

## LABOR MEN AND LOUGHEED BILL.

Strikes Incited by American  
Union Representatives.

### THE WORKINGMEN'S CASE.

Mr. Flett Says International  
Unions Oppose Strikes.

The Manufacturers and Employers  
Organized by Representatives  
From the Other Side—Warning  
Immigrants Against Coming to  
Canada.

(Special Despatch to The Globe.)

Ottawa, June 11.—Consideration of Senator Lougheed's bill, designed to prevent foreigners from inciting workmen in Canada to strike for the purpose of forcing additional wages or better terms of employment from their employers, was resumed by the Senate Banking and Commerce Committee this morning.

Mr. G. H. Watson, K. C., on behalf of the Employers' Association, said the labor men had misapprehended the purpose of this legislation. They seemed to fear that the bill was aimed at local unions of the international organizations. The bill was aimed at those who were not British subjects, but who came here to interfere in labor matters in Canada. Surely they had the right to make contracts with respect to labor without interference from foreigners. There was a mutual right between employers and employees and there ought to be also mutual obligations. Mr. Watson quoted from a resolution passed by the Building Trades Council of Toronto, denying that labor unions were responsible to the law. This, he said, ought not to be. Trades unions ought to be registered or made subject to the law.

#### Instances Cited.

Mr. Younge, Secretary of the Manufacturers' Association, gave instances to show the necessity of an act such as proposed by Senator Lougheed. The first case was one of a strike by the employees of P. W. Ellis & Company, Toronto, formed by one Jackson, an employee of Heintz Bros., Buffalo, who is Secretary of the International Jewellery Makers' Association of America. The object of the strike was to secure a week of 49 hours. In the United States agitation was directed towards securing a week of 54 hours, or five hours longer than in Canada. It really seemed as if there had been a movement on the part of American international labor unions to cause discontent and embarrassment in Canada.

Mr. Younge cited other cases, such as that of the Canadian Bridge Company's employees, Walkerville, who belonged to a Detroit lodge, and struck. President MacMahon wrote, as the result of the efforts of an American agitator. One of the demands, afterwards withdrawn, was that they should get all American holidays. Letters to a similar purport were read from C. E. Belcourt and W. E. Ross, respecting recent strikes in Montreal in the cartage and street car service.

#### The Workmen's Side.

The workmen's case was presented by Mr. John A. Flett, President of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, who said, in part:—It cannot be shown that strikes have been ordered by the international union. We are willing to submit our constitution in order to establish that fact. In regard to the stand of the employees of the Canadian Bridge Co., that company gave the preference to Americans and not to Canadians, and the strike occurred not in Canada, but in the United States. The Mr. Jackson referred to in the Toronto case is a Canadian, and he did not visit Toronto until after a strike had been ordered. The strike at Oshawa was organized by a Canadian, and not by an alien. With international trades unions the strike is the last resort. We favor conciliation and arbitration. Our opponents, the advocates of this bill, are themselves members of international trades organizations, with their headquarters in the United States, having travelling organizers, walking delegates, and agitators. These unions of employers are known by such titles as National Metal Trades Association, National Founders' Association, Employers' Association, etc. Lockouts are ordered and conducted by them, nor can a manufacturer who is a member of the association make a settlement with his own employees without permission from their executive committee. Settlements of disputes have been arranged between international representatives of employers' unions and international representatives of trades union employees, to the mutual satisfaction of all parties concerned. Mr. Flett spoke strongly of the action of walking dele-

gates, hired by employers, who had come to this country from the other side, to denounce trades unions. There was, for example, that man Kirby, who had declared that the golden rule of trades unionism was perjury. He connected Mr. Younge with the Employers' Association, which evoked a repudiation from that gentleman.

#### Had Suppressed the Truth.

Mr. J. G. O'Donoghue, barrister, Toronto, on behalf of the labor men, charged the supporters of the bill with suppressing the truth and in this connection stated that the jewellers' strike in Toronto was ordered and organized in that city, and not in Buffalo. Speaking of the minimum rate of wages. Mr. O'Donoghue said there was nothing to prevent the employer from paying more than that rate to a man who was worth it.

Sir Mackenzie Bowell asked if the labor unions allowed less than the minimum rate to be paid.

Mr. O'Donoghue replied in the affirmative. That was the case in the printing trade, where men got beyond a certain age, and could only do a certain amount of work. There was the case of the Toronto Globe, and that condition of affairs arose. There were some old men in that office who were not able to earn the usual rate. An arrangement was made that they should continue on, and after they had passed away their places should be taken by union men.

Senator McMullen asked the speaker to cite another case.

Mr. O'Donoghue—You cite me some case where it is not done, and I will try to explain it.

As to the matter of incorporation, Mr. O'Donoghue said the Employers' Association was not incorporated.

Mr. Polson—We have applied for it, but we are not yet incorporated.

#### Unions and the Law.

Senator J. K. Kerr inquired whether in certain cases before the courts at Toronto Mr. O'Donoghue did not take the ground that the unions could not be restrained by the law.

Mr. O'Donoghue replied that he took the ground that a trades union could not be sued as a trades union. That was the law, and he did not see anything wrong about it. Canadian employers belonged to international organizations. Mr. John O. Thorne of the Toronto Metallic Roofing Company was a member of the International Metal Trades Association; Mr. Birmingham of the Canadian Locomotive Company, Toronto; Mr. Angus of the Switch & Spring Company, and others, were identified with the International Founders' Association. He maintained, therefore, what was sauce for the goose was sauce for the gander.

Senator McMullen wanted to know if it was true, as stated by Mr. Preston, that the Canadian labor unions had sent a warning to the United Kingdom against mechanics coming to Canada.

Mr. O'Donoghue said the statement was that the Winnipeg Trades and Labor Council had sent such a warning. He had not seen the letters himself. He had, however, seen a statutory declaration that Germans were brought from Germany to take the places of strikers at the Kingston Locomotive Works by the false statement that there was no strike.

Hon. Mr. Hartly—That's not true.

Mr. O'Donoghue replied that it might not be true, but the statement was made on oath.

Senator Wm. Kerr—Are you in favor of aliens coming to this country and inciting men to strike?

Mr. O'Donoghue—If there is no cause for incitement to strike, I am against it. But if there is cause for striking, and the Canadian citizen has a legal right to strike, it cannot be wrong for him to do what he has a legal right to do.

#### Collecting Grievances on the C. P. R.

Mr. Harvey Hall addressed the committee briefly, pointing out that such a law would be open to extreme interpretation. He read a declaration denying a statement by Senator McMullen, that an American agitator had gone over the western section of the C.P.R. collecting grievances.

Senator McMullen said the man he met at Port Arthur assured him that he was going over the C.P.R. from Montreal to Vancouver interviewing

every trackman. He was from an American organization.

Mr. McLaughlin of Oshawa said he had never stated that American labor men were in Oshawa at the time of the strike among his employees. The trouble began, however, with the formation of a labor union. The strike was for recognition of the union and an increase of 20 per cent. in wages and the discharge of all non-union men. There were 125 of his employees who would not join the union, and 299 who did.

#### Beneficiary Fund in Danger.

Mr. J. Murdoch of London, Grand Trustee of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen, comprising 60,000 members in the United States and Canada, said the beneficiary fund would be of no use to them if the bill went into effect. It would deprive the Canadian organization of protective features, by which they had secured many advantages in the past. If a Canadian brotherhood decided to strike they could not have the advice of an international officer if he happened to be an American, and would have to forfeit all benefits in the international fund.

The committee adjourned until tomorrow morning.