

EMPLOYERS' BUREAU JOINT COUNCIL

DOUBLE PLATOON SYSTEM FOR FIRE DEPARTMENTS

It Has Been Introduced in Ontario Legislation to Make System Compulsory.

Efforts are being made by the Labor Group in Ontario Legislature to have the double platoon system established by law in all permanent fire departments in Ontario. Mr. Crockett, one of the Labor members on a recent introduction of a bill in the Ontario Legislature for this purpose. The bill stipulates exactly what is meant by the double platoon system by outlining the number of hours the fire fighters will be compelled to be on duty. Penalties are set for the non-compliance of the act at from \$10 to \$100.

In some quarters efforts have been made by fire chiefs and city fathers to amend the double platoon system in the fire departments, by granting the fire fighters one day's rest in seven, as provided for in the act of last year, some of the chief magistrates suggested that the double platoon system be abolished. The enactment of the bill of Mr. Crockett will stop this foolishness.

Co-operate With Employees Pleads Manufacture

Extracts from an address of J. Clark Reilly, General Secretary A. C. I. C. to the Canadian National Clay Products Association:

"We have another partner, and this one is not silent by any means; I mean, Labor. As soon as there is any talk of a reduction in prices many employers at once think they must reduce wages. Already there is a great deal of this talk in the air. It may be necessary to reduce wages in some industries where men have been receiving special payment for their services during the war period, but I believe that we have to consider something more important. A huge dividend against the employer who takes advantage of present conditions to grind down his employees is but sowing the seeds of future trouble, and when the pendulum swings once again to the labor side he will reap the results of his short-sighted policy. It will surely fail. It is far better for us to co-operate with our employees, to show them that we are 'playing fair' and to have them work with us."

STEEL STRIKE IS NOT OVER SAYS COMMISSION

Inter-church World Movement Condemns 12-Hr. Day and Use of Stool Pigeons.

"The conduct and activities of 'labor-detective' agencies do not seem to serve the best interests of the country," says the Commission of Inquiry of the Interchurch World Movement in a memorial to the United States Congress. The steel strike was probed by this commission, which urges that some department of the Federal Government set up a commission, representing both sides and the public to inaugurate immediate conferences between the corporation and its employees for the elimination of the 12-hour day, the seven-day week, for the adjustment of wage rates and to secure an adequate plan of permanent free conference to regulate the conduct of the industry in the future.

"The steel strike, in one sense, is not over," says the commission. "The main issues are not settled. The causes still remain. The nation helpless before conditions in a basic industry which promise a future crisis? Can our democratic society be moved to the industrial justice without the pressure of crisis itself?"

"The 12-hour day, involving hundreds of thousands, the seven-day week, the arbitrary management which penalizes the American spirit and corrupts its institutions—is the form of all this to be left simply to the hazard of a strike?"

The memorial states that "the Federal Department of Justice should have placed undue reliance on co-operation with corporations' secret services."

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOR IN BRITAIN DURING 1920

British Ministry of Labor Reports 7,600,000 Workpeople as Having Received Increases in Wages in 1920.

In the industries for which statistics are available, changes in rates of wages reported to the British Ministry of Labor as having been arranged to come into operation in December affect an average of 120,000 workpeople, says the Labor Gazette. Of these 115,000 receive increases amounting to about 15% of their weekly wages, and over 4,000 sustained decreases amounting to over 2% per week. The number affected by increases is considerably smaller than the number reported for any previous month in 1920, and for the first time for several years a decrease in wages is reported. During the whole of 1920 the number of workpeople whose wages were increased in industries covered by the statistics was 7,600,000, and the net amount of the increase in their weekly rates of wages was \$4,693,000.

The number affected by reductions in recognized hours of labor was 260,000, the aggregate amount of the reduction being 2,085,000 hours per week, or an average of 3.7 hours. The following table shows the number of workpeople affected by changes in hours of labor in different trades, and the total reduction in weekly hours for 1920 compared with 1919. These figures do not include the effect of short-time working in operation in many industries in December.

Groups of Trades	Number of work-people whose hours were reduced	Aggregate reduction in the working hours of a full week, for those affected
Building	1919	1919
Mining and Quarrying	211,000	382,000
Textile	1,101,000	15,000
Clothing	2,000,000	5,200,000
Other Trades	5,000	18,217,000
Public Utility Services	1,000,000	55,000
Totals	1,461,000	80,000

IRON MOULDERS ASSISTANCE TO ITS MEMBERS

Almost Six Millions Distributed in Beneficial Features in Few Years.

The beneficial features of the I. M. U. of N.A. always make impressive reading. They contain the evidence of what the organization has accomplished in rendering assistance to members when out of work or when sick, and the aid given to members' families when death has taken away the bread-winner.

At the close of 1920, the organization had paid out:

For sick benefits	\$3,848,505.05
For death benefits	1,480,457.32
For disability benefits	171,825.00
For out-of-work benefits	472,947.25
Total	\$6,973,735.22

It must be a source of gratification to every member to know that practically \$6,000,000 have been paid out in sick, disability, out-of-work and death benefits, and that this has been done without a mistake of one cent in the keeping of the international accounts.

A body of trade-unionists who can collect and disburse \$6,000,000 in beneficial features alone over a short period of years, has learned the lessons which enable it to build up and maintain a practical, effective trade-union movement.—Moulders' Journal.

Abolish Private Employment Agencies in Ont.

Private employment agencies will be abolished after July 1 if the Ontario Legislature endorses a bill which Hon. W. R. Rolfe is to introduce. At present there are 27 Government employment agencies in the province and about 20 private agencies operating under a license secured from the Ontario Government at a cost of \$25 per annum. The Government takes the view that these agencies, which collect a fee of \$1 from the applicant and \$1 from the employer, are overlapping and wasteful. The Government has a string of employment offices stretched all over the province. In Toronto there are five private employment agencies.

TO FIGHT WAGE REDUCTIONS IS PLAN OF LABOR

Big Gathering of Union Heads is Taking Place in Washington.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 23.—Representatives of the 109 national and international unions affiliated in the American Federation of Labor, including the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, gathered here today in an extraordinary conference for the purpose of organizing to meet attacks on the union labor movement.

The conference, called by President Gompers, is considered one of special importance and is one of the few of its kind ever held in the history of the federation. It is being held in continuous session nearly all day yesterday.

While the council's programme was not made public, it was understood to provide for a campaign by organized labor to combat anti-union shop laws, wage reductions, compulsory arbitration, labor injunctions, and "open shop" propaganda.

One of the proposals before the conference, it was said, calls for a "color" strike. The federation is to offset the propaganda of the enemies of union labor.

Legislation to further the cause of organized labor also is to be considered by the conference.

Survey of industrial conditions throughout the United States and Canada was being taken by labor leaders here for today's meeting, and all agreed that the present depression was the worst the federation has faced in years.

"The color strike industry has been especially hard hit," said John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers of America.

"Production is less than 40 percent of normal. We have 100,000 men who have not done any work since the first of the year. The miners that are working are only getting from 100 to three days a week."

Michael Tighe, president of the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers, said he had never seen conditions so bad. He added he believed the worst will soon be over, as some of the mills are starting up.

Conditions in the metal trades were described as bad by A. J. Beres, head of the metal trades department of the federation. There is a "black" room in the automobile industry, he said, but he reported work in the ship building industry as slow, with little getting out of the mills.

"Thousands of our men are out of work," said William Johnston, president of the International Association of Machinists. "The railroad situation is a disaster. Hundreds of workers being laid off because of reduced working forces."

The present industrial depression and unemployment, he said, is a national disaster. The federation in its plan to combat attempts to further reduce wages and injure workers' committees of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, and Mr. John Platt, general secretary for Canada of the American Federation of Labor, in attendance at the conference at Washington.

BUILDING MATERIAL SHOWS A DECLINE ACCORDING TO LABOR DEPARTMENT.

The cost of building is coming down gradually and the tendency already indicated is expected to be more pronounced between now and spring.

The Labor Department keeps a check on 45 of the principal materials of construction and in over half of them a decline was noted in December or January. Lumber is down about \$5 a thousand, and also paints, oils, builders' hardware and miscellaneous building material. Brick remains firm.

There have been many charges of lowered efficiency by workmen but this is not substantiated by inquiries of four thousand questionnaires to employers, 63 per cent reported that their men are normal in output while 37 per cent reported that there had been a decline.

TEN STRIKES DURING MONTH OF JANUARY

15,951 Working Days Lost Owing to Disputes.

According to a Labor Department report, the loss of time during January on account of industrial disputes was greater than during December, 1920, but less than January, 1920.

There were in existence at some time or other during the month, 10 strikes, involving about 944 work people and resulting in a time loss of 15,951 working days, as compared with 14,434 working days in December, 1920; and 35 strikes, 2,340 work people and 25,533 working days in January, 1920.

In January there were on record four strikes, affecting 40 work people. Six strikes were reported as having commenced during January, as compared with five in December. One of the strikes commencing prior to January and four of the disputes commencing during January were reported as having ended in January, 1921.

RAMSAY MACDONALD AGAIN ON HUSTINGS

Woolwich By-election Most Interesting in Britain.

Of the present lusty crop of by-elections in Great Britain that at Woolwich, where Will Crooks, Labor, has retired on account of old age and physical suffering, is generally regarded as the most interesting. The coalition candidate there is Captain Geo. V.C., who like Will Crooks, started life in the workhouse, and his opponent is Ramsay MacDonald, the noted intellectual Laborite.

Mr. MacDonald has no personal hold upon the constituency such as was possessed by the ex-minister. He goes to Woolwich with the imprimatur of the Central Labor Party; thus his return to Parliament will be a valuable contribution to the Labor movement, particularly because the Labor party in the House is weak in debating strength. But the constituency is one which even in local matters is inclined to take a local outlook and which, with the great array of the chief means of the country, has been discredited, and Draper Hand, connected with the police department at the time of the bomb explosion, has made statements that support these confessions.

Mooney and Billings are now serving life sentences. Attempts have been made to secure new trials, but the courts hold that the record of the trials show no irregularity. As the perjuries have been made in the trial, the case was closed, the matter is now in the hands of Governor Stephens, who can issue pardons and the matter will be immediately re-considered and tried on other indictments.

To date the government has refused to act.

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More Perjury in Mooney Case

John McDonald, one of the star witnesses for the state in the prosecution of Tom Mooney, San Francisco, has confessed that he committed perjury. McDonald says that he was drilled by Prosecuting Attorney Fickens, who made statements that the \$175,000 reward, but was "double crossed."

This confession is but one of many exposing the trial as a "frame up." Oxman, a principal witness, has been proven guilty of perjury, the testimony of two women has been discredited, and Draper Hand, connected with the bomb squad of the police department at the time of the bomb explosion, has made statements that support these confessions.

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OPPOSITION LEADERS TO LEARN FACTS CONCERNING TORONTO SHIPYARDS.

Hon. Mackenzie King, leader of the Liberal opposition in the House of Commons, has agreed to meet, in company with Hon. T. A. Cresser, and Mr. Angus MacDonald, Labor member for Temiskaming, a delegation from the Toronto Trades and Labor Council and the unions interested in the dispute with the Collingwood Shipbuilding Company, which is completing vessels in the yards of the Dominion Shipbuilding and Repair Company, to discuss grievances which they claim to have unsuccessfully placed before Premier Meighen and members of the Board of Control and the Toronto Trades Council.

Mr. Watt also announced that President Moore, of the Trades and Labor Council, had demanded an inquiry into the circumstances surrounding the Toronto Shipyards dispute from the time the contract was awarded.

MOVEMENT IN PRICES CONTINUES DOWNWARD

Important Declines in Grain and Textiles in Canada.

The movement in prices continued downward in January, declines appearing in almost all lines, the most important being in grain and textiles, says a report from the Labor Department. In fuel the only decrease of importance was in furnace and foundry coals.

In the retail prices of foods there were decreases in nearly all of the staple lines. The index number of wholesale prices was down to 251.3 for January as compared with 296.5 for December, 1920, for January, 1921, and 132.5 in January, 1921.

In retail prices the average cost of a list of twenty-nine staple foods at the beginning of January was \$14.48 as compared with \$14.44 at the middle of December, \$13.30 in January, 1920, and \$7.73 in January, 1921.

Members of the Ottawa Fire Department are out for higher salaries. At the meeting of the Board of Control last week a communication was received from the members of the Firemen's Union asking for a general increase of \$500 per man per year.

The communication, which was sent to Chief Graham, and by him recommended to the attention of the board, was signed by Captain R. B. Jacques, Lieutenant F. W. Brennan, Sergeant P. Sarasin, Fireman J. J. O'Kelly, president of the union, and Fireman Donald Dear, secretary. It pointed out that the wages at present paid to firemen do not meet living costs, and do not compare with wages paid in Montreal, Toronto, Hamilton or London, or to the city police department.

Chief Graham said the maximum at present paid to Ottawa firemen was \$1,500.

The matter will be dealt with when the department estimates are under consideration.

VICROY OF INDIA URGED TO RATIFY WASHINGTON CONVENTIONS.

Resolutions urging the Viceroy of India to ratify the Labor Conventions adopted at the International Labor Conference held in Washington October, 1919, were adopted by the Legislative Assembly at Delhi, India, this week. The Assembly decided to undertake the passage of a resolution giving effect to the convention, including the 60-hour week.

ONTARIO COMPENSATION BOARD TO BE RE-ORGANIZED.

The Ontario Government has under consideration reorganization of the Workmen's Compensation Board. Proposal is to increase the membership from three to five. Present members are Mr. S. Price, Mr. Kinison, and Mr. Kinison. The chair has been made that the late A. W. Wright's successor should be a representative of Labor. The proposed reorganization includes a representative of the manufacturers and one from Labor in the appointments.

Question of salaries of the members of the board has also been under consideration and with an increased membership, a downward revision is proposed.

PETERBORO TRADES COUNCIL DECLINES AID TO LABOR CANDIDATE.

At a meeting of the Peterboro Trades and Labor Council, held last week, the council declined to contribute to the campaign expenses of J. J. McMurtry, Labor candidate in the recent by-election.

The original policy of the Trades and Labor Council prohibits the discussion of purely political questions. It was pointed out that Mr. McMurtry had received his nomination from the Independent Labor Party.

ONTARIO TEACHERS WANT HIGHER SUPERANNUATION PAY.

Representatives of the Ontario Public School Teachers' Association waited upon Hon. E. H. King, Minister of Education, Saturday morning, to ask that steps be taken to increase the superannuation for teachers. As an instance of the poor state now existing, the department mentioned one school teacher who, after 55 years' service, is only drawing superannuation at the rate of \$402.35 per annum. The Minister of Education stated that he was expecting a report from the superannuation commission within three weeks.

HAMILTON UNION LABEL LEAGUE ELECTS OFFICIALS.

The Hamilton Union Label League held a meeting last week in Labor Hall and officers for the year were elected as follows: J. Shively, president; C. Delselt, general secretary; H. J. Halford, treasurer; H. G. Fester, sergeant-at-arms.

H. G. Fester and J. Pettiford were appointed a committee to secure permission from the managers of local moving picture houses to display union labels on their screens.

It was decided that a circular letter be sent to all label craft in Hamilton asking them to take a more active interest in promoting the sale and display of union made goods. It was also decided to hold regular meetings of the league every third Tuesday in each month.

DR. RUTTAN HEADS RESEARCH COUNCIL.

Dr. R. F. Ruttan, head of the Department of Chemistry of McGill University, has been appointed to succeed Dr. A. B. MacCallum as administrative chairman of the honorary and advisory council for the laboratory and industrial research. The appointment which was made at Saturday's meeting of the council, is a temporary one, made necessary by the impending departure for the continent of Dr. MacCallum, who months ago accepted the chair of Bio Chemistry at McGill.

Mr. John McLellan, of Montreal, is the representative of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada on the above council.

OTTAWA LABORERS RE-ELECT BUSINESS AGENT BY ACCLAMATION.

Mr. H. Cunningham was unanimously re-elected to the position of business agent of the Ottawa Laborers' Union at a regular meeting on Tuesday night. Previous to the meeting some "Red" literature was distributed and the union decided that if the officers were continued the parties implicated would be expelled from membership in the local Laborers' Union.

MANY MOULDERS ARE UNEMPLOYED.

The quarterly reports for the fourth quarter of 1920 indicate the change in the volume of business which took place during the last three months of the year, says the Moulders' Journal.

During the quarter, 47,075 out-of-work stamps were issued to members. During the same period in 1919, but 7,000 out-of-work stamps were applied for. In connection with this, it must be borne in mind that the great bulk of unemployment came during the latter part of November and the month of December.

The same condition of trade was reflected in the number of initiations and reinstatements.

During 1920 there were 3,800 initiations, but of this number only 735 during the last quarter. The reinstatements approximate the same percentage, there having been 8,153 during the year, and of this number but 613 during the last quarter.

MONTREAL TRAMWAY EMPLOYEES OPPOSE DAY-LIGHT SAVING.

Claiming that the daylight saving plan does not benefit them at all, the Montreal Tramways Union adopted a resolution at their last meeting protesting against the city authorities enacting that standard time be advanced one hour this summer as they have done in previous years. This objection to daylight saving was expressed by the Tramways employees comes mostly, it is understood, from the conductors and workmen who represent savings per cent of the wages for the job shops was approved of by the meeting. The committee is composed of A. Bolwell, A. Gerard, J. Barnham and N. Beames, in connection with the proposed agreement officials of the union said it was taken for granted that the 44-hour week would be effective on June 1.

TORONTO PRINTERS DEMAND 44-HR. WEEK.

The regular meeting of the Toronto Printers' Union, recently, had to fill the vacancy created by the death of Mr. Samuel Hadden, business secretary of Local 91, International Typographical Union. George Murray was elected secretary for the expiration of Mr. Hadden's term. Walter Williams and George Cash, were elected recording secretary and vice-president respectively.

The meeting was held in the Labor Temple on Saturday evening. The appointment of a committee to draw up a wage agreement for the job shops was approved of by the meeting. The committee is composed of A. Bolwell, A. Gerard, J. Barnham and N. Beames, in connection with the proposed agreement officials of the union said it was taken for granted that the 44-hour week would be effective on June 1.

NEW WESTMINSTER SCHOOL TEACHERS' UNION RECOGNIZED.

The school teachers' strike at New Westminster, B.C., is ended, all teachers having been reinstated by the school board. The Teachers' Association is now recognized by the board, as representing the city's teachers. Schools re-opened Monday morning after being closed one week. Salaries will be adjusted by a joint committee of the board and the association, and in case of a disagreement, provisions are made for friendly arbitration.

ANGUS MACDONALD ON MANY COMMITTEES

Mr. Angus MacDonald, the Labor member for Temiskaming, has been named on many of the most important committees of the House of Commons. It will be remembered that "Angus" made his entry into the House of Commons during the last session and was instrumental in placing Labor's case before that body on several occasions when matters of particular interest to the workers were being discussed. The amendments to the Industrial Disputes Act were championed by him. Salaries will be adjusted by a joint committee of the board and the association, and in case of a disagreement, provisions are made for friendly arbitration.

TEMPORARILY TAKES POST VACATED BY DR. MACCALLUM.

Dr. R. F. Ruttan, head of the Department of Chemistry of McGill University, has been appointed to succeed Dr. A. B. MacCallum as administrative chairman of the honorary and advisory council for the laboratory and industrial research. The appointment which was made at Saturday's meeting of the council, is a temporary one, made necessary by the impending departure for the continent of Dr. MacCallum, who months ago accepted the chair of Bio Chemistry at McGill.

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OTTAWA FIRE FIGHTERS SEEK INCREASE OF \$300 PER YEAR.

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The matter will be dealt with when the department estimates are under consideration.

BRITISH MINERS PREDICT TROUBLE

Rumor Current Owners Will Declare Lock-out.

Report is current that British miners contemplate a national lock-out to force owners to raise wages. A special cable from London to the Montreal Star, in labor circles, the report is regarded as authentic. Color is lent to the statement by the arrival in London of large consignments of American coal, which is delivered at Allan, and costs below those of Derbyshire, 150 miles distant. Another factor is that enormous stocks of coal are piled up. Several important collieries have already closed down, and at others short notices are running. In the House of Commons Mr. Harcourt declared the restoration of the coal industry was now experience was unknown in living memory. He challenged the owners' right to close the collieries without tendering 60 days' notice as required by the Miners' Emergency Act. Suggestions from manufacturers regarding the point of trade, all emphasize the key to industrial prosperity. Mr. Harcourt's answer, declared wages without a fight.

NEEDLE TRADES WORKERS OF AMERICA FORM AN ALLIANCE FOR PROTECTION

United Cloth Hat and Cap Makers Co-operative Approved and Hearty Support Pledged.

The International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, the International Furriers' Union, the Journeymen Tailors' Union of America and the United Cloth Hat and Cap Makers' Union held a three-day conference of representatives in New York recently as a result of which was formed a federation under the name of the Needle Trades Workers' Alliance of America. The total membership of the federated unions is estimated at 400,000.

The main object of the Alliance is concerted action in the various tailoring trades. It is thought that the form of organization will make it impossible for manufacturers during a strike of workers in one group to have orders executed through another.

The Alliance will function in an advisory capacity each union retaining its autonomy, and the executive council, consisting of 15 members—three from each organization—will not interfere in the individual affairs of any of the unions represented.

The conference also passed a resolution expressing approval of the movement for the establishment of producing co-operatives in the cloth hat and cap industry, which has been initiated by the United Cloth Hat and Cap Makers of America, and pledging its hearty support to the enterprise.

OTTAWA HOUSING COMMISSION HAS BUILT 149 HOUSES.

Mrs. Borden's enquiry into the present status of the Ottawa Housing Commission received the following reply from Mayor Platt at City Council this week. The sum of \$111,517.77 has been advanced by Government loan. The sum of \$202,351.69 was spent up to Feb. 1. One hundred and forty-nine dwellings have been completed and 199 sold, the amount received from the purchase being sufficient to meet the interest and the sinking fund on the Government loan. Up to Feb. 1, \$1,333.35 was paid out to the general account.

RFDC/FF STEEL WORKERS' WAGE DISPUTE ADJUSTED.

Canadian Vice-President E. Curtis International Iron, Steel and Tin Workers' Union, has returned to the east after his mission in Redford, Alta. Mr. Curtis states that an amicable settlement was reached with the big iron and steel firm, whereby the company agreed to pay the help the union scale of wages. All the strikers have been reinstated. On route home Mr. Curtis stopped at Winnipeg to look over the situation at the Manitoba steel mill. The strike there is very brisk. He learned that the company, besides employing extra help, is paying wages above the scale.

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SOME ONTARIO FURNITURE FACTORIES NOW WORKING FIVE DAYS PER WEEK

Ontario Provincial Council of Carpenters Urges Membership to Support the Eight-hour Workday Bill Now Before Ontario Legislature.

There is very little change in the conditions this month, says the monthly trade report of the Ontario Provincial Council of Carpenters (O. C. & J.), except some of the furniture centres report that the factories are opening up and that they are working eight hours per day and are now on a five-day week. It should be a good time to get after the unorganized men of these factories and point out to them the conditions they would be enjoying if they were organized, because there is no reason why the factories could not run the eight-hour day and the five-day week all the time.

Under date of February 7, the general president has issued a circular dealing with the National Board of Jurisdiction Awards pointing out to the membership that our organization is not a party to any of the claims made by this board and advising the membership to not sign any agreement whereby any committee or arbitration board would have power to decide any of our jurisdiction claims. These are set by the International and are printed in our general constitution. If you doubt of any of these claims or if you become involved in any controversy you should immediately notify the local office, giving them full information.

ENDORSE THE PLAN OF JOINT CONFERENCE

Representatives of Firms Explain Plans For Work Committees.

Hearty endorsement of the plan of joint conference between employers and employees was voiced at a meeting called by the Department of Labor, in the Senate Railway committee room on Monday. In response to an invitation issued by the Department of Labor to a number of large firms which have in effect no representation in the Senate Railway committee room or in the various committees or industrial councils, number of representatives of these firms attended the meeting.

Senator G. D. Robertson, Minister of Labor, was in the chair, and thanked those present to lay before the conference their experiences in connection with the inception and operation of the plan. He has also issued a hearty endorsement given by those who speak at the conference. He is able in view of the fact that many of those present are engaged as supervisors of industrial relations.

Mr. F. A. Acland deputy Minister of Labor, was present. The afternoon session of conference was presided over by Mr. Gerald H. Brown, Assistant Deputy Minister of Labor.

BRITISH LABOR DENOUNCES PARIS REPARATION AGREEMENT.

The Paris reparations agreement is denounced in a manifesto issued last week by a joint meeting of the Parliamentary Committee of the British Trades Union Congress and executive committee of the British Labor Party. The manifesto also declares that the present unemployment is the direct outcome of the "selfish foreign policy" and demands not merely reconsideration of the indemnity demands, but reversal of the whole line of the Allies' conduct toward Central Europe and Russia.

Editorial Page of The Canadian Labor Press



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A WEEKLY NEWS LETTER.

"OPEN-SHOPPERS" INVADE OTTAWA.

EDITORIAL writers, politicians, unfair employers and others, who desire a return of the days when there was no democracy in industry, have labored long in editorials, speeches, propaganda, and in other ways, in their endeavors to decry the Labor movement. These champions of reaction would have you believe that to Labor, and Labor alone, should be attached all blame for industrial turmoil. It is indeed very seldom that mention is made of the capitalist agitator. We have them in our midst. One of these came to Ottawa last week and addressed the local branch of the Association of the Building and Construction Industries. He assailed Labor and urged the employers to declare war on the trades union movement.

The Canadian Labor Press in a recent editorial pointed out the dangers of the "Optional Plan of Employment" under which the employers are hiding their motives. The employers' open-shop agent advocated this plan for the building industry of Ottawa.

Mr. Tom Moore, president of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, answers the challenge of the president of the Detroit Builders' Association in the following statement:

"It is not likely that Ottawa contractors will be convinced by the statements of Mr. Kennedy as to the intentions and officers of the International Union of Building Trades. Mr. George Crain and other Ottawa employers in public statements expressed the view that the business agents and officers of trades unions spend the largest part of their time avoiding trouble and trying to reach a settlement of grievances workers feel they have."

"The so-called 'optional plan' which Mr. Kennedy is doing his best to have adopted by building employers of this country is nothing different from the 'American plan' being vigorously pressed in the United States. The organization for which he is acting is a central committee of large employers in that country. They have their paid agents travelling through the United States and Canada trying to induce employers to adopt the plan in order to destroy the trades unions and the principle of collective bargaining. The evidence recently submitted before the Legislative Committee in New York relative to the building trades where representatives of the steel trust openly boasted that they would not supply structural steel to any employer employing union men, and that they would not supply around buildings to see that their conditions were complied with throws a little light on the 'American optional plan' campaign which is now being so earnestly pressed by certain interests."

"Mr. Kennedy comes from Detroit and it would be advisable for Ottawa contractors to study conditions there before accepting his advice on how to run their businesses."

"For a number of years there has been guerrilla warfare between the unions and the employers in Detroit with the result that each side has taken advantage of every opportunity to improve its own condition. Last year common laborers were being paid from \$1 to \$1.25 per hour in Detroit and officers of tradesmen in production, while Ottawa acting under an agreement had a stabilized agreement for the benefit of all concerned."

"The optional plan of employment, as proposed in Hamilton, does not allow an employer to enter into an agreement with any organization to use its members only, so that he may have any reductions in wages which he desires. Clause 4 of the agreement says: 'closed shop conditions which exist in large American cities will not be tolerated here,' while clause 4 pledges the association to back any employer, morally and financially, in living up to the obligation called for."

"Another part of the plan provides that the secretary of the association shall be advised of the employers' requirements of labor and his office shall then become a sort of clearing house for all classes of labor required by members. Wherever this plan has been adopted it has always meant the institution of the 'black list' under which any employer who instigates the displeasure of an employer will find it impossible to find employment from any other employer so long as he has to depend upon the good offices of the association secretary for his employment."

"Mr. Kennedy might as well have stripped his arguments of all camouflage and stated openly that he was here to secure the assistance of the Ottawa employers in the building trades in the campaign for the destruction of labor unions and the institution of the individual contract instead of collective bargaining."

"The wage decreases being instituted by many firms and threatened by others, are absolutely unwarranted. The last figures from the Canadian Labor Department show that the cost of living in Canada is still 109 per cent. above the level of 1914, while wages have not doubled in that period. This means that the standard of living of the workers, even at the present wage level, is lower than in 1914, and any reductions in wages will simply mean a further decrease. Even should material decreases in the cost of living take place in the near future, wage reduction will still be unwarranted as, with the improved production of machinery in the past seven years, workers are surely entitled to a little higher standard than previously."

"Assertions as to decreased production, assertions carelessly made, are not borne out by the facts. Only last week Mr. Wickert, one of the largest contractors in Toronto, declared through the Toronto newspapers that he was getting as high production from his bricklayers as he has at any time during the long number of years he has been in business. Enquiries by the Department of Labor show that the majority of employers coincide with this statement, and therefore give assertions that workers are less efficient than formerly as without foundation."

"The worker is not master of his own product. Inefficient management, obsolete machinery, inferior materials, all have a vital effect upon the quantity any worker can produce. It is high time a halt was called to this continual harping on the present prices being due to the inefficiency of the worker and the high wages he is demanding."

"A prominent local contractor said in discussing wage possibilities of the spring that he did not expect there would be any reduction. The likelihood is that production will be increased as it has been for several months past. You may say that we are getting better production from our men and are satisfied. This means, in a way, a wage cut which we shall pass on to the public. To that extent building costs may be lower but not anything approaching the 25 per cent. mentioned by a speaker at Thursday evening's meeting. After all contractors said that the money paid to a man in the small town, it is the production of which the man is capable that really counts."

At the regular meeting of the Ottawa Allied Trades and Labor Association the matter was also discussed and many delegates took part in the discussion. President J. A. P. Haydon said:

"The Optional Plan of Employment is designed to take the democracy out of industry and put autocracy back in again. The Optional Plan of Employment is simply the open, or non-union shop. This means that there will be no trade unions and no collective bargaining in the building industry here. Democracy has been placed upon a false footing in the Ottawa building industry and because of that the 'open-shoppers' are endeavoring to destroy that democracy and with it the trade unions. There is more behind the movement than appears on the surface."

Business Agent M. Kavanagh, of the District Council of Carpenters, told of the harmony existing in Ottawa due to the democracy that prevailed in the building industry. He said:

"There has been no strike in Ottawa in two years after the agreement has been signed, a record unequalled by any city in America. The supply men and not the contractors are to blame for all the trouble. The contractors in Ottawa are 'white men.'"

Business Agent W. P. Jennings, of the Ottawa Street Railway Employees, said:

"Americanism as exemplified across the line, means an open shop, and it seems strange that Kennedy was imported here at this time to try to inject Americanism in the workers of Ottawa, a city that has done so well under a system of collective bargaining."

Mr. Wm. MacDowell, of the Bookbinders' Union,

POLITICS AND PEOPLE THROUGH THE TELESCOPE OF LABOR

House of Commons, Ottawa, Feb. 19, 1921. The first week of the 75th session of the thirteenth Parliament of Canada was marked by many outstanding features. The speech from the throne, not unlike its predecessors, is vague indeed, and while it states that the Government has under advisement unemployment insurance and democratic measures will be actually brought before the House in a tangible form. Both of these measures have been sought by the organized Labor Movement of this country for a good many years. On Tuesday the leader of the Opposition, or rather the leader of the Liberal party, Hon. W. Mackenzie King, introduced an amendment to the speech from the throne which is, in effect, a lack of confidence in the Government. Whether the Liberals are anxious for an election at this time it is hard to determine, but all of the addresses under the Liberal banner, with the exception of Mr. L. J. Gauthier, St. Hyacinthe-Rouville, would indicate that this was the case. However, the amendment of Mr. King does not make this point clear. The debate on the speech from the throne allows the members to speak on everything under the sun and much valuable information is given the people of Canada. The League of Nations occupied almost two afternoons and points more clearly than anything else the important part Canada is playing in international affairs. Labor is most vitally interested in the League of Nations and the International Labor Organization which forms a part of it. Sir George Foster was the first speaker on the League of Nations, and he was very enthusiastic about the future of that

organization. Hon. N. W. Rowell, K.C., on Friday had much to say about the great international body. He made it clear that the League of Nations was not organized for the purpose of making peace, but that its function was to conserve the peace of the world. Its primary object was to prevent wars by substituting some thing else to settle international disputes. One of the greatest features of the League of Nations was that it abolished almost entirely secret treaties. Its business was done in the open and, while the public were not admitted to its councils, each delegate was responsible to the country he represented and had to report the league's affairs to responsible government. Another important declaration of the League of Nations was that the delegates, in casting their vote, did so in the name of the government they represented and was binding on the government in whose name the vote was cast. "It was of first importance to Europe and humanity itself, that Europe get back to peace and real cooperation," said Hon. Mr. Rowell. "The Russian situation must be cleared up in some way. It can only be cleared up by the Russian people themselves. Mr. Rowell expressed the hope that the recent trade agreement entered into by the Russian Government and the Russian Soviet Government will be restored. He made it quite clear that Russia and Russia alone, can clear up the Russian situation. The question of international control of raw materials was one in which Canada was most vitally interested. It is, perhaps, worthy of note that Vice-president H. J. Halford, of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, before the International Federation of

was also quite outspoken on the question and concluded his address as follows:

"Give no credence to hired speakers, who endeavor to throw dust in the eyes of the worker, and who seek to make the employe the chattel slave he used to be."

Monday's Journal has something to say on the question and, strange to say, it endorses the sentiments of Labor, as the following extracts would seem to indicate:

"Some unwarranted allegations against labor unionism were made by the president of the Building Employers' Association of Detroit, whose opinion seems to be that engaging organized employes to engage in battle against labor organizations."

"Some of the strongest of the labor unions are the most loyal to their promises and undertakings with employers. Neither has selfishness increased as unionism has grown in power; organized labor is, in fact, more concerned with general betterment of the whole. Instead of being the weakest link in the 'social chain' it has shown itself in a number of instances to be a strong force for good. It would seem to be Mr. Kennedy's mission to align employers in a war against unionism. It is not a worthy mission. It is not likely to succeed."

Having taken all of these facts into consideration we are convinced that in Ottawa, at least, there will be no quarrel between the International trades unions of the building industry and the Association of Building and Construction Industries. The Ottawa Building Trades Council is just as anxious to continue harmonious relationship with the organized employes as at any time in the history of the building industry in Ottawa. If there is any break in this relationship the onus must rest with the organized employers.

THE PRINTERS' 44-HOUR WEEK.

FROM press despatches it would appear that the employing printers of Ontario and Quebec intend to violate their solemn pledge and oppose the introduction of the 44-hour week in the printing industry. At Montreal on Saturday, according to the press despatches, the most important and influential body of Canadian employing printers that has ever been called together, decided to absolutely oppose any reduction in the present work week of printers. The meeting also decided in this connection that a contingency fund be created in every local printing centre equal to three months' pay roll and overhead for each plant and that a committee be created in each centre to collect and handle the fund.

The existing agreements in many of the printing establishments in Ontario and Quebec expire in June of this year. By an agreement, signed by the International Joint Conference Council, the 44-hour week is to be put into effect on May 1, 1921, in all printing establishments in the United States and Canada. The International Joint Conference Council is composed of the following: Employers—Closed Shop Branch United Typothetae of America, Printers' League of America, International Association of Employing Electrotypers; Employes: International Typographical Union, International Printing Pressmen and Assistants' Union, International Brotherhood of Bookbinders, International Stereotypers' and Electrotypers' Union. Canadian printers are members of the United Typothetae and many of them are members of other employers' organizations represented on the Conference Council.

At the last meeting of the Joint Conference Council, held in December, 1920, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

"That this Joint Conference Council considers that all members of its constituent bodies are morally bound to adopt and put into effect the forty-four hour week on May 1, 1921."

In view of these circumstances does it not seem in all justice and fairness the forty-four hour week should be inaugurated in Ontario and Quebec at that time?

The International Typographical Union at all times believes in conciliation and arbitration, but on the question of hours of labor the time for such action is past as the employers and the employes have settled this matter. There is nothing else to do but carry out the agreement so loyally entered into by both parties. However, if there should be a struggle the International Typographical Union is in a much better position than it was at the time the forty-eight hour week was inaugurated.

EFFICIENCY OF LABOR.

ONE has heard a lot about the inefficiency of Labor from the press and other sources but these statements are not borne out by facts. The Labor Department recently conducted an investigation, and out of four thousand questionnaires to employers 63 per cent. reported that their workers were normally efficient. This percentage will compare favorably with the efficiency of any organization. Many of the larger trade unions conduct schools for the benefit of their membership. The International Typographical Union have enrolled seventeen hundred journeymen and apprentices in the I.T.U. Lessons in Printing.

Officials of the Second Construction Company who are building the addition to the King Edward Hotel at Toronto recently declared that while it was difficult to actually compare present efficiency with 1914, they do know that they are getting favorable results from their men.

And still the anti-unionists and "open-shoppers" say that trade unions discourage ambition and proficiency among their members.

LOW WAGES BAD ADVERTISING.

THAT low wage standards are detrimental to Canada is one of the startling declarations of the Montreal Gazette, a newspaper that, day in and day out for the past decade, has discredited Labor in its every movement. The Montreal Gazette's machinery must have slipped a cog, for in its issue of Friday last it says: "Canada is getting a poor advertisement from such repeated declarations that the people living therein cannot make enough to provide for themselves and their families." But isn't it quite true that many workers in this great Canada have been denied the right to earn enough to provide for themselves and their families by the closing down of industries? From October 15 to the end of December 2,000 workmen, according to the Minister of Labor, went home each night and had no work to go to in the morning. The Minister of Labor states that this condition of affairs is still in evidence. Unfortunately we have in Canada thousands of workmen who are quite anxious to work but there is no work to be had, and yet the Gazette says: "Canada is getting poor advertising from such actions on the part of many employers in this country."

WHITLEYISM IN BRITAIN

An English correspondent in a recent article in The Civilian made mention of the progress which has been made in the establishment and development of Whitley Councils in the British Civil Service, and referred particularly to the Admiralty Council as the most prominent of the bodies forming together the National Council. In this article it is proposed to set forth as briefly as may be the constitution of the Admiralty Administrative Whitley Council which has been the model for most of the other similar bodies in the Civil Service of the United Kingdom.

The objects of the Council are defined as under: To secure, by means of regular discussion between official representatives of the Admiralty and representatives of Staff Associations or groups of Staff Associations having members employed on the administrative and clerical staffs of the Admiralty Establishments the greatest measure of co-operation in all matters affecting the efficiency of the Admiralty Service and the well-being of those employed therein; to provide machinery for dealing with grievances and generally to bring together the experience and different points of view of the various members of the administrative and clerical staffs of Admiralty Establishments.

Among the more specific functions of the Council are mentioned: (a) Provision of the best means for utilizing the ideas, ability and experience of the Staff. (b) Means for securing to the staff a greater share in and responsibility for the determination and observance of the conditions under which their duties are carried out. (c) Determination of the general principles governing conditions of

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DAVID REBEL
FINDS HIS CURE
SINCE LEFT RUSSIA

Left Toronto Preaching Bolshevism—Now He Sees Error—Wife Left in Rags.

John Yaska, a native of Estonia, the part of the Russian Empire, but who emigrated a number of years ago and worked in Toronto as a gardener, became impregnated with revolutionary doctrines, and during the winter 1917-1918 did active propaganda work in Toronto on behalf of Bolshevism. He was deported to Russia, where he held three months in prison, and took part in the revolution. Unable to gain entry from Europe, he finally went to the United States, where he held three months in prison, and this letter, addressed to his children in Toronto, gives an account of his experience. During the five months in Russia, when he made the acquaintance of Bolshevism first-hand, and finally, by proclaiming his Estonian citizenship, escaped across the border to Ravel. His wife, he left in rags near Petrograd, where she was a Communist, in charge of Government railway coal stores. His letter, dated Ravel, Esthonia, Nov. 18, 1920, is as follows:

Letter to Friends.
Dear Children, I am notifying you that at last I have got to a place where I plan to remain a longer time. I reached Vladivostok Nov. 29, 1920, and lived there one year and seven months. On June 18, 1920, I left Vladivostok by the train of the International Red Cross, and after five months reached Ravel. To remain in Russia is impossible; even righteous and honest Communists must hide in the furthest corners. The Commissars (i.e., all officials, high or low, of the Bolshevist Government) are living and enjoying themselves, but not the "bourgeoisie," and you are robbed; but when a Commissar has a fur coat which formerly cost a thousand rubles, but now is worth three million rubles—he is allowed to do so—he is a privileged person. The Government is composed almost entirely of Jewish, Polish and Estonian and Latvian bourgeois.

Peasants hide their grain under ground and from time to time exchange it secretly for salt, tea, needles, thread, and other goods, but in the barns he dare not keep it. He is supposed to receive the ration of a city laborer, but the results are under registration and the peasant is supposed to deliver all but his ration to the Government. The Government has fixed the price of the fixed price of 27 rubles for a pud (40 pounds) of grain and also milk, and for his chicken and meat 100 rubles a pud. Yet the Commissars where there is free trading, one pound of meat cost 1200 rubles, a pound of cow butter, 3,000 to 4,000 rubles, but now it is worth 1,700 rubles, according to quality, a pair of boots 100,000 to 120,000, and my rubber boots at Verkhendinsk cost 27,000 rubles and bought a pud of rye flour for 13,000 rubles; in Irkutsk a pound of bread cost 400 rubles.

Impossible to Be Honest.
So it is impossible to live honestly. Everybody is stealing, no matter whether he is a Commissar or not. The laborer receives only 1,500 to 2,000 rubles a month, and 20 to 30 pounds of rye flour a month. To eat or to live in this manner is only in name, for at Verkhendinsk they gave the laborers one pound of flour each at Easter and three pounds in August, and a pound of meat in October. The Commissars eat as though they had three stomachs, while soldiers and laborers, especially the laborers, starve.

Now, I will describe why peasants are hiding their grain. For instance, if he has a cow, he will get for this, say, ten pounds of meat at 100 rubles a pud, or 1,000 rubles from the Government; the Government cannot give him goods in exchange, because it has nothing except Soviet rags and money, which is called. The peasant needs salt. On the market he must pay 1,500 to 1,700 rubles for a pud of salt, and so his cow will give him only one pound of salt. That is why the peasant hides his products. In Transbaikalia, peasants hide their cattle in the woods, but requisitions are in full swing.

I appealed for permission to proceed further, and because I was not registered in the Labor Bureau at 3 o'clock in the morning of September 18, I was arrested in bed. After ten hours they allowed me to go and be registered, but I found that here there was no liberty for the laborer; you were, as you might say, chained to your job. An overseer of the Military Electrical District gave me a certificate appointing me to work gathering the wood supply for them, but I did not work there even a minute. I visited markets and sold old boots and shoes in peasants in exchange for flour.

Pass to Petrograd.
In September the garrison commandant received a telegram from Moscow to pass ten laborers, including myself. We left Verkhendinsk on October 16 and arrived at Petrograd on October 27. Wooden partitions have been pulled up and used for fuel; water closets are never cleaned; the banks of the Fontanka, Moyka and Katherina canals are covered with rubbish of wood, where women with hand sleighs stay in line waiting their turn.

I visited Toronto for a day and a half and found my wife and two in rags; Lidochka is through the Gymkhana and now is at Novgorod studying in the Higher Courses. I have not seen her. My wife is sitting on the Nicholas Railway at the Malaya Vozerskaya Station; she is a commissar-heretrix of the Bureau of Light, which is coal oil; she steals two pounds of coal oil and trades it for potatoes and flour. Fedka and Finka are living poorly; Fedka, who was from mama at Toronto ten pounds of potatoes and some flour. At Moscow rye flour cost 15,000, and at Verkhendinsk 11,000 rubles, but laborers' wages run from four to seven thousand rubles a month. A bottle of milk costs five or six hundred rubles.

Ask friend Volchok to read this letter and not believe I have become an ardent monarchist.
I want to stay at Ravel, where we could live better. But owing to my long travels I have used up all my money. With three to five hundred dollars it is possible to live here better than in Toronto and start a little business. I hope mama, Fedka and Lidka will make a choice of Estonian citizenship and come here after Christmas for ever. Ask Lidka to send me fifty or seventy-five dollars—no less or more.

Y. YASKA.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.
NEEDS GOODWILL
OF BOTH EMPLOYEE
AND EMPLOYER

Present Situation Offers Unique Opportunity to Anticipate Problems, Says Geo. MacLwain.

The man who starts out to crush labor will have to pay for it some day," declared Mr. George MacLwain, director of Services for Babson's Statistical Organization, Wellesley Hills, Mass., during his impressive and instructive speech before the Kiwanis Club of Ottawa recently. Mr. MacLwain spoke on the subject of "Fundamentals of the Labor Situation," and his opinions were heard with a great deal of interest.

Now is the time to do the things that were out of the question during the past five years," said Mr. MacLwain, who pointed out that 14,000 strikes had occurred in the United States during the years of 1917, 1918, 1919 and the first half of 1920. "Last fall we entered a new regime and control of the situation passed from labor to employer within the next two years or before. The fact that we are in a reactionary period does not change fundamental principles, however.

Interest in industrial housing schemes has suddenly waned in the United States, and this is a sign that employment managers are now looking for jobs themselves. The man is making tremendous mistakes when he thinks that an employer can take up the line of business easily where he left off before the war."

Mr. MacLwain referred to the concentration of effort that was apparent during wartime. Activities of the labor unions were practically offset by the departure of many persons from the United States, so that labor is already about 10 per cent short in the United States.

"When business becomes normal again there was bound to be another labor shortage," he said. "Grievances would still have to be met, and in his opinion, the organized labor plan is necessary because the time was past when an employer could negotiate with each worker individually. With regard to the distribution of wealth, the general tax status of the United States showed that less than 10 per cent of the population was subject to the tax. Previous figures showed that two per cent of the people of the United States possessed 60 per cent of the wealth. The unequal distribution of wealth was the cause of the labor shortage."

It was commonly believed that the working class was not rolling in newly-acquired wealth, because of numerous wage increases, but in 1919 in Massachusetts, 65 per cent of the workers in the woolen and textile trades were receiving less than \$15 a week after wages had been increased 140 per cent.

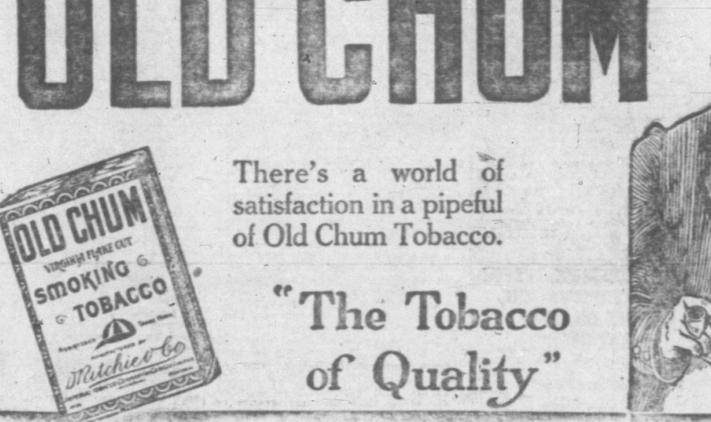
"Everything that we have done has been forced upon us," continued the speaker. "We do not want to raise the price of labor, but we have no choice. Labor leaders had found that they did not get the workers anywhere, and it was the only way to get the status of the workers raised. Labor says that the employer cannot provide anything more, then we want to have something to say about management. Look back 15 years and see what you have now. You did not have then. There will be further expansion and this will have to be paid for out of industry and profits. The scale of life will be correspondingly important in the future."

Jingoism in U.S.
In the United States, there was considerable jingoism. The labor leaders talked a great deal of liberty, personal rights, the flag and the nation but it was undoubtedly true that the Canadians enjoyed more freedom than the people across the border. In the States, the labor was being clapped on various features of the labor situation.

"I do not blame the employer who seeks revenge for all this," he said. "The employer who does not say 'I do not get the workers anywhere, and it was the only way to get the status of the workers raised. Labor says that the employer cannot provide anything more, then we want to have something to say about management. Look back 15 years and see what you have now. You did not have then. There will be further expansion and this will have to be paid for out of industry and profits. The scale of life will be correspondingly important in the future.'"

In conclusion, the speaker declared that the good-will of those who worked for you was as essential as the good-will of business. The chance of a lifetime was now presented in anticipating problems and what was needed was a constructive policy with co-operation of the laborer. The committee of labor questions, whether proposed or what was needed was a constructive policy with co-operation of the laborer.

EVERYBODY SMOKES
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will thank goodness that he has no family of five, or indeed anybody but himself to support. The "fatherhood" which the editorial denounces as an "absurd" basis for the livelihood and wages of the family, such as Prof. W. F. Ogburn, of the annual income necessary to provide, not a minimum of comfort, but a minimum of subsistence for a family of five. In the opinion of the writer of the editorial, it was so excessively high as to be "absurd." His statement was that "this country can be run best on a basis of pure, unadorned, unadorned domestic production of 23 a month." Must have been dictated by his wife.

It seems clear, therefore, that those capitalists who share the views of the Wall Street Journal have substantially the same intellectual attitude toward the wage-earners as that held by the employer class in Great Britain during the awful time which historians now designate as the period of "English Wage Slavery." Wages are determined by and normally should not exceed the level of physical subsistence.

An Example of Brutality.
Do the capitalists of whom the editor of the Wall Street Journal is so fond, take the same religious attitude as their predecessors in England at the beginning of the 13th century? Do they, too, think that it is well with the working classes, inasmuch as poverty is no bar to the practice of virtue, and inasmuch as the poor will be equal to the rich in heaven? We do not know, but we have good reason to believe that many of them have no very definite belief that there exists a heaven; consequently they do not contemplate even that measure of compensation for the worker classes who are exploited in this life.

The moral attitude of the Wall Street Journal man is no improvement on that of the English employers of the "Wage Slavery" period. It is one of callousness and naked brutality. To contemplate with approval, as this editorial does, an industrial condition in which millions of adult men and women would be deprived of the opportunity of leading normal lives as heads of families, indicates a condition of conscience which no words can adequately stigmatize. The masses of unskilled workers are looked upon as mere instruments of production, devoid of normal human needs, feelings, aspirations, and rights.

Let us hope that this unappealing declaration does not represent the views or attitude of more than an insignificant fraction of the class of which the Wall Street Journal is assumed to be the mouthpiece. And yet I have not seen any protest from any respectable source against this editorial. The Socialist daily, the New York Call, made it the subject of an editorial, as well it might, for it is splendid ammunition for those who believe in a reversible conflict between the two great industrial classes.

We Catholics know that Christian principles are adequate to solve the great industrial problems. But we also know that they will not achieve that result unless they are taken seriously and applied in everyday thought and conduct. What we do not know or see is how men like the editor of the Wall Street Journal, and those who think as he does, shall be Christianized.

Poor thinking means poor doing.
The employers had made in the past, and are making now, a profound mistake, by always conceding to force what they ought to concede to reason.—J. H. Thomas.
"Probably no nation has ever done so far as England in its neglect and contempt for the intellect,"—J. Talbot.

CHURCH MEN'S VIEW ON ALLEGED "OPEN" SHOP CAMPAIGN IN THE U. S.

Federal Council of Churches, Social Service Commission.
We feel impelled to call attention to the fact that widespread impression exists that the present "open shop" campaign is inspired in many quarters by antagonism to organized labor. Any such attempt must be viewed with apprehension, by fair-minded people. It seems incumbent upon Christian employers to scrutinize carefully any movement, however plausible, which is likely to result in denying to workers such affiliation as well in their judgment, best safeguard their interests, and promote their welfare, and not to precipitate disastrous industrial conflicts at a time when the country needs good will and cooperation.

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SEEKING ASSISTANCE FOR THE FIT SOLDIER

G. W. V. A. Will Make Representations to House Committee.

Complete re-establishment of the fit as well as the unfit will be urged on the Parliamentary Committee dealing with soldiers' civil re-employment, by the Great War Veterans' Association of Canada. This was decided last week by the Dominion executive of the Association, which met in special session to consider the programme to be placed before the committee at the coming session.

This programme includes an appeal for a federal housing grant for returned men; industrial credits; re-education; increase and longer term pensions for tuberculous patients; a dollar per cent. pension policy; amendments to the insurance act; assistance to the workman's compensation act, and unemployment insurance. The Dominion Command reaffirms its previous stand for measured compensation and will take full advantage of the offer made by Premier Meighen, when on his western tour, to plead again the claims of the returned men before the parliamentary committee.

One of the special pleas to be made before the Parliamentary Committee will be that of the dollar per cent. policy of leasing pensions. Under this system a man with a 25 per cent. disability would receive \$25 per month. A plea will also be made to secure the full bonus and pension for pensioners living in the United States and the United Kingdom and that country. The Dominion command will ask that the present pension, which includes a 50 per cent. high cost of living bonus, be made permanent. This, if granted, would obviate the granting of the bonus from year to year.

In their resolution calling for the re-establishment of the fit as well as the unfit, the Dominion command says: "The Dominion executive is strongly of the opinion that many returned soldiers are not yet adequately re-established, and respectfully urge upon the Government to once again consider the importance of this matter and that country. The Dominion command will ask that the present pension, which includes a 50 per cent. high cost of living bonus, be made permanent. This, if granted, would obviate the granting of the bonus from year to year."

COMPENSATION ACT AMENDMENTS SOUGHT

Manitoba Railway Workers Demand Many Reforms.

When the Manitoba Provincial Executive of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada told the workers' legislative programme before the Manitoba Government recently, they were accompanied by representatives of the unaffiliated international railway organization. These representatives requested the following legislation in addition to that requested by representatives of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada:

1. Proposed amendments to the Workmen's Compensation Act.
 - (a) Compensation to widow of deceased workman to be increased to \$45 a month during widowhood.
 - (b) Compensation to each dependent child of deceased workman (without limit as to number of children) to be increased to \$12 per month, except where there is no widow, when payments shall be \$17 per month.
 - (c) An allowance of \$150 for funeral expenses of deceased workman.
 - (d) Provision to be made that scale of compensation under the amended act shall apply to all payments made under the act, on claims arising from accidents occurring prior to the date of the passing of said amendments, as well as to accidents occurring since that date.
2. Proposed amendments to the Mothers' Allowance Act.
 - (a) Mothers with one child.
 - (b) Mothers whose husbands are totally incapacitated and unable to work.
 - (c) Mothers whose husbands are confined to institutions.

Unemployed

The broad wings of morning are bright upon the hill,
The city is a misty blot far away and still;
The west wind blows gently from the fields to the sea
—In all this fair country there is no room for me!

Noon falls like silver of the dale so green and wide,
In his garden lies the cripple who marched at my side.
We were shoulder-comrades in the fight across the sea;
But the people that I fought for have no use for me!

Home-coming, scatheless, my foolish heart was high;
But the mutilated cripple he better luck than I.
We were shoulder-comrades in the fight across the sea;
But the people that I fought for have no use for me!

Down in the city there is turmoil, fog and noise,
Clanking iron, rolling wheels, wealth and shining toys;
Workless men, disheartened, tramping in the mud,
And angry men shouting for red revolt and blood;

Crying, "Rise up in your millions, and rule your own land!"
But I have seen a score of men, with weapons in their hand,
Turn a thousand weapons, and shoot them as they run;
—And when I left the army I gave up my gun.

Hillward and northward the long white highway leads,
With towns strong along its like dark, disastrous beads,
Round the lake and back again, finding everywhere
Rage and confusion in the clouded city air.

Simple men who only ask their human fate to give
Home and work untroubled, and a little time to live,
Like a herd of worried beasts, are driven to and fro,
Till some drop starving on the stones below.

I had four years of fighting where all the dead men lie;
There was hell in the trenches and madness in the sky;
—I would face that Devil's Field again, if victory could give
Home and work untroubled, and a little time to live!

—ROSALIND TRAVERS HYNDMAN.

INFANTS LIVE LONGER IF DAD'S WAGE IS HIGH

Twenty Babies Out of Every Hundred Died First Year.

The United States children's bureau again declares that a baby's living chances are increased in proportion to the wages received by the father. This statement is made in the bureau's report on infant mortality in New Bedford, Mass. It is stated that unskilled and semi-skilled occupations predominate in the cotton industry of that city, and at the time the survey was made, wages were low. A low income was accompanied, as in other industrial cities studied by the bureau, by poor home sanitation, lack of adequate medical care, and a mother who was over-worked, tired, and in the factory or at home.

Over half of the New Bedford babies lived in the river section, where the worst living conditions in the city were to be found. There, families of from 15 to 18, including mothers were in many cases crowded together in five room tenements. Practically all the mothers working in New Bedford cotton mills were in families where the father earned less than the amount necessary to maintain a decent standard of living. Almost half of the mothers were gainfully employed, chiefly in the cotton mills, during the year before the baby was born, and two-fifths during the year following the baby's birth. Most of these mothers worked during both periods.

The harmful results of depriving a young baby of its mother's care and nursing is shown in the fact that among the babies whose mothers left them to go out to work when the baby was less than four months old, the mortality was nearly twice the average rate. The low income group showed a high mortality rate, while the group having incomes sufficient to insure proper care and surroundings for the mothers and babies had a low mortality rate. In the low wage group 29 babies out of every hundred born alive died before the end of the first year. In the highest wage group only 6 out of every hundred babies died.

What a difference there would be, and what a mighty force combined there would result, if the whole company of teachers, clergy, journalists, authors and artists became self-conscious of their power and responsibility as humanist teachers?—Dr. Foster Watson.

First Small Boy: "Caught anything?"
Second ditto: "Garn, I ain't fishin', I'm yachtin'."—"See Pic."

There is no reason but public apathy why casual labor should be permitted to exist at all.—New Statesman.

PURPOSE OF ANTI-UNIONISTS IS EXPOSED BY CHURCH MEN

The National Association of Manufacturers will not favor collective bargaining, even if confined to the individual shop.

The National Catholic Welfare Council, Department of Social Service, makes the above declaration in a statement defending its opposition to the anti-union shop.

It is stated that practically every clergyman of that denomination in the United States has received a criticism of this position which is similar to the position taken by the Federal Council of Churches (Protestant).

The defence of the anti-union shop now being circulated, is an attempt to discredit the opposition of the religious bodies to the system of individual bargaining.

In its reply the National Catholic Welfare Council refers to the national grants (which favor the anti-union shop) as "that small beg of rural aristocracy" and the council declares that the United States Chamber of Commerce represents the sense of a community.

"Notwithstanding its sprinkling of professional men," it is stated, "the average Chamber of Commerce represents the viewpoint of the employing class exclusively, whenever it makes a pronouncement concerning the relations between Capital and Labor."

"In general, few if any of the organizations that have declared in favor of the 'open shop' avow their attitude towards collective bargaining. This is the vital issue. Unless the members of a union are permitted to deal with the employer as a body, their union membership is futile."

"An 'open shop' which allows the employer to belong to a union, but

JEWELRY WORKERS TO RETAIN 44-HR. WEEK

Organized Bossdom to Set Wheels of Reaction in Motion.

The International Jewelry Workers' Union is resisting the effort of employers to replace the 44-hour week with the 48-hour week and re-establish other pre-war conditions. General Secretary-Treasurer Greenstein of this international says:

"The excuse that there is a demand on the part of the consumer for lower prices is fairly well contradicted by the declaration from leading manufacturers in principal lines of our industry (Jewellers' Circular, Oct., 1920), stating positively that 'there is no tendency to reduce prices' and that the retail jeweler and his customers must expect to pay as much or more in the future for watches, silverware, jewelry, etc., than has been charged in the past."

"Consequently, by this time no one can be deceived as to the true motives of their action, no matter in what language they may cloak their intentions. Through the thick cloak of camouflage, such as 'individual freedom,' 'co-operation,' we see organized bossdom using the present as an opportune moment to set the wheel of reaction in motion. 'Our organization is not the only one marked for this vicious assault, though we were given first and exceptional attention by united autocracy.'"

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