

UNEMPLOYMENT AS IS FOR SOLUTION

EVIDENCE IN HAMILTON BUILDING TRADES DISPUTE

Dealing with the Building Trades dispute in Hamilton some of the evidence presented was as follows:—

Charles Turner, a sheet metal worker, told the board that employers had excessive profits, for, while they paid their men only 85c and 90c an hour, they charged \$1.50 an hour. J. B. Hiddell, a contractor, claimed that the contractors' charge was not unreasonable, since they had to set aside 65c for overhead charges.

The plasterers' case was then taken up. M. J. J. said that six firms were not paying the scale the men wanted. It was the heavy cost of material, and not of wages, that caused high plastering prices. A reduction of 5c an hour in the pay of plasterers would amount to a saving of only about \$10 on the ordinary house.

H. Longfellow, for the engineers, said their pay was graded from 90c to \$1.05 an hour. W. J. Burr, a former hoisting engineer, now an engineer at the city hospital, was working for 55c an hour, and would not take a job as a hoisting engineer again at 90c. As he considered himself better off now because he lost no time.

J. Noble, an electrical worker did not think a cut in wages would stimulate building. Labor represented only 541-4c out of \$1 in the cost of building. Edward J. Hason testified that plasterers' wages ran from 55c to 75c an hour. The 55c rate was a starvation wage. Men could not pay their rent on it.

When H. G. Foster, Corresponding Secretary of the Trades and Labor Council, quoted figures to show that the cost of keeping a family of five was \$1,738 a year, Judge Staines remarked that many school teachers, ministers and lawyers were not receiving as much as many working people.

Mr. Foster said that was because they did not have the intelligence to organize.

According to the Federal Department of Labor budget \$1,436 was required for the upkeep of a family, which would necessitate an hourly wage of 90c. J. M. Piggott, who represents the contractors on the board, wanted to know what would become of the employers if industry were unable to stand the amount of wages required for the family budget.

A. Dickenson, Business Agent of the Carpenters' Union, said that the average wage of mechanics in Hamilton factories as given by E. Kent, was 73c an hour, while carpenters, who represent the contractors on the board, averaged only 45c an hour. Fred Molleaux, organizer of the Painters' Union, said the master painters in St. Catharines did business on 29 per cent. overhead expenses, while Hamilton painters figured on 47 per cent.

The journeyman painter got 47-1-3c an hour and his employer charged 41c an hour. J. H. Kennedy, organizer of the Sheet Metal Workers, pointed out that sheet metal workers in Toronto received 90c an hour and those in Windsor 81c, while in Hamilton they received only 85c.

MONTEAL STREET RAILWAY MEN APPLY FOR BOARD

After a meeting lasting nearly three hours some thousand members of the Montreal Tramway Employees' Union tonight unanimously decided to suspend four parliaments entered into with the Montreal tramways company by their negotiations committee and to apply to the Department of Labor and to the Industrial Disputes Act to adjudicate between the company and the men in connection with the proposed wage cut of twenty per cent. to become effective Aug. 1st.

Vice-President E. Ebert and Secretary Bonbonniere were entrusted with the duty of making application serving the same in person to the Acting Deputy Minister G. H. Brown, on Tuesday last.

VELVET GLOVE CONCEALS IRON ANTI-LABOR FIST

Says the A.F. of L. news letter that every advance by labor is marked by three stages—open antagonism, alleged friendship with hostile design, and final acceptance.

These stages are clearly marked as labor develops power and ability to shape a substantial public opinion for the cause it pleads at that special time.

When cornered the second stage is the "velvet-glove" period, and now confound organized labor in the form of company "unions," which their backers call "industrial democracy" and "employers' representation."

Wage earners have forced practically all opponents to outwardly accept the principle of labor organization. Conspiracy laws have been annulled, and the men who no longer dare favor these laws organize company "unions" for employees. In every instance the employer holds the veto power over decisions by these "unions."

It makes no difference to them employers whether they deal with their workers as individuals, or through petty bosses. Whether through agents, or directly in its last analysis the employer is as much as

BELGIUM ACCEPTS 8 HOURS

BRUSSELS, Belgium.—The eight-hour day and 48-hour week are established by law in this country. In a letter to the ministry of industry, labor and food, the king said: "I have just ratified the hours of employment act, the result of long discussions in parliament and of an agreement for which the chamber and the senate have made a praiseworthy effort of conciliation. The eight-hour day has therefore been won legally. It remains now to win it from an economic point of view." The king urged greater production on the part of workers, and new methods on the part of the employer that Belgium may export to sustain two-thirds of its population. This country can only support one-third of its population, the remainder depending on industry and commerce.

RAILROADERS HEADS IN CONFERENCE

Prominent railroad executives and the chiefs of four international railway brotherhoods met in conference at Montreal for the purpose of discussing the revised rates of wages which have been submitted by a median committee in the form of a tentative agreement calling for an average wage reduction of 12 per cent. The employees concerned in the conference are engineers, firemen, conductors, and trainmen. The railroad officials will include Grant Hall, vice-president of the Canadian Pacific Railway; S. J. Hanerford, vice-president of the Canadian National Railway; W. D. Robb, vice-president of the Grand Trunk Railway and others.

Railroad officials will include W. G. Lee, president of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen; of Cleveland; W. S. Carter, president of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Engineers; W. S. Stone, chief engineer Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, of Cleveland, and L. F. Sheppard, president of the Order of Railway Conductors of Cedar Rapids, Ia., together with certain local railroad unions.

Shop employees and maintenance of way men have accepted tentative agreements affecting about 40,000 men as from July 16th last.

PROFITING PRICES SHOWN

An investigation by a Montreal paper discloses the fact that housewives are paying 15 to 20 cents a pound more for meat than they should. There has recently on account of the cattle being dumped on the market through inability of the Quebec farmers to feed stock during the drought, been a tremendous decline of the live stock market in prices. The butchers have ignored it and the paper is urging housewives to organize and draw their attention to it. The newspaper shows where the butchers are making as much as 200 per cent. gross profit on some lines of meat.

INVITED TO QUEBEC CONVENTION

An invitation has been sent to His Eminence Cardinal Beign, archbishop of the diocese of Quebec, to open the big convention of the International Typographical Union, which will begin at Quebec on August 8.

Invitations will also be sent to the new governor-general, Hon. Arthur Meighen, prime minister; Hon. Gideon Robertson, minister of labor; Hon. Hugh Guthrie, minister of militia and defence; the Lieutenant Governor; Premier Taschereau; Hon. A. Galipeau, Mayor Samson, Major C. G. Power, M.P., and others.

BUY CANADIAN GOODS, AND

Exchange will be a joke; 'Twill keep the wheels of trading at work for Canadian folk;

Don't spend your cash on goods Produced in foreign lands afar, And mighty soon, the Canadian 'Done' will climb right back at par;

For while we're fond of Uncle Sam and like him as a neighbor, We're first of all for Canada—It's Capital and Labor.

CALGARY TRADES COUNCIL

The Calgary Trades and Labor congress will carry on for another year without the aid of an organized. This was decided upon at the regular meeting of the trades council, held in the labor temple last evening. The condition of the council at the present time is such that they decided that it would be better to carry on under voluntary conditions, and on a motion to lay that matter over for another year was carried without a dissenting voice.

Several of the unions, who have paid the special per capita tax will be informed that the donation will be placed to their credit.

The delegates who were present at the meeting decided that electing delegates to the Dominion Convention of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada at Winnipeg being laid over until next week.

The council also voted the sum of \$25 to the Dominion Labor party for election expenses.

WRITES OBITUARY O.B.U.

Former International Organizer, R. C. McCutchen, presents his summary of the western situation in the following:—

It will no doubt be of interest to the readers of labor papers throughout Canada, to have a report in regard to the conditions of the labor unions throughout Western Canada, particularly upon the railroads, and as the writer has just returned from a three month trip during which all of the railroad division points in Western Canada were visited and who feels that he can speak from first hand information and experience on the subject for that section.

Dealing with the general situation relative to the labor unions in the larger cities, not including Winnipeg, aside from the bricklayers in Regina, Ia., to a very small extent the building trades in Vancouver, the O.B.U. secessionist movement's effect on the building trades unions has been negligible, while the street railway men, printing trades, needle trades, barbers, civil employees, teamsters, theatrical trades, culinary workers, etc., have not been effected to any noticeable extent by the secessionist movement.

In Calgary all that remains of the I.O.O.F. members, made up largely of O.B.U. is a small unit of about fifty C.E.R. shopmen. There used to be a metal trades unit, but it has been out of business for a long time.

In Vancouver, we were informed by the O.B.U.'s (if they were telling the truth, east of the mountains) that the I.O.O.F. is a unit of about 100 members, yet the facts are, a small unit of building tradesmen, that were never able to do anything but "squat" about what the International should do, etc., as per Winnipig, and about all else ever did or accomplished. The I.O.O.F. is a unit of pile-drivers and a miscellaneous unit that starts from nowhere and ends at the same place, and whose main function seems to be a critic of the International Unions.

The above is a large city like Vancouver, which demonstrates how "solid" the workers are in the secessionist movement, where even the longshoremen, to which Pritchard and Cavanagh does or did belong, is still a part of that International organization.

Ship-building unions on the coast like the Canadian Pacific and the U.S. and Canada, have been seriously affected by the stoppage of ship-building.

As is generally known the loggers and lumberworkers that are organized in British Columbia, have severed their connections with the O.B.U., and are maintaining an independent industrial union, and the writer has listened to members of that organization, vilify and attack the O.B.U., or its officers as viciously as the O.B.U.'s ever did the Internationals. A Space

At Prince Rupert there is or was a forbids quoting some of the choice words of the O.B.U. made up of metal-miners, fish-packers, ship-yard men, railroad employees, etc., but not with sufficient numbers in any industry to maintain the various functions of a labor union, while at Victoria a small miscellaneous unit is in existence.

On the railroads in Western Canada, there is now about six places, where the O.B.U. is a serious factor, that is sufficiently strong to interfere with the other unions' proper conduct of their members' affairs that connect with the shop trades. These points are Calgary, Dauphin, Radville, Port Arthur, Winnipeg and with the carmen at Saskatchewan and to a small extent on the C.N.R. at Edmonton, while at Dauphin, Port Arthur and Radville the carmen are in their International.

At Fort Mann, which is the western terminal of the C.N.R. and which was one of the strongest points on the railroads for the O.B.U. in the month of March. Out of about 165 shopmen 110 of them were again members in the I.O.O.F. of the International unions, and with at least 25 of the others in nothing. Out of 131 possible railroad members at Prince Rupert, 19 are reported as being members of the secessionist movement.

While there is a few scattered members at other points, they are so few in numbers that they are unimportant, and in most cases they are honest and frank enough to admit that the prospects for the O.B.U. performing the ordinary functions of a labor union were far from bright, but were basing their falling hopes on the possibility of the boys who were in all, being able to accomplish much for the organization as soon as they went on the road organizing.

Now that Organizer Russell, Johns (Continued on page 3)

MUNICIPAL HEADS REALIZE SERIOUSNESS OF UNEMPLOYMENT

Coming directly in touch with the general seekers for work, the seriousness of the unemployment is being brought home forcibly to the municipal heads from the mayors of the cities to the Reeves of the burghs. It is not so much the seriousness of the situation in the balmy summer which in itself is creating misgivings but analyzing what is to follow when climatic conditions aid to a general cessation of building and work for the laborer.

Among other chief magistrates asking for action is Mayor Plant of the Dominion Capital who is making an appeal to building contractors and other employers of labor urging that they cooperate in providing as much work as possible so that the unemployment situation may not be unduly aggravated. He has written various men and firms as follows:—

"With every confidence of your co-operation to the full extent, I wish to solicit your assistance in meeting a situation which is very grave and which promises to become more acute as the winter approaches.

"As mayor, each day I have to deal with many citizens who are out of work and who are willing to do any kind of labor to support themselves and their families. Many of these are returned men and some have not the bare necessities of life. The city has done its utmost in opening up all work possible.

"With the labor situation improved as regards the rate of wages, and with the men more than anxious to give a full day's work for a day's pay, it is really a profitable time to proceed with construction of any kind. Once the winter is passed the situation will doubtless have improved but unless new work is undertaken at once, the conditions will be aggravated as the winter approaches and a cold weather will find hardship and suffering in many families.

"Is there no work you can assist in opening up—some construction that possibly you had decided to leave over until next spring? If the laboring men are in want the whole city will suffer and so it is in the best interest of all to provide work if at all possible. The men do not ask charity, and with the government, the city and the employers of labor co-operating, charity should not be necessary.

"I would be most happy to have any suggestions which you may care to make to meet the situation and hope for your earnest co-operation."

From Kingston, Ont., Mayor Niekie states that in the public auction sales that take place weekly here are furniture and even carpets that are being sold by their owners in order to meet rent and buy food for the family. He says that many workmen here are undernourished and are unable to do a day's work. He cited a case where a workman and his family subsisted on bread and milk for four days, a diet wholly unfit for a man handling a pick and shovel.

From Vancouver it is stated that the situation has not improved to any material extent. Many thousands are still out of work and there appears to be no improvement in sight.

The city is providing relief work for a number of men, but this relief is confined to the married men, only aged single men who would have to be provided for by the city are being given any employment. And what is the situation as cited in the various cities seems to be prevalent throughout the continent.

SAYS WORLD WAR DOOMED OTTAWA PLUMBERS WIN THEIR CASE

MANCHESTER, England.—The world war has aroused workers to the drab existence and "militarized" life in industry as conducted today, says the Manchester Guardian, which declares that "the war has been followed everywhere by a reduction of the working day."

This newspaper agrees to the evils of the housing situation and wage reductions, and says many blessings promised have not been forthcoming, but the workers have won in every country so many hours a week from the life of factory or mine.

"What has been the driving force behind this demand?" "Military service had a resemblance to the industrial system in the sense that it imposed on man's freedom the unrelenting power of a machine. During the war the men serving in the army often said they would give anything to get back to the old mill or the old shop. But what they resented in military life was just this control of their lives and the industrial system was in this respect like military service, that it treated the worker as part of a machine.

"The experience of military service made men determined to have more of their lives for their own enjoyment and their own use, and the universal demand for a shorter working day was the result of this general impulse."

"The combination of agriculture and textile work, a bad economy from the point of view of mass production, was an admirable arrangement from the point of view of giving to people variety of interest and exercise for their faculties."

"Does not the universal demand for the shorter working day spring from this desire to have more range and choice and initiative in one's own life? That desire inspired the long-drawn endurance of the old hand loom weaver and the passionate protests of the Chartists. It has been strengthened by education, and it has now become resolute and insistent with the experiences of the war."

EXPLAINS HIGH PRICES

HARRISBURG, Pa.—Last year's drastic mines of this state employed fewer workers and produced less coal than in 1919, but the product sold for \$71,888,900 more in 1920 than in 1919.

UNIONISTS GO INTO BUSINESS

The striking employees of the New Brunswick Power Company, at St. John, got a part of their bus service in operation in competition with the company's street railway service. The union service took in the main line routes and the Haymarket Square route of union employees and the employment of strike breakers.

F. A. Campbell, president of the Union Bus Co., announced tonight that by the end of the week they would be operating buses on all routes covered by the Power Company's street cars, and promises quicker and better service than can be supplied by the Power Company. The citizens of St. John have since the trouble commenced shown a decided leaning to the cause of the trade unionists.

SEEK ORGANIZED LABOR ASSISTANCE

Believing the efforts put forward last winter on behalf of the unemployed in Toronto were "sporadic," the Workers' International League, an organization of that city, has commenced to make plans for sustained agitation this fall and winter. The league met again last week and drafted a letter to be sent to all working-class organizations, asking them to send delegates to a meeting to be held in September.

To Wider Organization

One of the active spirits in the movement, said an effort was being made to get in touch with organizations in various centres dealing with unemployment problems, or to form organizations where none existed, for the purpose of having demonstrations simultaneously and that resolutions might be uniform in spirit.

"Last year there were two or three good demonstrations." "These were sporadic, however, and what we need this winter is a united agitation at all industrial centres. We are asking trades unions, returned soldier organizations and working-class bodies to send three delegates to a meeting in September."

Central Labor organizations are being asked to co-operate in this ambitious project of setting up a Dominion-wide unemployment association. There had been some objection to this at a former meeting of the league, he explained, since it was believed better results would be obtained by dealing direct with local unions. In the invitation to a larger Labor bodies, it is pointed out that an organization whose object was dealing with unemployment might obtain better results than bodies engaged in dealing with this and many other questions as well.

FEDERATION HEAD TO ATTEND

(Special).—Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, will pay his first visit to Quebec on August 8, when he will attend the convention of the Typographical Union of America. This announcement was made at a meeting of the Federated Council of Quebec.

GENERAL PRESIDENT RESIGNS

Charles Dold has resigned as president of the Piano, Organ and Musical Instrument Workers' International Union. He has held this position for many years, and in succeeding by Jacob Fischer, of New York city.

The former executive, together with organized the De Luxe Piano Company, and are engaged in the manufacture of upright pianos, player pianos, grand pianos and phonographs. It is announced that the strictly union basis, and will operate under the day work system and 44-hour week.

STRIKEBREAKERS CUT

Denver.—The local street car company has rewarded its "free and independent" by slashing wages. These employees broke the recent strike of street car men who resisted wage cuts.

REJECT PENSION PLAN

Atlantic City, N.J.—The convention of the National Brotherhood of Operative Pottery rejected a resolution providing for benefits to retired workers from the unemployment fund. The sentiment was strong for a pension fund, but not at the cost of the unemployment fund, which defenders claim is now carrying its full burden.

IRON WORKERS MOVE

St. Louis, Mo.—The office of the Bridge and Structural Iron Workers' International association has been moved to this city from Indianapolis. The transfer of all the records and office furniture was made by motor truck.

REFUSE TO ARBITRATE

St. Paul, Minn.—Employing printers decline to act on the governor's suggestion that differences over the 44-hour week be arbitrated. The state has created machinery to adjust industrial disputes, but the employers and their secret backers, will not accept this peace plan.

TORONTO TRADES COUNCIL

TORONTO, July 21.—At last meeting of Toronto District Trades and Labor Council, a resolution was adopted endorsing the strike of the Toronto job printers, and condemning the actions of the Toronto Typographers' organization, in pledging itself not to patronize shops which conceded the union demand for a 44-hour week. The resolution concluded with the clause: "And that we hereby notify the Typographers and its 'influence' agents that if they carry out their threats to boycott the union shops, we shall take a hand in the fight, and we know how to make an open shop mean an empty shop."

This line of action was the result of a resolution passed by the anti-unionists of the trade. The text of this resolution states that the selection of a non-member patronize any plant operating on the 44-hour basis and conceding unions' demands."

Balloting for the selection of delegates to represent the council at this year's Dominion Trades Congress at Winnipeg resulted in the selection of Delegates James Simpson, John Doggett and James Scott.

FIGHT MINIMUM WAGE LAW

The District of Columbia, U.S., minimum wage law is endangered by the district court of appeals permitting a rehearing of its decision in favor of the law. The case will be fought out next fall.

Recently this court sustained the law by a two-to-one vote. Justice Van Orsdell dissenting. That justice was so alarmed he declared that if the law is constitutional it is but one step to communism, "when the thrifty and provident would be compelled to divide with his indolent neighbor."

The law creates boards, consisting of representatives of workers, employers and the public, who shall decide, after public hearings, what constitutes a living wage for women and minors.

COMPANY 'UNION' FAILS

Vancouver, Wash.—In their report to the convention of the state federation of labor, officials make this comment on the company "union" known as the local legion of loggers and lumbermen.

"The Timber Workers' union of the state has launched a campaign to complete the ruthless slashing of wages by the employers. Its former members seem to be now fully disillusioned and are looking to the International Timber Workers' union."

UNEMPLOYMENT RETURNS

The state department of labor at Albany, N.Y., reports no halt in the decline of industrial activity. Unemployment in that state rose from 15.7 per cent in May to 16.2 per cent in June, according to reports from 1,540 representative factories. The total unemployment decline during the last 15 months amounts to 28 per cent. Since March, 1920, unemployment in the metal industries has increased 44 per cent. Since last September, steel industry unemployment amounts to 66 per cent.

GOOSE AND GANDER SAUCE

MONCTON, N.B.—The Westmorland County Council now in session at Dorchester has adopted a resolution requesting that the management of the government owned railways reduce the salaries paid executives and officials in at least the same proportion as the reduction affecting subordinate employees.

Copies of the resolution will be forwarded to the Dominion Premier and the minister of railways and canals.

SHOWS NECESSITY FOR UNIFORM COMPENSATION LAWS

Mr. Auguste Lemieux, K.C., of Ottawa, acting on behalf of the J. R. Booth Company, Limited, of Ottawa, had a lengthy conference with Premier Taschereau and Hon. Antoine Galipeau, Minister of Labor of Quebec, with reference to the alleged unjust manner in which the Ontario Compensation Board has been dealing with the employees of J. R. Booth, who work in Ottawa, but live in Hull, P.Q.

For some years past, the J. R. Booth Company have been paying the \$60,000 a year to the accident funds of the Ontario Compensation Board, but about 80 per cent of their Ottawa employees reside in Hull, and it is charged they are discriminated against on the ground that they are residing in Quebec. Whenever an injured employee of Mr. Booth's would be attended by a Quebec doctor, or treated in a Quebec hospital, the Ontario Compensation Board refused to pay the bill of the Quebec doctor, it is contended.

Mr. J. R. Booth, whose mill is unionized, has always taken a keen interest in the welfare of his numerous employees, has decided to request the Quebec Government to see the Ontario Government for the purpose of bringing about a more satisfactory arrangement. He maintains it is distinctly unfair that he should be assessed on his payroll, and make heavy payment to the Ontario Workmen's Compensation Board on the basis of his entire payroll, when in fatal cases the compensation payable is not determined by the Ontario act on which the assessment is based, but on the act of another Province, on which the assessment is not based.

The Premier and the Minister of Labor were very much surprised to hear of the treatment meted out to the Quebec workmen by the Ontario Compensation Board, and asked Mr. Auguste Lemieux, K.C., counsel for Mr. J. R. Booth, to submit a memorial of his client's grievances. They were very much interested in the matter, and Premier Taschereau suggested that Mr. Louis Guyon, Deputy Minister of Labor, should have a conference with the Minister of Labor of Ontario and also with the Ontario Compensation Board, with a view to agreeing on a modus vivendi and making possible a special arrangement between the two Provinces.

If this move is the means of bringing before the Quebec Provincial Government, the vast superiority of the Ontario Compensation Act as against their own provincial act and furthering advancement it will find full appreciation. The unionists of the province of Quebec have been insistent on the need for reform in this regard, the Montreal Trades Council taking the lead, showing the advantages of the Ontario worker under this law and the disadvantages under which the worker of the Quebec province is placed.

TOM MOORE AT MUNICIPALITIES CONVENTION

President Tom Moore, of the Trades and Labor Congress, was an invited guest and speaker at the Convention of the Union of Canadian Municipalities in session at Ottawa, on Thursday last. Taking up the subject of municipal ownership, he stated that the tendency towards public ownership of utilities would grow considerably in the next few years. The change in the general attitude towards public ownership was described. Public ownership would be made efficient largely through public mind.

"I believe development of public ownership of public utilities is a step in the direction of substituting service for profit."

For 37 years organized labor had advocated the principle of public ownership. Labor desired there should be no profit taken from the development of natural requirements.

It was regrettable that too often the management of public utilities remained in the hands of men whose minds were trained in private ownership. In time publicly owned utilities would have men serving them whose minds were trained to the broadest ideal. An illustration of the former condition was the Hydro Electric Commission of Ontario, which tried to reduce the cost of the development of power to the minimum, and to bring this about frequently ignored conditions under which workers were employed.

President Moore advised municipal representatives to start undertakings at a time when they would take up the slack from private operations. Thus municipalities would effect economy by providing employment at a critical time and by buying when the market would be in a favorable condition.

OBJECT TO EASTERN INFLUX

Representatives of the Dominion and Provincial government, labor delegates, city officials, the G.W.P.A., provincial command, the provincial Red Cross, the provincial labor organizations and some others met with Premier Charles Stewart last week, at Edmonton, for the purpose of arguing about some solution of unemployment.

No definite proposals were made for permanent measures, although all members of the committee were agreed that the unemployment situation was serious and would be worse during the coming year.

There was some resentment expressed that the railways were contemplating bringing in harvest workers from the east, while there were unemployed here, but it was pointed out that the railways only wanted to provide what was required to harvest the crops.

OPPOSE COOLIE LABOR

WASHINGTON.—At a conference with the president, President Gompers protested against the proposed admission of Chinese coolies into Hawaii. The trade union executive made the point that if this principle is established in Hawaii sugar planters in this country will insist that they can not compete with Hawaiian sugar unless they, too, are permitted to import their own coolies.

The trade union executive took occasion to express to the president organized labor's well wishes for the success of the proposed disarmament conference, and urged that a representative of labor be included in the American representatives. President Gompers has written to the labor movements of the invited countries, urging that the workers in these countries ask their governments to attend the conference and to include a representative of labor in the respective delegations.

Editorial Page of The Canadian Labor Press

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A WEEKLY NEWS LETTER.

WRITES OBITUARY O.B.U.

(continued from page 1) and Pritchard have had an opportunity of demonstrating what they can do, and as the writer has visited or heard direct from most of the places where they were at, and in no case did they meet with any amount of success, viewed from the number of members signed up, which to give force to any union, in fact the tour of Johns and Russell was such a failure, that they did not fill many engagements, but instead, from all accounts dropped quietly back into Winnipeg, and without one word of mention of explanation by their official paper the One Big Union Bulletin, and both of them are now trying to secure re-employment at the C.P.R. shops in Winnipeg. Something must be wrong with an organization that cannot keep one organizer on the road for an important industry like the railroads when practically all of the employees are yet to be got into that organization.

At an open meeting held recently by the O.B.U. at Transcona, when its local officers were attempting to awaken some interest in that organization, the secretary of the unit was heard to say that while there was about 1500 on the books of the unit for that shop, only about 400 were paying their dues, which are as it is well known are very low. May be the above will explain why so many of their Executive Officers are resigning, and their organizers ceasing their activities.

Some time was spent by the writer in Drumheller, where we were informed the miners of that place and the rest of district eighteen of the miners International union was so strong for the O.B.U., and in making numerous inquiries re same, I received the same answer, and that was that you never hear any more of it in that section. In the places where the miners are still in the O.B.U. outside of the International agreement for District Eighteen, then have accepted a reduction of wages, and it is only in such places where a reduction has taken place in the coal mines. As this report so far has largely dealt with the shop-trades in the railroads in Western Canada, and who are only about 22 per cent. of the total number of railroad employees, a few words re the other groups of employees should be of interest, and as generally known, with few exceptions the secessionist movement has never affected the locomotive engineers or firemen, nor the conductors or brakemen, and while the engineers on the line, due to a number of their characteristics, have a very undesirable character being revoked by their Grand Lodge, other than that those trades are in good shape.

The maintenance-of-way men who have jurisdiction over about 35 per cent. of the railroad employees, have not been affected to any extent by the secessionist movement, but they have many men to line up in their organization, particularly amongst the round-house and shop labourers, who since the first of the year have been organized by nearly all the roads in Canada, in their agreement, the shopmen at the different points could and should interest themselves in this matter, and assist these men to become organized in their proper organization. The railroad Stationary Firemen are fairly well organized, considering the short time the secessionist movement has been on the O.B.U. dead in the west, but wishes to emphatically state that it was never alive sufficiently to perform the ordinary functions of a credit, if such it can be termed, is too vilified, belittled and misrepresented, in order to disrupt existing labor unions, which most any small number of disgruntled can partial accomplish, and for those who made the mistake of joining the secessionist movement, as a mistake it must now appear to you, why get into proper International union, which is now and has been performing the function of a labor union.

While space forbids mentioning more details, as one could to an advantage in a report of this kind, the writer does not wish to be understood as reporting the O.B.U. dead in the west, but wishes to emphatically state that it was never alive sufficiently to perform the ordinary functions of a credit, if such it can be termed, is too vilified, belittled and misrepresented, in order to disrupt existing labor unions, which most any small number of disgruntled can partial accomplish, and for those who made the mistake of joining the secessionist movement, as a mistake it must now appear to you, why get into proper International union, which is now and has been performing the function of a labor union.

HAVE THE PRICE TO WIN. Toronto dispatch states that with no settlement in sight the strike in the printing trades industry affecting job shops, has cost the Typographical Union \$111,000, according to an estimate made by a union official. The strike has been in progress since June 1, the strikers receiving benefits of \$25 a week if married and \$20 if unmarried. In the neighborhood of \$10,000 weekly has been disbursed by the local union.

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UNEMPLOYMENT THE ISSUE.

A. Ross, member elect provincial parliament of Alberta, at his campaign meetings analyzed the issues between the old political parties, comparing them with the issues raised by the Labor party. He claimed the most vital issue in this election was the question of unemployment. What had the old political parties to say about that issue? They had always been in power in Canada, and their past record was an answer to that question. He reviewed his efforts in the legislature to secure legislation, and explained how he was opposed by the government which sought support on no other issue than its record. He explained in detail the Workmen's Compensation Act and Minimum Wage Bill. He also urged his hearers to take a greater interest in educational affairs, explained the various planks in the labor platform.

HULL TRADES COUNCIL.

The Trades and Labor Council of Hull, P.Q., judging from the attitude they took must see another war coming. At its regular meeting a motion was passed to stress upon the Dominion Trades Congress, which meets at Winnipeg next month, to urge that conscription be made unlawful in Canada until it has first been approved by the voters by referendum. A motion to this effect was submitted by Delegate A. Thibault, and seconded by Delegate Napoleon Vanasse. Unanimous approval was given by the members of the council. A copy of this motion, together with motions passed at the previous meeting of the council, were ordered sent to the Dominion Trades Congress.

HULL TRADES COUNCIL RALLY.

Hull, P.Q., Trades and Labor Council are holding their second annual smoking concert at Park Royal on the last day of the month. This is to be an epoch in their history in the matter of the galaxy of talent that is to address the assemblage leading off with Congress officials, President Tom Moore and Sec-Treasurer, F. M. Draper. As the Hon. W. Rolfe is billed in the same vicinity for the day, previous the Council are numbering him among the list as the Ontario Minister of Labor extending greetings to his associates of the cause in the Province of Quebec.

BUSINESS AGENT RETAINS OFFICE

Toronto.—Union painters and decorators at their meeting last in the Labor Temple, refused to support their Executive Committee, which had notified Business Agent John Hopkins that his services would terminate within one week. The committee had taken this step because Hopkins refused to order a strike on the King Edward Hotel building. Business Agent Hopkins stated that he had used the discretionary powers given him by the union to settle the dispute and had been able to do so without calling a strike. He also pointed out that the meeting which had proposed this action was attended by only three of the painters employed upon the job, and he did not believe it would be fair to the painters employed at the hotel to order them on strike without obtaining an expression of opinion from them. The meeting warmly endorsed the manner in which he had settled the trouble.

The committee resigned in a body when the union refused to support it. The union instructed its delegates to the conference on Monday morning of contractors and representatives of building trades unions, when a reply is to be given to the proposal that there should be a 10-cent an hour reduction, state that the union will not accept a cut. The delegate is to explain that painters are paid the lowest wages of any of the skilled workers of the industry.

LIKELY TO SETTLE THEATRE TROUBLE

Toronto.—Differences between the theatrical managers and the several trades unions with members employed at the local theatres which were occasioned by the ultimatum of the local managers that there must be a wage reduction of 25 per cent. when the theatres open in September will not lead to a strike. There is every prospect of a settlement. "None of our men will be out of employment this winter if we can possibly help it," said Business Agent Jones of the Moving Picture Operators' Union. "We will take care of our members. We realize that the winter may be a bad one, and security of employment will be the problem which many organiza-

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ONTARIO MOTHERS' ALLOWANCE

If any doubt existed as to the necessity for a mothers' pension law in Ontario, this has now been dispelled, by the number of participants in this humane measure put into effect at the end of last year by the labor-farmer coalition forces of Ontario.

Some idea of the rapid growth and subsequent heavier cost to the province and various municipalities of the Ontario Mothers' Allowance Act can be gained from the fact that since the act came into force on the first of November of last year, \$410,639.75 has been expended on mothers' pensions, while the last payroll alone reached the tremendous sum of \$82,849.25. While these figures seem exceptionally large, they will be greatly increased when the age limit of the children is raised from 14 to 16 years at the next session of the Legislature, a joint movement with the adoption of the Adolescent Act.

It must be borne in mind that each individual case has a searching inquiry as to need of the benefits being applied for and granted, and behind each case lies a story generally creating wonderment as to how the mother has carried on with her not less than two dependent kiddies.

If the gross expenditure has reached a tremendous sum to be paid monthly, then the corresponding benefits must be of equally large proportions and as such will be cheerfully borne by the more fortunately placed than the recipient mothers. Whilst the taxation may be one of the indirect nature yet its benefits are seen as every section of town or hamlet has case or cases where the mothers allowance presents its benefitted circles and coming under direct observation is a measure that is fully appreciated both by those who give and those who take.

A NOTABLE BACKWASH

Forced into a militant attitude by the open-shoppers' repudiation of agreement with the International Typographical Union, the Stereotypers and Electrotypers in convention assembled recently at Toronto have shown the first return blow in the loss of faith of the employers. They refused to support a proposal that the union enter into an arbitration agreement with the Newspaper Publishers' Association. The committee on resolutions threw out the proposal, and the convention sustained this action. Coming from this section of labor under ordinary conditions would have caused a furor, yet the recommendation of the resolutions committee carrying endorsement can be best understood by the employee directly interested. The faith with the employer in making contracts, especially with this organization and its allied crafts, has received a body blow from which a long, long time will be needed for recovery. Those responsible for this change are the long-hour open-shop employers. They have thus seen an organization changed from its over-the-table method of conference to one of suspicion and distrust, taking a path against arbitration as diametrically opposed to its former course of procedure.

By some it is claimed that this organization has passed from its former classification of being pacific and conservative, to one of militancy and the reasons are not in obscurity. Yet such a change must bring regrets that the ideal of arbitration to which organizations such as under review pinned their faith, have had the same blasted by the employing printers, who, taking advantage of adverse business conditions, have labelled the year 1921 as one of broken promise, and to their door is to be laid the first backwash from the Convention of the Stereotypers and Electrotypers, when the representatives assembled refused a proposal for arbitration agreement.

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The struggles of the workers for justice in the halls of legislation, their contests against injunctions in the courts, their unwavering devotion to the cause of democracy and the principles of liberty upon which the government is founded their heroic sacrifices to establish better conditions of life for all the people, their tireless efforts to assist children to live their child life free from the grime of the mills, the gloom of the mines and the clatter of the factories—all are told in this official record of labor's deeds in the simple words of the men and women of labor. Reflecting as it does the viewpoint, the ideals and the very life of the workers as given in reports to conferences and conventions of the American Federation of Labor for the last forty years, the History, Encyclopedia, Reference Book is a signpost marking the highways which labor has traveled. It breathes the spirit of the labor movement, sparkling with the vitality of labor's unity and labor's solidarity.

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...will have to deal with in the interests of its members. It was also intimated that instructions had come from the international offices of the Theatrical Stage Employees' Union to take care of the members of the local union. It is not known what action the Musicians' Union will take, but the prevailing opinion in labor circles at the present time is to avoid trouble and to settle all differences without strikes on account of the existing conditions.

NOW SHOOTING IN TORONTO.

Following on the heels of other sections in the anti-unionist reduction campaign Toronto building contractors announced a cut in wages effective at once. Some days ago, the Builders' Exchange conferred with the unions connected with the building trades, and the minister of labor Senator Gideon Robertson, and pointed out that there was a good prospect of a large amount of building proceeding in Toronto if the workmen would agree to a reasonable reduction of wage scales. After consulting the rank and file, the union leaders yesterday informed the exchange that no wage cut would be accepted. Several of the unions have agreements effective until the end of the present year. Following yesterday's meeting with the union leaders, the contractors

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HAREHOLDERS' BIG DIVIDENDS

Making shareholders satisfied and miners dissatisfied can be traced to the report, which states, in spite of the adverse conditions during the first half of 1921 at the silver mines, as well as high costs and a shortage of Hydro-Electric power the gold mines, the precious metal mining industry of Northern Ontario, as found at Cobalt, Porcupine and Kirkland Lake, paid an average of \$540,883 in dividends per share, or a total of \$3,245,361 during the half year.

The gold mines of Porcupine led the way for the half year with a total of \$2,175,361, to which three were contributed, namely the Holmwood, McIntyre and Dome. This brought the total to \$2,528,017 to the 26, 1921, from that field.

What Silver Mines Paid.

The silver mines of Cobalt during the six months' period paid an aggregate of \$1,066,000. Three mines distributed, these being the Nipigon, Kerr Lake and Coniagon, the O'Brien mine at Cobalt, the Miller Lake-O'Brien mines at Gowanda, both closed corporations, continued to produce profit. This brings the total to \$850,000 from the silver mines.

The Kirkland Lake district, the Shore was the only dividend payer, although some of the others are looking up as likely to join the list within a reasonably short time. The total from Kirkland Lake amounts to \$718,655.

A DETROIT WARNING

"If you want a job don't come to Detroit," was the warning issued today by George D. Grant, secretary of the Manufacturers' Employment Association, of Detroit, as a result of inquiries for work which are being received daily from every section of the country.

Thousands of men have been coming here from all over the United States within the last few months, he said, but there is no work here. This condition has resulted in the city being infested with beggars and is said to be responsible for many robberies which are being staged.

Figures given out by the association to-day show there are 170,000 men working in Detroit industries, compared with 273,000 last year, most of them in the automobile plants. A few men are being taken on, but none except former employees. On the whole re-employment is decreasing here a drop of 4.8 per cent. being reported last month.

The Ford Motor Company's Highland Park plant is employing 43,000 men as against 51,000 just before the shut-down last fall. Six hundred former employees have been taken on so far this month, and all who worked there last fall can have their jobs back, the officials said to-day.

The Ford tractor plant at River Rouge has 9,000 men employed, about the same number as last December.

Most of the other motor factories report normal forces at work, but officials are reluctant to give figures, declaring only that employment is practically at a standstill. No men are being laid off, however, and a few old employees are being put to work.

INCOMPETENT SEAB HELP UNION MEN

Tales of emery dust disabling the Alameda en route from Seattle to Anchorage are plain bunk, according to Chairman P. B. Gill of the seafarers' council and a vice-president of the International Seamen's union.

"It's a case of inefficient scab crews imperiling the lives of 200 passengers again," he declared.

"Some day there's liable to be a serious catastrophe at sea, when one of these scab crew vessels gets in trouble and then an investigation conducted impartially will show where the blame belongs for placing the lives of Alaska passengers in jeopardy."

ALL FIREMEN GRANTED BOARD

The Minister of Labor, Hon. G. A. Healy, has granted a Board to the National Firefighters' Local of P.O. The men have selected Eng. Reinhardt and the city has named its first selection by Mr. M. J. O'Brien. This local's interest is watched on behalf of their association by the General Vice-President for this section Mr. Don-

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DROP NIGHT SHIFT AND CUT WAGES

In an effort to arrange an amicable readjustment in wages and the elimination of the night shift on the big Hydro Development at Chippawa, the Provincial Hydro-Electric Commission is to have a conference with its engineers and leaders of the labor force engaged on the canal. For some time past the Commission has had under consideration the stoppage of night work on the development and, more recently, the reduction of wages. At the present time laborers employed on the canal are receiving 50 cents an hour, while labor on power works across the boundary is being paid for at the rate of 35 cents. The wage question, however, has a wider application than the amount paid to the laborers, a general adjustment apparently being required.

The elimination of the night shift is a serious step, and the Commission is considering it carefully. For some time past the night shift has not been efficient and the work has fallen behind schedule. This is due partly to the difficulty of exercising strict supervision at night, but more largely to other conditions which have been giving the Commission some concern.

Following a sitting of the Commission yesterday at which the matter was thrashed over, Sir Adam Beck stated that the wage and night shift questions were "under consideration." The Hydro chairman pointed out that a considerable saving could be effected if night work was largely dispensed with. It would delay the completion of the canal somewhat, but in any event the big Development would be completed well before the end of the year. It was absolutely necessary that the concrete lining of the canal—one of the last things to be done—should be completed before frosts arrived.

When the time comes to reduce the working force—the dropping of the night shift means letting out about 3,000 men—the Commission, according to an assurance by Sir Adam, will give the preference in employment to married men and returned soldiers.

Ample Power Assured.

The completion of the canal by September 1, which was considered so important that a double shift was operated at high cost, is no longer vitally important, since ample provision has now been made to take care of the requirements of the Toronto Railway system when it passes into the hands of the City of Toronto. Even if the clean-up deal fell through, the City is protected by an arrangement the Commission has made with the Niagara and Lockport Company to furnish the needed power if required.

Sir Adam Beck stated last night that the 110,000 horse power to be developed from the first two units will all be required for the Hydro system and that no part of it will be available for export. The Commission anticipates an increase of 50,000 horsepower in the load this winter, a large part of it Toronto consumption and the balance will not more than take care of power adjustments. The Commission, for instance, will drop 18,000 horsepower which it has been receiving as a sort of emergency ration from the Canadian Niagara Power Company over and above the 50,000 contracted for. The new supply will also permit of the overhauling of the generators in the Ontario Power Company plant.

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all of which have been working to capacity ever since the war began.

The Commission expected the Government to deal yesterday with the recommendation that it guarantee the \$13,500,000 of Hydro bonds in connection with the clean-up and the \$600,000 for the rehabilitation of the Metropolitan, but though Premier Drury was on hand he was able to gather to the Cabinet Board only Mr. Raney and Mr. Grant. As a result according to Mr. Raney, the clean-up matter was not touched upon. The next move in the deal is now up to the Government, and nothing can be done toward completing the agreement until the matter of guarantees is settled.

In the meantime, the Commission is trying to get the difficulty presented by the York County claim against the Toronto Railway in respect to freight rights on the city section of the Metropolitan straightened out before the deal goes through. The Commission, it was intimated last night, had been given to understand in the course of earlier negotiations that the County's claim would be at-

tended to, and it will insist upon this possible source of future litigation being disposed of before the big deal is closed.

EMIGRATE NOW EMIGRATE

Returning home from Hamilton thoroughly disheartened by their failure to procure employment, and, at the same time, deeply incensed at the transportation agents who inveigled them into leaving the Old Land by promises that did not materialize, John McIntosh and Harry McKelvey, two brawny young Scotsmen, left for Glasgow, determined that conditions are much better in Scotland than in Canada.

Both intelligent and thrifty fellows, they said that they left Scotland less than seven weeks ago. When they embarked each had about eight pounds in cash. Eager to do any kind of work, McIntosh said they both had tramped the streets of Hamilton until they were satisfied there was not a job to be had. With their savings dwindling each day, they decided earlier in the week that their chance of finding work in Glasgow were much better than in Hamilton. Today they were advised that they

could sail from Montreal this week. They therefore lost no time in boarding a train for that city. "Something should certainly be done to adjust what conditions are in Canada. Carefully advise men in the Old Land. We are fortunate in that we have the wherewithal to carry us back home, otherwise I don't know what we should do," said McKelvey, adding that he formerly worked as a stone-cutter in Scotland, while McIntosh was a cooper by trade.

ORGANIZATION OF TIMBER MEN BEING PLANNED.

Everett—Jocal 35 of the International Timber Workers, having decided that something must be done to awaken workers to a realization of the necessity for organizing, has a committee working in conjunction with one from the Central Labor Council to secure some of the best

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speakers in the Northwest for a series of meetings. These meetings are to begin in the near future and will be held in cities and towns most accessible to workers in the lumbering industry.

Ray Canterbury, organizer for the state, and Woods, the organizer who

was beaten up and jailed in California because of his activities in organizing locals there, are to meet in Everett at an early date with documents and records that will aid in smoothing out some of the rough places that developed between the international officers and organizers.

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EMPLOYERS BLAMED.

Trenton, N.J.—Acting as arbitrator in the building trades dispute, Attorney Martin P. Devlin placed the blame for waste on employers, and refused to accept the claim that workers are slacking.
"At the hearings it was conceded by all," said the arbitrator in his decision, "that the government contracts with the builders during the war were based on the cost plus system, which encouraged inefficiency and caused a large expenditure of time and money regardless of the labor returned for the same. Such conditions demoralized the efficiency of the building trades and was largely due to the employers. It is now admitted by the employers that on the general average the men are performing a day's work equal to the years preceding the war and that the unions give the employers the right to discharge any man who is either incompetent or inefficient. This leaves the remedy entirely in the hands of the employers."

REFUSE WAGE CUT.

Chicago.—Federal Judge Alschuler, arbitrator in the meat-packing industry, has refused the packers' demand for a horizontal wage cut of 5 cents an hour. Approximately 100,000 workers are affected by the decision. The arbitrator held that reductions in the cost of living are not as pronounced as employers claim, and in some instances there has been no decline. Taxes, he said, are constantly mounting, street car fares remain 60 per cent. above pre-war prices while gas, electricity and fuel continue at high rates.

"Newspapers, a most general necessity, remain at the highest point, from 100 to 200 per cent. above 1914 prices," he said. Among other costs which have not started to decline, the arbitrator named rents, telephone and telegraph service, freight and passenger rates, while such essential foods as milk, bread and bakery products, fruits and meats show only slight decreases.

MEMBERS OF CONCILIATION BOARD.

The minister of labor has appointed a board of conciliation as between the Toronto Suburban Electric Co. and its employees, linemen and wiremen, members of the Electrical Trades Union, the dispute involving wages. The chairman, appointed by the minister in the absence of any recommendation, will be W. E. Gillen, manager of the Toronto Terminal Railway, Toronto. The men are represented by H. E. Manning, Toronto, and the company by Geo. D. Kelly, barrister, Ottawa.

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MAKE STRONG OBJECTIONS.

At a meeting at Niagara Falls, Ont., of some forty or more executive officers of the trades operating on the Chippewa Development, which was attended by John A. Flitt, organizer for the American Federation of Labor, a resolution was passed denouncing as "unjustifiable and unwarranted" the proposed reduction of wages scheduled to follow the weeding-out of the staff now in progress.

A deputation was appointed to wait upon the Hydro Electric Commission to present the case of the employees not only in respect to wages, but with some reference to the situation caused by the discharge of so many workers on the Chippewa scheme.

HAMILTON CALLS FOR MINIMUM WAGE.

At a meeting of the Independent Labor Party at Hamilton recently, H. W. West introduced a motion calling upon the provincial government to enact a minimum wage scale for men of 18 years and over. It was adopted by the meeting, and Mr. West, George G. Halerow, M.P.P., C. W. Welby, H. J. Halford and B. Furey were appointed a committee to bring the subject before the government. Mr. West charged that some men in Hamilton were working 14 hours a day and were getting \$10.00 a week. Mr. Halford criticized the Ontario government, claiming that the department of public works was paying only 30 cents an hour for laborers.

TO HAVE UNEMPLOYMENT COMMITTEE.

A committee, representative of industry and labor in the province, will be appointed by the Ontario government to report on the question of unemployment, and if possible map out a program to meet the serious situation likely to develop next winter. Premier Drury presided at a four-hour conference with his cabinet and representatives of many groups of industries on the unemployment problem. Views were freely exchanged and the consensus of opinion seemed to be that the revival of trade was being delayed by high prices. The attitude of the labor representatives was that lower wages would be accepted in order to promote a revival of industry providing a cut did not entail a reduction in the standard of living. In other words, they would take lower pay as the cost of living came down.

The committee on unemployment will be appointed by the government on the nomination of the following various groups: mercantile groups, returned soldiers, farmers, the building industry, the mercantile interests, the retailers, the manufacturer and labor. The committee will not be a commission in any sense and will have no administrative powers. It will be merely an investigating and advisory body, the premier explained.

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