

Meetings at the Labor Conference

NOVA SCOTIA MINERS GAIN EXTENSION OF SCHEDULE

The wage schedule presently in force in the Nova Scotia coal mining industry controlled by the British Empire Steel Corporation has been extended for one month, or from November 30 to December 31, by an agreement between officials of the company and representatives of District No. 26, United Mine Workers, at a conference at Halifax.

STRIKE OF GARMENTS WORKERS

Sixty thousand garment workers of New York were called out on strike on Tuesday last, in protest against the piecework system which was to be put into effect today by their employers.

SEVERAL CANADIANS APPOINTED ON HAMILTON BRICKLAYERS AGREEMENT

Following a several months' difference, representatives of Local No. 1, Bricklayers' and Masons' Union, and Hamilton Branch, Association of Canadian Builders and Construction Industries, have reached a trace.

VERBIAGE COVERS MISTAKE OF THE INJUSTICE TO PRINTERS

In a carefully worded resolution, adopted at concluding session of the Board of Evangelism and Social Service of the Methodist Church in Canada, is outlined the attitude of the Methodist Church toward the present printers' strike.

MINORITY REPORT OF ARBITRATION BOARD

The minority report of the Board of Arbitrators in the wage dispute between the Canadian National Railways and its employees of the C. N. R. E. signed by George D. Kelley, the member of the board for the railway company, has been issued.

PRESIDENT MOORE TAKES ISSUE WITH MR. PARSONS

Several Canadians have been appointed to serve on committees of the International Labor Conference now in session at Geneva.

LOOKING AFTER THE INTERESTS OF AGRICULTURAL LABORERS

Col. Obad. Smith has been appointed chairman of the committee on white labor, and Hon. Walter Rollo, of Ontario, a member of the committee on unemployment and agriculture.

LABOR RAILWAY COMMISSIONERS GIVEN WELCOME

Congratulations on his appointment to the Board of Railway Commissioners were showered upon Mr. Calvin Lawrence, former legislative representative of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, when the board convened this week.

ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM OVERSEAS

MINERS' REQUEST. Premier Lloyd George's sympathetic but firm refusal to approve of a further state subsidy to the miners met with a chorus of approval.

MONTREAL VENUE FOR RAILROADERS DISCUSSION

The International Brotherhood of Railroad Stationmen, which recently entered into a tentative agreement with the Grand Trunk Railway Company, will meet the company between November 16 and 20, the day to be decided by the employers.

BRANTFORD WORK SITUATION

Employment conditions have changed little at Brantford, although there were but 150 unemployed at the employment bureau this morning.

LABOR REPRESENTATIVES

The Labor members of the Sheffield City Council opened the municipal year by resigning bodily from all the committees as a protest against the alleged unfair representation accorded them on the principal committees.

LABOR ALLEY

Bristol.—The Bishop of Bristol, opening his speech to the unemployed, addressed the men as "comrades."

FALSE STEP

The speech in which Tom Mackley, Galsborough's Labour candidate, suggested "burning the Bible" to promote rural education, aroused a storm of criticism here, and Mackley has now answered his critics.

GAS WORKERS WAGES

The National Federation of Gas Workers' and General Laborers' Unions has announced that it has agreed to a 12 1/2 per cent. increase in wages for its members.

AGRICULTURAL BILL

The full text of the Agricultural Workers Bill, which has been introduced into the House of Commons by Walter Smith, M.P., (president of the National Union of Agricultural Workers), supported by J. B. Glynes, Arthur Henderson, George Edwards and W. B. Bayne Bates for available.

U. S. BOARD AS GUIDE

Inasmuch as Canada has no such permanent board as the United States Labor Board, says Mr. Kelley, the Board is to be a guide.

MEANWHILE, THE WAGES OF GAS WORKERS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY, INCLUDING ABOUT 130,000, OFFER A REDUCTION OF 2 1/2 PER CENT.

This reduction is in accordance with the new sliding scale agreement which has been reached by the Joint Industrial Council.

THE NEXT ADJUSTMENT OF WAGES WILL TAKE PLACE IN DECEMBER, AND WILL BE BASED ON THE COST-OF-LIVING FIGURES OF SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER, AND NOVEMBER.

The agreement establishes a cut of a halfpenny per hour for every complete variation of six points in the cost of living, starting at the figure of 128 above the 1914 standard.

THE MINIMUM WAGES PROPOSED ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Table with 2 columns: Age Group and Minimum Wage. Includes rates for males and females of various ages, such as 21s for males over 50 and 14s for females over 18.



Editorial Page of The Canadian Labor Press



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389 COOPER ST., OTTAWA

A WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

INJUNCTION LAW ONE SIDED

The injunction law is being worked overtime across the line justifying a writer to state that when working people go on strike against a reduction of wages, injunction judges quickly issue restraining orders to prevent such working people from making their strike effective, but when employers arbitrarily announce a reduction of wages or an increase of hours and lock out all workers who refuse to accept the reduction or to work the increased hours, no injunction judge will issue any restraining order against the employer.

When a working man on strike urges other working men to join with him in an effort to secure improved working conditions or to prevent a reduction of wages, injunction judges issue arbitrary restraining orders forbidding the striker from urging others to join with him, but when an employer urges working men to desert their brothers on strike, to quit the union, and thus to help the employer in his fight against the strikers, no injunction judge will interfere with the employer.

During industrial controversies the injunction judge restrains all strikers and their sympathizers or friends from exercising the constitutional rights of free speech and free press, but the same judge always refuses to issue injunctions of any kind against the employers under similar circumstances.

FOR THE SHORTER WORK WEEK

A lone hand is not being played for the permanency of the shorter work week. Organizations outside of the enjoying of this right are all actively at work in seeking to establish same, and a blanket convention may be made in saying those who have will retain and those who have not will eventually secure.

One craft is covered in the statement that a forty-four-hour week for all textile workers is the ultimate aim of the United Textile Workers of America. At their twenty-first annual convention in New York it was resolved to maintain the forty-four-hour week wherever it is the prevailing standard and to inaugurate a campaign to establish the forty-four-hour week where it has not yet been put in effect, with the intention of finally achieving a general forty-four-hour week through the economic strength of the union.

Resolutions were adopted directing the union to issue a proclamation to employers in the textile industry calling upon them to adopt the eight-hour day which, they claim, will not only make working conditions much better for workers, but will also give them opportunities to improve their intellectual faculties and relieve unemployment as well.

AS OTHERS SEE IT

On the question of a day of rest the Ottawa Journal stated that:

"The question of Sunday work coming up at the International Labor Conference at Geneva, President Tom Moore, of the Canadian Trades and Labor Congress, proposed a resolution which, it is said, carried by a narrow majority to the effect that it is the duty of Governments where circumstances prevent full observance of Sunday rest to provide for compensating periods of rest during the week. Mr. Moore, we think, did a good service to humanity by securing the passage of that resolution. The common sense and the experience of mankind realizes that one day's rest in seven is a desirable thing for the worker and for society, and while the best way to obtain this is to make Sunday as complete a day of rest as possible, the next best thing is to try to provide that wherever Sunday work is necessary the worker shall have some other holiday during the week.

In the complications of modern living work on Sunday is a necessity for some. No matter how much we may believe in the propriety and desirability of the observance of Sunday as a non-work day we must recognize the fact that a certain amount of work is necessary on that day, and those of us who believe in Sunday should bend our attention not so much to trying to make the observance of Sunday universal as a day of rest as to providing that the minority who work on that day should have some other day off during the week. This will be the best championship of Sunday itself."

SHARING THE PROFITS

As related to workers and wages, all profit sharing schemes are at their best simply methods whereby the payment of wages to which the workers are entitled may be deferred or held back. At their worst the schemes are used to hold workers to their jobs by the promise of these deferred payments of wages and to prevent the workers from organizing into trade unions or from doing anything else contrary to the will of the employer who always reserves the right to take from the worker, by means of immediate discharge, any right that may exist as to a share of in the profits.

Under our present system of business organization, the only safe way in which the working people can obtain a proper share of the profits in any industry is in the form of good wages, the payment of which is made at regular periods, weekly, or at least semi-monthly. If, after paying the right kind of wages and establishing the right kind of working conditions, any industry still has a surplus of profits greater than that which its owners or stockholders should receive, it has charged the public too much for the product and there should be a reduction in price to the consumer.

In any event no industry has the right to withhold from its workers any payment for the services which the workers have rendered. All profit sharing schemes provide for the withholding of such payments for periods ranging from three months to a year contributed.

A DUTY WE OWE

When a local union has signed up with an employer the union has made an honorable sale of the labor power of its members under the most favorable of possible conditions and each engineer is a recipient in full of the benefits of the agreement. They have sold their labor as a good price to a fair employer. It is now up to this employer to market the product of the labor of these

union workers, so as to be able to keep his end of the contract.

A square deal for this kind of employer requires essentially that the union and its members shall turn over to him such skill, efficiency and full measure of hours and degrees of workmanship that will back him up in his effort to market the product of their labor in competition with all other kinds of labor employers. To not do this is to fail to keep the contract, and invites disaster.

When a union worker receives all that he has demanded as the price of his skill and ability to perform the service he is selling, he should give that skill and service in full, complete and without reservation of any kind to the employer he has contracted with through the medium of his local union. This is a cardinal principle of all honorable relations between men; and strict adherence to it promotes mutual self-respect and satisfaction. No fair employer can long guarantee the sale of union labor's product if that labor is deficient in skill, and who contribute to such deficiencies are enemies of the union of fair conditions of employment, and traitors to the cause they glibly espouse.

To preserve themselves and to continue to advance along the glorious path so far trod, local unions must—and they do—require of benefited members just as loyal a fulfillment of labor's end of a contract with a fair employer as is expected and insisted on from the employer.—Amalgamated Journal.

LADDERS

If you use ladders, follow these precautions:
LOOK for split broken rungs and stringers;
LOOK for nails and sharp projections.
AVOID haste in going up or down ladders.
NEVER leave tools or materials on ladders.
TEST your ground support, SECURE ladder carefully or have someone hold it.
STEP-LADDERS should be properly tied to prevent spreading.
LOOK behind stationary ladders for pipe or other projections.
WHEN using extension ladders exercise care in raising or lowering extension.
REPORT defective ladders, do not use them.

HULL STREET RAILWAYMEN TO FIGHT REDUCTION

Following upon the announcement made by Mr. G. Gordon Gale, vice-president and general manager of the Hull Electric Railway Company, on November 1, that a 10 per cent. wage reduction would be put in effect on December 1 next, the employees have, in a letter to the press, announced that they will refuse to accept any reduction or any change in working conditions. The men

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of service. The 10 per cent. cut would reduce the scale to 43, 41, 39 and 37 cents.

COST OF LIVING ALMOST STATIONARY

Slight declines in retail and wholesale prices for October as compared with September are shown by statistics compiled by the Department of Labor.

In retail prices the average cost of a list of 29 staple foods in 60 cities averaged \$11.48 at the beginning of October as compared with \$11.82 at the beginning of September, \$15.83 in October, 1920, and \$7.99 in October, 1914. The average cost of a budget of foods, fuel and rent in 60 cities was \$22.01 for October, 1921, \$22.34 for September, 1921, \$26.46 for October, 1920, and \$14.47 for October, 1914. The chief changes for the month were decreases in potatoes, meats, cheese, flour and bread, but there were increases in eggs and butter. Anthracite coal and hardwood advanced slightly, but soft coal, soft wood, and coal oil declined slightly.

During October wholesale prices continued the decline which began in May, 1920, but which has been less steep since June, 1921. The index number of the Department of Labor for the wholesale prices was down to 229.2 for October, as compared with 232.7 for September, 317.6 for October, 1920, and 138.7 for October, 1914. The chief changes for the month were declines in prices of grain, livestock and meats, and in miscellaneous foods, but there were also declines in fish, leather, house furnishings, drugs and chemicals. There were slight advances in textiles, gasoline and coal oil, and seasonal advances in eggs and milk.

AUSTRALIAN APPEAL FOR THE WORKLESS

A Reuter cable from Melbourne, Australia, says that Premier W. M. Hughes has issued an eloquent appeal to employers to provide employment for 2,000 returned soldiers still out of work. The federal Government subscribed £1,000 to the



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The views of Fred Brownley, assistant-secretary to the British Trade Union Congress...

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PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS OF WORKING WOMEN AT GENEVA

The International Congress of Working Women which held sessions in Geneva, Switzerland, from Oct. 17 to 25, closed its proceedings...

The disapproval resolution of the Congress was a pronouncement in favor of a policy of total disarmament...

The objects of the International Federation of Working Women, (new name adopted), are threefold: (1) to promote trade union organization among women...

Only national trade union organizations who are either affiliated with the International Federation of Trade Unions (Amsterdam) or whose aims agree in the spirit to follow...

The next point which arises is whether ex-Service men can be employed for this purpose. The following statement made by Sir Arthur Ross...

The total number of ex-Service men provisionally approved as suitable for small holdings before December 1, 1920, and who had not yet been provided with holdings...

PULPITS TO BE OCCUPIED BY LABOR

Labor leaders are to occupy the pulpits of the 25 churches in and near Boston next Sunday...

The Central Labor Union is announcing assignments of local officers to the churches, included in its list...

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ELECTRICITY Operates the Seafoam The up-to-date housewife demands that all the tools in her workshop be well washed and shining...

PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS OF WORKING WOMEN AT GENEVA

but the delegates desired to find an effective way in which to press their points of view upon those chosen to govern them.

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PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS OF WORKING WOMEN AT GENEVA

the purchasing power of the workers in the various countries.

The Congress recommended that in order to prevent the spread of Anthrax among textile workers...

As important, however, as the formal discussions and resolutions, was the feeling of respect and friendship which developed...

Madame Casartelli (Italy) presented the following additional recommendations for the Committee on Living-conditions...

The Congress expressed its conviction that the present unemployment crisis is mainly due to international causes...

The delegates gave the resolutions on disarmament and unemployment careful consideration...

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Industrial Review From Many Sources



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UNEMPLOYMENT RETURNS.

Very little change in the employment situation throughout Canada is shown by the bulletin of the Employment Service, covering the two weeks ended October 8. The departmental index number, covering reports from 5,400 business firms, stood at 89.9 as compared with 90.2 for the preceding two weeks, and with 107.5 for the corresponding period of 1920. Employment continues at about the level of the middle of January last, when the index number stood at 90.4, the highest point reached in the present year. The seasonal expansion in logging continued during the fortnight under review, but this was offset by a shrinkage in saw milling operations. The situation in the prairie provinces was somewhat more favorable than in other parts of Canada, largely, says the bulletin, on account of expansion in railway construction.

As in the last report, leather, coal mining and local and water transportation were the "only" activities which showed an improvement over this period last year. In the building and construction group, statements from 287 firms employing 18,207 showed a decline from the previous period when the percentage of employment stood at 91.5 as compared with 91.3 in the preceding month, and with 96.7 at the beginning of October, 1920. Returns covering 79,423 transportation workers show an employment percentage of 95.5 as compared with 97 in the preceding month. The percentage of employment in building and construction was 88.3 as compared with 81.8 at the beginning of September.

CANADA'S FIRST CANADA-PRODUCED FEATURE FILM WITH A CANADIAN STAR IS COMPLETED.

"Big Timber," the working title under which John W. Noble has produced his story, "Jim Ferguson," for the screen, is ready for cutting and titling. The picture was made for the Maritime Motion Picture Company of Sydney, Nova Scotia, for release under the banner of Associated Exhibitors—Pathé and Canadian branches.

Wallace MacDonald, general manager and organizer of Maritime, already is arranging for the production of the next feature for the same releasing outfit, and in a statement made recently said that it is the plan of Maritime to continue the making of Canadian pictures in Canada with the same Canadian picture star—Richard C. Travers.

Mr. Travers—a stage name—was born in Ontario, the son of a Presbyterian preacher, and was a captain during the Great War in the army of the United States, where he was playing in pictures at the time. He is a former hockey player of note, a general all-around sportsman and popular in films. For years he was the chief stellar attraction of Essanay and recently has been featured with Pearl White, Corinne Griffith and others.

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HULL, P.Q. TRADES COUNCIL MEETING.

Mr. Dagnacq's report, resigned president of the Hull Trades and Labor Council as a protest to the council's action in endorsing Dr. J. E. Fontaine, who is the Liberal candidate in Hull. Mr. Hebert told the delegates that he considered they had acted contrary to principles laid down by labor, in having endorsed a candidate who was not a labor man and who had not accepted labor's platform.

Mr. Hebert's resignation was accepted only after a division and shortly afterwards officers were elected. Mr. Arthur Thibault being chosen as president. While the Hull Trades and Labor Council has endorsed the candidature of a Liberal another step, which labor men consider unusual, was council's decision to file the labor platform sent by the Trades and Labor Congress for either acceptance or rejection by candidates in the different Federal ridings. Such planks as eight-hour day, minimum wage, compulsory education, old age pensions, etc., are included in the platform. In placing a document on file, council automatically ignored the Labor programme in favor of the Liberal policy.

The "Political Pills." Both President Hebert and Delegate C. Paradis were strongly opposed to endorsing any but a Labor candidate. The latter thought it unusual that organized labor should support Dr. Fontaine who had demanded in the House of Commons the resignation of the Minister of Labor. He said Senator Robertson was labor's representative and as such had done more for the laborer than any other member of the House.

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PLATFORM OF THE CANADIAN LABOR PARTY

The Canadian Labor Party was formed by delegates to the Dominion Trades and Labor Congress, Winnipeg, week ending August 29, 1921. The platform adopted by the party is as follows:

- "We have in view a complete change in our present economic and social system. In this we recognize our solidarity with the workers of the world over. As a means to this end and in order to meet the pressing needs we recommend the following platform:
- "1. Unemployment: (a) State insurance against unemployment chargeable to industry; (b) regulation of immigration.
- "2. Public ownership and democratic control of public utilities.
- "3. Electoral reform: (a) Proportional representation; (b) names in order of election deposit; (c) extension of voting facilities.
- "4. Old age pensions and health and disability insurance.
- "5. Abolition of non-elective legislative bodies.
- "6. International disarmament.
- "7. Direct legislation: (a) The initiative; (b) the referendum; (c) the recall.
- "8. Enactment of recommendations of Washington Labor conference, especially the eight-hour day.
- "9. Repeal of amendments to Immigration Act providing for deportation of British subjects.
- "10. Removal of taxation on the necessities of life, taxation of land values.
- "11. Nationalization of the banking system.
- "12. Capital levy for the reduction of war debt."

DETROIT'S SYSTEM TO MAINTAIN EMPLOYMENT

Detroit manufacturing concerns were urged to give employment preference to former employees with dependants and to effect production curtailment where necessary by shortening hours rather than by discharging workers, in a series of recommendations drawn up today by the manufacturers' sub-committee on unemployment. The sub-committee also suggested that where possible, manufacturers increase their reserve stock as largely as possible. Concerning the employment of women, the recommendation read: "In employing women it is recommended that the order of preference be widows with dependants, married women with dependants and single women with dependants." The Ford Motor Company, according to Edward B. Ford, is rotating its workers on a two-week basis and operating five days a week to employ as many men as possible.

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