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Labor's Questionnaire to Candidates

BUILDING MATERIAL PRICES UPWARDS ACROSS THE LINE

According to a New York report wage earners are being harangued on the need for wage reductions to stimulate building, owners of terra cotta have jumped prices 1,000 per cent and over, and these business men are now under a federal indictment.

Except in a few sections of the country where the United Brick and Clay Workers of America are making a successful fight for living conditions, this industry is on an anti-union basis.

Terra cotta may properly be classed as next in importance to steel and cement in the building industry.

"These terra cotta owners," said Federal Attorney Haywood, "got together and divided the United States into certain definite divisions of territory as arbitrarily and with as complete and definite discipline as the German general staff used in dividing the western front into combat sectors. We find that this vast industry, reaching from here to the Pacific coast, has been within the complete and arbitrary control of about 23 men through out the United States. These men are banded together and operate almost as one."

"Not until building material is

brought down to reasonable prices will there be any extensive building in the large centers.

"No one group or single terra cotta manufacturer in the so-called central of western territory would have dared to come into New York or any part of the eastern territory. They were not satisfied with a division of territory, but felt that to more completely control their pricing scheme and the stifling of competition, they had to divide the business among themselves in their own territory. Each concern was allowed a quota of business and great pains were taken by all the others to see that none of them exceeded its respective percentage.

"There were no mere technical violations, and that these men knew they were violating the law, is apparent from the fact that the schemes were hatched behind barred doors at secret weekly meetings at which no secretary or outsider was ever permitted to enter and of which no minutes or records of any kind were kept.

"We find that with the possible exception of rare and isolated instances not a single manufacturer had observed or intimated that they took pains to see that the supply never equalled the demand."

TYPOTHETAE CONFERENCE AT TORONTO

In connection with the conference at Toronto this week of the United Typothetae the officers of the International Typographical Union, including President McParland and Secretary Hayes, are also in that city, which is a customary procedure. Delegates from all parts of Canada and the United States are in attendance, New York alone contributing over one hundred to the conference.

GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS ON TURN OF TIDE

Toronto.—President D. B. Hanna of the Canadian National Railways, issued this statement:

"It is a matter of extreme gratification to me to be able to announce to the Canadian people that during the month of August, this year, the gross revenues secured from the operation of the Intercolonial, Prince Edward Island, National Transcontinental, Grand Trunk Pacific and Canadian Northern railways, exceeded the expenses by a substantial amount. This is the first monthly period since these railways have been operated by the board that it has been possible to present such a favorable statement. While I do not wish to appear as unduly optimistic, I do believe that the economy effected, as one result of consolidation, are beginning to be reflected in operation, and that the day is not far distant when the National Railways will be an asset in which all Canadians may take pride.

"The month of August is one not specially busy, in that it marks the end of the crop year in the Canadian West, as the new grain does not begin to move until September, in large quantities, to the lake carriers and to the sea."

"The mileage of the railways embraced by the statement was printed in 17,000 miles. The figures for the month of August were: Gross earnings \$10,536,461.74; working expenses \$10,489,230.30; net earnings \$47,231.44.

"No one would venture to foretell the future with trade conditions as unsettled as they are today. It would, however, appear that the end of serious operating losses on the National Railways is appreciably near—nearer, in fact, than the most sanguine of us had hoped for. We are beginning to reap the fruits of the great and complicated work of consolidation which was begun when the merging of the Canadian Northern and Canadian Government Lines was accomplished in 1918 and continuing with the lines of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway were turned over to the 'National' for operation."

A POLICY ORDERED AT LAST CONVENTION NOW BEING MADE EFFECTIVE.

In order to know exactly the standing of candidates at the forthcoming Federal elections all affiliated bodies to the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada are to shortly receive a manifesto under the signatures of President Tom Moore and Secretary-Treasurer P. M. Draper. The continent will be well covered through the 2,500 organizations concerned, and it is hardly possible for one aspirant to a Federal seat to be placed in the overlooked class, at least if the units treat this matter in as serious a fashion as it deserves, and an exact knowledge gained of the various attitude sympathetic or otherwise to the printed questionnaire covering Labor's platform of principles which must be filled out by political candidates.

A section of the manifesto states that:

"During past years, we have been hampered in our legislative activities by not knowing where many members of the House of Commons stood on questions which are of outstanding importance to the organized labor movement. We, therefore, request your aid at this time to secure from the candidates in your constituency definite answers as to what their voice and vote will be, if elected, upon legislative requests formulated by the organized workers of this Dominion, as expressed by them at the various conventions of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada.

"Acting under instructions of the Winnipeg Convention, the Executive Council of the Trades and Labor Congress have brought our platform of principles up to date by embodying therein the latest declarations on current questions affecting us as workers. As part of the Congress, we look to your organization to support this platform of principles and to use whatever influence you can command in your vicinity to see that candidates are elected who are willing to give it their support.

"Therefore, we request that you obtain from each candidate a concise answer as to what their actions, if elected, would be on the various matters herewith submitted and fill in one of the attached blanks for each candidate, so that we may have them on file in this office when the new House of Commons assembles, thereby placing us in a position to judge who are our friends and where we may look for assistance in securing the enactment of legislation in harmony with this platform."

INCREASE IN LIVING COSTS IS SHOWN

Prices during September, both wholesale and retail, showed little change as compared with those ruling August, those noted being largely seasonal, according to the statistical branch of the department of labor. The decrease which was steady and continuous as from July of 1920, has apparently ceased, and there has been a general tendency during the last three months for prices to stabilize at a point about 50 per cent above those governing immediately before the war. In certain business quarters the opinion is held that somewhat higher prices will be obtained before the end of the year.

In retail prices the average cost of a list of staple foods in sixty Canadian cities was \$11.42 in September as compared with \$11.44 for the same articles in August. In September of last year the same articles cost \$15.95; in September, 1919, \$14.33; in September, 1918, \$13.31; in September, 1917, \$12.92; in September, 1916, \$7.74; in September, 1915, and \$7.83 in September 1914. The chief increase for September last was in potatoes, the prices for the new crop being high as compared with old stock at the beginning of August, but about the same as for the new crop a year ago. There were also increases in lard, eggs, butter, cheese and in sugar.

The department of labor's index number of wholesale prices, based on 1909 for the 10-year period 1909-1920, was again slightly lower, standing at 232.7 for September as compared with 236.4 for August, 236.6 for September, 1920—301.5 for September, 1919; 285.3 for September, 1918; 246.1 for September, 1917; 183.4 for September, 1916; 150.3 for September, 1915; and 141.3 for September, 1914. The decrease for the month was largely in livestock and meats, but there were also slight decreases in grains and fodder. In dairy products, butter and cheese were lower, but eggs and milk were a little higher. In fruit and vegetables, miscellaneous foods, hides, leathers, boots and shoes, building materials and chemicals there were slight decreases. Raw cotton, lead and silver, and raw fur, were higher. The range on which the index number is based cover 272 principal commodities.

In the retail prices of fuel, bituminous coal and wood averaged slightly lower, while anthracite coal was fractionally higher.

MONTREAL UNEMPLOYMENT COMMITTEE'S REPORT

The raising of the amusement tax, of a house to house canvass once a month, the levying of a contribution from all merchants, manufacturers and employees, and the giving of a special benefit performance were some of the methods suggested for raising money at a meeting of the Unemployment Committee held in the Windsor Hotel.

The meeting, the second one held by the committee, was called primarily for the purpose of receiving reports from the various sub-committees that were appointed at last week's meeting. George Lyman presided and was aided by J. MacNaughton, acting secretary. There was a fair attendance of members of the committee. It was stated by the secretary that the use of the Klaxh Club Rooms was out of the question on account of expense. It had been proposed at the previous meeting to use these rooms if obtainable as a central clearing house for the various organizations in the city anxious to help the unemployed.

The finance committee, in presenting their report, suggested various means of raising money, and there was considerable discussion on some of these.

The cost of obtaining the use of a theatre and various incidental items were held forth as an argument against the giving of a benefit performance for the raising of funds. It was stated the artists often gave their services free on such occasions. Members quoted from their own experiences, some showing that such a performance could not be run to a financial success and others claiming just the opposite. As an improvement on the original idea it was suggested that the theatres and picture houses be asked to give the proceeds of one of their ordinary performances on a certain day towards the fund.

Another suggestion put forward was that of raising the amusement tax, but it was stated that part of that tax already goes to the maintenance of hospitals and kindergartens, and that these would naturally want participate in any increase.

The forming of a committee of manufacturers which could devise a means of getting a contribution from their employees of one-cent in the dollar was then proposed, but it was feared that this would lead to considerable dissent among the working men.

The house to house canvassing scheme was set forth in detail. The plan was to wear the residents of a certain district that the canvassers would call on them at a certain time and that they would be expected to give as much as they could afford. In connection with this it was stated that the canvassers were to be ladies, and that the ladies when asked about their willingness to do anything except handle finances. But it was stated last night it would be an easy matter to get together enough lady volunteer workers to do the work of canvassing. Each lady was to take with her cards ready addressed with the name and address of the householder, and they would then enter the amount given.

In order that the various sub-committees might have time to go into the various problems with which they were confronted, more fully, the meeting was adjourned, G. Lyman urging the necessity for vigorous action on the unemployment question, in order that work might be started before the winter sets in.

OTTAWA LABOR IN UNDECIDED MOOD

A convention of the members of the Independent Labor Party, and delegates from the various organized trade unions in the city, including the Railway Brotherhoods, to the ratio of three to every hundred of a union membership, will be held at Carpenter's hall on October 26. At this convention, the question will be finally decided whether the labor party will place candidates in the field for the two Ottawa constituencies in the general election.

This was decided at a meeting of the I. L. P., the discussion at which showed that the membership is pretty evenly divided as to the wisdom of nominating labor candidates for the coming election.

The executive committee brought down a resolution to the effect that Mr. David Loughnan, of the O. W. Y. A., and Ald. N. A. Bordenau be given the nomination of the party, but upon a motion to adopt the resolution being put before the gathering, it was defeated.

The question was raised as to the eligibility of the two proposed candidates for the support of the party; it being claimed that Mr. Loughnan was neither a member of the I. L. P. or of any trades union, while Ald. Bordenau, although a member of the party, did not belong to a trades union.

President J. W. Patterson stated that it was not necessary that the two candidates should be members of the I. L. P. to engage its support. All they needed to do was to ascribe to the platform of the party.

The party delegates did not agree with this viewpoint and claimed that unless the candidates had been members of the I. L. P. in good standing for a period of six months, the membership of the party could not possibly support them without violating its own constitution.

Delegate M. Cain objected to a number of those present voting, declaring they were not members and there was some sharp cross-talk along constitutional points, many saying they should seek the "Open Door Policy," as being detrimental to the future of the I. L. P.

Delegate McCann voiced criticism of placing labor candidates in the field, expressing pessimism as to their chances of success, and saying that a defeat would mean a set-back to organized labor. He declared he didn't feel like allowing the executive of the I. L. P. make a political football out of the labor movement, which present proceeds strongly against the I. L. P. and intimated that members of the executive who had recommended the two candidates for nomination had ridden rough-shod over the views of other members, who although on the executive had never been notified of the meeting at which this decision was arrived at.

Some delegates expressed the opinion that Mr. David Loughnan would make a strong candidate and that his chances of support of all parties outside of the Liberals and Conservatives was a good one.

VICE-PRES. HALFORD SELECTED

Ex-Controller H. J. Halford of Hamilton has been appointed to the long-standing vacancy on the Ontario Workmen's Compensation Board. As a member of the board his salary will be \$7,500 per year, but, as successor to Alex Wright, there is a possibility of his being appointed to the Vice-Chairmanship, in which case his salary will be \$5,500. The situation has been vacant nearly three years.

In Labor circles Mr. Halford is regarded as a prominent, but moderate, labor leader. He is the Vice-President of the Ontario Workmen's Compensation Board, and will be Acting President in the absence of President Tom Moore at the International Labor Conference at Geneva.

The new appointee is a master barber. Labor through President Moore and other sources, has been urging upon the Government the necessity for prompt appointment to the position for some months.

TORONTO TYPOS SUPPLY THE NECESSARY

Members of the Toronto Typographical Union No. 91, who have been on strike since June 1st, will receive a ton of coal as first instalment of a special strike benefit which is being provided by the International Union. Some time ago the International Union headquarters that a considerable sum of money was being set aside for special strike benefit purposes, and it was decided to use this money to supply the men on strike with their winter's fuel.

GROW'S NEST IMPROVING TRADE

Increased activity in industrial circles in the towns in the Kootenay and Crow's Nest districts is reported. Several mills are re-opening and there is also more activity in the mines. A number of the latter have resumed work and hundreds of men have been given employment who were idle for some time. The well known Kimberley mine is one of them, 300 men having been taken on the payroll as a starter. In the northern mining sections of the province there is also reported to be more activity.

Items of Interest from Overseas

UNEMPLOYMENT FIRST PLACE. The session of the British Parliament is intended to be brief, its business being limited to one topic, unemployment, although financial matters inseparable from the business situation must necessarily be handled. It was understood that although measures dealing with the situation had been decided upon by the Government, it was necessary, owing to the rules of the House of Commons, to give that body notice of the introduction of legislation.

The first business to come before the Lower House was a motion from the Government to devote the whole time of the House to the unemployment question.

LOSSES EXPLAINED. A simple explanation of the loss of nearly 2,500,000 by the Co-operative Wholesale Society on the past half-year's trading was given by one of the society's officials.

"The C.W.S.," he said, "depends almost solely for its support on the working classes. Unemployment, partial unemployment, and labor disputes have reduced their incomes, so that they have been able to buy only the absolute necessities of life."

Balance-Sheet Figures. This statement is completely supported by the balance-sheet figures. The official said that the actual value of groceries and provisions supplied to the retail shops during the past six months showed a decrease compared with the corresponding half of last year of 3.53 per cent.

Decreased value of the coal supplied was 23.3-4 per cent.

Drapery goods went down by 55.1-4 per cent, woollens and readymades by 45.1-2 per cent, boots and shoes by 53.1-4 per cent, and furniture by 26 per cent.

The figures for Newcastle and London—the other two big distributing centres—showed a similar relationship, and proved and emphasized the same conclusion, that in the case of any purchase the public could ever, are better off, far out of the 6,000 men, not more than ten are unemployed," it was stated.

What has happened also, our informant proceeded, "is that the goods sold during the past six months have been bought at the highest prices, and that they have had to be written right down in order to give the retail shops a chance of doing trade."

"Despite that, however, there has been no demand for drapery, boots and shoes, furniture, and so on."

Further conversation brought the information that the loss will not affect dividends, at any rate directly.

Asked about the outlook, the official said that the "C.W.S." was practically in the same position as every other trading house and manufacturing concern, and there did not seem to be much sign at the moment of any immediate trade revival.

On the other hand, since the "C.W.S." last balance sheet was made up, the tendency had been downward.

RESULT OF BALLOT. The result of the second ballot—the first was abandoned through a misunderstanding—for the election of the new General Council, which is to take the place of the Parliamentary Committee of the Trade Unions Congress, was announced last night. Mr. Robert Smilie heads the list of the mining group with 5,338,000 votes, and he has as his colleague Mr. H. Murnin, also nominated by the Miners' Federation. Mr. Smilie obtained the largest aggregate vote ever polled in a Trade Unions Congress ballot.

Manchester.—The Building Guild, while it continues to make large scale contracts for municipal housing schemes, is developing quite rapidly other forms of business commonly undertaken by ordinary builders.

Among the bigger things in-hand is a contract just sealed with Walsley Corporation for the erection of 78 houses, and a new contract with the Glamorgan County Council for the houses and necessary farm buildings for five further sets of small holdings.

This brings the Guild's work for the County Authority up to £20,000 worth.

The Health Ministry has also sanctioned a contract for a £100,000 housing scheme for Dunfermline, and the

MONTREAL TYPOS PRODUCE EVIDENCE

Montreal Typographical Union No. 174 has London a statement, made by the Master Printers of America with the International Typographical Union, by which the shorter hours are to be granted on May 1 of that year. The statement was held to decide whether the offer of an \$5 a week increase, from \$24 to \$29, was to be accepted, with the working hours standing at the same level as before.

In view of the fact that the forty-four hour week will come automatically in two years, the printers in favor held that this should be accepted and no strike vote taken. There are about 300 newspaper typographical men in the union who are not affected by any decision, and it is probable that they did not vote, thus making the small vote registered.

Chicago.—Organized fur workers are defeating the bosses' attempt to cut wages \$10 per week. To date nearly 10,000 settlements have been made by the union. Some of the employers are members of the employers association, which failed to drive independent manufacturers into its wage-cutting camp.

HISTORIC BASIS OF TRADE UNIONS SUPPORTING OUTLAWED LEADER

It is a universal law that forces all elements of a kindred nature to assimilate with each other in a degree which is impossible of attainment by elements of forces foreign to each other. The organization of the trade guilds of a past age, wherein the manufacturers and dealers in certain commodities organized in their respective trades for the regulation of the methods of doing their business, was in harmony and in recognition of this law. The guilds of the past age, wherein the manufacturers and dealers developed as a natural consequence the trade unions of the wage-workers for the protection of their interests. Although their early attempts at organization seem to us today to be crude and primitive, yet in their own day they were the prevailing idea from their inception was, that none but those actively engaged in, or connected with, the particular trade were eligible to membership in its organization.

This central idea has been uppermost throughout the varying stages and methods of organization of wage workers, and is in harmony with the universal law before referred to. The trade unions may therefore be said to have an historic basis, and as the time and varying conditions have shown the weak spots in their methods, it has also demonstrated that the organizations of individuals with a mutual identity of interests preserve the cohesiveness of their forces, as a striking body, and as a body which give unity and stability in their laws, their scale of wages, their hours of labor and other regulations of the conditions under which they work, in a degree which is impossible where this common identity of interest is wanting.

Such an organization can treat with similar organizations of employers through intelligent representatives of their own selection; men who possess a full knowledge of the wants and necessities of those for whom they are authorized to speak; together with all the conditions, and trade technicalities understood only by practical workers at the occupation which they may be engaged in, and result in doing away with passion, excitement and those misunderstandings which so frequently result from not fully comprehending the demands of each party to a controversy.

A trade union—wherein each and every individual member has the sole power to determine for himself what course he shall pursue without being dictated to or coerced by others who may have no interest in common with him, possesses in an eminent degree elements of strength which organization cannot possess.

There have been, and are at present, labor organizations whose product is that their doors are so wide that they admit to membership all classes and conditions of men and women, with perhaps one or two exceptions. Such systems of organization has the advantage of a larger and broader field from which to recruit its membership, not being confined to any one particular trade or calling, as a trade union must necessarily be, but while such system may be numerically strong, it is really most inherently weak, as the cohesiveness born of mutual interests is wanting, while on the other hand men can obtain access to its membership for no other purpose than the advancement of their own personal interests, or to ride their own peculiar hobbies.

Admission to trade unions of this class of undesirable persons is practically impossible, those only who are working at their trade or occupation being eligible to membership. While it is conceded that all who toil for a living have many interests in common and are suffering alike from conditions from which they would gladly escape, it must also be admitted that the organization of a particular trade, calling or occupation, by itself, acting for itself, with laws of its own creation, framed appropriately to its own conditions and surroundings, acting in harmony or conjunction with other bodies similarly organized, will tend to contribute more to the common welfare of all than promiscuous bodies of workers thrown together into an organization which has for its object numerical strength, rather than unanimity of purpose, solidity of forces and compactness of organization. Trade unions have on account of their system or organization been sometimes called selfish, but it must be remembered that they were born out of the selfishness and greed of the employing class at a time when it required the greatest personal heroism to organize and maintain them against persecution and their history ever since is replete with demonstrations of noble deeds and sacrifices made solely in the interests of humanity.

ONTARIO CITIZENS LEAGUE ACTIVE

It is announced by the Citizens' Liberty League for Ontario that they have received a total of 185,000 signatures to their petition to the Premier of the province asking that the Ontario Temperance Act be amended to embrace a system of Government control for the sale of spirituous liquors, and for permission to purchase beer and wines under a system to be devised by the Government, and that a referendum be held on the question of Government control. The petition will be kept in circulation month by month until 100,000 signatures have been received.

London.—A determined effort is to be made to bring down the price of household coal. In London this stands at present at 65s per ton, and throughout the country the price is in the same ratio.

The pithead price varies from 30s to 35s per ton; in some cases it is even less, and Wrexham coal was quoted recently at 27s.

The extreme figure for transport by rail is 10s 6d per ton, with the addition of 2s per ton for truck hire. This makes a total of 48s 6d, but London consumers are charged 66s 8d, giving a profit in the London merchant of 18s.

In all parts of the country the same state of affairs is experienced, and in the North, which is in close proximity to the coalfields, the selling price was 62s for coal produced not 50 miles distance at a pit top price of 27s.

In London the movement to bring



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DISARMAMENT APPEAL OF LABOR

A. F. of L. and its kindred makes appeal for world peace, stating that if the public accept militarists and commercial expansionists as authority on armament, the nation is headed for a kaizerized democracy.

If the public permit racial prejudice to grip them they must pay the cost in back-breaking taxes for military establishments.

If the public neglect domestic markets to aid commercial expansionists in foreign lands, the alleged gain will be more than neutralized by battleship costs and preparedness bonds.

Today our country votes dollars for war and pennies for construction and peace.

Out of every dollar appropriated by congress in 1920, 93.6-10 cents was for war and its effects and 6.4-10 cents for peace.

This policy can be changed if the people refuse to longer accept the viewpoints of those who profit by war.

The conscience of the nation must be massed behind the armament conference that will convene in Washington, November 11.

On that date demonstrations under the auspices of organized labor will be held throughout the land, and President Gompers has cabled the suggestion to organized labor in England, France, Italy and Japan that similar action be taken by them.

The immensity of these meetings, their determination and their inclusion of all citizens should stagger the militarist and stand patter.

These militarists are not invincible. They are powerful because they continue unchallenged. They can be engulfed in a Niagara of public opinion for disarmament.

The people can sweep them aside as chaff and bend every public official to their will if they but express it. Most public officials would welcome this force.

Militarism thrives on the people's awe of an alleged power, on their indifference to duties, and on the false concept of those who imagine that shouts to the flag is patriotism of a high order.

The alleged power of privilege and greed is ludicrous before determined, intelligent citizens.

Labor's Armistice day demonstrations should be taken advantage of by every believer in harmony and concord between nations.

Those who block this ideal should be shoved aside.

Petty partisanship and the struggle of individuals for prestige and place are nothing.

The one question is: "Shall our country stop building war machines and devote our energies to construction and peace?"

Nothing else is important. Nothing else counts. The question reaches into every home, into every pocketbook, into every pay envelope in America.

Shun the man who ignores the great principle involved and discusses individuals, incidents or side issues.

ORGANIZATION MUST TRIUMPH

Mass meetings of labor are being held everywhere. The labor press and unions breathe deeply the spirit of fraternity which has been awakened in the heart of organized labor. Workers understand the motives of the opponents of the labor movement. Understanding, they are firm in their devotion to its principles. They knew what the destruction of the labor movement would mean to them and their families. It is idle, therefore, for any set of employers or hired attorneys to endeavor to deprive organized labor of such elementary rights as moral suasion, the giving and receiving of information, the use of the public highways, and, in short, just as idle as it is to seek to abolish the right of labor to choose employers and associates and to make union shop contracts.

So long as the country remains free these rights will be exercised in one way or another. They will be enjoyed practically in spite of fulmination and legal sophistry. Common sense will prevail in the end; reason and consistency will reassert themselves in the courts. If not, there will be constitutional reform to curb the judicial legislators and confine them to their proper functions.

No doubt there was a time when the shortsighted, bigoted employers thought unionism could and would be crushed by injunctions, damage suits, denunciation, and similar weapons. They ought to know better now. What have they accomplished? Labor is stronger than ever. The unions have not dissolved; the policy of labor has not changed. Mistakes have been made, and the same errors will be avoided in the future. But all the essential features of the unionist movement have remained unimpaired.

The assaults have failed; they have been repulsed. Would it not be wiser and more profitable for employers to abandon futile methods and try the policy of fair play, honest dealing, and friendly relations with their organized employees, and the latter's duly elected representatives?

Sooner or later this course will have to be adopted by them, and our effort is to bring it into full and general operation at the earliest possible time and thus avoid many unnecessary controversies and contests.—Exchange.

SLEEP.

Sleep is nature's method of restoring you, of resting your body and mind, and keeping you fit.

If you are "done in" when you get home from the office or shop, rest for ten or fifteen minutes before you eat. You will find it is time well spent.

Get from seven to eight hours sleep every night.

A TRUE STORY.

"I was working on a cup machine and another lad had a big greasy rag in his hand. He accidentally threw it aside, not looking where it was going. The suction of my machine helped to draw the rag and caught my hand. I just pulled my hand out in time or it would have taken my whole hand off. Well, it healed up very nicely and it was all better in a couple of months. I wrote this to try to stop any more accidents. I think it is best to be safe than sorry."

EIGHT YEARS.

For nearly eight years we have asked you to BE CAREFUL, and are asking you the same thing now. Never take a chance—Play Safe.

AN UNEQUAL SITUATION

For the year ending March 31, 1918, Canadians bought from the United States goods valued at \$791,906,125; during the same period, citizens of that country bought from Canada only \$441,390,920 worth of goods.

Thus 7,500,000 Canadians bought nearly twice as much from the United States as 97,000,000 Americans bought from us.

Isn't it about time that we in Canada woke up?

How foolhardy talk is then about a reduction in our protective tariff!

TOO LARGE A PROPORTION OF OUR PURCHASES ARE MADE ABROAD NOW. PROTECT THE TARIFF OR IT WILL BE WORSE.

HULL TRADES AND LABOR COUNCIL

At the regular meeting of the Hull Trades and Labor Association, President Hebert in the chair, the terrible condition of the Hull approach to the Chaudiere bridge was brought up by Delegate Brulay, upon whose motion a letter will be sent to the Hull city council, asking that it be repaired.

Delegate Paradis wanted the Hull Street Railway Company to foot the bill, but President Hebert pointed out that it was up to the municipality, and it should be repaired at once in view of the fact that the Ottawa authorities had done their share in attempting to make the bridge passable.

It was also decided to form a branch of the Independent Labor Party, and \$10 was voted to form the nucleus of a fund for this purpose, and a committee composed of Delegates Paradis, Thibault, Tremblay, Laurin and Dagenais will have charge of the preliminary work.

Delegate Paradis, in voicing the necessity for a labor representative in the Dominion parliament for Hull

WINNIPEG TYPOS MORE THAN HALF VICTORS

Progress is still going on in the county, said that the old politics of twenty-five years ago, when the residents of Hull and Wright county were content with the two old political parties, had gone, and a progressive party had come into being and was making its presence felt. A committee composed of Delegates Thibault, Paradis, Dagenais, and Tremblay was formed to consider the advisability of putting a labor candidate in the field. At the suggestion of President Hebert a letter will be sent to the Hull city council, expressing the opinion that the property owners should vote in favor of the bylaw to raise \$50,000 to be spent in local improvements, provided that works undertaken be done by day labor. He thought that if this was done the city would be able to give work to many of the unemployed and would at the same time be able to take advantage of the assistance promised by the Dominion government in the sustaining of the unemployed.

fight for the 44 hour week in the job printing industry in Winnipeg, says the Western Labor News. After thirteen weeks of bitter fighting, 65 per cent of the shops have signed up for the 44-hour week and are working at high pressure. Orders are pouring in, taxing to the limit the efforts of the staffs to handle the work, and as a result a large number of locked out men are getting work from time to time.

There is no destitution among the printers yet locked out. Hunger and privations, the world's greatest strike breakers, who have been invoked for aid by the open shop interests in Winnipeg, have failed to act. With unlimited funds, the union can hold out indefinitely and the men are prepared to do so until the most

rabid anti-union employer has been compelled to deal squarely with the workers or is forced out of business.

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"Yours very truly,"
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Canadian railroads will not be affected by the strike on lines in the United States, according to Mr. Lee. He said, the wage dispute on the Canadian roads had been amicably settled.

First conference on plans for carrying forward the general railroad strike were begun.

With W. G. Lee, president of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, already on the job directing plans for the walk-out of members of his



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organization, Mr. Stone, conferring with his immediate subordinates, the three leaders of the other big five transportation organizations. The three other leaders are: L. E. Shepard, president of the Order of Railroad Conductors; W. S. Carter, president of the Brotherhood of Firemen and Enginemen, and T. C. Cashen, president of the Switchmen's Union of North America.

"The men have been asked to accept what is an inadequate living wage. They know the railroads are taking unfair advantage of business depression to force them to accept unfair wages and service conditions. To state the matter briefly, they believe that the companies are going to continue their aggressive warfare against them until they force the men to strike. Therefore, they must reluctantly decide to accept the challenge now."

Mr. Lee's statement in part follows:

"The wages of train and yard service employees were fixed in 1913 and were not changed, except in a very few minor instances, until January 1, 1918. Time and one-half for overtime was not allowed yard employees until April 10, 1919, and for road employees until December 1, 1919. The award of the United States Railroad Labor Board which fixed wages at the peak, became effective May 1, 1920, while the wage reduction on which the present controversy hinges became effective July 1, 1921. The further demands for the elimination of time and one-half for overtime, rules allowing extra pay for extra service performed, and further wage reductions, were made following the award effective July 1, 1921.

"From 1913, through the period in which this country became commercially interested in the European war and until January 1, 1918, transportation employees did not receive any advance in their daily or monthly wages. The enactment of the Atlantic Coast Line Act, which was declared constitutional March 19, 1917, did not increase either the daily or monthly wages of the men interested."

"For the purpose of clearness we offer for exhibit the wages of a through freight brakeman running into New York in 1913, whose wages were fixed by the arbitration of that year and which wage rate remained in full force and effect until January 1, 1918. This is a typical wage earned by an employee whose class transports more than 90 per cent of the freight business of this country. This employee received in the eastern territory \$2.67 for his normal day's work of 100 miles within

10 hours, or \$80.10 for a 30-day month. With the increase of January 1, 1918, he received approximately \$1.04 additional, which made his daily rate \$3.71 and his monthly wage for a 30-day month \$111.29. Supplement number 16, effective January 1, 1919, brought his daily rate to \$4.08 and his monthly wage for a 30-day month \$122.40, and the decision of the United States Railroad Labor Board, effective May 1, 1920, brought the daily rate of the through freight brakeman running into New York to \$5.12, which, multiplied by 30 days for the month, gave him a monthly wage of \$153.60. The wage decrease, effective July 1, 1921, reduced the monthly rate to \$124.00 for 30 days' service, on which amount he is expected to maintain himself and family decently and reasonably, and he cannot do it, as everyone who is trying to maintain an American standard of living understands.

"Another source of aggravation to the employees, which they bitterly resent, is the disposition of the railroads to take away from them all of the advantages that were gained during the recent years."

Official Washington's interest in the impending strike centered in the reaction of railway executives and labor leaders to the proposal of the public group of the Railroad Labor Board of "one feasible plan" to prevent the tie-up of the country's transportation system. In brief the board proposed:

1. That the railroads immediately put into effect freight reductions equivalent to the wage reductions authorized last July.
2. That requests for further wage decreases be withdrawn.
3. That the employees withdraw their strike order pending action of the board upon any request for further wage reductions which the carriers subsequently might file.

Federal action in connection with the strike had been confined up to today to the conferences arranged by President Harding between the public group of the Labor Board and the Interstate Commerce Commission, the impression being that the President intended to leave the matter temporarily in the hands of the two agencies created by law to supervise railroad transportation.

Figures collected by railroad men give some idea of the magnitude of the threatened railroad strike.

The United States railway system now facing a strike is ten times larger than the British railway system, which recently was the scene of the world's last great railway strike.

Two years ago the operating revenues of the United States railroads stood at \$5,184,000,000 and operating expenses ran to \$4,419,

000,000. The average number of miles operated was 233,991. Number of revenue passengers carried the first half of last year was 597,266,432, and freight tonnage handled in this period amounted to 1,031,645,138 tons. Railway employees two years ago numbered 1,977,516.

The largest of the roads listed in group one of the roads is the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul, which has a trackage of 10,961 miles and runs through most of the states in the northern tier between Chicago and the Pacific coast. The Chicago and Northwestern, covering the central and north central states, is the second largest, its mileage totalling 10,155. The Southern Pacific has a larger mileage than either of the above roads, but part of its system runs into Mexico and it is not yet known whether the strike will affect that country.

An alteration in details of the plan announced gave the eastern states at least two days of grace before the proposed walkout would become effective in that region. The Pennsylvania and the Erie roads, included originally in the first group on which the strike was ordered, were removed from the list, thus excluding at the start all states east of Chicago and north of the Ohio river.

Under this plan, with the men on the roads in group No. 1 walking out Oct. 30, the strike would be in full effect Nov. 5.

The Louisville and Nashville Railroad also was dropped from the first group, according to the list given out by union leaders.

These changes were said by union leaders to complete assignment of roads to the first group on which walkouts would take place and the following was made known as the official list of carriers in that group: Kansas City Southern, Missouri Pacific, St. Louis Southwestern (Cotton Belt), International and Great Northern, Texas and Pacific, Southern Pacific (Atlantic system, including Houston, east and west; Texas & Houston; Texas Central), Southern Pacific (Pacific system), San Diego and Arizona (Chicago and Northwestern), Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul, except Chicago, Terre Haute and Southeastern; Northern, Southern Railway (lines east and west); Seaboard Air Line, Virginian Railroad, Chicago Great Western, Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific.

While no official information was forthcoming as to what group the Pennsylvania lines would be placed in, it was understood that they would be assigned to group three on which the walkouts are scheduled to start Nov. 3. All walkouts are scheduled to begin at six a.m., standard time.

The union forces gained strength when Thomas M. Pierson, the vice-president of the Order of Railroad Telegraphers, announced that the 81,000 members of his organization positively were pledged to strike and that they would make every effort to completely tie up the country's transportation system.

"It is out to tie them up so completely that it will be impossible for a train to move," said Mr. Pierson. "If every telegrapher quits work that will mean that no train orders can be issued and trains will be at a standstill. No question but that we will order our members out until October 30 but final instructions probably will not be issued until October 31."

The shop crafts' unions, comprising about 476,000 employees, deferred the formal issuance of a strike call pending a meeting to be held, but their leaders have officially announced that their organizations will be called out and help in sending out the call has been cascaded thereby by the time needed to draft the final plans and orders.

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RIG BACK TO FARM MOVEMENT

The high tide in the movement "Back to the Farm" seems to have arrived with the announcement by the Stroud Farm Agency of New York that they recently sold more than one million dollars worth of improved farms in four successive days. The average selling price of the farms was slightly under \$5,000, the lowest purchase price being \$550 for a farm in Vermont, and the highest \$22,000 in New York State. Other sales covered the entire range between these two extremes, embracing improved farms in more than thirty different states. A large proportion

of the buyers were city men who are buying for permanent homes. All present indications are said to point to a continued increase in the number of farm properties to be purchased and occupied before the end of the year.

Pickets are still active and strike-breakers are turning out very poor work, reports the B.C. Labor News. Every now and again one of the employers loses an employe through the activity of the pickets, and they are also losing some jobs. Last week a firm lost an \$800 job because it could not supply the union labor.

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LABOR WANTS ELECTION.

At a meeting between Right Hon. T. J. MacNamara, minister of Labor, and representatives of the Labor party made little progress with the unemployment problem. Regarding an enlargement of the export credit agreement has yet been reached owing to the indecision concerning the extent of the guarantees likely to be required.

The Laborites are known to regard the suggestion of aid to emigration dubiously, contending that the prospects in the Dominion are not so rosy as the advocates of that policy are apt to declare. Labor opinion is also hardening against the proposals of a twopenny weekly levy, on all workers. Arthur Henderson, secretary of the Labor party, speaking at Edinburgh, said the Labor executive were convinced that there must be an early general election. Although Labor is prepared to give all assistance possible, the government, he said, must accept full responsibility for its own policy. There could be no effective solution until the international situation was boldly faced.

WANTS LABOR REPRESENTED.

Lord Robert Cecil, speaking at Hull, said he considered the great blot on the League of Nations was the fact that it contained no working men delegates. He emphasized the urgent need of government control of the manufacture of arms in order to minimize incitements to war. He held that Germany ought to be admitted to the league, and he believed would have been admitted at the recent assembly if she had applied.

JOBLESS PARADES.

A section of London's out of work were felled through police efforts to hold their demonstration at Trafalgar Square, and the final result was in a clash, in which several of those who had taken part in the long three hour march received injuries.

At Sheffield 10,000 jobless assembled and adopted resolutions demanding increased doles, the opening up of trade with Russia, and the release of all political prisoners. A deputation visited the Lord Mayor, who promised to put their case before the Ministry of Health.

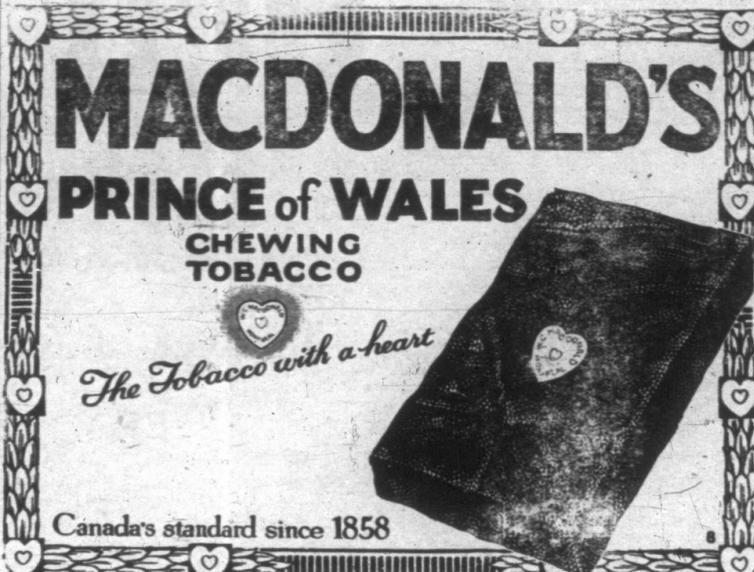
At Manchester several thousands assembled at the Town Hall, while a deputation waited on the Lord Mayor. According to reports, the Sheffield and Manchester demonstrations were entirely orderly.

RATION UNEMPLOYED.

After a long discussion of the unemployment problem, of England the Manchester Chamber of Commerce has suggested that the government enforce a system of rationing of work so as to spread it among the greatest number of workers.

The chamber has also memorialized the premier remarking on the distinct improvement noticeable in the textile trade and urging the cancellation entirely or partially of the inter-union industrial agreements in order to maintain this, in order to maintain this, in order to maintain this.

It was further declared by this important mercantile organization that while generally admitting the importance of a wise and reasonable policy being maintained by the



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PRINCE OF WALES
 CHEWING TOBACCO
The Tobacco with a heart
 Canada's standard since 1858

banks it was felt that caution was being carried in some directions to a greater degree than events justified. It was thought that nothing in the nature of a further inflation should be permitted.

PRICES TO FALL.

The National Town Planning Council declares that the present position of the building world will within a few weeks bring a break in prices of building material and labor. It is anticipated that by the middle of next year two hundred thousand houses will have been built by local authorities in the United Kingdom.

TORONTO OFFICIAL DERIVES INFORMATION.

For the purpose of aiding the city of Toronto in adopting relief measures during the winter, Dr. C. J. O. Hastings, Medical Officer of Health, has sent a questionnaire to the Board of Trade, Canadian Manufacturers' Association, Trades and Labor Council and managers of the larger industries, to ascertain how the unemployment situation compares with the years 1913 and 1920.

This information is desired so that whatever is done will work toward definite objects—first, to provide adequate work; and, secondly, to get some return for the money expended. It is recognized in some cases work will have to be provided for men who are not more than 50 per cent. efficient, and in this respect the cost will be high, but it is hoped that this

MONTEAL TRADES COUNCIL.

Representatives of the Metal Trades Council waited upon the Hon. C. C. Ballantyne at Montreal, and asked his assistance in obtaining employment for the idle metal workers of this city, of whom they alleged there are 5,000. They suggested to the Minister that work might be found for them in the various ship yards. Mr. Ballantyne promised to take the matter into serious consideration.

Hard times are reported among the cloak, suit and raincoat workers. Out of the 1,500 members of local unions there are 1,300 men out of work, according to the statement of one official today. Only 200 have steady employment, he claimed. Members of the Clothing Workers' Union, however, are better off, for out of the 4,000 men not more than 10 are unemployed, it was stated.

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