

IMPORTANT CONFERENCE TO BE HELD AT OTTAWA

Ottawa, Ont., July 14.—Sir Robert Borden has communicated to the Press the following with respect to industrial and labor conditions. "As announced in the Governor General's speech at prorogation, it is the intention of the government to summon within a few weeks, a representative conference for the purpose of an intimate and friendly discussion of relations between employers and employees and for consideration of the report of the Industrial Relations Commission. The provincial governments will be invited to attend and the various organizations of employers and employees will be requested to appoint representatives. It is hoped that such a conference will be productive of better understanding and more thorough co-operation.

World Conditions
Meantime, it is most important that actual world conditions should be fully realized by the Canadian people. For five years the world has been wasting the productive capacity of about fifty million men actually engaged in war-like activities. The remainder of the producing population has been to a considerable extent occupied in producing munitions and implements of destruction. Millions of men must now resume the normal activities of peace. The business of the world has been completely disorganized and a long period will probably elapse before it can be completely re-established. After the present period of inflation has passed, Canada, in common with other countries, will probably face a period of depression.

Credit is Pledged
"To meet the possible imminence of such conditions, the government has pledged the credit of the country to a very large extent in order to provide employment for the gallant men returning to our shores from war service and for those engaged in war industries which have now ceased. Many employers of labor have undertaken work at little or no profit in order that their lines of industry might afford every possible opportunity for employment. Up to the present such opportunities have been fairly abundant but this condition may not continue indefinitely. Efforts to provide employment will obviously be of little avail if the energy of the country is exhausted in lockouts or strikes occasioned by differences which ought to be composed by peaceful methods and without constant interruptions of the nations task.
"The industries of this country have

a very direct and intimate relation of each other, and serious disturbance or stoppage of work through differences between employer and employed makes its effects felt in every allied or related industry. For example hundreds of establishments in the metal trade have been shut down during the past two months with the inevitable result that prices for iron and steel have fallen off, and already one large steel industry in Nova Scotia has been compelled to shut down, throwing out of employment hundreds of skilled workmen. In British Columbia a large smelting establishment is unable to continue its business for lack of coke which cannot be supplied owing to strikes in the mining districts.

Lockouts and Strikes
"No one would claim or even suggest that injustice in respect of hours or wages should not be redressed by reasonable and effective means. But lockouts and strikes are almost as destructive as war itself in the waste and loss which they occasion and in their disturbing influence upon the industrial life of the country. They remove large numbers of men from productive employment, and create unemployment through lack of orders; they embitter relations between employers and employed; they discourage efforts to continue or extend business and to afford employment; and last, but not least, they curtail production and increase the cost of necessities of life.

A Perilous Period
"This country is second to none in its opportunities to recover speedily from the effects of the war and to attain a prosperity even more marked than that of the past; but Canada can not expect wholly to escape trying experiences which must certainly result from the incalculable waste of the past five years with its inevitable inflation and its widespread disturbance of industrial conditions. A constant recurrence of lockouts or strikes will make it exceedingly difficult if not impossible to pass successfully through the perilous period. The need of our country makes insistent appeal to the Canadian people in the new and untried era upon which we have now entered. Never was there a greater need for steadfast self-control wise forbearance and a just spirit of conciliation. Upon the equality will largely depend the success in solving the problem and surmounting the dangers that lie before us."



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Confessions of an Every-Day Wife By Idah McGlone Gibson

THEO DISCUSSES OUR INCOME.

When Eliene began to voice her sorrow again by bursting into tears and saying that she did not know how she could live without her mother, I said: "You will live in just the same way that others daughters have done since the first mother died. You've always had all the courage in the world for everyone else, my dear Eliene; now use some of it yourself. I know this may sound harsh to you—"

"It does, it does, Margot," interrupted Eliene. "You are as cold as ice. I do not know you in this mood."

"I do not mean to be harsh, sister mine," I said, as I put my arms about her. "I'm just trying to help to adjust our lives so that there will be as little friction as possible. I love you, my dear and have always loved you perhaps more than any one of my girlhood friends and I am going to try and be your sister in every sense of the word, which includes a little difference of opinion now and then, my dear. You go on and run this house as if it were absolutely your own, and I will try to do my part."

Eliene bent down and kissed me and although I knew she did not want to go and that she would be very sad and lonely after she left me, I really felt too tired to talk longer.

I must have fallen asleep the minute she left me, for I was awakened by Theo's kiss.

"You win," he said, "it isn't fifteen thousand; in fact dad insisted that I wasn't worth five and he's going to give me only three thousand a year. You didn't know you had married a poor man, did you, honey?"

Although I knew Theo did not mean anything by this, for some reason it grated on my nerves. It seemed to imply that I had expected when I married him that I was marrying money. Of course I knew that Aunt Margie Edie, Aunt Mollie Hatton and my husband's parents were the wealthiest people in town, but I had no thought of money in any way when I accepted Theo. When I come to think it over, however, I am not sure that it is so outrageous to think of the financial responsibilities of marriage before you accept them.

It is only Americans and Canadians who disregard all questions of finance during the courtship and engagement, for they seem to regard the discussion of any other factor except the intangible something we call romantic love between the contracting parties as almost indecent and certainly immoral, although in the older countries marriage, from the first, is put on a perfectly reasonable basis with the safety of the home and the state, as it should be uppermost.

Having this theory in mind, I wondered that Theo's idle remark should have annoyed me, and before I thought I said:

"I think I can live on a small salary much better than you can. Why \$3,000 a year wouldn't have paid your incidental expenses at college."

"Well," answered Theo, "this \$3,000 will only pay incidental expenses here, for we will be under no expense as long as we stay with Dad."

"What do you mean, Theo?"

"Just what I said," he answered.

"But Theo, I would not feel right to live in this house under such circumstances."

"Great heavens, Margot, don't you realize that Dad has enough money for us all and he has practically demanded that we live with him?"

"Theo, I do not think it's right. Young people should be thrown upon their own resources and live within their own incomes."

"Do you want to live on \$3,000 a year, Margot? You'll have to keep away from the lingerie shops if you do."

"Of course I don't want to live on \$3,000 a year, Theo, but I can do it if necessary, and can do something myself to add to that income if I have to."

(Tomorrow—"Theo Catches Me in a Lie.")

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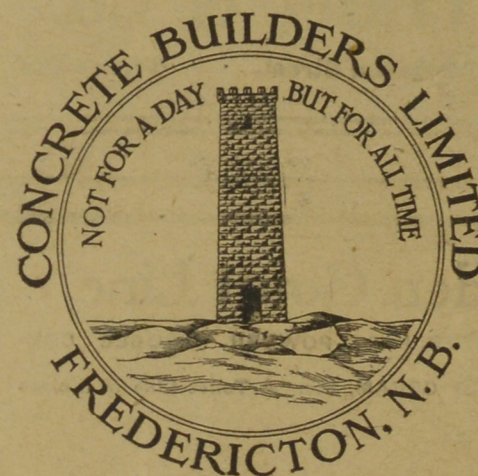
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