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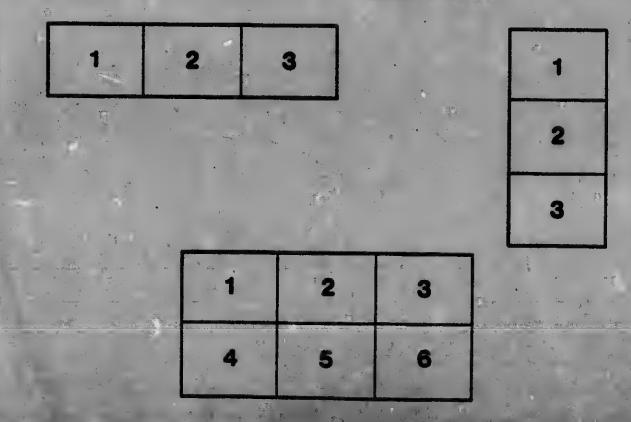
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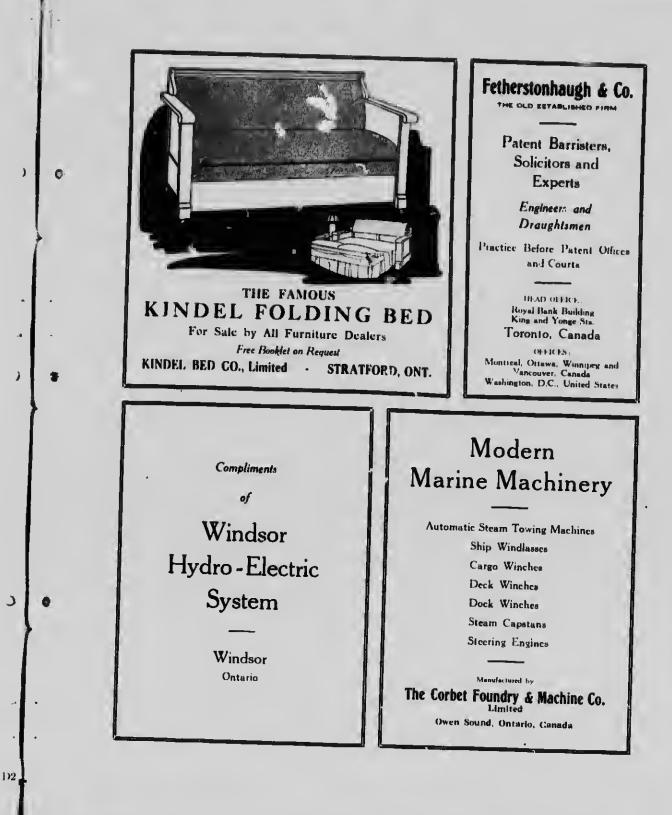
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- (2) Department and Notion Stores.
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- 2. The Factory, Shop and Office Building Act. 3. The Steam Boiler Act.
- 4. The Building Trades Protection Act.
- 5. The Employment Agencies Act.
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ALSO :---

Mothers' Allowances - An Investigation,

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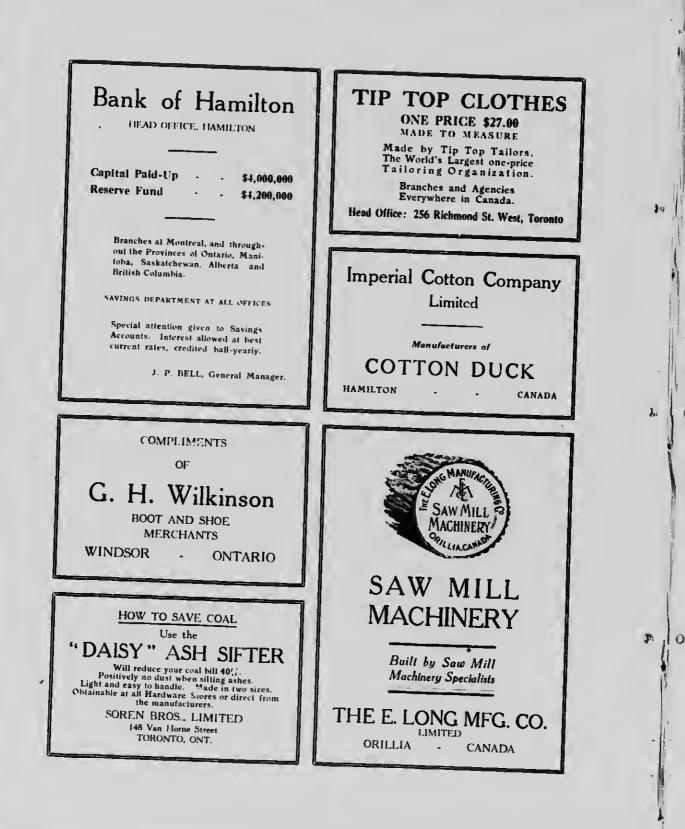
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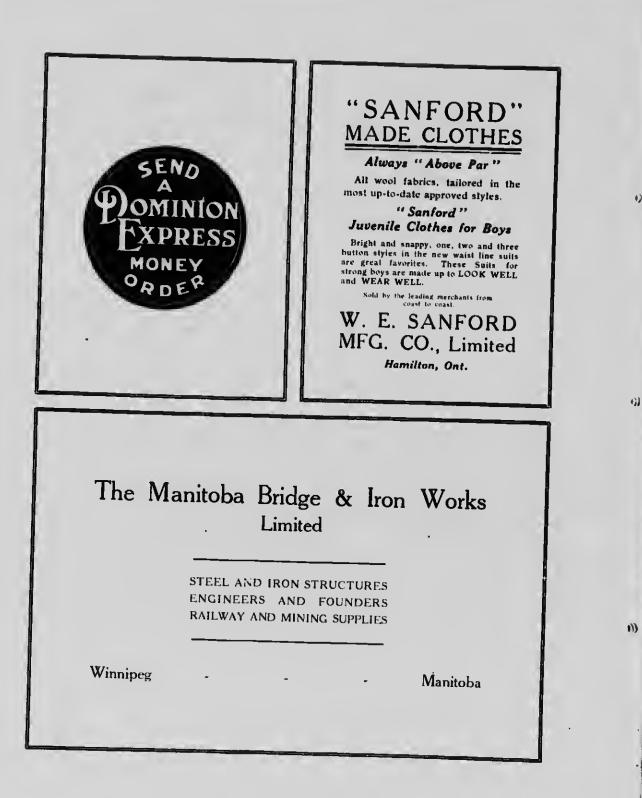
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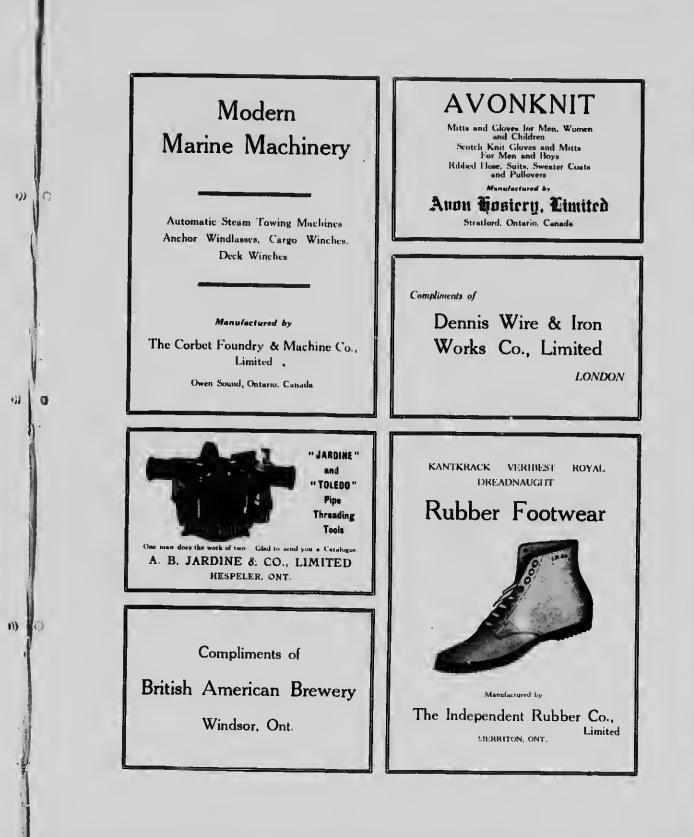
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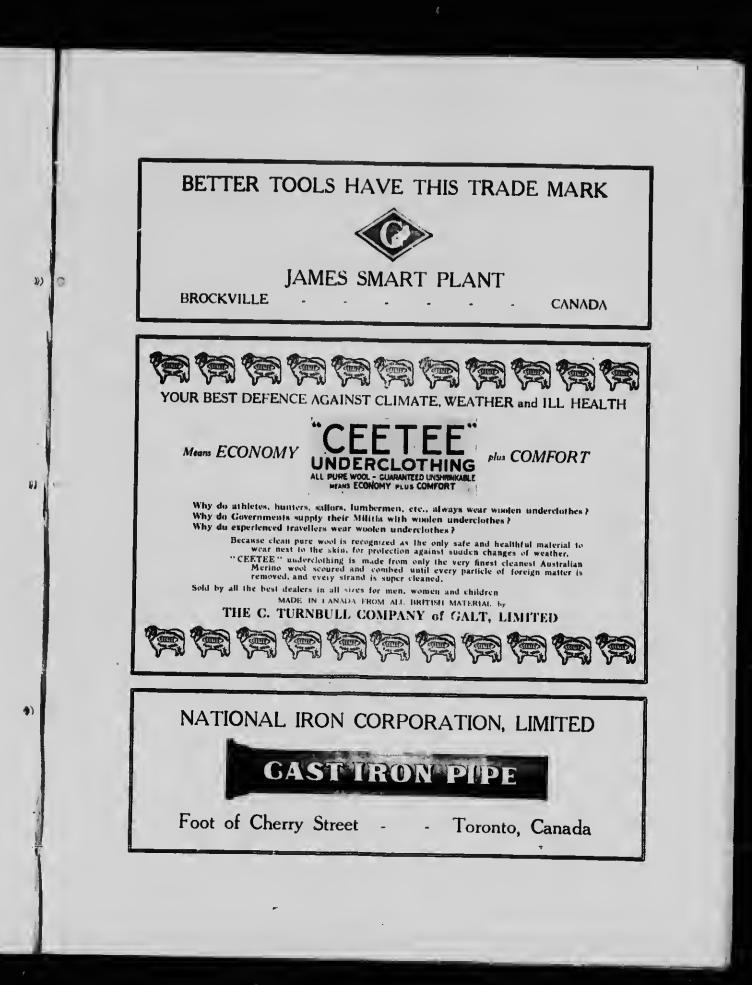
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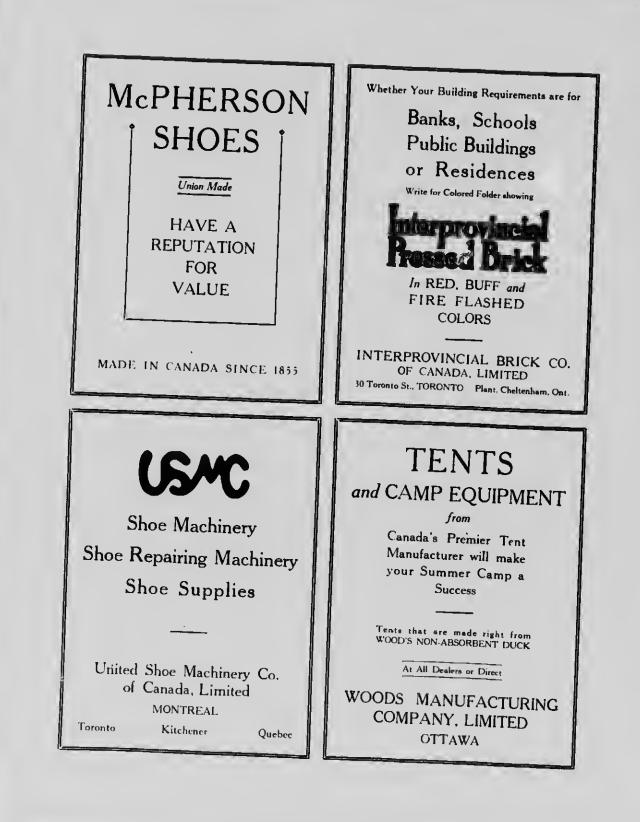
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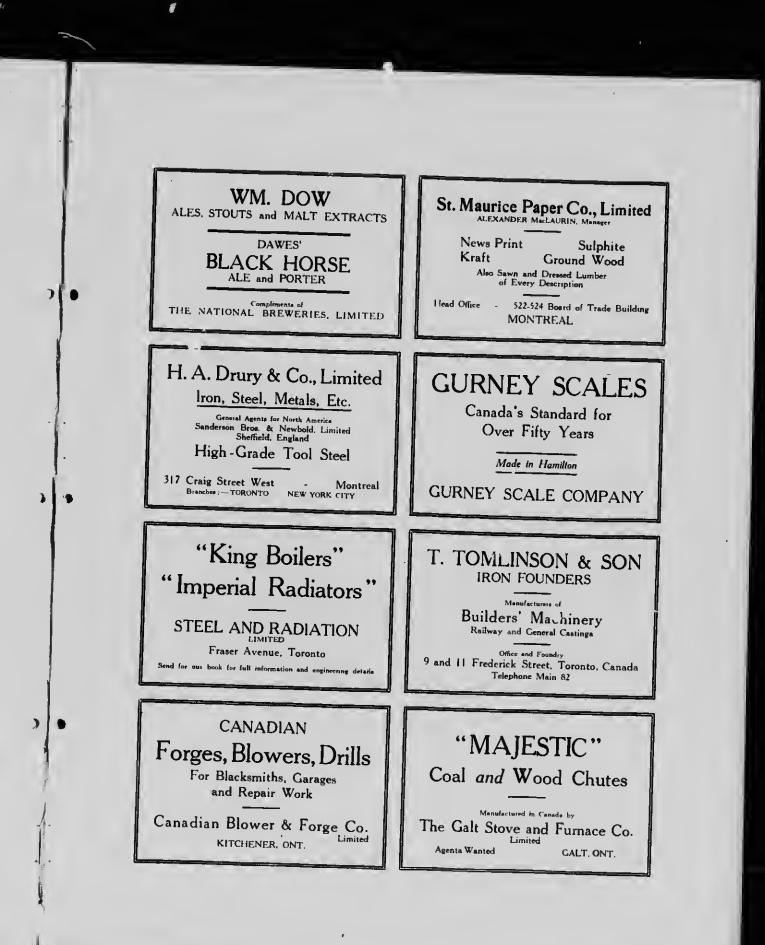
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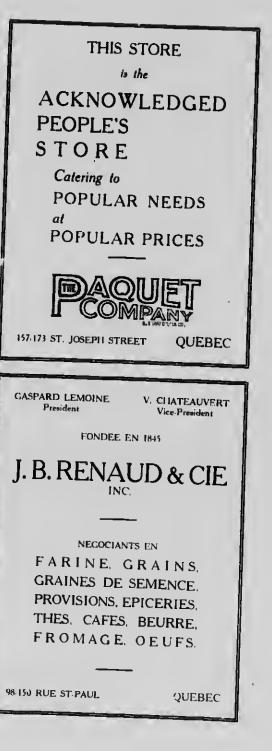
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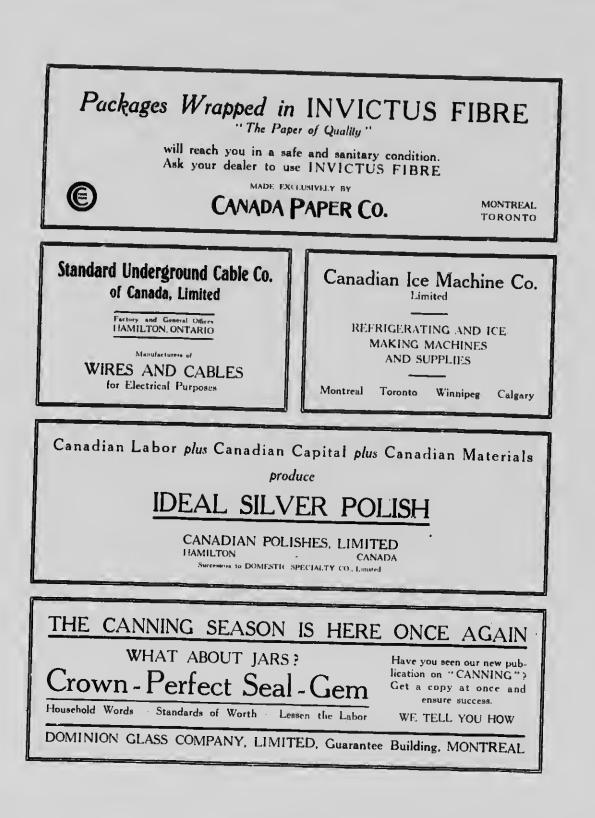
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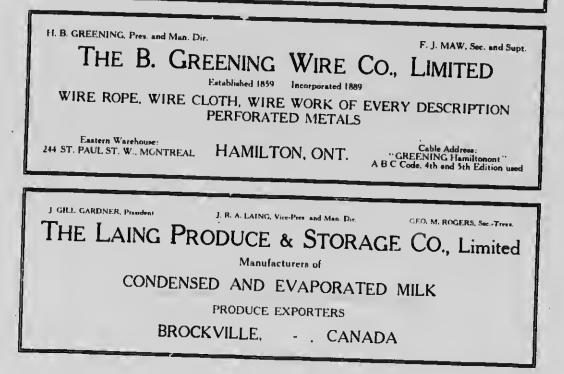
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The Border Cities Trades and Labor Council

Organized August 20th, 1902

18th Anniversary

Complimentary Soubenir

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to Delegates attending the

36th Annual Convention of

The Trades and Labor Congress of Canada

at Mindsor, Ontario,

September 13th to 20th

nineteen hundred and twenty



ATWELL FLEMING PRINTING COMPANY



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The State and the Workman

By P. M. Draper, Sec. Treas. Trades and Labor Congress of Canada

THAT Governments should begin to realize that they are not omnipotent is not surprising, and that they should commence to recognize rights that belong to individuals and bodies outside their own formation is quite a natural result of the awful lessons which the war has taught. Kaiserism, Prussianism, autocracy and all forms of tyranny have received a set back from which they can never recover; and Governments. even so-called democratic, are taking the lesson to heart. It is under such conditions and circumstances that the beneficial effects of perfected organized labor cannot fail to be felt. The relations between the State and the Workmen are now being considered from a new stand point and from a heretofore unfamiliar angle. A few hurried considerations in this connection may not be untimely.

In the first place the State is not the creator of all rights and privileges, nor is it the sole solver of all problems. The family is the author of the State and has its natural rights. as has each individual member of the family, that antedate any prerogatives of the State. The rights of parents to bring up, educate and train their children, the rights of individual conscience in accord with which the parents decide as to the instruction and moral obligations of the children, all these are not created by the State; but it is in order to better safeguard these rights that the State is called into existence by the families included in its jurisdiction.

From these obviously clear facts it follows that safety of the State depends upon the integrity in its homes and the contentment enjoyed by the individuals composing it.

Peaceful and happy as well as prosperous homes are the surest guarantee of the prosperity and greatness of the State. The man without a home is a person without any stake in the country, and the homeless man becomes very naturally a menace to society and to the well being of the country. It follows that the very surest policy of self-preservation for a State is the fostering of contentment in the homes and of honest confidence in the breasts of all citizens at the head of such homes. The man who has a home to support has inalienable rights that no wise Government will invade, or jeopardize, or ignore.

Amongst other rights possessed by the citizen is that of selling his labor. He has the perfect right to demand adequate pay or remuneration for the work, be it physical, mental, or both, that he supplies. But he has not the right to sell his labor for a wage that is not sufficient to decently support his family. There is a just limitation to rights and liberties, for the employee as for the employer. It is not right for the workman to accept pay that is not proportionate to the work done or that is not sufficient to support his family. To do so would be to sin against those dependent on him, and against his fellow-workers whose chances of adequate pay he diminishes by accepting under pay.

It flows logically from these principles that if a man has no right to work for inadequate pay, he has the absolute right to refuse to do such work under such conditions. The right

to refuse to sell his labor for an inadequate price implies the right to refuse to work and therefore to "strike." This applies to a collective body of men as well as to the individual. Consequently, the more perfect the measures taken by the State to insure adequate pay for proper work done, the more faithfully does the State fulfil its duty towards those who created it. Legislation that tends to put down strikes, to punish strikers and to break up organized resistance to unfair treatment of the workman. is not of the higher class nor does it indicate statesmanship in those who are in authority. But legislation that will tend to removing the causes of complaint, the sources of discontent, the motives of strikes is in accord with the more noble functions of the State. Hence the inclination of Governments to establish commissions of inquiry into labor conditions, of arbitration in cases of disputes. of conciliation between Labor and Capital, is the outcome of a saner appreciation of conditions that obtain in the great labor world today.

If the workman is not complete master of his own actions, and the disposal of his work, especially when conditions are unfair, it follows that the employer, or capitalist, is not absolute master of his own profits or wealth. In one sense, he may say "My money is my own and I'll do what I like with it," but in the eye of universal justice and equity such is not the case. He has no right to make profits out of the labor of men whom he keeps in misery and whose families are thereby crushed. I own a house: it is mine; I can do what I like with it; but I have no right to burn it down and endanger an entire neighborhood. I own money, but I have no right to use it to promote crime. There are limitations to the rights of a wealth owner, as there are to those of the wealth-earner. And it is exactly the task of keeping each within the limits of his rights that is the supreme duty of the State, and one of the purposes for which the State was created.

In conclusion, from these few generally admitted principles, it becomes the obvious duty of each Government, which really represents the people of the country, to place high upon its programme of Legislation, such action as is best calculated to help in the solution of the great Peace Problem of the hour; and first and foremost amongst the duties that await its consideration and action is that of protecting the rights of the workman, thereby creating contentment in the bosom of the family, obviating, in so far as it is humanely possible, strife between Capital and Labor, and bringing about an era of prosperity, peace, harmony and general National advancement for the country.



OUELETTE AVENUE, WINDSOR, LOOKING NORTH FROM GHLIES BOLLEVARD

UNREST AND PROGRESS

"v Tom Moore, President Trades and Labor Congress of Canada

DURING the spring and summer of 1919 the chief question being discussed by all classes of people was the one of labor and unrest. All seemed to look to organized labor as the one great force that would ultimately be responsible for guiding the workers' actions into either constructive or destructive channels.

Looking back over the intervening period organized labor, as a whole, can view with pride the work accomplished in keeping Canadian conditions on a somewhat even keel. The Federal Government recognized the seriousness of the situation and on the 4th of April, 1919, passed an Order-in-Council creating a Royal Commission on Industrial Relations whose Chairman was Chief Justice Mathers. This Commission visited practically all the chief industrial centres of Canada and took evidence as to the cause of industrial unrest and submitted a report which was issued the latter part of June and in which is contained valuable suggestions for the removal of unrest. Section 21 of this report says : "The chief causes of unrest may be enumerated as follows:

1. Unemployment and fear of unemployment.

2. High cost of living in relation to wages and the desire of the workers for a larger share of the product of their labor.

3. Desire for shorter hours of labor.

4. Denial of the right to organize and refusal to recognize Unions.

5. Denial of collective bargaining.

6. Lack of confidence in constituted government.

7. Insufficient and poor housing.

8. Restrictions upon the freedom of speech and press.

9. Ostentatious display of wealth.

10. Lack of equal educational opportunities.

These define some of the root causes underlying the unrest then existing throughout Canada. The Government of Canada realized that prompt action was necessary if the country was to be saved from painful experiences. and the Order-in-Council creating the Commission concluded by saying:

"It is further recommended that the Commission shall submit the final report on the foregoing reference not later than June 1, 1919."

Delay in selecting the personnel of the Commission and the tremendous duty imposed upon it prevented the report from being issued on the date stated, but the report was placed in the hands of the Government signed by the chairman and four out of six of the commissioners before parliament prorogued, but no concrete action was taken on the Commission's findings. In the meantime events had taken place in Winnipeg and other western points which emphasized the Commissions findings. Unfortunately though the Government decided to pass drastic legislation restricting the rights of the workers as a remedy for these conditions rather than removing the causes by legislation along the

lines suggested in the report of the Mathers Commission.

It may be assumed by many that because the country is not at present troubled by violent demonstrations, that the workers have completely settled back into acceptance of pre-war conditions. To those who know, nothing could be further from the facts. The apparent tranquility is far from real. The industrial field today is still seething with discontent. Strikes are more prevalent than ever even though the workers have shown increasing willingness to submit their grievances for settlement to Boards of Conciliation and Arbitration. Information published by the Labor Department, shows this willingness of the workers to settle their grievances by the use of the Industrial Disputes Act, in an ever increasing number of cases. On the other hand, employers, through mergers and similar amalgamations have in too many cases assumed an attitude even more autocratic than that adopted previous to 1914.

Since the Mathers Commission published its report a National Industrial Conference composed of representative cmployers and workers and public representatives met in Ottawa and endorsed the findings of the Mathers Commission. Later the International Labor conference composed of representatives of governments, employers and workers from countries of industrial importance throughout the entire world met in Washington and issued findings along similar lines.

Early this year a Commission composed of a representative of the legislature, one representative employer, and one representative worker from each of the nine provinces of the Dominion and similar representatives of the Dominion as a whole met in Ottawa for the purpose of co-ordinating and improving labor legislation.

It is an opportune time, therefore, to review the position, taking the findings of the Mathers Commission report as a basis.

1. Unemployment.

Labor has persisently pressed for measures to be taken to climinate this social evil. It has been met with propaganda from the press and employers for increased production claiming that unemployment was a thing of the past. Unemployment has never ceased to exist. The Government has voted money to aid building of wooden ships in Victoria, B.C., as a measure to alleviate unemployment existing in that community. A deputation of ship builders appealed to the Government a fer minths ago with a request that the ship generally should be aided in order to bui save the industry and prevent disaster to thousands of workers. The Government finally compromised by introducing legislation providing credits for the ship building industry and backing their notes on orders secured. The mines in some of the western coal fields are working short time. The shoe trade is over-stocked and some factories are contemplating closing down. It is true that seasonal occupations offer some employment, especially farming, but in most cases this is too far a field for many of the workers in industrial centres to accept and the major portion of their earnings would be dissipated by transportation charges and their lost time going to and from the place where such employment offers. These being the conditions existing during the time of the year when climatic conditions are most favourable to employment, the prospects for winter months are not encouraging and it would be a correct statement that the first cause enumerated in the Mathers Commission report still remains as a great factor of unrest in our industries.

2. Cost of Living and a desire of the worker for a larger share of the product of his Labor.

Through organization the workers have succeeded in a large number of cases in materially increasing the amount of money received by them as wages. This has always been preceded, however, by greater increases in the cost of living, thus leaving them in a worse position than previously existed.

Claims are being made that the increased cost of living is caused by higher wages paid but investigations have proved that the cost of labor has been responsible for the increased selling prices only to a minor degree, and the increased dividends paid by many industrial corporations confirm this statement.

The Dominion Government, during the fall of 1919, recognizing the profiteering that was going on at the expense of the workers of this country, created a Board of Commerce with wide powers to check this evil. One of the Commissioners, Mr. Murdock, has publicly charged that from the inception of this board it was never allowed to properly function because of lack of Government support, and he further charges the Government with interference to prevent carrying out its duties. The Government has not repudiated these charges, and the workers knowing of their struggles with this problem, are forming their own conclusions as to the correctness of the same. The three Commissioners first appointed have all resigned and the board is now constituted with its previous secretary as Chairman and two Civil servants, heads of other important Government departments as the other two Commissioners. At the time of writing this article it is too early to prophesy what the outcome of this arrangement may be. One thing however is apparent, that the desire of the workers for a larger share of the product of their labor has not been fulfilled, but instead that their share has been materially reduced notwithstanding the strenuous efforts made to correct this situation, by organized labor. The second cause of unrest enumerated by the Mathers Commission therefore still remains in an aggravated form.

3. Shorter Hours of Labor.

Organized labor has persisted in its efforts to establish the eight hour work day. The International Labor Conference at Washington agreed on the advisability of eight hour legislation and ordered their draft convention submitted to the various countries for adoption. In Canada this question is being still discussed between the Provincial legislatures and the Dominion Government, each one shifting the responsibility back to the other for the enactment of such legislation. Powerful corporations such as the New Empire Steel Company have used their vast financial power to compe! workers in some of their subsidiary industries to work longer hours than previously had been the practice.

The Government owned Hydro Electric Power Commission of Ontario attempted, and have been partly successful in re-introducing the ten hour work day on their Chippewa development job, and it seems to be a settled policy on the part of many employers to not only refuse the introduction of the eight hour day, but to take it away from the workers where it had already been established. This condition has brought about serious conflicts between labor and capital. Thousands of workers have again been involved in disputes to retain conditions that were already established in many industries, and excepting through energetic action of the workers on the industrial field very little has been done to alleviate this third cause of industrial strife.

4. The Right to Organize and Refusal to Recognize Unions.

5. Denial of Collective Bargaining.

These two have also been the cause of serious industrial differences. Large groups of employers have positively refused to recognize unions. using all their powers of discrimination. involving the discharge of active workers, and other well known methods to prevent organization, and where organized to prevent workers from negotiating collective agreements. Other instances have occurred however, where the opposite has been the case. The building industry having established during this period a National conference Board whose objects are to aid the establishment of joint councils of employers and workers throughout the Dominion in order to bring about more effectively collective bargaining.

Attempts have been made by many other industries to obviate the necessity of recognizing labor mions by substitution of workers' committees, composed only of their own employees. These, however, have no permanent effect upon the situation, and the struggle still continues unabated to establish the right to organize and bargain collectively.

6. Lack of Confidence in Constituted Government.

The election of a Farmer Labor Government in Ontario and the similar result at the recent elections in Manitoba are signs of progress that these conditions are being remedied. The continued demand from the Great War Veterans and others for the resignation of the Federal Government shows that the cause of unrest enumerated by the Mathers Commission still exists in many directions. Time, however, will give the opportunity for the correction of any dissatisfaction on this line.

7. Insufficient and Poor Housing.

Measures were taken by the Federal Government to provide money for housing schemes to be operated by the Municipalities through Provincial Governments. In some Provinces considerable has been accomplished through these schemes, and a certain measure of relief has been obtained. The numerous, bodies involved and the innumerable regulations entailed in carrying out such a complicated measure has, however, prevented many workers from obtaining any relief in many sections of the country. The Trades and Labor Congress submitted to the Government a requisition for a simpler scheme, but nothing has been done in that direction with the results that houses are still clamoured for, rents have been enormously increased,

and this cause of unrest still remains as pressing as ever.

8. Restriction upon Speech.

The drastic legislation enacted during the time of the Western Labor troubles eighteen months ago practically all still remains on our statute books. Workers still remain in jail for violations of this law. Organized labor has repeatedly requested the abolition of laws on sedition and the substitution of common law, so that in such a way the privilege of freedom of speech will be fully restored and yet every action of a criminal nature properly punished.

9. Ostentotious Disploy of Wealth.

Very little need be said in this direction. Anyone has only to use their own eyes in looking through the streets of our cities and towns to see that this condition still exists. The store windows are filled with articles that the average wage earner is thable to purchase; wealth vulgarly displays itself on the street and at public functions; our press devoting columns to describing the lavish display of so called society, and so long as these conditions exist unrest on that score will still remain prevalent.

10. Lock of Equal Educational Opportunities.

The Dominion Government have made some efforts in this direction. Money has been voted for the establishment of technical training schools throughout the country and the provinces are being aided to carry these measures into effect. Much still rmains, however, to be done to really organize our educational system so as to provide free education to worthy children of workers, and to enable them without financial restrictions to reach the highest pinnacle in our educational system.

In general therefore, the root causes of unrest as outlined by the Mathers Commission over a year ago still remain. Commissioner Riordan, himself the head of the largest industrial combines in Canada, says in his supplementary report, to the Mathers Commission report,

"Co-operation and the square deal would do away with labor disputes. Justice and a fairer distribution of wealth would lessen the chance of political disturbances."

Are the employers prepared to put this into effect? The way lies through the full and frank recognition of Labor Unions and the establishment of the right of representatives of the workers chosen by themselves, to meet with the representatives of Capital on a basis of equality. In all activities of life there is a point beyond which men refuse to be driven. The opposition and arrogance being displayed by many employers in different parts of Canada, are fast leading in that direction.

The unrest so glaringly manifest a year ago is still with us, and if disaster to our industrial life is to be avoided, prompt action is necessary by our Government, Provincial Legislatures and the great number of employers who really desire to be fair. Organized Labor stands ready now as always to do its part to reestablish stable industrial conditions founded on justice and content.

Will its co-operation be accepted?



ST. MARY'S GATE, LOOKING WEST, WALKERVILLE

Address of Fraternal Delegate J. A. McClellan, of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, to the Delegates of the American Federation of Labor

Mr. President and Delegates in the Fartieth Annual Convention of the American Federation of Labor :

I wish at the outset to extend to you the fraternal greetings of the organized workers of the Dominion of Canada, and in doing so I do it with absolute sincerity. I think you will appreciate that from the fact of the tremendous opposition that we have had to encounter since last this convention assembled and you received a message from the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada.

We are confronted in Canada, as in all other countries, with the opposition from the employing classes, but I think that that is especially noticeable, or perhaps we feel it more keenly in Canada, than it is experienced in many other places. We have been subjected to exploitation to a degree that has not been felt probably in many other countries. We have just emerged from the war, but during that time and since that time the organized vorkers of Canada have had to fight every inch of the way, and anything they may have today or anything they may be today beyond what might be termed slaves, absolute and abject slaves, is due to the fighting qualities of the organized workers of this Dominion.

We have not only been subjected to opposition from the c.nploying classes. The opposition from without is something that we are prepared to meet; we are always prepared to fight that, but the principal opposition that we have had to contend with is the opposition from within the ranks of labor. And you, gentlemen, most of you by reason of your positions in the international labor movement, realize just as keenly as we do the opposition that we have had to contend with from within our ranks. You have had the opportunity to feel it in some sections of the United States. We in Canada have felt it in pretty nearly every section of the country.

One of the phases that this opposition has assumed is known as the "One Big Union," and I suppose that you have read accounts, you have read reports from your representatives on this side, and you have an idea of what has taken place here; but you would require to live in Canada, and be operating in the international trade union movement, to realize just the extent to which that opposition did go or is now going.

There are some sections of the country for which we felt considerable concern. It appeared at certain times as if the international labor movement was doomed to defeat, but thanks to the good sense of the workers, they have rapidly overcome the subtle machinations of those who have been propagating and are propagating those doctrines, and I believe I can say with absolute truth that the spirit of internationalism, the spirit of international trade unionism, is stronger today among the international trade unionists of Canada than it has ever been in their history. They are not carried away with the idea that the international organizations as they are at present constituted are perfect, by any means, but they realize that through the international labor movement they can more juickly realize their ambition

than through any other movement, no matter how strong it may appear from a local standpoint, and that is the one thing that must be felt in referring to the "One Big Union." Its strength at any time has been a local strength. But, while it is true that our members are stronger today than before, while it is true that the "One Big Union" movement has been considerably checked. I want to say that there never was a time when we required the assistance and co-operation of the different organizations operating in Canada than we do now, in order that the movement to which I refer may be more effectually checkmated.

But the "One Big Union" is only one phase of the opposition with which we have to contend. We have also operating within our ranks men who have been or are propagating doctrines of a national labor movement, and these men are using that argument that I think has been very successfully contradicted by the Secretary of the American Federation of Labor when he made the statement-or I think it was our honored President who made the statement-that the money that is being sent over to the United States by the Canadian Unions is being returned to them, and then some more, and, in some instances, in some organizations, as much as three dollars is being returned for every one sent across the line. We know that, and we feel that when this information is made known to those people who are giving ear to the statements made by those responsible for this national organization movement, they will realize that their best interests lie in affiliating with the international labor movement, or remaining loyal to it.

We have still some further opposition to contend with. This opposition I don't intend to go into detail about, but I may say that it is causing the workers of Canada, particularly in the Province of Quebec, a tremendous amount of concern. I refer to what is known as the Catholic Labor Union. We are hoping some day that this American Federation of Labor will take this matter up and give it very serious consideration, and appoint a committee with power to investigate and to use whatever means they deem necessary in order to stop, or put an end to, the work of this particular organization. I think that when they start an investigation they will find a condition that is, to say the least, appalling. We have taken this matter up at our Trades and Labor Congress convention, snd I know that I express the feeling of the delegates to that convention when I say that the matter should be treated by a special committee, as I have suggested.

But notwithstanding the forces that are arrayed against us, both in the opposition movement and in the opposition of the employer and the apathy of the workers. I have here the figures supplied by the Secrelary of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, which will prove interesting and I am sure pleasing to you. One year ago we had 1,897 Local Unions with a membership of 201,432; today we have 2,309 Local Unions with a membership of 260,247 or an increase of 412 Local Unions and an increased membership of 58,815, representing ninety-nine international representations.

The Trades and Labor Congress of Canada is the official legislative mouthpiece of the international workers, of the organized workers of Canada, and it is unfortunate that all of the international organizations having membership in Canada are not affiliated with that body, for there are something like one hundred thousand members of international unions in Canada who are not represented in the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada. I sincerely trust that those of you who are not affiliated will see the wisdom of strengthening our hand to the fullest extent, as our Congress is the only organization in Canada recognized by the governments of the country, both Federal and Provincial, and of course the greater will be our success in proportion to the degree in which the membership that we represent increases.

Through the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada the workers of Canada have direct representation in a large number, in fact in all, of our commissions that are appointed to deal with many of the important topics that are considered. We had one Commission which was known as the Industrial Relations Committee that travelled throughout the country, and on which we had two representatives. They travelled through the country obtaining a lot of data. and as a result of their work a conference of manufacturers and representatives of the different unions was called. There was also a third party to the conference known as the group representing the public. Everything. or practically all the matters that are continuously before the minds of the workers were represented on the agenda presented to that conference. They were all discussed at length, and these are some of the points that were discussed: the eight hour day, minimum rates of pay, industrial disputes legislation, employes' right to organize and collective bargaining, etc. We discussed these things for a whole week and there we had the round table conferences that we so often talk about and that are so glibly represented as being the panacea for most of the ills that occur between employer and employe. As a representative of a large section of the workers of Canada, I personally have found no appreciable difference in the attitude of the employer as a result of our conferences. As a matter of fact, we have had more strikes in Canada since that conference took place than we had in any given period in the past. We sat down and we argued the points. I think we are successful in having the best of most of the arguments, if not all of them. We say we had the best of all of them.

But that is the wrong way, apparently, to argue with an employer. It would appear that the only way the employer will appreciate an argument is when the workers are on the street arguing. That has been our experience,

and today it is our bitter experience. We had, prior to that conference, a large number of firms with which we had agreements. We were able to sit down and talk over our working conditions, but some of these employers decided that it was necessary, in order to strengthen their position, that they amalgamate, and they decided to form a combine, a combine with a capitalization of somewhere around five hundred million dollars. What has been the result since the combine? In every one of these firms with whom we were able to sit down and get agreements prior to the combine, we have had to go out on strike to get agreements today, and yet those men who combined to strengthen themselves refuse that right of combination to the workers in their employ. But I think it is safe to predict that the further these people get away from the spirit of collective bargaining and the closer they get to the spirit of recognizing their employes only from the standpoint of a commodity, the closer they get to their own destruction; and I believe that in speaking that way I represent the voice and the thought of the organized workers of Canada.

With reference to the political situation in Canada, we have not been able to follow in the footsteps of our brothers in the British Isles to the extent they have gone, hut it may be information to many of you to know that we have a real, live Labor Party operating in the Dominion of Canada; it is growing and it is doing something. We haven't made very great successes in our Federal elections, but we at least made one pronounced success, inasmuch as we were successful recently in electing to the Federal Parliament of Canada a member of the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers' Union in the person of Brother Angus MacDonald. We are hoping within the very near future to give him greater support than he has at the present moment in the House.

We have made some successes in our Provincial work. We have elected members

of the Provincial Houses in many Provinces. but in some of them not in sufficient numbers to do very much. I will, however, have the pleasure to read to you something of what has been accomplished by the representatives of the workers who have been elected and who form a portion of the government of the Province of Ontario, and, remember, they have only had one session. I refer to the Farmer-Labor government of the Province of Ontario. During one session of the House they have passed legislation or enacted legislation that abolishes property ownership qualifications for candidates in municipal elections, something that we in Canada appreciate very, very much. They have passed legislation to provide for the appointment of a Minimum Wage Board to fix minimum wages for women and youths. We had some evidence brought forward at the conference at Ottawa, which I referred to a few moments ago, showing the wages paid to women in the textile industry in this section of the country, and if this will bring any relief to them alone, and if the Farmer-Labor government of Ontario did nothing else than that, they would have at least justified their existence.

They have gone further than that; they have passed legislation to provide pensions for widows with children dependent upon them. We feel extremely proud of this legislation for the Province of Ontario, and we are hoping that the time is not far distant when, through the united efforts of the workers of the Dominion of Canada, we will have augmented our present representation in the Federal House, and we will have some legislation enacted there covering all the workers.

The Workmen's Compensation Act of that Province has been in operation for quite a number of years and has been considered a very good act; in fact, it has been taken as a pattern by many of the other Provinces, and they have enacted similar legislation. The workers of the Province of Ontario, through

their representatives in the House, have increased the allowance to injured workmen from 55 per cent. to 66 2-3 per cent. of their wages. They have gone further; they have established a law that not less than \$12.50 can be paid to any injured workman, regardless of what wages he may have been receiving. They have gone even a little further in that act, and they have increased the allowance for the widows of men killed in industry from \$20 and \$30 per month to \$40 per month, with an increased allowance for the children from \$5 and \$7.50 to \$10 per month for each child. They have also passed a law giving the workers the right to any unimproved land that they can use for garden purposes, and they have passed an election law which gives transient workers the right to vote in constituencies where resident at the time of the election; they have taken the preparation of the voters' list out of the hands of the dominating political parties.

One other thing—I don't know that this is all, but I have noted it here—they have passed a law giving fire fighters on all permanent fire brigades in incorporated towns and cities one day off in seven.

Now, Mr. President, I wont detain you any longer. I might summarize the labor movement in a lengthy discussion of the conditions which we meet from time to time. but which you meet just the same, and with which you are familiar; but, I want to say about our labor movement in Canada that. though we have our dissensions, and though we have opposition movements, we have a real, live body of men working in our international trade union. We are not so much interested in a new form of organization, but we are interested, and deeply interested, in a better form of organization. We believe that the organizations that now exist can work much more closely together than they have been doing. We believe it is absolutely necessary that the organizations should all co-ordinate their efforts to the fullest possible extent, so that when we meet opposition we

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can more successfully cope with it than we have been doing in the past.

I want to assure the delegates in this convention that, so far as our affiliation with the American Federation of Labor movement is concerned, with the feeling that our membership throughout the country has towards internationalism, we not only are determined

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to remain a portion of the international labor nnvement as it is understood by you and by us, but we are determined to affiliate, and are affiliated with, the international labor movement as it is understood by the delegate who preceded me. We believe, and we are absolutely convinced, and we are working to the end that the workers of the world must unite if they intend to survive.



ST. MARY'S UNDERING WALKERADALI

Address of Fraternal Delegate J. W. Ogden, of the British Trades Union Congress, to the Delegates of the American Federation of Labor

Mr. President and Friends:

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I feel sure that I shall have the indulgence of this great Congress this morning in the circumstances under which I am giving my short address as one of the British delegates to this convention. The illness of my colleague has certainly not made me more joyful in my mixing up with this conference. I have been devoting a great deal of my time to my friend Jones in the hospital, because I feel that to a great extent I am his keeper while he is over here, and I want to see him safely back home, if possible. He is making favorable progress, and I have advised him that you will understand the circumstances of his not being able to be here in person. And it is necessary. even though he came here on an important mission to you, that he give the greatest part of his effort to restoring his health and getting well first.

I was anxious that my colleague should speak and speak first, because I believe he has better information on the movement in England than I have myself. He is a member of the House of Commons; I am not a member of the House of Commons. I am just out. He succeeded in just getting in; he was one of those who succeeded in the 1918 election in being elected to the British House of Commons and I just succeeded in falling short of that honor. I bope to be more successful, Mr. President, at the next attempt.

It is certainly a very great honor and a great responsibility. Mr. President, to convey to you the greetings of the British Trades Union Congress. At the last Congress in

Glasgow, we recorded considerably over five million members represented in that Congress. I am hoping that when the Congress meets in September of this year at Portsmouth, we shall have well nigh upon six million members represented at that convention. That is an achievement, friends, that has never been known before in the old country, and I don't think, Mr. President, it has been known in the history of any country. I quote that to show the great progress still being made in the great trade union movement in the country. There was an idea, perhaps, that the results of the war would leave our trade unions inactive and diminishing in membership. That has proven not to be so. The spirit of trades unionism, the spirit of organization, is more alive today in Great Britain than it has ever before been known in that country. Organization in almost every industry has become almost perfect. and the non-unionist is almost extinct; so that on those grounds the British Trades Union Congress has reason to congratulate itself.

During the past twelve months the Trades Union Congress Parliamentary Committee, which, as you know, is the mouthpiece of the trade unionists of the old country and of various societies throughout the country, have been devoting their attention to great, pressing problems that have affected us as after-war problems. We haven't yet got over the war: I don't think we shall get over it for many years to come. We are constantly and persistently protesting against the high cost of living, the constant tendency upwards

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in the cost of living. We are told (by the employers and the capitalists that that is to some extent the result of our demands for increased wages. I can assure you that the reverse is the truth, that wages are engaged in a mad rush after prices. We can give a guarantee, as trade union representatives, to the government of Great Britain, that if they will stop the upward tendency of prices and the cost of living and profiteering, that advances in wages will not be heard of so often in the future. It is an unpleasant thing for the trade union officials and the members to be asking every few months for wage increases in order to keep pace with the cost of living, and if the government will only use the strong hand to smash prices and smash profiteering, then we can give assurance to the government that wages at any rate will attain some amount of stability.

We have succeeded, as you will doubtless know, in getting the hours of labor reduced all through the country. though we haven't got the universal forty-eight hours or fortyfour hours. Speaking of my own particular trade, if the delegates will excuse me for particularizing in that respect-that is the cotton trade of Lancashire, and what we consider the cotton trade of the world when we speak of Lancashire - in that trade we have had our wages increased since the war commenced to a total of 210 per cent. We have got the hours reduced in the Lancashire cotton mills from 5512 to 48 per week by voluntary agreement with the employers; it is not yet a legal enactment. So that we of the textile trades of Lancashire feel that we have not done very badly as a result of our recent agitation.

The wage question had just been settled before I came away. An agreement has been reached that the wage question shall not be reopened again for a period of twelve months; the question of hours will come up for consideration again in a matter of about eight months, and our people claim that we shall have either forty-four or forty-six

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and one-half hours. I only quote that to show you the progress of the cotton trades in Lancashire. There are some trades more fortunate; some of them got forty-four hours, some forty hours per week, so that the trade unions are thoroughly active in reducing the hours of labor and getting wages commensurate with the cost of living.

We have had some very grave situations in our country in reference to the housing problem. It is most difficult to secure houses for people to live in in many parts of the country, and if people decide to move they have to see where they are going to move first, or they will move outside and never get in again. We find there isn't quite the same readiness to build that we should like to see exhibited. We want the government to take this matter up, we want them to compel, or to aid in the building of houses for the working people, believing that the housing problem is at the bottom of many of our social evils. We believe that people that are not well housed cannot live a right and Christian life.

We have also had the question, as you may probably see in the newspapers. of the scarcity of commodities. I don't know how you find it in Canada or in Montreal, but some of our provisions are yet very limited. We cannot get all the coal we need, although the miners are now acknowledged by all authorities to be turning out as much production as ever known in the history of the country, so it is not the miners who are not getting coal enough for us, but for some reason or other there isn't quite coal enough to go around. We don't see why that condition should exist.

We also find that there is a scarcity of commodities so far as butter and sugar are concerned—and when I say butter I mean butter, I don't mean margarine; we can have plenty of that, but we don't want war-time commodities now; we are expecting something better at least eighteen months or two years after the war. I am giving you an indication to show you that even yct wc are suffering from some of the evils of the war period. If I may give a superficial view — and perhaps it may be correct or not, because at a conference of this description you would not thank me to go into too many details referring to the cost of living in our country—but as I see it and know it since I came to Montreal, although we complain very seriously about the cost of living in our country. I don't think the cost of living is any higher in England than it is in Montreal.

I will give you some of the problems the working people have had to dcal with. You know the greater problems, the two great outstanding features of the labor movement were the demands by the miners for nationalization of the mines, and the demands made by the transport workers. You know how the government played with the miners and deceived them on that question; you will have seen the great inquiry that resulted in the mining industry when, in my opinion, Robert Smilie and Frank Hodges showed that the working man was equal to the college professor in giving evidence and in dealing with the great problem of nationalization of mines. You will have seen from the inquiry that took place with the transport workers' federation, when Ernest Bevin made such a splendid showing in that inquiry and did so much for the people he represented. You will have seen also that the temper of the miners especially, and of some of the trade unionists generally, was brought to a very high pitch by the action of the government on the mining question, when they began to talk about taking direct action, and you will remember that the government protested only last week that the trade unions should not take direct action on what they call a political question. Prime Minister Lloyd George has declared that the strike for nationalization of mincs, the strike against munitions going to Ireland was interfering with what they considered a constitutional political question. I can only say for myself

that an individual who sets himself up to discriminate where an industrial question stops and a political question begins sets himself a very difficult task indeed, and, in my opinion, those things depend upon circumstances.

There is one moral to be drawn, and that is this: if we cannot attain in the industrial arena, by our trade union organizations, what we think is necessary to us as working people in that industry, and the government says we must obtain those objects through political methods. I am very glad of that argument myself, because it is an argument in favor of the workers forming their own politicel party in the House of Commons and throughout the country; and therefore I think we have received an endorsement by the government and by the Prime Minister in favor of political action, as well as industrial action.

As you know, the trade union movement in our country for years has run with the Labor Party movement. The Labor Party. at a meeting this month in Scarborough, will be discussing practically the same questions as those that concern the industrial movement. I believe that the Labor Party of the industrial movement has a great future before it. We made wonderful successes in the 1918 election: we didn't get all we desired-there are very few people that get that-but we placed a Party in the House of Commons that has made itself heard and is now the second great party in the country. In my opinion, there are only two parties in Great Britain, the Coalition Party and the Labor Party. The old Liberal Party. the "Wee Frees" party, secms to be crushed out of existence almost, and the only party that will fight the Coalition government, the only party that is equipped with men and with the material to fight the Coalition government—and it requires fighting -is the Labor Party of Great Britain.

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Now we have had no chance of testing the country since 1916. We have had nothing but by-elections. By-elections are supposed to be a very good indication of which way the wind blows. We have had some magnificent successes, and I can assure you that we have nothing at all to be disheartened about in what has taken place. We didn't succeed with Maggie Bondfield, that capable and cultured young lady that came here a year ago to this convention. We ran her as a candidate against McCurdy, a strong government candidate, a few months ago, and she didn't fall very far short of defeating Mr. McCurdy.

So I say we have no reason to be disheartened. The by-elections, if not going entirely for us, are not going strongly against us. We are getting within our Party workers of all classes. Those who disagree with the government are compelled to come with us if they want to be in active opposition to the government. That is an indication, friends, of what is taking place there, and the Labor Party will welcome a general election at any time that the Prime Minister of England decides to have one; we are not afraid of the verdict of the people.

One other topic, and then I close. That is in regard to the British Trades Union Congress. The Congress has been adding to its activities during the past two or three years greater efforts towards international organization, and when I use the word "international" I want to explain that I am perhaps using it in a different sense to what your honored President used it in his address. I find the word "internationalism" has different meanings. When I speak of internationalism I mean that we feel as trade unionists and as representatives of the workers that we should not only link up with the American Federation of Labor, we should not only link up with the Canadian representatives of labor, but we should link up with all organized workers the world throughout. We believe that the only way to prevent wars and to prevent misunderstandings is for the workers and their representatives in all countries to get together, to keep in close touch with each other and

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prevent misunderstanding, and we believe that by that method, friends, we shall not only make greater progress as workers of the world, but we shall have a method of preventing future wars.

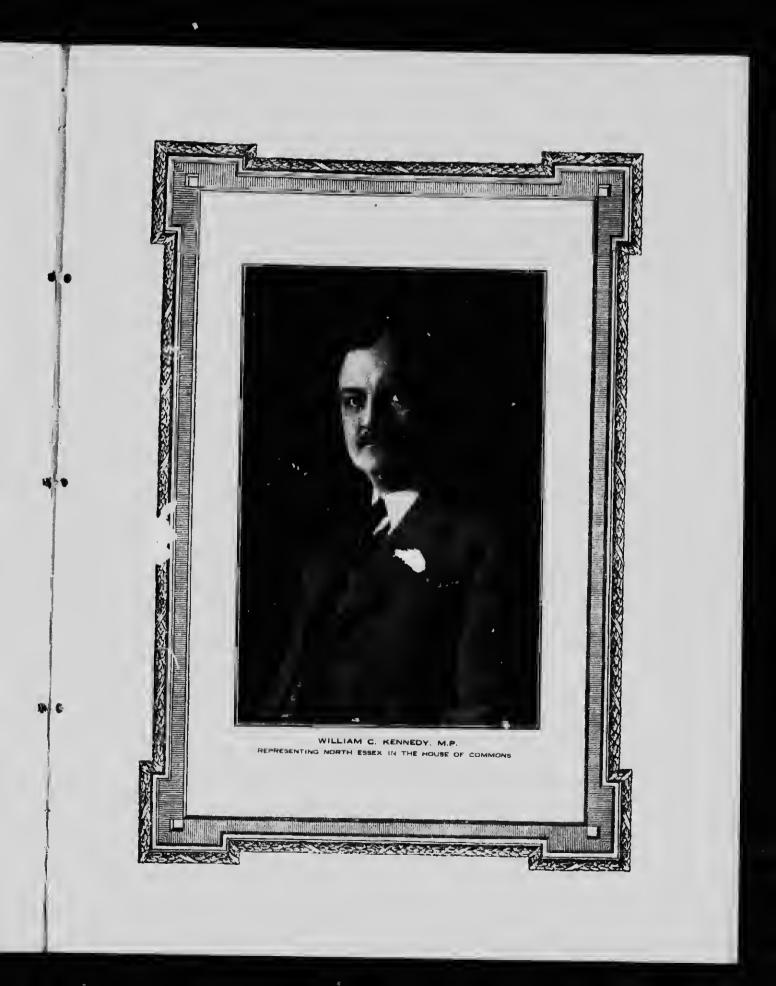
Now, friends, we are anxious that international relationship on a right, proper and reasonable basis should be established the world over, and that is one direction in which the Trades Union Congress has been exerting its efforts during the past two or three years more than it did in previous years.

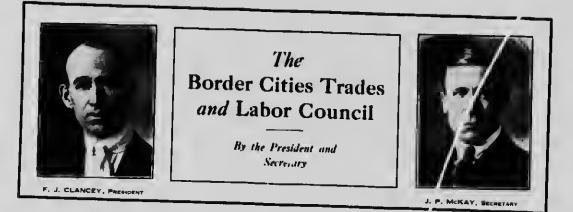
I don't wish to say any more, friends, because I don't believe in long speeches. 1 want to give the message as it comes from the heat, and then close. May I say in conclusion, friends, that I watched your Congress very closely last week. I have been attending Trades Union Congresses for nearly thirty years, so I know the methods of the British trade unionists. 1 have been trying to find out the difference in your methods; I find there are differences in the methods here, and I am not surprised st that. I realize that you have different problems of organization to deal with. The wonder to me is, that with the difficulty you have in organization, you succeed as well as you do. That is my wonder in watching your Congress.

But, after all, the method does not matter so much if the heart and motive is right. What does really matter is the spirit and enthusiasm, the same desire to help the workers the world over, the same desire to take the rags from the bodies of the people and from the minds of the people, and to give them a free outlook on life that is the thing that matters to all of us; and while we may differ as to methods, while we may find that circumstances compel us to adopt different methods. I believe that you and us, all through the struggling, all through the disappointments and sometimes the magnificent successes, will ultimately lead to one grand goal, and that is the emancipation of the workers.

I thank you very much.







L¹KE the municipalities they reside in, the labor men and women of the Border Cities are progressive and enterprising.

Organization work has been persistently carried on and to-day nearly every trade and calling is thoroughly organized. An historical sketch of the Border Cities Trades and Labor Council will give but a faint insight into the activities of the workers who reside on the Canadian side of the river.

The Border Cities Trades and Labor Council was organized on August 20th, 1902, under the name of the Windsor Trades and Labor Council, by charter of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada. The charter bears the names of the following members as officials: Samuel Jenkins, President; David Lamb. Corresponding Secretary: John Hillman. Vice-President ; Chas. Bray, Secretary-Treasurer.

During July, 1918, the Council took out a charter from the American Federation of Labor, with the following as officials: Michael Bell, President, and F. J. Clancey, Secretary.

The membership of the Council consists of five members from each local union, and at the present time there are thrity-five locals represented in the Council, which assures the Council of well-attended meetings and lively debates.

Last year the Council sent delegates Geo. Pennell and A. H. Carroll to represent them at the convention of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada ir Hamilton, and these two delegates were instructed to bring the Convention to the Berder Cities for 1920 or walk home, and as neither nf them are pedestrians they simply got busy and "landed the bacon."

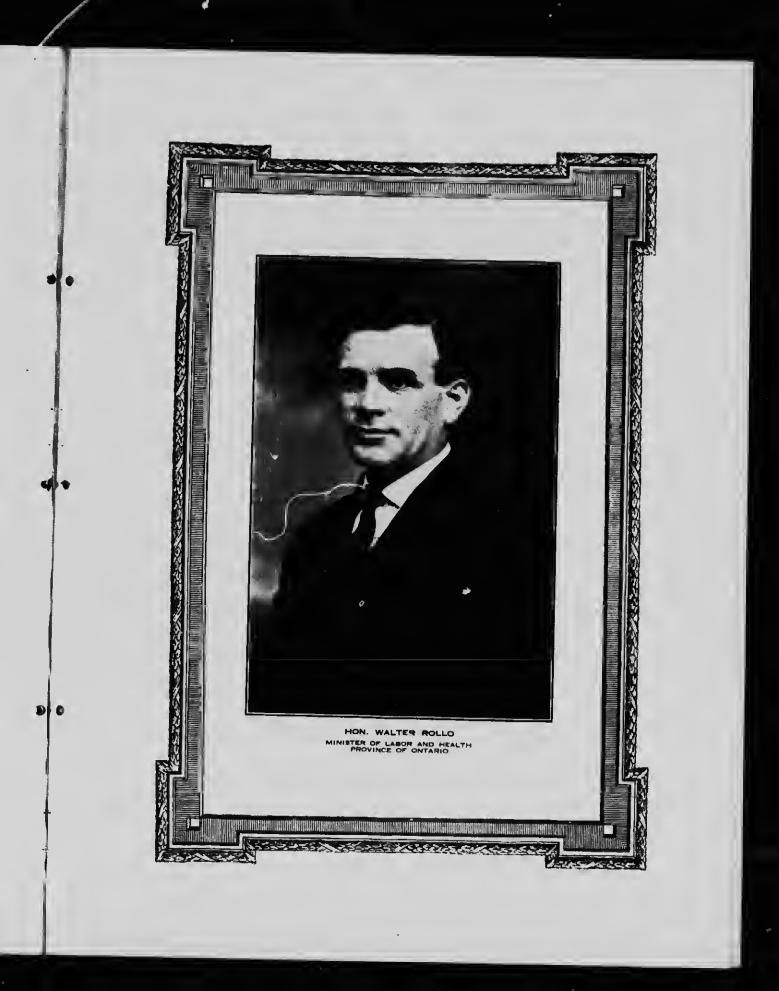
The Council has taken a very active part in municipal affairs during the past two years with the result that they have four delegates elected to the Windsor City Council and two on the Board of Education. Messrs, Geo. Wood, Albert Strang, A. Hooper and T. H. Warren are the delegates who are members of the City Council, while Messrs. Geo. Pennell and Harry Brumption are members of the Board of Education.

Mr. F. J. Clan:ey. the present President of the Council, is labor's representative on the Retail Merchants' Association and Border Cities Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. A. H. Carroll, one of the active delegates of the Council, is American Federation of Labor Organizer for the district, and since the session of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada in September last, Organizer Carroll has placed eleven new locals in the district.

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The delerates attending this year's convention of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada will have an opportunity of becoming acquainten with Mr. J. P. McKay, one of the live-wires of the Council, and they can judge for themselves who and what is "Mac".



THE BORDER CITIES

WINDSOR, WALKERVILLE, FORD, SANDWICH AND OJIBWAY

MERELY place your finger upon the most southern extremity of the map of Canada, just opposite the City of Detroit; on the World's Greatest Inland Water Ways. Could there be a more favorable strategic location?

From the small city class, as Windsor was known for years, the Border Cities have become, almost overnight, the most talked of community in Eastern Canada.

Their industrial expansion is paralleled only by some of America's greatest manufacturing centres. Workers in all lines are in demand, and at wages greatly in excess of those prevailing in other Canadian cities.

The Border Cities now stand third in Ontario in value of manufactured products.

The prospects for future development are truly wonderful – across the Detroit river and "only 800 yards distant lies Detroit a city of more than 1,000,000 people.

Present population of Border Municipalities, conservatively estimated at 52,500; number of industries, 206, 44 of which established during 1919. This record renders the Border Municipalities easily the most



DEVONSHIRF ROAD, WALKERVILLE, LOOKING NORTH



RIVER FROME WINDSOR, SHOWING DETROIT SKYLENE

rapidly developing industrial section of all Canada.

We have 28 chartered banks and branches thereof, their total assets in 1918 amounting to the almost incredible sum of \$2,638,839,399.

We are paying the highest wages paid in Canada.

We have 26 public schools, one collegiate institute; one college; one technical school; scholars number 7,041.

All leading religious denominations are duly represented; one-third of our population is of the Roman Catholic faith.

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Our recreational opportunities for labor's leisure Detroit's and our own are inexpensive and infinitely varied. We are nearer to the amusement centres of Detroit than are most of the dwellers of that city. Only an eight hundred-yard wide river divides us from Detroit – America's great "Motoropolis," the population of which now exceeds 1, 100,000.

Our transportation facilities cannot be excelled; we have five railways: C.P.R., G.T.R., Michigan Central, Pere Marquette and Wabash; all of these are connected up by a local terminal line which absorbs switching charges. Two regular steamship lines ply from this port to the head of the Lakes.



GITS BOTTEVARD, LOOKING EAST FROM OFFICITE AVENUE, WINDSOR

In Essex County there are 6,539 passenger automobiles registered, or one car for every twelve people.

There are 603 motor trucks in these municipalities.

Owing to our gengraphical locatinn, cnal is cheaper here than in any other section of Ontario.

Our Power is Hydro L'lectric from Niagara-These communities took the initiative in an effort to supply, at cost, good dwellings for industrial workers, and are doing more in this direction than is being done anywhere else in the entire country. More than two thousand of such dwellings were erected during 1919, a record which it is confidently anticipated will be exceeded during the present year.

Seventy-five per cent. of our streets are paved. Few communities nn the entire North American Continent can boast of such an exceptional record.

One great recommendation that the Border Municipalities possess and which appeals

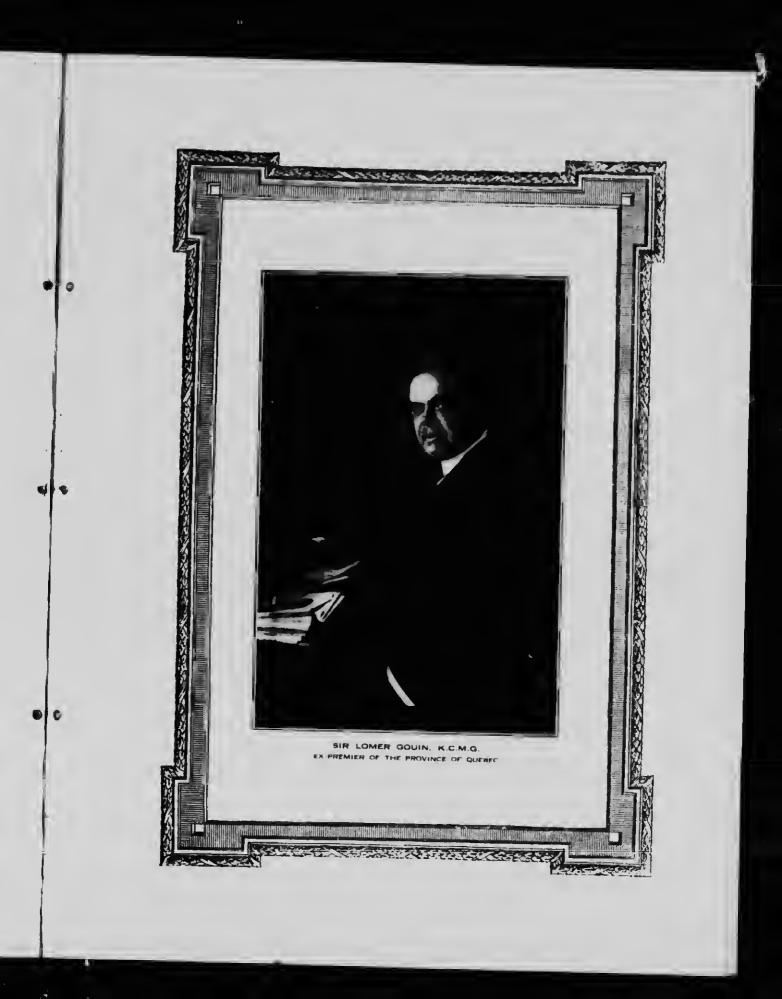
so farcibly to American manufacturers desiring to locate in Canada is that we are so conveniently close in so many large and important industrial centres in the adjacent United States. For instance, we are only 4 hours and 5 minutes from Grand Rapids; 7 hours and 53 minutes from Chicago; I hour and 50 minutes from Toledo: 4 hours and 45 minutes from Cleveland; 8 hours and 50 minutes from Pittsburgh: 9 hours from Milwaukce and so forth. United States industries are therefore able to operate branches here with their one highly paid headquarters executive: and within a day, their executive heads can conveniently visit their branches here and get home again.

Some indication of the progress of the Border Communities may be gathered from the fact that for months past the increase shown in their bank clearings has been by far the greatest record in the Dominion. Last week this increase was 84% and it is occasionally even higher.



DUFFFTH AVENUE, WINDSOR, LODRING NORTH-

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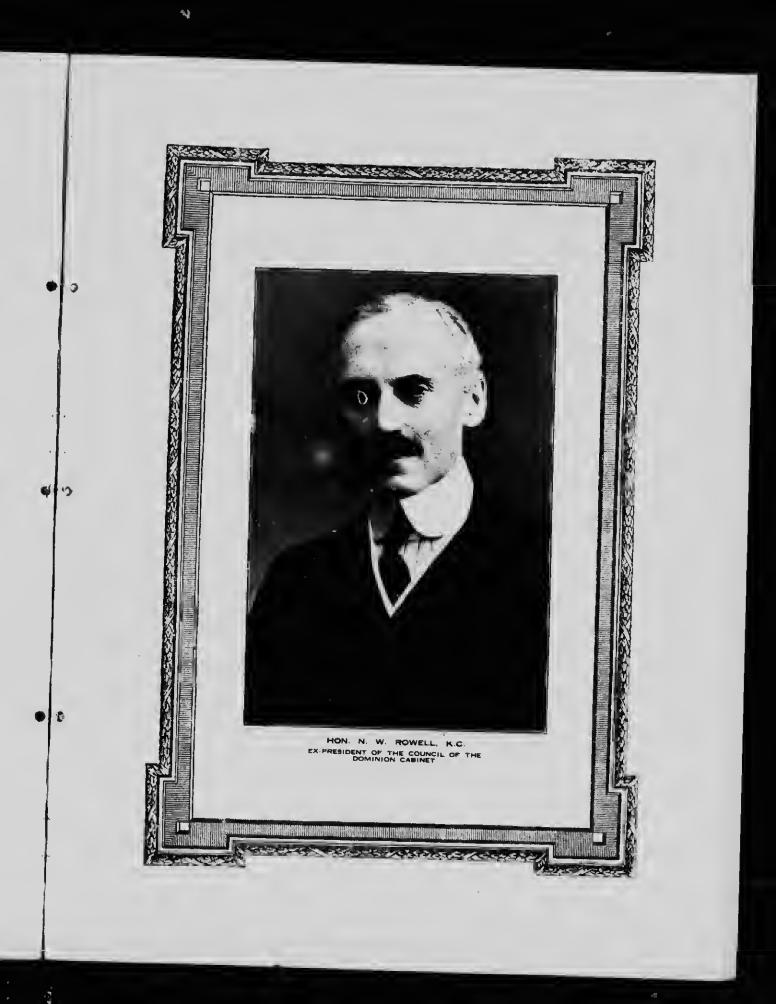


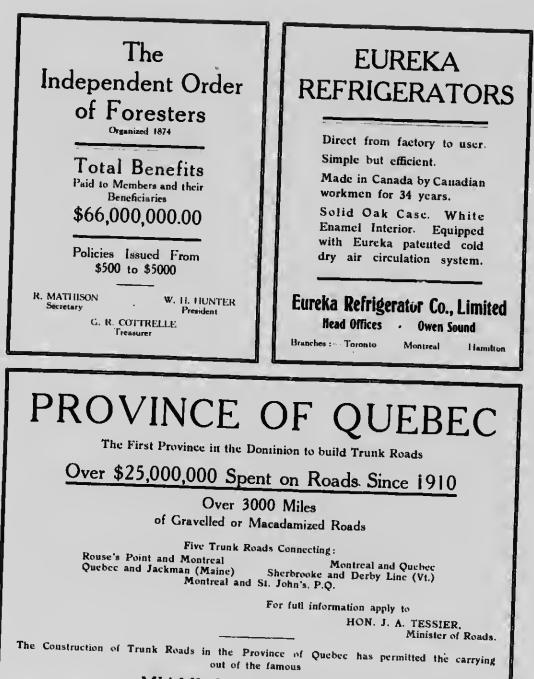
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MIAMI-QUEBEC ROUTE

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PROVINCE OF MANITOBA

HON. GEO. A. GRIERSON, Minister of Public Works

BUREAU OF LABOR

Office : 312 New Parliament Buildings

'Phone: Main 700, Local 52-53

This Bureau is established to co-operate with amployate. Trades Unions, and ethurs to bring about better relations between are-ployers and amployees, and is charged with the enlorsament of the following Acta:

- "The Maaitoba Factories Act."

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- "The Maaitoba Fractories Act." "The Shape Regulation Act." "The Balls Shape Act." "The Public Buildings Act." "The Pauliding Trades Protection Act." "The Pauliding Trades Protection Act." "The State Boiler Act." "The State Boiler Act." "The Fair Wage Act."

- "The Electricians' License Act."

The Licercing of Cinematograph Projectionists under The Public A The Minimum Wage Act."

LAWS GOVERNING CHILD LABOR IN FACTORIES Nn male child under fourteen and no female person under fifteen to be employed in any factory.

LAWS GOVERNING STEAM BOILERS AND STEAM ENGINEERS

All boilers carrying a pressure of over 20 pounds must be in charge of a licensed engineet.

LAWS GOVERNING ELEVATORS

No elevator shall be operated without a certificate bring fast obtained from the Bureau of Labor.

All persons operating alevators carrying passengers shall be over the age of seventces years and must obtain a license from the Bureau of Labor.

LAWS GOVERNING ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS ANO JOURNEYMEN ELECTRICIANS

All contractors and Journeymen Electricians must phiain a license from the Britesn of Labor.

LAWS GOVERNING THE LICENSING OF CINEMATO-GRAPH PROJECTIONISTS

All Cinematograph Projectionists must obtain a license from the Bureau of Labor as provided for by Sectino 18 of "The Public Amusements Act."

The Co-operation of all is desired, and information as to the iolation of any of the provisions of the above-mentioned Acts ill receive present attention, and be treared as strictly confidential. violeti will receive proc

> E. McGRATH, Cretary.

MOTHERS' ALLOWANCES

Gavernmunt Nataries for Dependent Mothers in Menitobe

One of the most buseficent plane ever introduced by a Govera-seent in Canada is the system of Mothers' Allowances which was busislated into being in Masitobs in 1916. Its purpose is to anable the mother of a family hereft of its breadwinn er by dearh or from any other cause, to remain at home and care los hes children when otherwise she would have to go out to ears a living for tham.

Manitobs was the first Province of Canada to adopt this hnreanc and far-sighted policy. the great and pinctucal object of which is to answer that the childran will have the baseful of a which is care and than have a normal chance to grow up into good and useful citizene.

Mothers' allowances were inaugurated in 1916, and have proved very successful, even in a Province where there is little povertv. fa 1919, there were 519 widows who received allowances, thus anabling 1241 children under fourteen years of are to have the the motion of their own motions, when is ordinary sinsumatences, the mothers would have to leave the children to themselves while absent from home working for them.

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING IN MANITOBA

In 1916 the Manitoba Provincial Board of Health, armed with the accessive resumations recovering Board of Health, armed with inspection and instruction by Public Health Narses in the Public Schools of the Province.

The narrow examine every shild periodically throughout the school term. Where lound necessary and advisable, report is made to the parents where medical or dental care is required, and mothers are instructed in cases where home cars is all that is -----

fastruction in the cars of the body and on all health topics is given regularly to the pupils, and a system of home visiting is carried on for the purpose of siding and instructing mothers in the proper care of their offspring.

in 1917, loflowing the great success of Public Health Nursing in the schools, there was a further and most important astansion of the work. Public Health Narses are new sent into many districts of the Province where there are neither resident nurses districts of the Province where there are neither readent numes nor doctors. These surges are nov doing invaluable work amony people who would otherwise be without trained medical case or instruction of any hind. This work is being constantly subleged and estended as properly qualified nurses are found available.

Synopsis of Legislation Affecting Labor in the Province of Manitoba

HE Bureau of Labor came into existence as a result of repeated solicitations of the Winnipeg Trade and Labour Council, and an Act cited as "The Bureau of Labor Act" was enacted by the Legislature during the session of 1914-1915 and assented to on March 10th, 1915. This Act provided for the appointment of a secretary and such other officers as were deemed necessary and defined the duties of the Bureau as follows:

To collect, assort, systematize and publish information and statistics relating to employment, wages and hours of labor, co-operation, strikes, lockouts or other labor difficulties, trades unions, labor organizations, the relations between labor and capital, and other subjects of interest to workingmen throughout Manitoba, with such information relating to the commercial, industrial and sanitary condition of workingmen, and the permanent prosperity of the industries of Manitoba, as the Bureau may be able to gather.

On April 28th. 1915. Mr. E. McGrath, a well-known labor man of Manitoba, and past President of the Winnipeg Trades and Labour Council, was appointed as Secretary of the Bureau.

It soon became obvious that the Act was of little practical use in its then existing form. and the present Government on January 3rd, 1916, amended the Act by providing for the re-organization of the Bureau along practical lines, which amendment was assented to on March 10th 1916 and at that time the bureau lines, which amendment was assented to on March 10th, 1916, and at that time the bureau was charged with the enforcement of the following Acts:

"The Manitoba Factories Act." which was made to include Chinese laundries.

"The Shops Regulation Act." on the Statuces but not previously enforced.

"The Bake Shops Act," on the Statutes but not previously enforced.

"The Building Trades Protection Act."

"The Public Buildings Act."

"The Steam Boiler Act," in which was incor-porated "The Steam Boiler 'napection Act." and "The Stationary Engineer'a Act." which includes the caamination and licensing of ateam engineers.

"The Passenger and Freight Elevator Act," new legislation passed at the 1916 session of the Legislature.

"The Fair Wags Act," also new legislation passed at the 1916 session of the Legislature.

At the 1917 session of the Legislature, there were amendments made to both "The Factories Act" and "The Shops Act," whereby it became essential for an employer, before employing any young person under the age of sixteen years, to obtain a birth certificate or a written state-ment from the child's parents, also, exempting all persons under the age of seventeen years from

"The Electrician's License Act" was also passed at the 1917 session of the Legislature and became law on the 1st January, 1918, and the Bureau is charged with the enforcement of same.

At the 1917-1918 session of the Legislature, new legislation, viz., "The Minimum Wage Act" was passed and became law on the 15th April, 1918.

On the 1st May, 1918, the licensing of Moving Picture Machine Operators was transferred from the depertment of the Provincial Treasurer to the Bureau, and during the 1918-1919 session of the Legislature the following new legislation affecting labor was passed:

The Industrial Conditions Bill.

"Barber's License Act.

"The Passenger and Freight Elevator Act" was also amended at this session, so that at the present time the Bureau is charged with the enforcement of the following Acta:

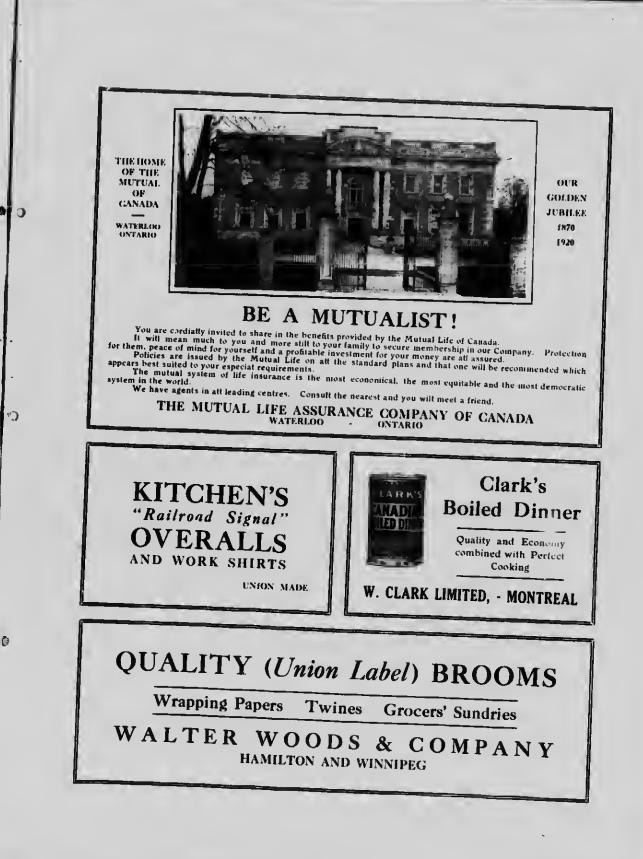
The Factories Act."

"The Factories Act." "The Shops Regulation Act." "The Steam Boiler Act." "The Passenger and Freight Elevator Act." "The Fair Wage Act." "The Building Trades Protection Act." "The Bake Shops Act."

"The Industrial Conditions Bill" passed at the 1918-1919 session of the legislature has been proclaimed and is now being administered by the Joint Council of Industry.

- "The Public Buildings Act." "The Electrician's License Act." "The Public Amusements Act." (Clause 18. governing licensing of Moving Picture Machine Operators.) "The Minimum Wage Act." "The Minimum Wage Act."

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Welcome and the freedom of our stores to all the delegates, their wives and friends while attending the convention here.

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THE MINIMUM WAGE ACT BY REV. PETER BRYCE

IN THE TORONTO DALLY STAR

THIS Bill. Number 226, is an Act to provide for a Minimum Wage Board with power to regulate in certain cases the minimum wages of women and girls. It received its third reading on the 27th of May. 1920, in the Ontario Legislature. and it comes into force and takes effect on the 1st day of October, 1920.

This law is designed to protect women and girls in industry, workers peculiarly susceptible to exploitation. It has been demonstrated that such a law is necessary because employers of female labor have again been found guilty of paying wages insufficient to maintain the worker in decency. Men may protect themselves through their unions, but women are not easily organized.

It is conceded that wages have advanced considerably in recent years and many employers may be highly commended in this regard, but sufficient evidence is available to prove the necessity for a Minimum Wage Board in Ontario. The operation of the Act, under wise direction. will be of real public value.

The Act will be administered by a board composed of five persons, two of whom shall be women. appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council. and known as the Minimum Wage Board. The members of the board shall scrve without remuneration. but a per diem allowance may be paid to the members on their attendance at the meetings of the board. and in transacting the business of the board.

The board shall possess all powers that may be conferred upon a commissioner under the Public Inquiries Act, and shall have authority to conduct such investigations as it may deem necessary. for the purpose of ascertaining conditions prevailing in any class of industry where women and girls are employed, and the scale of wages being paid therein. After full inquiry the board may establish a minimum wage for employes in any trade in Ontario. If the scale of wages so established is considered inadequate or unfair, the board may direct a conference between representatives of employers and employes in the class of employment in question "for the purpose of reaching an agreement and recommending to the board minimum wages to be payable in that class of employment." Every conference shall consist of an equal number of representatives of employers and employes respectively, with a disinterested person appointed by the Board to act as chairman of the conference, who shall not vote in the conference, but may advise the representatives as to their procedure and assist the conference in arriving at a just conclusion. He shall report the conclusions to the board in writing, but a minority of the members may make a separate report to the board. The board upon receipt of the report of the chairman of the conference may remit the matter of difference to the same or to a new conference for consideration, or establish a minimum wage in the class of employment affected.

A wage lower than the minimum wage may be established for handicapped, part time, 0 0

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or apprentice employes. An apprentice means "a person who, whether under articles of apprenticeship or not, is receiving instruction in any trade, occupation or calling, while employed thereon."

The amount to be allowed for witness fees is regulated by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council.

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The Board shall publish in the Ontario Gazette all orders, and notice thereof shall be given to the representatives of the employers and the employes. Upon publication of the order it shall be binding as to the minimum wages to be paid in the class of employment dealt with under the order. The Board may direct that notice of such order be posted in such positions as to be easily read by the employes in each factory, store, etc., concerned. Any employer paying a wage of less amount than that fixed by the Board shall be guilty of an offense and shall incur a penalty not exceeding \$500, and not less than \$50, for each employe affected, and in addition shall upon conviction be ordered to pay to such employes the difference between the wages actually received and the minimum wage fixed by the Board. In default of immediate payment of such penalty, the employer shall be imprisoned for a period not exceeding six months and not less than two months.

The Act does not apply to farm laborers or domestic servants.

A similar Act is in force in Manitoba, British Columbia, Saskatchewan and Quebec. The principle has been introduced through legislative action in New Zealand, Victoria, New South Wales, Western Australia, Queensland, Tasmania, Great Britain, etc. At least twelve American states have legally endorsed the principle. When minimum wages are paid, although possibly fixed by different methods, they have two similar characteristics. The wages form a basic standard of remuneration, they are the lowest rate which can be paid to the wage earner in any given trade, and the rate is legally protected. The cmployer failing to pay the minimum scale and the employe who accepts less are both subject to penalties imposed by the law. Provision is usually made for infirm or aged workers by application for variation from award rates.

The labor of women outside of the home constitutes one of the vital problems in Canadian life. It is estimated that 800.000 women are now engaged in gainful occupations in Canada. In 1880 women workers formed 13-5 per cent. of the total bread winners in the United States; in 1910 they formed 21-2 per cent. A conservative estimate would today place the figure at 26 or 28 per cent. The protection of this great army of women workers, potential mothers, is not simply a problem of industry, it is a matter deeply affecting the health and well being of the race.

We have travelled far since a committee appointed by the British Parliament to consider the woolen industry gave an interesting statement of the rights of Englishmen. "The right of every man to employ the capital he inherits or has acquired according to his own discretion without molestation or obstruction so long as he does not infringe on the rights and property of others, is one of the privileges which the free and happy constitution of this country has long accustomed every Briton to consider as his birthright." The laissez faire doctrine of letting things alone was the policy of the Government.

If the working classes attempted to improve their own conditions by striking or forming unions, they were met by the wages fund theory: "A certain definite proportion of the national income was supposed to be spent in wages, consequently if any particular group of workmen wished to raise their wages they were told that they could only do so at the expense of some other group." These theories—Laissez Faire—and Wages Fund have happily been abandoned, although not completely until recent years. The question is now within the realm of practical politics. Governments claim the right to step in between the employer and the person he employs.

The hearings before committees of the Senate and the House of Rcprcsentatives of the United States, inquiring into thc principle of the minimum wage, disclosed a lack of opposition to the principle of minimum wage determination for women and girls. Mr. Charles J. Columbus, representing the Merchants and Manufacturers' Association of the District of Columbia, declared that his association was actively in favor of the measure. Mr. Edward A. Filene, Manager of a departmental store in Boston with 3,000 employes, stated "we bosses get just as much from the minimum wage law as our workpeople do, because a \$5.00 a week girl makes a cheap boss. You cannot get real organization out of people who are unintelligent, and people cannot be intelligent who have not enough to live properly on."

The recent National Industrial Conference in Ottawa, composed of representatives from employers, employes and the general public, agreed that the principle of a minimum wage law for working women is no longer in debate.

In previous articles I have discussed in detail criticisms commonly advanced against the Minimum Wage Law. Suffice it now to say that the many dire predictions of opponents of the law, have not been realized in the countries where it is in operation.

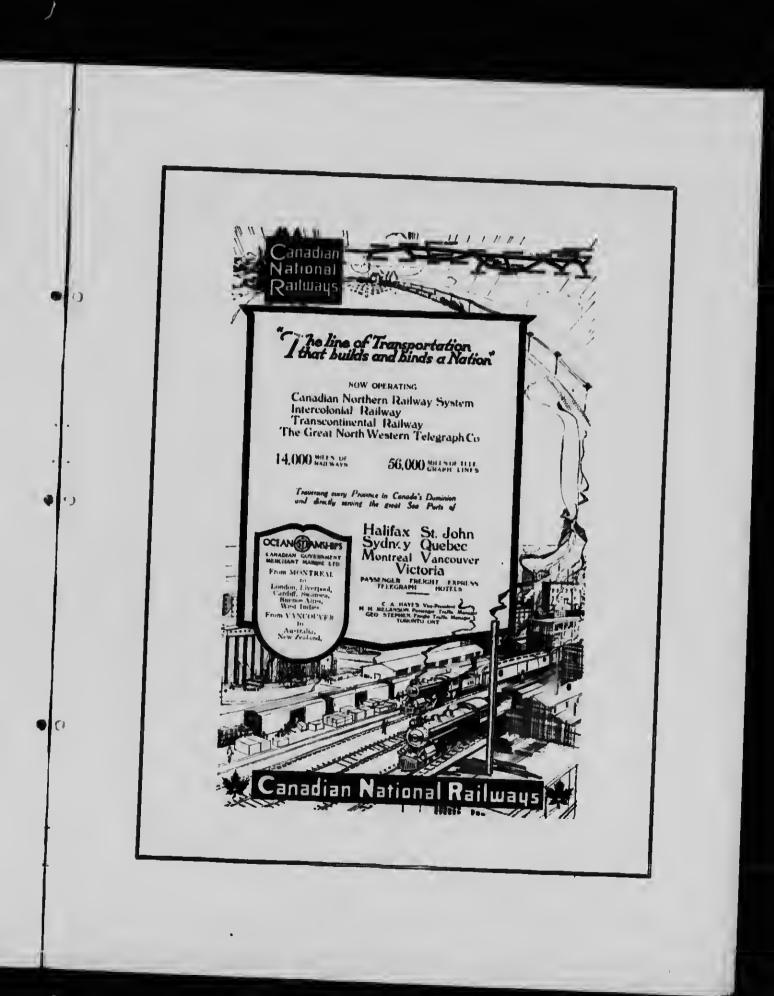
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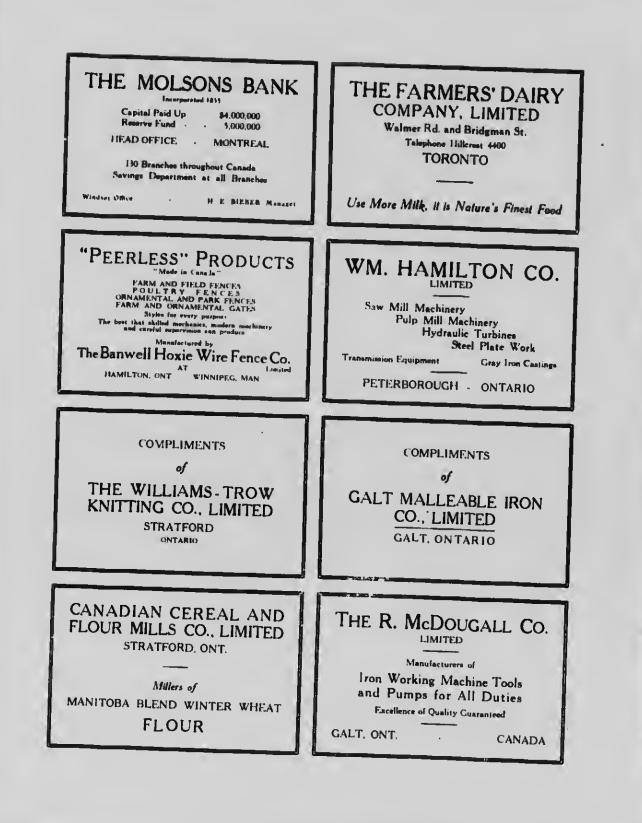
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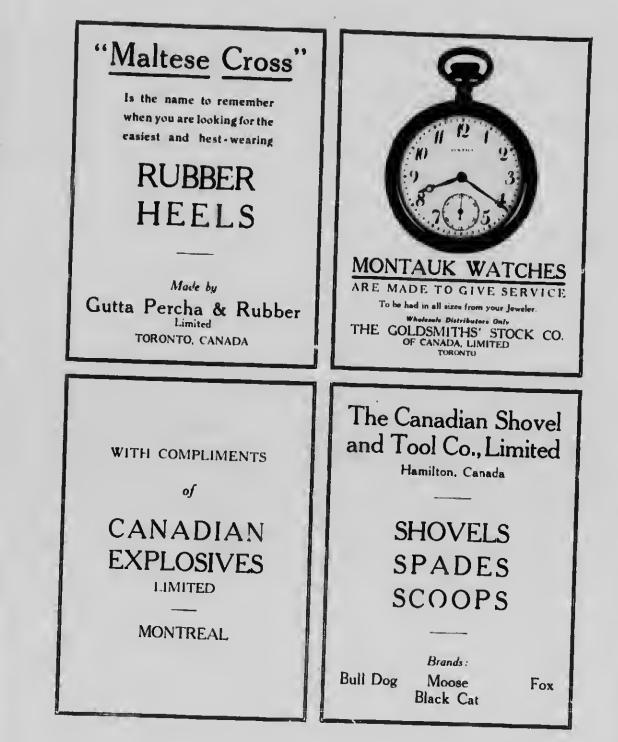
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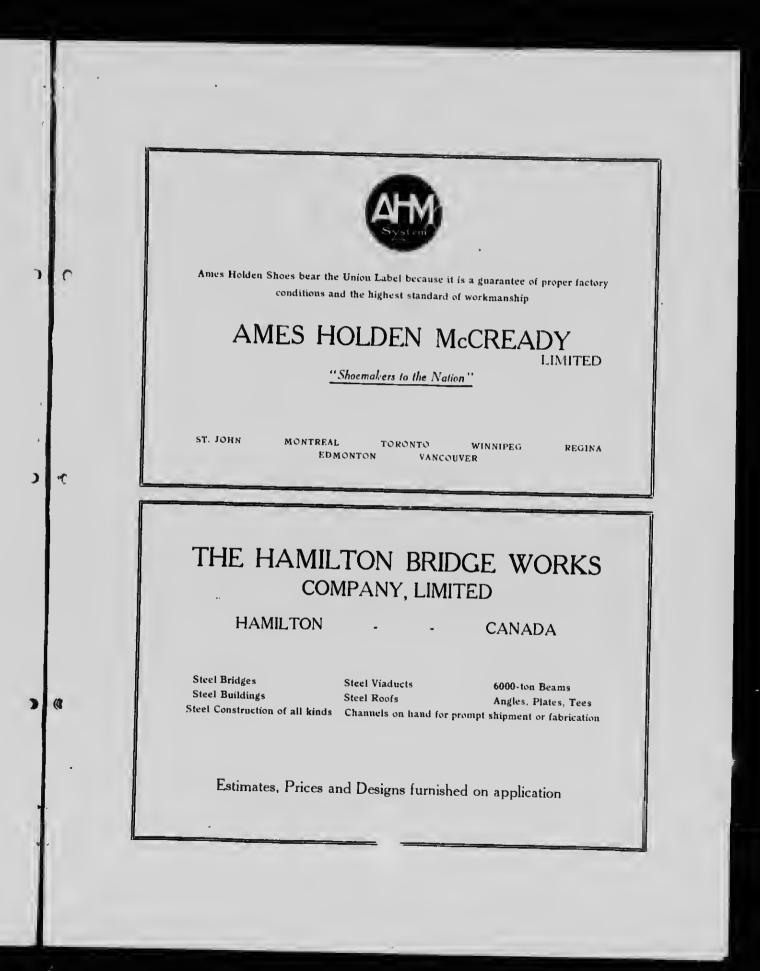
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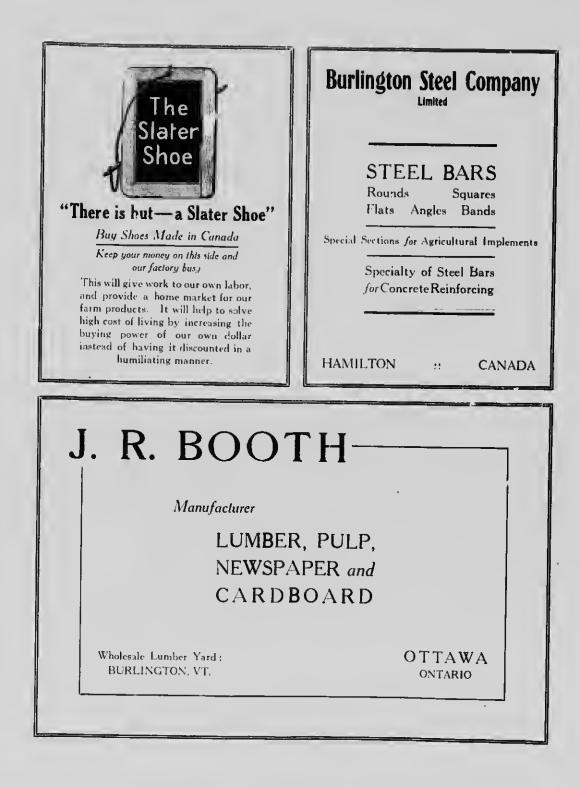
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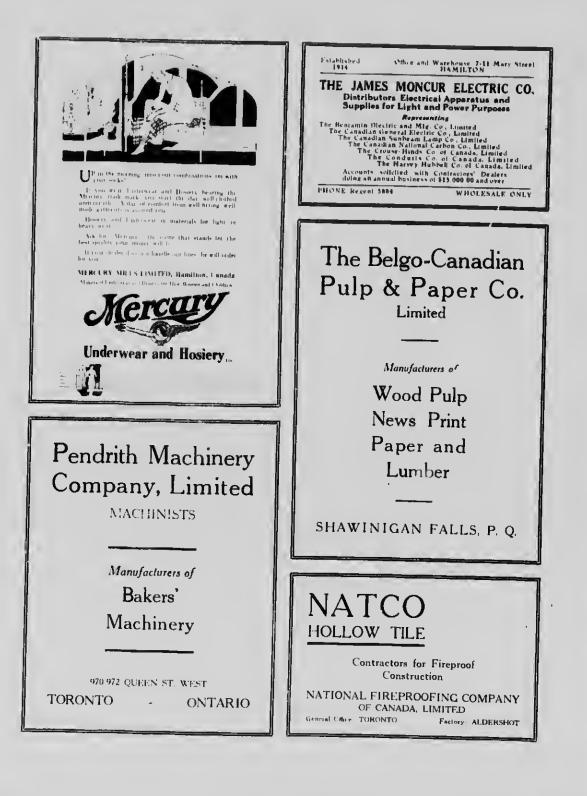
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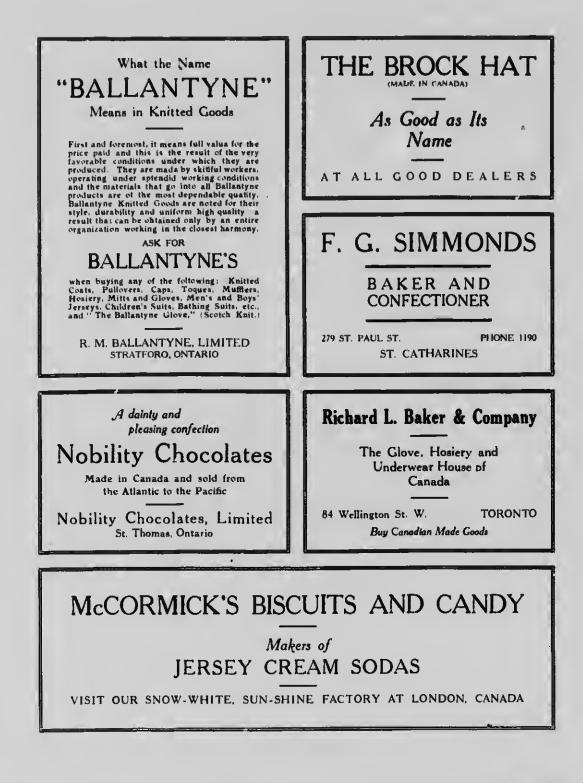
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