

March 14

hosts in Ontario, a hotel trades school was planned and opened and a course in institutional management set up at University of Toronto, he advised.

Mr. Porter said he cited these tasks to show the Government's concept of planning, a co-ordinated study before launching into only needed services.

Two Types of Unions

Legislators should recognize that there are two types of labor men, said R. A. Carlin (C.C.F., Sudbury)—one group, the union executive democratically elected by bona fide unions; the other, self-appointed, self-authorized persons with no real authenticity. Unfortunately, he said, the latter often reached high office on false pretences.

As a miner "who came up the hard way" with the old Western Miners' Union, he said that he today represented the United Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers as an elected executive member.

Early days had been hard. Operators had fought the unions. Bit by bit, hours of work had been reduced and wages gradually increased. And experience had taught the need of unity and need for contractual guarantees of security. That was why the present demand was for union security—a guarantee against company unions controlling by chiselling bosses, Mr. Carlin told the Assembly.

Labor and other intelligent citizens recognized that public legislation was needed to maintain labor peace, he continued. So labor asks only that, when a majority of workers in a plant were members of a union, that union should be recognized as the bargaining agent of the workers and be supported by a check-off which paid it the just dues of its members. The press of Canada, he said, had been generally fair, and recognized the justice of the claim.

To cry "Red" when labor was discussed was evasion, said Mr. Carlin. It was evasion of the real needs of labor for 40-hour week, no cut in take-home pay, two weeks' annual vacation, a true labor code. To say Ontario had good labor laws was laughable, he said, when Ontario workers had to strike for what other countries provided by law.

Unanimous, voted opinion of all

organized labor in Ontario had condemned Canada's legislation, he declared.

Mr. Carlin suggested that an educational campaign be launched among workers so they would avoid errors which occasionally deprive them of workmen's compensation benefits. A more lenient interpretation of the old-age pensions regulations would also be approved by Ontario, he said.

Low-Cost Housing

A Dominion-Provincial major low-cost housing plan, hospital and surgical treatment for all through a co-operative plan and regardless of the patients' ability to pay, and introduction of a 40-hour week were among social improvement measures recommended to the Government by G. C. Elgie (P.C., Toronto-Woodbine).

The next five years, he said, would be critical years in Ontario's future and that if energetic measures were not taken to meet present problems "we may find that we have provided the breeding ground for the malcontents, the extremists and others who would lead our citizens into a path booby-trapped with doctrines foreign to our way of life. This Government can cut the ground from under the feet of our extremists by leading the way, as it has done since it assumed office, to broad measures of social security."

Mr. Elgie urged that pressure be brought on the Federal Government to enter into arrangements with the Province and municipalities to embark on a major low-cost housing program which would solve the housing shortage and, in providing employment, accelerate a return to prosperity.

"We are pledged to wipe out the slums in this Province in the next five years," he said. "If we do, we will have erased an inexcusable blight now in our midst." He recommended that a board of skilled town-planners co-operating with financial experts meet municipal officials and speed solution of the problem.

Increased Pensions

He advocated that the increased widows' pensions rates be made applicable to all, instead of excluding widows who received pensions before April, 1943. He also advised amendment of the Workmen's Compensation Act to provide for 100 per cent disability, setting up of a separate board to hear appeals from ruling of other bodies such as the compensation board and liquor authority control board, and a reduction of the old age pension age from 70 to 65 regardless of whether the Federal Government took such action. By arrangement with the Federal Government, he believed family allowances could be increased.

Enlargement of the Ontario Labor Relations Board to expedite its commendable work also was advocated.

To divert into constructive channels the restiveness of labor, Mr. Elgie said the Province was ready to undertake many projects which should provide jobs which the Federal Government had failed to supply, but which it had "dangled as election bait before the workers of the country."

In collective bargaining, he thought all employees in a plant should vote and that the majority of the employees and not only of the voters as at present should determine the bargaining agent. It was the duty of the Government, too, to indicate how far it felt unions were entitled to go to obtain union security. Serious consideration also should be given to extending vacations with pay to two weeks.

Assistance for students desiring a university education through a loan program was suggested, students to repay the Government at a later date, extension of the tourist industry and establishment of a conservation authority to safeguard and develop Ontario's natural resources.

Go North, Young Man

Northwestern Ontario was described as an area always noted for its pioneering spirit, J. M. Newman (L., Rainy River) said. Returning veterans had revealed its continuance as they had shown ingenuity in re-establishing themselves.

Government aid in land clearing and drainage could be valuable and would be more than equalled by the assistance the riding's residents would give. By co-operation, he said, the Departments of Lands and Forests, Highways and Agriculture could launch a valuable program which would foster farming on the million fertile acres of the district. Evidence of fertility was shown in the potato records production long held by Rainy River.