

The draft conventions and recommendations of the Conference have, among other subjects, related to the following:—hours of labour, measures for the avoidance of unemployment, employment conditions of women and children, employment conditions of seamen, employment in agriculture, weekly rest, statistics of immigration and emigration, and workmen's compensation for accidents and occupational diseases.

Dominion Legislation on Draft Conventions and Recommendations.—An Act was passed by the Dominion Parliament in 1924, amending the Canada Shipping Act, to give effect to the proposals contained in four draft conventions relating to the employment of seamen; this Act came into force by proclamation on Jan. 1, 1926. Ratification was authorized by Parliament of four draft conventions, whose objects are as follows:—(1) prohibition of the employment of children under 14 years of age on vessels engaged in maritime navigation; (2) prohibition of the employment of young persons under 18 years of age as trimmers or stokers on vessels engaged in maritime navigation; (3) the compulsory medical examination of children and young persons under 18 years of age before their engagement in maritime navigation; (4) payment of wages to seamen engaged in maritime navigation in case of loss or foundering of their vessel during any period of unemployment which may result therefrom, not exceeding two months.

The Government of Canada accepted in 1923 the recommendation which had been passed by the International Labour Conference during the preceding year, regarding communication to the International Labour Office of statistical or other information on immigration, emigration, and the transit of immigrants and emigrants.

The Supreme Court of Canada, on application of the Dominion Government, delivered an advisory judgment in June, 1925, with reference to the jurisdiction of the Dominion Parliament and of the Provincial Legislatures to deal with the proposals contained in a draft convention of the International Labour Conference limiting hours of work in industrial undertakings to 8 in the day and 48 in the week. The court found that the subject matter of the draft convention was generally within the competence of the Provincial Legislatures, but that the authority vested in the latter did not enable them to give the force of law to provisions which would apply to servants of the Dominion Government, nor to legislation for those parts of Canada which are not within the boundaries of any province.

Provincial Legislation on Draft Conventions and Recommendations.—The Provincial Legislature of British Columbia enacted during the session of 1923 a measure, effective Jan. 1, 1925, providing for the application of the eight-hour day in industrial undertakings and authorizing the establishment of a board of adjustment to administer the Act and to grant exemptions therefrom.

The legislatures of Nova Scotia and Saskatchewan in 1924 adopted identical resolutions, approving the principles of certain of the draft conventions of the International Labour Conference. Among others approved were those respecting the minimum age for admission of children to industrial employment, the night work of women, the minimum age for admission of children to agricultural employment, and the right of association and combination for agricultural workers.

5.—Organized Labour in Canada.

The Dominion Department of Labour publishes an annual report on labour organization in Canada which sets out the various branches of unionism in exist-