

NO NECESSITY FOR WAGE REDUCTIONS

Wasteful System of Distribution One Cause of High Prices.

A report presented by the executive committee of the Ottawa Allied Trades and Labor Association last Friday night, in which a warning was conveyed that employers throughout the country were embarking on a campaign having as its end the reduction of wages and extension of hours of toil, as producers of some war-time plain speaking by Tom Moore, president of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada. He declared that the workers were standing for a reduction of the standard of wages, raised upon the false cry that prices in general were falling.

PETTY LABOR MEMBER MAKES SERIOUS CHARGES.

Grave charges of the importation of foreign laborers under contract to lower Canadian wages were made to the tariff commission last week by Thomas Tooms, M.L.A. of Peterborough, who declared labor to be in favor of a 10 per cent tariff.

DRURY RUNNING HYDRO COMMISSION.

Premier Drury is running the Hydro Commission. Dr. Stevenson, M.L.A. of London, Ont. He declares Sir Adam Beck was called to the carpet and shorn of authority. He will be retired before long, says Dr. Stevenson.

WILL URGE AMNESTY POLITICAL PRISONERS

Local Union Requested to Stop Sending Communications.

The American Federation of Labor announces that its amnesty committee will be represented at hearings before the Senate Judiciary Committee to urge amnesty for political prisoners, and that local unions throughout the country will be requested to send communications to the committee.

LABOR VIEWS WITH GRAVE ALARM FREE TRADE CAMPAIGN OF FARMERS

Russell County Farmers Hear Labor's Policy on the Tariff, Proportional Representation and Co-operation.

The trade union movement of this country views with grave alarm the free trade campaign being carried on in some parts of Canada by Farmers' organizations, said J. A. P. Haydon, editor of the Canadian Labor Press, in addressing the annual meeting of the Russell Branch of the United Farmers of Ontario on Monday last.

SECOND BALLOT FOR PRESIDENT OF U. M. DISTRICT 26.

Elections for officers of the United Mine Workers, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick division, took place on Monday. Robert Baxter secured a majority of votes for president, but insufficient under the constitution of the union to elect. He must get 51 per cent of the votes polled. Another ballot will be taken. Selby Barrett was re-elected international board member.

SCHOOL TEACHERS RECEIVE BENEFITS

Labor Affiliation Has Helped American Teachers.

Writing in the American Federationist this month Mr. F. T. Stecker, of the American Federation of Teachers, says: "Improvement in wages and working conditions of teachers is far beyond any estimate that can be made. Not only has the membership been generally successful in bringing about their desired objects but an infinitely large number of teachers not members have been directly benefited through the desire of boards of education to forestall organization. In this way the American schools are already deeply indebted to the American Federation of Teachers."

UNEMPLOYMENT AMONG VETERANS

Premier Interviewed in Regard to Critical Situation.

Representing that unemployment among veterans all over Canada, was extremely serious, and requesting that the Government take action to relieve the hardship caused by the lack of work, J. Fred Marsh, secretary of the Great Army of United Veterans, and Herbert Capewell, member of the advisory board of the same organization, were interviewed by Prime Minister and members of the Cabinet last week. Messrs. Marsh and Capewell were introduced to the members of the Government by C. G. MacNeill, secretary of the Great War Veterans Association, and Capt. W. P. Grant, past president of the same organization.

NO DISTRIBUTION BEFORE 1922.

The census which will be enumerated at the beginning of June next will not be tabulated even as respects population alone before October. While the enumeration is a matter of days in cities, it takes weeks and even longer in the scattered districts. The earliest date, it is estimated, at which the initial count can be made is the first of October.

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CONGRESS STAND ON HANNA ORDER

Official Statement Issued by Executive Council.

An official statement outlining the workers' position in regard to the "non-partisan political order" of President Hanna of the C. N. R. has been issued by the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada. The workers' attitude is summed up as follows: (1) The employees of the Canadian National Railways are not civil servants. This is borne out by the Government's statement that the Canadian National Railways are managed by an independent corporation, and therefore in the same position as any other employer.

LABOR NO LONGER A COMMODITY?

Herr Scholz, Minister of Economic Affairs, speaking in the Reichstag last week is declared by the Vossische Zeitung, to have expressed himself in favor of introducing a "basic" of population in order to restore Germany's economic and cultural life. The minister in his speech, which dealt with Germany's economic situation, spoke especially on the necessity for promoting production.

HOUSING AND HEALTH ARE PRIME CONSIDERATIONS IN RECONSTRUCTION

John W. Bruce Says Physical Degeneration Caused Chiefly Through Absence of Adequate Housing.

"Reconstruction was one of the great promises made during the war and immediately subsequent to its cessation," said Mr. John W. Bruce, general organizer for the Plumbers' and Steamfitters' International Union, in addressing the Labor Forum at London, Ont. recently. "And this promise of reconstruction was made with special reference to the great working classes of the world, who bore the chief burden of the struggle against autocracy, and for the establishment of true democracy. Moreover, the working classes were promised a leading part in this great work of reconstruction."

LABOR MAYORS IN GREAT BRITAIN FOR 1921.

Most of the Labor Mayors on municipal and borough councils in Great Britain were re-elected on November 1. On the London borough councils the Labor Mayors are as follows: Bethnal Green, Cr. J. J. Vaughan; Camberwell, Cr. J. G. Spad; Deptford, Ald. W. H. Green; Fulham, Ald. R. M. Gentry; Greenwich, Ald. R. J. Lewis; Hackney, Ald. H. King; Lambeth, Cr. W. S. Bishop; Poplar, Cr. Sam Marsh; St. Pancras, Ald. H. J. Brown; J.P. Shoreditch, Cr. W. H. Gilring; Southwark, Cr. G. A. Isaacs.

LABOR AND THE TARIFF WOULD RESTRICT INFUX OF LABOR

Every Immigrant Must Possess At Least \$250.

Action by the Canadian Government to restrict immigration of certain classes in order to alleviate the condition of unemployment now prevailing in various parts of the Dominion was taken by the passage of an order-in-council raising the money test of immigrants of the mechanic, artisan and laborer classes from \$50 to \$250. The new order-in-council provides for the suspension of paragraphs one of three of the former order applicable to these classes of immigration and the substitution of four other paragraphs. The first provides that no immigrant of the mechanic, artisan or laborer classes, whether skilled or unskilled, shall be allowed to land in Canada unless he possesses in his own right money to the amount of \$250, and, in addition, transportation to his destination in Canada.

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CO-OPERATIVE HAT FACTORY

Members of the United Cloth Hat and Cap Makers' Union are contributing funds to finance the establishment of a co-operative factory of their own.

TRANSPORT WORKERS UNITE IN GT. BRITAIN

Nineteen Different Branches Amalgamate Under One Executive.

The scheme to amalgamate nineteen trades unions connected with British transport work into one big organization governed by a national executive council, has now taken shape and was discussed by delegates in conference at London last week. The classes of transport workers, except seamen and railwaymen, are incorporated, and the membership of the new unit will exceed a million. This fusion is considered the most important administrative achievement in British trades unionism for many years, and will enormously strengthen the industrial triple alliance.

AUSTRALIAN RAILROAD WORKERS UNITE.

Transportation employees throughout the Australian Commonwealth will be controlled by the new Australian Railway Union, the constitution of which was agreed upon in 1915, and has been endorsed by the State Railway Union. The establishment of the union was hastened by the decision of the High Court, which permitted state railway servants to have access to the Federal Arbitration Court. If the anomalies existing in the conditions of railwaymen in the various states are not speedily rectified, the Australian Railway Union will probably file a case in the Federal Arbitration Court.

AMERICAN FEDERATION LABOR DEMANDS SWEEPING INVESTIGATION LIVING COSTS

Prohibition of European and Asiatic Immigration for Two Years—Education—Increased Pay for Women Workers—Prohibition of Child Labor.

A sweeping investigation of living costs throughout the entire United States and of the profits of big corporations dealing in food, fuel, clothing and other necessities will be demanded of Congress early in the December session, President Samuel Gompers of the American Federation of Labor said this week. Labor is ready to lay before Congress a complete program of anti-profitting proposals, Gompers said. In addition demands will be made for the passage of nearly a score of measures intended to increase the well being of the great mass of people. As outlined by Gompers the anti-profitting programme includes: 1—Immediate passage of laws regulating the meat packing and cold storage industries. 2—Revision of the tax laws to take from corporations the "excessive profits" made during the war period, 1914-1919. 3—Government assistance and encouragement to co-operative societies organized to get supplies direct from the farmer and manufacturer to the consumer. 4—Publication monthly by the Labor Department of the cost of producing and manufacturing staple commodities which form the basis of living costs. 5—Establishment by the Government of permanent boards to investigate production costs and prices, to which boards the Federal and State tax returns should be turned. Repeal of the Esch-Commins transportation law and prohibition of all European and Asiatic immigration for a period of at least

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President I. F. T. U.



J. H. THOMAS, M.P., General Secretary of the National Union of Railways Workers of Great Britain, who has been elected President of the International Federation of Trade Unions.

ASK ONTARIO GOVERNMENT TO RELIEVE UNEMPLOYMENT SITUATION.

A delegation consisting of Mayor M. M. McBride, M.L.A., Hamilton; Geo. G. Halpern, M.L.A., Hamilton; Sergeant-Major McNamara, M.L.A., Riverdale; E. H. Greenlaw, M.L.A., St. Catharines; and Joseph Marks, secretary of the Independent Labor Party, waited on Premier Drury, Hon. F. C. Biggs, Minister of Public Works, and Hon. Walter Rolfe, Minister of Labor, at the Parliament Buildings, Toronto, on Monday, and urged on the Minister the need for solving the unemployed problem. The number of men out of employment could not be stated definitely, but the delegation said there was no doubt the situation was serious, especially in the larger cities.

ONTARIO PRESSMEN SEEK UNIFORMITY.

33 CHARTERS ISSUED BY A. F. OF L. IN OCTOBER.

During the month of October the American Federation of Labor issued 33 charters, as follows: Central labor unions, 11; local trade unions, 19; federal trade unions, 4.

NEW COMPENSATION DESIRED FOR QUEBEC

Present Act Obsolete Says Gustave Franco.

A new Workmen's Compensation Act will be proposed by organized labor when the Quebec Provincial Government is interviewed by the annual delegation of labor men which goes down to Quebec from all parts of Quebec during each session. Gustave Franco, Quebec Vice-President of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, at the meeting of the Montreal Trades and Labor Council last week, in asking that the present act be amended, said that there was a great deal of work to be done before the delegation went to Quebec some time next January, and chiefly there was consideration of the Workmen's Compensation Act. It was intended, said Mr. Franco, that there should be concerted action in regard to Workmen's compensation.

TASMANIAN CAPITAL AND LABOR AGREED.

When there is so much industrial unrest in the world, it is refreshing to find a country where it is almost absent. In Tasmania harmonious relations between capital and labor continue to be maintained. The chief inspector of factories, H. Reynolds, in his annual report to Parliament, states that in administering the Factories Act and the Workmen's Compensation Act, the department has been one of adjustment, rather than the enforcement of any penalty enjoyed for breaches of the law, and this policy, in his opinion, is producing satisfactory results that might not otherwise be obtainable. During the year the inspectors paid 4,666 visits of inspection to the factories and the chief inspector records that by their tact, judgment and appreciation of the difficulties that confront the employer and employee, they contributed in no small measure to the harmony and goodwill that is so characteristic of the Tasmanian life of this state. The chief inspector also reports that it is pleasing to note a yearly increase in the number of employees who realize that good conditions of employment create a high standard of efficiency, which is reflected in increased production.

CONTINUE FIGHT FOR 44-HR. WEEK

No Decrease in Wages Will Be Tolerated.

Throughout the country many employers are endeavoring to reduce the wages and increase the hours of toil. This move is being carefully watched by the organized labor movement, and we believe it is the duty of every trade unionist to keep a close ear to the ground for moves on the part of their employer to introduce the system of decreased pay and longer hours in his trade. Wages did not advance in proportion to the cost of living, and it was not until after living costs advanced that wage increases were granted.

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BRITISH DOCKERS PRESENT PLAN FOR PROTECTION OF UNEMPLOYED

Ernest Bevin, the Dockers' "K.C.," Presents Scheme Relating to Unemployment, Underemployment and Maintenance—Puts it up to the Industry.

"The scheme is one which I believe to be a constructive proposal," said Ernest Bevin, the dockers' "K.C.," in outlining his scheme relating to unemployment, underemployment and maintenance to a recent gathering in London, Eng. "I think this scheme can do something to alleviate one of the greatest hardships that the present system has inflicted upon the workers."

There is no weekly wage. The scheme provides for the maintenance by the industry of its own unemployed, and its underemployed. This part of the scheme is known as registration. "It means that each man has his name on a card which he carries with him to show he is a docker. Men who are engaged on their jobs will have their cards stamped to show they were willing to work when there was no work. "At the end of the week, if a man had not been able to earn £4, though willing to earn it, then his money would be made up."

ITALIAN JOINT COMMISSION FOR TRADE UNION CONTROL IN INDUSTRY.

The workers' representatives on the joint commission for considering trade-union control of undertakings in Italy have seen a report on the result of their work to the Premier. This report contains a statement of the reasons for which the workers decided to bring forward their proposals separately, as it was found impossible to come to any agreement with the manufacturers in drafting a scheme. "The workers' project," says the report, "seeks first of all to obtain: (a) that control be entirely trade-union, as the trade-unions are the most suitable organs to represent the will of the working-classes; (b) that control should be applied first of all to each industry and afterwards to each branch of industry. It should keep these interested, and the community informed of the methods of manufacture, the conditions of capital and of labor, of workers' wages, of the state of national and foreign markets, and of the capacity for export of each industry or branch of industry; (c) that trade secrets should be

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CHANGES IN WAGES AND HOURS IN U. S.

The National Industrial Conference Board of the United States has published a report on "Changes in Wages During and Since the War." The report states that in the boot and shoe manufacturing industry the average hourly earnings amounted to 28.4 cents in 1914, with average hours of 54.3 per week and weekly earnings of \$15.43. In the 1920 report, the average hourly earnings is 62.4 cents, the average weekly hours 48.1, and the full time weekly earnings \$30.08. A table is given showing for male workers in the industries covered by the report the percentages of increases in hourly and full time weekly earnings and the percentages of decrease in weekly hours of work between September, 1914, and March, 1920. As in the boot and shoe industry, the percentage of increase in weekly earnings was less than the increase in average hourly earnings in the manufacturing of cotton, furniture, hosiery, knit goods, leather, metal, rubber, silk, and wool, due to the decline in the average weekly hours of work. In the printing and publishing trade alone, the percentage of increase in weekly earnings, which was 153, was higher than the percentage of increase in average hourly earnings, which amounted to 74. The report states in conclusion: "The

movement for shorter hours of work had its origin in socio-ethical ideas, and moved in its own line, quite independently of the change in rates of wages."

THE FIGHT FOR WORK.

"This scheme has been launched to give effect to the Shaw report, Lord Shaw, in that report, drawn up as a result of the dockers' inquiry, said the great fundamental problem of the industry was the problem of casual labor. "You workers are maddened when at the dock gates you fight each other for the work. It's no good to that. But when workers have to fight each other for their daily bread how can they fight together for progress?" "There must be a weekly income. It is no use to pay wages weekly, if

RATIFICATION OF DRAFT CONVENTIONS OF

Continued From Page Four.
recommendations concerning the prevention of anthrax and lead poisoning but the employers' representatives objected to the provisions of the recommendations concerning unemployment and reciprocity of treatment of foreign workers. Czech-Slovakia. Labor legislation is so advanced in Czech-Slovakia that the adoption of the majority of the Draft Conventions and recommendations will not call for any important modifications to existing legislation. The Act of the 19th December 1918 (No. 81) concerning hours of work is much in advance of the Washington Draft Convention. It applies the eight-hour day to all categories of workers without distinction. The few necessary modifications will be made to the Act without serious difficulty. This Act also prohibits the employment of children under the age of 14, and the employment of women by night. The ratification of the Draft Conventions concerning these two questions would therefore seem to be assured. Nevertheless, the Washington Draft Convention which fixed the minimum age for employment of children at eight years will necessitate the passing of an Act, because the present age limit fixed by legislation in Czech-Slovakia is 15 years. Before introducing a bill for this purpose, the Government wishes to consult the organizations concerned and for this reason has asked to the adoption of the Convention its adherence to the remainder of the Conventions until September, 1920. The adoption of the Draft Convention concerning the employment of women before and after childbirth will also necessitate a new bill. The same is to be said of the Draft Convention concerning Labor Exchanges has already been prepared and the Minister of Social Welfare will present it to parliament shortly. Finally, the minister intends to take measures against unhealthy forms of employment by means of decrees. It may be assumed that all necessary measures for the adoption of the Conventions will have been taken before the end of the year 1920. 5. Countries whose governments have only acknowledged the receipt of the Washington Texts for-

warded to them by the Secretary-General of the League of Nations without mentioning that any measures have been taken: Bolivia, Canada, Columbia, Denmark, Honduras, Liberia, New Zealand, El Salvador, Siam, Uruguay. 6. Countries whose Embassies or Legations have acknowledged the receipt of the Washington Texts but from whose Governments no acknowledgment has been received: Portugal (Legation). 7. Countries which have not acknowledged receipt either of the authentic texts sent by the Secretary-General of the League of Nations or of the texts forwarded officially by the International Labor Office: Australia, Brazil, China, Cuba, Ecuador, Finland, Guatemala, Haiti, Hedjaz, Netherlands, Japan, Paraguay, Peru, Persia, Rumania, Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes.

WHAT SHE SAID.

A Jersey commuter, missing his train one bitter cold morning, concluded he would spend the day with his wife. He went back to the house, round to the kitchen door, and entered. There he found his wife leaning over the stove with her back to him. He came up behind her and kissed her on the back of her neck. Without looking, the wife said: "Two bottles of milk and half pint of cream today."—Exchange.

PAID IN FULL.

Miranda—"Did you ever flirt when you were young, Auntie?" Auntie—"I'm afraid I did, my dear." Miranda—"And were you punished for it?" Auntie—"Well—er, I married your Uncle George."—World (London).

Keep the Machinery Going

The factory would stand still if the belts that turn the wheels were to fail. Belts that make the longest run with the least repair and adjustment are the workman's best friend. No lost time. Machinery in every factory should be driven with



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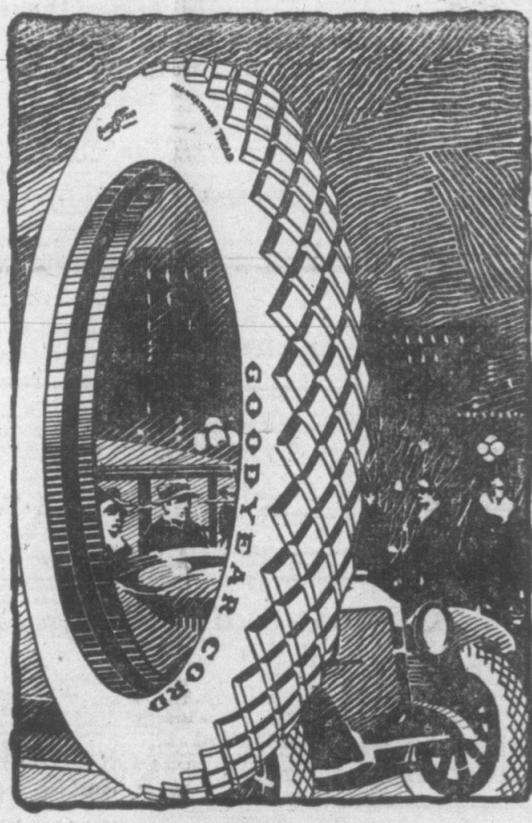
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"AMERICAN PLAN" IS A WOLF CLOTHED AS A LAMB.

By General Secretary International Hod Carriers, Building and Common Laborers' Union of America.

Contractors, manufacturers and other employers of laborers are in a combine in an attempt to crush the bona fide organizations of working men. They are attacking here and there one union or the other, in a general attempt to crush all the unions. Many of our local organizations aware of such movement, beware fully. Most of our members notice: That statements that the "American plan" is here to benefit the worker, to benefit the public and is directed only against "wound radical agitators are untenable. Our members know the "American plan" is a wolf clothed as a lamb. From years of experience, we have learned that when an employer is obliged to have the "open shop," it is a continuous contest between the union and the employer, the union in trying to maintain protection for its members and the employers in trying to fire one at a time the most active members, until the last union man is gone. The desire for an "open shop" on the part of the employers is not a new thing. What is new now is the expenditure of millions of dollars, in trying to crush the bona fide laborers' union, those unions who vote for the candidate chosen by the employers, and whose members belong to the party where the employer belongs. But the workers run the vote until election day and the employer from then on. A good many members in the last years have realized that there is only one association that helps them to get better wages and better working conditions, and that is the union. It was saying that the "open shop" advocates have always existed and on the other hand the union (and mostly those adopting the "closed shop") have been perfected. Although the employers are spending millions trying to crush the union, if the laborers only realized the reason why the employers are glad to spend millions and are willing to deal with the laborers individually instead of collectively, they would not make possible the adoption of the "American plan," inasmuch as they would be wise to the methods of employers which are subtle and refined and try to penetrate softly among the workmen, first with the

campaign before election. So let the employer choose the wrong candidate. Let the workers find the faithful union men who have full knowledge of their rights and duties. As faithful as we are to the employer when we give them eight hours of fair, hard work, so we have to be faithful to the union if we want to maintain our heads high and not be enslaved by some other system of blacklisting as the employment of the "open shop" or the "American plan."

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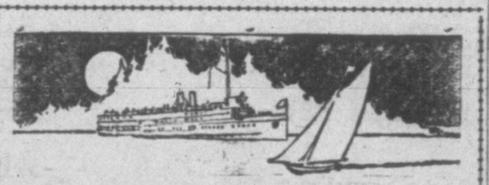
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