of Returned Soldiers and Sailors, Bernard Rose stated that as the members of that organization were all directly affected, they would send a delegation to Ottawa, but lacked funds and therefore appealed to the general public to assist them to that extent.

It is stated in explanation that the Canadian Government had been informed by the ice-breaker J. D. Hazen, \$427,500, was stated by Alex. Johnston, Deputy Minister of Marine. This was one of the reasons why Canadian Vickers were instructed to stop work on the ice-breaker recently contracted for by the former government at a price of \$1,580,000.

The Government had not definitely cancelled the contract with Vickers, however, but had stopped work in order to consider the problem.

The ice-breaker J. D. Hazen, said Mr. Johnston, was set present the property of the French Government and was in the harbor of Chateaubourg. The Department of Marine had the vessel inspected by an agent of Lloyd's, and the report shows the ship to be in first class condition.

## ACCIDENTS ARE COSTLY.

Harrisburg, Pa.—In the six years the state workmen's compensation law has been in existence, \$59,939,551 have been expended by employers and liability companies for compensation insurance. Of this sum \$22,183,790 has been paid, and the remainder is yet to be distributed under the allotment plan.

During the six years 16,168 fatalities have been reported. The serious injuries to workers total 410,193, and the minor injuries, 799,701.

## N. Y. TENEMENTS VILE, SAYS INVESTIGATOR

New York.—"In 17 years I have not seen tenement houses in this city so crowded, so much in want of repair, or so dirty," declares Dr. Annie S. Daniel, hospital physician and tenement house investigator.

"With the exorbitant rents and the absolute lack of consideration at the hands of the landlords, with paper falling from the walls and many cases dropping or dropping from the lathings, and no chance of rent is forthcoming, how can we expect anything but mass disease, infection which cannot result in good Americanism?"

"There is a moral side to the problem which must be considered. The precocity of growing children with parents makes for laxity in moral rearing. The efforts to meet rent by living conditions by taking lodgings has resulted in a not inconsiderable number of illegitimate children."

"I have found that the city which were relaxed somewhat during the war, have not been tightened up again. It is very bad to see the efforts to meet rent by living in a single room, as in many instances I know, and the price charged are all out of proportion to the services rendered."

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By B. MARCHANT

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Thirteen-year-old Lilla was the only one who ever shrunk from her Grandfather, Squire Trevor, of Oakenhurst Manor. One day when visiting the picture gallery with picture turned face to the wall. The maid told her it was the picture of the squire's eldest son, who had been discovered by his father. The picture was turned for Lilla to see. What a nice kind face he had. Perhaps if he had come back you would never be heiress of the Manor, said the maid. During a thunder storm Lilla lay fast in the woods. She is found by a young sailor lad, who carries her towards home.

She was playing in the picture gallery one day, a little while ago, of the maids being with her, when she discovered the panel door of the painting-room was open, and had known that it was forbidden

ground, went in from sheer curiosity, for until then she did not even know that there was a room there; then the turned picture caught her eye, and she told the maid in attendance to move it for her to see. I knew nothing of the occurrence then, Lilla said she did not even remember it herself, until last night, when she dreamed she was in the painting-room again; and seeing the picture once more, instantly recognised its likeness to her kind friend of yesterday. Mrs. Trevor was braver now, and could speak without trembling.

It may be nothing but an accidental resemblance, for remember, it was not strong enough for her to recall at the time why the stranger was like, I object the Squire, an obstinate infection coming into his tone, as if he did not choose to be convinced, though his hands were still trembling, and he had the bowed, shaken look of one who has sustained a severe shock.

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Lilla was frightened, miserable, and in pain, too occupied with her own wretchedness to pay heed to anything else; yet in her sleep, when her brain was freed from its waking activity, the ease of the likeness was gathered up and made clear to her in her dream.

"Dreams are mostly unmeaning," the Squire exclaimed impatiently. "Very often they are; but there was reason in this one, I think—especially when we remember the very peculiar conduct of this young sailor, who spoke up to the half-door and rung a peal on the bell that resounded through the whole house; then when Simpson rushes to fling the door wide under the impression that at the very least it is the duke who has come to call, stuffs Lilla into his arms, coat and all, and runs away."

There was so much conviction in Mrs. Trevor's tone, and so much reason in her arguments, that the Squire dismounted at once, only just starting out through the window, with eyes that saw nothing at all of green lawn or blue sky, their gaze being turned to the chambers of memory.

"I must have left that panel door ajar, when I went up there a week or ten days ago. It looks by being closed, and I expect I forgot it. I went up there to look at his picture; but though I stayed there an hour or more, I came away without having mustered the courage to turn it round," he said presently, speaking as much to himself as to his companion. Then he asked in a different tone, "Did this young sailor make any mention of his family, or—of his father?"

"Yes; he said that he had no brothers or sisters, that his mother was dead—had been dead for years, I believe—and that his father was lost."

"Lost!" ejaculated the Squire, with a bewildered look; "what did he mean?"

"He said that a long time ago his father went a journey, and when he had never returned, but he—the son, I mean—would not allow himself to believe that his father was dead, and confidently expected to happen upon him at some time in the course of his wanderings."

"I wish I had seen him! What ever could Simpson have been about to let him get clear away like that?" exclaimed the Squire lustily.

"Simpson was too much surprised at the manner in which the bundle was thrust into his arms, to have his wits about him, I suspect," Mrs. Trevor said, with a faint smile. "Besides, he has only been in the family for a dozen years, or so, therefore the likeness to Edward, however strong it might have been, would have no meaning for him."

"No, but it would for Parker, if she had seen upon the scene; and if this young man was a Trevor, and did not care to be recognised, his running off without his coat was a very natural action. Dear me, dear me! and the old man rose from his chair, and began to pace the room in uncontrollable agitation.

But Mrs. Trevor had a word of warning to give him that must be spoken without delay. "Grannie must not be told of this, unless, indeed, we find the young man again. It would be too cruel," she said softly.

The Squire stopped in his walk and looked at her, as if failing to comprehend the necessity for keeping Lady Alicia in ignorance on the subject.

"His father was lost, you know," she went on, dropping her voice almost to a whisper; "Grannie would only grieve afresh over this new and aggravated uncertainty."

He nodded, then took another turn or two up and down the room, finally coming to a stand in front of his daughter-in-law again. "What shall I do, say? I can't go into her room just yet; I must quiet down a little, or she will guess at the first look into my face that I had heard news of some sort, and it might bring on one of those dreadful heart attacks."

"I will go and read the paper for Grannie, and any letters that may interest her. I can say, and truly, that business is keeping you for a little while; because, of course, you will endeavour to trace this young man, if only for the sake of satisfying yourself concerning him."

"Yes, but suppose he does not care to be traced?"

"Mrs. Trevor smiled. "At least a careless man should not be hard to find; and if, when found, he turns out to be other than what we think, then five pounds, or even ten, will not be too big a reward for his goodness to Lilla. But if our theory is right, you can take your own way of giving his due."

The Squire frowned. "Don't talk nonsense, Amy! There is your child to be thought of."

another to whom it naturally and morally belongs."

"The Squire made no reply beyond an impatient ejaculation, then left the room hastily, as he went brushing against Mrs. Parker, the housekeeper, who was coming towards her feet, and something held carefully covered up in one hand."

CHAPTER VII. A Silent Witness.

"Can't speak to you for a minute, if you please," asked Mrs. Parker, appearing at the door of the breakfast-room.

"Certainly, Parker; come into my sitting room, will you; we shall not be interrupted there," said Mrs. Trevor, leading the way to her own private sitting-room on the other side of the hall, and guessing from the look on the housekeeper's face that the matter to be discussed was of considerable importance.

"I found it in the pocket of the coat in which Miss Lilla was brought home," Mrs. Parker said, tendering a much worn clasp-knife for inspection.

Mrs. Trevor reached out her hand and took it with fingers that trembled a little, despite her effort at outward calm. "Yes," she queried nervously, instinctively knowing that in this case there was some clue to the identity of the young stranger, who was so like the turned picture in that closed room upstairs.

"It is the knife I gave to Master Edward more years ago than I can count, when he was a boy at school, and just about the time when I came here to live after my poor husband was killed," Mrs. Parker said, with a little, half-strangled sob. Her history, poor soul! had been tragic, for her husband had been shot in an encounter with poachers in the Oakenhurst woods.

"Are you sure?" asked Mrs. Trevor quietly.

"Quite sure, ma'am. Master Edward had been opening a box for me with his knife, and broke the blade in doing it. He said, laughing, that he would have to wait a month before buying another, because he had spent all his pocket money, and his father would not let him have a feather more until it was done. So I bought him one with my money, and I had engraved on it the letters, 'E. T. from S. P.'—and there they are, ma'am, still plain to be seen."

"The plain which was let into the black horn handle of the knife."

"Then you think—" began Mrs. Trevor, but stopped short because she did not know how to put her idea into words.

"It was not Mr. Edward himself, ma'am," interposed the housekeeper quickly; "for this man was young—an impudent young fellow," Simpson called him—openly a box for me with his knife, and broke the blade in doing it. He said, laughing, that he would have to wait a month before buying another, because he had spent all his pocket money, and his father would not let him have a feather more until it was done. So I bought him one with my money, and I had engraved on it the letters, 'E. T. from S. P.'—and there they are, ma'am, still plain to be seen."

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time, mostly contenting herself with shoddy.

(To be Continued.)

## PROVINCES WITH ONE EXCEPTION USED MONEY

With the exception of Alberta, where it appears there has been some delay owing to divided responsibility in highway matters, all the provinces of the Dominion, it is stated, have taken advantage of the Federal Aid to Highways plan, and Highways Department officials feel that the appropriation of \$20,000,000 which the Federal Government set aside in 1919 will be used up before the end of the five-year period covered by the appropriation.

The estimated cost of highway improvement projects undertaken to January 1, 1925, under agreement with the Federal Government was \$29,247,667, with a total mileage of approximately 4,230 miles. The Dominion Government's share of the projects under agreement is \$11,609,666, and the net has yet almost three years to run.

It is expected that before the expiration of the appropriation there will be requests from the various organizations interested in highway building and improvement for increases in the federal grant for the purpose.

Saskatchewan leads the provinces in respect to the mileage of projects under agreement, with 1,220 miles at an estimated cost of \$1,374,092 and just about the time when I came here to live after my poor husband was killed."

Figures for the other provinces are: Alberta, none; British Columbia; mileage 337; estimated cost \$2,612,693; average cost per mile, \$7,731. Manitoba; mileage, 764; estimated cost \$3,478,902; average cost per mile \$4,546. New Brunswick; mileage 1,209; estimated cost \$3,985,708; average cost per mile \$3,271. Nova Scotia; mileage 168; estimated cost \$1,799,325; average cost per mile \$10,695. Prince Edward Island; mileage, 181; estimated cost \$329,565; average cost per mile \$1,818. Quebec; mileage 243; estimated cost \$2,718,226; average cost per mile \$11,116.

The total number of projects under agreement is 170, with an average per province of 21, and the average cost per mile of all the roads constructed or being constructed under agreement is \$6,182. Highway plans must be approved by Federal officials before payment of the 40 per cent. cost is allowed.

CITED FOR CONTEMPT.

Hudson Falls. — Supreme Court Justice McPhillips has cited John T. Burke and Frank Barry to show why they should not be punished for contempt of court in violating a labor injunction. The former is president and the latter is vice-president of the International Brotherhood of Pulp, Sulphite and Paper Mill Workers' union. The injunction was issued at the request of the International Paper company.

Clatus Sweeney, a striker, was fined \$50 by Justice McPhillips for throwing a snowball at a strike-breaker.

EMPLOYEES OWN LITTLE.

New York.—The "partnership" fair sale, that great trust publicity agents love to relate, when defending agrism, is not sustained by the steel-trust's report on common stock ownership.

It is shown that the holders of this stock total 167,439 persons. The number of workers employed by the trust in normal times approximates 250,000. If all the stock was held by employees, ever yshore would be divided between more than two workers.

UNCLE SAM REDUCES FLEET WAGES.

A reduction of the shipping wage board scale paid to deck officers and men will be made effective on February 8 it was announced by Vice-President Jos. Powell, of the Emergency Fleet Corporation. The amount of the cut to be made has not yet been determined by the board, but it will be discussed with the chairman and representatives of merchant marine officer and crew organizations, which were advised of the reduction. It is understood that the reduction will follow the cut made in private enterprise, a schedule of which was submitted to Chairman Lasker by the American Steamship Owners' Association, and which was reported to range from 10 to 30 per cent. for officers and men.

## TORONTO MEETING BRITISH EMPIRE STEEL

Members of the Board of directors of the British Empire Steel Corporation held a meeting in Toronto. Vice-President D. H. McDougall stated after the meeting that the corporation was facing the prospect of a sharp decline in demand for steel and coal divisions. It was not expected that business would be very brisk. Wages \$31, steel 14.86, iron 14.86, coal 14.86. McDougall said, "before we can regain our market in the St. Lawrence for coal, and before we can compete in steel with European and American prices. We are now rolling some rails at Sydney to fill orders from the railways, and are mining coal only for current requirements."

Mr. McDougall said that the transfer of stock in the old corporation for the securities of the new corporation is proceeding steadily, and about 70 per cent of the old stock has already been exchanged.

ONTARIO LABOR MINISTER TO URGE CONFERENCE.

According to Hon. Walter Rolfe, Provincial Minister of Labor, the mooted interprovincial labor conference has not yet been arranged because Senator Robertson, Minister of Labor in the Meighen Government, declined to call the provincial representatives together, on the ground that Ontario was the only province making the request. The conference was proposed to discuss giving effect to decisions of the international labor conference at Washington.

MR. FACING-BOTH-WAYS.

Chattanooga, Tenn.—In commenting on the "can't-strike" suggestion by Hon. W. Hooper, vice-chairman of the railroad labor board, the Labor World of this city says: "His present attitude recalls a former campaign in this state when he was dubbed a 'ya political opponent.' Mr. Facing-Both-Ways."

Mr. Hooper is an ex-governor of this state. He was appointed a member of the public group on the railroad labor board, and is supposed to be neutral. While addressing a New York gathering of railroad executives he lined up with the railroads by favoring legislation to outlaw strikes.

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## OVERSEAS

(Continued from page 1)  
Times says it doubts if such views will command sympathy there, where trouble such as has been experienced in South Africa from Indian and Chinese labor is already known. The Australia have also no means how the Japanese question has become a very real one in British Columbia. The Times says:  
"A continent nearly 3,000,000 miles in extent cannot be divided into a series of 'native compounds' in accordance with a rum order of Lord Northcliffe's injunction to make Australia 'white' and declares that the world will see to it that a white Australia is dependent on a white immigration."

## LAW POPULAR?

Frank Hodges, secretary of the Miners' Federation, and Alfred Short, labor member of the House of Commons for Liverpool, are both reading for admission to the Bar. Hodges, who prepared for a Sturges scholarship, is an omnivorous reader. His wife was a bootmaker in early life.

## LABOR OPINION

The railway union in Ireland soon expect in favor of the peace treaty. The attitude of labor hitherto has been regarded as uncertain and suspicious of the treaty expressed gratification on hearing of the impending declaration.

## ATTACK WAGES

Among trade union leaders, in the discussion of the companies' announcement of freight reductions, chief attention was directed to the companies' reference to wages and working conditions. The railway managers in announcing the cut-downs on freight, had the companies could not have proposed these.  
It is noted that they look for relief at an early date from a further fall in the prices of materials and the automatic reduction of wages under the contract is being arising from a fall in the cost of living.  
On this point, it may be recalled that C. T. Cramp (Industrial secretary of the National Union of Railwaymen) stated that, under the agreement referred to, wages will drop another \$4,500,000 on January 1, making a total loss to railwaymen in one year of over \$15,000,000.  
But although the \$5,000,000 more than the railway companies are now conceding, the managers add:

## ONTARIO CONGRESS REPRESENTATIVES PREPARING PROGRAM

Old age pensions and unemployment insurance will be the important items in the program of legislation which the Trade and Labor Congress of Canada is seeking from the provincial governments for trade unionists in the province, Controller Joseph Gibbons, of Toronto, states.

## FUR WORKERS DEMANDS

Montreal.—The general executive board of the International Fur Workers' Union, in annual session in this city, have decided to uphold the local union of New York, Brooklyn and Newark in their demands for the maintenance of conditions already prevailing in these centers, which include the 44-hour week, time and a half for overtime and ten legal holidays per year. The existing agreement with the manufacturers expires January 31, and it is understood the above demands will be insisted upon when the negotiation of renewal comes up.

## CANADA SECOND IN USE OF TELEPHONES

Canada in 1919, the latest date for which statistics are available, ranked second only to the United States in the number of telephones per hundred of population. The United States had 13.6 telephones per 100 of population, and Canada 9.8. Italy, with 3 phones per hundred, was lowest according to statistics issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. In the calendar year 1920 there were 356,206 phones in use in Canada, an increase of 10 per cent over 1919, and 85 per cent over 1913. Increases in rural telephone companies and rural telephones constituted largely to the general increase. The wire mileage in use was 2,105,101, and the average persons per mile of wire was 4.2.

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## WOULD RAISE WAGES ON HULL ELECTRIC

An award conferred by Mr. W. F. O'Connor, K.C., chairman, and Mr. Fred Bancroft, representing the men, which it is understood will raise the present level of wages, which is 45 cents per hour, of the employees of the Hull Electric Railway Company, was sent to the Labor department yesterday afternoon. A minority report was also submitted by Mr. George D. Kelly, representing the Hull Electric Company.  
The contents of the award and the details of the minority report, it is expected, will be made public by the labor department some time today. The award and the report submitted yesterday, were in connection with the proceedings of the conciliation board, which last week sat three days at the court house to hear the dispute between the employees of the Hull Electric Railway and the company, which arose over a ten per cent reduction in wages, which went into effect on December 1st.

Prior to the wage reduction against which the men complained, they were receiving 48 cents per hour. When talk of a reduction was made they first asked for fifty-five cents per hour, but later receded from their position and agreed to continue on the forty-eight cents per hour basis. The company would not agree to this, and cut the wages five cents per hour, or to forty-three cents. During the course of the proceedings before the conciliation board the financial position of the company was set forth in a variety of documents, which tended to show that the company for some time past had been operating at a loss. The taking of evidence closed on Friday afternoon, and the members of the board then began the consideration of their award.  
They deliberated the best part of Saturday and part of yesterday with the idea of having a unanimous award made, but failed, as Mr. Kelly for the company, would not agree to any increase in wages.

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