

LABOR MEN ASK FOR MORE LEGISLATION

Representative Deputation Interviews the Cabinet.

HAVE MANY SUGGESTIONS.

Grievances of Street Railway-men and Telephone Girls.

Nothing Revolutionary in Suggestions, Says Premier Whitney—Changing Conditions Must be Dealt With as They Arise—Bonuses for Immigrants Opposed.

Legislation needed in the interest of various classes of labor, as well as other questions of political economy, were dealt with by a deputation representing the Ontario Executive of the Dominion Trades and Labor Congress, which waited on the Government at Parliament buildings yesterday morning. The deputation, which was introduced by Mr. J. G. O'Donoghue, was received by Premier Whitney, Hon. J. J. Foy, Hon. A. J. Matheson, Hon. W. J. Hanna, Hon. Dr. Pyne, Hon. Dr. Reaume, Hon. F. Cochrane and Hon. Nelson Monteith.

Mr. O'Donoghue drew the attention of the Government to the construction of the Canadian Congress. He described it as being an expression of discontent with present conditions, and an attempt to remedy, if possible, under existing Governments, some of the abuses under which labor suffered.

Mr. J. J. Gibbons, business agent of the Toronto Street Railway men, urged that the Government should compel open cars to be constructed with centre aisles. He suggested that all cars should be fitted with air brakes and sanders. Another matter the Government should take in hand was the limiting of a day's labor to nine hours.

The Toronto company were in the habit of making a man take out a car up to 12 o'clock at night and then another at 6 o'clock in the morning. That was not conducive to the safety of the public, and they asked the nine-hour day should be completed in twelve consecutive hours, with an eight-hour day on Sunday.

Should Get Sufficient Rest.

With regard to the conditions under which telephone operators work, Mr. J. J. Simpson, Vice-President of the Trades and Labor Congress, submitted a resolution calling on the Dominion and Provincial Governments to put in force the recommendations of the commission which sat in Toronto last year. The recommendations included the appointment of a commission of medical experts to determine the effect of telephone operating upon the health of those engaged in it, and to what extent women should be allowed to engage in it. That overtime be absolutely prohibited, as also compelling operators to work a fraction of an hour either before or after schedule time. That work be permitted for only six days a week, with a full twenty-four hours interval at the end of that time before resuming work. That young women be prohibited from becoming operators until they have completed their eighteenth year. That before being accepted operators should pass a medical examination, especially as to their nervous system. That an arrangement be adopted at the Toronto exchange for a week of six days, each day consisting of six working hours, spread over a period of from eight to eight and three-quarter hours at a stretch, with relief periods of twenty minutes, and an intermission of one and one-half to two hours instead of one hour for those who desire it. There