

now the chief organization of the craft in North America. In this case also, arrangements were finally made whereby members of the Amalgamated Society became also members of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, but retained their connection with the former body for its beneficial features. By a decision passed by the United Brotherhood in 1922, members of local branches of the Amalgamated Society were prevented from holding certain official positions in the district councils; the United Brotherhood also refused to grant charters to the local branches of the Amalgamated Society formed after the plan of unification became effective. These decisions led to a division, in an effort to overcome which the Amalgamated Society sent a delegation to Canada and the United States, which proposed that the members of the Amalgamated Society should join the United Brotherhood. In 1923, the latter organization gave the branches of the Amalgamated Society until March, 1924, to unite with it, with the same standing they held in the Amalgamated. All branches in the United States and a number in Canada accepted this proposition. The Canadian branches which refused these terms are still classed as affiliates of the British organization, although they are not controlled by the parent body, but possess complete self-government.

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, as its affiliated membership is 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 various unions move as they desire between the two countries and are entitled to all rights and privileges established in 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 unions in Canada, there are labour bodies which are termed non-international. Some of these organizations were founded 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 whose establishment in a few instances was due to unsatisfied grievances on the part of local unions against their central organizations.

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 1,000,000 members, extended its jurisdiction into Canada, establishing district and local assemblies in many localities in the Dominion. Seventeen of these were operating in 1891 in the province of Quebec. Soon after that, however, 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