

CANADIAN LABOR PRESS

A National, Sane Labor Paper

True Confidence and Understanding Between Employer and Employee Absolutely Necessary to Industrial Peace.

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Organized Labor in the Dominion

After a decline in membership for three years the Labor unions in Canada saw a slight increase last year, according to the report of the Labor department. In 1919 there were 378,047 members in all classes of organized labor but the number fell to 276,621 in 1922, and last year rose again to 278,092, which is just 100,000 less than it was four years previous. This loss was due to disruptive forces in the Labor movement, to the less prosperous times, and in a measure to the drift of Canadian workers to the United States. The heaviest loss was registered in 1921 when there was a drop of 60,000 in the Labor organizations of the country.

The international unions still represent the great bulk of Labor's strength in Canada. In spite of a loss of 2,307 last year, their membership was 203,843, or 73 per cent. of the total for all Labor organizations. The "non-international" unions, including those in the Canadian Federation of Labor (as distinguished from the Canadian Trades and Labor Congress), reported a membership gain of 11,342. Independent unions, chiefly the O.B.U., had an increase of 871, making a total of 9,934 members, while the "national and Catholic" unions, which exist mostly in Quebec, suffered a loss of 3,353, bringing them down to 30,000.

It will be seen that the main features of the year were the large gain by the purely Canadian unions and the serious loss by the "national and Catholic" unions. The slight increase in the total membership for all Labor organizations, in spite of the exodus to the United States, which was still in progress, was apparently due to increased organizing activity.

Among the cities, Montreal heads the list with 152 local branch unions, of which 97 reported 37,771 members. Toronto and Vancouver follow, and Winnipeg stands fourth with 73 branches, of which 59 reported 7,143 members. The next cities in order are Ottawa, Hamilton, Edmonton, Calgary, London, Victoria, Quebec.

Benefits totalling \$21,176,941 were paid out by 62 international organizations operating in Canada during 1923. This included \$11,883,222 for death benefits, \$1,328,633 for sick and accident benefits, \$2,338,795 for old age pensions and other benefits, and \$8,542,000 for strike benefits.

These strike benefits were partly paid, of course, by United States members of the unions affected. But on the other hand, Canadian members contributed to strike benefits paid in the United States.

Overtime Pay and the Minimum Wage

Employers and Employees Not Responsible for the New Legislation

Calgary, Alta.—Taking the stand that the receipt amendment to the Minimum Wage Act, which allows the board to fix the rate for overtime pay, was not brought in through any representations made by them, employers told the minimum wage board recently that it was for those who were responsible in advocating the amendment, to explain the reason for it.

As it was finally agreed that the board itself was responsible for the amendment as passed at the last session of the legislature, the meeting adjourned until afternoon. The adjournment was necessitated by the absence of Judge Carpenter, chairman.

James Kellas acted as chairman in the absence of Judge Carpenter and Walter Smitton and Mrs. Harriet Ingraham were other members present. A number of employers of labor were present at the meeting, which was held in the school board offices. John Hanna, secretary of the board of trade, spoke for the employers. Fred White, M. L. A., represented the trades and labor council.

Working Conditions
Mr. Hanna maintained that conditions for working were as satisfactory

as could be expected. It would be an advantage if longer hours could be worked in some instances, but the employers were not asking for that. What they did think, however, was that people who were responsible for getting the amendment placed in the act should explain their reason for doing so.

The employers had certainly had nothing to do with it. They had been invited to attend a conference after the amendment was passed by the house.

Fred White said he wanted to make it clear that the amendment was not introduced as a result of representation by the employers. He understood that it had been brought about by the board itself.

Then, said Mr. Hanna, the board ought to explain its reason for the change.

As Judge Carpenter was not present it was agreed to adjourn until he could attend.

Owing to the fact that Judge Carpenter, chairman of the minimum wage board, will be unable to attend before that time, the meeting called in Calgary for a discussion of the amendment to the act, has been postponed until another date. Judge Carpenter was unable to attend the meeting called for recently and it was felt that it would be useless to proceed unless he was present in order to present the board's objects in applying for the amendment which allows them to set the rate for overtime pay.

Immigration Policy Under Fire

Large Gathering of Delegates at 22nd Annual Convention of the Labor Educational Association of Ontario on Victoria Day

St. Catharines, Ont.—Delegates from all over the province assembled at the St. Catharines Labor Temple recently to take part in the 22nd annual convention of The Labor Educational Association of Ontario. In every particular the convention was a decided success. Many important questions were considered, the various resolutions were given careful and thoughtful consideration by the delegates. After serving as president since 1918, James F. Marsh, international representative of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, withdrew from the presidential contest. James A. Sullivan, ex-organizer of the International Cigar-makers' union, was unanimously chosen president for the ensuing term. The 1925 convention will be held at Kitchener.

Election of Officers

Delegate E. W. O'Dell conducted the election of officers, which resulted as follows: President, James A. Sullivan, Hamilton; vice-president, Walter Harrie, St. Catharines; secretary-treasurer, Joseph T. Marks, Toronto; executive council Larry O'Connell, Toronto; William Ahey, St. Catharines; E. W. O'Dell, Hamilton; C. L. Severyn, Brantford; W. H. Stewart, London; F. Ackernecht, Kitchener; B. R. Warren, Windsor; William Stokes, St. Thomas; Colin Cashore, Owen Sound; James F. Marsh, Toronto, and E. J. Follwell, Belleville.

Government Under Fire

Not only was the Dominion Government's immigration policy under fire but Rt. Hon. J. H. Thomas, Colonial Secretary in Premier MacDonald's Government, was taken to task for his reported statement in the London Times that the supply of labor in Canada is not adequate.

Mr. Walter Harrie, president of the St. Catharines Trades and Labor Council, started the immigration discussion when he submitted the following resolution, which was unanimously carried by the delegates.

Inaccurate Statements

"Resolved, that this convention of the Labor Educational Association of Ontario deprecate the statements accredited to Hon. J. H. Thomas, which must have been made without full knowledge of the facts and heartily endorse the statements of Mr. Thos. Richardson.

"And be it further resolved that it be instructions to the secretary to immediately cable to Mr. Thomas protesting against his alleged inaccurate statements, and that a communication be sent to the Rt. Hon. J. Ramsay MacDonald, prime minister of Great Britain, pointing out the labor situation in Canada.

Colonial Secretary Criticized

Delegate E. Ingles (London) said that he was surprised to read Mr. Thomas' statement. After saying that it is criminal to bring people into Canada at the present time, the speaker raised laughter when he said: "Mr. Thomas got into office with a typewriter and stenographer, and not knowing what to do with them he (Mr. Thomas) has been using them to broadcast inaccurate statements."

Something Wrong

Proceeding to quote statistics Delegate Ingles stated that for a period of 50 years at the end of 1923, 1,117,000 native born Canadian people had migrated to the United States. Mr. Ingles added that it had cost the country \$6 a head for every immigrant coming into Canada. "There is something wrong somewhere. I am given to understand that there are 82,000 people in Canada waiting to migrate to the United States. The only wonderful possibility for immigrants is the possibility of them starving to death. We can not be too strong in our condemnation of the immigration policy of the Dominion Government, and the misinformed British Colonial Secretary," concluded Delegate Ingles.

Ours on Dominion Government

Delegate H. S. Mitchell (Hamilton) said that immigration had been a subject of discussion since the pilgrims arrived in the Mayflower. "You can rave and rant," asserted the speaker, "but when all is said and done the onus is on the Dominion Government and not on the British Labor Party. There should be a quota system in Canada similar to the United States, and we should see to it that the people that come to this country hold the same ideals and composition of society same as the bulk of the people onus is on the Dominion Government.

Unfair to Canadian Workers

"We should place the blame where it rightly belongs," assailed Delegate E. W. O'Dell (Hamilton), who added that it is manifestly unfair to Canadian workers for the authorities to bring immigrants to this country. Mr. O'Dell stated that a Government Immigration Agent in Manchester told two machinists who recently visited the Hamilton Labor Temple, that as soon as they reached either St. Catharines, Hamilton or Brantford, work would be waiting for them. In closing, the speaker said that recently 70,000 pairs of German-made boots and shoes had been imported into Canada, which had been bought in Germany at 52 cents per pair by certain large departmental stores.

Urged Caution

Delegate Bert Furey (Hamilton) urged the delegates to be cautious in their criticism of the Motherland's Labor Government. "We must remember that Mr. Thomas is only one cabinet minister, and that the Canadian Government rules this country," emphasized Mr. Furey.

4,000 Addressers

Hearty laughter followed when Delegate Leo Worthall, International Journeymen Barbers' organizer, said that recently he received a communication from the editor of Hatreders' Journal, London, England, which enquired: Is there a possibility to place 4,000 addressers in Toronto?

Flooding Canada

Delegate John Taylor (Hamilton) declared that the "worst immigrants don't come from the British Isles. We want immigration on a quota basis," said Mr. Taylor, who added that a deliberate attempt is being made to flood Canada with surplus labor.

Foreign Exchange Rates and Cheap Labor conditions are causing the ruin of Canada. Proper Tariff Protection will provide the strong bulwark we need to fight off this death-dealing enemy.

Labor Too High For the Farmer

Ottawa, Ont.—"Fundamentally there is nothing wrong with our prairie provinces, but temporarily there is a great room for improvement," said M. F. Res, of the Natural Resources Intelligence Service, before members of the Topographical Surveys Society at their regular open meeting in the Topographical Surveys' quarters. "Take the case of the province of Alberta," Mr. Res continued, "Looking into the future what can be seriously wrong with a province which is endowed with natural resources to the extent with which Alberta has been endowed? This prairie province alone has 72,000,000 acres of agricultural lands of the Dominion and more than any other province of the Dominion. It possesses 1,635,625 million tons of coal reserves, 14 1-2 per cent. of the world supply, 21 per cent. of North America, 72 per cent. of the British Empire, 87 per cent. of Canada and more than any other country in the world except the United States.

If Alberta's agricultural industry alone was developed as intensively as that of Denmark she would be capable of supporting a population of considerably over 20,000,000 people.

"On the other hand there is much wrong which time and perseverance will eradicate. The farmer in the west is at present suffering from a financial burden incurred during the period of high prices and easy credit and at the same time he is very seriously handicapped in attempting to make ends meet by the lack of proportion between the prices he has to pay for those things he must buy and the price of those things he sells. Farm labor and manufactured goods are altogether too high for the price of wheat, oats, butter, pork, beef."

Ottawa.—The employees of the Ottawa street railway have signed a two-year agreement with the company with wages at 49 to 50 cents an hour.

A realtor is a man who can divide a swamp into lots and make you imagine fine dwellings all over it.

Co-Operation Through Plant Publications

By W. R. R. Winans

Safety and accident prevention are subjects not to be overlooked in the organ. The greatest annual loss to industry is through accidents. To reduce accidents is to lessen the cost of doing business and to increase the wages it is possible to pay the workers. Great care should be exercised lest these subjects be overworked and the employees become "fed up" on "safety first" and accident prevention propaganda. Articles telling of accidents to employees can be carefully written to point out the economic loss through accidents in industry, and to show the advantages to all through a reduction in the number of casualties.

A worthy aim of any publication is to increase thrift, savings, home-building and wise investments, and to point out the value of insurance.

In a diplomatic manner the organ should attempt to quicken the patriotism of the readers. The duties of citizens should be called to the attention of the employees through the columns of the paper. The publication which fails to endeavor to raise the standard of citizenship is overlooking a duty not only to the company, but to the nation as well. This is not merely a wartime duty.

A "humorous" column or department will be enjoyed by all, but even

into subjects pertaining to the production of raw materials, tools, etc., purchased and used by the company. The scope in this branch is almost unlimited and depends to a considerable extent upon the readers.

General news articles or stories may concern matters of community interest, community activities, plant extensions, additions of new machinery, methods or new processes. In stories pertaining to new machinery, automatic parts, new methods of processes, and attempt must be made to answer the question which immediately enters the minds of the employees as to how it affects his well-being. The history of industry records the substitution of machine methods for hand labor, but always the ultimate result is that the worker's position has been bettered. Nevertheless, the question continues to be asked by the employee when changes are made, of the nature mentioned above. To meet these question and to relieve the mental anxiety of the men is important.

The editorials must be broad-gauged, liberal and fair. Attempts at "high-brow" writing will not meet with success. The "we" attitude, properly and sincerely handled, will attain results.

In some instances the employee publication may be one of the undertakings of the employee association. In fact publications so conducted are very successful, as the employees feel that such a paper is their own and any suspicious as to management dictation is eliminated to some extent.

(The writer then devotes considerable space to the general make-up and typographical features of employee magazines: the selection of a printer, and other similar details not necessary to reprint at this time.) He continues:

In the final analysis, a great deal depends on the editor. He must be the final judge and jury of each and every item and article that goes into the publication, and it is his brain that must produce many of the articles and editorials, which will be far-reaching in effect. His is no small task and the individual selected for the position must know and understand his readers. He must keep in close touch with them. The editor should not be hampered by any petty censorship of the management. It is the duty of the management to exercise great care in choosing the editor, and once having made a selection, to

explain frankly the real ideals of the management in employee matters and then leave the responsibility of editing the publication entirely in the hands of the editor.

Compensation Board and General Hosp'l.

One Not Living up to Contract, While Other Is, It is Stated

Prince Rupert, B. C.—At the meeting of the hospital board recently Ald. MacDonald brought up the matter of payments to the general hospital by the Workmen's Compensation Board. He considered a definite understanding should be arrived at with the compensation board as to the exact amount they are expected to pay for hospital treatment of workmen. According to a section of Workmen's Compensation Act the compensation board provided from crutches to serums but they did not provide for any such thing. They provided \$2.50 per day only. The hospital were living up to their part of the agreement but the government and the compensation board were not living up to theirs.

Harry Birch, secretary to the hospital thought the board should get together and thrash these things out. People were under the impression that the W. C. B. should do things which they do not do. Ald. MacDonald stated he was in correspondence with the Workmen's Compensation Board authorities in Vancouver and expected further word from them. After further discussion the matter was left over until the next board meeting when further correspondence will have been received from the compensation board.

Welfare of Mothers and Babies in G.B.

An important report just published by the Minister of Health discusses the conditions affecting the welfare of mothers in Great Britain. Although the infant mortality rate in England and Wales has been reduced during this century by over half, the maternal mortality rate has remained practically stationary. About four mothers lose their lives for every thousand children born.

So far the most satisfactory substitute for sole leather is the telephone.

Toronto and the Postal Strike

One of the most curious developments of the postal strike was the attempt made by the Ottawa Journal to prolong it. On June 28 on the very eve of settlement, the Journal put forward the plea that only Toronto was suffering, that Toronto deserved to suffer because its press had not denounced the strikers, and that Toronto should therefore be left to suffer a while longer. The Journal went so far as to remind the government that nothing was to be lost politically by keeping Toronto "in a mess." It commented sarcastically: "If the King government isn't careful, Toronto will refuse to vote Liberal at the next general election." The Journal's references to the general aspect of the strike in Toronto were as follows:

"A great many people in Canada will be disposed to let Toronto stew in its own juice. . . . Has anybody outside of Toronto suffered very much because the mail service in Toronto has been upset through a stupid strike? Let those who directly or indirectly encouraged public servants to adopt an intolerable course stew for a while in the mess that has resulted."

These quotations are presented as an example of inter-city malice and envy rare in the Canadian press. They are perhaps equally interesting as an example of fallacious reasoning. The strike at Toronto and Windsor deprived one-fifth of the province's population of postal facilities. To argue that none among the other four-fifths suffered as a result is to display a curious ignorance of the inter-related complexities of provincial business and provincial prosperity.

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Following in brief is an outline of our Policy:

1. The Canadian Labor Press supports the International Trade Union Movement, of which there are approximately three hundred thousand members in Canada.
2. The Canadian Labor Press supports the policy of the present Dominion Trades and Labor Congress of Canada.
3. In the interests of the Canadian Worker, The Canadian Labor Press believes that Canadian industry needs adequate tariff protection.
4. The Canadian Labor Press advocates fair play to employer and employee.
5. The Canadian Labor Press stands for the betterment of Trade Union conditions in Canada and the welfare of our country at large.
6. The Canadian Labor Press is independent in politics and free from any political influences.

Communist Collection of Funds

The recent publicity given to the Communist Party of Canada through the arrest of two labor men for taking collections on the street corners has aroused a good deal of controversy.

We strongly condemn this method of collecting funds for Communist purposes and it appeals to us as being very poor ethics for an element of this calibre to publicly solicit funds when every word of their doctrine shouts loudly against such practice. The Communist Party should be able to gather sufficient funds from their own supporters and in their own class who believe in their radical actions without appealing to the general public. It is plain to everyone that money collected in this way is being used to advance theories which are not at all in keeping with sound trade unionism and which operates to the detriment of progress which makes for better understanding and closer co-operation. The thinking, working man of Canada has had sufficient opportunity to see the results of Communist operations in Europe to realize that it is not a success and to warn them against the dangers of radical propaganda being circulated in Canada by this outfit.

Tariff Reduced, Employment Increased

Are the tariff changes just made by the Federal Government affecting business very much? This is a question which must be approached fairly and squarely, because individual cases can always be found to prove either one case or another. One of the objects of the changes was to decrease prices and costs, and of course it takes months for the beneficial results to become apparent; for instance, there has already been a substantial cut in the prices of farm implements, but it will only be when actual purchases are made that farmers will feel the benefit. On the other hand, the adverse effects on the seller are immediate.

These tariff reductions were announced on April 10, taking effect immediately. They at once changed things in several industries. Yet on May 1st, all firms reporting to the Dominion Employment Service had 760,700 persons working for them, whereas on April 1st they had only 740,162. There are over 6,000 firms on this list, so it may be taken as representative, and certainly it is not selected with prejudice one way or another; it is worth bearing in mind, however, that farming cannot be represented to any great extent, that being an industry carried on by individuals.

"All provinces shared in the expansion registered at the beginning of May," says the official report. The Employment Service has an index number indicative of the volume of employment, and this number stood at 91.8 on May 1st, compared with 91.4 a year ago, and with 83.3 two years ago.

It will be months before such a question can be definitely answered and even then there may be doubt, as many other factors besides tariff changes enter into it. But observing the course of business from week to week and from month to month one does not observe any decline in the gross.—Monetary Times.

Paper Companies Plan Wage Cuts

Only Way, They Feel, to Meet Demands of Publishers for Cheaper Paper

Montreal.—The newsprint paper companies are taking steps to set their house in order to meet conditions in the industry. One move that has been instituted, and which had already been mentioned in these columns has been a slowing down of production at many of the mills. Now the mills are endeavoring to get their costs down by striking at the all-important element of labor charges and wood costs, which include a large degree of labor outside the mills.

This is apparent in information coming from Northern Ontario to the effect that pulp and paper companies buying pulpwood in that district have been reducing their bids for pulpwood bought from settlers and others. Workers in the woods have also been notified that the wage scale is due for downward revision. And it is learned that many of the larger mills are discussing with their representatives of their workers a scaling down of wages in order that labor may do its share to keep the mills operating.

The workers are being told that the present situation in newsprint is bringing demands from publishers for lower prices for the product. Lower prices, the mill heads say, are an impossibility without reduction in labor costs. Hence the present discussions. Among the mills it seems apparent

a reasonable basis of discussion between the operators and the workers can be reached. From Northern Ontario, however, there is a feeling against lower wages, and any reductions will be met with much resistance.

Strike for Higher Wages in B.C.

Vancouver, B. C.—The shipping bosses of this place are cooperating with marine contractors and shipyards in an effort to break the strike of the carpenters on the waterfront here. The Shipping Federation has loaned the "Flak" Hall through which all waterfront workers must pass to obtain employment on the waterfront now for the purpose of recruiting scabs against the carpenters. Bulletins are placed on the boards inside the hall stating that so many men are required and when the men are secured they are herded to some ship where the strike is on and put to work as scabs. Many workers however refused to serve as strikebreakers with the result that several of the largest of the shipyards and marine contractors have been compelled to come to terms with the union. The strikers are holding out for their demands for an increase in the scale of wages from \$7.50 to \$8 and the prospects of victory are excellent.

There may be no harvest moon for the wild cat crop, but there is plenty of moonshine.

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Secretary Of Local Branch Says Members stand By Agreement

Brampton, Ont.—Brampton has a local branch of the Bricklayers' Union, with a membership of 14. A. H. Finch, being the secretary. Mr. Finch, says that according to the wage rate fixed by this local union recently, the members of the local union, charge only \$1 per hour. This rate is for bricklayers, plasterers and stonemasons. If anyone is receiving more than \$1 per hour, on the job in Brampton, Mr. Finch thinks it must be an outsider, as he believes the members of the union would stand loyally by their agreement.

Not that Mr. Finch thinks there is any necessity for local contractors to employ outside men, as there is no stress of business in the building trades this year. This rate applies to the town and to the immediate vicinity of the town.

Lumber Workers Get Reduction

Vancouver, B. C.—The Lumber bosses are using the present temporary lull in the lumber business as an excuse for a wage slashing campaign to reduce the standard of the lumber workers to a lower figure than ever. Camps closing down on account of market stagnation are announcing that they will only resume operations at a lower wage scale. In the B. C. coast district, Dempsey's Limited have reduced the wages of rigging men to \$3.75 a day. This company charges 75c per week for bedding and \$1.20 a day for board which leaves the logger with less than \$2.50 per working day. The B. C. Timber and Trading Co. at Rock Bay have reduced their employees 60c a day and the Comox Logging Co. have cut wages 5c an hour.

Companies are using the excuse that the forest fires that rage throughout the timber sections of this province yearly are caused by the men smoking while in the woods and that to prevent any loss in their property they are closing down for the summer months. The fact of the matter is that the lumber bosses are strictly enforcing the rule against smoking by the workers but neglect to spend the necessary cash to clear space around donkey engines and provide spark arrestors. It is cheaper to blame the logger and save the cash.

Big Increase in Unemployment

Saskatoon, Sask.—Unemployment in this city is rapidly assuming large proportions. It is very unusual at this time of the year for more than a mere handful to be walking the streets looking for a job. But this year unemployment is positively on the increase. The city council reports that the number of families in receipt of unemployment relief has increased during the month of June—a state of affairs without precedent in the history of this city.

Building activities are almost at a standstill. During the past year hundreds of skilled workers have left the city and gone south in search of work. This constant exodus of workers has left the labor unions of this city in a deplorably weak condition, many of the lodges not possessing sufficient members to hold further meetings.

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Child Workers on Persian Rugs

A minimum age of eight years for boys and ten for girls is established in the carpet-weaving industry by a decree issued recently by the governor of the Persian province of Kerman. The new decree also provides for a maximum working day of eight hours, separate work places for boys and for girls, prohibition of the employment of workers suffering from contagious diseases, prohibition of underground or damp workshops and other regulations to secure better working conditions. This decree confirms and in some respects extends the measures taken by the Persian government sometime ago at the suggestion of the International Labor Office.

Juvenile Offenders in India

The government of Bombay has published its plan for the protection of children and young persons in the form of a bill to be introduced in the Bombay Legislative Council. This bill would create separate courts for children's cases and abolish hanging and transportation as punishment for youthful offenders. It would prevent the sending to prison of any children except those adjudged by the court to be too unruly to benefit by admission to a reformatory school; would introduce a system of probation and also establish industrial schools teaching trades to offenders under 16.

ASK FOR MADE-IN-CANADA GOODS

When You Spend Your
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Every time you pass a Made-in-Canada Dollar over the counter—ask for Made-in-Canada goods!

Then you will have more Made-in-Canada Dollars coming your way.

Every time you say "Made-in-Canada Goods, Mr. Merchant," you plant the idea in somebody's mind. It's a good idea to plant everywhere. It will grow. As fast as it grows Canada will grow.

The Made-in-Canada idea is good for everybody; it is a stimulant for Canadian raw materials, Canadian labor and Canadian capital. All sections of the Canadian working world reap the benefit; it keeps all the workers busy in the various manufacturing industries; the earnings of the industrial workers buy the produce of the workers on the land. It is good for all classes. It banishes or greatly reduces the unemployment problem.

Insist on Made-in-Canada products and you will bar out the competing wares of cheap, sweated, slavish labor of Europe and Asia. Low wages make low ideals. Union labor has been for years and is battling for high ideals. High ideals come only where the workers are paid and treated in a highly civilized manner.

For high ideals—for general Made-in-Canada prosperity—Don't forget to say that all may hear: "Made-in-Canada goods for me every time!"

Supreme Court Sustains B. of L. E.

Cleveland.—The Dominion supreme court of Canada sustains the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, according to a telegram received by the Grand Office in this city, in the Starr case which has been fought bitterly for the past year through the courts. Judge Galt of the Manitoba supreme court held the B. of L. E. was an "illegal" organization at common law, and could not recover \$4,000 taken by an official named Starr. The Brotherhood appealed to the Manitoba court of appeals, and won a decision there, sustaining its right to recover even though unincorporated or unregistered under the Canadian trades union act.

The case was argued by the present former officer to the Canadian supreme court at Ottawa. His appeal was denied.

Unanimously Adopt Progressive Ideals

St. Paul, Minn.—The unanimous adoption of a progressive platform and a determination to launch a vigorous presidential campaign marked the closing of the harmonious third party nominating convention at St. Paul, June 19.

The platform declares that American plutocracy nullifies the Declaration of Independence and calls for widespread public ownership of industries, transportation and banking. The right of labor to organize on

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OUR HOME PAGE

HOUSEHOLD NOTES

HEALTH TOPICS

By Dr. Emerson, Professor Public Health Columbia University

There is such a thing as thinking too much about one's physical condition. It perhaps is productive of as much ill health as is thinking too little about it. It is responsible for many of the nervous troubles which afflict millions of Americans and which often lead to dreadful things. The first suspicion that something may be wrong with the body should take one to the doctor. Nature is pretty liberal with her warnings and they should always be heeded promptly. But we do not believe it pays to be consciously on the lookout for them all the time. Mind and matter are too closely connected for that and worry is about the best friend disease has.

Eat sensibly.
Get plenty of fresh air and plenty of sleep.
Work hard.
Live within your income.
Keep a cheerful spirit.
Don't hate anybody.
Don't worry about yourself.
Go to the doctor at the first indication that something in your body isn't working right.

Potage Au Fromage De Gruyere.
This is a very famous French soup which has gone a little out of date lately because it must be served in the soup tureen. That's not correct now, of course, but still, I don't see why an exception should not be made once in a while in order to secure such a delicious first course.
You can use any kind of good meat

stock, provided it is well flavored with onion. Skim thoroughly, as there is no need for any fat, and heat the liquor to boiling point. Season moderately with salt and pepper. Cut about half a loaf of bread into very thin slices, remove crusts and cut into small squares; make a layer of them at the bottom of the soup tureen. Now put a layer of Gruyere cheese shaved thin, then another of bread, then more cheese, and finally a layer of bread. The whole should come out quite halfway up the tureen. Pour over it two cupsful of cream, cover the tureen, and set it in a warm place at the side of the fire till the cream has soaked into the bread. Then add about one quart of the boiling soup, and serve at once. It is perfectly delicious, and so different from the ordinary run of soups that it is well worth trying. Bouillion cubes dissolved in water or canned consommé may be used for the stock.

A SHAMPOO WRAP

One of the drawbacks of washing one's own hair is the discomfort of having the water trickle down one's back, which it nearly always does, in spite of one's utmost care.
The bath towel shampoo wrap is of great use in preventing this. Take an ordinary bath towel, fold it to find the middle, and cut a slit for your head to pass through. Bind the raw edges with ribbon or cotton braid. Stitch pieces of the ribbon or braid at each side to tie under the arms. These need not be undone each time, as the wrap should be made to slip easily over the head. Another advantage of this shampoo wrap is that it keeps one's clothing from getting damp.

HAMILTON T. & L. COUNCIL DEMAND ACTION RE UNEMPLOYMENT

King and Murdoch say No Good Can come from Labor Representation at Unemployed Conference.

The prediction was made at the July 4th meeting of the Hamilton Trades and Labor Council that the coming winter will see more unemployed in that city than ever before in its history. Statements were made that large concerns are laying off men wholesale, and that a feeling of economic hopelessness exists in the breasts of the manufacturers. Large numbers are walking the streets at the present time of workers, not manufacturers.

A committee has been struck off to prepare a review of the existing state of affairs with a view to moving the local authorities in the direction of preparation for relief work. The requests made to Mackenzie King and "Till Nell Sneezes" Murdoch that representation be granted to labor organizations at the forthcoming Ottawa unemployment conference brought back opinions that no good could come from labor being present. The delegates were not satisfied with this and are going to press for further consideration of the claims of the workers in this connection.

JAP IMPERIALISTS FEAR COMING REVOLT

Tokio, Japan.—Don't be surprised at a report from Japan in the near future that revolution has broken out. The militarists are extremely panicky, the yen is shaky, and likely to cause a financial crash, and the wave of radicalism is sweeping over Japan at an alarming pace now.

That the militarists of Japan are really afraid of the rising tide of democracy in that country is shown by the extraordinary protective measures now being taken to safeguard the Mikado and other members of the Royal family. This fear has been created largely because of the recent attacks on Japanese royalty, followed by popular outbursts against the aristocracy, as the direct result of the incompetence and indifference to the sufferings of the people displayed by the ruling class.

Already elaborate precautions have been taken to protect members of the royal family from ordinary attacks from the air. Recommendations made by the militarists were that the palace should be strengthened to resist the impact of 300 kilogram bombs, also that the moats surrounding the palace should be drained as they form visible marks from the air at night.

Subsequent investigations showed that it was impossible to reconstruct the Imperial Palace so as to make it bomb-proof. It has therefore been decided to construct a large underground room into which the royal family can retire when danger comes.



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Harmony Among Metal Workers

Montreal, Que.—W. J. Rowlesland, vice-president of the International Brotherhood of Blacksmiths, announced today that he would soon make a tour of inspection to gather information regarding the local metal workers' unions in the Maritime Provinces.

He said that the metal workers were on agreeable terms with their employers and conditions good for them throughout Canada. Mr. Rowlesland is representing the Canadian blacksmiths at the conference of the American Federation of Labor at the Mount Royal Hotel.

Telegraphers Aid Striking Miners

Winnipeg, Man.—The Trades and Labor Council of this city has donated ten dollars to the striking miners of District 18 U. M. W. of A. A clause in the constitution limits such donations to ten dollars but local militants are determined to secure further sums of money.

A resolution donating ten dollars towards the erection of another cenotaph was overwhelmingly defeated.

It was reported that the local union of telegraphists has given forty dollars to the striking miners and that many other unions contemplate similar action.

Dist't. Convention of Farmers' Union

Roblin, Man.—This town was the scene of a district convention of the Farmers' Union of Canada. A goodly number of delegates from neighboring towns were present in the auditorium of the school when the convention was called to order. For two sessions the convention dealt with such questions as mortgages, debts and various organizational matters.

Little Shortage of Labor on Peninsula Fruit Farms

Immigrants Arrive for Farm Work—Many Unemployed in Cities—Mixed Farmers Leaving Land

There is at least one section of Ontario in which no great shortage of farm labor is reported. This is in the Niagara fruit belt, and more particularly in the area of which St. Catharines is the centre. "In fact," Agricultural Representative Van Every says, "I have had more trouble just lately in finding jobs for men than men for jobs."

Swiss Are Making Good

This condition is due in part to the arrival of a number of men from Europe. These arrivals are made up of one-fifth each of Swiss, Dutch and English, the remaining two-fifths being Scotch and Irish. Of the Swiss, Agricultural Representative Van Every says, "I have had more trouble just lately in finding jobs for men than men for jobs."

Quitting Farm for Labor Wages

In part the unusual labor supply in this section is due to an unhealthy economic condition. One auctioneer in the general farming area of Lincoln is reported to have averaged around five farm auction sales per week from December to early spring. Fully 10 per cent. of these sales, in Mr. Van Every's opinion, were "forced sales." Fully half of them were by order of men who have since been looking for or taking work in urban centres or on the canal. At one time 2,400 men were on the register of the local Unemployment Bureau as looking for work. On the canal wages are stated to be from 35 to 50 cents an hour for men and \$6 and \$7 per day for man and team. Several farmers are doing teaming work and will spend only part of their time cutting and saving hay and scant grain crops on the farms on which they formerly spent all their time. "As a result of all this," Mr. Van Every says, "not a little land will be out of cultivation altogether, and a lot more will be only partially cultivated."

Abnormal Taxation a Factor

More than one cause has contributed to the bringing about of the condition which exists. Those who bought land at high prices with little experience and have since suffered from deflation in the prices of farm products, form one of the chief factors in the case. Even old timers have suffered not a little. Growing tax burdens are also helping to drive people from the land. In one extreme case the school rate alone in a rural section is 56 mills. The general run of local taxes for all purposes on farm lands near St. Catharines is placed at \$5 to \$8 per acre. One farmer is paying over \$1,000 a year in taxes on 125 acres of farm land and a not extravagant home in the city. The assessment is said to represent very closely the forced sale value of some farm lands that are outside the suburban area.

Peaches Reduced; Grapes Increased

In the purely fruit-growing districts it is not all sunshine. As a result of care, overloading and insect and fungus enemies, many peach orchards are

going out of business. Even with a good bloom and favorable conditions for pollination, the output of peaches will be below normal. Pear area is up to normal, with prospects of a good yield. Of plums, the same may be said. Sweet cherries promise well, and sour cherries an abundance. Grapes have largely increased in acreage and vineyards have been better cared for than anything else, but it is too early to speak of crop prospects in this line.

Co-operators Will Stick

One of the most encouraging features in the outlook is in the fact that grape growers have decided to continue their co-operative selling organization, and that the Niagara Peninsula Fruit Growers, which is operating the long-established-old storage plant in this city, also appears to be in good shape for the handling of this year's output of tree fruits. There is cause for encouragement, too, in what is being done through the office of the Agricultural Representative with young farmers' organizations. Eight school fairs are planned for this year; 23 bags of certified seed potatoes have been sent out for use in connection with these; 275 dozen eggs from bred-to-lay hens are also being used by the school children, and an equal number of settings from breeding stations have been sent out for the improvement of farm flocks. With the spirit of co-operation and improvement in both production and marketing, there seems to be hope of a brighter future for one of the districts most favored by nature in Ontario.

W. L. S.

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Labor News From Coast to Coast

"OUR OVERSEAS COLUMN"

Caucasus 95% Organized

Moscow.—The trade unions of the Caucasus at their annual session, held this week, report that 95 per cent. of all industrial and office workers are organized, and 50 per cent. are working under collective agreements. The trade unions have in all 220,000 members, of whom 163,000 are in industry, 56,900 in transport, and the rest in office employment. Fifteen per cent. are women; the small number accounted for by the fact that the main industries are oil and manganese mining, while the main population is Mohammedan.

The Sufferings of the Saar District

(I. F. T. U.) The "Ruhr Nemesis," which is the name given by the "Sunday Times" to the fall of the franc, has unfortunately not been limited to France, but has affected the Saar District also, where it is felt more acutely than ever in France herself. This German district, which was handed over to the League of Nations for 15 years, is for the second time going through the miseries of currency depreciation. Having drunk to the dregs the bitter cup of the inflation of the mark, in common with its German fatherland, it is now suffering from the agonies of the franc depreciation, since it has changed its currency in the meantime.

By the depreciation of the franc all the holders of French money and all the owners of such capital, as according to law must be invested in securities paying rate of interest in francs, (as for instance trust-money and the capital of the various funds for old age and sickness insurance etc.) have lost more than our-fifths of the value of their investments. In the case of cash, and also in the case of investments in French government stock—the insurance funds of the mines under French management must be so invested—this loss on the rate of exchange means gain for the French Government.

The Saar Territory is now compelled to import nearly all its foodstuffs, and therefore the depreciation of the currency causes a great increase in the cost of living of the great bulk of the population. Perpetual wage conflicts are the natural result and the chief interest of the whole of the working population of the Saar Territory (workers, salaried employees, and civil servants) is thus centred upon these struggles.

Let us consider the typical position of the miners, who constitute the bulk of the workers. Their employer is the French State, to whom, by the Treaty of Versailles, the Saar mines were allotted as compensation for the destruction of the mines of Northern France. It was pointed out in the Senate on February 12th last that the output of the Saar mines during the past year had been extremely satisfactory. Moreover, there is always a ready sale for the coal. On the other hand, Le Troquer, the French Minister, has admitted that the rise in prices has been greater in the Saar Territory than in France. In spite of this, however, the miners' wages are still 75 per cent. behind the depreciation of the franc and the consequent rise in the cost of living. Precisely the same thing has happened in the case of the salaried employees and civil servants. We know that poverty and bitterness go hand in hand; and there can be little doubt that the most violent conflicts will break out unless these crying abuses are remedied.

If those who are primarily responsible remain inactive, it is the business of the League of Nations and the International Labor Office to take up this question, and to see that the German workers of the Saar District are not also victimized by the present mischievous Ruhr policy.

From the Communist T. U. Movement

Bucharin, the president of the International of Communist Youth, has sent in a petition to the Communist International asking for increased financial aid for the Communist Youth Movement, as the Young Communist Associations of both Europe and Asia are in financial difficulties as a result of losses in membership. According to Bucharin's statement, there was up to January 1st, 1924, a decline in membership—in Norway of 44 per cent., in Germany of 27 per cent., in Finland of 40 per cent., and in France of 22 per cent. In Roumania the membership was 1,399, as compared with 4,020 in the previous year. In Japan membership has declined 30 per cent., while in China the total membership is now only about 800.

Anniversary of Norwegian Fed'n. of T.U.

On the 30th of March, the Norwegian Federation of Trade Unions celebrated its 25th anniversary. The Federation was founded at a congress held at Easter time in 1899. In the first few years of its existence it had many difficulties to contend with, and the number of affiliated organizations and members was very small. It has only achieved its present position after many a fierce conflict, but it can now look back upon much good and successful work. The date of its jubilee coincides, however, with a time of bitter economic conflict, which is unequalled in its history. For the last five weeks some 70,000 workers have been involved in either strikes or lock-outs, and all attempts at settlements have hitherto failed.

Workers' Holidays in Various Countries

Before the war very few workers except civil servants and municipal employees could claim paid holidays. Since the war, however, there has been a great extension of the custom. In some countries, such as Finland, Austria, Russia and Poland, there are statutory regulations providing for paid holidays annually for all workers. The following is a survey of the present position in the various countries with regard to this question:

Finland—The Collective Agreement Act grants every worker, who has worked for one year consecutively with the same employer, the right to an annual paid holiday of 7 working days. Those who have worked for half a year obtain 4 working days. No agreements may be made limiting these rights.

Austria—The Workers' Holiday Act provides for holidays for certain classes of workers. These may claim 1 week after one year's consecutive work, and 2 weeks after 5 years' employment.

Russia—All persons working for wages, who have worked for at least five and a half months consecutively in the same situation, are entitled to a holiday of at least two weeks; young persons under 18 can claim 1 month. Persons employed in trades injurious to health or in dangerous trades are entitled to an additional holiday of at least two weeks. In the case of seasonal workers, a six per cent. increase of wage (12 per cent. in trade injurious to health) is to be granted in lieu of holiday.

Poland—According to the Act of July 1st, 1922, all persons working for wages are to receive eight working days of paid holidays after one year's employment by the same concern; workers with three years' employment receive fifteen days. Young persons under 18 years of age and apprentices in small concerns or in handicrafts receive after one year's employment an annual holiday of fifteen consecutive days. Non-manual workers in trade, industry or offices are entitled to two weeks' holiday after six months' employment by the same concern and to four weeks' holiday after one year's employment.

In most other industrial countries a large number of collective agreements contain clauses providing for paid holidays. Thus, 72 per cent. of all the collective agreements in force in Germany on the 31st of December, 1921, contained clauses providing for holidays for 86 per cent. of all the workers affected by these agreements. The average length of the holiday was in 50 per cent. of the agreements three days and in 41 per cent. from three to six days.

Great Britain—According to the reports received by the Ministry of Labor, clauses providing for paid holidays have been inserted in over 100 collective agreements. In most agreements it is provided that wages shall be paid for all the statutory days of holiday, and that each worker is entitled to an annual holiday with full pay. The length of the holiday is usually from two to twelve days. As a rule, from six to twelve months' work with one employer is sufficient to warrant a paid holiday. In some cases compensation is granted to workers who leave a post before their holiday is due.

Italy—A paid holiday is granted in most of the chief branches of industry. The length of the holiday ranges from six days in the chemical, metal and textile industries to twelve or fifteen days in gas and electricity works and in the printing trade. In most cases the workers can claim a holiday after one year's employment.

Yugo-Slavia—The report of a factory inspector shows that the number of collective agreements providing for holidays is now increasing. The trades especially favored in this respect are printing and municipal

work. Thus, the printing operatives of Belgrade District have up to fifteen days holiday with full wages, while those of Sarajevo District can claim a paid holiday of four days after one year's employment, and fourteen days after five years' employment. In this District the municipal employees obtain fourteen days' holiday after one year of service, and this rises to four weeks after ten years of service.

Position of Polish Working Class

The press service of the L.P.T.U. has received the following communications from the Polish trade unions on the present position of the working class of that country:

"For two months our whole economic life has been subordinated to the policy of balancing our national budget and stabilizing our rate of exchange. The decrees issued for this purpose and still more, the refusal to continue the state credits which have up till now been granted for industrial purposes have given rise to great industrial depression, and an enormous amount of unemployment. The industrialists are anxious to utilize this depression for the purpose of lengthening the working hours, their pretext being the necessity of defending themselves against the competition of German industry. Especially strong pressure is being exerted in Polish Upper Silesia, where the Polish law establishing the 48-hour week is not in force, and working hours are regulated by the German Decree of 1918, which in Germany itself has now been superseded. Hitherto we have managed to stand out against the employers' attack. These schemes of the industrialists have encountered energetic opposition from the workers, and even from the Government. Thus the Prime Minister has openly declared that he has every intention of remaining true to his promise, and that he does not intend to countenance any encroachments upon the achievements of the working classes.

Notwithstanding this, we feel ourselves threatened, especially in Upper Silesia, by the danger that our working hours will be lengthened after the German model. If that were once to happen in Upper Silesia, no law could save the rest of us in the other parts of Poland.

The Polish Federation of Trade Unions recently discussed the question of working hours, and passed a resolution that the eight-hour-day must be defended to the uttermost. But we are painfully aware that our position is a very difficult one."

Working Hours in Great Britain

An enquiry has recently been instituted by the British Trade Union Congress on the working hours of members of the affiliated organizations. The results show that three and a half million workers have a 48-hour week, and 800,000 a 42-hour week. Of the fifteen million British workers, some ten to twelve millions work 48 hours a week or less.

An Attack on the Eight-Hour Day

Luxemburg employers are following the examples set in other countries, such as Germany, Austria, etc., and trying to make their new wage agreements conditional upon the consent of the workers to the lengthening of working hours. This course has been advised by the president of the Federation of Industrialists, and a large metal-working concern has already succeeded, by the application of considerable pressure, in enforcing what it calls a "temporary" suspension of the eight-hour-day. On this occasion the Government lent its aid to the employers. The Luxemburg Federation of Trade Unions has discussed the question and passed a resolution "to spare no effort to repel this attack on the vital interests of the workers."

Mines Kill 234 in April

Washington.—Fatal coal mine accidents are continuing at a rate largely in excess of a year ago, according to April reports received by the U.S. bureau of mines. As pointed out in numerous reports these deaths result from accidents which are largely preventable. The number of miners killed in April was 234, bringing the total for the first four months of the year to 993.

The fatality rate per million tons of coal was nearly double that of April, 1923, being 6.44 as compared with 3.71. The 10-year average for April was 4.54. The fatality rate for the first four months was 5.06 per million tons as compared with 4.68 a year ago.

The number of fatalities due to major disasters usually caused by explosions of gas and coal dust shows a marked increase, totalling 384 for the four months as compared with 149 in 1923. Failure of operators to rock-dust gassy mines and the tardy introductions of permissible explosives are largely to blame.

Shipworkers Lose Long Struggle

Bosses Force Nine-Hour Day

Hamburg, Germany.—After fighting a heroic battle of more than four months, the workers in the ship building industry along the German water front have had to bow to the inevitable and resume work under practically the old conditions.

These terms provide a 9-hour day instead of the 8-hour struggle for, and the bosses refuse to take all the men back on the grounds that there is not enough work for all who were employed when the strike started in January. This means they will not take back the leaders. A slight increase in wages is granted.

Optimists point out that while technically the bosses secured a victory yet the next months will show the workers have given the bosses the scare of their lives by holding out so long. The 8-hour day, they point out, still holds in principle, even though the 9-hour day has been temporarily installed. The vote to return to work came chiefly from the unorganized men.

Coke Plant May Be Opened in St. John

St. John, N.E.—That St. John is to be preferred to Montreal as the place to establish a large \$200,000 coke industry was the statement of Charles Camsell, deputy minister, Department of Mines and chairman of the Federal Fuel Board, who passed through the city enroute from Halifax to Ottawa.

Because of St. John's position on the coast, and the fact that the harbor is open the year around, permitting of the importation of coal by steamer during the whole of the 12 months, this city was to be preferred to Montreal.

The establishment of a coke industry here on the scale planned, he said, would mean the stabilization of the mining industry in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, and would, beyond a doubt, result in the working of the mines in these provinces 365 days every year.

As chairman of the Federal Fuel Board, he was interested in the proposition, because it would mean a step towards the solution of the fuel problems of the Dominion.

Montreal Labor Opposes Hanging

Use of Lash Also Condemned by Trades Council

Montreal, Que. Organized labor in Montreal went on record recently as opposing capital punishment and the lash, when the Trades and Labor Council supported the Point St. Charles Lodge, International Association of Machinists, which transmitted a copy of a letter it had sent to Hon. E. J. McMurray, the solicitor general, commending him for recently suspending the lash sentence imposed on Raoul Beauchamp, hold-up man and bank robber.

Ottawa Electric Co. Employees' Contract

Ottawa.—By an almost unanimous vote, union employees of the Ottawa Electric Company at a mass meeting held recently voted to accept the company's offer of a two-year contract with the maximum wages for the first year at 49c hourly and 50c for the second year. The minimum rates will be 44c and 45c. The former rates were from 43c to 48c per hour.

The two-year agreement will be signed within a few weeks, and is retroactive from May 1st.

Jefferson Again Heads the Typos

Ottawa, Ont.—Mr. James W. Jefferson, of "The Journal" mechanical department, was re-elected president of the Ottawa Typographical Union, No. 162, at the election of officers held recently. Mr. Jefferson defeated his opponent, Mr. M. B. Rowen 196 to 83 votes. Captain J. A. P. Hayden was elected corresponding secretary and chairman of executive committee. Messrs. E. Dorion, Joseph Turner, D. W. Riley, and Walter Robertson, executive committee. The recording secretary, Mr. Martin O'Brien had previously been elected by acclamation. Others elected were delegates to the annual convention of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada: Messrs. L. Molson and Geo. McCann; Delegate to the I. T. U. Messrs. P. Draper, and A. Reny (acclamation); delegates to the Ontario Conference, Messrs. F. Preece and W. Robinson (acclamation) sergeant at arms, J. K. Pearce.

Unions Protest the Action of the Council

Locomotive Engineers and Machinists' Union Ask for Reconsideration of Decision Regarding Fire Fighters

Moose Jaw Sask.—Letters have been received and will be placed before the City Council from Division No. 510, Locomotive Engineers of Moose Jaw from joining any union against the action of the City Council in regard to the city fire fighters.

The Locomotive Engineers' Union condemns the action of the City Council in prohibiting the fire fighters of Moose Jaw from joining any union or affiliating with the International Association of Fire Fighters, and asks the Council to reconsider the decision reached in the matter. The letter asks that the fire fighters be given their just rights as free-born British citizens.

Stock Salesmen Not Authorized

Railroad Brotherhood States Men Not Representing Organization

St. Thomas, Ont.—It is unofficially reported that the two men, representing themselves to be authorized agents for a railroad brotherhood, and who have induced some 20 persons to invest sums amounting to \$20,000 in supposed securities of the organization, are all bogus representatives. One of the investors, not having received his certificates, communicated with the organization headquarters and learns that the two men who had operated in the city for the last two months were not authorized salesmen. The chamber of commerce officials will investigate the report at once.



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Workers Returning to the Farms

Seek Jobs in Canada While Work May Be Secured

Unfavorable industrial conditions in the United States, particularly Detroit, is having a beneficial effect on the Western Ontario farm labor problem it became known recently.

A prominent agriculturist, whose work takes him all over Western Ontario reports that a number of young men who left their homes and farm jobs near Glencoe have come back from Detroit and were glad to get back their old positions.

"I talked to some of these boys and they all said work was mighty scarce on the other side, and they thought the best thing they could do was to hustle back to Canada and farm work while the going was good," declared the farm expert.

I found similar conditions in Bruce County. The young men are leaving the cities and flocking back to the land. I also find that farmers are not so anxious to hire help at wages beyond \$35 a month and board. In fact a number won't pay more than \$25 or \$30. They explain that they can't tell what they are going to get for their crops, and if they take a chance on hiring several men at high wages they will be out of pocket in the fall.

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