

## LABORERS' MOVEMENTS' ACTION

### TRADES CONGRESS ACTION IN REVOKING C.B. OF R. E. CHARTER APPROVED BY SIXTEEN RECOGNIZED RAILROAD UNIONS

Brotherhood of Railway and Steamship Clerks, Freight Handlers, Express and Station Employees Have Full Support of All Standard Recognized Railroad Labor Organizations—Now For a 100 Per Cent. Organization in Canada.

The action of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada in revoking the charter of the Canadian Brotherhood of Railway Employees has been approved completely by the sixteen standard recognized railroad labor organizations.

In the official communication sent out by the Brotherhood of Railway and Steamship Clerks, etc., recently, it is pointed out that the negotiations between the International organization and the C.B. of R. E. were carried on for an extended period but to no avail. It is further stated that all of the standard recognized railroad labor organizations support the International Brotherhood and offer every assistance which lies within their power.

The Brotherhood of Railway and Steamship Clerks, etc., is a standard recognized railroad labor organization authorized to represent that class of workers before all tribunals and fully empowered to litigate for them.

The communication follows:

Greeting: The Grand Lodge has been in negotiations with Mr. A. R. Mosher, grand president of the Canadian Brotherhood of Railway Employees, covering an extended period, culminating on December 4, 1920, with the end in view of the amalgamation of the Canadian Brotherhood with our Brotherhood.

Our final offer to Mr. Mosher offered to take over the membership of the Canadian Brotherhood without charge, other than the payment of per capita tax to the Grand Lodge, covering the quarter in which the transfer was made.

We offered to take the printing plant of Mr. Mosher, agreeing to pay such amount as would be agreed by arbitration of the Grand Lodge.

We also agreed that the past membership of the Canadian Brotherhood of Railway Employees would be taken as membership in our Brotherhood.

We consider this a liberal offer. It was finally and completely refused on December 15, 1920.

### MOTHERS' PENSIONS REACH \$250,000

#### Board Gathering Data on Cost of Living.

Increased family allowances under the Ontario Mothers' Pensions Act are heralded by a movement commenced by the commission to procure adequate data on the cost of living in various sections of the Province. Ninety local boards this week received commission circulars asking for detailed information of the cost of food, fuel, clothing, rent or taxes and upkeep, light, recreation, medical attention, education and miscellaneous.

Mothers' allowances, it would seem, are to be based on a comfortable standard of living, and the rate of monthly payments will disappear. There are now approximately 500 families receiving allowances at a total cost to the Province of \$250,000 a year. The chairman of the commission states that the family total will go up to 1,000, and that the annual payroll will approximate \$600,000.

### ATLANTIC COAST LONGSHOREMEN TO MEET AT HALIFAX

The annual meeting of the Atlantic Coast District of the Longshoremen's International Association is to be held at Halifax in June. The meeting will be held at the Atlantic coast, Canadian and United States. This will be the first time since the meeting in Halifax, the association meets at Buffalo, a month or two afterwards.

### MILKERS' ELECTION RESULTS WILL NOT BE KNOWN FOR SOME TIME.

The board of tellers of the United Milk Workers of America are engaged at the International headquarters in tabulating the vote cast in the international election of officers of December 14. While the board says that the official result probably would not be reached for three or four weeks, Ellis Seales, editor of the Milk Workers' Journal, declared that the election results will be known in a few days.

President John L. Lewis of Illinois, and Vice-President Philip Murray, of Pennsylvania, had been re-elected over Robert H. Harty of Washington, and Alexander Howat of Kansas, respectively.

It was stated at headquarters this week that more than 40,000 ballots had been cast by the 4,000 local unions, and as the ticket was long, the tellers would be busy for about a month.

### ANGUS SEOP AT MONTREAL RE-OPENS.

It was announced last week that the Canadian Pacific Railway Angus Seop in Montreal employing some 5,500 men which had been closed for a 12-day holiday just before Christmas, has been re-opened on the same conditions as previously.

### How "Service At Cost" Works Out For the Workers

Fifteen hundred trackmen employed by the Cleveland Railway Company, which operates the street railway system at Cleveland, Ohio, were cut 20 per cent in wages on Jan. 1, as the forerunner of a general reduction in wages in all departments. They had been getting 50 cents an hour and now will receive 40. Shopmen, machinists and carpenters will be cut from 15 to 20 per cent, within a few days, and the conductors and motormen may look for big reductions in wages when their present contract expires on May 1, according to John J. Stanley, president of the company. The reduction is necessary because of the depleted condition of the industry, the low level of fare prices under the Taylor-Grant, by which the city controls the street car lines, Stanley said.

### RETAIL CLERKS TO ASSIST SHOP GIRLS

All Retail Store Employees Urged to Join Union.

The Ottawa branch of the Retail Clerks' International Protective Association had a largely attended meeting Monday evening, when after the routine business a very full report, revising the principal steps the local had taken for the welfare of its members during the year, was presented.

It was reported that plans to have the welfare of the underpaid salesladies improved was in readiness; but that the association was anxious to have everyone in its membership before attempting this important action. All store employees of 16 years of age and over are eligible.

The finance secretary's report was a very satisfactory one, showing that the receipts have attained \$1,608.75 during the year, and after expenses paid the local has \$178.45 on hand.

The election of the officers for the ensuing year gave the following results: President, Wm. Howard; 1st vice-president, J. Emile Richard; 2nd vice-president, Miss Amanda Bettes; finance secretary, O. Paquette; recording secretary, Rho Langlois; guide, L. Joe Brunette; trustee, Renaud and E. H. K. K. the auditors, Thos. Stringer and J. A. Baril; committee to visit the sick, Misses Yvonne Bettes, Emilia Gousson and Blanche Levesque; Messrs. Mainville, Edw. Camant and Chas. Tachereau. Delegates at the Allied Trades and Labor Council, Messrs. Wm. Howard, Paquette, Thos. Stringer and O. Paquette.

### PETERBORO I. L. P. SPECTS CANDIDATE FOR BY-ELECTION.

Thomas McMurray, a carpenter, was the choice of the Independent Labor party at a meeting at Peterboro last week as the labor candidate in the coming bye-election in West Peterboro. This makes four candidates in the field, with a fifth likely to be nominated by the Liberal party. The other three are: J. H. Burnham, Independent Conservative; R. Denne, National Liberal and Conservative, known as the Government candidate, and James Campbell, U. O. nominee. It is thought that the Liberals may select J. H. Hartley to represent their cause in the riding. A stiff fight is in prospect, with all sides lining up for the fray.

At the Labor meeting five candidates were named, but only two, J. H. Lane, James Ellis and T. McMurray announced their names to go to a vote. McMurray secured thirty-three votes, Lane fifteen and Ellis twelve.

### HAMILTON PLASTERERS' 1921 OFFICERS INSTALLED.

Ex-President W. Littlewood officiated at the annual installation of officers of Hamilton local No. 298, International Plasterers' union, in labor hall. The new officers are as follows: President, Stanley Wardell; vice-president, John Sutton; corresponding and recording secretary, Ernest Sullivan; financial secretary and treasurer, H. S. Thomson; building trades council delegates, William Cheryne, Fred Thompson; Thomas M. Mearns, president of the Mephim. Reports respecting trade showed that with only several exceptions all members are working full time.

### INVESTIGATING SALE OF MATERIAL FROM PRINTING BUREAU.

The inquiry by Judge Snider, of Hamilton, as a royal commissioner to investigate the disposal of junk of tons of valuable Government books and records has been directed along the same line. The books and papers were removed from the distribution office. It is now alleged that certain plant at the Government Printing Bureau has been gotten rid of in a way that calls for investigation and because of the substantial value of the material, it is placed at several hundred thousand dollars.

### HULL PAPER MILLS AGAIN OPERATING.

The unemployment situation in Hull, which was rapidly reaching a crisis, has been happily solved by the resumption of normal operations at the Chaudiere paper mill, during the past few days, and this has permitted the reopening of the paper, pulp and millinery plants. It is estimated that 500 men have gone back to work during the past week.

### URGES PART TIME EDUCATION FOR WINNIPEG CHILD WORKERS

#### Many Children Who Leave School at 14 Drift Into Blind Alley Occupations.

A survey of adolescent wage earners in Winnipeg as a preliminary step in establishing part-time educational courses should be undertaken jointly by business men and educational bodies to cope with a situation which produces many untrained citizens and which is steadily growing more serious, Major C. K. Newcombe, principal of the Isaac Brock School, declared this week at the Canadian Credit men's luncheon at the St. Charles Hotel.

"The educational field most urgently requiring our attention is the training of adolescents in the larger centres," Major Newcombe said.

"A great many children leave school at the age of 14 and drift into blind alley occupations, where they waste a great deal of time and energy, and receive no special instruction of any kind.

"We intend to pay a great deal of attention to child training and to spreading education among the 'wage earners' with no small success. Yet we allow a huge percentage of

### MAYOR PLANT'S FIRST DUTY.

Mr. Frank H. Plant is Mayor of Ottawa for 1921.

In our last issue we stated that he had been elected by a majority of six votes. However, his opponent, Mr. Joseph Kent, applied for a re-count and the result of this boosted Mr. Plant's majority to 22.

His Worship Mayor Plant has not yet attended a meeting of the City Council or the Board of Control, but now that his election is undisputed he will no doubt take his place at the City Hall and endeavor to carry out the wishes of the electors of the City of Ottawa.

We have previously stated that one of the first concerns of the City Council must be relief to the unemployed. At a meeting of the Board of Control on Tuesday, Controller Ellis opposed the opening of work. The workers of this city are responsible for Mayor Plant's election and they look to him to bring relief to the unemployed. The Canadian Government in an official communication states that the unemployment problem is one for the municipalities. His Worship Mayor Plant will no doubt take this matter in hand as his immediate civic duty and open up work so that the maximum number of workers be employed. It is well to cry "economy" and "keep down the taxes," but the workless must be provided for and that means work will have to be undertaken, involving the expenditure of money, which can only come from taxation.

### SOVIET REPRESENTATIVE IN BRITAIN LEAVES FOR RUSSIA WITH PACT.

Leonid Krassin, the Russian Bolshevik representative in Great Britain left London on Saturday for Russia with a trade contract, approved by Sir Robert S. Horne, president of the Board of Trade. So far as the purely commercial stipulations of the contract are concerned, it is believed they will be acceptable to Moscow, but the political conditions which are an inseparable part of the agreement, it is feared will meet with rejection by the Soviets. If the contract is agreed to, it will mark the conclusion of the negotiations for the present.

It was indicated to the Associated Press by M. Krassin that he expects to return in three or four weeks, either to conclude formally the pact, or to find out the attitude of the Russian Trade Commission's office.

### CHILD WELFARE COUNCIL FOR ONT.

#### Labor Should Seek Representation Thereon.

At a preliminary meeting of the child welfare organizations of the Province of Ontario, held at the Parliament Buildings, this week with the aim of forming a Child Welfare Council of Ontario, Rev. Father Bench was appointed convener. A committee of 11 was appointed, with four ex-officio members, and others yet to be picked. The first active meeting of the organization will be called at an early date by Rev. Father Bench.

The Trades and Labor Congress of Canada in a recent bulletin advised its affiliates to take an active interest in child welfare work, and urged that wherever child welfare councils were formed that organized labor should be represented thereon. The C.L.P. is of the opinion that the Ontario Executive of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada should seek representation on the proposed provincial council.

### MANITOBA LABORITES WILL CONVENE BEFORE LEGISLATURE OPENS.

A conference of Labor members of the Manitoba Provincial Legislature has been called for the Monday prior to the opening of the local House. F. G. Tipping, chairman of the Manitoba Labor party, announced this week. The probable date of the conference is Jan. 21.

Mr. Tipping said the conference has been arranged for the purpose of considering the labor legislation which is being introduced by the Government for consideration.

### HAMILTON TRADES COUNCIL UNSEATS C. B. OF R. E. DELEGATES.

After a communication had been read from President Tom Moore and Secretary P. M. Draper, stating that the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada had decided to revoke the charter of the Canadian Brotherhood of Railway Employees, the Hamilton Trades Council, at its last meeting, decided to revoke the charter supporting the order of the congress executive. Thus C. B. of R. E. delegates were unseated from the council.

### ALBERTA TO HAVE A MINIMUM WAGE ACT.

A minimum wage act, creating a wage board to function all over the province and on a permanent basis, will be introduced as a government measure at the opening of the session of the Alberta legislature. Hon. J. H. Boyle, in making this statement, explained the purpose of the act to be the regulation of female labor, the contention being to confine its operations in large part to that class of workers.

### TORONTO TRADES COUNCIL NOMINATIONS.

A lively election is anticipated at Toronto, with various offices of the Toronto District Trades and Labor Council. At the last meeting of that organization nominations were held and only two of the offices were filled by acclamation, namely, W. J. Storey and A. Wilson, treasurer and sergeant-at-arms, respectively. Nominations follow: Messrs. Jas. Scott, J. L. Glanders, Peter McCullum and John McDonald for the presidency; Messrs. Bert Merson, Roy Palmer and John Young for the vice-presidency; Jas. Ralph and F. C. Cribben for financial secretary, and Jas. Watt and A. W. Manne for recording secretary. Seven were nominated for the office of trustees, three to be elected, while thirteen applicants will battle for four seats on the executive committee.

### LEATHER WORKERS STRIKE AT TORONTO.

General Organizer Frank Lafortune of the United Leather Workers' International Union, was called to Toronto this week, where a strike is in progress against a reduction in wages.

Under the auspices of the Montreal local of the United Leather Workers' International Union a mass meeting will be held in Montreal on February 2. The meeting will be addressed by Messrs. P. Lafortune and Ben Dorel. The National Catholic Union recently inaugurated a "drive" on the leather workers of Montreal, and it is with a view of meeting this move that the mass meeting is being held.

### LABOR'S EFFICIENCY HAS NOT DECREASED

#### Minister of Labor Pleads For Co-operation.

An optimistic note was sounded by Hon. Gideon Robertson, Minister of Labor in addressing members of the Hamilton Association of Canadian Building and Construction Industries on Monday on industrial conditions in Canada.

Senator Robertson urged a spirit of forbearance on the part of employers towards labor. While labor's attitude during the war might have been unreasonable, a few instances he said, that was no reason why employers should retaliate in kind, now that conditions appeared to have returned to normal.

"Much more can be done with a little sugar and a square than can be done with vinegar and dictation," he said. "The efficiency of Canadian workers during the last five years had not decreased to the extent it was popularly believed. Of 4,100 questionnaires sent to Canadian employers it was found that only 37 per cent reported decreased efficiency, while the remainder noted no change. Foreign and untrained labor was largely responsible for the measure of decreased efficiency that was reported, he thought. Since demobilization of the Canadian military forces, however, efficiency had increased, until today little fault could be found with the production of labor.

Referring to the advantages of technical education, the minister said that 81,000 men and women workers were attending such institutions throughout Canada after they finished their regular work. He contended that making a plan for the industrial confidence of the future, understanding between employer and employee.

### NOVA SCOTIA EMPLOYERS MUST PROVIDE FIRST-AID APPLIANCES.

The Nova Scotia Workmen's Compensation Board has notified employers concerning the Compensation Act will require every employer having more than 15 workmen to provide in places of employment a first aid kit containing, besides a first aid manual, scissors and tweezers, two eye droppers, two canes, hair brushes, two dozen safety pins, a tourniquet, graduated medicine glass, porcelain basin, and an eye cup, as well as supplies of boracic acid, aromatic spirits of ammonia, boracic tablets, iodine, carboric acid, bicarbonate of soda and vaseline, benzine, an antiseptic, creosol, carbolic acid solution and peroxide.

Employers having 200 or more workmen are to have an emergency first aid room, absolutely sanitary and painted white with a person who has taken a first aid course in charge. The furnishings of the room, instruments, drugs and dressings are specified. A minimum first aid kit must be provided to accompany the crew of trains in transit and vessels coming within the scope of the act. This regulation comes into effect May 1 next.

### CANADIAN HISTORY TO BE TAUGHT IN ENGLISH SCHOOLS.

Canadian history, facts and statistics are to form a permanent subject of the English school curriculum, commencing this month. This is in addition to the geographical information in the ordinary textbooks. A monograph on Canada, compiled by Prof. W. L. Grant, of Upper Canada College, Toronto, is being issued to every member of the National Union of Teachers of the Dominion, and a series of Dominion school lessons.

This includes Canada's climate, physical features, government, economic development, and an illustrated history which will be at the disposal of any school. Miss Durban, of British Columbia, is already lecturing scholars under the auspices of the Victoria League, which is arranging correspondence between Canadian and British school children.

### HALIFAX FISH HANDLERS ELECT OFFICERS.

The annual meeting of the Fish Handlers' Union Local 1159 I.L.A. was held recently, when the following officers were elected:

President, Joseph Lawrence, Vice-president, Wm. Murray, recording secretary, Walter Smith, secretary-treasurer, Sylvester Tiscornia, marshal, Patrick Keleher, ward, Elias Warhol. The appointment of the auditing and other committees were left over till the February meeting. The Fish Handlers are planning to hold a smoker about the middle of January.

### SPRINGHILL MINERS AND OPERATORS DISAGREE.

The first hitch in the Montreal coal agreement came last week when the men in No. 2 mine, Springhill, N.S. stopped work. The trouble arose over the interpretation of the clause of the agreement which reads: "Employees shall perform such work as the management may direct."

The boys employed in the mine were ordered to tend two boxes at the bottom of the shaft, and they refused to do so. Heretofore they asked to fill their places and they were refused.

### HAMILTON MOLDERS' NEW OFFICIALS.

The semi-annual election and installation of officers of local No. 25, Hamilton Iron Molders' Union, was held last week. The following were chosen for the next term: President, T. Avey; vice-president, A. Corner; corresponding secretary, J. L. Kempfer; recording secretary, W. J. Murray; J. M. McLean; Labor temple trustee, A. Madigan; J. Roberts; executive, W. Trennup, W. J. Lucas, J. Christie; trades council delegates, J. Christie, H. Bourne, A. Madigan, J. Roberts, J. B. Pomfret.

### WINNIPEG FREIGHT HANDLERS ELECT W. H. O'CONNOR PRESIDENT.

W. H. O'Connor was elected president of the Brotherhood of Railway, Steamship Clerks, Freight Handlers, Express and Station Agents, Progress Lodge No. 623, Winnipeg, at the annual meeting recently. Other officers elected were: Vice-president, W. Walsley; financial secretary, M. A. Sherry; chaplain, W. H. Church. J. Parkinson was elected chairman of the executive board, and W. H. O'Connor, chairman of the protective committee.

### NEW YORK PRINTING TRADES SECURE WAGE INCREASES.

Wage increases through arbitration have been secured by several thousand workers in the commercial printing shops in New York City. Printers and pressmen are advancing \$5 a week; press assistants and job pressmen, \$4; job feeders, sheet metalworkers, paper handlers and makers, \$3, and bindery women \$2.50 a week.

### GOVERNMENT INTENDS CARRYING OUT UNEMPLOYMENT PROPOSALS.

#### Minister of Labor Pleads For Co-operation.

Hon. G. D. Robertson, Minister of Labor, sent the following telegram to Mayor Church, of Toronto, on Monday:

"This morning's press quoted you as saying that the Dominion Government does not intend doing anything for unemployment and is juggling with the municipalities, and that it has sent out a questionnaire to the provinces. If you are quoted correctly, would be glad to know on what information or authority you base such a statement, as it is wholly incorrect. Full information as to the Federal Government's proposal to pay one-third of emergency relief in any municipality, leaving the municipality to be the sole judge as to necessary for the extent of relief to be given, as the Federal Government is necessarily obliged to provide in cases of merit of the individual cases. Has been sent to the provincial premiers. Regulations and forms of application necessary to protect the public interest, was sent on Dec. 23 and distributed to employment service offices throughout Canada.

Please be assured that the Federal Government meant exactly what it said, and if any delay or neglect is occurring, the responsibility for same is not with us."

### QUEBEC REQUIRES NEW COMPENSATION LAW

#### Committee of Labor and Manufacturers Discuss Changes.

A gathering of manufacturers and labor representatives of the Province of Quebec was held last week in the council room of the Montreal branch of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, with the object of discussing improvements to the existing Quebec Workmen's Compensation law, suggested by organized labor. It was agreed that the present law was not satisfactory, and a committee to plan amendments or a new law, suggested by organized labor, was named.

The chairman, Julian C. Smith, explained that Gustav France, president of the provincial executive of the Quebec Workmen's Compensation law, suggested by organized labor, was named. Mr. France said that labor was not satisfied with the law Quebec, and that it is necessary to change the law with that in all other provinces except Saskatchewan. He pointed out that a large percentage of the money awarded to men as compensation was eaten up by lawyers' fees and lengthy litigation.

Members of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association concurred, and R. H. McMaster, in discussing the situation, expressed the opinion that this point should receive attention in any move to change the law. J. T. Foster, president of the Montreal Trades and Labor Council, advised that both parties should get together and find some common ground on which to take action.

Louis Guyon, Deputy Minister of Labor of Quebec Province, felt certain that they came to an understanding with respect to amendments. The Government would be pleased to consider their proposals. On behalf of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, it was urged that before anything was done, manufacturers should be given time to study the proposals put forward by labor. It was agreed to, and a committee is to be formed for the purpose of collaborating on the drafting of new compensation law, or amendments to the present one.

### NEW GLASGOW MINERS AND OPERATORS SIGN AGREEMENT.

#### President Baxter of the United Mine Workers and International Brotherhood of Miners, and J. W. McLeod and James Porter, owners of the Greenwood Colliery at New Glasgow, N.S., on Monday signed the Montreal agreement. The colliery has an output of six hundred tons per day.

### BOARD WILL GET TO WORK ON "NO POLITICS ORDER"

John M. Godfrey, of Toronto, chairman of the Board of Conciliation which will investigate the dispute between the management of the Canadian National Railways and employees of the system, resulting from the "Hanna order," interviewed the Minister of Labor last week. Mr. Godfrey stated that the Minister stated that there was nothing for publication. It is understood that questions regarding the powers of the board, and the Montreal agreement, were discussed. Senator Robertson stated that there would be no delay, now that the board is complete, in starting the investigation.

### BRITISH UNEMPLOYED REFUSE TO HEAR LABOR LEADER.

John Robert Clynes, Labor member of the British House of Commons, Manchester, former food controller and President of the National Union of General Workers was invited to address a meeting of the unemployed at Camberwell, W. He was obliged to desert a large section of the audience because of the "No politics" order. He stated that there was nothing for publication. It is understood that questions regarding the powers of the board, and the Montreal agreement, were discussed. Senator Robertson stated that there would be no delay, now that the board is complete, in starting the investigation.

### 2,325,000 WORKERS ARE UNEMPLOYED IN U. S.

A total of 2,325,000 workers are out of employment in the United States, according to a survey of the industrial situation made by Clet C. Houston for the current issue of Labor, official organ of the Plumb Plan League. Mr. Houston asserts that his inquiry disclosed the magnitude of the unemployment problem since the money panic of 1907.

### FRENCH CIVIL SEPVANTS LOYAL TO F. C. OF L.

At a recent conference of French civil servants these workers pledged their adherence to the union, despite contrary efforts by government officials. These employees declared that nothing can separate them from their union, and they will remain with the French Confederation of Labor and aid the trade union movement in carrying out its programme of social reconstruction.

### WINNIPEG TRADES AND LABOR COUNCIL PREPARES LEGISLATIVE PROGRAMME

Amendments to Workmen's Compensation Act, the Mothers' Allowance Act, an Eight-hour Day and Other Measures Demanded.

### AMENDMENTS TO WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT, THE MOTHERS' ALLOWANCE ACT, AN EIGHT-HOUR DAY AND OTHER MEASURES DEMAND.

The legislative programme that the Winnipeg Trades Council will seek to have made effective at the next session of the Manitoba Legislature is as follows:

Amendments to the Workmen's Compensation Act to provide for increased payments to widows to \$45 a month; increase of payments to children to \$12 a month with such payments continuing to the age of 18; that compensation to widows who have been receiving payments prior to the increase going into effect, be paid out of the compensation fund; that all employees be included in the compensation act.

Amendments to the Mothers' Allowance Act to include mothers with one child; to include mothers whose husbands are confined in public institutions; that a representative of the mothers be on the mothers' allowance committee.

An act limiting the hours of labor to not more than eight a day.

Legislation raising the school-leaving age to 15 years.

An act to provide the day's rest in seven for all workers.

The passage of a trades dispute

### ASSISTANCE FOR UNEMPLOYED EX-SERVICEMEN.

New specific provision is made for the relief of disabled returned soldiers and their families in an order-in-council which has just been passed. It is not to be cash grant, but provision is made for outlays up to \$75 per month for the head of the family, and an allowance for each dependent child. This assistance will be applied to the purchase of food or fuel, the payment of rent, etc. In each case inquiry will be made by the social service branch of the Department of Soldiers' Civil Re-establishment, acting in conjunction with local commands of the G.W.V.A.

### G. T. P. ADOPTS C. N. R. SYSTEM OF DEMERITS.

The demerit system of discipline which obtains on all Canadian National lines was extended to the Grand Trunk Pacific system in December, it was announced this week.

Under the system employees are subject to summary dismissal for insubordination, drunkenness, dishonesty and failure to carry out train orders, but all minor offenses are punished by demerit marks placed in the employee's record. Direct tenders to duty and exceptional service will be credited the employee and a monthly discipline list will be issued by each general superintendent.



Editorial Page of The Canadian Labor Press

J. A. P. HAYDON, M.C., Editor. A. H. BLACKBURN, Circulation Mgr.

OFFICIAL ORGAN ALLIED TRADES AND LABOR COUNCIL OF OTTAWA.

ENDORSED BY Hamilton District Trades and Labor Council, Hamilton Building Trades Council, Associated Federal Employees (Every member a subscriber.)

The Canadian Labor Press

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY THE CANADIAN LABOR PRESS, LIMITED. Editorial Office: JOURNAL BLDG., OTTAWA. Toronto Office: 56-58 PAGE BLDG., 45 JARVIS ST.

A WEEKLY NEWS LETTER.

MORE ABOUT RECRUITING IMMIGRANTS.

LAST week we presented some immigration recruiting facts which call for explanation on the part of the Canadian Government. Since then more facts have been presented which make it imperative that an explanation be made at once.

LABOR AND THE TARIFF.

THE Saskatoon Star recently published a highly humorous editorial concerning "Labor and the Tariff." This paper evidently believes that Mr. Tom Moore and Mr. P. M. Draper, jointly, are attempting to dictate a political policy for the workers of Canada.

THE C. B. OF R. E.

DECISIVE action has been taken in many of the industrial centres on the communication sent out by the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, wherein it was stated that the charter held by the Canadian Brotherhood of Railroad Employees, held since 1917, has been revoked.

FALSE ECONOMY.

CONTROLLER Ellis, one of the new members of the Ottawa Board of Control, is content to allow the unemployed to starve. He does not say so, but his actions imply just that.

Across the Atlantic.

What Our Brothers in the Motherland Are Doing.

LABOR REFUSES TO CO-OPERATE WITH GOVERNMENT.

LONDON (Tuesday) — Reports from the Labor exchange show an addition of 55,990 to the ranks of the unemployed in the past week. But there are no signs, despite the Many Cabinet deliberations, that the Government is any nearer a solution of the problem.

BRITISH PREMIER APPEALS FOR THRIFT.

LONDON, England. — Mr. Lloyd George has adopted the example of President-elect Harding of the United States and issued an appeal to the public to practise thrift.

ASK INJUNCTION PREVENT MOVE OF LABOR BODY

Canadian Brotherhood of Railway Employees Institute Action Against Congress.

In an effort to prevent the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada from cancelling its charter of affiliation to the Congress the Canadian Brotherhood of Railroad Employees has entered an action in the Supreme Court of Ontario.

What Brotherhood Asks. The writ asks the court to declare that the C. B. of R. E. is still a member of the Trades and Labor Congress, notwithstanding action purporting to be taken by the executive of the Congress, and that they are still entitled to all rights incidental to such membership.

FALSE ECONOMY.

CONTROLLER Ellis, one of the new members of the Ottawa Board of Control, is content to allow the unemployed to starve. He does not say so, but his actions imply just that.

THAT BRITISH REPRESENTATION LEAGUE.

BY J. A. P. HAYDON.

The Ontario Government propose making a recommendation at the next session that a trial of proportional representation be made in two parts of the Province—one in the east to include Ottawa and adjacent constituencies, Lanark, Grenville, Carleton and Leeds, and another in the southwest to include the City of Hamilton and the Counties of Brant, Oxford and Waterloo.

This proposal was the signal for much rejoicing amongst that section of the electors of Ontario who believe in majority rule, who know that by proportional representation is meant a proper proportion of representatives in the Government, thereby producing a Government by the majority of the people.

But the Ontario Government is not to be allowed full freedom in this matter, because a society, with headquarters in Toronto, has been formed to combat it. That society is known as the British Representation League, and they are fighting the proposal on the grounds that it is a departure from the old, traditional, time-honored British representation system.

The system is old and time-honored, but because it is old, that in itself is reason enough to change it, when a better system is in sight. The British Representation League claim that proportional representation will not weld the race.

This same league claims that under the system now in vogue there is general stability of Government because the party in power usually has a sufficient majority to conduct an administration. Right. But that party in power is not always a proper representation of the people.

Again, the British Representation League claim that under proportional representation it is necessary to count ballots several times and the public is kept waiting too long. Perhaps the public will be kept waiting very often for a considerable time, but at least it will know when the election returns are published that the majority of the people will find a proper representation of its choice amongst the successful candidates.

Another claim put forward by the British Representation League is, that proportional representation will cause group-government, with a consequent lack of interest on the part of the people. Is group-government not possible under the present system, and is it not even highly probable? Look at the House of Commons in England. The Coalition comprises five different parties and the non-Coalition, six.

Proportional representation will cause group-government, but such a government is the best for all classes. If a government cannot be very sure of the passing of a bill only such laws that are best suited to the needs of the country will be introduced.

One more thought. Under the old system of so-called stable government, Labor has been obliged to rely on the promises of a certain party candidate who, if he were elected, might remember his promises and he might not. Under proportional representation Labor can elect its own members and will not need to rely on anyone's promises.

We sincerely hope that the Government of the Province of Ontario allows the campaign of the British Representation League to have absolutely no effect on its decisions.

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From Many Sources.

Two cases of sleeping sickness have been reported from Paraguay. There is no record at Ottawa.

No method has been found for the final solution of all industrial problems.—Tom Moore.

Aquish declares there is no difference between him and Lord Grey. This is reassuring, but the wee wee is not happy.

"A citizen is one who shares both in governing and being governed."—Aristotle.

"Every institution whether political or religious, represents its actual working the form and pressure of the age."—Backus.

"I was well. I wished to be better; here I am."—Eloph of a healthy man who took physic.

"America has talked greatly about democracy, but has done very little to realize it."—Bishop Gore.

Trade unions are useful for other purposes besides settling strikes.—Tom Moore.

Homes for heroes, the health of the people and an Al population seem a long way off today. Yet heroes died for these things.

In the mysticism of Lenin's admirers I have found the same traits which twenty years ago, were shown in the French working classes for Boulanger.—Merrheim.

The Profiteer's Wife: "Heaven! Margaret had eloped with the chauffeur in the car." The Profiteer: "What! not the new Rolls-Royce?"—Punch.

Parent (after tour of inspection of Art School): "Feh, I think this will do. I will send my daughter here. Your ventilation seems good."—Punch.

"I say, Betty, what gender is necessary?" "Feminine, of course; it's the mother of invention."—Pan.

Contentment is better than riches.—If you have them both.—Sunday Express.

Mr. Bonar Law is a Presbyterian. Mr. Lloyd George is a Baptist. Mr. Arthur Henderson is a Wesleyan. Where do Anglicans come in?

We are told that amongst other things one Vanderlip will supply Russia with 300,000 tons of metal (lead, tin, etc.). If ocean-going steamers (over 10,000 tons), 1,000 excavators for gold-mining, etc., etc., as one capitalist to another. But we wonder when.

The old world is just now suffering from the wanton rejection of the principle of democracy.—President Wilson.

The Italian way was to send as many people as possible to Russia, to see the existing situation for themselves, and to send Socialist leaders to talk with Lenin. They then came back to Italy completely cured.—Count Stora.

Many phenomena will be mistaken for revolution.—Frank Hodges.

Get hold of some one truth. Let it blaze in your sky like a Greenhead sun, never setting day or night. Give your soul up to it; see it in everything, and everything in it, and the world will call you a bigot and fanatic and then a wonder a century hence.—Charles Kingsley.

If the union the workman can drive the best possible bargain in the sale of his labor power.

Science, invention, progress, and humanity have decreed the universal eight-hour day.

Clearmakers won the eight-hour day in 1856.

In old time, the employers fixed the price of labor. In the new time the union has a voice in the price.

We want all that life has in store for us.

Impatience to get all sometimes loses all.

We don't want to strike, but we will not give up the right to strike.

Strong unions prevent strikes.

If you are wiser than we, yet hold aloof and refuse to support, you wrong us and yourselves. We have a right to your superior knowledge and effectiveness.

PRIVATE FIRST. A few months ago a traveller stopped to converse with a farmer, who had a large number of men at work in his hay fields, says Spare Moments.

"Most of these men are ex-soldiers," said the farmer. "Indeed! Are any of them officers?"

"Two of 'em. One was a private, and that fellow beyond was a corporal, but the man beyond him was a major, and that man away over in the corner was a colonel!"

"Indeed! Are they all good men?" "Well," said the farmer, "the private is a first-class man, and the corporal's pretty good, too."

"But what about the major and colonel?" "The major's only so so," replied the farmer, with some hesitation. "But the colonel?"

"Well, sir, I ain't a-going to say a word against no man who has been a colonel in the army, but I've made up my mind, to see things—ain't a-going to hire any brigadier-generals."

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### WHAT LABOR IS HOPING FROM THE GREAT LEAGUE

By M. ALBERT THOMAS.

Director of the International Labor Organization and widely known as a French-Publicist.

Before I left Geneva I attended the first sitting of the Assembly of the League of Nations and the impression I received was that it will be very difficult to strike a middle line between an assembly of diplomats and a parliamentary assembly. If it approaches to a diplomatic assembly there is a danger that it might appear to be like a man separate from his fellows; if, on the other hand, it is too parliamentary, it is likely to lose the dignity which should attach to the super-state. The dilemma is a real one. I think the assembly inclines rather to the parliamentary side.

The first meeting was quite promising. The great difficulty for the League is that it must itself define its functions and construct its own mechanism. So far as the International Labor Organization is concerned, this difficulty hardly existed at all. The composition, functions and machinery of the organization were precisely defined in the treaty, but in the case of the League there was no such provision, and this constitutes one of the biggest of the problems it will have to tackle.

I have come to attend the special conference of the International Trade Union Federation, and I must remind you that my position is necessarily somewhat delicate. This meeting is thoroughly international. The organized working classes of sixteen countries are represented. So far as Europe is concerned, it is genuinely and authentically representative of the entire trade union movement. It only lacks support from the United States in order to be completely representative of all the important countries of the world.

It is very gratifying that the International Labor Office should have been invited to be present at this meeting, for a proof that, after some months' experience of its work, our International Labor Bureau has preserved the confidence that was reposed in it at its creation.

### OTTAWA TRADES COUNCIL ENDORSES CONGRESS' ACTION.

Ottawa's central labor body at its last regular meeting welcomed the delegates of the Canadian Brotherhood of Railroad Employees, following an official communication from the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, advising that the charter of the C. B. of R. E. had been revoked. The secretary was instructed to write to the two lodges of Railroad and Steamship Clerks, etc., advising them of the action and asking them to again affiliate with the central labor body. Mr. Adam C. Hay, Canadian vice-president of the Brotherhood of Railway and Steamship Clerks, etc., was present and stated that all Canadian locals are being advised to affiliate with the Trades and Labor Council.

### HAMILTON TRADES COUNCIL SEEK 8-HR. DAY FOR WOMEN WORKERS.

Following an interesting discussion at its last meeting of the Hamilton Trades Council, a resolution was passed asking the provincial legislature to enact legislation providing for the 48-hour work week for women. Secretary Foster was asked to circularize provincial central labor unions to support the central labor body in this regard. It was also decided that a list of the women workers in the province were operating on the 48-hour week basis, the statistics called for 50 hours per week.

### WOMAN MAY BE B. C. SPEAKER.

As a result of a cabinet meeting at Victoria on Thursday, Mrs. Mary Ellen Smith, who headed the poll in Vancouver at the provincial election in December, may be tendered the speakership of the legislature. She also had been named as possible minister of education or social service legislation.

### VANCOUVER JOB PRINTERS STRIKE FOR HIGHER WAGES.

Commercial printing shops at Vancouver, B. C., are closed, job printers having gone on strike for a higher wage schedule. The men are asking \$60 and a 42-hour week. The master printers offered them the existing scale of \$48.30 for 1921 but this was refused.

### SYDNEY RAILWAY STRIKES UNMOVED BY WAGE REDUCTIONS.

"The reduction of 20 per cent. in wages announced on Saturday by the officials of the Dominion Iron and Steel Company makes not a particle of difference in our demands for recognition railway workers' union settlement," as added, "whether wages announced on Saturday by the less of whether or not the plant closes."

### THE USUAL STORY.

Police men who replaced striking policemen at Boston, Mass., have established unenviable records, according to the annual report of the Police Commissioner Curtis. This official was most active in opposing the recent effort of policemen to improve conditions. He disbanded their fraternal organization and when they affiliated with the A. F. of L. he discharged many patrolmen. As a last resort the police struck.

### ALBERTA FEDERATION OF LABOR DEALS WITH MANY PROBLEMS.

The Alberta Federation of Labor in their sessions at Edmonton dealt with a wide variety of subjects including unemployment, immigration, farmers' topics, and teachers' problems. A strong case on behalf of the Teachers' Alliance which has recently been criticized by the Provincial Minister of Education, was presented by the secretary of the alliance, J. W. Burtch. If teachers were scarce, he stated, it was only by paying higher salaries that the profession could be kept in an efficient state.

### COST OF LIVING NEARLY 100 PER CENT. HIGHER IN U.S.

Expenditures of the average family in the United States for rent, fuel, and light not only rose but rose during the last six months of 1920. The general index of the cost of living in these cities at the beginning of the year was 99.2 per cent. over the average cost in 1914, while at the end of last June it was 114.5 per cent. Using the 1914 costs as a base, the percentage increase of the various items making up the average family budget in the eight cities were as follows in June and December: Wood, June 119.9, December 17.6; clothing, June 191.3, December 154.5; housing, June 41.5, December 48.1; fuel and light, June 57.6, December 12.8; furniture and furnishings, June 193.3, December 149.1.

### CALGARY HAS 913 UNEMPLOYED REGISTERED.

According to the report issued by Wm. Carrol, superintendent of the Calgary office of the Alberta Government employment service, for the week ending Friday, December 31, a total of 1,252 men applied for work during the week, of which number 143 were placed in permanent positions. At the end of the week 913 were registered as unemployed. An increase of 24 registered as unemployed is shown for the week ending Friday, over the previous week.

### BUILDERS PLAN TO ELIMINATE STRIKES

Standardized Wage Agreements to Be Employed.

Plans to eliminate strikes and labor disputes in the building industry in Canada will be placed before a general meeting of the Association of Canadian Building and Construction Industries, which has been called for Winnipeg on Jan. 15, 19 and 21. For some time the members of the executive of the association have been preparing a plan to have wages in the industry standardized by sections through the Dominion. They have also been at work on a standard contract form, to be used by contractors and sub-contractors in undertaking building work. By the use of standardized wage agreements and building contracts they hope to save the contractors and workmen thousands of dollars each year by settling all difficulties that may arise without a cessation of work, which usually comes when the building season is at its height. Mr. J. Clark Kelly, executive secretary of the association, has placed forms for bids, specifications and contracts, which were prepared by a special committee, in the hands of a lawyer. This consideration will be legally sound, they will be submitted to the general meeting.

Other questions to be dealt with by the meeting include that of a federal board of arbitration, proposed by the National Joint Industrial Board of Building and Allied Trades at a meeting in Montreal last week. A general apprenticeship system to recruit the ranks of the skilled trades will be fully discussed. Wage readjustments, cost of materials, and many other important problems are on the agenda. The session of the association is generally regarded as one of the most important industrial meetings to be held in Canada this year.

### C. N. R. CURTAIL HOURS OF WORK RATHER THAN LAY OFF MEN.

Curtailment of hours in the shops of the C.N.R. over the western division, in preference to a layoff, is announced. Men will work 48 hours a week, with Saturdays off. Between 8,000 and 9,000 men will be affected.

### PRODUCTION UNDER THE SOVIET SYSTEM.

In view of the statements reported to have been made by Mr. Washington Vandenberg to the various raw or semi-raw materials Russia was ready to export in exchange for the finished products and machinery which his country had prepared to arrange to be imported, the figures of the relative production for 1913 and 1920 given recently by "Kommunisticheskii Zhurnal" are of interest. Space will not allow of their being given in full, but the percentage of production of 1920 compared with that of 1913 is as follows:

Coal, 12 per cent; brass, 33 per cent; manganese, lead and zinc, no production in 1920; platinum, 16 per cent; iron ore, 6 per cent; cotton, 26 per cent; sugar, 4 per cent; alcohol, 5 per cent; matches, 18 per cent; glass, 6 per cent.

As these figures for production in 1920 are based on estimates, it is doubtful if the amounts actually produced will equal the percentages given. In very few cases has actual production under the Bolshevik rule come anywhere near the amount estimated.

### CANADIAN GOVT OWNED SHIPS ON SEVEN SEAS.

Canada's ocean-carrying trade, by the medium of the Government ships has at last encircled the globe. The last link in this world-girdling enterprise was forged last week with the departure of the steamship Canadiana from Vancouver for Singapore and Calcutta.

After months of preparation the Canadian Government has completed its plans for linking the Atlantic and Pacific, and hereafter the boats bound East from Montreal and St. John, through the St. Lawrence Canal, will meet the boats bound West from Vancouver at the terminal port of Calcutta.

### CONFERENCE BOARD OUTLINES APPRENTICESHIP SYSTEM.

At the meeting last week at Montreal of the national joint conference board of the building and allied trades, a system of apprenticeship in Canada was outlined, of which the main features are the establishment of a national apprenticeship council of the building industry, charged with advisory and supervisory functions, the national council to issue forms of indenture for each trade, the boys to be apprenticed to the employer, who shall engage to give the apprentice the fullest opportunity of efficiently learning his trade.

### LONDON PAINTERS SEEK INCREASE OF 10c. AN HOUR.

Journeyman painters and paper-hangers of London, have submitted a revised schedule of wages to the Master Painters' Association of that city, requesting an increase of 10c. an hour over the price paid in 1920. The new agreement is to be effective commencing on March 1. According to the 1920 contract, the painters and paper-hangers received 78c. an hour, and under the new schedule they would be paid 88c. an hour.

### MORE BULLYISM.

The woman who pins her faith to a man had best use a safety pin. Practice makes perfect fools of some people. He who stoops to conquer may hear something rip. A good many bad men stay bad for good. A cold snap is not always a cold clinch. He also forfeits most who serves best. Some men stand in their own light, some also turn their backs to it.

### WIFE OF HIS BOSS.

For good reasons don't smoke so much. Do you want the whole world to know you're not free? Printers' Pie.

### CIVIL SERVANTS DEMAND THAT MERIT SYSTEM BE RETAINED.

A board of inquiry, composed of three competent and independent men, to investigate the method of administration of the Civil Service is asked for by Associated Federal Employees of Ottawa in an "open letter" to Premier Meighen.

The sole object of such a request, says the letter, is to preserve the merit system, and anything less will only intensify the feeling still more serious incompetency and maladministration remain unexposed. The letter follows:

"Right Hon. the Prime Minister of Canada, on more than one occasion within the last three months, the Associated Federal Employees of Ottawa, Federal Union 68, have endeavored to secure consideration of certain charges made by them involving the impartiality and the competency of the Board of Hearing."

"In our communication to you, we stated that we had not the slightest desire to cause the least embarrassment to your Government or yourself, and acted, in a very respectful way, that the matter be given your early and most careful consideration. This consideration you promised to give, but so far, all that has been done is that the defendants in the case have been in possession of our memorandum to you preferring the charges, for some two weeks, have endeavored to sit as judges thereon and have taken certain ill-considered steps which put the whole matter of the general administration of the Civil Service in a very undesirable light."

"Again, sir, we repeat we do not aim to cause the least embarrassment to your Government or yourself, but we do demand that the merit system be retained."

"Wage reduction is a bad thing." - F. A. McKenna.

### DISMISSED WELSH MINERS REINSTATED.

Following the conference at Cardiff, Wales, on Monday between the chairman of the Ocean Coal Company and a delegation representing the South Wales miners' executive, it was announced that the company had agreed to re-employment in their pits for the 11 men who were dismissed for strike colliery because their places had become unremunerative.

As applied to The Canadian Labor Press the dismissal of the men was recently reported by the Rhondda miners, and about 40,000 of them struck work just before the holidays, demanding reinstatement.

### 'CIVIC' BRIAR PIPE

Whatever I have tried to do in life, I have tried with all my heart to do well; that whatever I have devoted myself to, I have devoted myself to do it in the best of times and in small, I have always been thoroughly in earnest. I have never believed it possible that any nation or individual should give immunity from the companionship of the steady, plain, hard-working qualities and hope to build its greatness. Charles Dickens, in David Copperfield.

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### SAYS HOPE OF FUTURE LIES IN THE LEAGUE

LONDON, Jan. 15.—A mass meeting was held in Albert Hall tonight under the auspices of the League of Nations Union to celebrate the anniversary of the formation of the League. The Minister of Education, P. A. Le Fisher, presided. The speakers included Lord Robert Cecil and Viscount Grey. There was a distinguished gathering of prominent men, and all the foreign embassies and legations were represented. A message was sent to the King, expressing congratulations for the League's good start, and a message from the Prime Minister, Mr. Lloyd George, was read, in which he said that he was convinced that the League would be successful in proportion as it represented all nations, and as these nations meet upon fair and open dealings with each other.

Lord Robert Cecil said that in consideration of the difficulties with which the League had been beset, it was no small feat that it was still living. He believed that if Great Britain would really lead the way towards the public the Premier mentioned, he would be sure of success. Viscount Grey expressed the belief that in the future people would no more think of parting with the League than of exchanging civil government for civil war.

In the course of the meeting the King sent a reply to the Union's message, declaring his faith that in the League lies the sure guarantee of peace, and only in the fulfillment of its high idealism can the generation to come be saved from desolation.

"The civil service of Canada and the people of Canada will be satisfied with nothing less. Any private and partial enquiry, solely into the charges brought forward by us can only intensify the Dominion-wide feeling that still more serious incompetency and maladministration remain unexposed, and the service will know that they so remain."

"In closing, may we say publicly, as we have already said to you in more than one communication, that the sole object we have in asking for an investigation, as disatisfactory to us as it must be to you, is to preserve the merit system in the Canadian public service, to prevent the renewal of patronage in its worst and most invidious form, and to provide an administration of the service which will be able, democratic and fair to all. In this we feel sure we shall have your sympathy and aid."

"Upon your return to Ottawa to-day, may we ask for immediate action looking towards the formation of the board. Before this board the Associated Federal Employees of Ottawa wish to appear with courage."

(Sgd.) "F. W. PATTERSON, President, A.F.E. of O."

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LESS UNEMPLOYMENT IN CANADA TODAY THAN YEAR PRIOR TO WAR, DECLARES SENATOR G. D. ROBERTSON IN NEW YORK

Government Employment Offices Secure Work For Many Toilers—Labor Department Watches Immigration—Employment Service National Necessity.

There is less unemployment in Canada today than there was in the year previous to the war, Senator G. D. Robertson, Canadian Minister of Labor, declared in an address delivered to the fourteenth annual convention of the American Association for Labor Legislation, at New York recently.

Senator Robertson avoided direct discussion of the labor problems which confront the citizens of the United States, confining his address to a clear and concise statement of what the Canadian Government has done in dealing with labor conditions in the Dominion. "Should our experiences suggest anything to you which would seem useful, I shall feel both honored and pleased with having had the opportunity of presenting them."

Our Federal Government gave serious attention to the question of unemployment early in 1918, knowing that when the European war ended the re-establishment of our civilian war workers would be a gigantic task. In June, 1918, every person over sixteen years of age resident in Canada was required to register, showing their age, nationality, occupation, etc. The male population over sixteen in Canada at that time was estimated at about 2,000,000 men and 6,000,000 women engaged in war work in Canada. In addition to 550,000 men overseas under contract in the hospitals in various stages of convalescence.

These facts give one an idea of the task confronting us when it came to re-establishing in civil life over half a million men in a country where the total male population in 1918 was less than three and one quarter million. To 1915 legislation was passed by the Federal Parliament empowering the Federal Department of Labor to organize and carry on a government employment service, in co-operation with the provincial authorities. Regulations were drafted applicable to the needs and the service was established. The provincial governments opened offices where necessary, adopted the Federal Government's general regulations, and both shared equally in the cost of maintaining the service. Twenty free employment offices were established throughout Canada, in all cities, beginning in March, 1919. During the first 18 months of their existence over 400,000 persons were placed in positions, without cost to the employer or workman, and at a cost to the Government of less than one half the amount per person that was formerly paid by the individual as commission to the private employment agent.

Five provinces have, by legislation, abolished private employment agencies and others have substantially reduced the number of agencies licensed. Another province proposes shortly to abolish private employment offices altogether. Offices in each province report to a provincial—central—office and telegraph synopses of labor supply and requirements is wired daily to the federal clearing house. By this clearing system a surplus supply of labor in one locality or province can readily be transferred to another where it is in demand. Without this clearing system a surplus supply of labor knowing where their needs could be met. Special rates were arranged and are still in effect whereby a workman sent by employment office over a hundred miles distant travels at reduced rates on railways, on presentation of a certificate from a government employment office, showing destination and indicating that the bearer is sent by the employment office.

More than 30,000 men have been placed in employment at distant points who could not have been provided with employment within the territory served by an individual office. Neither does this include the annual harvest migration from Eastern Canada to the western provinces.

Skilled Labor. "Another good service worthy of mention is that much skilled labor of a particular kind which employers have asked to import from Europe or elsewhere, has been located in Canada and supplied locally through our clearing house service. During 1920 applications to import some 1,000 skilled workers of various sorts under contract were received by our immigration department from employers who could not obtain the labor required locally. The immigration department first refers such requests to the Department of Labor and immigration is authorized only when employment cannot be filled in Canada. As a result only in 750 cases was it necessary to go outside Canada to all the requirements. Our present unemployment situation is, therefore, easier than it would have been had these precautions not been taken.

termined by municipal authorities, and that the Federal Government will pay one-third of the money so disbursed, provided relief is given only on presentation of a certificate from our employment service indicating that the bearer has applied for but could not be given employment.

Purchasing Commission. "If ever a system of unemployment insurance is adopted in Canada the employment service will be undoubtedly the instrument used in administration. Our purchasing commission, which supervises the buying of Government supplies, is kept posted by our director of employment service when particular industries are slack so that orders can be placed when employment is most needed and also aid in getting best possible quotations as to prices.

Our population and industries are of course small indeed as compared with this great country, but this fact only seemed to intensify the need of a Government employment service, because of the great distances and comparatively limited opportunities for employment in many localities."

Industrial Efficiency and Maximum Output. "Sir—With Canada facing a period of declining prices it is imperative that the amicable relations between capital and labor which have existed during the past twelve months should be maintained. The present crisis peculiarly emphasizes industrial efficiency and maximum output to balance profit losses by greater production. The importance of industrial production is repeatedly emphasized in "Labor, Management and Production," which has just been issued by the American Academy of Political and Social Science. It contains a comprehensive review of the valuable material contained in the publication, which is edited by Morris Llewellyn Cooke, Samuel Gompers, President of the American Federation of Labor, and F. J. Miller, President of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers. It consists of many valuable contributions from "leaders of the organized workers" and the "scientists of industry" in an effort to present a comprehensive and fundamental programme for American industry. It is noticeable that a joint agreement has been reached on the necessity of "production in ever increasing measure." In an Editor's Foreword, Mr. Samuel Gompers says: "Production is the great world-wide problem of today. We must meet it and come as near to a solution as may be possible, or we shall suffer."

Mr. Matthew Wolf, President of the International Photo-Engravers' Union and Vice-President of the American Federation of Labor, says: "With the guarantees of the world almost exhausted, with many nations of the world thrown into industrial chaos, and with securities of a greater extent and larger amounts than the world has ever realized, much less conceived, there is the greatest possible need for production to meet the requirements of the people of all nations and to prevent a social and industrial catastrophe, which will surely follow a failure to validate existing financial and commercial obligations in ever increasing measure." In an Editor's Foreword, Mr. Samuel Gompers says: "Production is the great world-wide problem of today. We must meet it and come as near to a solution as may be possible, or we shall suffer."

Mr. William M. Lovison, Imperial Clothing Market, is equally emphatic in his statement. "The desirability and need of securing increased production cannot be questioned," he says. "Even in normal times that may be accepted as a foremost aim of industry for increased production means potentially, at least, a larger measure of well-being for all within the industry as well as for the community. Today with all the wastage and losses of the war to be made good, the need is peculiarly urgent."

Mr. W. A. Anglin, Secretary of the General Federation of Trade Unions (English) and President of the International Federation of Trade Unions, who has been conducting such a courageous campaign in Great Britain against the fallacious theories of underproduction and "let 'em eat" says: "Every citizen depends upon production. Standards of living cannot be raised, nor can existence be maintained unless mankind accepts this contention. Economic, political or legislative action, whether acting separately or collectively, cannot make the corn grow, or build houses, or feed children, or clothe humanity. Only working and thinking can provide the things essential to life and comfort."

Mr. Horace R. Drury, formerly of the Department of Economics and Sociology, Ohio State University, declares that: "Perhaps the most fundamental thing that organized labor as such could do would be to advance as its own general philosophy that production is the goal of industry; that it is the special aim and opportunity both of labor as a body and of each individual worker. Hence," he says, "concern for production, the one great common end of the industry, in the very nature of the case become the chief driving force upon which labor must depend if, indeed, there is to be any real life or permanency to the various alliances, great and small, which it is labor's chief ambition and function to set up and maintain. In such a situation the object of their collective action, the leaders of labor will not only be helping along a most excellent and profitable cause, but they will also be adding immeasurably to the dignity of their office and to the status and fullness of life of all those whom they represent."

Letters to the Editor.

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Dealing with women in productive industry, Lillian Erskine, Chief of the Bureau of Industrial Statistics, New Jersey Department of Labor, Trenton, N.J., says: "On the test of sustained productivity rests not only the retention of women in peace industries, but also the general adoption of bettered working conditions which the emergency of war forced upon even the reactionary contractor as the price of his success."

This general argument for industrial production applies with even greater force in the present Canadian situation. Some businesses were remunerative with high prices are now in straitened circumstances and can only continue prosperous and pay good wages if losses can be met by massed production and smaller unit profit. Fortunately present distress in business is limited, and there is no reason to anticipate any general dislocation of the price readjustment period. Even slight price reductions improve the financial conditions and increase the purchasing power of thousands of men and women of moderate incomes or holding professional or salaried positions. This increased purchasing power of the people there is the greatest inducement against any real break in prices and the chief guarantee of continuous industrial stability. Extreme price reductions that would destroy business and industrial stability would be a disaster for the country as for the workers. They would be accompanied by closed factories, lower wages and extensive unemployment, but while raw materials such as hides, cotton, silk and wool, have experienced material reductions in price, there has been little change in the cost of their fabrication into finished articles, and wages, transportation costs, and other factors seem to prohibit any extreme price movement. So, despite severe conditions in some particular instances, the majority of Canadian industries are active workers that will keep them busy."

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months. There is no justification for any undue apprehension, but it is imperative that there should be no radical changes in national fiscal policy and that there should be active support of the home market. The Canadian Reconstruction Association, which has just issued an appeal to "Produce, Purchase, Protect Canadian Goods," says: "Prosperous industries and prosperous workers make prosperous communities. Canadians should give effective preference to Canadian goods over imported products. By patronizing Canadian industries, the Canadian public will reduce the dangers of the price readjustment period to a minimum. Increased demand for Canadian-made products will enable Canadian factories to produce at minimum unit costs and sell at lowest possible prices. Industries abroad are looking to the Dominion to absorb their surplus production. Canadian industries are advanced from many foreign markets by high protective duties. If a substantial part of the limited Canadian market is secured by outside industries, the reduced demand for Canadian-made products must result in higher unit production costs, unemployment, and idleness. Adequate tariff protection is vital for Canadian industries employing labor."

HALIFAX LONGSHOREMEN ELECT 1921 OFFICIALS. At its annual meeting recently of the Halifax Longshoremen's Association, officers as below were elected and the reports presented showed the association in a healthy condition. It was decided to sign up with the employers a new working agreement for the year 1921, embodying two changes in working conditions conceded by the employers, namely, double time for Saturday nights and two hours for men called out ready. Honorary president, John T. Joy; president, M. D. Coolen (re-elected); vice-president, Wm. Purcell; treasurer, Michael McGrath; recording secretary, Peter Garnier; assistant recording secretary, C. Lamphier; financial secretary, M. Shea; auditor, D. Craig; executive committee, Jas. O. Young, Jos. Morash, F. McDonald, H. Gray; board of trustees, Frank Collins, Irwin G. Boyle, F. Wilkie; auditors, F. J. Grant, Jos. Martin, D. Flinn; delegates to Trades and Labor Council, M. D. Coolen, E. Garner, Wm. McCarthy, M. J. Murphy, Wm. Morash.

ST. JOHN PRINTING PRESS—MEN'S ELECTION RESULTS. At the annual meeting of the St. John, N.B. Printing Pressmen's and Assistants' Union, No. 36, the election of officers was held with the following results: President, William Howard; vice-president, J. Maxwell; financial secretary, William Green; recording secretary, M. Hastings; treasurer, P. Whelan. Delegates to the Trades and Labor Council, J. McIntyre, A. Dever, A. Etison, M. Hastings and W. Ward; delegates to the Allied Trades Council, A. Dever, M. Hastings and P. Brown; audit committee, W. Ward and A. Dever. The reports of the various officers showed the union to be in a flourishing condition, both financially and numerically. Government officials says a cycle later the laborers because they have to keep in their own time.

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# Industrial Review From Many Sources

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## PEAT EXPERIMENTAL WORK TO CONTINUE

### Machine Has Been Perfected Simplifying Work.

Already the Dominion Government has notified the Ontario Provincial authorities of its willingness to co-operate financially during another year in the peat experimental work at Alfred, Ont. The question as to the advisability of the expenditure of still further sums of money at the Alfred fields has been up in Cabinet Council at the Parliament Buildings, but no decision has yet been reached.

The result claimed by the joint Dominion-Provincial Commission is the perfecting of a machine which greatly simplifies the work of preparing the fuel substance. By its use the peat is dug from the ground, laid out for drying, and cut in sections, all in the one operation, greatly reducing the cost, which has heretofore been regarded as high. Experiments have also been carried on with another type of machine, patents for which are held in Europe.

## FAT DIVIDENDS FOR STOCK HOLDERS

### One British Company Pays 425 Per Cent.

Two hundred and fifty Lancashire cotton mills, with a total capital of £12,000,000, paid in 1920 £2,500,000 in dividends, according to a report issued by the American Chamber of Commerce here today. One mill paid 425 per cent. The net declines in 357 representative securities in the London Stock Exchange during the past year, however, aggregated £115,000,000, the report states.

The total capital issues of the year, excluding Government loans, exceeded £24,000,000, as compared with £27,000,000 the previous year. New issues in December were £8,000,000, against £33,000,000 in November.

The cancellation of shipping orders continues, the report goes on, one prominent line having withdrawn an order for four large steamers placed with Clyde shipbuilders and instructions have been given to slow down at the firm's own yards. The high cost of construction was given as the reason for this, ship-owners finding it cheaper to purchase existing tonnage rather than build new.

Lord Inchape, director of the P. and O. Steam Navigation Company, told the annual meeting of the Chamber that the future of shipping was none too rosy and that his company now was carrying passengers below cost, although the rates admittedly were higher.

The coal output continues highly satisfactory, being maintained at more than 5,000,000 tons weekly. Official reports state that the demand for British coal, notably from France and the Scandinavian coun-

## NECESSITY FOR MODERATION.

In the current issue of the Leather Workers' Journal, Organizer Frank LaFontaine, of the United Leather Workers' International Union, says: "As this is my first message to the United Leather Workers I want to extend to them my greetings and in extending my greetings I would urge on all the members of the United Leather Workers' International Union the necessity for moderation. In these stressing times of peace the entire world has its eyes fixed on the labor movement. All conventions and conferences of workers are closely watched and our enemies are on the alert to look for an excuse to discredit our International Labor Movement."

The Leather Workers of Canada have the same forces to combat that the Leather Workers have in the United States. Capital is international and for that reason more than any other, labor in Canada and in the United States cannot and will not be separated. The Canadian members have two forces to deal with in the industrial field. One is known as the Ultra-Conservative Group operating under the name of the National Catholic Union, and the other is known as the Ultra-Liberal Group working under the banner of the One Big Union. Labor's problems, therefore, are of no little concern of the wage earners, but so long as man shall live and have his being, so long as there shall dwell in the human breast a desire for something better and nobler, so long as there is in the human mind the germ of the belief in human justice and human

## U. S. LABOR OPPOSED TO ALIEN IMMIGRATION.

Labor officials favoring a prohibition against immigration to the United States were listed among those to testify before the Senate immigration committee. Secretary Morrison, of the American Federation of Labor, had requested a hearing, saying he desired to testify regarding the undesirability, from labor's standpoint, of admitting foreigners to the United States under present conditions of unemployment and industrial reorganization.

## BUILDING MORE SHIPS THAN ENTIRE WORLD

### Britain Now Has 3,709,000 Tons Under Construction.

Great Britain is now building more commercial ships than all the rest of the world combined, says a statement issued at New York this week by Lloyd's register of shipping.

On reports received up to and on December 31, 1920, shipping under way in the United Kingdom amounted to 3,709,000 gross tons. In the United States it amounted to 1,310,000 tons, and in all the countries of the world, 7,179,000 tons. Tonnage under construction in all countries on December 31, 1920, amounted to 7,563,000 tons.

On a percentage basis, the report shows that Great Britain's share to be 51.8 per cent. of the total, as compared with 35.1 per cent. at the beginning of 1920. In the same period the share of the United States has decreased from 37.7 to 18.2 per cent.

Tank steamers under construction at the beginning of this year amounted to 1,189,000 tons, of which 267,100 tons were in American yards, indicating an increase in internal combustion engines. Ships of this type building at the end of last year amounted to 454,000 tons.

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## SHIPBUILDING IN B. C. MAKES RECORD

### Production Increased During Year By 33,300 Tons.

Steel shipbuilding in British Columbia during the year just closed surpassed the production of 1919, which many thought would stand for a long time as the banner year in the industry. Last year there were 70,200 deadweight tons of steel vessels built in the coast yards, construction being entirely in Vancouver yards. For 1920, the figures were 93,500 tons, consisting of five freighters for the Canadian Government Merchant Marine, one coasting vessel for the Union Steamship Co., and five freighters to the private order of the Coughlan firm, either for sale later or for their own operation. Two of the five were sold, and three are being operated by the firm. The Wallace yards built two steel vessels during the year and are completing a third, while in Victoria two freighters were built for the Government. Two steel vessels are being built at Prince Rupert, but construction has been held up for some time owing to financial difficulties.

Following is the list of launches during the year, with the dead-weight tonnage stated:

Jan. 24—Canadian Inventor	8,100
Feb. 24—Canadian Prospector	8,100
Mar. 25—Chilkoot	800
Mar. 25—Brakeholm	8,300
May 18—Margaret Coughlan	8,800
June 28—Indus	8,800
June 29—Canadian Winner	8,100
Sept. 10—City of Vancouver	8,100
Sept. 24—Canadian Traveller	8,100
Oct. 14—Canadian Highlander	8,100
Oct. 25—City of Victoria	8,500
Dec. 23—S. F. Tolmie	3,200
	88,500

By Yards:

J. Coughlan & Sons (steel)	60,200
Wallace Shipyards (steel)	8,900
Victoria Marine Depot (steel)	18,200
Cholberg (wood)	2,200
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