CIRCULATION: 5,000

THE BRITISH COLUMBIA FEDERATIONIST

INDUSTRIAL UNITY: STRENGTH. OFFICIAL PAPER: VANCOUVER TRADES AND LABOR COUNCIL AND B. C. FEDERATION OF LABOR. POLITICAL UNITY: VICTORY!

Fourth Year. No. 55. VANCOUVER, B. C. TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 1912. $1.00 A YEAR

PROVINCIAL ELECTIONS FIXED FOR MARCH 28; WHAT'S IT TO BE?

Nothing possibly could be more diametrically opposed than the views expressed by the Hon. Richard McBride at the recent convention of the British Columbia Federation of Labor and those expressed by the various labor leaders who attended that convention. No one can peruse the report of the proceedings without noticing this.

The premier's address of welcome was, as usual, a clever piece of work, in which the usual tact, caution and smoothness were displayed; and in which, as usual, the spoken words contained very little meaning compared with the inferences to be drawn from the unspoken. But in spite of the diplomatic language in which it was couched, the premier's message to the workers of this province was unmistakable: The government he represented—and which, he took pains to explain, was not a labor government, not a capitalist government, but a government for all the people of British Columbia—considered they had gone as far as they could in meeting the wants of the great working class, and were of the opinion that the workers of the province had little cause for complaint and good cause for satisfaction.

Now, all of this sounds very well, especially when voiced by such an eloquent speaker as Mr. McBride. But, strange to say, not one of the one hundred delegates present agreed with the Premier's assertions. On the contrary, subsequent debates disclosed the fact that, without exception, the delegates were of the opinion that Premier McBride was all wrong; that the workers were not, and had never been, accorded fair treatment by the Government, and that the position of the worker in this province was not by any means satisfactory. And, be it remembered, the delegates to that convention were no fools, but the cream of the working class, the very best exponents of the cause of labor in the province—men who had studied the subject from all angles and were in a position to speak, from personal study and years of experience, of the conditions under which men of this province labor.

Nor is it necessary to go far afield to find the reason for such opposition to the present administration on the part of the delegates to the convention. Had they not heard the premier make just such a speech a year ago? Had they not heard him often before say how solicitous his government was for the working man of the province? And had they not, during the intervening year, gone repeatedly to the executive chamber to beg for that very thing the government stod for—equal rights for all the people—and been denied it? The fact of the matter is, the delegates to the convention merely voiced the feelings of a vast army of workers throughout the province who are tired of listening to smooth-tongued promises that are never fulfilled, who are tired of berging and supplicating for what is theirs by right, and who have awakened to a realization that the only way for them to get fair legislation is to send their own representatives to do the legislating.

Now, this may sound somewhat paradoxical. Why, it might reasonably be asked, seeing that the workers are awake to their position and know the remedy for their existing unsatisfactory condition—why is it that the old parties are returned to parliament with such unerring regularity? The question is a pertinent one, and it is a painful one to answer; for, indeed, it is a fact that the worker will groan and complain the year round, will condemn the government and bewail the fact that no legislation is enacted for his benefit, and still on election day the same representatives are sent to Victoria. The legislators from our own ranks—where are they? What mysterious force has been at work to prevent their election? What enemy has blasted our fond hopes? We wanted reforms. We wanted our own men to govern us. We had the power to put men from the ranks of labor in the houses of legislature. Wha, then, is this that has come between us and our goal? His name is Inconsistency!

Go to your lodge-room, Mr. Union Man, and bid the members cease for a moment their loud condemnation of the "system" and the government. Ask them, one by one, how they voted at the elections, and carefully record the answers. Now read them off. Horror! Listen to this: "I wasn't on the voters' list," says one; "I'm not eligible to vote," says another; "I was working, and couldn't get to the poll," says a third; "What's the use of throwing my vote away," says a fourth; "Can't be bothered with politics," says a fifth;" "I'm an American citizen," says a sixth, "and can't vote in this country." Youll find the same thing in your union, Mr. Bricklayer, and you, too, Mr. Carpenter. And now let us all go down to the abor Hall and see how many are going to vote in the mayoralty election today. Question these men sitting round the stove—there are twenty of them. There are four who are not yet naturalised and cannot get on the voters' list. Twelve are eligible to be put on, but have neglected to do so. The remaining four are actually on the list, but are too lazy or indifferent to vote! Truly this is an awful state of affairs, especially at the headquarters of organized labor, but therein lies the answer to Cynic's question.

What's to be done? This farce cannot continue. It is a disgrace to the laboring class of the province. Let us act like rational beings. We see our objective ahead of us. We are unanimous as regards our objective. But pure indifference and cussedness prevent our falling in line for the onward march to that objective.

This month we are offered another opportunity to make our belated start toward self-advancement. Are we going to grasp the opportunity, or are we going to listen to the glib promises and be overwhelmed by the silver oratory of our political dictators once more? Are we going to vote for another year or so of begging and supplication for what is ours for the taking, or are we going to take it? Are we going to continue to air our wants in the open air and get clubbed for our pains, or are we going to satisfy those wants for ourselves in the houses of legislation.

In the name of comon sense, according to the amount with which we are severally imbued, let us make a step forward. Let us first think—then make others think. Let us wake up the dead ones, and get the blood once more coursing through their veins, et us mobilize and organize our forces, and having organized, let us drill and teach them. Then we shall have an army the advance of which cannot be stayed. What though we do not meet with sweeping victory at the elections, we shall find satisfaction in knowing that we put up a good fight, and that we have paved the way for better things next time. And havig fought well, we shall not have to hang our heads as cowards and hear our friend Trotter pronounce his cutting commentary on our lack of aggressiveness—"'Twas ever thus."

J. L. H.

NATIONALIZATION OF COAL MINES THE PROBABLE SOLUTION

At this writing it looks as though the outcome of the big strike in Great Britain would result in the nationalization of coal mines as the only solution.

With the principle involved once conceded the dawn of a new industrial era will soon be ushered in by a united international working class.

Are the "dreamers" only dreaming?

BROTHERHOOD OF CARPENTERS WILL TRY NEW TACTICS

Progressive Program Outlined for Coming Season by Knights of Square and Saw.

On Wednesday night, February 28, we had an old-time meeting. The room was full and everybody very interested and many subjects thoroughly considered and discussed from all angles.

Recommendations from the District Council were read and commented on by many, very ably supported and expressed by Brother A. McDonald, president of the U. B. D. C.

Some of the recommendations follow:

Raise dues of all locals of U. B. to $1 per month.

Lower initiation fee to $5 for three months.

Raise per capita tax to District Council to 25 cents per month and give initiation fee to same body.

District Council to take over control and pay services of business agents.

All these are to be thoroughly discussed again on Wednesday night, March 14th, and voted on at a specially called meeting.

These are matters of grave importance to the local and every member should make a special effort to attend. The financial secretary will send card notices to all those whose addresses he has.

Members are requested to come in and correct their addresses. Also to leave 50 cents with the Financial Secretary for one year's subscription to the official organ, the British Columbia Federationist.

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We see by the News-Advertiser that no more stores of any kind are to be allowed open on Sunday. Well, if this is a good thing why not stop the street cars? Close the hotels? The licensed assignation houses? The ferry? Clear the streets of the automobiles that obstruct them in the vicinity of the Astor grill and the Bismarck cafe? There are some other innovations that might be tried. Among others the opening of the churches during week days and the dispensation among the deserving poor of the city of an amount to at least equal to that now being collected for China.

"Charity begins at home," and Mayor Findlay and the police force are dispensing it for Vancouver. L. H. B.

ALL WAGE-WORKERS SHOULD JOIN IN ORGANIZATION WORK

Workers Get What They Can Take —There Is No "Business" to Run Without Them.

Are you a member of the union of your trade? If not, why not?

As an individual you are as helpless as a sapling on a moor of tempest.

You know that your boast to work for whom you please, for as many hours as you please, and as much as you please, is a joke.

You know that no non-union man can do that, for he has to ask the employer for the right to work, for what he chooses to pay, and as many hours as he desires.

Organized labor has been able by united action and collective bargaining to shorten the work day, raise wages, and in many ways improve the conditions of the worker.

All will agree that the worker does not get a fair share of the wealth produced; that the hours of work per day are too many.

Organized labor has by united action been able to secure less hours, better wages; to resist, successfully, reductions in pay; to make themselves respected; to have better homes, better clothes, better food, more comforts; to make the shop a better place to work in and many other things too numerous to mention.

Your own common sense tells you that you should be a member of your union.

Your duty to your family, fellow worker, and yourself, demands it.

You have no doubt made up your mind that as an individual you are powerless to improve your working conditions and that you will at some time become a member.

YOU CANNOT AFFORD TO NEGLECT THIS ANY LONGER.

Every day's delay places you and your fellow worker in a more dangerous position, and unless you assist to put a stop to it you are responsible for your own and your fellow workers' degradation.

Remember that the workers' is the only organization that has up to this time done anything for the workers, and unless all pull together, you workers will be compelled to accept whatever the employer chooses to give.

The union desires to benefit the worker and to do good; its aims are to improve the conditions under which men and women are compelled to work and live.

The fight of ONE is the fight of ALL and unless ALL get together SOON the workers' slavery will be complete.

By becoming a member of your union you can do something to elevate the workers. Of course, you may not be able to revolutionise the world, you may not be able to change the whole system immediately, but you will be doing something to make the world better not only for yourself but those who come after you.

The employers says he will run his business to suit himself; HOW FOOLISH THIS IS, for he knows it is IMPOSSIBLE for him to get along without the worker.

HIS BUSINESS WOULD SOON STOP IF DEPRIVED OF HIM.

Men have a right to say for how much they will work, and how many hours per day—just as much right as the employer has to organize and by limiting production raise the price of his product whenever he sees fit.

When the employer sees an opportunity to raise the price upon his goods he does it, but when the workers say that they will raise the price upon labor the boss immediately says they are running his business.

IF HE IS RIGHT, WE ARE SLAVES, and it is about time to revolt.

The only intelligent way to revolt is to thoroughly organize.

The unions of the world have accomplished a great deal in the past for the workers. They have raised wages, reduced the hours of work, provided better and more sanitary factory conditions. Nay, they have done more, they have succored the sick, buried the dead and relieved the unemployed.

The workers' organization has not reached the end of its usefulness; it will do more. It will continue to do good until complete justice is done the workers.

Are you, Mr. Non-Union Man, willing to aid in this humane effort?

Are you willing to join hands with your fellow workers in an effort to push on this work to its ultimate triumph?

We say again, JOIN THE UNION, and then study the relationship between your ballot and your meal ticket.

GLOOMY OUTLOOK FOR LABOR IN FEDERAL CAPITAL CITY

PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE URGED TO ATTEND MEETINGS

The chairman of the central labor body parliamentary committee writes The Federationist as follows:

"Will you please draw the attention of amliated unions to the fact that each local is entitled to send one delegate to the Parliamentary committee. Judging by the attendance this is not very generally known. It is particularly desirable that each union should be represented regularly.

"The committee meets twice a month—on Fridays preceding Trades and Labor Council meeting."

OTTAWA, March 1.—From all appearances the only consideration Labor will receive at the hands of the government during the present session is such as is incidental to the debates on questions of preponderating importance.

Such questions as food to the starving, the saving of children from poverty and want, the prevention of our sisters from being swept into a life of shame as a result of inadequate remuneration for their daily toil, the making of conditions surrounding labor which will ensure comfortable and happy homes for the workers—the welfare of the whole human family pales into insignificance when compared with the overwhelming magnitude of "bounties on iron," the granting of charters to railway companies, the payment of a few millions for the transcontinental railways, etc.

In other words human life—should the life be that of the worker—is of less importance to our legislators than is the condition of the pocketbook of certain individuals.

It seems to be comparatively easy for the Manufacturers' Association, the large capitalized corporations, even the farmers' deputations, to gain the ear of the government and to secure something of a tangible nature, but for Labor, embracing as it does the majority of the population of the Dominion, it is wholly different.

On February 5th an interesting debate arose over the "Fishery Protection Service of the Pacific Coast." Mr. Sheppard of Nanaimo not alone championed the protection of the Canadian fisheries from poachers, but stated bluntly and emphatically that he "would eliminate all Orientals from the fishing industry." He finished a noteworthy speech as follows:

"Now, Mr. Speaker, permit me to say a word or two with regard to the Oriental question. There is no quid pro quo. Our own people cannot engage in the fisheries or enter into any other industry in Japan or India. Therefore the advantage is clearly on the side of the Asiatic, and the present system is manifestly unfair to our own workers. I sincerely trust that the members of this House will, without regard to party politics, endeavor to frame laws for the country such as will eventually tend to a white Canada. The Oriental question will probably come up before this House at an early date and I shall then have more to say on the subject. I trust that honorable members on both sides of the House will give up their support in our endeavor to eliminate some of the disadvantages under which our people are laboring on the Pacific Coast."

The debate on the appointment of a "tariff commission" on February 7 gave one something to think over. The government's side proved to its own satisfaction that Labor was protected by the tariff, while the opposition, particularly through Mr. Oliver of Edmonton, proved that Labor was not protected since it was sold in free competition with all the labor that cared to come to Canada. On the other hand, while the manufacturer is protected by preventing goods from coming into Canada in competition with the goods he is selling, the government is doing everything through emigration agexcies, etc., to bring in labor free in competition with the home product—the Canadian worker. Again, the tariff, Mr. Oliver contended, is responsible for increasing the cost of living and making it harder for the worker to live.

On reflection one is driven to the conclusion that, irrespective of nation, wages on the whole simply follow the cost of living, as witness the cost of living on this northern continent, in Europe and Asia, and the difference obtaining in the cost of living in America, Europe and Asia is followed by a difference in wages.

The cost of living in Eastern Canada is less than in the West. So also are wages.

On further reflection it is borne in on one that the one thing essential for the working man to learn is to understand his own interests.

When he does that he will understand how to put the machinery in motion to conserve those interests.

To achieve this end requires persistent agitation, organization and education.

Through agitation to point out the necessity of organization, and through organization carry on a propaganda of education.

The education required is a knowledge of the forces operating in the production of all the necessities and comforts of life and the forces responsible for the few being in possession of a superabundance of those things while the vast majority have little or are in actual want. In short, a study of political and social economy.

SOUTH VANCOUVER SCHOOL BOARD WILL TAKE FORWARD STEP

It may be of interest to wageearners to know that on President Wilkinson of the local Trades and Labor Council waiting on the Board of School Trustees of the municipality of South Vancouver he was assured by that body that as far as possible union conditions as to wages and hours of labor would be observed in carrying out the contracts for new school buildings to be erected during the year.

Another matter of considerable importance to the workingman is the appointment of a medical inspector and assistant nurse to attend to matters relative to the health of South Vancouver school children by not only advising the parents of children in whom any physical weakness or disease is discovered but also providing without cost to the parents simple prescriptions and attention of a nurse, who visits the homes of children who come under the care of the medical inspector.

Through the efforts of Trustees Neelands and Vogel substantial increase has been made in the salaries paid to teachers by raising the schedule to the same as that of the city of Vancouver.

Satisfaction Peculiar to Lawyers.

"I sent you an account of £5 for collection," said a man, coming into the office of a lawyer.

"Yes, you did."

"What success have you had?"

"Sued him last week and got it."

"That's good. Give me the money, and tell me the amount of your fees and I will pay you."

"My fees are £10. I have given you credit for the £5 collected, pay me another £5 and we'll be square."

"What?" gasped the man. "I don't see where I make anything by collecting the debt."

"Nothing, my dear sir, from a money point of view; but you have the satisfaction of knowing that a dishonest man has been brought to justice."

Central Labor Body Activities Of Neighboring Cities

The recent publication in the form of a Trades Union Directory for this city has proven itself to be a work of art. It has, in addition to information regarding the various organizations other matters of local interest. Another interesting feature is the Provincial labor laws, such as the Workmen's Compensation Act, the Employers' Liability Act, Mechanics' Liens Act and the Shops Regulation Act. These matters will be to the workers a very present help in time of trouble. It was printed under the supervision of the central labor body, and the way that it has been handled has made it a source of revenue to that body. Anyone wishing to obtain a copy of it can do so by applying to C. Sivertz, 1278 Denman street, Victoria, B. C.

A rumor of a rather interesting nature to the workers of this city is being circulated broadcast. A certain member of the Provincial cabinet, high up at that, who resides in this city, was holding a festive function at his home. Several of his political confreres were in attendance to participate in the sumptuousness of the occasion. During the progress of the programme the host was called upon to make a speech, political in its character, of course. He spoke of better terms, railroad policies and Oriental exclusion. As a modern Demosthenes he poured forth his soul on the importance of British Columbia becoming a white man's country. It was in the middle of this incident that the empty vessels required further replenishment. In order to add earnestness to the speaker's remarks for the total exclusion of Orientals this was done. The CHINESE DOMESTIC therefore arrived on the sceen with the drinks.

After several months of agitation the city council has decided on making $3 the minimum wage for civic employees. Throughout all this period the Victoria Builders' Evchange, of which Alderman W. A. Gleason is a member, has maintained a dignified silence. They arrived on the scene at the last moment, however, with a protest against the action taken. The reason advanced is in common with that of all employers of labor, as can be readily expected. They are of the opinion that this is rather hard on the poor contractors. In the letter addressed to the city fathers they state that they are not opposed to any legitimate increase in the rate of wages. They fail to state what is a "legitimate wage." It is evident from their objection that it must be below $3. They do not state that they believe in giving British subjects the preference. The history of the labor movement in this city will bear out the truth of that statement—when British subjects work for Chinamen's pay. Finding that foreign labor is a much cheaper commodity than the Britishers that they talk about they have had Chinese employed as hod carriers irrespective of the fact that railroad companies and other such philanthropic institutions were flooding the labor market with immigrants from the Old Country. Their contention is that the increase in wages will have the tendency of embarrassing the contractors by forcing them to increase the wages of their employees also, and to force them to pay the extra two bits is no wonder that they should raise the kick at this time. The most novel of their objections is that the action will have the effect of bringing in "alien and undesirable labor." Judging from the past record of this contractors' union, the only labor that has really been undestirable is the Britisher. They complain that these foreigners that are coming here have no sympathy for British institutions. It can be proven without much exertion that they have almost as little use for British institutions as the contractors have for British men. They state that the "labor market at present is filled with men demanding work." This is something known by every union man. Why there should be any objection from an organization of bosses to a condition of the sort is more or less of a surprise, seeing that such a market condition would have then tendency of cheapening labor. The secretary of this organization is not far from the truth when he says that 75 per cent. of this labor is foreign. But it is the railroad companies that he has to praise, or blame, and not the labor unions for this golden opportunity for him to obtain some cheap slaves.

JOHN L. MARTIN.

NEW WESTMINSTER CENTRAL LABOR BODY

Regular meeting held in Labor Hall Wednesday, February 28.

Credentials were received for Delegate H. Corder of the Teamsters' union. Delegates Callow, Federal Labor union, and Corder of the Teamsters' were seated.

Report of Unions.

Typos—Two new members; all working.

Bartenders—All working except Delegate J. McDonald, who is ill in the hospital.

Plumbers—Some men still idle, but business is improving.

Cigarmakers are all working.

Street Railway Employees report eight new members and everybody working.

Amalgamated Carpenters, nearly all working.

Barbers all busy; report two unfair shops.

Teamsters are holding an open meeting on Thursday, to which the executive of the central body is invited.

United Brotherhod Carpenters report an improvement in trade; nearly all members busy and new members

Federal Labor union, all busy.

Painters report few unemployed.

Delegates Grant and Robertson were elected to vacancies on the grievance committee.

Delegate Cameron, Teamsters, was elected to municipal committee.

Delegate Turnbull, Amalgamated Carpenters, was elected to parliament committee and Delegate Grant, United Brotherhood Carpenters, to the organization committee.

Mr. Moses Cotsworth was given privilege to address the meeting on the iniquitous bill proposed by the legislature giving the architects' union a rake-off on every home built by the workers of value over $500. He suggested that every trades and labor council and free library should be supplied with a copy of all proposed legislation so they would know what is being done at Victoria in time to enter a protest when the interests of the workers is being jeopardized.

A telegram was sent to J. D. Taylor, M. P., at Ottawa, endorsing his action in having fresh salmon placed on the free list.

Delegate Cameron made a report for the Labor Temple Company stating that affairs are in a very satisfactory condition, but suggested that individual unionists are not falling over themselves in an effort to secure stock. Delegates asked to report back to unions.

Delegates Gilchrist, Malden and Knutsen were elected a special committee to investigate conditions in the Royal Columbian Hospital.

Delegate Cameron inquired if any notice had been received from the B. C. Federation of Labor regarding the referendum vote which should have been taken within thirty days of adjournment. Receipts $1.80.

I. T. U. Election of Officers.

On February 17th President Lynch of the International Typographical Union had received 172 nominations for re-election in May next, while his presidential opponent, Mr. Barker of Spokane, had 78. The anti-administrationists are putting up a well-organized effort to make a change in the personnel of the I. T. U. executive council.

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"Unity of Labor; the hope of the world."

55 WATCH THE LABEL ON YOUR PAPER. If this number is on it, your subscription expires next issue.

TUESDAY.....MARCH 5, 1912

COAL MINERS STRIKE.

The greatest industrial struggle that has ever taken place in the Old Country is now being waged in all its grim reality.

Nearly a million miners are on strike for the principle of a minimum wage for those who work in the most dangerous of all industries, as is shewn by the figures issued by the Board of Trade and based upon the returns of the Factory and Mining Inspectors of the Old Country.

The following is the number of workers killed in the leading industries of Great Britain during 1909, the last available figures:

Miners	1493
Shipping	1210
Factories	700
Docks, etc	117
Building	106
Quarries	84
Railways	372

One thousand four hundred and ninety-three miners killed in one year!

That's one side of the question.

Here is the other:

"The average return on the capital sunk in Ordinary shares in the British coalfields received in the period 1898 to 1910 was 9.6 per cent.

This means that taking the collieries as a whole, good and bad together, the shareholders received their capital back about one and a quarter times in thirteen years.

The original capital invested is still intact, and in most cases has been increased by appropriations taken from the profits to build up reserve funds.

Yet the owners are not satisfied.

They say, "We are to run our business in our own way."

Well, they never had a better chance in their lives.

But why don't they get busy?

The miners are certainly not trying to prevent them, for they have left the collieries entirely to the owners.

The truth is that the canting humbug about "their business" is exposed by an object lesson more convincing to the miners than ten years of mere theorizing.

The owners, by their selfishness have taught the miner more than he could have taught himself in the same time.

They have killed the goose with the golden eggs. The murder is out, and the truth is as plain and clear as the sun in heaven.

The capitalist has no business unless the workers are willing to make it for him.

The collieries are there; all the machinery is there; but neither have any value by themselves.

It is the labor of the miners which produces the coal. The coal has no value until it is produced.

Therefore the value of the coal when it is produced, should rightly belong to those who have produced it—the miners.

Thus is capitalism forced—in spite of itself, and in spite of the apathy of the workers—to prove that the only permanent solution of this problem is to make the mines the common property of the people of Great Britain, to be operated by them for the use of the people and not for the making of profit, which can only be obtained by robbing the miners of the major portion of the value of their work.

CLASS GOVERNMENT.

The decision of Judge McInnes by which Peter Johnson, William O'Brien, Albert Pown and M. Bodner will spend three months in the Provincial jail is one of peculiar interest. These men were arrested on the Powell street grounds Sunday, Jan. 28th, when the police broke up a meeting of working men which had been called for the purpose of hearing Premier McBride's message to the unemployed. His Honor held that the meeting was an unlawful assembly and the accused, being members thereof, were guilty of a misdemeanor.

The reasoning by which this decision was arrived at was absolutely flawless and the decision itself eminently just. The Judge pointed out that there had been a large crowd of spectators at the grounds who had quite evidently been attracted by the expectation of some disorder.

"What did that crowd of five thousand people expect was going to happen?" said he, "can any other reason for their presence there be assigned than that they expected that there would be a breach of the peace?"

The wisdom of this was apparent to all. Even the defense could not and, moreover did not, deny that these thousands expected a breach of the peace. Further, the defense did not deny that there actually had been a disturbance of the peace. On the other hand, it was clearly set forth by the prosecution itself that the disturbance was caused by the police and not by the accused, and that it was solely the actions of the police that had drawn the crowd. His honor's reasoning, therefore, being particularly cogent and just, establishes an extremely interesting precedent.

Henceforth, whenever disorders occur and the peace is disturbed, punishment will be meted out, not to the disturbers, but to those who suffer by the disturbance. An admittedly peaceful assemblage is violently interrupted and rudely scattered by police. The victims of this action, not the assailants, are brought before the bar of justice and found guilty of unlaful assemblage. No one can find fault with such a finding. Clearly, if there were no peace it could not be broken, and those who are keeping it are necessarily parties to its breach. If we apply the decision to other crimes it will be seen that the man whose watch is stolen is equally guilty of theft with the person who got it. Perfectly correct. How could anyone be a thief if there were no one in possession of something which might be stolen? This will greatly assist the Vancouver Police Department in the solution of the many mysteries which have baffled them of late.

An unlawful assembly is the assembly of three or more persons met to carry out a common purpose in such a manner as to cause persons in the neighborhood to have reasonable grounds for feeling that the peace would be disturbed tumultuously. This exactly describes an assembly on the Powell street grounds Jan. 28th. Well on to one hundred policemen, mounted and afoot, assembled there evidently with a common purpose. There can be no doubt whatever that their presence caused persons in the neighborhood to have reasonable grounds for feeling that the peace would be disturbed tumultously. In fact, this feeling was so pronounced that a great many persons ascended to the roofs of nearby houses for safety's sake.

When we look at this affair entirely aside from tiresome legal quibble, it teaches the workingmen of Vancouver a lesson it is to be hoped will not soon be forgotten. It shows them the shallowness of their "liberties" when their masters' interests are endangered. It illustrates better than any argument of words that government is class government and the governed class is the working class. It should teach them the immediate necessity for working class representation in houses of parliament.

Whether they have learned the lesson or not will be seen on March 30.

"Daughter am I in Kelly's house
But no mistress in my own."
—Kippering.

Join a union and make a noise like a man.

Nomination day, March 12; election day, March 28.

The cloudy political weather seems to be affecting the Sun.

A wage-worker without a union is easy prey for labor-skinners and flag-wavers.

The "rabble" has an opportunity on March 28th of becoming "responsible citizens."

The deadest thing in British Columbia, with the least cause for resurrection—the Liberal party.

Demand union label products; join a union and don't vote the same political ticket as your boss.

The Liberals have even assumed the Socialist prerogative of walking to the polls on election day.

Just as though it made any difference whether the Liberal "party" places any candidates in the field or not!

"Every time I successfully negotiate a loan from the bank I feel just like McBride's railway policy—till the note comes due."

Ald. and Police Commissioner Williamson, being an authority on all things he knows the least about, should have caught a place on the "high cost of living" civic commission.

"I'll venture to say there are more real estate speculators per capita among Vancouver clergymen than any other profession this far west," was the remark overheard by a Federationist reporter on a belt line street car the other day. Who said something about materialism?

Mayor Findlay moves in mysterious ways his blunders to perform. No sooner does Premier McBride get him out of the free speech jack-pot than he rambles into punch-clock methods at the city hall. As playing the part of a grown-up school boy, Findlay may be a howling success; but as the executive head of a city he should be under canvas as a "horrible example."

Might be well for officers of organized labor to secure a few "dictographs." The game would work well the other way round. Supposing for instance, we had a dictograph account of the conversation between McBride-Bowser and Findlaykoffsky! Or better still, the real terms between Bill and Dan and the governmental executive at Victoria. Sure thing; let's have the dictograph!

Ald. White has undertaken to solve the problem of "high cost of living." The city council may be induced to appoint a commission to inquire into the working of several alleged combines, the meat trust in particular. The operations of the investigating committee, if on the level, would probably be instructive; but just what Ald. White intends to do about it, anyway, might prove of interest to psuedo-reformers and social surface-skimmers.

"I used to roast Bob Kelly; now he leadeth me; I used to slam the racetrack brigands, but one page ad fixeth me and it will be all right when my horse wins; verily have I been on every side of every question since the beginning; I accuseth labor officials of graft! but never need or use proof; for am I myself not the best single-handed grafter that ever came down the pike; yea I would suck a lemon if Bob Kelly so directed."—John P. McConnell (Bruce).

The Good Book is authority for the statement that like begets like. It has been said that some dogs will lick the hand that smites them. The Sun interviewed a Vancouver policeman last week. "That's one thing about a Chinaman," said the sergeant, "I never see one go away angry. Soak them as hard as you like and they always leave smiling." Was it Bismarck who said: "Smile as you lead them to the scaffold, but hang them"? Now, which characteristic was being developed in the Asiatic mind?

In a suburban town near London, England, the employing class have adopted a novel idea to lure young men into the service of the citizens' army. An organization of young women has been effected, pledged "not to marry; not to become engaged to; not to walk out with; not to dance with; not to go on the river with; not to smile upon; not to speak to any young man who is not, or who does not promise to become at once a Territorial." All of which seems to indicate the desperate and fanatic methods that must be employed to cajole workingmen into the service of the enemy. The sentiment, however, "that if the capitalists want war, let them do their own fighting," seems to be spreading very rapidly; so much so that the bosses are somewhat disturbed.

"War is hell! Let the capitalists go to—war."

Good morning! Have you "discovered" 'steen sticks of dynamite?

Have I done something for the general interest? Well, then I have had my reward. et this always be present to thy mind, and never stop doing good.—Marcus Aurelius.

When gutttersnipe meets blatherskite: Sam Gothard and Jack McConnell (Bruce) engaged in a bar-room brawl one day last week, both receiving black eyes; and, as at character-assassination, honors were about even.

"Convicted on the evidence of police and parsons" was one of the comments overheard at the trial of the wage-workers found "guilty" of daring to speak on a public square contrary to the wishes of the grown-up school boy who temporarily presides at the city hall.

The Liberals and Conservatives are having much difficulty in trying to convince the workers that there is any difference between their respective parties. In Fernie, or any place else, however, they soon sink their differences and combine to beat working class candidates.

In view of recent events all over the labor world it might be well for wage-workers to reconsider their attitude towards the soldiery and militia. Probably it would be advisable to join en masse and learn the gentle art of manslaughter on a wholesale scale. The knowledge might come in handy before the struggle between those who make wealth and those who take wealth is over.

Findlaykoffsky's newly-organized chain gang, a disgrace to civilization, has been in operation for a couple of weeks, cleaning up a lot of land on the cheap for the city. The unfortunates had occasion to go on strike last Saturday, refusing to work on Saturday afternoons. As a result the recalcitrants are subsisting on a bread and water diet; a further tribute to the mighty mind temporarily presiding as chief magistrate.

A Dutchman, addressing his dog, said: "You vas only a dog, but I vish I vas you. Ven you go mit your bed in, you shust turn round dree times und lay down; ven I go mitt de bed in, I have to lock up de blace, und vind up de clock, and put the cat oud, und ondress myself, und my frau wakes up and scolds, den de baby wakes up and cries, und I have to valk him mit de house round, den maybe ven I get myself to bed it is time to get up again. Ven you get up you shust stretch yourself, dig your neck a little und you vas up. I haf to light de fire, put on de kettle, scrap some mit my wife already, und get myself breakfast. You blay around all day und have blenty of fun. I haf to work all day und have blenty of drubble. Ven you die you vas dead; ven I die I haf to go to hell yet maybe."—The Plasterer.

THE LOW COST OF LABOR; THE HIGH COST OF LIVING

"There is a cause for the high cost of living.

Commissions may sit on it, draw their salaries and go home, but it will not go down.

It is up to stay. The days of 15-cent eggs and 18-cent butter are over.

In these two commodities, which are concrete examples, the price fell when the supply rushed to the market in excess of the demand.

Do not stand around wasting your time waiting for the grand rush. It will come no more.

dead. The march of progress is its funeral march.

Organization is the little joker that causes the price of the necessities of life to go bounding upward.

Not only have the big trusts found this new Aladin's lamp.

Every agency that touches the commodity from producer to the table—ave, the groaning table—groaning from its poverty—of the dazed ultimate consumer has come under the spell of organization.

The maker, the shipper, the wholesaler, the jobber, the distributer, yes, even the little store-keeper, all are in their respective organizations and those combines have but one reason for existence, that the individual member may have profit, that he may be protected from the ocmpetition of his neighbor.

It is the age of organization. The workers, the last to catch the inspiration of the spirit of the age, will be forced to form one big organization to preserve their very lives.

Business is unconsciously preparing the world for socialism."

FEDERATIONIST SUB CARDS ARE NOW READY

At the solicitation of a number of union officials throughout the province yearly subscription post cards, ready for re-mailing, have been printed by The Federationist.

These will be sold at the rate of 10 sub cards for $7.50, and upon receipt from any quarter will be accepted as good for one year's subscription to any part of the postal union.

Officers and business agents are requested to send in orders at once. Where necessary the cards will be mailed and charged to the account of the agent to be paid for as sold at the regular rate of $1 per year.

NOTHING TO BE GAINED BY POLITICAL TRADING

All parties without exception recognize us (the workers) as a political power, and exactly in proportion to our power. Even the craziest reactionary that denies us the right of existence courts our favor and by his acts gives the lie to his words. From the fact that our assistance is sought by other parties some of our comrades draw the strange conclusion that we should reverse the party tactics and, in place of the old policy of the class struggle against all other parties, substitute the commercial politics of logrolling, wire-pulling, and compromise. Such persons forget that the power which makes our alliance sought for, even by our bitterest enemies, would have had absolutely no existence were it not for the old class struggle tactics. * * *

Just in this fact lies our strength, that we are not like the others, and that we are not only not like the others, and that we are not simply different from the others, but that we are their deadly enemy, who have sworn to storm and abolish the Bastile of Capitalism, whose defenders all others are. Therefore we are only strong when we are alone.—Wilhelm Liegknecht.

CIGARMAKERS ASK UNIONISTS TO DEMAND LABEL

The Cigarmakers' Union desire to draw the attention of organized labor the apparent lax demand for the shop card and the union label in this city.

Why the trades unionists are not more consistent and persistent in buying the products of their fellow unionists is more than I can understand.

Possibly many take a similar view to the benighted card man who last summer told me he never asked for the label first on making a purchase, because the clerk would jump the price two-bits or more on the article. There you are; a full grown union man afraid to let the salesman know who he was, what he wanted and why he wanted a union made article, afraid to the extent of two-bits, when in reality there were no grounds for that imaginary raise.

One can buy a loaf of bread with the label on it for the same price as a non-union loaf. The same thing can be applied to a pair of shoes, a hat, a suit of clothes, etc. etc.

Of course, a native may get stung, now and then, but more often if he purchases cheaper non-union goods, for a cheap article is dear at any price.

Every purchase of non-union goods is a blow indirectly at your own interest. Every purchase of union-made goods is a boost for a fellow unionist in the trade and indirectly a benefit to your union.

Refrain from assisting the scabs in the future and particularly the scab cigarmakers in the province of Quebec.

Notice our blue label cut in this paper and have it in mind the next time you shove your hand in the cigar case.

We need your assistance, fellow unionist, and need it badly.

Did we ask for monetary assistance you might have cause to squirm. We have never yet asked for financial assistance, but we have, do now, and will in the future ask for your full patronage of the blue label cigars.

R. F. CRAIG.

A "Scabby Outfit."

The T. Eaton Company of Toronto, Montreal and Winnipeg are once more engaged in an effort to thwart the moderate demands of the poorest paid lot of slaves in Canada. This time it is the membership of the Cloakmakers' Union, composed mostly of young woman, who are the victims. The practice of non-payment for overtime, charging up "spoiled" garments to such an extent that the girls owed the company at the end of the week, brutal treatment by petty bosses in all departments and wages that cause the filling of more than half the houses of prostitution in Canada—these and other grievances are at the bottom of the present strike. The membership of organized labor throughout Canada should know what to do.

As a political contortionist C. M. Woodworth is in a class by himself. Thank heaven, he has never attempted to break into the working class party.

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TRADES AND LABOR COUNCIL MEETS first and third Thursday, Labor Hall, 112 Cordova street west, (upstairs). President, J. W. Wilkinson; vice-president, John McMillan; general secretary R. Parm, Pettipiece, 2349 St. Catherines street; phone Fairmont 426; secretary-treasurer, Jas. Campbell, 1994 Fourth avenue west, phone Bayview 983R; statistician, Mrs. Rose J. Gardiner; sergeant-at-arms, Fred A. Hoover; trustees, J. Kavanagh, James H. McVety, Victor R. Midgley.

BUILDING TRADES COUNCIL—MEETS every Friday in Labor Hall, 112 Cordova street; president J. Kavanagh; vice-president, J. Bicton; secretary, J. McMillan, Labor Hall; financial secretary-treasurer, Wm. M. Herforth; business agent, J. McMillan. Labor Hall. Phone Seymour 1380. Office hours, 8 to 9, 12 to 1, 4:30 to 5.

ALLIED PRINTING TRADES COUNCIL of Vancouver—Meets second Monday in the month in Labor Hall. President, E. Jarman, Pressmen's Union, 923 Hornby street; vice-president George Mowat, Bookbinders' Union, 515 Dunlevy avenue; secretary, A. H. England, Typographical Union, 567 Hornby street, P. O. Box 66.

AMALGAMATED ASSOCIATION OF Street and Electric Railway Employees of America, Pioneer Division No. 101—Meets in Oddfellows' Hall, Mt. Pleasant, second and fourth Wednesdays at 2:45 p.m. and first and third Wednesdays at 8 p.m. President James Fletcher; vice-president, H. Schofield; recording secretary, Albert V. Lofting, Box 178, City Heights P. O. Financial secretary, Fred A. Hoover, 2409 Clark drive.

AMALGAMATED SHEET METAL Metal Workers' International Asiliance, Local No. 280.—Meets every Thursday 7:30 p.m. at 112 Cordova street west, Room 4. President, A. J. Crawford; vice-president, H. Spear; recording and corresponding secretary, Jas. Jamieson, 921 Drake street. Financial secretary, E. A. Edworthy, 1114 Cordova street west. James Mude, treasurer; business agent, J. Peters, Labor Hall.

AMALGAMATED SOCIETY OF CARpenters and Joiners: Vancouver District—Business agents, J. W. Wilkinson and J. A. Key; office hours at Labor Hall, 8 to 9 a.m. and 4 to 5 p.m.; phone Seymour 1380.

BRANCH NO. 1.—MEETS ALTERNATE Tuesdays at 8 p.m. in Labor Hall. President, Mr. Wright; secretary, H. Carter, Box 991.

BRANCH NO. 2—MEETS SECOND AND fourth Wednesdays in Orange Hall, Hastings and Gore avenue at 8 p.m. President, W. Manson; secretary, D. Mitchell, South Hill, B. C.

BRANCH NO. 3—MEETS ALTERNATE Mondays at 8 p.m. in lodge room, 2933 Granville street south, at 8 p.m. President; J. Titley; secretary, J. Fowler, 833 Pacific street.

BRANCH NO. 4—MEETS FIRST AND third Thursdays in Room 4, Labor Hall at 8 p.m. President G. Lamberton (Factory Workers); secretary, J. Thompson, 149 Tenth avenue east.

BRANCH NO. 5.—MEETS ALTERNATE Mondays in Orange Hall at 8 p.m. President Wm. A. West; secretary, A. McLaren, 1033 Richards street.

CENTRAL PARK BRANCH MEETS Alternate Fridays in Agricultural Hall, Central Park at 8 p.m. President, G. Manson; secretary, J. Anderson, Jr. Box 223 Central Park, B. C.

SOUTH VANCOUVER BRANCH MEETS in South Hill schoolhouse, South Vancouver, every alternate Friday at 8 p.m. President, H. Rayner; secretary R. W. Jackson, South Vancouver, B. C.

BRICKLAYERS' AND MASONS' INTERnational Union, No. 1—Meets every Tuesday, 8 p.m., O'Brien's Hall, corner Homer and Hastings streets. President, James Haslett; vice-president, J. J. Welsh; corresponding secretary, W. S. Dagnall, Box 55; financial secretary, F. R. Brown, Business agent, W. S. Dagnall, 106 Hastings street east; phone Seymour 8799.

BARTENDERS' INTERNATIONAL League, No. 676—Meets 514 Keefer street, first and third Sundays of each month at 2:30 p.m. President, Chas. Lehr; vice-president, H. Harrison; secretary, Richard Dalton; treasurer, Wm. Mottishaw; business agent, John A. Fraser, 514 Keefer street. Phone Seymour 6225.

BEAVER LODGE NO. 182, INTERNAtional Association of Machinists—Meets in Labor Hall second and fourth Thursdays at 7:15 p.m. President, Robert Thomson; vice-president, John Hamilton; recording secretary, John A. McIver; financial secretary, Jas H. McVety, 1744 Broadway west. Phone Seymour 1146L.

BROTHERHOOD OF CARPENTERS AND Joiners, South Vancouver Union No. 1208—Meets in Staple's Hall, Fraser and Fiftieth avenues, first and third Tuesdays of each month. President, E. Hall, Cedar Cottage; vice-president, S. Fraser, Fraser avenue, P. O.; recording secretary, E. H. Belsey 253 Tenth avenue east; financial secretary, J. A. Dickenson, South Vancouver P. O.

CIGAR MAKERS' INTERNATIONAL Union of America, Local No. 357—Meets in Labor Hall on the first Tuesday in each month at 8 p.m. President, Robert J. Craig; vice-president, D. A. McMillan; secretary, J. C. Peuser, Mainland Cigar Factory, 112 Cordova street west; label custodian and treasurer, S. W. Johnson; delegates to Trades and Labor Council, J. C. Peuser, Miles Nugent, R. J. Craig.

GLASS WORKERS, LOCAL UNION NO. 40.—Meets at Labor Hall second and fourth Tuesdays of each month. President, Bro. Fox; vice-president, Bro. Hunter; secretary, Wm. F. Herforth, 2138 Westminster avenue; treasurer, Bro. Beaver; delegates to Building Trades Council, Bros. Herforth, Thompson and Ginnsdale. Delegates to Trades and Labor Council, Bros. Fox, Lornaaky and Hunter.

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF Electrical Workers, Local No. 213—Meets every Monday evening at 8 p.m. in Labor Hall, 112 Cordova street west. President, H. E. Durant; vice-president, C. L. Hardy; recording secretary, R. S. Morris; financial secretary secretary, H. Lauder; treasurer, Sam Cawker; trustee, H. T. Johnston; foreman, W. P. Carr; first inspector, B. O. Sheppard; second inspector, C. W. Teag; business agent, E. L. McMillan, 75 Broadway west.

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF Electrical Workers Local Union No. 691 (Inside Men)—Meets in Bartenders' Hall, 34 Cordova street west, second and fourth Wednesdays at 8 p.m. President J. Montgomery; vice-president, F. Duff; recording secretary, J. H. Carney, Empress Hotel; financial secretary, F. Woods; treasurer, W. Jarvis; business agent, F. Estinghausen.

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JOURNEYMEN BAKERS AND CONFECtioners' International Union of America, Local No. 46.—Meets in Room 4, Labor Hall, every second and fourth Saturday at 7:30 p.m. President, McCurrach; vice-president J. Hendricks; treasurer H. Leaworthy; secretary and business agent, B. Hutchings, Phone 1380, Labor Hall.

JOURNEYMEN TAILORS' UNION OF America, Vancouver Branch No. 178—Meetings held on the first Friday in each month at O'Brien's Hall, corner Hastings and Homer streets, 8 p.m. President H. Nordland; vice-president, A. Larsen; secretary, W. Hocken, 1582 Thirteenth avenue east, P. O. Box 503; financial secretary, L. Wakley, Box 503.

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PAINTERS, PAPERHANGERS AND DECorators Union, Local 138—Meets in Labor Hall, 112 Cordova street west, every Thursday evening, 7:30 o'clock. President, W. J. Nagle; vice-president, Johnson Beadley; financial secretary, F. J. Harris, 1238 Pender street west; recording secretary, Skene Thomson, 523 Twelfth avenue east; treasurer, E. C. Staples, 658 Hornby street; conductor, H. H. Whiteside; warden, G. Powell; business agent, Rod Matheson, Labor Hall, phone Seymour 9156.

SHINGLERS' UNION, VANCOUVER Local N. 1—Meets 514 Keefer street, every Tuesday evening, 8 o'clock. President, T. Burkes; secretary, T. M. Wright, 517 Pacific street. Headquarters 514 Keefer street. Phone Seymour 6225.

SHEET METAL WORKERS' INTERNAtional Alliance, Local No. 280.—Meets every Thursday 7:30 p.m. at 112 Cordova street west, Room 4. President, H. Spear; vice-president, W. Heath; recording and corresponding secretary, Jas. Jamieson, 921 Drake street; financial secretary and business agent, J. Peters, 112 Cordova street west; conductor, H. Anderson; warden, Thos. Edgar.

TILE LAYERS AND HELPERS, LOCAL No. 62—Meets first and third Wednesdays of each month, Labor Hall, 8 p.m. President, ; secretary, P. O. Hoeuke, Suite 2, 1202 Woodland drive.

UNITED BROTHERHOOD OF CARPENters and Joiners, Local No. 617.—Meets every Wednesday evening in Labor Hall, 112 Cordova street west at 7:30 p.m. Executive committee meets every Tuesday evening 8 p.m. President, Murdo McKenzie; recording secretary, Geo. C. Lester; financial secretary, L. H. Burnham; treasurer, J. W. Schurman; business agent, Geo. W. Williams. Phone Seymour 1380. Labor Hall.

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EMPLOYERS HANG TOGETHER; WORKERS HANG SEPARATELY

"Labor Possesses the Means of Its Own Liberation and from No Other Source Can Freedom and Justice Come."

By R. A. Rigg.

A century has elapsed since Benjamin Franklin said that "either the workers must hang together or hang separately." What a century it has been. Compared with previous ones it represents the rush of a mighty torrent in contrast with a slow moving current. On the bosom of this stream we are being borne onward with increasing momentum every year. Since Franklin applied his wit so happily to indicate the alternative fate of the working class, a lot of hanging has been done. The forces of capital have learned the secret of hanging together, for the purpose of more effective and economical control of labor and its output, and a terrible fate of hanging has been experienced by the working class through the lack of intelligent co-operation.

Yet this is no time for despairing. Black as the night may seem, it is the hour before the dawn. There is an old Jewish proverb which says: "When the tale of bricks is doubled, Moses comes." And in spite of the increasing army of the constantly unemployed; in spite of sweatshops, Taylor system and increased cost of living, this is the day for optimistic faith rather than pessimistic despair. On the horizon are plainly visible the first grey streaks of dawn. We are learning with somewhat painful slowness, it is true—nevertheless we are learning to organize ourselves for the mastery. For the moses of our economic emancipation comes not from the outside, but from the inside. We have all read the ancient fable of the driver whose cart sank in the ditch. After exhausting his powers of encouraging his horses by coaxing and whipping without success, he appealed to Jupiter to come to his aid. Jupiter's reply was, "Put your own shoulder to the wheel."

Labor possesses the means of its own salvation and from no other source can freedom and justice come. And this "consummation devoutly to be wished" can only be effected by well organized effort on the part of the great mass of the working class. The labor movement today stands seriously in need of a general awakening of interest among what is generally termed the rank and file. The democracy that contents itself with mere membership and dues-paying, is a bastard form of democracy. Too much power and responsibility is being shouldered upon the few. No man or woman has decently begun to do his or her duty in this movement by being nothing more than a member in good standing. That is the very least that can be done and is not sufficient to ensure success. "Put not your trust in leaders" for "like people, like priests." A few years ago a delegation from the Winnipeg Trades and Labor Council waited upon the City Council to present a demand, and in the course of his remarks the then president warned the city fathers that he had over 6000 organized workers behind him. So he had. They were so far behind that the City Council could afford to smile at him and ignore his demand. During the last Dominion election campaign an emissary of the Liberal Party offered me a thousand dollars if I would withdraw as candidate. On refusing, he asked why I "wasted my money and strength upon a bunch of d——d fools, who had not the sense to see their own interests."

We have inherited the doctrine and instincts of slavery. We drank them in at our mothers' breasts, and the task before us is one of herculean proportions. The two things essential are: First, the intelligent understanding of the cause and means of oppression, and the remedy for the same. And secondly, the organization of ourselves for the purpose of applying the remedy. With the space at my disposal I have no opportunity of opening out in detail. But I wish to extend my congratulations to the workers of British Columbia for the share they are contributing toward the accomplishment of these tasks. The new Labor Temple—a home for working class organizations—and a paper with the highly significant name of "Federationist"—a potent means of education—ought to prove a fount of inspiration to all. British Columbia has blazed the trail in many things affecting labor in this country, and I confidently anticipate that the Labor Temple and "The Federationist" will mean more power to the arm of labor. I ought to say "arms." For the day of lopsided development is over. Industrially and politically our federating must be done. And as I opened with Franklin, I will close with Marx: "Workers of the World, Unite. You have nothing to lose but your chains, and you have a world to gain."

Between Ourselves

H. Kempster, Revelstoke—"Enclose $7 for subs. to The Federationist. * * * Will forward a few more in a day or two. * * * Hoping you are still out of jail, and with best wishes. * * *"

The only way subscribers to The Federationist can get addresses changed or properly kick about not receiving the paper is to notify the manager, who is not a mind reader, but always anxious to put matters right.

A little sub. now and then is relished by the best of 'em.

Unions not having subscribed for their membership in a body at 50 cents a year, mailed to each individual member's address, should place the question on the "order paper" for next "session."

"* * * Accept my congratulations on the spirit and quality of the B. C. Federationist. To use the stereotyped and frequently humbug phrase, but in this case entirely merited, it supplies a longfelt want and is deserving of the very best support possible that can be given to it by organized labor. * * *."—R. A. Rigg, Winnipeg.

Local No. 94 of the Upholsterers' International Union has affiliated with the B. C. Federation of Labor, and, incidentally, subscribes in a body to The Federationist. Secretary V. Zellinsky is a good rustler and worthy of the confidence imposed in him by the membership.

Ten yearly subs. cards mailed to any unionist for $7.50.

Individuality can flourish only in a free common life; the economic side of life must be secured. A flower can never bloom till its roots are secure. Humanity is a flower, the individual the blossom; this blossom cannot be till the bread-and-butter question is settled.—Wentworth.

MUSINGS FROM THE TANKTOWN GAZETTE

Clippings by a Native of Tanktown, or Parings from the Potato Dispatch.

Ubique, city—Yes, quite right three; the resuscitation of the Liberal party looks to us like applying a galvanic battery to a corpse.

F. W. W., Alaska—Six days were occupied in making haven and earth; but the Vancouver courthouse, Burns building and Labor Temple are still unfinished.

J. W. W., city—After witnessing the battel for the championship of Labor hall we have an opinion that "Jack" Johnson should resume actie trainig right away. The Vancouer "white houe" showed excellent headwork in a work-out with his Trainer.

Old saying revised: Early to bed, early to rise; makes a man healthy, wealthy (for the boss), and the father of a large family.

Child Labor.

No fledgling feeds the father bird,
No chicken feeds the hen;
No kitten mouses for the cat—
This glory is for men.
We are the wisest, strongest race—
Loud may our praise be sung:
The only animal alive that lives upon it young!

—Charlotte P. Gilman.

Labor produces all wealth; and gets very little of it.

If Mare Findlaykoffsky, Williamsonovitch and Leekinski are looking for recruits for the police force why not examine the halfbacks of the Thistle Football club? They are all there with the rough stuff.

Bakers' Union, city—The Shops Regulation Act has been amended and the Trades and Labor Council will in all probability have the subterranean bakeries removed nearer the daylight. Of course it was impossible for the attorney general to have the act amended so as to make it effective all in one year; he is a member of the lawyers' union and like all unions it can only exist by providing work for its members—hence the delay.

The spider's Webb across the door of the Victoria Building Trades council got swept away in the house cleancleaning stunt that was carried on about two weeks ago. It is up to the council to appoint a real business agent and give the unions some return for their twenty-five cents per capita.

The textile workers of Lawrence, Mass., are being civilized by the same methods that will be used to Christianize the Chinese.

The mine operators in the Old Country have now every possible chance to run "their" business in "their" own way, but they don't seem to like it, or the profit-makig would be continued. Have they got wise to the fact that without the help of the miners they have no business?

W. W. W. M. P., city—We are informed that the provincial elections will be held on March 28. If the amount of working-class legislation enacted during the session is taken note of by the workers it will be April the First for the McBride government.

Civic Committee, Chinese Relief Committee, city—If every man, woman and child in Greater Vancouver were starving and $3 would save a whole family from death, what would we do? Well, this is what we would do: We would sell our biscuit factory and give each of the families $3. If that was insufficient to stay the pangs of hunger we would sell all our shares in the Dominion Trust Company and hand each family $3. If that was not enough we would then go to the city council and say: Don't give Dr. Underhill that raise of $1,000; give $3 to each family that is starving. We would also say to the city council: Don't give a raise of $800 to each alderman or a raise to any of the salaried employees of the council: give that money to the starving families. We would then journey to Victoria and interview the McBride-Bowser combination. We would say to them, don't give the Salvation Army $20,000; don't give every little jerkwater railroad umpty-ump million acres of land; don't allow your agent-general in London, England, to donate public money to the anti-Socialist campaign. Gather that money or money's worth together and give it to the starving families. That is what we would do. Don't you think that would be the best way to assist the starving families? Unfortunately for the starving families we don't own a biscuit factory, nor yet shares in the Dominion Trust Company; nor have we sufficient influence with the provincial government or the city council to persuade them to carry out these suggestions; and, last, of all, we have not got $3 to give to any one. If we had we would pay part of a $25 board bill that is overdue. And in conclusion, if such a contingency did arise that we had $3 that we did not know how to use to the best possible advantage we would consult our friends, and I know one of them would say: Send your $3 to the civic committee and advise them to spend the money in buying a brain massage or a brain exorciser.

THE CYN-I-CUS.

Among the Typos.

Vancouver Typographical Union has voted to accept a compromise agreement with the Daily Province and the morning New-Advertiser, providing for an increase of wages from $29, day, and $31 night, seven and one-half hours, to $30 and $33; or what has become known as the Daily World scale. The World, however, provides for a seven-hour day at the end of an agreement which has still two years to run. The new agreement applies only to the news men, and is for three years, dating back to January 1, 1912, with back pay. The Vancouver job scale is open again in June, and a wage of $5 for eight hours will be asked for by the job men. The typos also voted ten cents per member to the Kruez vs. C. N. P. Coal Company case fund, now before the privy council in England, to determine whether "dependents" who are non-residents of the Province shall be entitled to compensation in case of the death of a bread-winner. The membership of No. 226 is now nearing the 300 mark. Trade conditions are slack on the job side, only fair on the ad side, but one or two subs on the machine side could catch a place.

The last meeting of Seattle Typographical Union adopted a resolution asking five days a week's work. A referendum vote was called for and the proposition was endorsed by a vote of 165 for to 95 against. This law is in effect for thirty days from February 11th.

BRISTLING BALMY BOUNDARY BREEZES BACHELOR BLOWN

Correspondent in Smelter Centre Touches Up Coast Workers on Their Boasted Freedom.

Greenwood, B. C., March 1.—We are wondering here, in this fair Boundary district of B. C. how strong the Over Seas Club is, in Vancouver. It ought at least to be 100,000, seeing that its creed is "Believing the British Empire to stand for justice, freedom, order and good government, we pledge ourselves, as citizens of the greatest empire in the world, to maintain the heritage handed down to us by our fathers."

We are of the opinion that these truths ought to appeal very strongly to you folks at the Coast. What! You do not think so? My dear sir, have they not, quite recently, been demonstrated down there.

Take the **Unemployed Parades:** You were free to keep away from these free speech demonstrations, the mayor was free with his suppressive methods, the police were free with their batons, and The Province, most impartial and reliable of newspapers, was very free with its commendation of this very general freedom. All of which is very beautiful and unquestionably illustrates the JUSTICE AND GOOD ORDER for which our Empire stands.

And then, our heritage: Handed down to us by our fathers. You bet; we boys up here would just die for it; some of us, in fact, many, have done so. It is our precious heritage that allows us to tramp all over the earth, seeking in woods, mine and mill, a beneficent master, who will permit us to work. It is our heritage to work until we are worn out, and then, with thankful hearts, pass to the poorhouse, thanking an all wise Creator that we were born British; greatest of all, it is our heritage to elect OUR MEN to the parliaments of our various nations, after they have been "carefully selected" by our benevolent bosses, so that they may safeguard our welfare by perpetuating these very desirable conditions.

Therefore ye Vancouverites, proud of your mayor and proudest of your premier, shew us, we pray thee, thine own imperial spirit; often perchance by an imperial pint, and boost for the Over Seas Club, and the continuation of Britain's JUSTICE, FREEDOM AND GOOD ORDER.

The two main elements in the American labor movement are the political socialists on the one hand, who who believes in capturing the capitalist state, and then transforming industry into the collective ownership by all the people; and, on the other hand are the non-voting industrialists, believing it possible to capture and operate industry through the direct action of the industrial union.

The true position undoubtedly is between these two extremes. When this position is recognized it will form the basis of a more united labor movement. It is of no use saying that the union is merely a transitory institution; the union is bound to play its part in building up the commonwealth of labor. Of course, it is only when the union recognizes the principle of the class struggle, that is it really a part of the labor movement.

We should look upon our economic organizations as a means of carrying on industry, for the public use, instead of for private profit, after the capitalist state is broken down; we should by all means make use of our franchise as a powerful weapon for propaganda, as well as using it to curtail the power of organized capital.

As a beneficial factor to the wage workers of this province, the B. C. Federation of Labor, of which our delegates to its recent convention reported so favorably, must, and will be, in a great measure, judged by the manner in which it seeks to unite all the workers on the basis of the class struggle.

A working class must place its interests above any craft or industry; above the miners, above the plumbers, above the joiners, above them all.

How far are the craft unions prepared to go in this respect? Surely far enough to accept the card of any of the affiliated unions. It may seem unjust to those unions with a twenty-five or fifty-dollar initiation fee to accept the cards of unions that only charge $5.00, such as the Western Federation of Miners, a body whose very name is synonomous of sturdy revolt against oppression; but any union that will stop at such easily disposed of obstacles, cannot form a consistent part of a working class organization.

We should endeavor to attain a universal maximum initiation fee, and $5 is, in our opinion, sufficiently high.

It seems to us that the prohibitive fee charged by some craft organizations, is inimical to the objects for which labor unions are ostensibly created, and it is, in our humble opinion, a most glaring example of the tyranny of labor, to which our many and varied detractors so glibly advert.

GENERAL ADOPTION OF MINIMUM WAGE AND EIGHT-HOUR DAY

In Rossland, B. C., the civic minimum wage is fixed at $3.50 per eight-hour day; in Spokane, Wash., $3; in Nelson, B. C., $3.20; in Prince Rupert, B. C., $3.20; in Ladysmith, B. C., $3; in Victoria, B. C., $3—all with an eight-hour day. But in Vancouver, though nearly all the aldermen and the mayor-elect were pledged to a minimum wage for civic employees of $3, the Board of Works, in conjunction with the city engineer, seem determined to stick to the $2.80 minimum wage, contenting themselves with raising the "salaries" of officials and aldermen in and about the city hall.

New Westminster Trades and Labor Council has just succeeded in having the Royal City council adopt a minimum wage of $3 for an eight-hour day for civic laborers.

South Vancouver municipality is considering the adoption of a minimum wage of $3 per eight-hour day for its laborers, with good prospects for the concession.

The New Westminster Labor Temple Company, Ltd., has been incorporated A site with a temporary building has been purchased and $4,000 has been raised towards the erection of a $10,000 labor temple.

Southern Kootenay Socialists.

Says the Nelson Daily News: There was a large attendance at the Socialist convention held in Miners' Union hall last night. The chair was taken by A. W. Munro. As a result of balloting A. W. Harrod was nominated to contest the Nelson riding in the coming election. R. P. Pettipiece was nominated by acclamation to contest the Ymir riding. A joint meeting will be held tonight in the Miners' Union hall at 8 o'clock to arrange campaign committees.

Button, Button, Who's Got the Button

If you mean the blue button, it is any Union Bartender. Demand the BLUE BUTTON when being served by a bartender.

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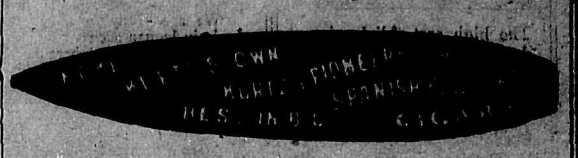

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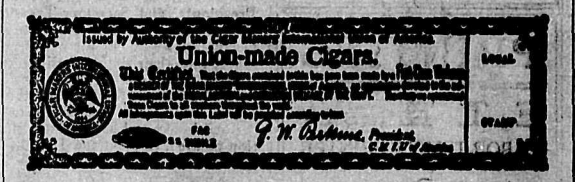

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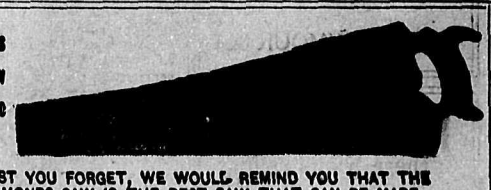

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British Columbia Federation of Labor

Office of Secretary-Treasurer, Post Office Box 1195, Vancouver, B. C

March 1, 1912

DEAR SIR AND BRO.:—

Pursuant to the Constitution and the instructions of the last convention I herewith submit the amended Constitution and By-laws of the Federation to a referendum of the entire membership.

You will please notify me at once of the action taken by your organization, and if any particular clause is objected to by your members, you will state in your reply the Article and Section objected to' and the votes for and against.

In case no reply is received by May 1, 1912, it will be understood that your organization approves of the entire Constitution and By-laws.

Yours fraternally,
VICTOR R. MIDGLEY, Sec.-Treasurer.

Constitution and By-Laws

PREAMBLE

The British Columbia Federation of Labor is organized for the purpose of voicing the needs and aspirations of labor, legislatively and otherwise, and to provide a place for worthy members of its affiliated unions to participate in the discussion of those practical problems, upon the solution of which depends their welfare as workers, individually and collectively.

With the introduction of the modern machinery of production and the harnessing of the forces of nature, it is only fitting that the wealth producers should participate in the benefits derived.

We, therefore, pledge ourselves to unceasingly demand a universal workday of eight hours or less; so long as labor power is sold as a commodity.

We believe there is more efficacy in electing working-class representatives to write the law than by supplicatory methods, and our efforts will be more in that direction in the future.

We are firmly convinced that the future belongs to the only useful people in human society—the working-class.

The delegate members hereof do constitute and adopt the following rules for the government of this Federation:—

Article I.—Name.

Section 1. This body shall be known as "The British Columbia Federation of Labor."

How Composed.

Section 2. Any Trades or Federal Labor Union or any Central Body, District Board, Building Trades Council, Allied Trades Council and similar bodies existing in the Province of British Columbia shall be entitled to membership in the Federation upon the approval of the Executive Board.

Representation.

Sec. 3. Each organization affiliated with the Federation shall be entitled to representation on the following basis:—

Each labor union shall be entitled to two delegates for the first hundred members or less, and one delegate for each additional hundred members or major fraction thereof.

Central Labor Bodies, District Boards, Building Trades Councils, Allied Councils and similar bodies shall be entitled to two delegates each. **Delegates from Central Bodies must be members of Unions affiliated with the Federation.**

No proxies shall be allowed.

Delegates shall receive their credentials from their local unions in duplicate and send one copy to the Secretary of the Federation at least two weeks previous to the date of the Convention and deliver the other to the Committee on Credentials.

No credential shall be considered valid bearing more than name of delegate and alternate. Provided that if alternate presents credentials and is seated he shall be the only recognized representative throughout the sessions of the Convention.

Article II.

Sec. 1. Any Union or Central Body that has not been previously affiliated may become affiliated by paying six months' dues for the term they make application.

Section 2. Any organization not paying its per capita tax on or before the fifteenth day of the second month of each term shall be notified of the fact by the Secretary. In case of no response notice shall be sent to the nearest officer of the Federation or to the Central Body in that locality. If, at the end of six months, it is still in arrears it shall be suspended from membership if valid reasons are not shown why the dues have not been paid; the Executive Board to be the judge.

Section 3. Any Central Body or Union that becomes suspended from membership for non-payment of per capita tax may be reinstated by payment of arrears not to exceed one year.

Article III.

This organization shall meet in annual convention in the City of Victoria. The time of the meeting to be decided by the Executive.

Article IV.—Delegates

The Secretary shall prepare a preliminary list of delegates where no contest is filed from duplicates in his possession, and such delegates so returned shall have power to transact business until the report of the Credentials Committee is received and adopted.

Article V.—Presiding Officer

At the opening of the Convention the President of the Federation shall take the chair and preside at the sessions of the convention.

Article VI.—Committees

The following committees, to consist of not less than five members, shall be appointed by the Executive Board: "Credentials," "Constitution, Rules and Order of Business," "Officers' Reports," "Resolutions," "Audit and Grievances" and "Ways and Means."

Article VII.—Officers—Term—How Elected

The officers of this Federation shall consist of a President, Seven Vice-Presidents, and Secretary-Treasurer. These officers shall constitute the Executive and Legislative Committee. The term of the officers of this organization shall be for one year, or until their successors are installed in office, and their duties shall begin on the day of election—elections to be held at each annual convention. Any amendment to this article shall not be subject to a referendum of the membership at large.

Article VIII.—Books and Accounts

All books and financial accounts shall at all times be open to the inspection of the President and Executive Committee.

Article IX.—Ex-Officers

Section 1. It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all general conventions; to exercise supervision in the Federation throughout its jurisdiction; to sign all official documents; to travel with the consent of the Executive Board whenever required in the interests of the Federation; to submit to the Secretary at the end of each month an itemized account of all moneys, travelling and incidental, expended by him in the interests of the Federation; and he shall report his acts and doings to the Annual Convention. The President, if not a delegate, shall have a casting vote in case of a tie, but shall not vote at other times. He shall receive for his services $5 per day for the time actually devoted to the Federation, and his *actual expenses while so employed.*

In case of his office becoming vacant the Executive shall elect one of its members as his successor. He shall be chairman of all the meetings of the Executive and Legislative Committee, having power to convene in special session in case of emergency, or when requested to do so on a written request of a majority of its members. He shall have a voice in the deliberations of the Committee but no vote except in case of a tie.

Article X.—Duties of Officers—President

The President and Secretary-Treasurer shall be members of the succeeding convention in case they are not delegates, but without vote, and shall not be eligible for re-election unless they are delegates, and if such officers are not delegates their expenses to convention shall be bourne by this Federation.

Secretary-Treasurer

Section 2. The Secretary-Treasurer shall keep a correct record of the proceedings of the Convention and on its closing prepare and have printed a report which shall contain a record of the business transacted. He shall collect and receive all moneys due and payable to the Federation, giving his official receipt for same, and depositing all moneys in some chartered bank in the name of the British Columbia Federation of Labor. He shall arrange with the bank to have a certified statement of the Federation's account forwarded to the President at intervals not exceeding one month. He shall prepare and submit an annual report showing receipts and expenses and deliver his books, accounts, receipts, etc., to the Committee on Audit at each Annual Convention..

He shall, together with the President, sign all cheques authorized by the Executive; and conduct the correspondence pertaining to his office. He shall be the custodian of the documents and other property of the Federation. He shall notify all affiliated bodies not less than thirty days before date of Annual Convention. He shall, upon vacating his office, deliver to the Federation all moneys, books, papers or other property in his possession and belonging to the Federation. He shall receive for his services such remuneration as the Annual Convention may decide upon.

Article XI.—Legislative Committee

It shall be the duty of the Executive and the Legislative Committee to act for this Federation when the same is not in session. And that so far as its means will permit, it shall discharge the following duties: It shall put into proper form all unfinished bills approved by the Federation and procure discussion of all bills before various labor organizations of the Province. It shall see that all legislative measures and resolutions approved by the Provincial Federation are presented to each political Provincial Convention, held within the Province, for approval or disapproval of such Convention. And the action of such Convention shall be reported to the Unions of the Province. The Committee shall also cause to be presented to each nominee of each party, who, upon election, would have a vote upon the passage of any of the bills approved by the Federation. The bills shall also be presented to the nominees of the different political parties for their approval or disapproval. The approval to be sinified in every case by a promise, clear and explicit, in writing, to support the bills as presented by the nominees.

Article XII.—Revenue.

The revenue of the Federation shall be derived as follows: A per capita tax of two cents per member per month from all local Unions; from Central Bodies, District Boards, Building Trades Councils, Allied Trades Councils and similar bodies, One Dollar per month. All moneys shall be payable in advance to the Secretary of the Federation in two half-yearly instalments due and payable in June and December of each year.

Article XIII.—Remuneration.

The remuneration for loss of time by members of the Executive Committee, or speakers engaged by them, shall be $5 per day and actual expenses.

Article XIV.—Rules

The Executive Committee shall have power to make rules to govern all matters not in conflict with this Constitution, and a majority shall constitute suspend any officer or member of the Committee for good cause shown, Provided, they first shall give such officer or member due and proper notice and hearing, and they shall, by resolution, provide the manner of such hearing. The Committee shall, immediately after any such suspension, report to the various local Unions affiliated with the Federation all the proceedings had in such hearing, and shall submit to such locals for a referendum vote the question whether the action of the Committee shall be sustained or not. If the vote sustains their action, then the Executive Committee shall declare the suspended officer's or member's seat vacant. If said vote fails to sustain their action, then the officer or member shall be entitled to his seat. In case of vacancy on the Committee by resignation, death or otherwise, the vacancy shall be filled by a majority vote of said Committee, and the member so appointed shall hold his seat as provided by the Constitution.
a quorum.

Article XV.—Petition and Referendum

The Executive Committee shall be required when petitioned by at least seven Unions, to submit to a referendum vote any propcsition dealing with the affairs of the Provincial Federation.

Article XVI.—Quorum.

A Convention quorum shall consist of fifty per cent. of the accredited delegates.

Article XVII.

The Executive Committee shall have the power, by a majority vote, to entitled to his seat. In case of vacancy on the Committee by resignation, death or otherwise, the vacancy shall be filled by a majority vote of said Committee, and the member so appointed shall hold his seat as provided by the Constitution.

All resignations shall be handed to the Secretary, who shall notify the President of same, and in case of death the local to which the deceased officer belongs shall notify the President of same. The President, upon receiving notice of the death or resignation of a member of the Executive Committee, shall appoint a member to fill such vacancy, subject to the approval of the Executive Committee.

Article XVIII.—Rules of Order

Roberts' Rules of Order shall be the authority of this organization unless otherwise provided for in this Constitution and By-Laws.

Article XIX.—Amendments.

Amendments to the Constitution shall be first acted upon by the Federation in Convention Assembled. All amendments adopted by the Convention unless otherwise provided for shall within thirty days be referred to the membership at large, and a majority of those voting shall be necessary to adoption, the returns to be in the hands of the Secretary within sixty days subsequent to adjournment of the Convention. All amendments adopted shall take effect from date.

Order of Business

1. Call to Order.
2. Committee on Credentials.
3. Roll Call.
4. Appointment of Committees.
5. Communications.
6. Reports of Officers.
7. Introduction of Resolutions.
8. *Reports of Committees.*
9. Unfinished Business.
10. Election of Officers.
11. Place of Next Convention.
12. New Business and Good and Welfare.

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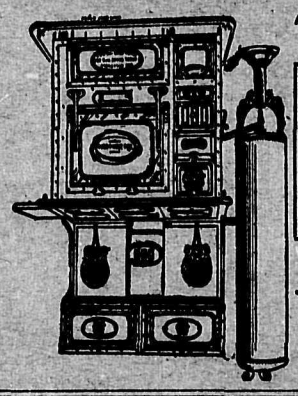

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