

A. F. OF L. BUILDING TRADES DEPARTMENT WILL SEND TWENTY ORGANIZERS TO COMBAT THE CANADIAN O. B. U.

HYDRO WORKERS' SIDE OF CASE REVEALS DISPUTE GROSSLY MISREPRESENTED BY EXAGGERATED WAGE SCALE

Wages Asked by Skilled and Unskilled Only on Par With Prevailing Rates Paid Fellow Workers in Radius of Fifty Miles.

To the Editor Canadian Labor Press: Sir—Much has been published of late from the standpoint of the Hydro-Electric Commission with regard to the Chippewa dispute, but practically nothing from the standpoint of the workers, whose case has been grossly misrepresented in the daily press, whether truthfully or otherwise. The workers and their representatives have hitherto refused from making any statement on their side of the question, but it seems the time has come when the public should know something of the workers' side of the case, and the weekly in view of the unfavorable report (as far as the workers are concerned) recently submitted by the special commission appointed by the Ontario Legislature to investigate the dispute.

In the first place our case has been grossly misrepresented in the publication of an exaggerated wage scale if the demands of the workers were granted. Such figures as \$12.00 to \$14.00 per day have been quoted, which would not prevail except in the case of some of the highly skilled workers, who represent only about 15 per cent of the workers involved, and then only in the event of their having to work overtime over the basic eight-hour day, which has already been agreed to by the Hydro Commission during negotiations with the workers' representatives (prior to the appointment of the special commission), with the understanding that overtime is to be confined to cases of emergency only.

Bring Them up to Par. Furthermore the wages asked for by any of the workers, either skilled or otherwise, would, if granted, only be on a par with the prevailing rates in their fellow workers in similar work within a fifty-mile radius, and is barely a living wage.

The highest possible daily earnings under the eight-hour day for the mechanics and other skilled workers would, if their demands are granted, not be more than \$13.00 per day, while for the laborers it would not be more than \$8.00 per day. Special Commission in their report state that they have investigated the financial condition of the Hydro project, and claim that the case will not warrant a further increase of the wage bill without having to increase some metals and metal products, but there were increases in others.

The departmental index of wholesale prices rose to 256.8 for May as compared with 253.1 for April, 254.1 in May, 1919, and 196.3 in May, 1918. It returned to the average cost of a family budget of staple foods in sixty cities was higher, rising to \$16.45 at the middle of May as compared with \$15.95 at the middle of April, and \$7.43 in May, 1914. The chief increase was in potatoes, which averaged \$4.15 per bushel as compared with \$3.75 in April. Sugar also advanced substantially, averaging 21.7 cents per pound for granulated as compared with 19.5 cents in April. There were slight increases in some meats and in several of the other lines, with coal and coal oil were also up, and rent averaged considerably higher.

With regard to the housing and the food supplied to the men who live in the camps, I will not take up much space, as this letter is already a lengthy one, except to say that I cannot understand how an investigation commission can pass over the matter of such serious importance in such an offhand way, for as a whole the sleeping quarters in the camp are in a filthy, unsanitary and badly ventilated condition, and the food an abomination, and still the workers under these conditions are expected to be efficient and contented.

There is one thing that the commission have recommended that may bear fruit, and that is a round table conference between the Hydro Commission and the Workers' Committee, but even this is doubtful, seeing that they claim the financial features of the case will not permit the outline in this matter is indeed not very promising for a satisfactory settlement of the dispute.

I trust the same publicity will be given to the presentation of the workers' side of the case as has been given hitherto to that of the Hydro Commission.

Yours truly, W. G. POYLESLEND, International Vice-President, International Brotherhood of Blacksmiths and Helpers, 239 Beattie Street, Toronto, Ont.

WORKERS' RIGHT TO ORGANIZE MUST NOT BE INTERFERED WITH. It is inconceivable that the workers as free citizens should remain under automatically made law within industry and commerce as it is that the nation could remain a democracy while certain individuals or groups exercise autocratic powers.

MATTY WOLL ON REPUBLICAN PLATFORM. The Republican platform adopted in Chicago is declared "an outrage and an affront to the working people," and "a document with which Wall Street and the Steel Trust ought to be highly pleased," says Matthew Woll, vice-president of the A. F. of L. in a statement issued on Friday.

The platform, Mr. Woll asserts, "is a smoke screen to deceive the people," but it now remains to be seen whether the first step can be detected by an effort so bold and brazen. "It provides for compulsory labor in any Government and Government services," continued the statement, "but is found and impressively silent on the great question of the right of the worker to organize for the benefit of organized oil, mineral and mining appetites."

A. F. of L. Opposes Bolshevism and Soviet Government. The American Federation of Labor in its annual convention at Montreal on Tuesday declined to lend any support or comfort to the Soviet Government of Russia. After two hours warm and bitter debate, defenders of Bolshevism were routed and crushing defeat when the convention overwhelmingly voted not to demand of the United States Government the lifting of the blockade against Russia and the recognition of the Soviet Government. The Federation went on record as opposed to the Trotsky-Lenine regime on the ground that it is not representative of the Russian people, but is merely a military autocracy that has gone so far as to establish industrial slavery.

Family Budget Takes Jump of Nearly A Dollar in May

"In prices the general movement continued upward, increases in grain, fodder, live stock, fuel, building materials, and furnishings slightly more than offsetting decreases in eggs, milk, hides, textiles, and in raw furs," says the Labor Gazette. "There were decreases in some metals and metal products, but there were increases in others. The departmental index of wholesale prices rose to 256.8 for May as compared with 253.1 for April, 254.1 in May, 1919, and 196.3 in May, 1918. It returned to the average cost of a family budget of staple foods in sixty cities was higher, rising to \$16.45 at the middle of May as compared with \$15.95 at the middle of April, and \$7.43 in May, 1914. The chief increase was in potatoes, which averaged \$4.15 per bushel as compared with \$3.75 in April. Sugar also advanced substantially, averaging 21.7 cents per pound for granulated as compared with 19.5 cents in April. There were slight increases in some meats and in several of the other lines, with coal and coal oil were also up, and rent averaged considerably higher."

DO NOT NOW STRIKE FOR EVERY REFORM Labor and Coalition Only Political Factors in Britain.

John W. Ogden, a past president of the British Trades Union Congress, who is attending as a fraternal delegate, the convention of the American Federation of Labor, in an interview with the press gave some "informative" particulars regarding industrial and political conditions in the Old Country. "The trade unions in our country have all been converted to political action," he said. "We believe we should not use the industrial machine but that we should use the political machine. We believe we should get representation in the House of Commons and, if possible, Labor laws on the statute books, is less costly than industrial action in short, means Labor representation and less striking. In the old days we had to strike for every reform we wanted, but we have made much headway since then."

Referring to the results of recent by-elections in Britain, Mr. Ogden said: "You may get a big Labor vote, but you will not get a big Coalition majority in another, but whatever the results are you find the Liberal does nothing at all. The whole thing seems to be a mere game of the Coalition and Labor. The old Liberal party, led by Mr. Asquith, in my opinion, is crushed between the two. It is not that the Liberal party is weak, but that the Coalition is strong."

Spoken to with regard to industrial unrest, Mr. Ogden said disputes over wages and hours are not a settlement was generally effected before a crisis. He did not think there was as much poverty in Britain as before the war.

REPRESENT CANADA ON BIG LABOR BODY. J. Obad Smith, Superintendent of Emigration in London, Eng., has been appointed to represent the Dominion Government on a commission of the International Labor Body (League of Nations), to study questions relating to emigration and immigration. The commission meets in Geneva early in 1921.

MINERS OUT OF WORK. Thousands of miners in the United States are idle and a coal shortage next winter is threatened, predicts the United Mine Workers' Journal. This trade union publication says the interstate commerce commission permits railroads to "hog" all the coal cars and assigns them to certain mines on their lines for the shipment of military coal. These cars are denied to mines that have no railroad contracts.

LABOR AND THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS. G. N. Barnes, speaking recently at a ball on the industrial section of the League of Nations, said that if an improvement in the conditions of labor could not be effected by the League of Nations, it would be up to the workers to fight.

LABOR MADE UP ITS MIND THAT it was going to improve conditions, but it was not to be done by avoiding some other means of dealing with the situation must be found. He referred to the recent improvements in Japan as very encouraging, and concluded by saying that the league was the only way in which we could rid ourselves of the nightmare of future war.

PENSIONS FOR B. C. MOTHERS. First payment of mothers' pensions in British Columbia will be made in July, according to the announcement made by George F. Pyke, recently appointed superintendent of neglected children, and charged with the duty of organizing and bringing into operation the new mothers' pension act.

BRITISH TRADE UNIONS DEMAND PRICE REDUCTION Will Not Seek Wage Increases if Upward Tendency of Cost of Living Stopped.

The British trade unions would give a guarantee to the British Government that there would be no demands for advances in wages if they would stop the upward tendency of prices, the cost of living, and the profiteers, said J. W. Ogden, the British fraternal delegate to the A. F. of L. convention now in session at Montreal, in addressing that body on Monday. Mr. Ogden said that by the time the next convention of the British Trades Union Congress was held, they would have a membership of 4,000,000, which would be an achievement never known before in the Old Country. There had been an idea that the war would leave the British unions impoverished, but the spirit of trades unionism and organization was more keenly alive in Great Britain than it had ever been. Organization in almost every industry had become almost perfect and the non-unionist was almost extinct.

They were constantly and persistently protesting against the high cost of living and the constant tendency to increase it. They were told by the employers and capitalists that that was to some extent due to demands for increased wages. "The workers in Great Britain," he said, "are engaged in a mad race after prices. We can give a guarantee as trade union representatives to the Government that we will stop the upward tendency of prices, the cost of living and profiteering, we will give a guarantee that advances of wages will not be heard of in the future. It is an unpleasant thing for the trade union official to be asked every few months for wage increases in order to keep pace with the cost of living, and if the Government would only use the strong hand and smash prices and smash profiteering, we will give our assurance to the Government that wages will attain some amount of stability."

Hours Reduced. The speaker said of how they had succeeded in getting the hours of labor reduced all through the country. He said that the average hours in the United States are 48-hour or 44-hour week.

MINERS OF DISTRICT 18 GET ANOTHER INCREASE. An agreement was concluded last week between the coal operators of the County of West Yorkshire and the United Mine Workers of America, whereby a 27 per cent increase will be given to all day men over the 12 months ending December 31, 1920. This increase includes a preliminary 14 per cent increase given last January. The contract provides for a 12 per cent increase and 27 per cent increase on the war bonus of 33 cents. This is seven per cent more than has been granted in the United States central contract.

U. M. W. are rapidly recovering from the temporary setback given it by the activity of the German revolution. The contract in negotiating two wage increases and maintaining the closed shop.

Trade Unions Grow Despite Opposition. The report of Secretary Frank Morrison to the A. F. of L. convention shows record membership gains the last year despite a continued savage anti-union attack during that period. The average paid-up membership of the A. F. of L. for the fiscal year 1920 was 4,078,740. This is a gain of 318,872 over the report made last year. During the 12 months ending April 30, 1920, the A. F. of L. had 4,078,740 members, 118 national and international unions, 48 state federations, 326 city central bodies, 26,741 local unions and 1,191 local trade and general unions affiliated directly to the A. F. of L. The five departments have 681 local department councils affiliated.

Conditions in Austria as Seen by British Labor Leader. W. A. Appleton, of Great Britain, president of the International Federation of Trade Unions, has sent to us his report on his recent visit to Austria. The International Federation of Trade Unions has sent several train loads of food into Austria, and Mr. Appleton accompanied one of these. He gave quite a detailed account of economic and social conditions in Austria.

Before the war, Austria was an extensive empire, including 55 million of people, many of different races, many speaking different languages, but all in theory at least, German nationality. Today Austria is a republic with a population of five and a half to six millions, all of whom are, presumably, of German nationality. The country has been left with territory of little economic value and with a debt that was heavy when placed on the shoulders of the old empire, but which becomes paralyzing when placed upon the few millions whom the statements of the Entente have left in Austria. The Entente has left Austria with an industrial population, but has stripped her of all national industry in order to operate successfully. Her resources were left with a great population of non-producers, including pre-war pensioners, unemployed civil servants, and workers in luxury trades, and in such occupations as are provided by the "entente" states and cafes.

ORGANIZATION OF WORKERS THE ONLY WAY. Organization of the workers leads to better wages, fewer working hours, improved working conditions, it develops independence, manhood and character; it fosters tolerance and real justice and makes for a constantly growing better economic, social and political life for the burden-bearing masses.

In countries where wages are low, education, and in the wealth of the people generally. All for wage-paying countries contrasted with America is proof for this statement. From the Reconstruction programme of the A. F. of L.

SEAMEN'S CONFERENCE IS OPENED AT GENOA Proposal of the United States Meets Defeat. The International Seamen's Conference opened at Genoa, Italy, on Tuesday with delegates from many countries present. Canada's representatives are: G. J. Desbarats, Deputy Minister of Naval Service; Robert Robb, secretary of the Shipping Federation of Montreal, and C. J. Gauthier, president of the Montreal Local Masters, States and Pilots' International Union.

At the preliminary session, a proposition submitted by the United States delegates, which they declared was designed "to make seamen all the world over free men," was defeated. The British, French, Belgian and Spanish delegates voted against it, and it was supported by Italy, Holland, Norway, Germany, Sweden and Japan.

While the nations, the proposition had a majority of 15 to 23, with five refusing to vote and 18 absent. The resolution was carried by the International Seamen's Union, one of the United States delegates, in urging the proposal, claimed that the status of "serfs, being unable to enjoy the liberties and rights acknowledged as belonging to all men," he said that the Entente Seamen's Act was passed, not for the purpose of getting foreign sailors aboard American vessels, but to prevent American seamen from going to sea, which, he said, they would not do, "because their status was not that of free men." As a result of this law, he declared, native American sailors to sea have increased from about seven per cent to 47 per cent in the last four years.

STRIKE-BREAKING CANNOT BE MADE RESPECTABLE. Strike-breaking as a paid profession has long been in disrepute with honest people, says Samuel Gompers in the American Federationist. As a profession it is about on a level with pocket picking, purse snatching and kidnapping. There is no reason to suspect that volunteer strike-breaking can be made more respectable than paid strike-breaking for the simple reason that the principle involved is the same. As a matter of fact, the two varieties of strike-breaking the volunteer is the less respectable because the volunteer usually has back of him no economic urge and no background of ignorance, poverty and distress such as is usually found in the case of the professional.

ARMIES OF VOLUNTEER STRIKE-BREAKERS are not destined to become popular in schools or training them will probably never reach a stage of actual establishment.

ONLY ONE ROAD TO PEACE. HALF DAY OFF FOR THE "HIRED MAN." J. R. Clynes, M.P., was the principal speaker at a meeting in Aberdeen, Scotland, recently, in support of the League of Nations. Some of the speakers were subjected to occasional interruptions, but Mr. Clynes and the Labor representatives had a cordial reception.

Mr. Clynes said the most astounding thing revealed since the end of the war was that the statement of Europe had not yet established an effective footing a League of Nations working to maintain the peace of the world. He said the war was fought as a war to end war. The horrible losses of that war should have driven the most cynical political leader to support any effective organization for making any other war impossible.

The faith of peoples in their leaders was shattered, it is the supreme matter. Parliaments, Presidents, and Cabinets failed to make a real organization which would prevent the mischief always following in the train of secret diplomacy. The conditions of some parts of Europe at present showed how much the world continued to lose through the absence of an effective League of Nations. The cultivation of a war spirit and the accumulation and perfecting of war instruments has always led to war and never could lead to anything else. The cultivation of a spirit of peace and the building up of a belief in the equitable adjustment of rival claims were the only means by which we could stave off the wrongs that war had inflicted, and by which we could begin urgent work of reconstruction.

A. F. OF L. BUILDING TRADES DEPARTMENT WILL SEND TWENTY ORGANIZERS TO COMBAT THE CANADIAN O. B. U.

Annual Convention in Session at Montreal Disposes of Many Questions—Refuses to Endorse Soviet Government—Condemns Republican Party.

Many important questions have been discussed and a motion decided upon by the 46th annual convention of the American Federation of Labor now in session at Montreal. So far as Canada is concerned, perhaps the most important announcement is that of the Building Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor to send 20 organizers of international unions will be employed to combat the One Big Union of Canada. The first part of the campaign against the "destructive" will be launched at Winnipeg. All parts of Canada where the O. B. U. has been active will be visited and the workers advised of the progress of the International Trade Union movement. The Dominion Trades and Labor Council has a system of transfer cards adopted for that city was refused as the matter was one for the Trade Agency of the affiliated national unions. The matter with which the A. F. of L. cannot interfere.

A permanent non-partisan political department of the A. F. of L. will not be established because the affiliated unions as it will mean additional expense without bringing the desired results.

An international union of city politicians will be chartered when the combined membership reaches the 6,000 mark.

A resolution for the establishment of food production and distributing department under the banner of the A. F. of L. was referred to the incoming executive for action.

The International Brotherhood of Railway Clerks were requested to remove the words "white only" from their constitution.

The convention reaffirmed its former action that where international unions refuse to admit colored workers to membership, the A. F. of L. is authorized to organize them.

Organized workers are called upon to create a greater demand for tobacco, cigarettes and snuff bearing the union label.

Central Labor bodies and local unions are called upon to appoint committees to secure information and keep it posted in meetings designating where union label products can be purchased.

The A. F. of L. reiterated its previous decision to work for the introduction nationally of the eight-hour day with Saturday half-holiday.

EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE INTERNATIONAL LADIES GARNMENT WORKERS Union decided at the quarterly meeting, last week in Montreal, to appoint a committee to carry out the necessary arrangements for the establishment of a Union factory and Union stores in fulfillment of a recommendation of the last annual convention of that body.

The idea of a Union factory and stores, general secretary and treasurer A. Haroff states, is to demonstrate that it is possible to manufacture garments under ideal conditions, pay first class wages, restrict the working day to seven hours, make a small profit and yet sell at really reasonable prices. They hope to demonstrate that the cost of labor is not by any means the main factor in the high cost of clothing.

It was also decided to appoint a committee to organize the French-Canadian garment workers of Montreal and district.

THE "HIRED MAN" is at last coming into his own. At the city meeting, a day when the workers were donning white ducks on his afternoon of the country cousin is about to follow suit. For throughout the County of Middlesex the Union Farmers have proclaimed every Wednesday afternoon a half holiday, a day when the workers are to follow and the half holiday off idea is spreading throughout Lamberton.

A. F. of L. Demands 44 Hour Week. The American Federation of Labor on Saturday went on record by resolution in favor of a work week of 44 hours and a half holiday on Saturday for all workers. It was pointed out, however, that production of the country must not be endangered by any "shorter work day" movement.

The convention pledged its "full assistance" to any organization demanding a shorter work day, even though it be for a six-hour day, in order to find employment for all its membership.

The resolution also provides that all workers shall receive time and a half for overtime. Attempts to place the convention on record in favor of "double time" for overtime were defeated.

LABOR NEWS FROM COAST TO COAST

OTTAWA.

LEATHER WORKERS' PRESIDENT VISITS OTTAWA.
President W. E. Bryan, of the United Leather Workers' International Union, and General Organizer Mark of the same organization, who are in attendance at the convention in Montreal, A. F. of L. convention in Montreal, visited Ottawa on Tuesday evening. Mr. Bryan, who is a member of the Ottawa branch of the local union, presided at the Ottawa meeting.

MASS MEETING AT FAMILY THEATRE, SUNDAY.
Delegates at the convention of the American Federation of Labor in Montreal, will address Ottawa on Sunday afternoon. The meeting will be held in the Family Theatre, Sunday afternoon. Among the speakers will be Mr. D. A. L. Levesque, president of the International Brotherhood of Leather Workers, Mr. Tom Moore, president of the International Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers of America, Mr. Tom Moore, president of the International Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers of America, Mr. Tom Moore, president of the International Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers of America.

CHATEAU COOKS AND WAITERS GET CONDITIONS.
Due largely to the efforts of Controller John Cameron and the local agent M. Beaumont, the local cooks and waiters have been able to improve their conditions materially in the City of Ottawa. A strike was threatened early this week and when the employers learned that the union meant business an agreement was promptly brought about.

CARPENTERS' DELEGATES TO ONE PROVINCIAL COUNCIL.
Business Agent Pat Green and M. Kavanagh have been chosen to represent Local 93, United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, at the annual conference of the Ontario Provincial Council of Carpenters and Joiners, which will be held at Peterboro on September 24. Other delegates will be Dave Rankin, representing Local 2523, and Messrs. H. Tremblay and Edouard Berrault, Local 646, of the Inside Wood Workers. Balloting for the choice of six delegates from the province of Ontario to attend the Indianapolis convention on September 24 has been completed under the proportional representation system and the ballots will be counted at Peterboro on the 24th by Mr. Donald Hooper, who has been appointed returning officer.

INTERNATIONAL HEAD ADDRESSES RETAIL CLERKS.
Members of the Ottawa local of the Retail Clerks' International Protective Association held a largely attended meeting in their rooms on Monday evening and listened to a forceful address by the international president of the union, E. E. Baker, of Lafayette, Indiana. Mr. Baker, who was in Montreal attending the convention of the American Federation of Labor, took advantage of his proximity to Ottawa to come to this city and speak to the members of the local, and there was an excellent audience to hear him.

INTRODUCED BY PRESIDENT T. MARCELL.
The local union, the speaker spoke for some time on the benefits to be derived from organization, and cited many instances where better wages and improved working conditions had been secured through that medium. It was not the purpose of the organization, he said, to antagonize the employers but to cooperate with them for improvements which will not only be of benefit to the sales people but will also redound to the advantage of the employers by promoting efficiency and insuring a higher standard of sales service.

Speaking of conditions as he found the min Canada. Mr. Baker told his hearers that he was surprised at the comparatively low wages paid to sales people in this country. The consequence was, he said, that there were more vacant positions than there were competent men and women to fill them, as the com-

peared elsewhere who could do so moved to the United States, where higher wages could be obtained. Strong and competent organization he declared, was greatly needed.
At the conclusion of his address Mr. Baker was tendered a hearty vote of thanks.

OTTAWA-NEWSY BRIEFS.
International Vice-President Joe Marks of the International Printing Pressmen's and Assistants' Union paid an official visit to local No. 5 on Monday evening. Mr. Marks is at present attending the A. F. of L. convention at Montreal, and took advantage of the occasion to visit the Ottawa union.

General Organizer James Marsh of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, was in town during the past week in connection with the strike of inside woodworkers. He left on Tuesday for London, Ont., to take charge of the situation there, negotiations between the carpenters and employers having reached a deadlock. He informed the Canadian Labor Press that he will visit Pembroke and Arnprior in the near future, where new local unions of carpenters have recently been organized.

Secretary Wm. Lodge and Executive Board Members Douglas A. Dersch of the Ottawa Branch of Carpenters and Joiners Association, visited Montreal over the week-end and were in consultation with various international trade union officials.

At a special meeting of the local leather workers union held on Tuesday night J. A. F. Hayden, M. G. who looked after the interests of that organization in the recent dispute, was the recipient of a beautiful leather handbag as a testimonial of appreciation for the services he had rendered. The presentation was made by President Cuthbert.

TORONTO.
ST. BY. MEN MAY STRIKE.
TORONTO, June 19.—The Toronto Street Railway employees decided at 2:30 a.m. to give the Toronto Street Railway Company 48 hours to meet their demands for a 20-cent increase to 75 cents an hour. If this is not met there will be a strike on Friday. However, it is thought that there may be a compromise at 60 cents an hour, the rate paid by the city lines.

TORONTO NEWSY BRIEFS.
John Cottam of the District Carpenters' Council, said last week that the carpenters employed by the Toronto Street Railway intend applying for a Board of Conciliation. "It is also quite probable that the other trades will apply for similar boards," was the opinion expressed by Secretary Cottam.

Asked if the electrical workers contemplated taking similar action, Secretary J. T. Gunn, stated that so far there had not been any application put in for a board. "We are still negotiating with the company in the matter of wages and conditions," said he. "So far we have not seen the need for making an application."

Rev. Dr. Salem G. Bland, pastor of Broad Methodist Tabernacle, will be asked to be the labor candidate for the Ontario legislature in Northeast Toronto, where there is a vacancy caused by the resignation of Hon. Dr. H. J. Cody, former minister of education, at a meeting of the labor representatives committee in the labor temple on Sunday. It was decided to offer the nomination to Rev. Dr. Bland, and a committee was named to wait on him with reference to the matter.

"Glass beavers, after being five weeks on strike, declare they are still firm for 55 cents minimum wage," said a spokesman of the local union. "Soldier, Labor and U. F. O. representatives met last week to further plans for a chain of co-operative stores in Toronto. Painters and decorators will advance their initiation fee to \$35 and predict a \$100 fee within six months."

WESTERN CANADA.
ESTABLISHES A BOARD FOR CIVIC EMPLOYEES.
The Minister of Labor has established a Board of Conciliation and Investigation as between the municipality of Moose Jaw and certain of its employees, members of the Civic Employees' Union. The board is composed of Hon. Mr. Justice E. Taylor, of Moose Jaw, chairman; Mr. George D. Mackey, of Moose Jaw, for the municipality, and Mr. R. N. Chadwick, of Moose Jaw, for the employees. The dispute is one which does not fall clearly within the jurisdiction of the statute and the board is established by the minister only upon the joint request of the municipality and employees.

CONFERENCE UNSUCCESSFUL.
Mr. McCallum did not think the round table conferences between labor and employers had been very successful for they had had more strikes since then than before. They had been successful in meeting the best of the arguments at the conference, but that was apparently the worse way to argue with employers, and the only way to argue with them was when the worker was on the street arguing—that had been their bitter experience. Prior to that time the workers in Canada were had agreements with their men, but since that conference the employers had formed themselves into a combine with a capital of some \$500,000,000, the result being that every firm with whom they had previously been able to make agreements refused to do so, and they were and the workers had to go on strike to get agreements made, and yet those men who combined to strengthen themselves refused the right of combination to the workers in their employ. But he thought it was safe to predict that the further these things went, away from the spirit of collective bargaining and the closer they got to the spirit of recognizing their employees only from the standpoint of the market, the more they got to their own destruction.

Political Situation.
As to the political situation they had not been able to follow in the footsteps of the British Labor party, but they had made a beginning in the Federal and the Provincial Governments, and their representatives were doing good work, especially in the Farmer-Labor Government of Ontario. He detailed some of the legislation secured, and wound up by declaring that though they had dissension and opposition they had a real live body of men working in the international trade union, and the more they co-operated their efforts the more successful they would be. They were not only determined to remain a portion of the international labor movement, but were determined to be associated with the wider international labor movement to embrace all the workers of the world.

APARTMENTS FOR WORKERS AT WOODSTOCK.
Many novel features have been incorporated into the scheme of the Kana Piano Company, of Woodstock, to alleviate the housing shortage insofar as it affects its employees. A large business block just east of the piano firm was recently purchased for \$55,000, and it is the intention of the management to convert this property into 12 apartments for the use of the employees, who will be added to the present staff. These workmen will be wanted to erect the apartments, which, according to J. A. Moore, manager of the company, will be much lower than could be obtained elsewhere. All conveniences will be installed, and each apartment will consist of four or five rooms.

MONTREAL TRAMWAYS BOARD.
The Minister of Labor has established a board of conciliation to deal with the dispute between the Montreal Tramways and its motormen and conductors. The Hon. Justice Archambault, of Montreal, has been selected as chairman. The employees will be represented by J. A. Woodward and the company by E. V. Villeneuve, both of Montreal.

HAMILTON BRICKLAYERS' BOARD IS ESTABLISHED.
Senator Gordon Robertson has named D. Black, jun., of Welland, Ont., as chairman of the conciliation board to adjudicate the Hamilton bricklayers' wage difference. H. G. Foster will represent the bricklayers and George F. Webb the contractors.

LONDON STREET RAILWAY STRIKE OVER.
The London street car strike which began on Monday of last week was settled on Wednesday morning, and services was resumed at 11 a.m. The men receive 48 cents an hour. There is no increase in fares.

PETERBORO ELECTRICAL WORKERS' BOARDS ESTABLISHED.
On the request of Peterboro, the Minister of Labor has appointed a Board of Conciliation to investigate the dispute between the Canadian General Electric Company, of that city, and its employees. Judge R. B. Gunn, of Ottawa, has been agreed upon by the representatives of the disputing parties as chairman. The company declined to make a nomination, so Judge McCallum, of Ontario County, was appointed by the Minister to represent it. John Munro, of Peterboro, will represent the employees.

INTERNATIONALISM.
In conclusion, Mr. Ogden spoke of the importance of internationalism in the labor movement, and said that all the organized workers of the world should be linked up, this being the only way to prevent what he called "the internationalism of the past" which was a mere misunderstanding. The one class that suffered more than another in the world war was the working class and through an international relationship on a proper seasonal basis there would be established a great factor for peace.

CONFERENCE UNSUCCESSFUL.
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EASTERN CANADA.

N. B. MINERS GAIN RECOGNITION.
Largely as a result of the Mine strike, the Ridge Coal Company, N. B., have recognized the U. M. W. In the colliery there are about one hundred men employed. "This is a new colliery and the early recognition shows that the old days are gone and that the wisdom of trade-unionism is getting well established in the minds of former opponents."—The Citizen.

BRITISH TRADE UNIONS DEMAND PRICE REDUCTION Continued From Page One.
In the textile industry they had secured increases over wages amounting to 210 per cent since the war began and reduced the hours from 55-1/2 to 48 hours a week by voluntary agreement with the employers, and the wage question had not been settled for twelve months, while the question of hours would not come up for another eight months, when they hoped to have their own work week or a 45-1/2-hour week. Some other trades had been more fortunate and had a 44-hour week and some even had 40 hours. The housing problem was at the bottom of many of their social evils. Mr. Ogden remarked on the scarcity of the commodity, believing that the housing problem was at the bottom of many of their social evils. Mr. Ogden remarked on the scarcity of the commodity, believing that the housing problem was at the bottom of many of their social evils.

Referring to the nationalization of the mines, on which he claimed the Government had deceived the moral to be better than the action of the Government was that if they were beaten in the industrial arena, and that was an argument in favor of the workers forming their own political party in the country. They had, he said, perhaps unwittingly from the British Labor party, an endorsement of political action as well as industrial action.

The London street car strike which began on Monday of last week was settled on Wednesday morning, and services was resumed at 11 a.m. The men receive 48 cents an hour. There is no increase in fares.

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On the request of Peterboro, the Minister of Labor has appointed a Board of Conciliation to investigate the dispute between the Canadian General Electric Company, of that city, and its employees. Judge R. B. Gunn, of Ottawa, has been agreed upon by the representatives of the disputing parties as chairman. The company declined to make a nomination, so Judge McCallum, of Ontario County, was appointed by the Minister to represent it. John Munro, of Peterboro, will represent the employees.

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As to the political situation they had not been able to follow in the footsteps of the British Labor party, but they had made a beginning in the Federal and the Provincial Governments, and their representatives were doing good work, especially in the Farmer-Labor Government of Ontario. He detailed some of the legislation secured, and wound up by declaring that though they had dissension and opposition they had a real live body of men working in the international trade union, and the more they co-operated their efforts the more successful they would be. They were not only determined to remain a portion of the international labor movement, but were determined to be associated with the wider international labor movement to embrace all the workers of the world.

APARTMENTS FOR WORKERS AT WOODSTOCK.
Many novel features have been incorporated into the scheme of the Kana Piano Company, of Woodstock, to alleviate the housing shortage insofar as it affects its employees. A large business block just east of the piano firm was recently purchased for \$55,000, and it is the intention of the management to convert this property into 12 apartments for the use of the employees, who will be added to the present staff. These workmen will be wanted to erect the apartments, which, according to J. A. Moore, manager of the company, will be much lower than could be obtained elsewhere. All conveniences will be installed, and each apartment will consist of four or five rooms.

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COMMENCE your boat-trip holiday at Lewiston, where one of our luxuriously-appointed Steamers will connect with your train. Thence across Lake Ontario to Toronto—through the Thousand Islands and the Rapids, to the City of Montreal and Quebec. Such is the route of the trip from

terminating in the canyon-like scenery of the Saguenay. We approach Cape Eternity, a towering mass of rock that looks down upon us in isolated grandeur, making our craft look like a microbe organism in some spectral picture.

Our steamer traverses a little bay, and we gaze spellbound at Cape Trinity—the lowest of its three elevations graced by a huge statue of the Virgin—which for 30 years has gazed with seeming compassion on the waters below—impervious to the elements, a thank-offering of a devout Catholic.

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BRITISH LABOR MISSION BACK FROM RUSSIA

Russian Workers Have No Right to Strike—Compulsion Their God, Says Turner.

The first report of the British delegates who have just returned from an investigation of conditions in Soviet Russia was made public last Friday.

The delegates declare themselves deeply impressed with the distress and disorganization which they found in Russia, the dejection of the people and the extent of the Government's interference with individual liberty. The report is said to be unanimous.

The report describes the blockade as injurious to the world and disastrous to Russia and makes reference to the epidemic of diseases to which the absence of soap and medical supplies has given full sway, although great efforts have been made toward sanitation. Denouncing the Polish war, the report says:

"The appeal for creative work is being once more set aside in favor of an appeal to military enthusiasts, while the war conditions provide new pretexts for restricting individual liberty and preventing freedom of discussion."

The report says war rallies all parties to the defense of the country; it emphasizes the breakdown in manufacturing through lack of raw material, and advocates the immediate recognition of Russia.

The report was brought to England by Benjamin Turner and Tom Shaw, members of the British Labor delegation which visited Russia, for presentation to the Labor congress at Scarborough. They brought also a letter from Nikolai Lenin, the Bolshevik Premier, exhorting the workers to revolution in England which has created a sensation.

Public opinion is much stirred by the publication of a memorandum which Lenin has sent to Great Britain through the Labor delegation, says Windermere in a special

cable to the Montreal Star on Saturday last. It is taken to be a frank invitation to the British working classes to overthrow constitutional government. Lenin speaks of Krasin as his agent, engaged now in London on business much more profound than mere negotiation of trade.

"Comrade Krasin," he says, "is intensely making most powerful and solemn proposals to start peace proposals."

At the same time, Lenin is urging the mob, which he conceives to exist in England, to storm Whitehall. In letters addressed to "British workers" and handed to the British Labor delegation just back from Russia, Lenin, under date of Moscow, May 20, applies to the more moderate of the British Labor leaders, such phrases as "shopkeepers," "parliaments of a bourgeois democracy incapable of anything," but "sweetened resolutions" against intervention. He is urging the British Labor leaders, and herds the day when they "will share the fate of Krasinsky, the Mensheviks and the Social Revolutionists in Russia." He also extols "Comrade Sylvia Pankhurst."

The British Labor leader, Ben Turner, who brings back this message from Lenin, is, with his Labor colleague, Tom Shaw, M. P., reporting on the whole situation to the Labor party conference at Scarborough within the next fortnight. In a preliminary statement he shows that Lenin and his followers have succeeded in establishing a free press, restraint on public meetings and the persecution of social revolutionists, all of which found the only means of keeping the Bolsheviks in power, presumably, because the majority of the people are not behind them.

Turner reports that the workmen have no right to strike or change their jobs without "superior authority." Compulsory military service and the death penalty have been re-introduced, with the conscription of labor. Turner says "compulsion is their god."

"As a young man I affected the cynic. . . . at 60, and greatly helped by the war, I have fallen in love with humanity."—H. G. Wells.

"Everything supplied—'Newly Married Couple: Have you any furniture suitable for one of the new Government houses?'"

OTTAWA INSIDE WOODWORKERS FORCED TO STRIKE

Employers Refuse to Deal With Unions in Any Way Other Than as Individuals.

Having exhausted every means of a peaceful settlement, the inside woodworkers of Ottawa have been compelled to strike. Conferences for increased wages and better working conditions met with the absolute refusal of the various employers. The employers refused to meet a committee of the union or a committee of their own employes and after the men had applied for a Board of Conciliation and the Labor Department had urged the necessity of arbitration the employers absolutely refused to deal with the workers other than as individuals. On Saturday last some 400 inside woodworkers walked out and since that time some 87 non-union men have joined the inside woodworkers' organization.

Fourteen firms are involved including the W. C. Edwards Co., Jas. Davidson & Sons, Geo. M. Mason, McAllister-Davis Co., and others. General Organizer Jas. F. Marsh, of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, to which the inside woodworkers are affiliated, was in the city during the early part of the strike advising the men. Business Agent Pat Green of the Ottawa District Council of Carpenters is the local officer in charge of the strike, and Chas. Fischer is the woodworkers' local president.

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