

## General Government's New Proposals

### RUNNING TRADES REACH AGREEMENT

Tentative Agreement Reached in Interval of Further Conferences

After ten days of argument and conferences with the commission of conciliation and investigation, headed by Chairman Judge F. S. MacLennan, the representatives of the brotherhoods and railway managements came to a provisional agreement under which the men agree that the reductions in pay ranging from 10 to 12 per cent. put into force last June shall be continued tentatively.

Provision is however made for further conferences as to this, with the understanding that if the final decision is that the wages should be reduced, this decision is to stand. Should, however, the wage cut be less than that enforced by the commission, the latter will have to refund the difference between the reduction authorized and that actually in force. If more, no refund will be collectible by the railways.

The outstanding feature of the provisional agreement is that the brotherhoods have agreed to continue negotiations on the main issue. The railways have also made certain concessions, and by a mutual system of compromise the impasse which threatened last week has been avoided, so that the way is now clear for a resumption of general negotiations, with an agreement duly signed, as a basis for the trade.

Rules and working conditions were expressly left out of the agreement, and it was provided that these should be no change in these respects before thirty days after January 1, 1922. After that date each company, individually, will have to negotiate as to these rules with its own men, and if there is disagreement in that regard there will probably be separate boards appointed for each company. The dropping of the rules question for the time being is a decided concession by the commission.

"It took a lot of work to come to a conclusion," said Mr. Geo. Hodge, of the C.P.R., "but we have reached a provisional agreement. I believe that the agreement now signed is in the interests of both the public, the railways and the employees, and I hope that it will prove satisfactory to all and lead to an amicable settlement of this problem, on which we have worked so long."

Mr. W. G. Chester, chairman of the joint Conference Committee, for the brotherhoods, said that the agreement had been reached and signed by both sides, but he did not think the time was opportune for him to make any statement.

In the joint Conference Committee, of the commission of conciliation and investigation will send in their report, based on the agreement reached, and the members of the joint conference committee will return to their respective sides, where the conduct of the future negotiations will be based.

### SAM LANGFORD FIGHTS IN TORONTO ON OCTOBER 18TH

On the night of October 18, labor men will be given an opportunity of helping unemployed returned men and also seeing a splendid night's boxing at the Armouries when the Grand Army of United Veterans stage one of their famous professional boxing shows. The profits will go towards alleviating distress among returned men out of work. There will be an unusually good programme and in one main bout, Sam Langford, the famous Boston colored heavy, will meet Young Peter Jackson, a leading colored fighter, while in the other scrap, Benny Gould of Toronto, the Canadian bantam champion, will oppose Freddy Thompson of Buffalo, the bantam champion of Western New York State. Langford is one of the greatest heavyweights of the world and great difficulty was experienced in securing an opponent for him as all the leading heavies sidetracked him or asked for prohibitive terms. Jackson was not so backward as he once secured a technical decision over Langford and is anxious to show that he can beat the famous Boston Tar Baby on his merits.

The bout between Gould and Thompson should be a pipkin. Benny has beaten every Canadian bantam and feather of note, while Thompson has licked the best in the States. If Benny wins this bout, he meets Sharkey here in the near future while if Thompson emerges the victor, he has been promised a bout with Joe Lynch, former world's champion, in Buffalo. It can be seen that both Thompson and Gould will be doing their best to win. Another bout will see Curly Wilbur, our clever feather, opposed to Young McEwen, over the eight round route, while Frankie Bull, the crack Toronto lightweight will clash with Tiger Smith, the hard-hitting scrapper from Hamilton.

"Labor men are requested to patronize this show. The object is a worthy one in view of the distress among unemployed returned men. All the boxers are giving their services reasonably in view of the circumstances and it behooves labor men, who are essentially good sports, to do their bit."

The prices are reasonable and seats will be on sale at the King Edward Cigar Store and Moolley's Cigar Store, 33 King St. West, on Tuesday, October 18th, and every day until the 18th.

Labor men will remember the operation the Grand Army has always tried to give them and the many good boxing shows the association has staged in Toronto during the past year. A view of the splendid program the returned men are providing for their next show and the more than reasonable prices the Armouries should be packed to capacity.

### Government proposals for unemployment relief, during the coming winter, made public by Senator Gideon Robertson, Minister of Labor, include an offer to bear a share of the cost of municipal work above the normal cost, provided equal shares of the excess are borne by the provincial and municipal governments. This, the Government believes, would encourage the creation of work. Where work cannot be provided, the Federal Government will continue to bear one-third of the amounts, actually paid out by municipalities for unemployment relief, the other two-thirds to be borne equally by the provincial and municipal governments.

In his statement outlining the Government's proposals, Senator Robertson says that unemployment relief has been, and must necessarily continue to be, primarily a municipal responsibility, and in the second instance a responsibility of the province. Further, he declares, because the present situation is due to causes beyond the power of local, or even national, control, that the Federal and provincial authorities should co-operate in helping to create and provide employment. Where employment cannot be furnished to workmen willing to work, to aid in providing food and shelter for them and their dependents until the emergency is past.

The statement stipulates that Federal funds used for unemployment relief must be disbursed only through responsible municipal authorities.

The Government's proposal for participating in the cost of municipal works follows:

"Municipality to bear the normal cost, that is to say, the cost of carrying on the said work in the normal working season. Estimate of normal cost to be approved by Federal Government's engineers in the Department of Public Works. That municipal, provincial and Federal governments bear equally and jointly the actual cost over the estimated normal cost."

This is a plan for providing employment, instead of unemployment relief. Senator Robertson is communicating the plan to all provincial governments, and its details will be supplied to any municipality applying.

Unemployment, says Senator Robertson, has been a cause of public anxiety for a year past. A serious industrial depression was brought about in the fall of 1920 by the falling off of export trade, on account of European countries being unable to purchase Canadian goods, and universal buyers' strikes. Buyers waited for lower prices, and manufacturing fell off. During the last 90 days of 1920, some 150,000 workmen lost their employment. The situation was hardly realized before steps were taken to arrest the movement. Over 8,000 employers were asked to retain all possible workmen, even if only on short time. Banks were asked to aid in extending credits to manufacturers; Federal, provincial and municipal governments did what was possible on short notice. The result was that little further decline occurred after January 1.

On December 14, 1920, the Federal Government introduced a relief policy, reimbursing municipalities one-third of the amount they found it necessary to expend to relieve distress. The Federal Government has expended more than \$600,000 for this purpose, in addition to maintaining entirely 12,165 unemployed disabled soldiers and their dependents at a cost of over \$1,000,000.

It was, however, universally urged that employment rather than unemployment relief was wanted, and on July 13 a communication was addressed to all Provincial Governments requesting that a maximum amount of preparation for the winter's needs should be made. A provincial survey of present and prospective conditions was suggested, after which there should be a conference between representatives of the Provincial and Federal Governments to determine the best means of aiding municipalities during the coming winter in dealing with unemployment. Three of the nine provinces have approved of holding such a conference.

In the meantime conditions have improved, unemployment since July having gradually lessened. The situation, is better than the most optimistic held possible two months ago. There will, nevertheless, inevitably be considerable unemployment next winter.

The Department of Labor has corresponded with some 70 municipalities on this subject, and representatives of the department have visited most of the industrial centres gathering information. Many municipalities can meet the situation unaided, provided the unemployed from other sections do not drift in and complicate their problem.

### ONTARIO PREMIER PLACES RESPONSIBILITY

The thesis that unemployment was a condition to be met by industry and not by Governments was advanced by Premier E. C. Drury in his address at the Toronto Kiwanis Club. With this contention he coupled as the sole solution of the problem the prescription that manufacturers, wholesalers and retailers should engage in widespread price deflation, the primary purpose of which would be to bring commodities to within the purchasing capacity of the agricultural classes.

In such a crisis the Government was not to be called upon to do anything but to be a shoulder to the back of the practical and unreasoning popular clamor. As an employing agency it could exert only a proportionately small influence upon the general situation.

In proof of the fallacy of Government undertakings as panaceas for the problem, the Premier cited the Chipewa project, one which entailed a wage bill of one million dollars weekly, but which had had no noticeable effect upon conditions generally.

"I almost shudder to think of the money that has gone into the Chipewa development. It has haunted my dreams," he remarked.

In conclusion he theorized briefly in regard to the tariff. If he were himself a manufacturer, he stated, he would become a free trader, because he believed that industry in this country was at the point at which it must either reach out for world markets or stagnate. With a raw material duty per centum that was greater than that of any other country in the world he did not see why Canada should become a manufacturing nation that would produce extraordinarily cheap and yet afford to its inhabitants a high standard of comfort.

### PERMIT GRANTED TO ENGLISH LEADER

Canadian Membership Agree to Permit Be Granted By Ballot

The controversy between the American Federation of Musicians and Mr. Albert de Courville, manager of the "Hullo Canada" Revue Company, an English theatrical company which plays in Canada, has ended by the Musicians Federation allowing Charles Edward Coutrick, the English orchestra leader, a temporary card in the union, which will permit him to carry out the Canadian tour.

When it was first stated that Mr. Coutrick was being brought to Canada to play with the company, the American Federation of Musicians objected to the members of its unions playing under his direction, as he is not a member of the Federation. The company decided to bring Mr. Coutrick here anyway to fulfil his engagement and threatened to make the action of the Federation of Musicians an international question.

This more serious aspect of the case, however, has been averted, as a ballot taken by the Canadian members of the Federation, the result of which was announced on Saturday, has decided in favor of allowing the English player to carry out the Canadian tour with the company, and a permit has accordingly been issued by the international organization.

If this had not been granted, under the provisions of the constitution, Canadian musicians, belonging to the American Federation of Musicians, would have been unable to play with Mr. Coutrick, and the revue company would have "locked out" for as long as a year.

Much unfavorable comment has been engaged in at the expense of the Federation of Musicians and that the same was unwarranted is clearly shown by Pres. J. Delaney of Ottawa, where the show opened.

"If our international headquarters had not been misinformed right at the commencement of this controversy," said President J. Delaney of the local Musicians' Union, "all this unnecessary and unfortunate stir would have been avoided. The company originally was given a permit for an English orchestra leader, Mr. Bowden, to play in Canada. The company, however, decided to substitute Mr. Coutrick, but did not notify the international headquarters. In granting the permit to Mr. Coutrick it has been expressly stated by the international that this is not to be taken as a precedent. It must be understood that if a Canadian musician went to England, and was not a member of the union there, he would be up against the same proposition as Mr. Coutrick faced here. As far as the man was concerned, Canadian musicians had no objection to the coming to this country. It was simply a matter of principle. Under the provisional permit granted Mr. Coutrick, he will be permitted to play with Canadian musicians."

### WINNIPEG VIEWPOINT OF WORDS & ACTION

The printers' strike in Toronto has proven the hollow sham of the high-sounding professions of the Methodist Church toward organized labor. Two years ago the general conference of that church passed what was then regarded as a distinct step in advance, its resolution declaring in favor of social and industrial revolution, the elimination of profits from business and industry, the substitution of service for profit. Some of the manufacturers affiliated with the Methodist church protested very vigorously against what they called the surrender of the Methodist church to organized labor, and for weeks the newspapers were filled with letters from and interviews with the leaders on one side of the question. At the time this social resolution was passed the Methodist church organized and operated the largest publishing business in Canada, the Methodist Book Room, an office which had accepted all the benefits of being a union shop and which employed the best type of printers because they were members of the International Typographical Union.

Last year this business made profits of 103,000—a record profit, to use the words of the book steward in his address to the Hamilton Conference. Yet when this Methodist Book Room was asked to substitute service for profit it flatly refused to even consider the demands of its printers for shorter hours and openly accepted the leadership in the fight against organized labor.—Western Labor News.

### "BIG SIX" TO ARBITRATE WAGES

"Big Six," the New York local of the International Typographical Union, has decided by a vote which was practically unanimous to arbitrate its differences with the New York Employing Printers' Association concerning a new wage agreement.

Under the expiring agreement the printers got \$50 a week. They wanted a new agreement under which they would receive \$55 a week. The employers wanted one under which the printers would get \$45 a week.

The adoption by the union of a resolution authorizing officials of the union to meet with representatives of the employers and renew the discussion was in effect an endorsement of the policy of arbitration adopted by the union's officials. Pending arbitration proceedings, the present scale of \$50 a week will continue until December 1.

John McFarland, president of the International Typographical Union, addressing the members of the union in New York would be fraught with possibilities too grave to be entered upon lightly. He said the executive council is collecting and disbursing in excess of \$300,000 monthly for strike relief, and the seriousness of a rupture in New York was the apparent need for further comment. "Big Six" is the largest contributor to the fund.

### ATLANTIC CITY—The national association of credit men has approved \$100,000 to prosecute commercial crooks and pledges its resources to the suppression of what is declared "the greatest wave of commercial dishonesty ever known in this country."

Atlantic City—The national association of credit men has approved \$100,000 to prosecute commercial crooks and pledges its resources to the suppression of what is declared "the greatest wave of commercial dishonesty ever known in this country." It is stated that the annual charge of \$2,000,000 written off as bad debts by manufacturers and wholesalers, at least 40 per cent. or more is due to dishonesty.

One official of the credit men's association said: "A wave of business crime which threatens to inundate all but the most powerful of disarming and peace, as adequately entrenched jobbers is sweeping the land."

### ALLEN LAW IS SCORED

Washington.—The United States veterans' bureau reports that its "clean-up" squads, sent all over the country to hunt for the thousands of ex-service men who did not know that the government is willing to aid them with free hospital treatment and medical care, vocational training and compensation. To date more than 18,000 cases have been received through the medium of these squads.

The veterans' bureau is the result of a consolidation of three similar agencies established by the government.

Allen Law is scored by the state of Kansas. The state's attitude of the law toward Allen's "cant-strike" law is indicated by L. S. Harvey, who includes opposition to the law in his candidacy for state attorney general.

He says the industrial revolution has demonstrated no reason why it should be in essence except as a burden to the people.

"It has arrayed one class against another, and absolute harm instead of good has been derived from its creation, he says."

"There has been too much horse play with the producers and others who are responsible for the wild profusion of expense that is in evidence."

### OFFICIALS ARE GRAB

Madison, Ky.—The session of syndicalist law was condemned by the state federation of labor. This bill was passed when the people were led to believe that our national institutions were in danger of being destroyed. One feature of the law provides that any town marshal or constable may stop a public speaker for statements that are deemed to be a menace to the peace.

Under this law a trade unionist cannot speak on the evils of child labor in sections of the state where this labor is employed.

When Governor Morrow signed the bill he has put money and privately favored its repeal.

### SHAWNEE, OKLA.—The convention of the state federation of labor passed a resolution urging political units in Oklahoma to start public work to relieve the unemployed situation.

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### FALL ROAD CONTRACTS BETTER THAN SPRING

Washington.—Employment can be promoted and waste eliminated if road and highway contracts are let in the fall instead of in the winter and spring. It is the belief of a group of engineers who were asked to study the question by Secretary of Commerce Hoover.

President Gompers has forwarded copies of the report to A. F. of L. affiliates who are urging their various state, county and municipal governments to make effective this declaration by the last A. F. of L. convention.

"To make immediate provision to carry on such public works as we may now have under consideration."

In urging the awarding of road contracts in the fall, the engineers point out that the practice of spring contracts is an unavoidable waste.

"In the middle west in the spring letting," it is stated, "there are 142 working days for concreting, compared with the longer time in the fall letting of 207 working days for grading and 142 days for concreting."

The difference in production cited discloses three principal advantages which may be obtained through a longer working season. These are: (1) lower cost of labor, less fluctuation in construction, completion of highway program.

A late start in the spring has been found to make the greatest demand for transportation in that demand for transportation in numerous other industries, and some action is needed to make the demand more uniform.

### Paternalism vs. Trade Unionism

The Pennsylvania railroad is circulating the country with a pamphlet which outlines the retirement pension system of that corporation.

In opposition to this system is the pamphlet issued by the International Typographical Union's pension system. The difference between the two plans is as follows:

—Railroad employees and officials from 55 to 60 years of age, inclusive, after 20 years or more in the service, become eligible for an "active duty" or "eligible" for pension.

The union printer automatically draws a pension if he is 60 years of age, has been in good standing in the union for 20 years, and falls to work in any capacity.

Railroad's pension is based on 1 per cent. of the employee's or official's regular monthly pay for each year of service. The pension is multiplied by the years he has been in the service of the Pennsylvania railroad, but so poor a basis for pensioning every member. Under this system if a worker was employed 30 years and his average monthly pay for the last 10 years was \$80, his pension would be 30 times 80 cents, or \$24 a month.

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### REGULATE CHILD LABOR

Raleigh, N. C.—New regulations announced by the state child welfare commission, which will prohibit employment of children under 16 years before 6 o'clock in the morning and after 9 o'clock at night. No child under 14 years of age shall be employed more than eight hours a day. Farming and domestic work is not included in the regulation. No girl under 14 years of age shall be permitted to work in any of the prohibited occupations.

"The reason for this," says the commission, "is that if the womanhood of the state is to be properly conserved in the future girls of tender age certainly cannot be allowed to run the danger of prostitution inherent in employment in public places."

Boys between 12 and 14 years must be employed when public school is not in session.

### LANDIS WAGE WON'T BUILD HOMES

Chicago.—Judge Landis' wage award that cuts rates in the Chicago building industry will not result in a new wage agreement.

"The award of the O'Gar Makers' official journal.

"Owing to the reductions in cost of production vary," says the trade unionists. "Labor officials say that it is approximately 4 per cent. less than the award. The award will amount to not less than 6 per cent. Taking 5 per cent. as an average, we find that a house costing the ordinary man \$10,000 will cost \$8,500 under the Landis decision. Not so much of a difference as you were led to believe by the labor-hating press that it is at all times placed the blame for the housing shortage on the backs of building trades unions."

"Now let us see where the great cost of production lies. The material for an ordinary bath room in 1914 cost less than \$20. Today the same material costs from \$40 to \$45, hence we find that regardless of the labor cost the material cost alone on one room of the house, has increased 100 per cent. or more."

"This rank profiteering in material cost goes clear through construction. It frames brick or heart of the whole situation in the building industry. It is this extortion that raises our rent to the point where the ordinary man can't pinch on our allowance for food, clothing and everything else that we need in order that we may provide shelter from the elements."

"Labor may be 'readjusted'—so far that it is all that has been seriously attempted—and labor may receive primary share of the cost of 'readjustment,' but unless capital honestly co-operates neither the building industry nor any other industry will survive as it should. The same material costs for the building industry are not now and never have been anywhere near the actual cost of work."

### HUGE FIRE LOSSES

Washington.—In designating October 16 as fire prevention day throughout the nation, President Harding says that fire causes an annual loss of life estimated at 15,000 in addition to many millions of property damage including valuable timber.

### Items of Interest from Overseas

British trade unionists stand with American trade unionists in the disarmament issue and declare that the extensive program of armament "is contrary to the spirit and policy of disarmament and peace."

The Britishers ask "for the suspension of all preparations for war at least until the disarmament conference has finished its work."

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Ben Tillett, Labor member of Parliament, and organizer of the Dockers' Union, of which for many years he has been general secretary, in a manifesto declared:

"Barterism starts us in the face of this winter will be the testing time for working class organization. Every form of government is in a state of panic or ruin and whether it will be an imperial or national government, it is a question of administration, but whatever the chaos of accumulated debts, labor and industry will have to meet the impost."

He urges the co-operation of all trade unions to compel Government assistance.

Manchester.—"Wages must come down, is the cry one hears among certain classes," says the Cotton Factory Times.

"We hear it from the palpitous con-

### Commercial traveller who charges his firm first class and travels third; from the shop-keeper who has made his pile by charging low prices for old stock, and from the nondescript people who call themselves "middle class."

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"Ask these same people why the 'salaries' of royalty, the prime minister, cabinet ministers, government heads, archbishops, etc., should not be reduced and they will push-pool the idea. 'The dignity of office and the country must be maintained,' etc., etc."

"Just so. Twice over there. And then these blessed, short-sighted people wonder why extremists are getting the ear of the people."

### London.—An important official announcement to the effect that in future much wider facilities are to be given to local authorities in obtaining loans from money invested in National Savings Certificates was made by Lord Jellicoe, chairman of the National Savings Committee, at a Savings Conference in Birmingham.

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### B.C. ELECTRICIANS TO BE LICENSED

The British Columbia government has introduced a bill entitled the "Electricians' License Act," which proposed to put through at the next session, says the B.C. Labor News.

The bill proposes to compel all electrical workers to obtain a license renewable every year. These licenses will be issued after the applicant has been examined as to his knowledge of construction and installation by a board of examiners to be appointed by the government.

Electrical workers claim that the bill is detrimental to the workers inasmuch as the board can cancel a license for any reason it cares to introduce. All journeymen will be held responsible for the work performed, whereas the contractor can instruct his employes to use poor material, etc., and will not be penalized. Naturally employes not obeying the orders of the contractor will stand to likely lose their jobs.

The appointment of a board will enable the big contractors to control the board and keep new contractors from obtaining certificates for getting into the business and it can use the certificate during strikes or refuse licenses to undesirable employes.

Fines of from \$50 to \$200 with six months' imprisonment with second offences will be made against offenders of the act or men not carrying licenses and although the bill is being sponsored by the government, the contractors are not making any protest against it, thus giving one the impression that they are behind it. As it stands, the bill is of absolutely no benefit to the workers, nor to the practical side of electrical work, and it places the Government at a disadvantage by keeping him out of the contracting field and making him responsible for not properly constructed or installed work.

### UNEMPLOYED WARNING

Washington.—A J. J. Heron, secretary-treasurer of the metal trades union, A. F. of L., has notified affiliates of unemployment conditions in Portland, Ore., where an expedition, will be held in 1922.

Reports from that city state that workers are being attacked by the employers under the impression that they are being laid off. It is pointed out that the Portland metal trades union is in a position of an expedition work for at least a year, and even then there are ample workmen to supply the demand for a considerable time thereafter.

### WANT AWARD ENFORCED

Wassberg, Col.—Coal miners object to the state industrial commission deciding if the wage reduction of the Colorado Fuel and Iron company is excessive.

This Rockefeller property recently cut wages 15 to 25 per cent. although the Rockefeller trust is owned by a government bureaucratic commission that extends until next April. The miners insist that the state commission pass on this violation of contract. The company organized a union of its own several months ago and the award was assured that the capitalist labor question was finally solved by the P. & I.

### ARE WAGES COMING DOWN?

Washington.—Chairman Leader of the United States shipping board announces the appointment of Harry Kimball of the Chesapeake-National Bk. Co., New York, as second vice president of the shipping board. Mr. Kimball's wage will be \$30,000 a year.

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# Editorial Page of The Canadian Labor Press



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## UNEMPLOYMENT PALLIATIVES.

It is impossible to shut our eyes to the fact that the unemployment situation is of a world-wide nature and whilst we on this continent must take our position in the ranks of those seeking relief and solve the problem, the interlinking of this situation with our kindred overseas enters into same—the reflex being too strong to be ignored. Consequently ways and means from overseas give ideas to us as our actions are scrutinized in similar fashion and benefits may thereby accrue.

In dealing in this matter some of these viewpoints are given the following when it is stated that the greatest problem which faces the country today is how to find work for the million and a half able-bodied men and women now unemployed. Up to now they have been living chiefly on doles, or on each other, or on their friends. Unemployment insurance has broken down, the doles policy must be stopped before it further demoralizes the community. Some method of providing useful work with wages, and not wages without work, must be found. In the meantime, the Geddes Economy Committee has recommended the scrapping of the unemployment exchanges on account of the cost. They have never been efficient clearing houses for finding jobs for labor, and the biggest employers have always ignored them.

There are certain principles which must be followed when dealing with the unemployment problem, so that cures may not increase the disease. In the first place, the practice adopted of paying wages and not relief must be stopped, and the Ministry of health has already put a check on it. Relief when given should be in kind rather than in money. It should be enough to maintain the unemployed decently, but not enough to withdraw the stimulus for work and for more comfort. The policy of the labor exchanges has been to pauperize. The sole condition of relief from these institutions is that the applicants must be doing no work at all. This discourages men from taking on small jobs and making a start.

On the constructive side of national relief it is essential that the work found should be useful, and in the form of national development. While necessary in periods of depression, this work should at the same time be of a kind that can be reduced or discontinued when the progress of industry finds other work for the employed. Under the heading of national development works some road improvement—extremely necessary and urgent; the transformation of existing derelict or more or less useless canals to modern waterways, or new roads; afforestation, which has been talked about for years and is hardly yet begun, and reclamation of waste lands. All these works would be useful and remunerative national investments. The State would be justified in carrying them on temporarily, at any rate, on a national scale. It is important, however, that there should be devolution, and that these national works should be carried on in local areas under local supervision with State assistance.

At best all these national development schemes are palliatives, here is only one remedy for unemployment, and that is more productive work in the ordinary channels, but the problem cannot be solved in this country alone. The world is stagnating; unemployment is universal. The millions now starving and idle must become workers and consumers; the international exchanges must find a workable level. World credit must be restored and the

deadlock in foreign trade lifted before the unemployment problem can be solved.

## UNION LABEL PROPAGANDA.

That the Union Label Trades Department of the International movement is in good hands in the person of J. J. Manning is beyond question and the activity in the line of propaganda is of the kind that strikes both ways—inside and outside—inside to those who are unmindful of their duty and outside to the opponents of the strong arms of the organized advancement.

In every nook and corner has been sent a message worth while when he states:

"One looking always for his rights is very likely to overlook the rights of others. What he thinks a strong sense of justice

may be a strong sense of injustice. Such a person is very anxious that every other trade unionist should demand the union label, shop card or working button of his particular craft, but he is apt to overlook the others.

"For instance, if he is a butcher, cigarmaker or garment worker, he sees to it that his organization gets your patronage. He lets the hatters, textile workers and carpenters look out for themselves.

There is nothing of which the great man is more afraid than smallness. The trade unionist who is worthy of the name, whether he is plate printer, baker or papermaker, will not demand recognition of his trade mark and neglect that of his brother the cooper, iron, tin and steel worker or metal polisher.

Words without works amount to nothing, so he will not if a tobacco, boot and shoe or glove worker, talk of seab gloves, shoes

or tobacco, while he employs non-union musicians, machinists, teamsters or chauffeurs.

What we should desire is that we shall all share alike. If every union clerk, electrician and sheet metal worker, while advocating his card or label, would speak a word for the wall paper trades, wire weavers and laundry workers, he would soon learn the true meaning of our movement.

Wrong cannot be righted, but it need not be repeated. If the union street car employee, stage employee or barber when he made the last purchase forgot the union broom maker, leather worker or stove moulder, let him remember them the next time. The man looking after the interests of the Allied Printing Trades must not forget the iron molder, the brewery, flour, cereal and soft drink worker, the hotel and restaurant employee, or the bill poster and biller.

Most of our troubles are caused by standing in our own light. We stand in our own light every time we fail to co-operate with our brother trades unionists by not patronizing the union label, card and button whenever we spend money. We all know the result of so-operation. We know it to be the only method by which we can hope to progress. Every successful enterprise of any nature has been the result of a large number of persons mutually interested, working for the same purpose.

Let us resolve to unite and all work for a purpose now, and let that purpose be a greater demand for the Union Label, Card and Button than ever before.

## TEA BETTER LIQUID THAN COFFEE TO FACE DEATH ON, ASSERTED

The increased mental activity and endurance of the British aviator is due to his constant indulgence in tea, according to Dr. Allen Starr, of Columbia University. In a recent lecture, Starr declared, "While the American troops in France at first generally preferred coffee, American aviators invariably preferred tea before making hard flights, therein following the example of British aviators."

"The American aviators' testimonial to tea is the greatest that has ever been given, for it is absolutely pure of any suspicion of undue predilection or prejudice," concludes Starr. "Those United States flying fighters faced death on tea in preference to any other drink."



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Mr. Earnest Clark, Police Officer, 338 King St., Kingston, Ont., writes:

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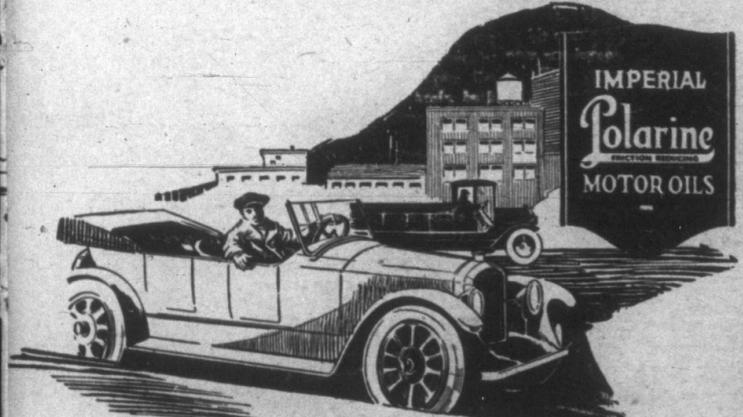
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## Overseas News

(Continued from page one)

gan of Labor, that the conference would call on the peoples of America and Europe to "wage war against capitalism in the only effectual way."

"When politicians and statesmen vote credits for war munitions," he continued, "they will have to reckon with the question whether the workers will produce and transport them."

Mr. Williams asserted the conference that has been called would become a comprehensive one, which would include the workers of Europe.

London.—It is stated that trade has so far improved that a number of British vessels will shortly leave Welsh ports with cargoes of metal manufactures bound for the Far East. It is understood that large orders for galvanized sheets have been placed in Britain on behalf of Far East importers, during the past few days.

London.—Representatives of the engineering and shipbuilding workers of Britain, threatened with a lock-out on October 12, laid the facts of the situation before Dr. Macnamara, Minister of Labor.

Over 2½ million men are affected by the employers' rejected demand, which is for the withdrawal of the Ministry of Munitions bonus of 12½ per cent (time workers) and 7½ per cent (piece workers). This would mean reductions of 12s per week in the case of craftsmen; and a total wage loss of over £50,000,000 a year.

During the negotiations last week the workers' representatives proposed successively an inquiry into the state of trade, a cost-of-living scale, and arbitration. All three proposals were rejected by the employers.

After the interview with Dr. Macnamara, J. T. Brownlie stated, on behalf of the Negotiating Committee, it had asked the Minister to exercise powers under the Industrial Courts Act, with a view to effecting a settlement of the dispute.

He added: "No ballot will be taken until we have disposed of this matter."

Dr. Macnamara promised to give the matter consideration and to communicate his decision.

The deputation to Dr. Macnamara included J. T. Brownlie, president of the Amalgamated Engineering Union; John Hill, chairman of the Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades Federation; Frank Smith, secretary of the Federation; James O'Grady, M.P., secretary of the National Federation of General Workers; and W. T. Kelly, Workers' Union.

Glasgow, Monday.—There are 20,000 miners idle in Scotland. The majority have been refused unemployment benefit, and many are suffering acute distress.

It was reported after the meeting of the Scottish Miners' Executive that the position had been discussed with the national umpire, Mr. Yates.

As a result, districts are advised to send in their special cases for unemployed benefit to local courts of referees for consideration.

Lord Ashmore has been appointed neutral chairman of the District Wages Board for Scotland. It is not yet known when the Board will meet.

The Secretary for Scotland has informed the Executive that he could not consider an appeal for the release of miners imprisoned for lock-out offences, except where the sentences were more than six months.

The dispute at Cardiff Docks which led to a strike of members of the Dockers' Union, who alleged that some of their work was being done by N. U. R. members, was settled, and work resumed. The negotiations leading to the settlement were conducted by Robert Williams, representing the Transport Workers' Federation; James Holmes, representing the N. U. R., and W. P. Thompson, of the Cardiff Railway Company.

London.—Colonel H. J. Mackie, Canadian M. P. for North Renfrew, who, at the request of Premier Meighen, spent several weeks investigating trade possibilities in Russia, returned to London and gave the Canadian Press interesting conclusions both respecting the immediate object of his journey and also the famine situation.

Col. Mackie spoke of the huge purchases of seed grain by the Soviet government for the famine belt. Transportation arrangements for distributing this are exceptionally good; in fact, could not be exceeded in the world. Of these huge purchases, says Col. Mackie, given the peasantry for seeding only, not a pound of it has been diverted to personal requirements. Grain has arrived in villages where the inhabitants are absolutely starving, but they sowed it all, declaring that while they had no expectation themselves of reaping the harvest, it would be there for their children, who would be fed by foreign foodstuffs.



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## UNION MEN---

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"In England particularly," said Col. Mackie, "one hears that the public is refusing to subscribe to the relief funds even for saving children, because of fear of the food falling into the hands of the red army. I am firmly convinced that the 'Reds' will honorably convey the food to the famine belts. They have already genuine proof of their readiness to co-operate with the American relief administration, etc., and the provincial authorities are giving every co-operation towards saving the children."

The Soviet government, said Col. Mackie, are highly impressed with Canadian agricultural and lumbering methods and are asking permission of the Canadian government for a small group of experts to go to Canada to study agriculture and the lumber and peat industries.

A purchasing commission is shortly going to Canada for flour and seed grains. The proposal of this commission is yet unsettled but some reflections have already been made of experts to study Canadian industry.

Russia's immediate requirements are seed grains and flour and Canada is to have the first opportunity of supplying these. The Soviet government has sufficient gold reserved for such commodities and are holding over orders for other goods, especially to pay for these things.

London.—Premier Lloyd George has written to Rt. Hon. C. W. Bowerman

(Continued on page 4)

## AGITATORS WOULD SCRAP CANADIAN RAILWAYS

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## Overseas News

(Continued from page 3)

and Mr. Hon. Arthur Henderson, as representatives of the Labor party in forming them that the Cabinet can receive a labor deputation on the subject of unemployment.

The Premier denies that he is responsible for any delays in meeting the laborites as suggested by the letter of last Friday.

Premier Lloyd George writes that he deeply regrets Labor's repudiation of co-operation, saying the financiers and employers are only too anxious to cooperate with the representatives of labor, but the Labor Council preferred to submit their own ideas without hearing the other points of view. The Premier adds that it is not a helpful attitude in a crisis affecting all classes. Nevertheless, if the laborites adhere to their view the Cabinet will meet them.

Messrs. Bowerman and Henderson, in their reply, accepted the Premier's invitation to meet him, and state that they never refused to co-operate with the Government, but declined to be parties to any course which would involve further delay in dealing with unemployment.

Mr. Hon. J. T. MacNamara has sent letters to fellow members of the House of Commons with the object of enlisting help in expediting preparations for the British Empire Exhibition in 1923. He mentions that there is no question that sufficient guarantors would be secured, but he asks members to use their influence in this respect in order that work may be begun immediately, so as to assist in relieving unemployment.

Folkstone.—A splendid example of the success of co-operative trading is afforded by the result of running public service vehicles at Folkstone by the Co-operative Transport Society, Ltd.

The United Vehicle Workers instituted a bus service here this year to absorb a number of men thrown out of employment as the result of a strike against the East Kent Road Car Company. Four buses were put on the road in the first instance; but others have been added since, and the results have been very satisfactory.

The strikers have been found em-

ployed under trade union conditions while the fares in many instances are far below those of private companies working in the town. Trade unionists visiting the district this summer have lent valuable support.

When the chrys-a-lones were first brought down for licensing much opposition was encountered, and after they had been licensed one company attempted to run the new company off the road.

Besides doing ordinary business, these trade union cars have been used for conveying delegates to trade union conferences, and during the coal lock-out they were utilized by the miners at Dover to prevent some of the men returning to work.

Willesden Guardians have the Ministry of Health's permission to set an employed working on relief work at trade union rates of pay. Councillor G. Emmons and his fellow Labor members of the Board have been agitating to bring about this result.

Unemployment demonstrations were held in various parts of the country. The Bishop of Winchester in a letter read at a demonstration in Farnham, gave his commendation to the demonstrators, telling them that the Government had been so slow in taking the matter that the unemployed were right in protesting it for action.

The bishop said Cornwall was showing a grave situation as regards unemployment, and added: "We can only demand that work should be made in order that men, women and children shall have at least a minimum livelihood until the trouble lessens."

The bishop suggested that the nation ration itself.

The Admiralty announced that in view of the unemployment situation it was prepared to sell a number of surplus obsolete warships at moderate prices for breaking up by firms which agreed to commence work immediately in pressing it for action.

A cash payment is not insisted upon by the Admiralty, and sale of the warship on attractive terms is offered. Preference will be given to buyers who agree to employ on the work of breaking up the ship a substantial portion of the men of the Royal Fleet Reserves.

Sir Edward Stockton, president of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce, speaking on the financial condition of the world, said he was convinced that the present position had been made much worse by the exaggerated feeling of depression among commercial men.

"We are not suffering organic troubles but our system is temporarily out of gear through abnormal necessities," he said.

The suggestion that the Government should lift the stocks of the market and finance them for an indefinite period was impracticable and worthless, he stated. A much more likely solution would be for the British Government to make a contribution of the war debts among the allies.

John Robert Clynes, labor member for Manchester and president of the National Union of General Workers, addressing the Labor party at Manchester, denied the report that at a recent conference between the Prime Minister and the Labor leaders some TRIDENT enclosed gear train construction does not decrease the efficiency of the Trident Breakable Bottom. The protective compound, having a lower freezing point than water, still further reduces the likelihood of damage to the gear train. Exhaustive tests under service conditions have proved these statements.

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widespread unemployment which was causing so much suffering and he hoped that the efforts of his Ministers to alleviate the present situation and to prevent future unemployment may be successful.

According to the London representative of the Agricultural Workers' Unions absolute chaos now exist in the agricultural areas following the termination of the Agricultural Wages Board. It is alleged that the machinery of local conciliation committees has broken down on the wage question and deadlocks have arisen in a number of cases.

A lockout is threatened in Norfolk because the workers there refused to accept wage cuts down to as low as thirty-six and in some cases even thirty shillings per week. According to officials of the agricultural sections of the workers' union the same conditions are prevailing all over the country with the whole system of conciliation by voluntary committees breaking down on account of the wage reductions proposed by the employer being too drastic.

Already there has been reductions in wages of agricultural workers ranging from 4 to 6 shillings per week, according to the minimum scale in various counties. This reduction brought wages down to forty-two shillings weekly and further local reductions are being proposed in every county.

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