

stood at 24 and 3,000 respectively. Negotiations were opened in 1919 by the general officers of the Amalgamated Society of Engineers and the International Association of Machinists, with a view to effecting an amalgamation. As a result, the Amalgamated Society on Sept. 30, 1920, withdrew its operations from Canada and also from the United States, where branches were also in existence, leaving the whole North American continent to the International Association of Machinists. Another British labour organization to establish branches in Canada was the Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners, now the Amalgamated Society of Woodworkers, which in 1860 chartered a branch in London, twenty-one years before the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, now the chief organization of the craft in North America came into existence. In this case also, bickerings finally led to a unification whereby the members of the Amalgamated Society became also members of the United, retaining their connection with the parent body for its beneficial features. In 1922, owing to a decision of the United Brotherhood which inhibited members of local branches of the Amalgamated Society from holding certain official positions in district councils and also to the refusal of the United Brotherhood to grant charters to local branches of the Amalgamated formed subsequently to the plan of unification becoming effective, a division occurred, and the fifteen unrecognized branches of the Amalgamated Society are now operating independently of the United Brotherhood, with which, however, fifteen Amalgamated branches are still connected. The only other branch of a British labour organization in Canada is a lodge in Canso, N.S., of the Association of Wireless and Cable Telegraphers. With the practical elimination of the British organizations, the North American field has been left entirely to the labour organizations originating on this continent. These labour bodies are for the most part in affiliation with the American Federation of Labour, which, in addition to dealing with trade matters, speaks for the organized workers in the United States on the subject of legislation. In Canada, the legislative mouthpiece of organized labour is the Trades and Labour Congress, which body is strongly representative of the international labour movement, its affiliated membership being largely drawn from international organizations which have in the first place been affiliated with the American Federation of Labour. Under the travelling card system now in vogue, members of the respective unions move as they desire between the two countries and are entitled to all rights and privileges established in the various localities where local branches are in existence. Canadian members of international organizations are eligible for the highest offices in the gift of their organizations, and in some instances have been elected to these posts.

In addition to the international trade union membership in Canada, there are labour bodies which are termed non-international. Some of these organizations were formed by former members of international unions, who, for various reasons, severed their connection with the parent bodies. There are also a number of independent labour unions in the Dominion, their origin in a few instances being an outcome of grievances against their central organizations not settled to the satisfaction of the complaining branches.

A statement of the development of organized labour in Canada would not be complete without a reference to the Knights of Labour, an organization formed in the United States in 1869, to which all classes of workers were admitted. The Knights of Labour, which in 1885 reached its greatest numerical strength with about a million members, extended its jurisdiction into Canada, establishing district and local assemblies in many localities in the Dominion, seventeen of which were operating in 1891 in the province of Quebec. Soon after the latter date,