

Radio et salaires minima

(Suite de la première page)

fonctions de commissaire sont absolument honorifiques en dehors d'un jeton de présence de \$10.00 par assemblée et des frais de voyage lorsque ces assemblées sont tenues en dehors de leur lieu de résidence.

Cette Commission se mit résolument à la besogne, elle commença par déterminer un budget du coût de la vie pour la moyenne des ouvrières travaillant dans les établissements industriels d'abord dans la ville de Montréal, puis dans les différents centres de la province, elle fut puissamment aidée dans cette besogne par les différentes ligues et associations féminines et par les organisations ouvrières, surtout par celles comprenant des femmes parmi leurs membres.

À la suite d'une réunion conjointe les représentants de différentes organisations féminines, il fut reconnu qu'un minimum de \$12.20 par semaine ou \$634.40 par année était nécessaire à une ouvrière pour pouvoir vivre du fruit de son travail dans la ville de Montréal; ce budget allant en diminuant en proportion du chiffre de la population des autres centres et des districts ruraux de la province.

Il fut donc décidé que les minima de salaire suivraient la même progression que ce budget du coût de la vie.

Il s'ensuivit ensuite de s'enquérir de la moyenne des salaires payés dans chacun de ces centres et dans chaque branche de l'industrie; c'est ce qui fut fait et cette enquête prouva qu'il y avait non seulement grande disparité dans les conditions de travail et les salaires payés dans les différents centres et branches de l'industrie mais même entre deux établissements similaires localisés dans le même district; dans certains cas, le maximum du salaire payé aux ouvrières par un patron n'équivalait qu'au minimum payé par un autre. Cette enquête prouva également qu'il était impossible de fixer un minimum de salaire uniforme soit pour toutes les industries, soit pour toute la province, que pour faire un succès de cette législation nouvelle il faudrait organiser une campagne d'éducation et obtenir la coopération et la sympathie de toutes les parties intéressées, que ceci ne pouvait s'obtenir que par des conférences conjointes de chaque groupe industriel au cours desquelles patrons et ouvriers prendraient contact et par une discussion libre et amicale arriveraient à trouver un terrain d'entente et à accepter les minima de salaire suggérés par la Commission.

Si l'intention du législateur avait été d'établir un minimum de salaire uniforme pour toute l'industrie ou pour toute la province, il n'aurait pas eu besoin de nommer une Commission du Salaire Minimum, une simple clause dans la loi réglant les établissements

industriels aurait suffi; mais le travail de cette Commission couvre un terrain beaucoup plus vaste, elle doit tenir compte des ouvrières inhabiles, des apprenties, des ouvrières infirmes, âgées ou "handicapées", qui tout en devant gagner leur vie ne peuvent escompter le même salaire que l'ouvrière normale, il lui faut encore établir une proportion raisonnable de chacun de ces groupes dans chaque établissement, de la moyenne des heures de travail, de la durée de la morte saison, ainsi que tenir compte des ressources et des besoins particuliers de chaque industrie, se rappelant toujours qu'une industrie est en position de payer de meilleurs salaires qu'une autre, qu'elle est plus prospère ou emploie un plus grand nombre d'ouvrières expérimentées et plus habiles, tout ceci créant des conditions variant d'un métier à l'autre qui nécessitent une considération spéciale dans chaque cas, tel est en peu de mots l'oeuvre que la Commission du Salaire Minimum doit accomplir.

Ce que nous avons fait.

Au 1er juillet 1930, 21 ordonnances ont été émises comme suit:

Ordonnances Nos 1a-2a, Banderettes et Teintureries, couvrant 1,639 ouvrières, dont 1,336 à Montréal et 303 pour le restant de la Province.

Ordonnances Nos 3, et 4: Imprimerie dans toutes les branches;—couvrant 1,281 ouvrières, dont 1,046 à Montréal et 235 pour le restant de la Province.

Ordonnances Nos 5 et 6, industrie textile, couvrant 8,604 ouvrières, dont 2,674 à Montréal et 5,930 pour le restant de la Province.

Ordonnances Nos 7, 7a, et 7b: Industrie du cuir dans toutes ses branches; couvrant 3,672 ouvrières, dont 2,219 à Montréal et 1,453 le restant de la Province.

Ordonnances Nos 8 à 11b: les métiers de l'aiguille, couvrant 11,873 ouvrières dont 9,510 à Montréal et 2,363 le restant de la Province.

Ordonnances Nos 12 et 12a: Industrie du tabac, cigares, cigarettes; couvrant 4,281 ouvrières dont 3,339 à Montréal et 942 pour le restant de la Province.

Ces diverses Ordonnances couvrent donc un total de 29,711 dont 18,788 à Montréal et 10,923 ouvrières dans le restant de la Province, réparties dans 796 établissements dont 606 à Montréal et 190 en dehors.

La durée d'apprentissage a été fixée à 24 mois dans toutes les industries à l'exception des banderettes et autres établissements du même genre où elle n'est que de 12 mois en rapport à la nature du travail accompli et des conditions particulières inhérentes à cette industrie.

Les minima de salaire pour une ouvrière expérimentée, c'est-à-dire une

ouvrière ayant au moins 24 mois d'expérience dans le métier, non pas nécessairement dans le même atelier, mais dans cette industrie particulière, sont de \$12.00 à \$12.50 à Montréal, et de \$9.00 à \$10.00 pour la province, dans quelques cas exceptionnels dans les petites industries de campagne, il a été fixé temporairement à \$8.00 par semaine.

Pour les apprenties à Montréal:
1re période de 6 mois 7.00
2e période de 6 mois 8.00
3e période de 6 mois 9.50
4e période de 6 mois 11.00

Pour les apprenties en dehors de Montréal:
1re période de 6 mois \$6.00
2e période de 6 mois 7.00
3e période de 6 mois 8.00
4e période de 6 mois 9.00

Ces minima de salaire s'appliquent à une semaine de travail variant de 44 à 55 heures de travail par semaine suivant l'industrie et la localité; cette durée de travail est fixée par la Conférence conjointe des représentants patrons, ouvriers et du public tout comme d'ailleurs les minima de salaire et approuvée par la suite par la Commission.

Afin de voir à la stricte observance des Ordonnances émises deux inspecteurs sont attachés au service de la Commission, l'un M. A. Gariépy pour la ville de Montréal; l'autre, M. Pierre Gosselin pour le restant de la Province, et je puis vous assurer qu'ils sont bien occupés.

L'expérience nous prouve que depuis que cette législation est en force, les salaires se sont stabilisés, leur moyenne a sensiblement augmenté, la concurrence est moins effrénée et plus loyale puisque tous les patrons d'une même industrie sont placés sur un pied d'égalité en ce qui concerne les salaires tout au moins, mais pour en obtenir un succès complet et permanent, il nous faut la coopération de tous, c'est ce que vous demandez au nom de la Commission du Salaire Minimum des Femmes de la Province de Québec.

AVIS

L'Assemblée générale annuelle des actionnaires de la Coopérative des Cigarières, Limitée, aura lieu le mardi 30 septembre 1930, à 8 hrs p.m., en son bureau, 1446 rue Amherst.

A. GARIÉPY, Sec.-Trésorier.

NOUVEAU MEMBRE DE L'EXECUTIF

Le Conseil exécutif de la Fédération Américaine du Travail a élu G. M. Bugnizet, secrétaire international des Électriciens, pour combler la vacance dans le Conseil exécutif causée par le décès de James P. Noonan, président international de la même union, fonction à laquelle il fut élu en 1925.

Des achats faits à l'étranger

Le Conseil des Métiers et du Travail s'occupe des commandes données par la Ville de Montréal à des firmes étrangères. — La représentation ouvrière sur le bureau de direction de l'Ecole Technique. — Une plainte de l'Union des Peintres.

L'assemblée du Conseil des Métiers et du Travail de Montréal, tenue jeudi dernier sous la présidence de John T. Foster, fut intéressante, peut-être même plus que d'habitude probablement parce qu'une question de haute actualité était à l'ordre du jour. Il semble étrange aux délégués qu'au moment où l'on fait des efforts en tous sens pour remédier à la crise du chômage que le comité exécutif de la Ville de Montréal donne des commandes pour outillage à des firmes étrangères.

Le comité exécutif avait soumis au conseil une clause à ce sujet se lisant comme suit: "Votre comité a l'honneur de vous informer qu'il a eu une entrevue avec le comité exécutif de la Ville de Montréal au sujet de plaintes émanant de l'union des mouleurs concernant l'achat d'outillages et de matériaux à des firmes étrangères ou situées en dehors de Montréal."

Ces plaintes furent présentées au Comité exécutif par les délégués Stevenson, de l'union des mouleurs; Thos Black, J. Cupello et Ben Drolet, ils ont soumis que autant que possible ces achats et commandes devaient se donner à des firmes de Montréal, et si ces firmes ne peuvent remplir ces commandes, de les donner à des industries canadiennes; si aucune firme canadienne ne peut les remplir et qu'il soit nécessaire de les donner à l'étranger, de s'enquérir des conditions de travail existant dans les ateliers de ces firmes étrangères.

"La délégation fait rapport qu'elle a été reçue très cordialement par les membres du comité exécutif qui l'assura que ses demandes seraient prises en considération quand des ordres seront donnés à l'avenir."

"Votre comité recommande que ce rapport soit reçu sous forme de progrès et que le Conseil continue à exercer une surveillance étroite sur les commandes données par la Ville à l'avenir."

Une discussion intéressante s'ensuivit, plusieurs délégués exprimant leur opinion sans aucun ménagement, il fut même déclaré que la Ville avait accordé un contrat pour des performances (rock drills) à une maison étrangère au détriment d'une firme locale qui pouvait fournir cette machinerie à des conditions aussi avantageuses. Cette clause fut finalement adoptée.

Le Conseil approuva une résolution du comité exécutif demandant au gouvernement provincial de nommer un membre des unions ouvrières sur le bureau de direction de l'école technique en remplacement du camarade Alphonse Verville, décédé dernièrement.

L'Union des peintres s'étant plaint qu'un homme public très en vue avait accordé un contrat de peinture de sa résidence à une firme américaine, le Conseil décida de demander des explications supplémentaires à ce sujet avant d'agir.

Après la transaction de quelques affaires de routine le Conseil s'ajourna au jeudi 2 octobre prochain.

Unissons-nous

Montréal le 15 septembre 1930

M. le Rédacteur, Le Monde Ouvrier, 11, rue St-Paul Ouest.

Monsieur,

Depuis déjà quelques années j'ai l'honneur de représenter un groupe de travailleurs organisés de notre province et au cours de cette période je n'ai rien à regretter, outre la persistance qu'on semble maintenir dans le travail organisé de Québec de nous tenir éloigner l'un de l'autre. Il n'y a aucun doute qu'il y a des raisons plus ou moins sérieuses qui rendent la coopération plutôt difficile entre certains corps de métiers, surtout sur le terrain économique; mais je ne puis me convaincre que tous les obstacles peuvent empêcher l'unité d'action dans nos activités auprès de notre gouvernement.

Quoique novice dans le travail représentatif, les quelques années d'expérience acquise au cours de mes termes d'office, ont créé en moi une confiance absolue dans la coopération en toute entreprise. Il est tout naturel que nous ayons chacun notre orgueil et nos ambitions personnelles, cependant je suis d'avis que nous pouvons établir un mode de coopération plus étroite sans ressentir aucune humiliation. La tâche qui nous incombe est pourtant trop lourde pour une seule personne et si nous devons reconnaître que les capacités d'un ou de plus d'entre nous sont supérieures, je crois que nous ferions bien de tout simplement mettre en pratique la devise du travail organisé en prêtant main forte au plus faible.

Quoique les cheminots n'ont pas à souffrir du mouvement de sécession au même degré que les autres métiers, nous reconnaissons quand même le danger que comportent tous les mouvements de la sorte. Nous reconnaissons en plus et avec expérience que la division entre les ouvriers est contre l'intérêt général du travailleur, surtout lorsqu'elle est opérée par esprit de caste, de race ou de nationalité. Nous savons parfaitement bien qu'aussi longtemps que nous aurons des syndicats de toutes nuances, aussi longtemps notre force économique demeurera faible et l'ambition ajoutée à la nécessité de se maintenir, engendrera des violations flagrantes de certains principes établis et chers au syndicalisme en général.

Chez nous, comme ailleurs, nous avons à faire face à l'épéidémie de l'indifférence. Je n'ai aucun doute que si les travailleurs en général possédaient entre eux l'esprit de coopération tant désiré dans tous nos efforts pour améliorer nos conditions économiques et sociales, ils auraient bientôt eux mêmes, solutionné ce problème. En premier lieu ils ne se laisseraient pas leurrer par des belles paroles et encore moins se laisser guider par des gens qui n'ont pas eux mêmes passé par la voie de l'expérience au métier.

En dépit de toutes les difficultés et les obstacles qui ont empêché la formulation d'une base d'entente entre tous les différents corps représentatifs de la province dans le passé, je crois que les syndiqués internationaux du moins pourraient facilement surmonter les différences qui nous éloignent et arriver à une solution satisfaisante du problème. Si nous, des syndiqués internationaux ne s'entendent pas nous sommes bien en mal de vouloir critiquer les agissements de nos amis du groupe sécessionniste.

Je suis persuadé que la séparation nous ferait mieux connaître et nous permettrait de trouver la solution aux difficultés qui paralysent nos efforts. Donc je soumets que le comité exécutif de la province de Québec du Congrès des Métiers et du Travail du Canada et le comité mixte des cheminots dans la transportation devraient se réunir en assemblée spéciale pour discuter cette importante question, et faire des efforts pour trouver un terrain d'entente ayant à sa base la coopération de ces deux éléments dans nos travaux législatifs. Je suis bien disposé pour ma part et au nom de mon organisation à faire tout ce qui est humainement possible pour amener cette unité qui me paraît si nécessaire et utile à l'accomplissement de notre tâche.

Si je me permets d'écrire une lettre ouverte sur cet important sujet, c'est bien parce que je veux continuer une pratique qui est à la base des principes de notre organisation et qui n'a pas, il faut bien le dire, reçu toute la considération qu'on en attendait. Sans doute nous aurions pu établir des relations plus ou moins étroites avec d'autres unités ouvrières de la province, mais nous nous sommes abstenus pour les mêmes raisons que les corps de métiers internationaux s'en sont abstenus.

Devrions-nous tourner une page nouvelle dans l'histoire du mouvement syndicaliste de notre province, et nous ferions un pas dans la bonne direction en se rapprochant l'un de l'autre. Donc je vous prie, M. le rédacteur de m'accorder l'hospitalité de votre journal pour faire connaître mes vues sur ce sujet tout en souhaitant qu'elles soient reçues dans le même esprit qu'elles ont été rédigées.

Avec mes plus sincères remerciements, je vous prie de me croire, Votre tout dévoué, CHARLES MASSE, Vice-Président de la Fraternité des Mécaniciens de Locomotive et chauffeurs, de la Province de Québec, Comité Législatif Canadien.

DANS LA CHAUSSURE A la dernière séance du Conseil conjoint No 17, des cordonniers de la Boot and Shoe Workers Union, les délégués des unions locales ont fait rapport sur différentes questions ayant trait au bien-être de l'organisation. Une liste de prix a été présentée et approuvée et remise à l'agent d'affaires, M. C. McKercher, pour être présentée aux patrons. Le secrétaire financier a soumis son rapport sur les recettes et dépenses du dernier mois. Le rapport indique un surplus. Il a donné lecture du travail fait durant la semaine correspondante par l'association des manufacturiers de chaussures sur la question de l'augmentation du tarif que le conseil a endossé unanimement. Un télégramme a été envoyé immédiatement à la Chambre des Communes demandant d'augmenter ce tarif dans l'intérêt des ouvriers et manufacturiers de Montréal.

Les délégués du Conseil ont passé une résolution offrant des remerciements à la compagnie United Shoe Machinery pour le joli char allégorique qu'il a fourni à la Tétrault Shoe et pour les articles nécessaires à ce char allégorique lors de la fête du travail. La "Tétrault Shoe" fut également remerciée et félicitée pour le don de la paire de souliers à la reine du travail, Mlle Rita Lapointe; M. A. Cardinal, gérant du club Papineau pour la jolie réception donnée aux membres du Conseil conjoint à l'occasion de la fête du travail; M. G. Dussureault pour son don. Le conseil remercie tous ceux qui de près ou de loin ont contribué à cette fête.

Le Conseil conjoint a décidé à cette assemblée, d'organiser un parti d'huîtres qui aura lieu le samedi, 18 octobre 1930, dans les salles de l'union, au No 1331, rue Ste-Catherine Est; un comité conjoint des deux locaux Nos 266 et 249 va être adjoint au conseil pour faire de cette fête un succès. Le Conseil va se mettre au travail après ce parti d'huîtres pour un grand eucbre et bal qui aura lieu vers la fin janvier 1931, à la Palestre du National, on compte sur l'encouragement de tous les amis pour obtenir un grand succès.

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Devrions-nous tourner une page nouvelle dans l'histoire du mouvement syndicaliste de notre province, et nous ferions un pas dans la bonne direction en se rapprochant l'un de l'autre. Donc je vous prie, M. le rédacteur de m'accorder l'hospitalité de votre journal pour faire connaître mes vues sur ce sujet tout en souhaitant qu'elles soient reçues dans le même esprit qu'elles ont été rédigées.

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Vice-Président de la Fraternité des Mécaniciens de Locomotive et chauffeurs, de la Province de Québec, Comité Législatif Canadien.

DANS LA CHAUSSURE

A la dernière séance du Conseil conjoint No 17, des cordonniers de la Boot and Shoe Workers Union, les délégués des unions locales ont fait rapport sur différentes questions ayant trait au bien-être de l'organisation. Une liste de prix a été présentée et approuvée et remise à l'agent d'affaires, M. C. McKercher, pour être présentée aux patrons. Le secrétaire financier a soumis son rapport sur les recettes et dépenses du dernier mois. Le rapport indique un surplus. Il a donné lecture du travail fait durant la semaine correspondante par l'association des manufacturiers de chaussures sur la question de l'augmentation du tarif que le conseil a endossé unanimement. Un télégramme a été envoyé immédiatement à la Chambre des Communes demandant d'augmenter ce tarif dans l'intérêt des ouvriers et manufacturiers de Montréal.

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ALLIED PRINTING TRADES COUNCIL. — To promote the interests of the Allied Union Label (which can be had in either the French and English language). The following organizations comprise Council: Typographical Union, No. 149; Jacques-Cartier Typographical Union, No. 145; Printing Pressmen and Assistants' Union No. 82; Bookbinder's Union, No. 91; Photo-Engravers' Union No. 9; Stereotypers and Electrotypers' Union, No. 32; Newspaper Printers' Union, No. 39; Amalgamated Lithographers of America, Local 27; President, Thos Black; vice president, Walter Forrest; Recorder, Jos. Pelletier; Secretary, Treasurer, James Philip; Rooms 2, 408 St. James West; Executive: George Brunelle, G. Vallières, W. Trudeau, Union Secy: J. K. Moore, St. André, 91; Photo-Engravers' Union, Léon Lévesque, 749.

UNION INTERNATIONALE DES BARBIERS COIFFEURS DE L'AMÉRIQUE DU NORD, LOCAL 809, VERDUN. — Cette Union locale tient ses réunions régulières tous les 1er et 2e Lundis de chaque mois aux Quartiers généraux sis au No 452 avenue Hickson, Verdun, les soirs à 9 heures. Président: Léon Leclerc, 749 Craig St. Secrétaire et agent d'affaires: Albert J. Hadley, 452, avenue Hickson, Verdun.

UNION TYPOGRAPHIQUE JACQUES-CARTIER No 145. — Assemblée le 1er samedi du mois, à la Palestre du National, 849 rue Cherrier, St-André, 91; Président: Adhémar Tremblay, 978 rue St-Timothée; secrétaire archiviste, Arthur Langevin; secrétaire-trésorier, Henri Richard, 3446, rue Burdeau.

TYPOGRAPHICAL UNION No. 149 — Meets every first Saturday at No. 408 St. James Street, Thomas Black, President; Secy, Treasurer, James Philip; Rooms 2, 408 St. James West; Executive: George Brunelle, G. Vallières, W. Trudeau, Union Secy: J. K. Moore, St. André, 91; Photo-Engravers' Union, Léon Lévesque, 749.

notre devoir et travaillons la main dans la main, pour le bien-être de notre classe ouvrière et pour la prospérité générale de notre beau et cher pays, le Canada.

C'est en ces termes que le président du club ouvrier de Maisonneuve, M. William Tremblay, M.P.P., souhaita la bienvenue aux membres et officiers du club, à l'occasion de la reprise de ses séances interrompues par deux mois de vacance, à une assemblée tenue mardi soir en la salle de l'Ordre des Buffalos, 1651 Letourneau.

ASSEMBLÉES DES UNIONS INTERNATIONALES

SEMAINE DU 22 SEPTEMBRE

LUNDI SOIR
Barbiers, local 455, chambre 15, Monument National.
Charpentiers-Ménisiers, local 1127, au No 340 Laguchetière Est.
Chapentiers-Ménisiers, local 134, au No 1331 Sainte-Catherine Est.
Pelnetes, local 349, au No 1331 Sainte-Catherine Est.

MARDI SOIR
Travailleurs du Cuir, local 785, Salle Lavoie, rue Ontario.
Cassinetiers, local 23, au No 408 Saint-Jacques Ouest.
Mouleurs, local 21, au No 1331 Sainte-Catherine Est.
Union des Peintres, local 399, 1331, rue Sainte-Catherine Est.
Perblantiers, local 119, au Temple du Travail, rue St-Dominique.

MERCREDI SOIR
Plombiers et poseurs d'appareils de chauffage, local 144, Temple du Travail, 1201, Saint-Dominique.
Cordonniers, local 298, au 1331 rue Ste-No 1244 Ste-Catherine Est.
Perblantiers, local 251, au No 2010 rue Craig Est.

JEUDI SOIR
Conseil Conjoint des Cordonniers, local No 17, au No 1331 rue Ste-Catherine Est.
Charpentiers-Ménisiers, local 1244, au No 1244 Ste-Catherine Ouest.
Conseil des Métiers en Construction, au Temple du Travail.

VENDREDI SOIR
Cordonniers, local 249, au No 1331 rue Sainte-Catherine Est.
Constructeurs de ponts et structures en fer, local 307, au 7 Craig Est.
Chaudronniers, local 134, au No 7 rue Craig Est.
Charpentiers-Ménisiers, local 1558, au 1651 rue Letourneau.
Comité d'organisation du Conseil des Métiers et du Travail de Montréal, au No 7 rue Craig Est.
Travailleurs de l'aiguille, local 112, au No 395, rue Sainte-Catherine Ouest.
Plâtriers et finisseurs en ciment, local 33, au Temple du Travail, 1201 St-Dominique.
Constructeurs d'élevateurs, local 89, au Temple du Travail.
Travailleurs en fer ornemental, local No 428, au No 7 Craig Est.
Briquettiers, local No 1, au Temple du Travail, rue St-Dominique.
Union des Garçons de table, local 109, 305 Ste-Catherine Ouest.
Rembourseurs, local 78, chambre 15, au Monument National.
Laitiers, local 350, chambre 10, Monument National.

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The only bilingual labor paper in the Province of Quebec. The most efficient medium laborers have ever had.

The Loan Syndicates and Their Victims

Thousands of Hardworking Shareholders in Loan Syndicates Have Lost all Their Savings. — The Act was Grossly Abused. — Government Should Appoint a Royal Commission to Fully Investigate the Workings of these Syndicates and to What Extent the Law Was Violated. — Victims Should Be Compensated.

By BERNARD ROSE

A law, that was intended to enable workers to engage in operations for their collective advantage, has been grossly and criminally violated. Notwithstanding the stringent provisions which it contains, making for effective internal control and the eliminating of the possibility of personal gain for one of more individuals, the heads of quite a number of the syndicates which sprang up in such profusion, operated them as if they were private concerns, the proceeds of which were to go largely to themselves.

The public has recently been made acquainted with the operations of certain of these syndicates. Thousands of honest hardworking men and women, the great majority of whom, locally, are employed in industrial establishments, have been ruined. The savings of a lifetime have been practically lost and the possibility of securing something out of the wreck, of the largest of these institutions, seems to be remote. More than one toiler who had managed by dint of thrift to put aside a certain sum for an emergency that might arise — particularly unemployment — invested in the shares of one of the numerous loan syndicates which became a veritable plague. He was told and expected that he would be assured of safety, in addition to which dividends would be added to his investment.

Quite a number of widows were induced to leave their money with these syndicates. Many a young woman employed in a local establishment took all she possessed, and cheerfully asked to be made a member of the syndicate, confident that, whenever she wished to withdraw her money, it would be available, together with the accrued dividends.

It is somewhat unfortunate that no proper Governmental supervision was provided whereby the operations of these syndicates could have been investigated by Government accountants and official experts. In a great many instances, the directors of these syndicates were, if not illiterate, men of limited education. The more aggressive director generally assumed control and business was conducted in accordance with his own conception of things. Thousands have been ruined. Hundreds of homes have been sold out to satisfy judgments obtained by the lawyers who were employed to collect the amount from the makers or endorsers of notes. To the amount claimed was added the costs, almost in every case entirely beyond the means of the persons sued. Money which, in savings banks, would have been absolutely safe, and drawing three per cent interest, or left on deposit with trust companies, which give four per cent, was withdrawn and left with these syndicates, managed as already mentioned, by men of practically no business experience, and anxious only to exert their authority and induce trusting persons to become members of the syndicates.

The reports of court proceedings published in the press, show that hardly a day passes without judgments being obtained on behalf of one or more of these syndicates against workers or small traders. The matter has reached a stage where some drastic action must be taken. The aggregate amount involved has reached a very large sum. One of these syndicates, now in the hands of a receiver, did a business that aggregated millions.

Although the Act distinctly states that no person other than the manager is to be paid for his services, a number of the larger syndicates remunerated several officials, who laid quite a sinecure and gave up all idea of working at their trades. Quite a number have ceased making payments, even though the required notice has been given. Very sad scenes can be witnessed almost every day at the offices of these syndicates. Men without employment whose savings are invested with these syndicates, stand in despair, helpless because the money invested has been loaned out to other persons and cannot be recovered. Working girls and widows in tears beseech the officials of these associations to give them their money. The answer is generally the same: "You must wait until we collect."

The Act was never intended to be exploited for the purposes which seemingly a good many of the officers of these syndicates had in view. It is a measure designed to promote co-operation amongst workers for their collective advantage, whether along lines of production or consumption. Credit or the loaning of money was merely incidental.

It is certainly deplorable to note the number of judgments that have been taken against these helpless individuals. Costs are piled up and executions issued. Quite a number, who have been unable to satisfy these judgments, will be harassed for years by the lawyers in charge of these cases. The victims of these syndicates are entitled to every possible consideration. They trustingly confided their savings to institutions which were incorporated under a law of this province. If the law did not make provision for periodical supervision and inspection, and afforded the shareholders the protection to which they are entitled, it is not their fault. The situation is one that calls for action on the part of the Government. A Royal Commission should be named with power to investigate the operations of these syndicates and the extent to which they are involved; the number of individuals affected; the number of actions taken; the amount paid in legal costs and collection fees, and the possibility of recovering from the depleted funds of these organizations a sum that will permit paying at least part of what was invested.

Furthermore, in view of the measure having been designed to help the workers who have become its victims, following the report of a Royal Commission to which the largest powers should be given, the Government should be generous in coming to the assistance of the more deserving, in the same way as the late government did when the Home Bank failed. The guilty parties should receive no consideration whatsoever. Those who are responsible for the situation in which these syndicates find themselves, should be made to pay the penalty. They betrayed the trust reposed in them. The Government should take action without delay.

WHAT NEXT?

A new way of distinguishing different germs from each other by the speed with which each kind climbs up the fibres of a strip of wet blotting paper like firemen scaling a wall was reported by Dr. J. Cruickshank of Aberdeen, Scotland, at a recent meeting of the Pathological Society of Great Britain and Ireland in Manchester, England.

capillarity. Using watery cultures containing living germs of well known varieties, Dr. Cruickshank tested the ability of these germs to climb into the blotting paper together with the watery part of the culture. To his surprise, he found these climbing abilities very different.

Q.—What are the colors of the working buttons worn by union culinary workers?

A.—Green, for waiters and waitresses; white, for cooks; blue, for beverage dispensers; red for miscellaneous workers.

The Week at Ottawa

By J. S. WOODSWORTH, M.P.

The purpose and probable results of the Special Session of Parliament are now beginning to be apparent. The Prime Minister's proposals are clear out. Apparently he is sincere in his belief that they will remedy unemployment. He has staked his political future and that of his party on the result, and has no hesitation in declaring that he will force through his programme.

This programme is simple. First, a grant of 20 millions to be expended in unemployment relief, where possible, in public works.

Second, an amendment to the Customs Act which is designed to prevent dumping.

Third, an upward revision of large number of items in the tariff, which is declared will stimulate industry in general.

The government has the majority and apparently will not hesitate to use its majority to push through this programme. The people across the country cannot complain since, at the recent election, Mr. Bennett was undoubtedly given what is generally termed a "mandate", though, of course in reality most people who helped to give Mr. Bennett power had very little idea as to how that power would be used. The Liberals seem to be almost crushed by their overwhelming defeat and are offering no very effective opposition. Possibly, in addition to their defeat, is the fact that they have no constructive alternative policy and that they are suffering from the inhibitions caused by their advocacy of the Dunning Budget.

Thus there is the Imperial Conference to be considered. Mr. Bennett has declared that he will not go to the Imperial Conference until the business of Parliament is concluded. He thus throws upon the Opposition the responsibility of deciding whether or not Canada is to be represented. Rumour has it that Mr. Bennett is not very anxious to go. For the strategic reasons the Liberals would not like to place the Conservatives in a position where they could claim that they remained in Canada to attend to Canada's business rather than to go to the Imperial Conference. Such an outcome might create an awkward situation in Quebec. Thus party considerations in this matter, as in all others, are the determining factor.

The granting to the Government of a blank cheque for twenty millions of dollars places a great power in the hands of the Government. Yet in an emergency what other course is possible? The Prime Minister has stated that this money will be distributed, not according to population, but according to the needs of the various sections. Public works will be, of course, carried on in cooperation with the provinces and the municipalities.

With the subject of protective tariffs so prominently before almost all industrial nations at the present time, one is led to question whether the people who will be, or have been, called upon to decide by ballot the future policy of their countries on this economic question have an understanding of even the fundamentals of the problems to be solved by the application of protective tariffs. However, one seriously questions if all the political leaders have a thorough grasp of the policies which they advocate.

An industry which seeks a protective tariff does so on the grounds that it cannot sell its product profitably in the home market in competition with an imported product of the same nature which has free access to the markets of the country in which the industry seeking protection is located. The reason usually assigned for the home industry's inability to successfully compete with importations is that the imported article is produced at a much less cost in the country of its origin than a like product may be made at home, and consequently may be sold at a lower price, thus forcing the price of the home industry's product down to a level where it is not profitable to produce it. The industry, therefore, asks the state to impose a tax on importations. It is this tax, who pays it, to whom it is paid, and the effect of its payment on the standard of living of the community, that is worthy of consideration.

Where State relief is given the arrangement will probably be that the Dominion will contribute one-third on condition that the municipalities and province contribute one-third each. Where the grants are made for public works, and it is expected that about four-fifths of the amount will be spent in this way, the arrangement will likely be that the municipality will be required to contribute 50 per cent with the province and the Dominion contributing 25 per cent each.

Though twenty million dollars may seem a large amount it must be remembered that distributed among ten millions of people it amounts to only \$2.00 per head. This will not go far in solving the problem of unemployment.

For some time there has been an agitation on the part of some Canadian producers that American goods were being dumped into Canada. An Act, which has been on the Statute Books for some time, enabled the Minister to set the price for duty purposes on imported goods of a limited class, that is natural products. This price was supposed to be a fair and reasonable price in the country of origin. The legislation of the present session goes much further than this. Clause 43 reads:

"43. If at any time it appears to the satisfaction of the Governor in Council on a report from the Minister that goods of any kind are being imported into Canada, either on sale or on consignment, under such conditions as prejudicially or injuriously to affect the interests of Canadian producers or manufacturers, the Governor in Council may authorize the Minister to fix the value for duty of any class or kind of such goods, and notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the value so fixed shall be deemed to be the fair market value of such goods."

It will be noted that this gives arbitrary power to the Minister or finally to the Governor in Council. In reality the Minister is permitted the power to fix the tariff without any opportunity of an effective appeal. Further, this is on all classes of goods and has very few safeguards. The public generally will bear in mind the characterization of this class of legislation by Mr. Meighen. He was objected to a very much more limited measure:

"This provision is protection personified. This is the last emanation from the Government that denounces protection two or three days ago. For purposes of valuation the minister can fix the value where he likes, and any basis he likes, on any principle he likes, to suit any interest he likes, as low as he likes, as high as he likes, and when he likes! In a word, this simply put into the power

of the minister the whole elevation of the tariff of this country."

The Opposition and Independent groups protested strongly against this legislation on the ground that it was interfering with the rights of Parliament, and also that the results might be most disturbing to business, as well as imposing a great hardship on the Canadian consumer.

The revisions of the tariff went further than even protectionist enthusiasts had hoped for. The Eastern papers are jubilant. Key industries which only last year received added protection from the Dunning Budget are now granted still higher protection. Little regard is had for the principle of British Preference. Steel, textiles, boots—all the necessities of the producer are affected. The Prime Minister assures the country that he has the word of the manufacturers that this will not mean higher prices. The public generally has fairly good ground for being doubtful with regard to this. In the past such assurance from the manufacturers have not been made good.

From our standpoint the whole programme as put forward by the Government will not relieve unemployment, but in the long run will place heavier burdens upon the great masses of the people. Public works which may be necessary as a palliative undoubtedly mean higher taxes, and as, under our present method of taxation, these are raised largely through indirect taxation, that means a heavier burden on the ordinary people through their expenditures for food and clothing. The dumping legislation means that anything like a special bargain counter is abolished. If any class of goods can be produced only at a high price in Canada, though they are produced much cheaper in a neighboring country, we must continue to pay the higher price, and this at the discretion of the Government.

In this connection, I venture to point out that the present Minister of National Revenue is President or Director of a number of manufacturing firms. The consumers have handed over the fixing of prices to the manufacturers themselves now sitting in the seats of power. From the larger economic standpoint the Government proposals will make it even more difficult for the western farmers to obtain markets. It is an economic law that we can export only as our exports are paid for by imports. If we limit our imports we automatically shut off our foreign markets. Thus as we see the matter, the majority of Canadians will face higher prices with a smaller purchasing power. Employment in certain industries may indeed be stimulated but at a very great cost to the majority of the population. Hypodermic injections may have their value, but the patient should not be led to believe that they effect a permanent cure.

has the tendency of reducing the standard of living to this extent.

One of the chief arguments advanced by the heads of industries seeking protection is that the increased number of workers who will be required to supply the demand of a protected home market will sufficiently increase the purchasing power of the community to compensate for this increased price of the protected article. This can never be the case, however, for even if a greater number of persons are engaged in the newly expanded industry, it is only they who will be favorably affected by being given work where none existed before, for the rest of the community, unless it has received an increase in its purchasing power, will have its standard of living adversely affected by this increase in price. And even at that, any increase in the number of workers will depend on the demand being increased for the protected article. And if such an expansion in demand does take place, the tendency will be for the industry to meet this increased demand by the use of labor-saving machines, with little or no increase in the number of employees, and thus a very slight, if any, addition to the purchasing power of the community will result. In no case can it compensate for the increased price.

While the tendency is for the home industry to take full advantage of an import tax to raise the price of its product, such need not always be the case. Once the home market has been given conclusively to the protected industry, it may take advantage of the augmented demand to decrease its cost of production by large-scale manufacturing methods, thus raising the return on the invested capital, which was the object of the request for such protection, and if this is done without any reduction in the wages of labor (the largest part of the community) or by any increase in the selling price of the commodity, the standard of living is not affected in any way. In this manner the home product may be produced and distributed profitably at the same price as it was previously at a lower profit in competition with the imported article. Since it is now profitable to produce the commodity at the same price as that of the former competitor, foreign trade in this commodity is possible because with the selling price now equal to that of the other country's product, the sales price factor will have been eliminated from competition in the foreign markets.

With every increase in volume in foreign trade, the greater will be the profits through large-scale production savings, and any part of these profits returned to the home consumers in the form of decreased selling price will tend to raise the standard of living, thus raised, the greater will be the de-

Confidence and Optimism

President Beatty's Confidence in the Rapidly Approaching Return to Normal Conditions and National Prosperity.

By BERNARD ROSE

The expressions of confidence and optimism which mark the utterances of Mr. E. W. Beatty, K.C., President of the Canadian Pacific Railway, should have the effect of encouraging the workers employed on the railroads, and who were laid off because of lack of business. It should inspire with a like confidence the directors of industry and commerce throughout the Dominion.

We are indeed fortunate in having as the heads of our railroads men of such broad outlook, optimism, and intense belief in the splendid future of their country.

The railroads give employment to quite a large percentage of Canada's working population. They are the merchant's best customers. When fully employed, they spend their wages or salary in a manner that conduces to promote business generally. They are not spendthrifts, but believe they are justified in conforming to the living standards which progress and a better appreciation of what the worker does for society, have established.

The President of the C. P. R., and several of his colleagues, and guests, are now on their annual tour of inspection. It is highly gratifying to those interested in the welfare of the railroad workers and labor generally to learn that one of the objects of the inspection is to ascertain in what way improvements, which otherwise would only begin next year or later, can commence immediately, in order that the railroads cooperate with the Government in providing as much employment as can possibly be created.

The Government's decision in the matter of voting a substantial sum, coupled with a like willingness on the part of the railroads to begin immediate operations in the direction of improvement and branch lines, is the best evidence of the sincerity of not only the Leader of the Government and his colleagues, but the heads of the very large industrial and transportation enterprises that are vitally interested in the prosperity of their country and anxious to do all in their power to employ the largest number of men, and, if necessary, begin works which might be delayed until later.

The Honorable Mr. Bennett, when he spoke in Winnipeg, stated that he would do his utmost to mend things and asked for the co-operation of the public. This co-operation is being given him, because the public sense his readiness and anxiety to do all that his power permits, to furnish employment and thus do away with the destitution that is the unfortunate result of the lack of employment that has prevailed for some time.

It is certainly pleasing to note that our statesmen and outstanding industrial chiefs show so great an interest in the welfare of the workers. It augurs well for that general national well being, which only comes, where the different classes of a community or nation join forces to promote the welfare of the individual as well as national prosperity.

At the Trades Council

Are the citizens of Montreal going to stand much longer to the policy of the City Executive giving orders to firms outside of Canada while efforts are being made by others to curtail the curse of unemployment?

This was in short the trend of discussion at the meeting of the Montreal Trades and Labor Council held last Thursday night; the meeting was presided by President Foster and quite a large gathering of delegates were in attendance.

The Executive Committee presented on the subject the following report: "Re the complaint of the Moulders' Union that the City Executive were giving orders to foundries outside of Montreal while hundreds of moulders, citizens and tax payers of Montreal were out of employment. This matter was presented to the members of the City Executive by Representative Stevenson of the Moulders' Union and Delegates T. Black, J. J. Cupello and B. Drolet, and they prevailed on the City Executive to confine the granting of orders to firms located in Montreal whenever possible or to Canadian firms and failing this govern themselves according to conditions prevailing in those outside firms.

"Your Committee desires to state that the delegation was well received and that they had the assurance of the City Executive that their request will be given full consideration whenever orders were to be given out. We recommend that the report be accepted as a report of progress and that the Council continue to follow closely any order for material given out by the City."

This report created quite a lively discussion, several delegates expressing their views in no uncertain tone, especially when it became known through a statement made by a delegate that an order for rock drills had been given by the City to an outside firm, with local representatives when such an order was actually competed for by a Canadian organization on equal terms. The delegates wanted a straight answer claiming that it was not a question of giving orders to friends of the administration but to Montreal firms founding our own citizens.

A communication emanating from the Painters' Union complaining that a very prominent and wealthy politician had given a contract for decorating his residence to an American concern while there were so many painters able to do the same work right in our midst. It was decided to ask the Painters' District Council whatever action they have taken on the matter before the Council decides to take any further action.

Recommendation was made that the Executive request the Provincial Government to consider the appointment of a labor representative to replace the late Alphonse Verville on the board of directors of the Montreal Technical School.

After the transaction of several routine matters the Council adjourned to October 2nd.

mand for the product, with consequent benefit to all.

That these two opposite effects may be the result of the imposition of a protective tariff may seem strange. Which will result from any particular import tax levy depends entirely upon the policy of those in control of the industry receiving this protection. Since such protection may be extended to an industry only by the government, it is only fair that any industry seeking protection should make known its intentions in regard to the trade methods and policies to be adopted if this import tax be imposed, and protection should be extended only to those industries which undertake to use it for the benefit of the community at large and not just one part to the detriment of the whole.

UNE INTERESSANTE CONFERENCE

Le congrès tenu la semaine dernière à l'hôtel Mont-Royal, par les délégués commerciaux avait l'honneur d'avoir parmi eux M. Chester W. Wright, éditeur du "Labor News Service, qui est un organe semi-officiel de la Fédération Américaine du Travail.

M. Wright parla de la brûlante question du jour "le chômage," et de ses remèdes. Il exprima cette opinion "que si les principes démocratiques du gouvernement ne sont pas introduits dans l'industrie, les crises du chômage se répéteront, de temps en temps, et de plus en plus critiques."

Voici en résumé, l'argumentation du conférencier: "Les causes du chômage sont souvent beaucoup plus profondes qu'on ne le croit. Ce n'est pas un phénomène, mais le résultat de la présence d'un système industriel utilisant de plus en plus l'électricité et la machinerie. Ce système de production, à outrance, s'est répandu beaucoup trop rapi-

dement, et il en est résulté que la production a dépassé, de beaucoup, les besoins de la consommation; d'où la rupture de l'équilibre nécessaire entre la production et la consommation, et, partant, la mise à pied d'une partie considérable de la main-d'œuvre, qui a cependant, besoin de son travail pour vivre.

Q.—Who said: "Labor wide as the Universe, has its summit in Heaven: it is the noblest thing yet discovered beneath God's skies?"

A.—Thomas Carlyle, celebrated author and historian.

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'Fresh from the gardens'

Wage Cutters Make Plank Move

The Iron Age, a spokesman for the iron and steel industry, says "we are in for wage reductions" and that "the doctrine of the consuming power of high wages is losing ground."

This statement should be read in connection with the policy of employers who slyly reduce wages while proclaiming their belief in high wages.

The Iron Age statement is a hint to these employers and to "me-too" writers and so-called economists to drop the high-wage theory and harp on "the law of supply and demand."

This wretched philosophy for wage standards sets no limit to workers' pauperization, as is illustrated in the bituminous coal industry.

The editor does not attempt to prove that the theory of high wages is "losing ground." He seems, however, to be well aware that the high-wage theory must be abandoned before his low-wage objective can be reached.

The public do not approve wage cuts. They understand that reduced buying power prolongs business depression. If wage cutters are successful among their unorganized workers it is necessary that the public be quietly led from the high-wage theory.

This sinister feature of the Iron Age position will not pass unnoticed by trade unionists who should intensify their educational campaign on the value of high wages.

It must be remembered that Iron Age speaks for the nation's largest unorganized, low-wage, long-hour industry.

The strategy of these wage cutters is to separate the general public from labor's high wage theory and thus have a free hand in lowering standards of helpless employees.

To talk of the "law of supply and demand" in an age of monopolies, mergers, combines and labor-displacing machinery would be amusing but for its malignant purpose.

These hardened exploiters would extend the boundaries of their economic control and industrial anarchy at the price of continued depression and general hardships.

Real Investments for Women

By ERNEST PITT

One of the noteworthy features of the advance of women toward a new and greater part in the world's work, is the way in which they have come, in recent years, to be recognized as an important factor in the field of investment.

To-day most brokerage houses have special departments for women, and in many cases these departments are conducted by women. The fair sex plays a notable role in the work of stock exchange, is the opinion of Mr. Ernest Pitt in his weekly article.

Undoubtedly it is well that a woman who has funds to invest should have some gilt-edged securities and well-seasoned bonds laid aside in her safe deposit. This is all the more so, if she wants to take a share as so many do, in the speculative side of the market.

Of all the solid "sheet-anchor" investments that a woman can make, the one that might be expected most to appeal to her, is a house in which to dwell. It is safe to estimate that the men who conceived "Home, Sweet Home" did not derive his inspiration from residence in an apartment block. He was not looking back to a place in the city where he joined annually in

the collective trek to new residences, with Jupiter Pluvius venting his wrath on the whole sorry business. The furniture wreckers' van held no terrors for him at the time to which he was looking back when he penned those words.

Mr. Pitt points out that women, in demanding a share in the legislative work of a country, usually draw attention to their special interest in home problems and their special competence to deal with them, their ability to throw valuable light on such problems and help in the framing of proper legislation in that connection. All the more reason therefore, why the woman investor should give great consideration to the investment in a home which beside its financial advantages, is the greatest individual solver of home problems and the finest prevention of child delinquency known.

Looking to the financial side of the question, a good house purchased wisely in a good neighborhood will gradually increase in value as a city expands, and will finally give back the purchase price many times over, after having paid abundant interest in the saving of rent, moving costs and so forth.

LABOR ENDORSES GRAIN EXHIBITION AND CONFERENCE

At the 46th annual convention of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada held at Regina during the week of September 8, hearty endorsement was given by the 300 delegates in attendance to the World's Grain Exhibition and Conference to be held in Regina, Canada, in 1932.

A resolution was unanimously passed expressing unqualified approval of this forthcoming world-wide event, the complete text being as follows:

"Whereas the World's Grain Exhibition and Conference will be held in the city of Regina in 1932, bringing over 500 of the most eminent grain experts of the world, with hundreds of thousands of interested visitors from the four corners of the earth, and thus not only enhancing the reputation of Canada as one of the world's most progressive nations but at the same time bringing material advantage of inestimable value;

"And whereas those responsible for the organization and administration of this World's Grain Exhibition and Conference are preparing plans for the erection of several substantial permanent buildings, thus affording work to Canadian workmen under strictly Trades Union conditions and with recognition of organized labor on the board of administration;

"Therefore be it resolved that this 46th annual conference of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada associate itself with other public-spirited organizations of Canada in expressing its hearty approval of this great undertaking and pledges its moral support to those whose directing genius will bring this important exposition into full fruition; and further, that this Congress, representative of the industrial and commercial workers of Canada, interpret this action as an expression of our desire to co-operate with the agricultural interests of the Nation in all great undertakings whose objective is to strengthen our economic and industrial position among the Nations of the World."

The resolution was moved by Mr. Harry Perry, president of the Regina Trades and Labor Council and seconded by James Simpson, Toronto, vice-president of the Congress, a member of the city council of Toronto.

THOUSANDS AT "SAFETY UNIVERSITY"

At least 7,000 "students" from all parts of the United States, Canada and several foreign countries are expected to assemble in Pittsburgh, Penn., on September 29 for the five-day programme of a National Safety University, which will have 140 different sessions and nearly 400 safety experts as "professors."

This National Safety University—known officially as the Nineteenth Annual Safety Congress & Exposition—will attempt to answer this one definite question: "What can America do to lessen the accidents which last year caused 97,000 deaths and 10,000,000 injuries?"

Q.—What was the earliest union of haters?
A.—The Hatters' Union of Danbury, Conn., organized in 1810.

ATTACK ON INTERNATIONAL UNIONS

Montreal, Sept. 17, 1930.

Editor, Labor World, St. Paul St., West, City.
Sir:—

One of the periodical attacks upon international trade unionism, is contained in the September 6th, issue of, *Le Canada Musical*.

Attacks directed against the International Trade Unions have been so often made and so successfully refuted, that one would think it was hardly worth while bothering about. Nevertheless, after reading "Le Chômeur des Instrumentistes" in the issue above mentioned, as a musician and member of local 406 of the American Federation of Musicians, I thought it in the interest of truth, to reply to this bitter and malicious attack.

The writer of the editorial accuses the American Federation of Musicians of being responsible for the loss of employment presently being suffered because of the conduct of their imprudent chiefs. It is quite evident, that he has no love for the Federation. He does not approve of union principles, particularly where these are applied for the advantage of the professional musician. He would be quite content to have musicians exploited by the owners and managers, and brought down to a level of subsistence which is the unfortunate lot of a great many unorganized workers.

He rages because the union has insisted that decent salaries be paid, and a sufficient number of men in an orchestra, to make it one that will find favour with the patrons of the theatre. He is under the mistaken impression, that the locals in this city and Dominion, are entirely controlled in every way by the parent organizations. This shows how little he knows of the policy of the International Unions, in the matter of local autonomy. He expresses his sympathy for the Canadian members of the union who have permitted themselves to be misled by their leaders, and take strong exception to the assessment levied upon members of the Federation, in order to carry on a publicity campaign. He states: "If our Canadians will detach themselves from American affiliation and establish by laws more rational and acceptable than those they presently employ; if they abandon their reckless attitude, we believe that an understanding with the managers will be easily effected."

He no doubt has discussed the question with managers of theatres who have influenced him into believing, that because of their membership in the American Federation of Musicians, the members who make up the orchestra of the local theatres are less susceptible to pressure than they would be, if they were a purely local or Canadian organization. He quite overlooks the fact, that the films exhibited, are supplied by an American firm. That the theatres, although supposedly under the control of a Canadian corporation, are really owned and directed by an American concern which gives orders to its Canadian employees.

The whole article is a diatribe against the organized musicians of our city who belong to the American Federation of Musicians. The writer wants every possible freedom given the managers, regardless of how it may affect the musicians. It is quite apparent, that in union matters, he is a child. He has a lot to learn. He knows nothing of industrial and economic history. He has an almost juvenile confidence in what the managers will do, if they are not hampered by the union and its leaders.

It only needs a comparison between the salary and conditions as they existed prior to the introduction of the movietone, with the salary and treatment which the musicians got before they were organized, to demonstrate what the union has accomplished for the musicians not only in Montreal, but in other large cities in the Dominion and the United States.

Instead of attacking the union and criticizing its members in their endeavour to improve conditions, he would employ his talents such as they are, to much better advantage, in helping his confrères fight "canned music", and helping them share the heavy burden which they are bearing. It is the American Federation of Musicians, that is doing its utmost to maintain interest in living music and fight the attempt to reduce music to a mere means of mechanically transmitting sounds, thus destroying the art which has done so much for culture.

We musicians who are members of the Federation, are proud of our affiliation. We expect that managers will fight us, when we make demands. Experience has shown us, that we cannot at all times rely upon the promises made. Managers are in business to make money. We exercise our talents in order to earn a livelihood. If we have found it necessary to occasionally impose stringent rules and insist that they be respected, it is because we have been the victims of conscienceless employers, and disloyal members. The International Unions have overcome great opposition. They have survived the attacks of organizations, individuals, and organs of public opinion. They have not only survived these, but have grown stronger and prosperous.

We as members of a great international organization, can afford to ignore and repudiate the criticism of the directors of petty little journals who use them to vent their spleen upon the thousands of musicians who know that, "In unity there is strength."

JERRY SHEA,
First Vice President, Local 406 American Federation of Musicians.

NOTICE
The general annual meeting of the shareholders of the Cigar Makers' Co-operative, Limited, will be held Tuesday, September 30, 1930, at 6 o'clock p.m. in its headquarters, 1446 Amherst Street.

Q.—Will the coming convention of the American Federation of Labor in Boston be the first held in that city?
A.—It will be the third convention in Boston. The first was in 1889 and the second in 1903.

A. GARIEPY, Sec.-Treas.

FROM OUR READERS

September 7, 1930.

Editor, *The Labor World*:—
I read the good article by Bernard Rose on "The Fear of Economic Insecurity." And the workers must learn to so change the state of general opinion that it will not merely not "tolerate the fear of economic insecurity"—slaves may be guaranteed enough to keep them alive and enable them to reproduce their kind, but that they will not tolerate ANY result-unit method of fixing prices (a wage is a price). For all such methods, whether called supply and demand, payment according to skill, or according to the number of children under a certain age, or whatnot, automatically put a price on what is NOT human work, thus FORCING workers to work for persons who work not in return—that is, it forces them to be economic slaves, to be something less than self-governing human beings; to take a position something lower than that the true dignity of sane adulthood calls for.

When the workers have produced such a public opinion that people will no longer submit to an enslaving price fixing system, then the adoption of the hour-for-hour of adult human work method of fixing prices will automatically bring security from fear of economic insecurity, for it will mean that getting a comfortable living will be easy for all, and the opportunity to get such a living will be open to all.

In fact, the true root cause of economic insecurity of the workers is the fact that prices are fixed so as to put a price on what is not human work. There could be no robbery of the workers if there was no price on anything but sane adult human work. And the sooner the workers all realize that the sooner will they be able to put a real and permanent end to the fear of economic insecurity.

Sincerely,
VAUGHN BACHMAN BROKAW.

September 7, 1930.

Editor, *The Labor World*:—
Before we can decide what a worker must get to have a fair income from vey's (his or her) work for others, we must decide what we mean by "fair." If it were used to mean the same as equitable; then the only way we could be sure that workers got it, would be to make the monetary unit solely issuable and receivable for a definite duration of adult human work (the adult part doing away with child labor). To make fair mean anything less is to make it possible to call a worker's recompense "fair" when it amounts to, say, one tenth the number of hours of work which vey (he or she) parted with to get the "wage". That is, the worker may work ten hours for a given amount of money and when he spends that money get what brings him but one hour of adult human work. Which means that he will have worked the other nine hours to pay tribute in some form. The quality and quantity of products obtainable does not at present show how many hours the worker works practically for nothing.

Sincerely,
VAUGHN BACHMAN BROKAW.

A MISNOMER

Anti-Union employers understand psychology—the science of the human mind. This is why they no longer make frontal attacks on Organized Labor. They invent window-dressing terms that are used to confuse.

The "open" shop term is effective gas warfare because it appeals to man's inherent sense of fairness while concealing the anti-unionist's objective. Collective bargaining is the standard by which these employers should be judged in denying this process, they resort to trickery.

The "open" shop term should have no place in the lexicon of trade unionists and sympathizers. Such a shop is anti-union and should be referred to as such.

When a friend of Organized Labor uses the term "open" shop he would obscure and mystify. This defeatist policy is an aid to the anti-union employer who strives to evade a clear-cut issue.

Higher wages create increased purchasing power and shorter hours furnish leisure to enjoy more and better comforts and conveniences. This stimulates the desire to possess and creates the demand which makes mass production possible, and mass production results in lower cost of production, which in turn justifies higher wages and improved living conditions—President Gadsden, Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce.

Province of Quebec
District of Montreal
No. D-74066

SUPERIOR COURT
Dame SABINA SOLOMONOVITCH, of the City and District of Montreal, wife common as to property with Israel Sufferin, of the same place, Plaintiff,

vs.
ISRAEL SUFFERIN, of the City and District of Montreal, Defendant.

An action in separation as to property has this day been instituted in this cause, Montreal, September 18th, 1930.

POEJGER & MILLER
Attorneys for Plaintiff.

Canada
Province of Quebec
District of Montreal
No. E-71898

SUPERIOR COURT
MALGA LOBEL, of the city and district of Montreal, wife common as to property of Nathan Blau, of Montreal, duly authorized to enter on justice in an action of separation as to property by judgment of this Court, Plaintiff,

vs.
NATHAN BLAU, furrier, of the city and District of Montreal, Defendant.

Notice is hereby given that an action in separation as to property has been instituted this date by the Plaintiff against the defendant.

Montreal, August 26th, 1930.

JOS. A. BUDYK,
Attorney for plaintiff.

Le Monde Ouvrier-The Labor World

Rédigé en collaboration

The Official Bilingual Mouthpiece of the Province of Quebec Organized Workers

Le porte-parole des ouvriers organisés de la Province de Québec

Member of the Presse Internationale Ouvrière d'Amérique

Member of the International Labor Press GASTON FRANCO

Secrétaire de la Rédaction
Secretary, Editorial Department

POWER CORPORATION OF CANADA

555 ST. JAMES STREET
MONTREAL

AT THE PLAYHOUSES

AT THE IMPERIAL
Jean Crawford stars in "Our Blushing Brides" at the Palace Theatre commencing Saturday. The story concerns the contrast between the lives of the average working girl and wealthy society, the scenes switching from the department store and meagerly furnished rooms of the former to the palatial country estates and Park Avenue apartments of the latter. In filming the store scenes Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer hired a large department store in Los Angeles, lock, stock and barrel, using the entire personnel as extras. Harry Beaumont directed and among the other well-known players in the picture are Anita Page, Dorothy Sebastian, Robert Montgomery, Jean Miljan and Freda Hunter. Short subjects complete the programme.

AT THE CAPITOL
"For the Defense," starring William Powell, will be the feature film offering at the Capitol Theatre commencing tomorrow. Powell has the role of a successful criminal lawyer who arouses the suspicions of both the police by his successes in getting prisoners off scot-free or with light sentences. The climax of the picture comes when he is faced with a problem that turns out to be too much even for his brilliance. His sweet-heart is confronted with a charge of manslaughter. Too late he learns that she is really guilty and that there is only one way to save her: to sacrifice himself. Kay Francis has the feminine lead and the rest of the cast contains some well-known names. Short subjects complete the programme.

AT LOEW'S
Cyril Maude, in his famous stage success, "Grumpy," will be seen on the screen at Loew's Theatre commencing Sunday. Four years ago Maude retired from the boards after having starred in more than 100 plays, and settled down quietly in London. But only three months ago he returned to the stage to play the role that he played 1800 times and that continents. Maude made his stage debut 48 years ago in Denver, Colorado, and in the days before even silent pictures were thought of. One of the most celebrated members of the English speaking stage, his interpretation of his most famous part will by this film be preserved for all time. In addition to "Grumpy" there will be a talking dog comedy and other short subjects.

AT THE IMPERIAL
The new policy of presenting two programmes, changing Saturday, inaugurating this week at the Imperial Theatre is proving very successful according to announcement from the management. The day and tomorrow will witness the final showing of "Shooting Straight" with Richard Dix, starting Saturday John McCormack, the famous tenor, will be seen in his recently made talking and singing picture "Song of My Heart," which was received with much enthusiasm at its first showing here a few weeks ago.

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