

CANADIAN LABOR PRESS

A National, Sane Labor Paper

True Confidence and Understanding Between Employer and Employee Absolutely Necessary to Industrial Peace.

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FREE TRADE and ANNEXATION

By Trade Unionist

A study of Free Trade theory as applied to the Dominion of Canada inevitably leads one to the conclusion that if Free Trade is all that its advocates claim for it, then it would be most desirable that Canada become a part of the United States of America. I can fancy that I hear Free Traders say such a statement "is silly, absurd and untrue," yet nevertheless the logic of Free Trade undoubtedly leads to annexation.

If, by lowering the tariff walls on United States products means cheaper goods to the Canadian consumer as claimed by Free Traders, then it would also be desirable that Canadian railway freight rates should be lowered because the cost of transportation is a factor in the price of commodities; in other words, everything possible should be done, if Free Trade is sound, to see that the various factors that enter into the prices of goods should be reduced as much as possible. Commonsense shows us that such a course is impossible and consequently in spite of all Free Trade theories we have to fix our railway rates and various other costs that enter into production independent of what the United States does in that direction because of the needs of our own country; yet if Free Trade was sound, as its advocates claim it to be, our railway rates should be uniform with those of American railways and the only conceivable way in which that could be accomplished satisfactorily is by the Dominion becoming a part of the United States of America.

Our Railway situation is very far from being what Canadians desire it to be, but if Free Trade is thoroughly established, our railway systems will be completely wrecked.

Free Trade in products, logically means Free Trade in labor with no barriers against the evils of cheap and sweated workmanship. Public sentiment, however, sets its face against such an evil with the result that the Free Traders illogically try to reconcile high standards for Canadian Labor with low prices for Canadian goods. The economic faddists who advocate Free Trade must accept the logical consequences of the theory and be prepared to argue for annexation to the U. S., for if Free Trade means cheaper goods, then common railways between both countries means cheaper goods. If Free Trade means cheaper goods, then no immigration barriers and cheap Labor means cheaper goods. If Free Trade means cheaper goods, then lower living standards and frame houses instead of brick houses means cheaper goods and all these things can only be accomplished by welding the two peoples together in one body under common laws and THAT IS ANNEXATION.

Police Rout Pickets

Drumheller, Alta.—The police used a tear bomb in order to disperse a crowd of men and women which had congregated in front of the Newcastle village hall on the street running through the village. The usual pickets were standing and lying along the railroad embankment near the crossing leading to the A. B. C. mine about 7.50 a.m., when the police were seen approaching from the A. B. C. mine. There were about fourteen of them. The pickets then left the embankment and walked across the road, halting along the houses on the north side of the street. The police marched up to them and batted a little to the west of them. Inspector Nicholson stepped forward and told the crowd to disperse to their homes and occupations. Nobody moved, the inspector then told the crowd that the A. B. C. mine was not working that morning and asked them again to go. Then he broke the tear bomb. The fumes of the bomb, carried by the wind from the west, drove into the crowd, which ran shouting "shut your eyes."

The police then kept the crowd moving along the north side of the road, the picket becoming a perambulating one. The authorities evidently are working on the assumption that the new miners organization is not a lawful one and has not the right to picket.

Plant Runs Overtime

Brantford.—At the Massey Harris plant is has now been found necessary to run the machine and blacksmith shops overtime. The number of hands at present employed is 706, the largest staff for many months.

Pig Iron Production

Montreal.—Production of pig iron in Canada for first four months of year was 181,805 against 285,000 tons during the corresponding period last year. Index number of employment on March 1, 87.0, compared with 98.7 in March last year.

Eight Hour Laws are for Provinces

Ottawa.—The enactment of an eight-hour day law lies generally within the competence of the Provincial Legislatures. But the authority vested in the Legislatures does not enable them to enact an eight-hour-day law in relation to servants of the Dominion Government or for parts of Canada not within the boundaries of the Province. This, in substance, is the finding of the Supreme Court of Canada on whether the Dominion Parliament has jurisdiction to pass an eight-hour day law.

As Justice Department Ruled The question came up on a reference from the Dominion Government.

At the first International Labor Conference held under the League of Nations, Canada assented to an eight-hour-day convention in regard to industrial undertakings. The Justice Department ruled, however, that jurisdiction in the enactment of eight-hour-day legislation lay with the Provincial Legislatures, and the convention was referred to the Provincial Governments. There was further discussion of the question of jurisdiction in Parliament, and the Dominion Government then referred it to the Supreme Court following a recommendation of Parliamentary committee.

The Dominion's Obligation Regarding the obligation of the Dominion, the ruling adds: "The obligation is simply in the nature of an undertaking to bring the recommendation or draft convention before the authority or authorities within whose competence the matter lies, for the enactment of legislation or other action. The Parliament of Canada has exclusive legislative authority in those parts of Canada not within the boundaries of any Province and also upon the subjects dealt within the draft convention, and in relation to the servants of the Dominion Government."

BULLETIN NO. 3

What Organized Labor Thinks of TARIFF PROTECTION

TOM MOORE

President of Dominion Trades Congress

"Labor accepts the policy of Tariff Protection as a necessary corollary of the protection of their own means of earning a living."



Rt. Hon. JOHN WHEATLEY, M.P. Minister of Health in the first British Labor Government

"Free Trade stands for industrial competition, not only among persons but among nations. It views the individual like the nation, as free units, whose best interests are served by competition. This leads and can only lead to anti-social ends—to man against man—nation against nation."



The miners of Nova Scotia want a tariff against United States coal, to protect their own market.

The shipbuilding trades want a 20% duty against foreign-built ships in order to maintain their wages at a Canadian level.

The printing trades urge tariff protection against imported printed matter so that millions of dollars of printing and advertising now done outside of Canada will be done in the Dominion.

Pattern makers demand the fullest application of tariff duties to protect their trade.

Boot and Shoe workmen of Canada denounce the present tendency to lower tariff rates on both boots and shoes made outside Canada which is ruining their industry.

CANADIAN WORKERS!
An adequate Tariff will protect you and
HELP ORGANIZED LABOR

New Paper Mill for Manitoba

Winnipeg, Man.—A 200-ton paper mill, which will cost \$4,500,000, and give employment to 500 men annually, and to 1,200 for seven months of the year during the lumbering season, will be constructed at Fort Alexander, Manitoba, by the Spanish Pulp and Paper Company, in conjunction with the J. D. McArthur interests, of Winnipeg. It was announced here recently.

Protest Against Firemen Painting

Hamilton.—A deputation from the Painters' Union and the Trades and Labor Council recently protested to the Fire Committee of the City Council against firemen painting a fire hall when there were many unemployed. Chief James explained that it was a small painting job, but the committee decided to call for tenders.

Big Average Income

According to a statement by the Bankers' Trust Co., of New York, Canada is the only country where the income per capita is actually higher now than before the war. During the last ten years, according to this Company's figures, the per capita income in the case of Great Britain has fallen from \$236 to \$212, in the case of the U. S. from \$251 to \$231, while in the case of Canada, it has risen from \$250 to \$261.

Abnormal Tax on Cigarettes and Tobacco Should be Reduced

THE TAX ON CIGARETTES AND TOBACCO FALLS HEAVILY ON THE WORKINGMAN, WE THEREFORE ASK YOU TO CO-OPERATE IN THE FOLLOWING MANNER:

IMPRESS UPON YOUR MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT THE FACT THAT WORKERS IN GENERAL, DEMAND A REDUCTION OF THE CIGARETTE AND TOBACCO TAX, THUS EQUALIZING THE PURCHASE PRICE OF CANADIAN CIGARETTES AND TOBACCO, WITH THE PRICE OF CIGARETTES AND TOBACCO IN THE UNITED STATES.

THIS WILL EFFECTIVELY STOP THE GIGANTIC SMUGGLING OPERATIONS OF CIGARETTES AND TOBACCO ACROSS THE BORDER. IT WILL ELIMINATE THIS UNFAIR COMPETITION, AND ENABLE OUR MANUFACTURERS TO SELL THEIR PRODUCT TO THE CANADIAN WORKINGMAN AT A GREATLY REDUCED PRICE, AND NATURALLY AFFORD MORE EMPLOYMENT TO CANADIAN LABOR.

WORKINGMEN! TAKE THIS MATTER UP IMMEDIATELY WITH THE MEMBER FROM YOUR DISTRICT.

Demand a Reduction of This Abnormal Tax!

Investigate Child Labor

A commission appointed by the administration at Shanghai, China, to investigate the conditions of child labor, recently reported that there are 4,500 boys and 18,000 girls under 12 years of age in the 275 factories investigated in Shanghai. Of the remainder 44,000 are men and boys above 12 years of age, and 106,000 are women and girls above 12 years of age. The children are accepted in the factories when they are six years of age. In 38 of the largest cotton industries 7,500 children under 12 and 61,000 women are employed. In the silk industry nearly 50 per cent of the children employed are under 12 years of age. The conditions of work are very severe. The factory hands, including women and children, work over twelve hours a day. Women and children do night work as well as the men.

Ottawa, Ont.—Estimates for the Department of Railways and Canals, covering improvements to the Chambly Lock, Soulanges and other canals, to the extent of \$600,000 were passed in the House of Commons with little discussion.

Paper Mill Strike Still Unsettled

Fort William, Ont.—About 70 men will find work when the slusher at the Fort William paper mill will be put into service again. This work will be kept up until winter sets in, it is expected, without any let-up. The papermakers' strike, however, still is in progress and, as far as can be learned, without any decisive movement being made toward a settlement of the differences between the men concerned and the company.

New Merger

Montreal.—Nothing can shake the confidence of the street that the proposed merger of Asbestos companies has reached a point where nothing can prevent its consummation. The stocks naturally went off on news of a hitch having occurred in the negotiations, but they snapped back readily enough when frightened and hasty speculators had ceased selling. Present indications are that the consummation of the merger will be announced very soon or that negotiations will be started from another angle. From the source of some of the buying today, however, it seems rather likely that the present negotiations will carry.

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Editorial Page of The Canadian Labor Press

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Following in brief is an outline of our Policy:

1. The "Canadian Labor Press" strongly condemns and continually opposes all forms of Communism and Radicalism in Canada.
2. "The Canadian Labor Press" endeavors to present all labor and industrial problems from a commonsense point of view with the idea of closer co-operation and a better understanding between employer and employee.
3. In the interests of the Canadian Worker, The Canadian Labor Press believes that Canadian industry needs adequate tariff protection.
4. The Canadian Labor Press advocates fair play to employer and employee.
5. The Canadian Labor Press stands for the betterment of Trade Union conditions in Canada and the welfare of our country at large.
6. The Canadian Labor Press is independent in politics and free from any political influences.

Labor and Immigration

ONCE again has been shown to the British public, the inept and foolish position occupied by leaders of the Canadian Labor Movement, following the recent statements made in London about conditions in Canada by some delegates to the Inter-Empire Labor Parliamentary Conference. Wild statements concerning the tens of thousands of supposed unemployed, hundreds of farms abandoned and the thousands of people in receipt of charity, are handed forth with all the appearance of truth and the British public are asked to believe this gospel of inaccuracies.

The shrewd individuals who are at the head of the British Labor Movement and who know the value of research and fact data, before making a public statement, must be amazed at the facility with which the Canadian delegates handed out these misleading statements. The whole incident is a proof of the laggard position held by the Canadian Labor Movement, a position by which those who should be its responsible leaders, do not take the trouble to see what are the actual facts concerning immigration and industrial questions before making public statements. It is not true to say that there are tens of thousands unemployed in the Canadian cities; it is not true to say that there are hundreds of farms abandoned and it is not true to say that thousands upon thousands are living in the receipt of charitable relief. Certainly there is some unemployed in Canada, but nothing like this extravagant statement and as a matter of fact the percentage of unemployment in the Dominion at present as given by the Department of Labor at Ottawa, is much lower than the percentage of unemployed in Great Britain before the war during a normal period. There have been some farms abandoned, but nothing like the figure given to the British public and in most cases these were abandoned because of the lure of the city and the attractions of urban life. There are some cases of poverty in Canada, but as compared with Great Britain, the percentage is infinitesimal, so small as to be almost negligible and in many cases self occasioned. Recently an order of deportation was recommended by the Magistrate of Toronto police court in the case of a young Englishman who had been found five different jobs, but who refused to stay at steady work. Presumably when this man returns to Britain, he will condemn Canada as a horrible place and a great many of the hard luck stories circulated and given publicity to by many individuals in the Labor movement of Canada, who ought to know better, are of this type.

The truth is that before the Canadian Labor Movement can receive recognition from the community as a responsible body, it must pay attention to the actual facts of the various situations with which it is concerned and this means study and research, a tiring method it is true, but one that will repay it eventually by building up for Labor, a reputation of knowing what it is talking about, not as is the case at present, merely uttering wild and inaccurate statements that bear within themselves their own refutation. Canadian Labor must realize that this attitude of cringing immigration from Britain is not only hurting the community but seriously injuring Labor itself and is dealing a deadly blow to our kin in Britain who desire to win a better livelihood than they obtain at home.

The Nova Scotia Strike

THE result of the settlement made in the Nova Scotia coal strike, shows quite clearly the truth of the principle that two parties to a dispute when brought to a realization of the needs of the community, are willing to concede something in order that the community will not suffer.

The new Prime Minister of Nova Scotia, Mr. Rhodes, is to be congratulated upon the result of his efforts and the "Canadian Labor Press" sincerely hopes that this is the end of the period of long industrial antagonisms which have so cruelly torn the Nova Scotia coal fields.

Certainly it has a lesson for Labor for it proves that had the moderate men amongst the miners, been allowed to deal with the situation months ago the same result would have been accomplished. All that the long-winded actions of the radicals who have dominated the Nova Scotia field until recently has accomplished, has been to keep the men out of work for several months with themselves and the whole community the losers. Let us hope now that the strike is over, both sides will turn to the question of getting production going and wages circulating so that the evil effects of the strike be minimized as soon as possible and that bitterness and hatred will be obliterated and a long era of peace descends on this much suffering district.

New Agreement Is Signed

Toronto—The collective agreement between the Toronto Joint Board and the Clothing Manufacturers' Association in that city has been renewed, and ratified by the union members as well as by the employers.

The union clause of the new agreement has been greatly strengthened over the corresponding clause in the old pact.

Throughout the negotiation, and from the very first conference the position taken by Brother H. D. Rosencloomb, manager of the Toronto

Joint Board, was that the interests of the organization demand that this clause, guaranteeing that the work will be made up in none but union shops, must be accepted by the employers.

The spokesmen of the manufacturers finally conceded this pivotal point, but the agreement in its changed form, met with much opposition on the part of the manufacturers.

The request of the employers for piece work was not conceded by the Union's conference committee. The Union's counter proposal for guaranteed production standards was accepted instead.

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International Peace

By Joh. Sassenbach
 Secretary of the International Federation of Trade Unions

The prospects for the settlement of international institutions for the peaceful settlement of disputes between the nations fluctuate from day to day. At one moment we seem to be borne somewhat nearer to the goal, at the next, all hope seems to be dead. In one breath we hear talk of disarmament, in the next we hear of new armaments and of increases in military expenditure. Attention is called to the fact that future wars will surpass all past wars in horror, and at the same time new means of death and destruction are continually being invented and experimented with. On the one hand, the economic damage wrought by war and preparations for war is anxiously computed; on the other, political cranks and persons with economic interests to serve are continually urging the need for fresh armaments. The immorality of the use of force is freely admitted, yet the idea of submitting a dispute to arbitration is held to impugn a nation's honor.

And everything is colored with the soft rainbow hues of peace! No one wants war, everyone wants peace. The Cabinet minister who proposes an increase in military expenditure, the politician who raises the cry of "national honor" the manufacturer who makes arms and munitions, and is anxious to get good prices for them—all desire peace, all are thinking of the welfare of humanity; all are content with self-defence, no one dreams of attack. The masses of the people are intoxicated with eloquent phrases; memories of the sufferings of the last war must be buried deeper and deeper. Children are again being brought up in the old way, they are being fed on the lies of history, and taught to worship the warrior-hero.

Hand in hand with these endeavors to revive the military spirit goes international reaction. False patriotism has always proven an efficient method of holding the people in check. The army has always been intended for use against the enemy at home, as well as abroad. (Did not the Emperor William II. say: "If I order, you must not hesitate to fire on father and mother?") The very essence of militarism is the subordination of the many to a small class of privileged persons, and when the soldier is in power, he rattles the sabre abroad as well as at home.

It is therefore of supreme importance to Labor that the utmost opposition should be made to reactionary efforts to promote militarism, to consolidate reaction at home, and to incite to foreign war.

This struggle must go on without intermission. Not for one moment must we slacken in our efforts to deepen and intensify among all the peoples the hate of this scourge of humanity. For it is only by means of the organizational co-operation of the working class that a strong bulwark can be created against any recurrence of the unspeakable horrors of the last war.

Install New Equipment

New equipment for both freight and passenger business has had to be added to the Toronto-Guelph electric line by the Canadian National Electric Railways, the opening of the interchange with the C. N. E. steam line at Keele street and St. Clair avenue having brought a large volume of new business to the line. A new electric locomotive of the latest design for 1,500 volt operation, weighing over 116,000 pounds and 32 feet long, has been put into service. This engine is capable of hauling a train of 32 loaded freight cars. Increased passenger traffic now requires a car every two hours. Two years ago three cars each day were sufficient to handle the business. N. S. Cunningham, superintendent of the electric road, predicts that four, five and six-car electric trains will be necessary to handle the traffic on the line within the next year.

Wasn't there something in the league covenant about "existing territorial integrity?"

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ONTARIO'S MINERALS

The outstanding metallic products of Ontario are silver, nickel and gold. The gross value of these to the end of 1924 follows:—silver, \$234,352,000; nickel, \$157,500,000; and gold \$154,419,000.

Of silver, the production in 1924 was 9,561,315 ounces, or over fifty per cent of that from all Canada. The Cobalt silver mines have been in operation for over twenty years, and to the end of 1924, along with outlying areas such as Gowganda and South Lorrain, have yielded over 350 million ounces, worth approximately \$200,000,000. The yield is now at the rate of about 10,000,000 ounces per year.

Ontario is the only producer of nickel in the Dominion, and supplies ninety per cent of the world's requirements of this metal. Post-war depression has passed away, and in 1924 the nickel mining industry functioned on better than a pre-war scale. The nickel deposits of Sudbury yield large quantities of copper as a by-product, also important quantities of platinum metals.

Of gold, Ontario's production in 1924 was over eighty per cent of the entire output of Canada, and had a value of \$25,669,262. The increase in output over 1923 exceeded 5 1/2 million dollars. At the present time, the yield is approximately 2 1/2 million dollars per month, principally from Porcupine and Kirkland Lake, or more than one-half that of the entire United States.

The metal mines of Ontario occur in the pre-Cambrian formations which cover seventy per cent of the entire northland. Only the southern fringe of these formations has been penetrated. The development of new mining areas means the expenditure of money for supplies and labour, and the new wealth created is gradually distributed to all classes of the community.

The Temiskaming and Northern Ontario Railway represents an asset of 22 million dollars, and the Ontario Government shows its faith in the north country by providing branch lines where business warrants. In 1924 the Larder Lake Branch 22 1/2 miles and South Lorrain Branch of 17 miles, were completed. Mine products represented last year 22 per cent of the railway's tonnage.

For lists of publications, maps of mining areas, geological reports and other information, apply to

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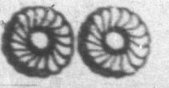
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OUR HOME PAGE



Pension Question Still Unsettled

Ottawa—A lively skirmish developed in the sitting of the House when W. G. Raymond (Brantford), Chairman of the Old Age Pensions Committee, moved concurrence in the report of that body, which was submitted to the House of Commons. That report, after pointing out that if the Federal Government embarked upon an adequate scheme of old age pensions it would cost \$23,000,000 annually, declared it would be better to work out a plan whereby the various Provincial Governments would co-operate in such a scheme, and it recommended that this matter be the subject of an interprovincial conference after the present session.

The "ginger group," consisting of the aid of two Conservatives—T. L. Church (North Toronto), and George Black (Yukon)—and two or three members of the main Progressive party, put up a vigorous opposition to the idea of an interprovincial scheme and urged that the Dominion Government should adopt a plan itself. They declared that to refer it to a conference was only procrastination.

Just before luncheon adjournment a vote was taken, the Irvine amendment being defeated by a vote of 139 to 17 and the main motion for concurrence in the committee's report was adopted. This leaves it to the interprovincial conference.

Many Camps Are Closing Down

Vancouver, B.C.—Many of the logging camps are being closed down by the operators in a desperate attempt to clear the glut of logs off the market. The attempt made to close the camps this spring proved abortive, as so many of the small operators continued running that almost all the others had to start up.

Although orders for lumber are at present low, yet this but partly explains the shutdown. The logging end is much further developed than the sawmill end, with the result that it is necessary for the camps to operate for only six to eight months in order to keep up with the demand.

Will Not Go on Strike

Montreal—Winnipeg was chosen as the place of next year's Union Meeting of the Canadian Divisions of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and the Grand International Auxiliary, at the secret session of the Union's meeting at the Mount Royal hotel.

It was made evident by W. B. Prenter, the grand president of the brotherhood, that in the event of a general strike being called by miners in the United States, that there will be no co-operation or sympathetic strike on their part or any refusal to carry coal. They do not believe in sympathetic strikes and hold that all contracts made by the railways are inviolable.

The brotherhood has a membership which exceeds 30,000, 75 per cent of whom are situated in the United States and Mexico, while the balance are in Canada.

Shipbuilders Win Increase

North Vancouver.—Workmen of the Wallace Shipbuilding and Drydocking Yards at North Vancouver will return to their work after a three weeks' strike, it has been announced by R. C. McCutcheon, Canadian vice-president of the International Brotherhood of Shipbuilders and Helpers of America, who has been here to carry on negotiations for the men.

McCutcheon announced that the Wallace Company and the workers had compromised and that the men had received an increase in salary from their employers but not as great an increase as had been demanded.

Canadian Wages

Montreal.—Building workers, metal workers and printers in Canada had slightly higher wage rates in 1924 than in 1923, according to a recent report of the Department of Labor on wages and hours.

For six representative industries the mean wage rate in 1924 was 79 per cent above the average for 1913. Printers' wages in 1924 was 91.1 per cent above the average rate for 1913. For the steam railway workers the average rate in 1924 was only 57.4 per cent above the 1913 average.

The price of foodstuffs is now 100 per cent above the 1913 average.

Ingersoll Loses File Industry

Ingersoll, Ont.—Official announcement to the effect that the Ingersoll File Company has been purchased by the Nicholson File Company of Port Hope and will be taken there, was made. Rumors that the deal would likely take place have been persistent for several days and confirmation was given today.

Hamilton Trades and Labor Council

The Trades and Labor Council held their regular meeting on Friday, July 3rd, in which there were a few hot arguments. There was a protest made by the Painters' Union against City Firemen painting the different fire stations throughout the city, while quite a large number of union painters were walking about unemployed.

A call was read out from the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada for its 11th Annual Convention to be held in Ottawa, August 31st. Three delegates were nominated to attend and the sum of \$125 for each delegate was voted by the meeting.

Brewery to Re-open Early in October

Toronto, Ont.—Confirmation of the report that the old Reinhardt brewery on the banks of the Don was to be re-opened for brewing has been given by Henry Grills, 73 Boustead Ave., the secretary-treasurer of the new company. Mr. Ernest Reinhardt is connected with the new company. The provincial investment is in Toronto, but there is also Detroit capital in the enterprise and a Detroit brewer has been retained as brewmaster. Re-opening of the brewery, purchase of buildings, etc., has cost about \$235,000, according to Mr. Grills, who expects operations to commence about October 15th. At present it is the intention to brew only 44 beer.

Elect Vice-President

Toronto, Ont.—Lawrence O'Connell was elected vice-president of the District Trades and Labor Council recently, defeating John B. Loan, of the Letter Carriers' Union. Mr. O'Connell is a member of the Street Railwaymen's Union.

In the election for delegates to the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada Convention and to the Executive of the Council, the results were:

Trades and Labor Congress of Canada Convention—James Scott, John Macdonald and James Watt.

Trades and Labor Council Executive—James Scott, James Simpson, John Macdonald and William Forhan.

Unemployment Very Costly

Unemployment has been responsible for a production loss of more than eight times the loss caused by industrial disputes.

That is the conclusion by a committee representing the national joint council of the British trades union congress after an extended investigation.

Translated into days per worker, the figures show that during 1921 the average loss because of unemployment was 41.25 days, while the loss from strikes was only 7.15 days.

Fearing that 1921 might be considered an abnormal year, the investigators secured the figures for the 6-year period 1908-1913.

These showed that the percentage of the total working time lost through strikes was 0.35, 0.10, 0.37, 1.50 and 0.36 per cent, respectively, while the corresponding percentages for unemployment were 7.8, 7.7, 4.7, 3.0, 3.2 and 2.1.

To Organize Builders' Laborers

Toronto.—The recently organized National Trades and Labor Council held a largely attended meeting at 182½ Church street, when it was decided to organize the builders' laborers, and ways and means of doing so were discussed. The intention was announced of organizing various other crafts in the near future.

Harvest Prospects

According to the latest reports, the harvest prospects in Russia are favorable in spite of the abnormal weather conditions of the last winter. The Spring sowings in most districts are considered above the average.

Wage Changes

Regina, Sask.—The following changes in the regulations governing the wages of female employes in shops and stores, which were made by order of the Minimum Wage Board, at a recent meeting of that body, will come into effect on August 4, and will apply to all shops and stores operating within the cities of the Province.

The Gazette issued under date of July 4, gives the changes as follows:

1. All that part of clause 3 of Order No. 1 being regulations governing female employes in shops and stores, down to the end of sub-clause (b) thereof, is hereby cancelled and the following is substituted therefor:

3. Wages.—(a) No person, firm or corporation shall employ an experienced female or suffer or permit an experienced female to be employed in a shop or store at a rate of wages less than \$14.00 per week.

(An experienced female is one who has been employed in the industry twenty-four months or more.)

(b) Subject to the provisions of sub-clause (c) of this clause, the rate of wages for learners may be less than the minimum rate prescribed for experienced workers; provided that learners shall be paid not less than \$7.50 per week for the first six months, not less than \$10.00 per week for the second six months, not less than \$12.00 per week for the third six months, not less than \$13.00 per week for the fourth six months, and thereafter shall be considered to be experienced workers, and shall be paid no less than the minimum rate of \$14.00 per week prescribed for experienced workers.

This regulation shall come into force on the fourth day of August, 1925.

New Labor Council

Following an organization meeting under the auspices of the Canadian Federation of Labor in Toronto, the National Trades and Labor Council of this city held its first meeting with delegates from eleven unions. Among the bodies represented were the Amalgamated Society of Carpenters, Canadian Electrical Trades Union, Toronto Transportation Employees and Piano Action and Key Workers.

The business was confined to the drafting of a constitution, and the election of the following officers: President, Frank Morton; General Secretary, C. J. Whitley; Treasurer, E. Ford; Tyler, E. Webster. Auditors, G. W. Potts, W. L. Drake and Alex. Lyons. The above will compose the executive with three others to be elected at the next meeting, who were elected at the next meeting, when officers were installed by G. W. Potts, Federation of Labor. At the next meeting the question of holding a demonstration with a program of sports at the Exhibition on Labor Day will be discussed.

Swell Winnipeg's Population

Winnipeg, Man.—The return of Winnipeg's throng of artisans and craftsmen who have left the city within the last few years to find employment in more thriving cities will swell the city's population by several thousand within the next two years, because of the building arising from adoption of the Mall project, according to predictions, made recently by Ald. R. J. Shore, chairman of the special Mall committee.

R.C.M.P. Get Pension Increase

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police Act has been amended so as to give the Government authority to increase the rates of pension to officers, their widows, and constables, granted prior to the dates mentioned, so as to provide an increase in the pensions in view of the increased rates of pay provided for in the amendments to the main Act down to and including July 7, 1919, when chapter 69 of 1919, "An Act to amend the Royal Northwest Mounted Police Act," was assented, but the increases in the pensions are not to be retroactive. Increases in the salaries of officers and men have been provided for by amendments to the main Act and the new amendment increased the pensions in accordance with the increases in salaries provided for from time to time down to and on the 7th day of July, and not later, the increase to pensioners not to be retroactive.

INDIA

India's native railwaymen have asked the creation of a National Wages Board, such as considers scales in Britain.

Labor Defence Day

Chicago, Ill.—International Labor Defense, the non-partisan workers' organization founded at the National Conference held for that purpose in Chicago on June 28th, will be officially launched on Sunday, September 13, which date will be set aside as "Labor Defence Day." Local conferences of delegates from workers' organizations will be held in all the large cities of the country in the afternoon of Sept. 13th to be followed by monster mass meetings staged in the evening. These conferences and meetings will occur simultaneously in no less than one hundred cities on "Labor Defence Day" and every available speaker in the Labor movement will be asked to give his services.

This action was decided at the first monthly meeting of the National Executive Committee of the new organization for the purpose of reviving labor defense issues in the Labor movement generally on a large scale and to establish a broad, united front movement with its roots in the Labor unions. James P. Cannon, secretary of the organization said, "We will make the Labor movement ring with the slogan, 'Join the fight for the freedom of Labor's prisoners.'"

International Labor Defense will be built on the basis of individual and collective membership and the report of the Secretary showed preliminary organization work well under way. Dues stamps and books are prepared for prospective individual membership and a comprehensive plan has been drawn up for collective labor affiliations.

Want Higher Shoe Tariff

Montreal.—Declaration that a higher tariff on shoes imported into Canada and the United States is urgently needed in view of the amount of unemployment was made by Collis Lovey, President of the International Boot and Shoemakers' Union, in a statement here. This said he, would greatly help as both Canada and the United States shoe workers were suffering from the competition of low wage countries.

Chinese Thank British Workers

In the British concession at Hongkong, the strike is general. The British authorities are offering a reward of £250 for any spy-information about the leaders of the strike.

At Canton, a general strike was proclaimed, and the foreigners are leaving for Hongkong.

The students of Peking are organizing military formations and are training them.

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New Union

A new union of construction electricians has just been formed in Montreal under the auspices of the Canadian Federation of Labor.

Seek More Wages

New York.—New York City teachers are continuing their fight for an increased wage scale that will bring their earnings up to the purchasing value of 1914 wages, William R. Lashner, chairman joint salary committee, says in announcing the teachers' plans to go before the board of estimate.

The teachers are demanding the scale of the Ricca bill passed by the state legislature but vetoed by Governor Smith. Representatives of the Teachers' Union and other interested organizations protested to the board of education in a public hearing against the scale proposed by the superintendents, which gives the already higher paid principals, high school teachers and superintendents salary increases out of proportion to the increases given the underpaid elementary and lower grade school teachers.

About 30,000 teachers are behind the demand for a higher scale.

WOMEN MINERS

About 70,000 women women work in the mines of Japan. 40,000 of them underground.

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THE FARMERS' DAIRY

Labor News From Coast to Coast

Our Overseas Column

Says Labor Has Unfair Advantage

London, Eng.—Trade unionists of the old school, who are regarded as fossilized by the new leaders, such as A. J. Cook, secretary of the Miners' Federation, are shaking their heads over the latest demonstration of the power achieved by the unions in connection with the threatened strike of coal miners recently.

George Nichol Barnes, who served as Labor member of the House of Commons for Glasgow from 1906 to 1922, and who for many years has taken an active part in the co-operative movement, told the Daily Mail that when years ago he helped organize the unskilled workers he never foresaw that they one day would "take the community by the throat."

"In view of what happened last week," he declared, "the community must in some way assert itself and become the top dog. The red element, although very small in number, had assumed the direction. It is represented only to a small extent among the positions of authority in the trade unions, but the leaders are being dragged along by it."

"Among the signatories of last week's order forbidding the transport of coal in the event of a strike, were men who knew the goal to which they were heading and who would see blood spilled without compunction. The future course of events cannot be forecast; one can only think the country is marching to industrial chaos."

Purcell Is Elected

London, England.—A. A. Purcell, president of the International Federation of Trade Unions, and one of the chief supporters of world trade union unity, has been returned to parliament in the Forest of Dean, Gloucester, by-election.

The seat was formerly held by the Labor Party, but its former member, James Wignall, belonged to the conservative wing. Purcell a friend of the Soviet Union, increased the majority from 1,299 to 3,022. A large number of miners reside in the district.

Purcell headed the British trade union delegation to the Soviet Union, which made a report recommending unity of the Russian and English trade unions.

Wool Mill Strike Will Continue

Bradford, Eng.—The prolonged negotiations to settle the wages dispute in the wool textile industry here broke down, and the strike will continue. A shutdown in the industry affecting 125,000 workers, took place on July 24.

Smuggling of Goods Amounts to Big Sum

Ottawa, Ont.—That smuggling of goods to the extent of many millions yearly was taking place from the United States into Canada was the statement made by Percy Sparks, chief executive officer of the Canadian Association of Garment Makers, in an address here recently.

The traffic was so appallingly large that, although his association and kindred business organizations in Canada had been working intensively for over a year, with conspicuous success, he still hesitated to make an estimate of the amount involved.

Conservatively Mr. Sparks put the amount at \$50,000,000 annually, which would mean a loss in revenue through duty and taxes of at least \$15,000,000 each year.

These figures apply to wholesale smuggling of goods, principally of silks, women's wear, jewelry and motor cars and tobacco.

French Bank Clerks Still on Strike

Paris.—The strike of Paris bank employees which has been in progress has spread to the provinces. Meetings were held at several points outside of Paris and resolutions were passed emphasizing that the movement is in no way political.

In Paris the strikers were frustrated by the police in an attempt to hold a meeting in the grounds of the Louvre. The crowds then made for the Bourse where the stock exchange was at its busiest, and interrupted the business for some minutes by looting and howling at the traders. Then the demonstrators withdrew.

The secretary of the Bankers' Union in Marseilles, announced that the municipal council has presented 50,000 francs to aid the families of the strikers.

The strike committee drafted demands to be presented to the Minister

of Labor Durrant and to the directors of Paris banks. These include demands for 50-punishment of the strikers, pay for the duration of the strike, automatic adjustment of wages to the cost of living, revision of salaries, the institution of a pension scheme and the recognition of the employees' union.

Australian Sailors Still on Strike

Melbourne Australia.—A mass meeting of the Seamen's Union recently decided to strike immediately and to force the shipowners to include a clause in the shipping articles providing for the same conditions as existed before the de-registration of the union. All Australian ships will be made idle as they reach home ports, eventually affecting four thousand mariners. Eleven ships are already tied up. The Inter-State Shipowners' Federation last week decided not to enter an agreement reached between the Commonwealth Shipping Board and the Seamen's Union. This agreement was the acceptance by the Shipping Board of the suggestion that the Arbitration Court's award with regard to wages and working conditions be accepted.

Women in Australian Industry

Sydney, Australia.—The 2,672,864 females in Australia, 463,760 are set down by the last census as breadwinners. 79,836 are in the professional class, 25,000 in the domestic class, 79,000 in the commercial sphere, 118,000 in industry and manufacturing, and 10,284 are engaged in rural occupations. Approximately 20,000 are set down as being unemployed.

Stinnes Fortune Is Dwindling

Berlin.—Disintegration of the Stinnes fortune, which has been proceeding with the cumulative speed of a snowball rolling down hill, though with contrary results, reached a sensational stage through the sale of Stinnes' shares in the big Deutsche Luxemburg coal mines, regarded as the cornerstone of the vast industrial edifice built up by Germany's erstwhile richest citizen.

The stock, which is worth 21,000,000 gold marks, and represents the controlling interest not only in the colliery corporation, but also the huge Rhein-Elbe Union Steel Works, was acquired by an English financial group, headed by John Henry Schroeder, the London banker. Rumors that Mr. Schroeder was acting on behalf of an American consortium were denied by the Stinnes' firm.

International Labor News

CUBA
Sugar Workers Reduce—The number of laborers usually retained by the various sugar mills and plantations for work between harvesting seasons is being cut down to the minimum, owing to the rigid economical program which the majority of mills are inaugurating due to the very low prices which they have received for their sugar crop recently harvested.

DENMARK
Strikes and Unemployment—Lock-outs and sympathy strikes in Denmark recently involved more than 150,000 workers. Notwithstanding this unfavorable situation, actual unemployment decreased during the month.

ENGLAND
Housing Shortage—The City of Birmingham is engaged in house construction on a very large scale to relieve the shortage that has developed since the war. At the present time the city officials have applications from over 20,000 families, which cannot be filled.

GERMANY
Factory Regions—Considering population alone, the State of Baden appears to be the most highly industrialized region of Germany. Out of each one hundred of the population in that State, twelve are factory workers; in the malatinate region eleven out of each hundred are factory workers; in Wurttemberg the proportion is ten out of each one hundred; and in Hohenzollern, six out of a hundred.

Workmen's Compensation Extended—Effective July 1st, 1925, the scope of the application of the Government Insurance Act of July 15th, 1911, was specially extended to grant compensations to workmen afflicted by the typical industrial diseases.

BRICKLAYERS ELECT

Officers elected by the Bricklayers' and Tilers' Union, No. 2, are: J. Vick, president; W. Jarvis, vice-president.

Granted an Annual Holiday

British Parliament Ensures Employee of Eight Days' Rest

A bill has been introduced into the British Parliament, the object of which is to enable all persons who have been in the same employment for a period of 12 months, to have an annual holiday of not less than eight clear consecutive days. The holiday is to be at full pay, unless during the period the employed person takes paid work.

The bill according to advices received by Bankers Trust Company of New York from its British Information Service is intended to include all persons employed under any contract of service or apprenticeship, and where the employed person is paid by the piece, or partly by the piece and partly by time, his wages are to be calculated for the purpose of the vacation in a manner provided in the bill, and any dispute may be settled by the registrar of the county court without an appeal. There is a provision rendering it penal for an employer to attempt to evade the provisions of the bill by dismissing or suspending an employed person, the penal liability being in addition to any civil liability. The bill does not extend to Northern Ireland.

Florida Overboomed

Lots High in Price and More New Houses in Toronto

"I can see more building in progress, particularly home buildings, in one day in Toronto, than I saw in the year I was in Florida," said G. S. Hulbert, 110 Malvern avenue, when commenting on recent reports of the large amount of buildings at present in progress in the cities of the southern state.

"I was in Florida, seeking carpentry work," said Mr. Hulbert, "about a year ago. I was in Miami, but I visited all the other cities particularly St. Petersburg. My impression is that the place is very much over-boomed, and a slump similar to that which has taken place in California is imminent."

"Land in the cities is extraordinarily dear, and in the small towns one is asked to pay \$2,000 or more for a moderate lot. This alone is prohibitive to the building trade."

"In the winter time there are thousands of unemployed, many more proportionately than in Toronto, and work is at a premium."

"Citizens in Toronto would be well advised to take reports from Florida regarding a building boom with a grain of salt. It is said Toronto has experienced a bad year, but I can assure you that one can see more new homes under erection in a day here than one can in a year in any city in Florida."

Portuguese Labor Movement

The Portuguese Labor Movement is as yet without any definite forms, although there are tendencies in more than one direction. In Lisbon, the sections which are in sympathy with the Berlin Syndicalist International are influential, chief among them being the "Confederacao Geral del Trabalho" (General Confederation of Labor). This organization was founded in 1915, and at that time had a membership of 80,000. Now however, its numbers can scarcely exceed 40,000, and many of its organizations do not pay any contributions.

Before 1915, the Social Democrat workers were organized in the "Uniao Operaria Nacional" (National Labor Union). In Lisbon, being few in number, they could not hold their own against the General Confederation, but in Oporto they have many adherents. In this town there are important unions in which Socialists have the upper hand, and these have never been affiliated with the Syndicalist International. For some trades there are Communist unions, closely connected with the Red International of Labor Unions, but in the General Confederation these are in the minority. The General Confederation issues a journal "La Batalha" (The Battle) and also various provincial weeklies; the Communists publish twice a week a journal known as "The International." A national Labor Congress will shortly be held in Portugal, and it is quite possible that on this occasion the Socialists and Communists may make common cause against the Syndicalist (or anarchist) Movement.

Serious trade depression and the alarming extent of unemployment was the theme of the speakers at a recent session of the Irish Trade Union Congress now in progress in Newry, Ireland. One delegate declared there was 100,000 unemployed in the Irish Free State and 60,000 in Ulster.

Industrial Cripples Form Federation

Washington, D. C.—In order that they may exercise more power in getting legislation for the men and women crippled in industry, the chief organizations of industrial cripples in Great Britain, Belgium and France have held a conference in Geneva and formed an international federation. Their appeal to industrial cripples of all countries to join in this movement has been made public in Washington by the North American agency of the International Labor Office.

Cap Workers Want Better Conditions

"The general strike of Toronto cap makers, called by Local 41 of the Cloth, Hat, Cap and Millinery Workers' International Union on June 16 last, is aimed at the establishment of union conditions in the many non-union shops of the city." J. D. Salsberg, Canadian organizer states. One of the chief objects of the strike, Mr. Salsberg said, was to organize the workers so that they might bargain collectively.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR

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Sending a Delegate

The Halifax Trades and Labor Council is sending a delegate to the Trades Congress convention being held at Ottawa, August 31st. And a special meeting of the Council is being held August 6th for the purpose of his instruction.

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