





# LABOR NEWS FROM COAST TO COAST

## OTTAWA.

### OTTAWA TRADES COUNCIL.

The strike of the inside carpenters and laborers employed in the local woodworking industry occupied much of the time at the last meeting of the Ottawa Allied Trades and Labor Association. The executive council in its report on the matter stated that the employers practically defied public sentiment by refusing to a Board of Conciliation which had been asked by the men. The central body pledged its full support and the case of the local workers will be published broadcast and financial assistance sought.

Delegate J. A. P. Hajdon of the special committee appointed at the last meeting presented the report of the committee and stated that since the council made the laborers employed in the woodworking industry had also been forced to strike owing to the same circumstances as the inside carpenters. Funds were necessary to carry on a strike, and each and every trade union will be asked to assist the strike. Since the strike some three weeks ago the men have stood solidly together and there have been no desertions.

Business Agent Pat Green of the District Council of Carpenters reviewed the strike from its inception and told of the autocratic attitude of some of the employers in refusing to deal collectively in any way with their employees. He also stated that one man, prior to the strike, was receiving the sum of \$13 per week. This man was married and had a family of eight to support. He also told of the assistance being given the men from the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, and of the action taken by the Ontario Provincial Council of Carpenters on behalf of the strikers.

Twenty dollars was voted to the assistance of the families of the Winnipeg strike leaders now serving sentences in Manitoba jails.

### MEDALS FOR FIREMEN AND ENGINEERS.

Seventeen members of the F. G. L. Firemen Lodge, Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Engineers received medals from the grand lodge of the order in recognition of their services during the strike.

The formal presentation of the grand lodge service medals took place on Tuesday evening, 454 Parkdale avenue.

The war veterans receiving the medals were: Walter Ackland, Hubert Baugh, Eugene Burt, Frank A. Cumming, Thos. Davis, Edward Fernie, Jas. Alex. Hamill, Richard Handyside, Walter Lewis, Charles Murphy, Hewitt McElroy, Alex. McIntosh, Duncan Smith, A. K. Smyth, Alex. Spittal, N. P. Tremblay, Clarke Woods.

### OTTAWA NEWSY BRIEFS.

Frank Lafortune was again unanimously elected president of the local union of Steam and Operating Engineers at a largely attended meeting last Tuesday. Other officials for the ensuing year are: Vice-president, A. W. Watson; financial secretary, A. Villeneuve; recording secretary, F. Davis; business agent, C. W. Lewis.

At the last meeting of the central labor body C. W. Lewis of the organization committee informed the delegates that he had been successful in organizing the broom and whisk makers of Ottawa where there had been applied for and the officers would be installed in the very near future.

Business Agent M. Ryan of the Laborers' International Union, was in Renfrew last week and a mass meeting of the workers of the Creamery Town will be held on July 16 when addresses will be delivered by F. Lafortune, president of the Ottawa Allied Trades and Labor Association and J. A. P. Hajdon, vice-president of the International Labor Press of America. It is expected that a central labor body will be organized in Renfrew where strong locals of textile workers, car-

penters, bricklayers, stone masons and laborers are in existence. Controller John Cameron's efforts to bring about a settlement of the dispute between Ottawa woodworkers and their employers, by action to secure the appointment of a board of conciliation, should appeal to public opinion, and to the moral forces behind public opinion in this city.—Clifton.

Thomas Marshall, president of Local No. 353 of the Retail Clerks International Protective Association, who was married on Tuesday, was agreeably surprised Saturday evening by a delegation representing the members of that association called upon him, while he was supervising the fittings arrangements of the interior of his future home, 294 McKay street, N.E., and presented him with a case containing 78 pieces of silverware and cutlery, and a fine carving set to match.

## HAMILTON.

### HAMILTON LABORERS READY TO ARBITRATE.

There is no change regarding the building laborers' situation. The contract of the strike some three weeks ago the men have stood solidly together and there have been no desertions.

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### HAMILTON TRADES COUNCIL.

Reporting regarding the A. P. of L. convention held recently in Montreal, International Organizer E. A. O'Dell, Boot and Shoe Workers' Union, at last Friday's Trades and Labor Council meeting, stated that he was an absentee from the convention when the Irish Home Rule resolution was introduced and discussed. He had been urged to recall to the council relative to wage negotiations in which the Queen City boot and shoe workers were affected.

On September 5 the Sunday preceding Labor Day, at the Church of the Ascension, a special Labor Sunday service will be conducted by Rev. Dr. Renison. A communication from the rector invited the central labor body to send delegates and file of organized labor to attend. The invitation was accepted and the city's trade unionists will be urged to honor the event with their presence.

Business Agent H. Longfellow, local No. 709, Steam and Operating Engineers' Union, said another organization which encroached on the jurisdiction of local No. 709 regarding engineers, desired affiliation with the T. and L.

Delegate O'Dell said unless the organization was recognized by the A. P. of L. it would be ineligible. Secretary Peate was asked to communicate with Secretary P. M. Draper of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada for a ruling in the matter. Delegate Snively, Journeymen Barbers' Union was named as sergeant-at-arms, the office being vacant.

A report from the Labor Day Committee showed that marked headway was being made respecting the demonstration on Monday, September 6.

Credentials were received from the sheet metal workers, steam and operating engineers and lathers, the delegates being obligated.

### ACCEPT ARBITRATION AWARD.

The members of Local No. 1, Bricklayers and Masons' Union, at a special meeting last week, unanimously accepted the Arbitration Board award, which provides for an hourly wage of \$1.02 1-2, dating from May 26.

## TORONTO.

### TORONTO FIRE FIGHTERS' ANNUAL FIELD DAY AUG. 7.

Toronto's fire fighters will hold their first annual "field day" and games at the Island Stadium on Saturday, August 7.

A meeting which has the sanction of the Ontario Amateur Athletic Union is open to the firemen of Ontario fire departments only. There are 15 events carded on the programme, as follows: 100, 200, 400, 800 yards run; 1 mile relay race; four men; 15 yards sack race; donkey race, 100 yards; standing broad jump; running broad jump; hop, step and jump; throwing the baseball; putting 16-pound shot; throwing 16-pound hammer; also a ladder climbing contest for time; 25-foot ladder; one man at base; bringing it and one man lying at the bottom in front to prevent falling forward.

Entries will close with secretary of the fire fighters' sports committee, D. H. Lamb, No. 8 Fire Station, College street and Bellevue avenue, on August 4. Entry blanks or information can be secured from Secretary Lamb.

### CIVIC EMPLOYEES SEEK INCREASES.

President William Locke, of the Toronto Civic Employees' Union, following a well attended meeting of the organization held Friday night in the Labor Temple, denied that a demand would be made upon the city for an increase in wages, but stated that the union would take up the cudgels on behalf of employees of the Board of Education and Public Library Board.

"The only trouble we have on our hands are the complaints of employees of the Board of Education and the Public Library Board. We want them raised to the civic rates of wages. Some of the Public Library employees are very poorly paid."

The union took in 150 new members at its last meeting. It made preparations for the Labor Day parade, in which it hopes to take a conspicuous part. The financial condition of the organization was reported to be strong. The action of the City Council in paying the wages for six months to next skin of employees who had been killed while in the employ of the city, was received with applause by the meeting.

### NEW PRESIDENT FOR TORONTO TRADES COUNCIL.

The following were nominated for officers under the Toronto and District Trades and Labor Council for the next six months. The elections will take place at the next regular meeting:

President, James Scott; vice-president, Wm. Stephenson; secretary, Alf. W. Mance, Tom Mellieu; financial secretary, F. Cribben; treasurer, Wm. Storey; sergeant-at-arms, "Sandy" Wilson; outside tyler, Delegates King and Russell; executive, O'Connell, Ford, Simpson, Truman, O'Donnell, Stewart, Singer, Newall, Palmer; trustee, Garland, Corcoran, Simpson, Williams, Bryant, Morgan, McCann, Braithwaite; delegates committee, J. Stevenson, Palmer, Singer, Mellieu, McGarry, Truman, Ralph, Morgan, Munro; educational committee, Lewis Locke, Simpson, Robinson, Mellieu, Lamb, Singer, Young; organization committee, S. Brown, Moss, Williams, Jones, Russell; label committee, Wilson, Brown, Cribben; delegates to Trades and Labor Congress, Simpson, Munro, O'Donnell, Scott, Truman, Wm. Stephenson, W. Fordham, J. Stevenson, Mize, Derry, Stewart, Hobbs, Cox, Singer.

### TORONTO NEWSY BRIEFS.

The Painters and Decorators are so pleased at the results accruing from having five business agents in the field that the system will be continued for the summer months without any change.

Provincial Secretary Joe T. Marks, of the Independent Labor Party is very pleased at the result of the Manitoba elections. The results in Manitoba are only an indication of

what may be expected all over the Dominion when the next Federal election takes place," was his comment.

Secretary W. J. Storey, of the Plumbers and Steamfitters, reports that the members, hatching show a constant increase during the past few weeks. "Conditions in the plumbing trade are much improved," he said one morning this week.

At Tuesday's meeting of the District Carpenters' Council, John Doggett, who has been business agent for a number of years, tendered his resignation, which was accepted. While his new duties as permanent secretary of the Building Trades Council.

There is a strong feeling in the circles of organized labor that the City Council has blinded itself to the necessity for providing housing accommodation for the citizens of the city during the coming fall and winter.

At the Labor Temple one of the main topics of conversation among the leaders of the various unions is the housing problem, and the consensus of opinion is that something is not done and done soon next winter the city will see much suffering and discomfort as a result of present dilatoriness.

Secretary John Cottam, of the District Carpenters and Business Agent John T. Vick predict a terrible situation when many people living in tents have to seek other quarters.

Business Agent Leonard Bowring, of the Structural Ironworkers' Union, announced on Tuesday that 29 members of the Ironworkers' Union were out on strike at five plants throughout the city. The strike is impeding the work on several large buildings, including the new Loew's and Pantages theatres, which the management of both theatres had planned to open in August. The main issue at stake was the recognition of the union.

### NEW STEEL WORKERS LOCAL AT LONDON.

Canadian Vice-President Ernest Curtis, iron, steel and tin workers, left for London, Ont., on Friday to inaugurate the new steel workers' local in that city. Mr. Curtis returned from Belleville on Thursday. His mission was in connection with a dispute among the iron and steel workers, which has been amicably settled.

### LONDON HAS A TEMPORARY LABOR TEMPLE.

London labor officials have announced that the building at 288 Dundas street, formerly occupied by the Griffin-Hanley Shoe Company, a shop or two each of which has been secured as a temporary labor temple.

The temple will be officially opened within the next few days and in the meantime labor meetings are to be held in this building.

The committee room of the London Trades and Labor Council in the London Loan Building has been vacated and in the future the London Trades and Labor Council will meet in the new temple.

The members of the labor temple committee elected by the Trades and Labor Council are: going ahead with the plans for the new permanent building and stock will be offered for sale to the various unions within the next few days.

### LONDON WORKMEN HURT IN CAVE-IN.

Five workmen were seriously hurt at 11.15 Tuesday morning when the second floor of the old City Mission at London, Ont., which they were razing, caved in and precipitated them some thirty feet to the basement of the building.

The faulty joint which supported the floor is said to have been responsible for the accident. This beam had been weakened considerably by the removal of supports and gave way under the added strain, splitting in the centre and allowing the entire floor to cave in. There were twelve men engaged in the razing down of the building. Those who were injured were: George Sturgeon, of Hyman street; R. Mallon, B. Kirkman, 505 Emory street; M. Way and P. McCool, all of London.

### KINGSTON MASONS STRIKE.

The masons in this city to the number of 45 went on strike last week for higher wages. They had been getting 75 cents an hour and made demands on the employers for \$1 an hour, which was refused. The hardest-hit employer is Robert Wallace, who has the contract for erecting the Robert Meek Public School. Both sides are ready for arbitration, and it is likely that a board will be appointed.

### WESTERN CANADA.

CALGARY BUILDERS WILL GET \$1 AND \$1.25 AN HOUR. Effective from July 2, it has been agreed that the wages of carpenters in Calgary engaged in building construction shall be increased from 75 cents to \$1 an hour, also that wages of bricklayers and plasterers shall be \$1.25 an hour.

CALGARY TYPOS BOAST HIGHEST JOB SCALE IN CANADA. Calgary Typographical Union now boasts of the highest job scale in Canada and one of the best on the continent. After negotiations extending over several weeks the scale committee finally secured an offer of \$45 per week for day work and \$48 for night work for a period of six months, from May 1, 1920. The hours remain the same as at present, i.e., forty-five days and forty-four nights. At a special meeting of the union, after considerable discussion, this offer was accepted. While this is a \$10 increase over the old scale it does not really represent the increase in the cost of living, but in view of local conditions, over which the union has no control, it was felt this was the best offer that could be secured at the present time.

\$1.25 PER HOUR FOR EDMONTON BRICKLAYERS. A forty-four hour week, \$1.25 per hour, and a closed shop, are some of the features of an agreement entered into by the Edmonton local of the International Bricklayers and Masons' Union and the General Contractors' Association of the city.

EDMONTON TYPOS NEGOTIATE. The Edmonton Typographical Union recently concluded negotiations with the publishers of the city, and a new agreement has been entered into involving a considerable increase in wages. The new scale is \$45 weekly for day journeymen, and \$48 for night men. Forty-five hours constitute a week's work in both cases.

Although agreements with the other unions do not expire until October, the publishers with characteristic fairness, have granted the increase to pressmen and stereotypers, thus continuing all mechanical staffs upon an equal basis.

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## EASTERN CANADA.

### MONTREAL BARBERS GO OUT ON STRIKE.

Two hundred barbers, members of the Montreal union, went on strike Tuesday morning, following the refusal of their demands. At a meeting of the Trades and Labor Council it was decided that it would be impossible to meet the men's demands of \$25 a week wages and half of the receipts of each man over \$35 a week, under the present scale of charges to the customer.

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## WESTERN CANADA.

CALGARY BUILDERS WILL GET \$1 AND \$1.25 AN HOUR. Effective from July 2, it has been agreed that the wages of carpenters in Calgary engaged in building construction shall be increased from 75



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### NO WOMAN'S POINT OF VIEW UNDER BOLSHEVIST RULE, SAYS MRS. SNOWDEN

British Labor Delegation to Russia Has Returned—Mrs. Philip Snowden, One of the Women Delegates, Gives Her View of Conditions Under Soviet Rule.

Members of the British Labor delegation to Russia arrived in England on Wednesday last week. Mrs. Philip Snowden, a member of the delegation, states that in Russia there is no woman's point of view; men and women work together in everything, and under the same conditions. Russians consider they have solved what is called the woman's question by establishing equality in every profession, business and occupation at the same pay.

As to Bolshevism, Mrs. Snowden says: "Like others, I went into Russia with an open mind, but I have returned with the following decided objections to Nicholas Lenin's government. In the first place, it is not Socialism. There is no Socialism in Russia. Nor is it Communism, as I understand the word. All the Socialism and Communism of Soviet Russia appears to be in their manifesto. Land is supposed to be owned by the state, but the peasants pay no rent and eldest sons inherit the property. Apparently it is all a matter of labels.

In the second place, the Soviets are not democratic, and make no pretence of being so. Speaking politically they think Democracy is an outworn theory. They believe, of course, in what they call the dictatorship of the proletariat, but they have only got a dictatorship of the Communist Party. As the Communist Party in Russia numbers at most 400,000, it is obvious that the dictatorship is a dictatorship of a small section. It does not stop there. The Communist Party is divided by a handful of people inside the party. When you get down to the bottom, dictatorship of the proletariat means dictatorship of about six men aided by an extraordinary commission.

Soviet Russia's Good Points. Mrs. Snowden confesses that there were good things in Soviet Russia, at least. She considers that the revolution, such as arts, music, and drama, and the Bolsheviks have at least the sense not to destroy them. She also states that helpful things are being done for children, who receive first consideration in the distribution of food, amongst the civilians at least. She considers that the best of which existed before the revolution, such as food and other necessities, which she thinks not so much due to the Bolsheviks as to the blockade and the war. The whole delegation is therefore perfectly unanimous in advocating that war should cease and that the blockade should be raised, in fact, as well as in theory. Resumption of normal conditions and trade relations, she believes, would result in the worst features of Bolshevism disappearing. Mrs. Snowden considers the Soviet Government quite stable and supported by the whole population which is patriotic enough to unite

against all countries with which they are at war.

Russia's Need of Peace. Peace would result in the Government being criticized. The Russian people, she declared, have come to look upon the Bourgeoisie with marked dislike, no matter what nationality they belong to, and were hoping for a world revolution at an early date, which they expect in a very short time.

She considers Mr. Lenin has been successful, not so much on account of his intellectual power as of the fact that he is undoubtedly honest, but his ignorance of Bolshevism and politics is colossal, believing, as he does, that the British working class movement is palpitating to leap over barricades at the least provocation.

Mrs. Snowden is quite emphatic in her statement that Russia will be able to pay her debts and fresh obligations should be resumed, and she speaks of the enormous quantities of flax and stores of wheat in Russia and of the large output of gold and platinum in Siberia. She concluded by stating "that it was a tragedy that men had to be taken away from the work of reconstruction to fight in a new war with Poland."

### RAIL MEN START BANK.

The treasury department of the United States has approved a charter to "The Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers Co-operative Bank of Cleveland Ohio," with a capital of \$1,000,000. The bank will be chartered under the federal law for national banks and under the Ohio law.

The engineers have several million dollars at their disposal and are financially able to take over all the stock, but it is understood that some of the stock will be offered to the public. The railmen have discussed this question in several recent conventions, but final action was delayed because of the war.

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### Manitoba Elections Justify "P. R."

Ronald Hooper, honorary secretary of the Proportional Representation Society of Canada, who had charge of the counting of the proportional representation election at Winnipeg, in a statement on the working of the new system says: "The Winnipeg proportional representation election just concluded, in which 41 candidates contended for 19 seats, has clearly shown that a 19-member constituency may be as practical as a small one, provided that the staff engaged to sort the ballots is competent and well trained. The personnel of the Winnipeg counting staff was all that could be desired in these respects, and it was this that made possible the announcement in less than four days of the results obtained from sorting and re-sorting, nearly 48,000 ballots.

"The average number of all men engaged in the work was 34, and the time during which they were actually employed amounted to 45 hours. "Seventy-five per cent. of the electorate cast their votes, and the percentage of rejected ballots amounted to only 1.72. This very low for so cosmopolitan a city. "The Labor party (which included the Socialistic group) polled 42.5 per cent. of the first choice votes and elected four members, the Liberal party polled 30.4 per cent. and elected four members; the Conservative party polled 13.7 per cent. and elected two members. The eleven Independent candidates together polled 13.4 per cent. but these candidates were each independent of the other, and therefore none succeeded in securing the quota of votes necessary for election.

"A further analysis of the result sheet shows that all parties received their fair share of representation. A considerable proportion of the 11,586 first-choice votes for F. J. Dixon, a Labor candidate with a surplus of preference for Liberal and Conservative candidates, as were also many of the eliminated six candidates.

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