

Industrial
disputes.

B.C., which commenced on June 1 and continued until September 30, on which day a settlement was effected through the intervention of the Deputy Minister of Labour, Mr. Mackenzie King. The strike affected directly between 700 and 800 miners, there being a loss in wages alone of \$300,000 during the time of its continuance. It had the effect of temporarily paralyzing all business in the city of Nanaimo and of seriously affecting different interests throughout the whole of Vancouver island and parts of British Columbia. Under the settlement effected an agreement covering conditions of employment for a period of two years was signed by both parties. Another important strike settled during the year through the intervention of the Deputy Minister of Labour under the Conciliation Act was a strike of street railway employees at Cornwall, Ontario, which commenced on June 28 and was settled on July 3. Nineteen out of the 87 disputes were in the building trades, 13 in the metal trades, 12 in mines and mining works and 11 in the clothing industry. In 30 cases the disputes were for increase of wages, in 9 for employment of particular persons, and in eight each for reduction in wages and conditions of employment. All except one of the 87 disputes were terminated either through definite settlements being reached or through industrial conditions ceasing to be affected by them.

Change of
Government
in Ontario.

After a political innings of thirty-three years the provincial Liberal party in Ontario was defeated by a large majority at the general elections of January 25. With Edward Blake as Premier the Liberals entered upon their long career of local government in December, 1871. In the following year, as a consequence of the abolition of dual representation in the Federal Parliament, Mr. Blake resigned and was succeeded as Premier by Oliver Mowat, who also took the portfolio of Attorney General. From October 25, 1872, to July 9, 1896, a period of twenty-four years, Mr. Mowat guided the affairs of the province, when as Sir Oliver he withdrew to accept the portfolio of Justice under the leadership of Sir Wilfrid Laurier at Ottawa. Arthur Sturgis Hardy then became Premier and Attorney General of Ontario and continued until October 17, 1899, when he retired on account of failing health. George W. Ross followed as Premier and Treasurer, and resigned upon the defeat of his Government at the January elections. James Pliny Whitney, leader of the Liberal Conservative party, became