

THE TRADES AND LABOR CONGRESS OPENED AT OTTAWA

Three Hundred Delegates at Third Annual Convention--One Delegate Objected to An Address From the Minister of Labor But His Protest was Vetoed --Sir Robert Borden Speaks : Labor's Part in the War.

(Canadian Press direct wire.)

Ottawa, Sept. 17. — The third annual convention of the trades and labor congress of the Dominion of Canada opened here this morning. About three hundred prominent delegates from all parts of Canada assembled, and following the street parade, gathered in St. Patrick's Hall for the formal opening session. At ten o'clock, J. Cameron, president of the Ottawa trades and labor council, who occupied the chair, opened the convention and welcomed the delegates. In his opening remarks, Mr. Cameron referred to the importance of organized labor and the prominent part that it had played and would play in the affairs of the country and empire. Continuing the speaker spoke of the strong representation that labor had in the legislature and voiced his opinion that ere long labor representation would predominate.

He referred to the great change from autocratic rule to that of democratic rule that had just been effected in two of the world's greatest nations, and emphasized the fact that the good fight which was being waged on all sides, and in every country for the benefit and betterment of the working classes, which were so well represented at the conference would have to be continued and more determinedly than ever.

On behalf of the city of Ottawa, Mayor Fisher welcomed the delegates.

Raised a Protest.

The chairman then called upon the Hon. T. W. Crothers, minister of labor, to address the delegates. As the minister wended his way through the crowd from the rear of the hall, one of the delegates arose and remarked to the chairman: "I do not see Mr. Crothers' name on the program. I do not think that we should waste time by listening to that honorable gentleman."

A storm of protest arose from the delegates, and a point of order was established. Upon one of the committee stating that the convention was at present in the hands of the reception committee it was unanimously decided to hear the minister of labor, and the protest was vetoed. Mr. Crothers said he was glad of the opportunity of meeting them. The wage earners, he declared, had played a most important part in the great struggle, about 150,000 of them being overseas fighting the great battle for right. These men were entitled to the greatest consideration, the men who had gone, the men who were going and the men who had returned. Canada and Canada's people could only have the greatest admiration and pride for these noble sons of Canada. Sir Robert Borden entered the hall as Mr. Crothers concluded.

His entrance was the signal for the greatest enthusiasm and cheer after cheer. After expressing pleasure at the opportunity of meeting the delegates, Sir Robert paid a high tribute to the great work accomplished by labor in the crisis of the past three years, and the magnificent part that the workingmen had played in the war. Speaking of the attitude of organized labor, he was convinced that he was voicing the sentiments of the

entire people of Canada when he congratulated the labor delegates upon the manifest effort of the men that they represented. Speaking further, the premier said that he had come to welcome the delegates. He referred in glowing terms to the boys over at the front, fighting in the battle of the free and exhorted the delegates to remember the great sacrifice that the men in khaki were making.

President Watters was given a tremendous ovation, and called the attention of the press, which he later declared, had "villified" him to the fact that the reception was given by the men who "were to have chopped my head off."

KEEPING TAB ON PRODUCTS OF THE GARDEN

(Chicago News.)

"I need your help and advice," said the young man who had formed the habit of leaning over the garden fence.

"Plant in rows seven inches apart and mulch the soil frequently and water thoroughly," replied the girl on the other side of the fence.

"I was past that long ago," said the young man. "I have planted, cultivated and harvested my vegetables. I have raised more than I can eat and I have even sold some and given some away. Now this is the sticker—this give way stuff. I don't know how to enter it in my little book. Or should I enter it at all?"

"You see I was told that a lot this size should produce \$25 worth of stuff, so I enter each item in my little book: thus: 'Corn, 10 cents; spinach, 10 cents; potatoes, \$7.75,' and so on. But do you do that when you give it away?"

"Certainly you do."

"I thought you did, because every time you give away vegetables, while you don't make any money out of it yourself you keep the other person from buying just that much and you beat the food speculators out of that amount. Besides, your garden deserves credit for producing it whether the gardener makes any money out of it or not. But I thought I would ask you, anyway."

"Come to think of it," interrupted the girl, "it seems kind of bad taste to put down in figures anything you give away. People should give freely and without any thought of the cost in dollars and cents. It isn't right to remind yourself every time you open your little book of 11 cents worth of cabbage you gave the lady next door or the 20 cents worth of paric you gave the minister's wife, or the 15 cents worth of squash you gave the seamstress. You should give and forget, so I rather think you shouldn't enter up your gifts in your garden account."

"That's just what I was thinking," enthused the young man with the leaning habit. "Besides, when you show your garden book around it would look as if you were bragging about the stuff you gave away, and if you fudged a little and the neighbors heard that you had entered up \$9.85 against them when they had forgotten all about the seven or eight radishes you gave them they would consider the entry a vile slander made out of whole cloth. I was pretty sure it wouldn't do to enter the gifts, but I thought I would ask—"

"On the contrary," declared the girl, "it is perfectly correct to enter up the amount of your gifts to give the garden proper credit, but omit the name of the beneficiary—especially when fudging a little."

Among the guests at the Barker House today are: Messrs. C. H. McGee, St. George; A. C. Parker, Toronto; H. W. Myles, St. John; Dr. J. Beaton, Blackville; N. J. Maher, H. J. Kane, Chatham.

Among the guests registered at the Queen Hotel today are: Messrs. W. E. Neve, J. E. Arrowsmith, St. John; C. E. McDougall, New Glasgow; E. H. Owens, Toronto.



CANADA

Military Service Act, 1917

Explanatory Announcement by the Minister of Justice

THE MILITARY SERVICE ACT has received the assent of the Governor-General and is now part of the law of the land. It will be enforced accordingly, and the patriotism and good sense of the people can be relied upon to support it. Resistance to its enforcement, however, by word or act must and will be repressed as resistance to any other law in force must be.

Reinforcements under the Military Service Act immediately required

It is the intention of the Government immediately to exercise the power which the Act confers and to call out men for military service in order to provide reinforcements for the Canadian Forces. This is necessary since the military authorities report that the reserves available or in sight for reinforcement will shortly be exhausted unless this step be taken.

First call limited to men between 20 and 34 who were unmarried or widowers without children on July 6, 1917

The present call will be limited to men not in the schedule of exemptions who were unmarried or widowers without children on 6th July, 1917, are at least twenty years of age, and were born on or since 1st January, 1883. Of this Class all those will be entitled to conditional exemption whose services in their present occupations, agricultural, industrial or other, are essential in the national interest, and whose business or domestic responsibilities are such that serious hardship would ensue if their services be required. Conscientious scruples based upon a prohibition of combatant service by the articles of faith of the religious denomination to which men belong will also be respected. The men first required to serve will consequently be those who can be called upon with the least disturbance of the economic and social life of the country.

Civil Tribunals to deal with exemptions

Questions of exemption will be determined, not by the military authorities or by the Government, but by civil tribunals composed of representative men who are familiar with local conditions in the communities in which they serve, who will generally have personal knowledge of the economic and family reasons which those whose cases come before them have had for not volunteering their services and who will be able sympathetically to estimate the weight and importance of such reasons. Provincial Appellate Tribunals constituted from the existing judiciary of the respective provinces will be provided to correct mistakes made by Local Tribunals, and a Central Appeal Tribunal for the whole of Canada, selected from among the present Judges of the Supreme Court of Canada, will be constituted in order that identical principles may be applied throughout the country. In this way every man may rest assured of the fair and full consideration of his circumstances and the national requirements both civil and military.

Proclamation will announce the day

A proclamation will issue calling out the bachelors and widowers referred to and fixing a day on or before which every man must report for service to the military authorities unless he has before that day made an application for exemption.

How to apply for exemption

Applications for exemption may be made by written notice on forms which will be available at every post office, and will be transmitted free of postage. They will not, however, be required to be made in this way, but may be presented by the applicants in person to the exemption tribunals. The cases of those who have given written notice in advance will take precedence, and appearance in person will therefore be likely to involve considerably more inconvenience and delay to the men concerned, so that it is recommended that advantage be generally taken of the facilities for written application.

Exemption Tribunals in all parts of Canada

The local exemption tribunals will be constituted with the least delay possible, consistent with the selection of representative individuals to compose them, and the instruction of the members in their duties. There will be more than one thousand of such tribunals throughout Canada, each consisting of two members, one of whom will be nominated by a Joint Committee of Parliament, and the other by one of the Judges of the existing Courts. Every effort will be made by the wide distribution of tribunals, and by provision where necessary for their sitting in more than one place, to minimise the inconvenience to which men will be put in obtaining the disposition of their cases.

A Registrar will be appointed in each Province, who will be named in the proclamation and to whom enquiries may be addressed. Each Provincial Registrar will transmit to the appropriate tribunal the applications for exemption which have been submitted in advance of the sittings, and men who have sent these in will not be required to attend the tribunals until notified to do so. Other applicants should attend personally on the tribunal without notice.

How to report for service

Men who do not desire to claim exemption will report to the military authorities for service either by mail or in person at any time after the issue of the proclamation. Forms of report by mail will be found in all post offices, and, like applications for exemption, will be transmitted free of postage.

Early report advantageous

No man who reports for service will, although he may be medically examined and passed as fit, be required to go into camp or join a battalion until after a day fixed by the proclamation sufficiently late to permit of the disposition by the local tribunals of most, if not all, of the applications for exemption which may come before them. Thus no advantage will be gained by delaying or disadvantage incurred by prompt report for service on the part of those who do not intend to apply for exemption.

Facilities for immediate medical examination

Immediately upon the issue of the proclamation, medical boards will sit at every mobilization centre for the examination of men who report for service or who, subject to their right within the time limited to apply for exemption, desire to have their physical fitness determined in order to allay any doubt as to their physical condition, or to know definitely and in advance whether there is a possibility of their services being required. Certificates of physical unfitness issued by these Medical Boards will be accepted without any further investigation by exemption tribunals when they sit. Men found physically fit who have not reported for service may nevertheless apply for exemption on any of the prescribed grounds, including even their physical condition if dissatisfied with the Medical Board's conclusion.

Notice to join the colors

As reinforcements are required, notice to report at the nearest mobilization centre will be given from time to time to the men found liable and passed as fit for service. Disobedience of such notice will render the offender liable to punishment, but punishment for failure to report for military service, or to report subsequently for duty when called upon, will be imposed ordinarily by the civil magistrates; offenders, however, will remain liable for the performance of their military duties notwithstanding any civil punishment which may be imposed and will be liable to military punishment in cases in which civil proceedings are not taken.

Watch for the Proclamation

Notice of the day appointed for the making of a claim for exemption or for report for military service will be published as widely as possible, but, as no personal notice can be given until the individuals called out have so reported themselves or claimed exemption, men possibly concerned are warned to inform themselves with regard to the day fixed, since neglect may involve the loss by them of important privileges and rights.

CHAS. J. DOHERTY,
Minister of Justice.

Ottawa, September 11, 1917.



Why is the Union Jack like a star? Because the Germans cannot haul it down.

"Do you keep a cook, Mrs. Smith?" "Yes, and her entire family."

One improvement. I am not wise, I know, And so confess. But as I older grow I show off less.

Wealth and Happiness. Oh, wealth does not bring happiness; No truer word was every spoke. And yet this fact we must confess, He can't be happy is he's broke.

Yes, indeed! A soldier stood in the village street And bade his love goodbye; "I need my wind for hikes," he said, "And so I cannot sigh."