

internal dissension took place in the ranks of the organization, owing to the difficulty of uniting workers of different crafts in one body. The international craft organizations, which had in the meantime become united under the banner of the American Federation of Labour, formed in 1881, offered strong opposition to the Knights of Labour, which in a few years ceased to be a factor in the labour movement of the continent. All of its Canadian "assemblies" have long since passed out of existence.

Trades and Labour Congress of Canada.—Through the initiative of the Toronto Trades Assembly (now the Toronto District Trades and Labour Council), the first national labour organization, the Canadian Labour Union, was formed in Toronto in September, 1873. The organization held its second and third annual meetings in 1874 and 1875, but disappeared as a result of the serious depression of the later 70's. In 1883 the Trades and Labour Council of Toronto, feeling the necessity of the wage earners of Canada having a medium through which to express their opinions, assumed the responsibility of calling another trades and labour congress, which met in Toronto on Dec. 26, with 45 delegates. On the summons of the Toronto council, a second meeting, with 109 delegates, assembled on Sept. 14, 1886, the first occasion on which any labour body outside of the province of Ontario was represented. A permanent organization was effected at this meeting under the name of "Trades and Labour Congress of the Dominion of Canada." This was the title of the organization until 1895, when the title "Trades and Labour Congress of Canada" was adopted in preference to "Canadian Federation of Labour." Since 1886 conventions have been held annually, the 1924 meeting in London being counted as the fortieth. The Trades and Labour Congress is representative of international trade unionism in the Dominion, the bulk of its membership being drawn from the international organizations which have local branches in Canada. According to reports for 1923, the congress received payment of per capita tax from 58 international bodies and three national organizations which had their entire membership in the Dominion, with a total membership of 114,986, in 1,532 local branches. With other affiliations and unions directly under charter, the congress had in all at the close of 1923 a membership of 122,844, in 1,680 branches.

Membership of International Organizations in Canada.—At the close of 1923 there were 94 international organizations having one or more local branch unions in Canada, two more than in 1922. These bodies between them had 2,079 local branches in the Dominion with 203,843 members, a decline of 29 branches and 2,307 members as compared with the previous year. The international organizations represent 73 p.c. of the total of all classes of workers in the Dominion organized under trade union auspices.

Canadian Federation of Labour.—The Canadian Federation of Labour was organized in 1902, under the name of National Trades and Labour Congress, as the result of the expulsion from the Trades and Labour Congress of Canada of the Knights of Labour assemblies and all other unions which were composed of members of crafts over which existing international organizations claimed jurisdiction. The delegates of the expelled unions forthwith formed a new central body of a distinctively national character, which in 1908 adopted its present name. For a number of years labour bodies in the province of Quebec were the main support of the new organization. Gradually the Quebec affiliations dropped off and the centre of activity was a few years ago shifted to Toronto. The membership of the Federation at the close of 1923 stood at 14,774, comprised in 15 directly chartered local branches. Two central bodies are also affiliated with the Federation, the