

Mounted Police visited the offices of various organizations and houses of their leaders and seized a large amount of alleged seditious literature. On June 25, the Strike Committee notified the Provincial Premier that the sympathetic strike would cease on June 26 and made formal application for a Royal Commission of Inquiry, a request which was subsequently granted. Within a few days there was a general return to work. Of the seven strike leaders arrested, six were convicted; and, on April 6, 1920, were sentenced to imprisonment, five for one year and one for six months.

Royal Commission on Industrial Relations.—On April 9 a Royal Commission of seven members was appointed by the Dominion Government to investigate and report upon industrial relations. The Commission presented, under date of June 28, two reports. A majority report signed by five members recommended legislation for an eight-hour day, a minimum wage, relief of unemployment through public works, the building of workers' houses, restoration of the fullest liberty of press and speech, industrial councils, collective bargaining, and the recognition of unions. An inquiry by experts was also suggested with regard to proportional representation and state insurance against unemployment, sickness, and old age. The minority report, signed by two members, stated that there was no serious unemployment in Canada and that the Whitley plan was not suitable for Canada. They expressed a preference for the Colorado plan. They found no real poverty in the Dominion that was not provided for by the local authorities.

National Industrial Conference.—A National Industrial Conference, presided over by the Dominion Minister of Labour, was held at Ottawa, September 15–21, between representatives of the Dominion and Provincial Governments and representatives of employers and of labour. The conference adopted resolutions in favour of uniformity of provincial labour legislation; the establishment of Joint Industrial Councils; an inquiry into the question of state insurance against unemployment, sickness, invalidity and old age; minimum wages; laws for women and children; the housing policy of the Dominion and Provincial Governments; equal opportunities for free education with compulsory education for full time up to at least the age of 14, with part time education in cities and towns up to 16. The Dominion and Provincial Governments were also asked to make adequate provision against unemployment during the winter of 1919–20 by the commencement of public works and by the centralization of labour supply and demand in one agency, with adequate machinery to direct unemployed workers to the employment available.

Trades and Labour Congress.—Immediately following upon the National Industrial Conference at Ottawa, the thirty-fifth annual convention of the Trades and Labour Congress of Canada, the largest on record, was held at Hamilton, Ontario, September 22–27. The executive council, consisting of the president, three vice-presidents, and the secretary-treasurer, made a number of recommendations to the congress, most significant of these being the condemnation of the political strike as essentially "a strike against the public at