

## Ontario Government Sessional Programme

### FEDERATION PRESIDENT SAYS UNEMPLOYMENT IS CONTROLLABLE

Announcing himself as unqualifiedly opposed to any form of compulsory insurance, Samuel Gompers, veteran president of the American Federation of Labor, branded unemployment as a "hand made" and "premeditated." He voiced this belief in an address at the second day's sessions of the National Federation. President Gompers said unemployment is a "controllable problem" and declared the workers wanted employment and not insurance. "If we were to have compulsory employment insurance," he said, "the working people would be subjected to rules and regulations and investigations and supervision of almost every act of their lives. It would open the door to the government agents and agencies who would spy and pry into the very innermost recesses of the home life."

### GLACE BAY VENUE FOR HOT RESOLUTIONS

If Bolshevism spreads throughout Nova Scotia the blame will rest upon the shoulders of Premier King and Hon. James Murdoch, Minister of Labor, according to a resolution promulgated by the United Mine Workers at Glace Bay. Unrest over the situation in the Cape Breton coal fields is being allayed by the increasing number of such resolutions, which are being passed unanimously by the largest and most influential locals of the United Mine Workers. The Harbor Head local has adopted the following resolution: "Whereas, Bolshevism is the effect only of oppression and tyranny in the part of those in control, so Bolshevism finds an soil to grow in a community of working people who have employment at an adequate wage, and, whereas, the British Empire Steel

### WINNIPEG HAS POSTAL MEN IN SESSION

Elected representatives of Postal Service organizations meet in Winnipeg on Feb. 6 to discuss a Dominion-wide Federation of postal employees. Mr. W. E. B. Mann and Mr. R. S. Bartlett (Toronto) represents the Dominion Postal Clerks' Association. The other organizations, each of which had three delegates, are the Dominion Federation of Letter Carriers, the Railway Mail Clerks' Federation, and the Amalgamated Postal Workers. The proposed amalgamation is called the Canadian Federation of Postal Employees. It has been approved in a tentative scheme, and more concrete affiliation principles will be determined at the meeting.

### TRADES CONGRESS REPRESENTATIVES TO HAVE INTERVIEW

Representatives of the Dominion Trades and Labor Congress expect to meet Federal Government members next week with their annual request for desirable labor legislation. The main items of this year's request are the enactment of legislation carrying out the decisions of the International Labor organization. Unemployment insurance will also be asked.

### SOUTH AFRICAN MINERS TO CONSIDER ARBITRATION

A Johannesburg despatch to Reuters says that the general council of miners' union at Germiston is now considering the action of the committee of the striking gold miners of that city in demanding the appointment of new leaders as well as the appointment by the government of a court of arbitration to settle the dispute. A proposed visit to Premier Smuts has consequently been postponed. Meanwhile, the new position is overshadowing every other phase of the strike.

### ANTICIPATED LEGISLATION INCLUDES HYDRO-RADIAL MATTERS TO BE ALSO FEATURED

Anti-combine legislation will be included in the Drury government program at the coming session of the legislature. An outline of the proposed bill was submitted to the pre-session caucus of government members at the parliament building and the general principle endorsed. During war years and especially after the appearance of the board of commerce the rights of the province of Ontario to act through the department of the attorney general in instances of restraint of trade or palpable extortion, have been in doubt. The rights and the responsibilities of the federal authorities to deal with such matters were advanced as overriding those of the province. It is understood that the legislation tentatively submitted to the caucus places beyond dispute the rights of the province attorney general to act.

Hydro-radial legislation it is understood, was submitted in general outline, and approved by the caucus, although the matter was not definitely disposed of, and will be discussed again at a later gathering of government forces. In effect the proposed bill is drafted along the lines intimated by Premier Drury at Glace Bay last summer when he stated that the municipalities would be given the authority to go ahead on their own responsibility and construct hydro-radial railways, without government endorsement of bonds.

In connection with the same legislation, the government will, it is said, permit of operation of municipal radials by the present provincial hydro commission, only the commission must not be named as such. When the municipalities appoint their operating commissioners they must name them individually. They can select part or all of the present hydro commission, including the chairman, Sir Adam Beck, and appoint outsiders to sit with them on the permanent board.

Hon. Manning Doherty, minister of agriculture, outlined various legislative proposals from his department including minor amendments to the rural credits act, details of which have already been published.

### CANADIAN MADE BOOTS HAVE THE CALL

and shoe industry of this country that should be of great satisfaction to Canadians," remarked H. B. Ponsette, director, commercial intelligence section of the Department of Trade and Commerce at Ottawa, in addressing the third annual meeting of the Shoe Manufacturers' Association of Canada, "and that is that it is almost entirely Canadian; in fact, I understand that it is entirely so, and that the only American factories which have been established in this country in recent years have both passed under Canadian control."

Mr. Ponsette went on to tell of investigations he had made among retailers recently as to where they were purchasing boots and shoes being one of the particular commodities looked into. The result of that investigation should be gratifying, he said, to boot and shoe manufacturers of this country, for he found very generally that there had been an abandonment of American-made goods in favor of Canadian-made articles. Twenty years ago apparently about 50 or 60 per cent., or even 70 per cent of requirements of the trade were purchased in the United States, whereas today 90 per cent of shoes handled were said to be Canadian.

### GAINS IN MEMBERSHIP.

Boston.—Despite the business depression, the Boot and Shoe Workers' union has been making gains in membership in the last three months, reports Secretary-Treasurer Baine. Through the union has been under heavy expense in resisting attempts of manufacturers to destroy the organization. "In certain parts of the United States and Canada, the treasury shows a substantial balance."

### MADE PRISONERS.

The Poplar board of guardians—local officials responsible for levying and distributing relief for the poor in the metropolitan borough of Poplar—were locked in their board room by a crowd of unemployed persons who demanded larger doles. A number of newspapermen shared the imprisonment of the guardians. The captors effectually prevented the use of the telephone or other means of communication to summon relief. The guardians recently cancelled their doles, but the Ministry of Health promptly notified them that this was illegal, and they reverted to their former rate of payments. Their plea of government pressure was rejected by the unemployed, who seized the entire room, and hoisted a red flag on the roof, declaring they would not give up until their demands were granted. Poplar is a remote section of East London, and it has not yet been learned how the release of the board was effected.

### LEFT PARTY.

Explaining why, although an old trade union official, he had severed connections with the Labor party, Chas. Jenson, member of parliament for Walthamstow, declared that the party consists of four groups, each preaching a philosophy which, if successful, would destroy the others. The trades congress, by wire pulling, had been committed to a policy of nationalizing everything, but the cooperative group said nationalization must not apply to that group. Mr. Jenson said he could conceive of nothing worse for labor than to have a majority in the House of Commons, for while it would be impossible to see which section would predominate, there certainly would be attempts at socialization, which would be very dangerous for the average trade union leader.

The main idea, he added, was to tell the workers that all they need worry about was higher wages, shorter hours and going slow to give the other fellows a chance. Workers, he said, should realize that labor-saving machinery created employment by creating wealth, and if increased production sufficiently every worker should be able to have a two-months' summer holiday and a six-hour working day.

### RAILWAY WAGES.

English and Welsh railway companies are applying to the National Wages Board for a reduction in wages and a variation in the working hours of their employees. A meeting of the railwaymen's union has been called, and it is anticipated that any moderate proposals will be acceptable to the members.

### HAMILTON WAGE CUTTERS ACTIVE

The clothing manufacturers of Hamilton have notified their employees of a ten per cent. reduction in wages, effective this week.

### ALBERTA TO ESTABLISH LABOR BUREAU

An act to establish a Bureau of Labor in the Provincial Government is one of the pieces of legislation to be brought before this session of the legislature. The bill will be introduced by Hon. Alex. Ross, minister of public works, under whose direction the new department will be administered. The new department will fill a long-felt need of labor and is one of the measures that has been sought by labor for a number of years, as it was felt that no social legislation could be successfully administered without such a department. The act, as prepared for introduction by Mr. Ross reads as follows:

### An Act to Establish a Bureau of Labor.

HIS MAJESTY, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Alberta, enacts as follows:

1. This Act may be cited as "The Bureau of Labor."
2. There shall be a Labor Bureau, consisting of a Commissioner of Labor and such other officers, clerks and employees as may be necessary for the proper conduct of the Branch.

### NOVA SCOTIA MINERS TO RESUME WORK

Following a conference of the general superintendents, including those from Sydney Mines and the mainland here, it was announced that all the collieries of the British Empire Steel Corporation would resume active production. These will include the collieries which had been closed down for an indefinite period before the end of the year. It would also include the mainland collieries in the Springhill and Acadia districts. With the opening of the mines on full time there will also be a resumption of work at the forges, foundries and shops of the company at Glace Bay. Most of the coal will be banked. This announcement of the company was no less gratifying than surprising, and will go a long way towards clearing up the situation. It is not probable that the company and the United Mine Workers may yet get together for the purpose of drawing up a new wage scale which will be satisfactory, at least, as a working basis for all concerned. The output of the Cape Breton collieries of the Dominion Coal Co. for the month of January was only 132,086 tons, the smallest since ante-bellum days. The days the company put a thirty-three and a third per cent. wage cut into effect, the output of the mines dropped about one-third and the decrease has been assisted by many idle days due to the lack of demand for coal.

### DOMINION TRADE SHOWING IMPROVEMENT

Conditions are slowly but surely improving in wholesale and retail circles throughout Canada. The movement, although slight, has been noticeable in many lines since the middle of December and there are those who forecast a steady improvement from now on, states the Weekly Trade Report of the Canadian Credit Men's Trust Association. Eastern advices, including those from Montreal, Quebec, Toronto and Bramford say that wholesalers are, as a whole, receiving more orders from country points. Little change is noticeable in retail trade in larger cities. Collections are still somewhat slow. Assignments and compositions are on the decrease. Reports from Winnipeg and the west indicate that wholesalers, while being hopeful signs in increased orders, say that if the improvement is to take concrete shape, business must pick up faster than at present. In Manitoba and Saskatchewan, although conditions are improving, business is still poor compared with a year ago. Retail trade has been slow during the past week. In Manitoba considerable alarm is manifested in business circles on account of the probable imposition of a provincial income tax said likely to amount to one-half that demanded by the local tax authorities. A movement is on foot to bring such pressure upon the Government as may induce such legislation to be abandoned.

### SHREENESS MINERS DONATE COAL TO UNEMPLOYED

Miners employed at Shreeness have notified D. A. McKillop, of the Public Welfare Board at Calgary, that they would donate two tons of coal apiece and ship it to the Welfare Board for distribution among the unemployed of the city who are in need of coal. Other employees of the mine who do not do the actual digging of the coal have agreed to give \$2 each out of their next pay in order to do their share. The miners say they will be able to ship the coal without any expense to the coal company except the cost of the coal.

### RAILMEN WILL RESTORE REGIONAL BOARDS

Washington.—The representatives of the railroad workers who were in conference with the secretary of commerce and the railway executives have made it so plain that the workers desire the restoration of the former system of discussion of industrial matters through regional or national boards composed of workers and employers that the plan has been practically agreed to. The workers' representatives say that under the former system, grievances were adjusted amicably without loss of time and without unnecessary legal formalities. Under the old plan, they say, they were able to clear up all the accumulated difficulties of a system could be cleared up in a few days, and everybody was satisfied with the result. Now the question of the discharge of an employee may require months to adjust before the railroad labor board—and every body concerned may be dissatisfied with the verdict. Efficiency, economy and justice are the reasons given for the desired change to the old forms—and they're pretty sound reasons.

### GLACE BAY GETS REFUSAL FOR AID

It is evident that the King government does not intend to have recourse to the Mounted Police where difficulties with labor arise. Illustration of this policy is the fact that in recent labor troubles at Glace Bay, the government was embarrassed with requests to dispatch a squadron of the police force. The answer was that, if the civil authorities were inadequate to the situation, they could have recourse to the local militia, though, in such an event, the cost would be on the municipality. The decision in this case as regards the use of the police is likely to be a precedent which will be followed.

## Items of Interest from Overseas

### CLYNE'S REVIEW.

Personalities continue to be a feature of the present political oratory in the United Kingdom. Replying to a statement attributed to Lord Rickenhead, the top high chancellor, last week, that Labor ignored such tendencies as have been revealed in financial methods of the Poplar borough of London when they invited councillors, defying all higher authority, went to prison rather than levy county rates in their area, on the ground that poor-law relief, the workless had already increased the local burden to the breaking-point, Right Hon. J. R. Clyne, chairman of the parliamentary Labor party and former food controller, declared that "Poplar finance is Christian carelessness compared with the spending of public money lavishly on wicked objects abroad, and paying some totally useless ministers at home. Poplar councillors may be wrong, but they did go to jail for their beliefs, though the lord chancellor escaped, despite his sustained display in organizing breaches of the law in resistance to the Crown forces."

### RAILWAY DISPUTE.

The Irish railway managements and employes have failed to reach an agreement, and the Ulster Minister of Labor, J. M. Andrews, has been urgently summoned to return to Dublin to renew the efforts for a settlement with Joseph McGrath, minister of labor in the Dail cabinet. If the negotiations definitely collapse a general strike throughout Ireland will go into effect on Feb. 15.

### TREATED UNFAIRLY.

Reuters Melbourne correspondent says that the British members of the crew of the Commonwealth lighter Morston Bay are complaining of unfair treatment at the hands of the Australian Seamen's Union. Because many Australian seamen are unemployed, the union refused the Britishers admission to membership, and they were replaced on the Morston Bay by an Australian crew. They have been granted free passages home, but will not draw wages during their enforced period of idleness.

### LABOR SUPPORTS.

P. F. Loughlin, Minister of Lands for the State of New South Wales, told a meeting that the full weight of the Labor party was behind the movement to organize the Australian Commonwealth into 10 new states, says a Reuter cable from Sydney.

### PLANS SURVEY.

The Labor Council has appointed a committee of inquiry to consider the cause for the present depression, and the maximum of production in the United Kingdom from the standpoint of the interests of the community. The committee will also suggest a Labor policy for those industries to which nationalization could not for the present be applied, such a policy to have regard to the efficiency of the industry, the welfare of the producers, and the best interests of the consumers.

### FARMING LESSONS.

The dominions want brains, and a farming course should be introduced in the curriculum of all public schools," said William Hamilton Fyfe, headmaster of Christ's Hospital, at West Horsham, in offering a solution

### UNEMPLOYED ACTIVE.

Fifty unemployed men rushed a meeting of Woolwich Guardians and barricaded the room. The police were called and were forced to use a battering ram before they could gain entrance to the room. The invaders were chased around the room and finally dispersed.

### FORGET SENIORITY.

In dealing with discharges which are expected to be frequent with the application of the Washington agreements suspending naval construction, the authorities at the national dockyard at Portsmouth have decided to ignore the seniority rule, making retention in the service depend upon efficiency. The workmen, however, have decided to demand that the treasury grant a gratuity to all long-service men who are discharged.

### SHIPBUILDING SLACK.

The world-renowned shipbuilding industry on the Clyde has suffered a period of stagnation during 1921, from which there seems to be no immediate escape, says G. R. Johnson in a review of Scotland's industry and trade in 1921. As one expert says, it has been a year of clearing off old contracts, and new work has been very slow in coming forward. Competition has been severe, and the cost of steel is lower, but it is said there is even yet too wide a margin between quotations and the prices which shipping companies can pay and earn dividends.

### CHANCES POOR.

Right Hon. J. H. Thomas, parliamentary secretary of the National Union of Railwaymen, who recently secured £2,900 damages for libel against the Communist weekly journal published in the interests of the Third International by the executive of the Communist party in Great Britain, has applied to the courts for a receivership, but as the hands of a receiver for the debenture holders, Mr. Thomas chances for setting anything are remote.

### BASIC WAGES FROM THE MONTREAL STAR

The attempt to establish a basic wage in Australia seems to be ending in failure. New South Wales, which was the leader in the experiment, fixed the basic wage for male adults at £5 a week. The example was followed by Queensland, but South Australia never legalized the finding of a basic wage tribunal, while Western Australia passed an act, although such measures were introduced in the legislatures. It was found that under the fixed basic wage of manufacture were much higher in New South Wales than in Victoria. The States which failed to establish the basic wage could send cheaper goods into other States and also an advantage in export. However the basic wage system materially increased the cost of living by increasing the cost of production and aggravated unemployment by reducing the purchasing power of unskilled labor. Even the New South Wales Parliamentary Labor party and the United Laborers' Union have demanded repeal of the legislation. It is admitted that many mines have been closed by high basic wages. The situation became so serious that the Prime Minister of the Commonwealth refused to give effect to the recommendations of a Federal Appeal Tribunal on the ground that the industries could not give the wages prescribed and remain solvent. It is explained that the industrial unions, when dissatisfied with a State award, arranged by federating with kindred inter-State bodies to have the dispute extended beyond the borders of the State in which it arose and thus sought under federal jurisdiction. These manoeuvres were difficult, and it is believed that when such federal legislation is enacted the whole basic wage system will be abandoned and that the new tribunal will be content to fix such wages as industries can afford.

### DOMINION COAL CO. WILL ACCEPT AWARD

The Dominion Coal Company stands prepared to accept the award of the Wages Commission Board which recently investigated the wage dispute between the Nova Scotia Coal Companies and their employees, and make the rates of pay therein retroactive to January 2, General Manager E. P. Merrill, notified the United Mine Workers. Mr. Merrill's letter, which has been delivered to President Robert Baxter and Secretary J. B. McLachlan of the United Mine Workers, provides, as the only condition, that the miners shall signify their acceptance of the Gillen award on or before February 5. As the miners' referendum on acceptance or rejection of the Gillen award is to be held on February 10 ample time for the miners to reach a decision is provided. The wage cut imposed by the company on January 1, 1922, was raised by thirty-three per cent. The award of the Gillen board abates this reduction by five to ten per cent. The company, in order to close contracts for the sale of coal, desires to enter into a new contract with its employees by February 15, the same to be final until November 30, 1922, Mr. Merrill states.

### GOSSIPING ELECTED.

In the newly-formed British Transport and General Workers' Union, Harry Gosling was elected president with 22,724 votes. His closest competitor was T. McLean, who had 4,937 votes. The other candidates for the position were: W. J. Sturrock, 4,945; C. Bird, 3,285; L. Telford, 668.

### ERNEST BEVIN WAS ELECTED GENERAL SECRETARY.

Ernest Bevin was elected general secretary, with 92,842 votes. F.



OUR NEW SERIAL

The Captives of the Kaid

By B. MARCHANT

SYNOPSIS OF PREVIOUS CHAPTERS.

Seventeen-year-old Laila was the only one who never shrank from her grandfather, Squire Trevor, of Oakhurst Manor. One day, when visiting the picture gallery with one of the maids she came across a picture turned face to the wall. The picture was turned for Laila to see. What a nice kind face he had. "Perhaps if he had come back you would never be mistress of the Manor," said the maid. During a thunder storm Laila is lost in the woods. She is found by a young sailor lad, who carries her towards home. At the door the lad hurried away without waiting to be thanked. Circumstances led to the belief that the sailor is the son of the Squire's eldest son, Mrs. Trevor's brother, accompanied by Laila and her mother, start on a cruise down the African coast. A storm arises and the yacht makes its way into a channel which they believe to be safe, but is wrecked, and the crew are made prisoners. Sid 'el Bashir, a native of the harbor of Arkis, is in the habit of burying his wealth. He takes two of his servants with him, and after the treasure is buried he kills both. This time, however, a servant named Ighil follows, and sees the burying of the gold. One of the servants escapes being killed outright, and falls on his master, killing him. He takes a parchment from his dead master's robe, showing a plan where all the jewels are hidden. Ighil makes his way to a neighboring duar.

was his hiding-place, and such a tired small boy was Ighil, that his slumber was much too profound for him to remember anything about keeping one eye open, and his repose remained unbroken whilst the long hours stole by. The night came and passed; then the cheerful sun rose once more to gladden the world. Ighil woke with a start; jumped up, gazed cautiously about him, then uttered a sharp little cry of fear; for the spot beside the stream was deserted, Hashem and the mules having started again on their travels, leaving him alone in the wilderness. In the terror of his first loneliness, he was almost inclined to wish that Hashem had found his maid killed him, even as Sid 'el Bashir had been killed. But that was only for the first five minutes or so; then putting all his small wits to work, he set himself to the task of finding his way to some haunt of men. He succeeded, too. Arriving a little before sundown at a big duar, where the people were kind, feeding him with "tahleha"—which is porridge made of crushed barley boiled with water—he satisfied his rampant hunger; and, out of gratitude, he stayed at that duar until he was a man grown.

CHAPTER XI. A Chance of Gain.

It was twenty years since Sid 'el Bashir had died by the hand of Hashem, but in all that time Ighil had never a word or look betrayed his knowledge of the details of that dark deed. He had been silent at first through fear, and then later from caution, knowing that his life would not be worth an hour's purchase if the Kaid ever had reason to guess at what was stored at the back of his black servant's mind. Ighil had been a stripling, just

able to do a man's work, when the old Kaid of Iquedor died, and the rich man of the hills was chosen Kaid in his room. No one knew whence came this new Kaid, or where he had found his wealth—that is, no one knew save Ighil, who at the first glance recognized in the rich man of the hills that same Hashem, who had slain Sid 'el Bashir, and stolen his gold.

Such a very rich man was Hashem now, that Ighil could only suppose a piece of parchment stolen from the old miser's corpse had been some kind of clue to other places of hidden treasure—which clue the ex-slave had followed up with such profitable results to himself. But Ighil kept his own counsel still, and waited patiently for the time to come when he might, perchance, get some portion of the dead miser's wealth for his own, in the shape of hush-money, that the new Kaid would be willing to pay as the price of his silence.

Meanwhile, he took service under the new-chief of the duar, bidding his time with the stolid patience which was as much a part of his nature as his black skin and woolly hair.

The duar in which Ighil had lived so long was not far from the coast, and the people found much of their profit and commercial wealth in collecting shells from the seashore, and making them into necklaces and head-dresses, which were sent to so-koe inland, and sold to the dwellers of the interior. Sometimes other and more valuable things than shell necklaces went the same road; shipwrecked crews cast on that inhospitable shore, were seized, bound and carried off to be sold as slaves. For, although white slavers were not allowed by law in the land, and the traffic in white people went briskly on, few caring for the law, which was, after all, more a shadow than a substance in that wild country, with its sparse and scattered population.

The new Kaid of Iquedor owned many slaves, both black and white; these last being chiefly hidden away in secluded districts of the hills, and in little known valleys where he had lonely farms, for raising cattle and grain for sale at the sokos held year by year on the borders of the great desert, many miles away.

All this Ighil knew, but no one suspected how wise he was, or how he meant to turn his wisdom to account some day.

He was quite an artist in shell work himself, and spent long days in drilling tiny holes in gleaming pink and white shells, in shape like shark's teeth, then stringing them into necklaces, or building them into wonderful adornments for the hair. Despite his industry, however, he found ample time for spying upon the doings of the Kaid, and had been away for many days on a round of secret visits to those far-away settlements among the hills, returning one day near to sunset, he was seen in a ferment bordering upon a life.

The house of this village had built, for convenience of wood and water, about a mile from the shore, tucked away in a narrow valley, they were protected alike from the stormy winds raging in from the ocean, and the devastating shoom, or hot wind, blowing across the great desert.

A big ship, with smoke, was anchored near to the small cove, where their finest shells were found, and all the coast was being searched for traces of a little ship, which had come that way and got lost.

"When did the little ship come, and how did it get lost?" demanded Ighil of his friend and comrade, Selam, who was one of the first to meet him with the wonderful news.

"No one knows, no one has seen the little ship, save in their dreams," retorted Selam, with a grimace, which made his ugly face ten times more repulsive than before.

"Ah!" exclaimed Ighil, with a big windy sigh inflating his chest, and a gleam of intelligence shining in his eyes, "did the Kaid dream of the little, lost ship too?"

"The Kaid never dreams," rejoined Selam, yawning his black jaws open widely in a hideous grin. "And they are saying that a drove of white slaves are even now crossing the hills to the country bordering on the great desert."

Ighil started violently, but not even to Selam his friend would he reveal the thoughts lingering in the back of his mind; for in that wild, lawless land there was no honor even in friendship, and a man would betray his nearest and dearest for the chance of gain. So he stretched his long, naked limbs in a careless, indifferent fashion, saying lastly, "Then I, Ighil, say that they will never reach so far, for white slaves are but weakly creatures, and drop by the wayside, worn out by the toil and the hardship of the journey."

"These white slaves are many, and worth a price," babbled Selam, who had no gift of reticence like Ighil, and could always be induced to tell all he knew, and a little more on to that, if only the questioner understood the art of shaking the information out.

"You have only dreamed of them. How should you know?" retorted Ighil, with a sneer of contempt expressed in face and gesture.

"Only dreamed! Yes, but by the bones of the Prophet, it was a most

telling vision!" ejaculated Selam, rolling up his eyes until the whites there was a most terrible storm when the evil spirits of the ocean met the evil spirits of the land in conflict in the upper air, fierce lightning flashed, heavy thunders rolled, and all the time a little ship, which had wandered and got lost, was breaking to pieces on the rocks of the cove.

Selam paused for want of breath, he being very fat; but Ighil made no remark, only nodded encouragingly, and after a minute the other went on.

"When morning came, it was found that the people of the little ship had come ashore in boats; then the Kaid met them, and, with kind words, offered them the shelter of his duar among the hills—and that is all the dream."

"Did they come to the duar?" asked Ighil.

"The Kaid has many duars," responded Selam, and then began to tell his friend of a wonderful shell he had seen on the shore a day or two after the storm, and which proved to be a shell at all, but a little china vase; doubtless a relic from the ill-fated vessel, which had been caught on the rocks and ground to pieces by the fury of the tempest.

When the recital was over, Ighil wandered away in a state of great perplexity. In his own mind he had decided that the time was ripe for overthrowing the power and influence of the rich but wicked Kaid, who caught free people and sold

slavery. But how to bring about the exposure was more than he could tell. Even supposing he tramped over the country to the distant place of abode of the nearest representative of the law, and denounced the chief of his village, the only result would be that Hashem would bribe the official to silence on the matter, and he, Ighil, would make a speedy meal for the jackals.

There was one other course open to him, and that was to make his way to the shore, and communicate with the people on the big ship. But that had its perils also; and he was much too cautious by nature to take any risks which might by care be avoided. So he would not even go down to the shore to search for shells, but, when morning came, set out again on a seemingly aimless wandering, which, however, was far less aimless than it appeared.

It was in the scorching noontide that he was passing through a patch of tall grass, such as wild pigs love to go to cover in, when the sound of a low moan of pain caught his ear.

He stopped, hesitatingly; not because his heart was hardened against the cry of anything in distress, but he was primed with the legendary lore of his country, and dreaded lest the sound should proceed from some "Jin," or evil spirit, hidden there. Reflecting, however, that the white cock's feather, which he wore in his hair, should be protection sufficient to guard him from any ordinary danger, he plunged into the patch of tall grass and scrub from whence issued the sounds of suffering.

But, a moment later, he started back with a cry of affright, having stumbled almost on to what, at first

and, running quickly back, squeezed drops of moisture into the poor animal's mouth; being more than rewarded for his pains by the almost human gratitude displayed by the big dog. Then he began to examine the hurts of his find, touching the gaping wounds with a hand so tender that the dog yielded to the examination without a motion of protest, although the poor creature had been so terribly mauled that the marvel was it had not already succumbed to its injuries.

Ighil's sympathies were instantly on the alert; rarely did anything suffering appeal to him in vain. The poor dog was plainly parched with thirst, so, running to a little stream that he knew welled out of the hills not far away, he wet his loin cloth.

(To be continued)

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### CLAIMS POLICY CONTRARY TO PUBLIC OWNERSHIP

Sir Adam Beck, chairman of the Hydro-Electric Power Commission of Ontario, regards as fatal to the cause of radial development the proposal of the provincial Government to initiate legislation taking radials out of the hands of the commission and placing them in the sole control of the municipalities.

In a statement given out, Sir Adam says: "What have I to say of the proposal of the Government to repeal the existing radial railway legislation, and to pass some new legislation which will give the municipalities power in some way to go on with the radials under commissions appointed by themselves?"

"Well, if the press reports are accurate, and the Government carry out such a programme, the result will undoubtedly be to kill all hope for a system of publicly owned radial railway for Ontario, now or in the future."

### S. A. LABOR WANTS PARLIAMENT ASSEMBLED

A Reuter despatch from Pretoria, Transvaal, South Africa, states that a joint deputation of Labor and Nationalist members of Parliament have urged the Governor-General, Prince Arthur of Connaught, to summon Parliament immediately to deal with the strike situation.

The Governor-General replied that he was unable to act without the advice of the South African Cabinet.

The past 24 hours have been the quietest to the strike of coal and gold miners, says Reuter's Johannesburg correspondent. Men are returning to work in the coal fields, but there will be difficulty in taking them back even at reduced time owing to the small demand there is for coal.

The striking gold miners appear to have accepted the settlement offered by the Chamber of Mines, guaranteeing that the proportion of natives employed in the mines shall not exceed 10% to each European and that wages shall be the daily rates prevailing last December, with an additional sum representing half the increased cost of living.

Meanwhile, the men's leaders are concentrating their efforts on the political issue, advocating the nationalization of the mines and the submission of the whole dispute to Parliament.

### NOVA SCOTIA COAL IS USED BY FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The Dominion Government through the Purchasing Commission of Canada is setting a remarkable example in favoring "Made-in-Canada" products and encouraging home industry. Every ounce of coal burnt in Government buildings in Ottawa this year has been mined in Canada. Other Government buildings in the Dominion, excepting a small territory in Central Canada where transportation costs make it prohibitive to compete with American firms, are also using Canadian coal. From the Atlantic as far west as Brockville, coal from the Maritime provinces is used. From the Pacific to Port Arthur, western coal is favored.

Not only in coal but in every purchase, for office supplies as well as machinery and outdoor supplies, preference is given to Canadian goods. In unifying government purchases a saving of approximately \$500,000 has been effected by salvaging surplus stocks from one department for use in another.

### EDMONTON MEETING POSTPONE ACTION

A request to one of the members-elect to submit to a by-election for the purpose of making an Alberta seat available for the Hon. Charles Stewart, proposed to the Dominion Labor Party at their meeting, was laid on the table for consideration at the next meeting, called for February 14. The following resolution was introduced by Dr. Raymond C. Ghostley:

"That we, the Dominion Labor Party, constituting one-third of all the electors in the city portion of the Edmonton constituency, and, therefore, more than the tax-payers, necessary called for by the local, call upon through the public press other locals in this constituency to meet and consider requesting the resignation of one of the members elected at the recent federal contest. This will provide a means of giving a seat by acclamation to the Hon. Charles Stewart, as has been done in all by-elections held throughout Canada by Conservatives."

### HAMILTON'S UNEMPLOYMENT RELIEF

During the hearing of a complaint by members of the Independent Labor party the Hamilton Board of Control regarding measures of aid for the unemployed, it was stated that in one week recently the City had given relief to 3,724 people. Dealing in detail with some cases members of the deputation said that \$6.00 and 24 pints of milk was the total sum of the city's contribution for the support of a family of seven children. This case will be specially investigated.

### GERMAN STRIKE LOOMS BIG

An extension of the railway strike to take in the men employed in the repair shops now brings the number of strikers to approximately 50,000 in Berlin and 200,000 throughout the country. Mediation by the General Manufacturers' Union is contemplated. The union is holding conferences with prominent industrial magnates and with Chancellor Wirth, but the result of these discussions has not been made known.

A sharp rebuke to the striking railroad men for the manner in which they effected the strike in the face of pending wage negotiations with the Government is contained in a joint proclamation issued tonight by representatives of the General Federation of Labor Unions and independent organizations. It sets forth the catastrophic effects of the strike upon the internal situation in Germany, coming as it does on the eve of the Geneva conference.

Demand is made that the strikers return to work immediately, whereupon, the resolution says, the wage parleys will be resumed promptly, and the anti-strike ordinances promulgated by President Ebert will be revoked.

This unexpected condemnation of the strike by the chief labor organizations leaves the rail men without practical or moral support, as the proclamation also disapproves of any sympathetic strike in other quarters on their behalf.

There is considerable unrest among the Berlin postal and telegraph workers, and it is considered that a strike is not impossible. Leaders of their unions have protested against the Government decree relating to strikes, demanding its withdrawal. Some of these workers have already quit work, and others are expected to leave their posts tomorrow, when it is believed that the municipal workers also will come out, they having voted almost unanimously in favor of a strike.

Berlin gas, electric and water supply would be imperilled by a strike of municipal workers, and tramway service would be crippled.

The Berlin branch of the railway union joined the ranks of the strikers this morning.

Passenger and freight traffic in north Germany was at a complete standstill. Undelivered mail has begun to accumulate, and postal authorities are maintaining serial service for urgent mail and passenger purposes.

Efforts to maintain the milk and food supplies for Berlin have failed, and the newspapers have considerably reduced their size and number of editions.

The Government's manifesto declaring the strike illegal has aggravated the situation. The executive committee of the Berlin Labor Federation adopted a resolution in favor of issuing a manifesto denying subordinate officials the right of association and demanding cancellation of the manifesto published by the Socialist press supporting the claim for such right.

Representatives of the railway union, it is unofficially stated, have approved of the assurances given at the parleys for arranging a settlement of the railroad strike and that, in consequence, the leading labor organization will issue an appeal to the strikers to resume work.

The strike went into effect at midnight last Wednesday, and since that time many hundreds of men have left their posts.

### ONTARIO GOVERNMENT AND FAIR WAGE CLAUSE

The provincial government will not agree to the insertion of a fair wage clause in all contracts in which the government is interested.

General Organizer John Flett, of the American Federation of Labor, and James Marsh, organizer of the International Brotherhood of Carpenters, were in Toronto to discuss with local labor leaders the government's attitude. The government, according to Mr. Flett, takes the stand that to incorporate in government contracts a clause insisting upon wages and conditions prevailing in the locality in which the work is being done would be "slavery."

That the worker should be permitted to work as long as he liked, was the reply made to President Marsh when he and officials of the trades union movement sought to obtain a promise from the government of legislation upon these lines.

"We intend to enter a protest with the labor groups, in the legislature against the government's inactivity in providing legislation for the benefit of the industrial worker," said General Organizer John Bruce, of the Plumbers and Steamfitters' Union.

"We will hold a conference with the labor group to tell its members what their duty happens to be."

### TORONTO HARBOR WAGE SCALE BEING WATCHED

Bargains that wages on federal government work in the Toronto harbor will be reduced this season by as much as fifteen cents an hour brought organizers of the International Trades Union movement in to conference. They discussed also the situation existing on the Welland Canal, which has caused considerable controversy between the department of labor and trades unions and had not been adjusted when the late government met its defeat.

It was stated that Hon. James Murdoch, minister of labor, was endeavoring to adjust the dispute on the Welland Canal, and might be expected to visit the city to learn from contractors the foundation for the rumor of wage reductions on the harbor and canal this season.

### B. C. DELEGATES DISPLEASE PROVINCIAL PREMIER

Premier John Oliver ejected from his private office at Victoria, B.C., a member of a delegation of unemployed who advocated extreme measures. Women, led by a few men, attempted to create some excitement at the parliament buildings, when they swarmed into the premier's office. They demanded that the premier call the legislature together and vote them \$500,000. After the premier had invited two men and four women into his private office, W. R. Moulton gave the premier the impression that he was out to create trouble, and after listening to him for a few minutes, Mr. Oliver got up, opened the door and put the man out. He then returned and continued his talk with the other five members.

### QUEBEC FARMERS URGED TO POLITICAL ACTION

Sixty thousand United Farmers of Ontario are sending you their heartiest wishes, and I can assure you that they are with you in every effort to promote the agrarian movement in Quebec in spite of the seeds of friction sown by unscrupulous politicians to alienate the farmers of Ontario and Quebec during the recent elections," said R. H. Halbert, Progressive M.P. for Ontario North and former president of the U.F.O., in the course of an address before the convention of the United Farmers of Quebec.

Mr. Halbert urged the Quebec farmers to go into active politics at once. "There was no reason," he said, "why Quebec should not have as powerful a farmers' party as Ontario and the western provinces."

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### BARBERS' INTERNATIONAL LOSES ITS CHIEF

Frank X. Nuschang, president of the Journeymen Barbers' International Union, with headquarters in Indianapolis, died in Albany, N.Y., after a stomach ailment of several weeks.

Decided was well known to trade unionists of the United States and Canada.

Roe H. Baker, of San Francisco, has become the acting president of the Barbers' Union. Whether Baker will be chosen permanent president will be decided at a meeting of the executive committee of that body to be held shortly at headquarters in Indianapolis.

Jacob Fischer, secretary of the Barbers' International and a vice-president of the American Federation of Labor, is seriously ill in Indianapolis. As soon as Fischer has recovered his health, Baker will summon the members of the executive committee of the Barbers' International to meet in Indianapolis for the purpose of choosing a permanent president of that organization.

### S. A. STRIKERS RECEIVE SUPPORT

General J. E. M. Hertzog, South African Nationalist leader, addressing a strike meeting at Witbank, stated that 83 per cent of the people in the country sided with the striking gold and coal miners, according to a Reuter despatch from Capetown. He praised the constitutional methods adopted by the men, and wished them success.

After the meeting General Hertzog conferred with the miners' leaders.

A Reuter despatch from Johannesburg states that all is quiet there with the exception of the explosion of three sticks of dynamite in a "colored" church. No persons were injured.

A mass meeting in the town hall attracted the smallest audience of any meeting held so far, and the men seem despondent, and appear anxious for a settlement enabling them to return to work. Their leaders have been urging so-called "commandees" and others to "pull out the soles," but they have not got beyond threats.

### COBALT OPERATORS SAY MINERS ARE BRITISH

Mine operators in the Cobalt camp take exception to an editorial in a Toronto evening paper in which it is stated that a returned soldier claimed he could not get employment there because the mines employ Australians and Poles. Managers state that a recent survey of the camp showed that of all the men employed at the properties, 85 per cent were British, and they declare their invariable practice is to give preference to returned men.

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