THE BRITISH COLUMBIA FEDERATIONIST

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

FIFTH YEAR. No. 87. VANCOUVER, B. C., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1912. (SIX PAGES) $1.00 A YEAR

DEC 9 1912

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ALARMING NUMBER OF DANGEROUS FIRE TRAPS HARBORED IN THIS CITY

"Are the big apartment houses of this city safe? That is a question which is agitating many of the tenants, as well as insurance agents and the fire department lately.

"Vancouver has never had a great fire disaster with a heavy loss of life," said a leading insurance agent, "but the conditions are ripe for it, and unless something is done to improve them it may occur any time. Most of the tenants of these houses are living in blissful ignorance of their danger, but others tell me that they do not feel safe, and are thinking of moving unless the means of escape are improved and the precautions against fire increased."

Nor is the fire department lacking in vigilance. It is only recently that Vancouver has become a great city where a great fire might occur, and Chief Carlisle is fully awake to the danger that has arisen with the building of a multitude of apartment houses.

"The conditions are very bad, and in some of these houses the protection to life is entirely inadequate," said the chief. "A disastrous fire if fanned by a good wind, and allowed to get a start when there are no watchmen about, might occur any time. I have two men now inspecting apartment houses, hotels and rooming houses, and as soon as their reports are in I shall recommend that fire escapes be put on some buildings where there are now none, and that others be put in a serviceable condition."

In addition to the inspection which is being made by the fire department, there has been some inspection made on private account. One of the men who went about getting a first hand knowledge of the actual conditions visited practically all the leading apartment houses in the West End, and reported to a prominent fire insurance company which prefers to be left out of the discussion.

"I will give you an example of one day's work of inspection," said this investigator. "On that day I visited twelve of the biggest apartment houses in the West End, in each of which there are hundreds of persons sleeping every night. In ten of these twelve there are no night watchmen. Upon entering each I rang for the janitor, and upon meeting him my invariable question was: 'Will you kindly tell me where I can find the night watchman?' In almost every case the janitor thereupon stared at me in blank amazement, as if doubting my sanity. Upon making sure that I was not dangerous, he ejaculated: 'Night watchman! We have no night watchman.'"

"The elevators in these apartment houses stop at midnight, and from that time until five to seven in the morning there is no protection. Of course the janitors are there, but they presumably sleep as soundly as other people. One janitor admitted to me that a fire had burned in an apartment house on Melville Street for two hours before it was discovered; but there was not much inflammable material near by, and it made but little headway, so that it was easily extinguished."

A representative of a prominent fire insurance company said: "I am not directing my criticism against any particular person or house, but this is a serious matter which in the rush of business has been neglected. In two fashionable apartments, for example, there is only one fire escape each, and this in both cases is located away at the rear of the building. As everyone knows elevator shafts and open stairways are regular flues when a big fire gets started. If such a fire occurred in either of these buildings, it might cut off all means of escape for those in the front."

"Nor are these the only dangers. In the case of one big house the fire escapes are located in the area ways at the back of the building, and these area ways extend in about 20 feet almost to the center of the building, while the ways on both sides are dotted with windows having wooden frames. In case of a big fire these wooden frames would readily burn, the glass would fall out, and the rush of flames from the windows might heat the area ways or courts so that escape would be impossible. A fire escape never ought to be put in an area way or alley way, or anywhere but on the street side of the building."

"In another house the fire escapes are at the innermost part of these courts about 15 feet in from the back of the building, and the courts themselves are only about 6 feet wide, lined with windows, so that they would, under right conditions, heat to a burning point in almost no time. Indeed there is a row of windows from top to bottom right back of the fire escape itself, and as these are large and not safeguarded with wire glass, a rush of flames from them could easily cut off all means of escape. Still another house has its fire escape in an alley way about 8 feet wide right next to a high wooden house. If the latter were to burn and the wind drive the fire into the apartment house, the fire escape would be useless."

"In one building the fire escapes are in the area ways, which are about 20 feet deep. At the bottom of each of these is a sort of a basement, which would impede hurried escape. One of the fire escapes would land a person in this sort of basement with a wall 4 or 5 feet high in front of him; and the other would land him on top of a roof about 8 feet above the ground. Even if the fire escape was not surrounded with flames from the windows of the court, one would have to either jump or climb after getting to the bottom of it."

"I am not criticising these particular buildings. They are as good as the others, and a good deal better than some others. It is a general danger, and many others might be mentioned. One court is a frame building with brick veneer, and even the elevators run in wooden casements. These, in case of fire, would convey the flames to every part of the building without delay. There are, however, five standpipes, and the fire escapes are properly located on the outside of the building."

"Indeed, it is quite common here for the elevators to run in wooden casements, which would render them entirely useless as a means of escape should a fire happen to occur anywhere near the elevator shaft. What is still worse, is that at the top of many of the elevator shafts are wooden courts, to which the elevators are attached. These might readily burn and render the elevators wholly useless. Moreover, many of the court walls are built of wood covered with tin, and while this would ward off sparks, it would be no protection against a real fire. Many big apartments are close to frame houses, and a fire in the latter would make heat enough to light the wooden court walls of the apartment houses in spite of this tin covering."

A representative of one of the biggest fire insurance concerns in western Canada, a man who for years has studied building construction as related to fires, says: "From our point of view a wooden apartment house is a crime. Even the brick ones are anything but fireproof. They are what is called semi-mill construction, or slow burning construction. We, however, call them fast burning construction because of the way they are made. The floors are made of wood, and usually green two-by-fours are used, and when these dry there are cracks between which render them kindling wood."

"The elevators and stairs are wide open, so that unless there are excellent fire escapes and plenty of them, these buildings are fire traps. Most of them have standpipes, for the simple reason that to install standpipes lowers the rate for fire insurance. They should also be equipped with chemical fire extinguishers, but few are. Moreover, they should have watchmen at all hours of the day who are capable of using the hose. What good are standpipes and hose so long as during half the night there is no one there to use them?

"In the effort to obtain a larger income from these houses, and to secure beauty of construction, safety has been neglected. Stairs and elevators should be enclosed in brick or concrete walls, and should be equipped with fire doors, so that they could remain in service in case of fire. As at present, they would be the first portions of the building to fill with flames.

"There are three things which every large apartment house should have: First, a day watchman and a night watchman, both of whom are thoroughly familiar with the use of the fire hose. Second, a fire alarm signal system connecting directly with headquarters. In some of the houses there are gongs which will ring on different floors; but while these would serve to awaken the inmates, they would also give the impression that an alarm had been turned in to the fire department, when it had not. Third, there should be fire escapes at the ends of all the main halls, especially on the street sides of the building, where they could not be rendered useless. Until we get these three things I am afraid the word 'fire traps' is the correct description of many of our big apartment houses."

GEO. W. ISAACS
President Vancouver Local No. 120, Journeymen International Barbers Union of America.

The Bank of Montreal is said to have made a general increase in the "salaries" of over 1000 men employed in 146 of its branches in Canada, averaging about $100 a year. God knows there was plenty of room for it.

Winnipeg Labor Temple.

The Labor Temple Co. at Winnipeg has declared a real dividend.

U.S. Socialist Vote Over a Million.

The socialists vote for 1912 in the United States now reaches 1,011,803. Eh, what?

A. F. of L., Seattle, 1913.

Western unionists will be "delighted" to learn that the 1913 convention of the American Federation of Labor is to meet at Seattle, Wash. It will be some convention.

Endorse Industrial Unionism.

New Westminster Trades and Labor Council last week endorsed Industrial Unionism—unionism by industries instead of by craft—by more than a two to one vote.

Labor Temple for Nelson.

Nelson unionists are considering the advisability of erecting a labor temple. The Brotherhood of Carpenters have taken the initiative, and the central labor body will be asked to name a committee to take up the preliminary work.

Street Railway Employees.

The Amalgamated Association of Street Railway Employees stands to the membership of the entire American Federation of Labor as 1 to 32. In other words, of every 33 members of the A. F. of L. one is a member of the Amalgamated Association.—Motorman and Conductor.

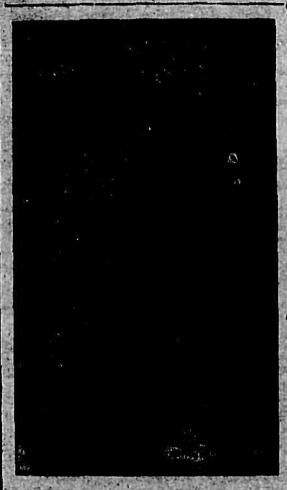
HERE'S A CHANCE FOR LOCAL CLOTHIER TO GET IN RIGHT

There is a real opening in Vancouver for some live clothing merchant to stock Union-made ready-made clothes; one of the most difficult things to find in the city. There are union manufacturers and there is no tenable excuse for the scarcity, except that there may be a little more profit in handling the non-union article.

To the first merchant that will put in a stock of Union-made ready-to-wear clothing The Federationist will contribute $50 worth of advertising space free, to be used the first month.

Here's a tip for a live one; and one that will get the money, as well as do unionists seeking the right brand of clothing (within reach of wageworkers) a favor that will be appreciated.

SPECIAL POLICE-RULED STRIKE ZONE FAILS TO BREAK SPIRIT OF MINERS



A. V. LOFTUS
Secretary Vancouver Street Railway Employees, Division No. 101.

Sheet Metal Workers, No. 280.

It is with regret that we record the resignation of our secretary, James Jamieson, who is leaving town to start up in business for himself in Kent, Washington. We are always pleased at seeing any one of our members being able to beat the wage system, to some extent, and every member of Local 280 wishes Bro. Jamieson success in his venture.

Royal City Municipal Activity.

New Westminster Trades and Labor Council called a mass meeting last week to select candidates to contest the forthcoming municipal election. Three aldermanic candidates, Messrs. Ald. Dodd, ex-Ald. Ralph Wilson and Archie Gogg, were chosen for nomination; three school trustee candidates, Messrs R. A. Stoney, president of the central labor body; F. H. P. McIntosh and Henry C. Chamberlin will be placed in the field. A campaign committee was named, and every effort will be made to elect the whole of the ticket.

"If the Canadian Collieries (Dunsmuir) Ltd. will furnish me employment in connection with the mines in Extension District, I hereby agree to work for it for two years from the 7th day of November, 1912; otherwise in all respects upon the same terms and conditions and according to the system and practice heretofore prevailing at such mines."

Not only must the strike-breakers replace the locked-out coal miners at Cumberland and Ladysmith, who are battling for the enforcement of the provisions of the Coal Mines Regulation Act, but the above terms of bondage must be agreed to. And what the signing of the above means does not appear on the face of it. It means a form of slavery that can only be appreciated by those who have been through the mill of experience in the coal mines of Vancouver Island or elsewhere where lack of organisation on the part of the miners obtains.

The locked-out miners are fighting against great odds; the powers of the provincial government are all at the disposal and beck of the coal company. The U. M. W. of A. is paying strike pay, but inasmuch as the coal company OWNS everything in sight in and around the mines, including the "public" roads, the locked-out miners and their wives and families are being subjected to every conceivable sort of infamy, in order to break the hearts and spirits of those who dare act like men and women.

Victoria Trades and Labor Council is holding a mass meeting on Sunday, Dec. 8, in aid of the lockedout miners.

LADYSMITH, V. I., Dec. 1.—At the regular meeting of Local Union No. 2383, U. M. W. of A., held in Union hall on Wednesday evening, Nov. 27th, the following members were expelled for violating their obligation:

Thos. Strang, Geo. Smith, David Gordon, Jas. Nelson, Hugh Taylor, Hugh Davidson, and Jas. Gleason.

We wish to deny the reports that appear in the press from time to time with regard to the coal production at Cumberland.

We have it on the authority of Mr. Parker Williams, M.P.P., who spent considerable time in Cumberland studying the situation, that there are only 130 certificated miners working in Cumberland, and these are nearly all Chinamen.

We wonder how 1000 tons per day has been produced when, according to the Minister of Mines' report for 1910 it would require four times that number of men to produce that amount of coal.

Are these men better producers, as strike-breakers, than under normal conditions?

To us the purpose of these reports is clear. The company is using every means, fair or foul, to have the men divided.

Above is the agreement which the company, and their tools, are asking men to sign. These tools are working from house to house, under cover of night, to do this dirty work.

The Ladysmith Chronicle refused to print this statement. It was a positive statement, yet they put in their paper every week a positive "official" statement to the effect that the output of the Cumberland mines is four and five times greater than it is.

The mines here are closed tight, with the exception of those mentioned and one miner, Jock Campbell.

We are holding a concert and dance every week. Our hall is not half large enough, and a masquerade ball on Thursday, Dec. 5; concert and dance on Saturday, Dec. 7th.

A. S. Wells writes The B.C. Federationist: "At last meeting of the Victoria Carpenters the coal miners' strike at Cumberland and Ladysmith was discussed, resulting in a vote of $25 being made to assist the miners against the heavy odds they are fighting. The Central Labor Body will also be asked to call a mass-meeting of workers in the Capital City, with a view to raising funds for the strikers and placing the true reasons of the strike as to the brutal methods now being employed by the coal barons, ably assisted by the McBride government, to defeat and degrade the workers of the coal fields. Every central labor body in British Columbia should follow the example of Victoria. What is needed is more action and less sympathy."

The risks of Capital, forsooth. What risks have the plutes and spongers, who drive for profit the slave-gangs of this country ever taken? How many of those avarcious human vultures have fallen, maimed and blood-splashed, from the hungry machines that run day and night to turn them out gold pieces? How many of the coal barons of British Columbia have suffocated in those hells of fire-damp wherein Labor toils and sweats—nay, even dies—in order to make golden profits for Capital? How many of the money-hungry magnates of the Canadian Collieries Co. smothered in that miserable death-trap their parsimony created to destroy valuable working-class lives? Where are the risks taken by those portly captains of finance? Do those gentlemen of substance gluttonise, eating rich meals and drinking rare wines, until their souls glow with the brute satisfaction of Colac bulls stuffed to the gorge with clover pasture? Can anyone point to a serious risk taken by one of those commercial whited sepulchres full of all uncleanness and dead men's bones?

The Federationist is in receipt of a letter from an old-time miner, now in Vancouver, who ridicules the idea of the Sun's lurid story of an alleged attempt to blow up Trent River bridge, within the strike zone of Vancouver island. "Who ever heard of a 'fifty yards of fuse'?" asks the miner, who declares that it is only sold in 100-foot coils. The 'plant' must have been counted before it was burned, else why 'twenty-five sticks'? Frozen dynamite will explode if the explosive cap is inserted. "The story," continues the correspondent, "is too raw for even a school boy to credit. It is as bad a break as was made in the Cripple Creek district in Colorado a few years ago, under Peabody's reign, when a detective agency blew up the railroad platform and killed a lot of non-unionists, when a similar story was related as to the number of sticks of dynamite. The story savors of Jonah and the whale. The Sun's anxiety to bring discredit upon the striking miners is too far-fetched to serve the purpose evidently intended.

LOCAL 1, S. P OF C. TURNS DOWN REQUEST OF MINE WORKERS ON STRIKE

Refused to Lend Empress Theatre Platform for Forty Minutes to Strikers' Representatives.

At a business meeting of Local No. 1, S.P. of C., last Tuesday evening, in their headquarters over the Union Bank on Hastings Street, Geo. Pettigrew, international board member of the United Mine Workers of America, acting on the authority of District 28, embracing the strike zone on Vancouver Island, and upon the advice of officers of Vancouver Trades and Labor Council, was present.

Org. Pettigrew asked the members of Local No. 1 to agree to run a joint meeting of the Mine Workers and Socialist Party in the Empress Theatre next Sunday evening, with a view to affording an opportunity for the workers of Vancouver to hear the cause of the lockout at Cumberland and Ladysmith and a true relation of the situation to date. Also that Local No. 1 agree to give the Mine Workers the theatre for one night, the Mine Workers to pay the rent.

A motion was submitted that Local No. 1 agree to a joint meeting, giving two speakers for the Mine Workers thirty minutes each, to be followed by a speaker from Local No. 1.

An amendment was immediately made by Mr. Bennett (one of the S.P. candidates at last election, a non-union barber) that Local No. 1 do not agree to such; a negative to be sure, but of little consequence among unitarian parliamentarians.

In speaking to his amendment Mr. Bennett sneeringly referred to the strike at Cumberland as no part of the class struggle, only a commodity struggle. Since they (the miners) had engaged in direct action, and since the provincial government had also engaged in direct action to the extent that they had sent a large number of police there, he only hoped that the striking miners would be clubbed over the head good and hard—and many of them—so that the bump on their heads might then hold sense. Mr. Bennett further stated that much had been said by the mover of the motion about the Local of the S P. of C. at Cumberland. He questioned very much if they were more than 18 or 20 in number, and he questioned if they were socialists at all. He further believed they had men in their own Local who could explain the mining situation better than any of the Mine Workers' representatives, as the latter had no one among them capable of doing so.

The amendment was carried by a vote of 16 to 12. As an evidence of sympathy and co-operation, coming from an alleged political party of the working class, this action should be recorded where it will serve the best purpose.

Painters, Local 138

The last meeting of the Painters, Decorators and Paperhangers' was fairly well attended. The situation with regard to the building trades in general was thoroughly discussed, and our delegates to the Federated Building Trades instructed to do all in their power to further the organization of that body. At our meeting of Nov. 23 we donated $10 to the strike fund of the Ladysmith and Cumberland miners, and are sorry that we are unable to donate a larger sum. Trade quiet, and a number of members idle.

Bakers, Local 46

The Bakery and Confectionery Workers of Vancouver District intend holding a series of social evenings during the winter, with the object of making people interested in the trade acquainted with the conditions under which the bakers and confectioners of this district work, in order that they may get enough to purchase food, clothing and shelter to go to work, and do the same thing all over again from day to day (when the opportunity to go to work offers itself). Our next social evening for women and children will be held in abor Temple on Saturday, December 28.

Carpenters' Mass Meeting.

On Thursday, 12th December, the carpenters of Vancouver and District will finally decide the rate at which they will sell their only commodity (their labor power) next spring. With the continuous upward tendency of the cost of living they have come to the conclusion that $4.25 per day is inadequate to clothe, feed and house themselves and families. So, have decided that they will make a demand for a little more of what they produce. At their mass meeting on the above date they will be asked to consider a recommendation from the Joint Committee, who have had the matter in hand for some time; and between now and next spring there will be something doing in organization work in the carpentry trade.—H. J. McE.

B. C. Royal Labor Commission Not Yet Named

Premier McBride stated over long distance phone to The Federationist on Monday last that the Labor Commission would be announced the following day. But up to this (Thursday) morning no such announcement had taken place.

Mr. McBride assured The Federationist that the B. C. Federation of Labor was to be represented on the proposed Board of Inquiry.

A. F. OF L. CONVENTION GIVES EVIDENCE OF GROWTH AND CHANGE

Reds Put Ginger Into Proceedings and Assist in Molding Future Policy and Personnel

The Rochester convention of the American Federation of Labor was one of the largest and most interesting gatherings ever held by that body.

While it is true that the proceedings from day to day did not differ greatly from those of previous conventions, says Max Hayes, there was nevertheless a stronger and more favorable undercurrent toward progressive industrial and political action noticeable this year than ever before.

The debates on the Federation's political policy, the hatters' case, industrial unionism, the initiative and referendum and other questions of general interest were undoubtedly the best and most instructive ever heard in any trade union assemblage in this country.

It is a pity that so much time is occupied in submitting reports and that an intermission of two full days was taken to permit committees to consider resolutions, all of which time should have been devoted to the consideration of propositions that during the latter part of the session were hastily disposed of.

The convention voted to continue to extend its sympathetic support to the Union Haters, who have been fined $242,000 and costs for boycotting, and secure the amending of the Sherman anti-trust law if possible.

The action of the Scranton convention regarding industrial unionism, was reaffirmed. It was held that the A. F. of L. could not and would not prevent international organizations from amalgamating and controlling industries if they desired to do so, nor, on the other hand, was it deemed advisable to attempt to influence or compel unions to combine if they were disinclined to take such action.

The present political policy of "rewarding friends and punishing enemies" was also reaffirmed over the vigorous protests of the Reds in the convention. An ineffective attempt was made to lay the ground work for the formation of a distinct labor party, but it met with little favor from either the dominant conservatives or the protesting radicals.

The discussion over the resolution to elect Federation officers by referendum vote was necessarily limited on account of time, and the proposition was defeated by an eye and nay vote. The opponents of the plan repeated almost verbatim the objections heard that the referendum vote was a very fine principle, but wholly impractical in A. F. of L. affairs, seemed to appeal to a majority of the delegates.

There were many other questions threshed over that were of importance to various international unions affected, such as the unseating of that branch of steamfitters who refuse to affiliate with the plumbers, the rejection of the demands made by Pacific coast central bodies for wider powers of home rule, the Chicago newspaper strike situation and similar matters, but there were fewer jurisdictional controversies between rival organizations aired on the floor than in any convention held in the last decade.

As a protest against the policies advocated by President Gompers, delegates representing numerous international nions nominated Max S. Hayes to oppose the former for reelection. Gompers was again chosen as president by a vote of 11,974 to 5,074. All the other officials were also re-elected. Seattle secured the 1913 convention.

MASS-MEETING SUNDAY IN DOMINION THEATRE TO HEAR SPEAKERS

Vancouver Wage-workers to Be Given First-hand Opportunity to Hear Truth of Lockout.

A mass meeting will be held next Sunday evening, 8 o'clock, in the Dominion theatre, Granville street, under the auspices of Vancouver Trades and Labor Council, in the interests of the locked-out coal miners at Ladysmith and Cumberland.

Int. Board Members Frank Ferrington and Geo. Pettigre, and J. W. Wilkinson, president of the B. C. Federation of Labor, will be the speakers.

Every wage-worker in Vancouver should be there.

Come and hear the story for yourself, first hand.

Bridge and Structural Ironworkers.

Local 97 has pleasure in reporting that trade is fair and the number of men here at present more than covers the number of jobs in sight. Despite the difficulties confronting iur organization we keep increasing our membership, locally, and if the carpenters paid stricter attention to legitimate carpenter work, our members would be more fully employed.

UNITED BROTHERHOOD OF CARPENTERS PUTS ANOTHER LOCAL ON MAP

Vancouver Carpenters Will Join in Social at New Westminster on Tuesday, Dec. 10.

The U.B. District Council of Carpenters of Vancouver, on Tuesday evening, Dec. 3rd, by authority of Gen. Pres. Huber, installed a new Local Union, numbering 33 charter members.

The new union will be known as Floor Layers' and Finishers' Local Union, No. 753.

L. H. Burnham, secretary-treasurer of the D.C., was appointed installing officer, and called the meeting to order. Read the letter authorizing him to instal (or appoint another to do so) the union. He then called Mr. A. McDonald, President of D.C., to the chair, and proceeded to collect the fees from applicants, when he reported all had paid. Mr. J. W. Wilkinson was asked to address the meeting. It is useless to say that his remarks were to the point, for they are always that, and the close attention given him was the best proof of the interest taken by those assembled. A generous applause was given, and the members are most gratified for the good advice proffered. The members were now assembled around the president's chair, and Mr. McDonald in impressive manner administered the obligation.

The election of officers resulted as follows: President, Geo. Wilkins; Vice-President, John Alexsan; Rec. Sec., B. I. Wilkins; Fin. Sec., Fred Johnson; Treas., A. J. Eggan; Conductor, James Norvold; Warden, Oscar Soderman.

Three delegates were elected to represent the union in D.C. Charter will be kept open until Jan. 1, 1913, during which time members will be accepted at the low fee of $2.50, and $1.25 for apprentices. After Jan. 1st fee will be $10.00 and $5.00. Monthly dues $1.00 and .75 for apprentices.

Cigars were plentiful. The D.C. attended in a body, and the general sentiment was that a good work had been accomplished. The new Local will meet in Labor Temple, Room 302, on the second and fourth Fridays of each month. Business Agent Simmons invited all to attend social in New Westminster, Dec. 18, and many signified their intention to do so. Meeting adjourned 11.30.

D.C. this week, on account of installation new Local Union, met only to pay bills.

Local Union 617 is sending out cards for special meeting Dec. 9, and election of officers. A large attendance is earnestly desired. Bring in your due books.

The Carpenters of Vancouver will proceed by special car or cars to New Westminster Tuesday, Dec. 10, in response to invitation from Local 1639 to attend a social given on that date by the carpenters of the Royal City. Let Sec. Burnham know how many seats you will want at your earliest convenience, so that proper arrangements may be made for the transportation of all.

HUDSON BAY CO. ADVT.

The Hudson Bay Co.'s Advt. will be found on page 3 of this and subsequent issues of The Federationist, instead of page 1 as heretofore.

UNION MEETINGS AT LABOR TEMPLE FOR COMING WEEK

Monday, Dec. 9—Glass Workers; Lathers; Waitresses; Electrical Workers, No. 213; Teamsters; Brotherhood of Carpenters; Amalgamated Engineers.

Tuesday, Dec. 10—Sign Painters; Shinglers; Pressmen; Amalgamated Carpenters; Stone Cutters; Bricklayers.

Wednesday, Dec. 11—Stereotypers; Cement Workers; Marble Cutters; Amalgamated Carpenters; Street Railwaymen, 2:30 p.m.; Plumbers; Steam Engineers.

Thursday, Dec. 12—Barbers; Horseshoers; Marble Cutters' Helpers; Painters; Sheet Metal Workers; Machinists; Mass Meeting of members of Brotherhood and Amalgamated Carpenters.

Friday, Dec. 13—Structural Iron Workers; Parliamentary Committee; Cooks; Floor Layers and Finishers.

Saturday, Dec. 14—Bakers.

There must be 10,000 or 12,000 wage-workers in Vancouver and vicinity who wear overalls and shirts. We feel confident that if they only knew the QUALITY and get-up of our OVERALLS and SHIRTS every one of them would buy the BUCK BRAND—made in Vancouver—Union made—well made—made to stand all kinds of wear and tear—made in a well ventilated factory, under union conditions, with all that that implies. The margin of profit on BUCK BRAND is not so large for retailers as on cheaper sweat-shop brands; hence buyers are sometimes urged to take something "just as good." But wage-workers who desire a DEPENDABLE OVERALL always insist upon having the BUCK BRAND. Ask your dealer for them.

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W. E. JARDINE, Assistant General Manager.

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Where Everybody Goes

THE B. C. FEDERATIONIST

Published weekly by The B. C. Federationist, Ltd., owned jointly by Vancouver Trades and Labor Council and the B. C. Federation of Labor, with which is affiliated 16,000 organized wage-workers.

Issued every Friday morning.

Managing Editor: B. Parmater Pettipiece

Office: Room 210, Labor Temple
Tel. Sey. 3890.

Subscription: $1.00 per year; in Vancouver City, $1.25; to unions subscribing in a body, 75 cents.

YEARLY ADVERTISING RATES:

1 inch, per issue	75c	$0.75
2 inches, per issue	70c	1.40
3 inches, per issue	60c	1.80
4 inches, per issue	55c	2.20
5 inches and upwards	50c	2.50

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

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

FRIDAY.....DECEMBER 6, 1912

TOO MUCH APATHY

One thing particularly noticeable in regard to the labor movement in Canada is the lack of activity at present displayed. There seems to be little if anything doing out of the ordinary, and especially is this true along political lines. From the beginning of this century down to about two years ago considerable working class activity along political lines was in evidence. An increasing interest was manifested in each succeeding election and the promise of a commanding position in parliamentary life by the hosts of labor seemed a matter of certain attainment in the not distant future. But for the past two or three years the workers, especially of this province, seem to have been stricken with an apathy, or political paralysis, that if continued promises to eliminate even the possibility of any efficient force invading either the Provincial or Dominion parliaments to push forward the demands of the working class.

Until the working class becomes the dominant factor in the life of the race the condition of the worker must remain an unsatisfactory one. He must continue to eke out an uncomfortable existence, continually pressed by poverty or threatened with it by virtue of uncertain employment and wages that always manifest a persistent tendency toward a lower level. And yet were the workers to act together as a mass, their power could sweep all obstacles from the pathway of labor and make of the working class master of the earth and of itself.

So long as the workers refrain from participation in the industrial and political life of nations, except as humble slaves in production and obedient followers and dupes of their masters in politics, their average condition must steadily become worse and their tenure of life more and more uncertain. To leave the control of industry and the domination of Labor in the hands of a ruling class, without protest, is to acknowledge that slavery is the normal and proper condition for those who toil and freedom and manhood but mythical nonsense.

A civic election is to occur in Vancouver a month hence. At least a very large portion of the eligible vote is in the hands of wage-workers. Up to the present moment there are no signs of any move toward participating in this election by the workers on behalf of their own class interests. Presumably they are still content to throw their political strength to the cause of their particular masters and continue to endure the insults and iniquities heaped upon them between elections and swear that they like it. This city, like every other, ought to be in control of its working people and would so be if we of the working class were not yet a class of dubs so far as our class interests are concerned.

While we are more or less interested in our immediate daily affairs of wages, jobs, etc., let us not forget that if we would free ourselves from the miseries entailed upon us by capitalism and its wage-slavery, we must shake off the apathy and indifference of abject slaves and take on the earnest and determined activity of men who would be free.

Let the men of labor forge to the front in every phase of social and industrial life. It is labor that produces all wealth and they who produce should also control. That control cannot be attained through apathy and indifference. Shake them off.

PEACE VS. WAR

At the present moment the prospects for a termination of the war between Turkey and the Balkan States appear favorable. It is to be hoped that a settlement is agreed upon and that this affair may prove to be the last reckless and brutal slaughter of human beings to satisfy the ambition of ruling class ruffians and the moral and ethical yearnings of their respective religions.

The empire of spiritual and temporal rulers all down through the ages has been upheld and made possible only by the exercise of military power and the countless millions of fools who have been killed in the sanguinary conflicts incident thereto have been merely a sacrificial offering upon the altar of ignorance and brutality.

Whenever a conflict of interests between rulers, or section of the ruling class, breaks out into open rupture, the common herd, the peasants and workmen, are called upon to do the fighting, and the pity of it is that these silly folk have no better sense than to respond to the call, though they have nothing to gain but everything to lose by so doing. It is their blood that must be shed and their lives that must pay the forfeit. Those who survive must perforce return to work, like galley slaves, in order to recoup their precious rulers for the money cost of the war and fill their treasury once more, in preparation for the next one. What they are unable to accomplish owing to the shortness of their span of life, will be passed on to their equally ignorant progeny to be settled in the future. The whole miserable business works as a sort of perpetual instalment plan, each succeeding generation making payment, to the extent of its ability, in sweat, blood and agony without in the least diminishing the principal.

Every influence in modern society that is in harmony with the rule of capital, either openly approves of war and all of its consequences, or at least does nothing towards preventing it. The priests of all religions, it is true, pray for peace, but only at the price of victory for their particular side of the controversy in question.

Happily, however, a force is rapidly developing in modern society that not only makes for peace, but promises in the near future to become so potent as to make war impossible. That force is what is commonly termed the Socialist movement. It has already called a halt upon the Balkan-Turkish atrocities and practically made it impossible for the war to spread beyond its present confines. Arrangements are already made to paralyze industry by mass strikes in the various European countries, if it becomes necessary, in order to prevent the spread of the war madness.

According to the spokesmen, apologists and defenders of the present order, Socialism is to destroy the home, family, religion, and the delightfully pure and lofty moral and ethical code of present-day civilization. If there is anything better calculated than war to lay waste the land, devastate the home, destroy the family, wreck all moral and ethical codes and reduce religion to the level of a disgusting blood lust under spiritual pretense, we confess we have never yet heard of it. That the Socialist movement alone raises its voice and uses its powers to abrogate war is quite sufficient answer to the accusation above referred to.

The growing repugnance among the workers for militarism and all that it implies is one of the most cheering signs of the times. Just now in France the powers that be are greatly wrought up over the disclosure that fully 80,000 young men liable for service under the conscription laws succeeded in avoiding such service or have deserted after enrollment. When workers become sufficiently enlightened as to the significance of capital and their position under its baneful sway, they will no longer sacrifice their lives upon either its industrial or military altar. They will forever put an end to war by removing the cause of war—the present class ownership of the means of production. They will rise as a class to mastery ver their means of living, and thence forward through the arts and instruments of peace lay firm the foundations of home, family, moral and ethical codes and religious concepts at least worthy of the name.

Speed the day when Labor shall become master of itself and peace be proclaimed throughout the earth.

QUITE SO.

"In trying to get an estimate of a labor convention, it would be much easier to do so several months after adjournment. Then one has a better perspective. No one, I believe, can successfully interpret the forces at work—he can't disassociate himself from his personal views in all things, no matter how hard he tries, and no matter how fair he attempts to be."—James P. Egan, in Toledo Union Leader.

Is this the same James P. Egan who deplores the "meekness of men" in convention who "talk loud when 'back home'"?

Surely, then, the Reds cannot be blamed for accepting the experience of Mr. Egan, by recognizing the forces they have to meet in convention, making the best of it, and then returning to their respective homes prepared to carry on educational work among the membership.

Sooner or later the membership of the A. F. of L. will awaken to the necessity of independent political action. Each succeeding convention proves that. The Reds can afford to wait. Meantime the old guard will ginger up a little. And that helps some.

"Be good—for something."

Sometimes a "progressive" movement is another name for slowgress.

Mayor Lunn of Schenectady, N.Y., says: I never try to show contempt for our courts—I try to conceal it.

Pres. Gompers of the A. F. of L. looks upon the Reds as "a great danger from within." Danger—to whom?

"The member who has failed to bring in an application to his union since he was initiated has mighty little license to boast of the work which he has done to keep his union on the map."

With the pronouncement of the International Socialist Congress as to what the workers of Europe were prepared to do in case the ruling class declared war there has been a noticeable lull in "war" news. The prospect of the capitalists having to do their own fighting is so different.

The demand for higher wages represents our conviction that a constantly greater share of increased social wealth should go to those who create it. The progress of humanity results from the elimination of poverty. Poverty means degrading environment and influence that result in intellectual and moral degeneration.—Samuel Gompers.

It only remains to be proven that the McNamara brothers were spys, and the whole series of dynamiting, now occupying so much attention of U.S. courts, can be charged to an organized band of Burns' Detective Agency scoundrels, who desired to make the employers potlash real money, and at the same time cast discredit upon and ruin organized labor. Let the probing go on. The plot thickens.

Whatever sympathy and eulogies may have been showered upon the heroic union musicians of the ilfated Titanic, the fact remains that the decision of the judge in the Liverpool county court rules that they were not on the ship's rating, and that therefore no compensation was payable in respect of them. Not unlike several other brands of sympathy of the employing class when it comes to atoning in financial terms.

CAPITALISM THE ENEMY

It is all very well to introduce specially severe and brutal forms of punishment for the creatures who decoy young women and girls into hells of vice and infamy. We have no word to say against that except that mere brutality of punishment has never yet proved efficacious as a deterrent. What we would urge, however, is that if flogging is deserved by procurers—and some of our legislators evidently are of opinion that boiling in oil or any other kind of torture would be too good for them—then surely at least as severe a punishment should be meted out to those who by maintaining a system of industrial slavery for women make the trade of the procurer possible. The basis of that vile trade is poverty; its victims are drawn from the women and girls of our class, to whom, by comparison with their own hard lot, the alluring pictures painted by their tempters offer irresistible attractions. Why have our labor men nothing to say about this, the economic side of the question? If flogging is to be the punishment of procurers, what punishment should be meted out to the smug pharisaical manufacturers whose profits are wrung out of the sordid slavery and degradation of our womenkind? A girl in a brothel, at any rate, gets a sufficient supply of food, and is able to be cleanly in her person, and well-dressed; but we know of factories owned by reputable Christian capitalists where personal cleanliness is unknown and impossible; where the clothing of the women and girl workers nothing but filthy rags, and where the wages paid are too low to pay for a sufficiency of even the poorest and coarsest food. Small wonder that in such cases it is very generally stated that these miserable wages are supplemented by prostitution, and that instances have been known where, among some hundreds of girls and young women employed all, on examination, have been found to be unchaste. However that may be, it is quite clear that these conditions offer a fruitful field for the procurer; that his patrons and those who manufacture his victims belong to the same class; and that while parliamentary fulminations are being hurled at the agent, and fresh means for punishing him are being devised, the principal himself ought not to be allowed to go scot free. Here, as in so many other cases, we find that capitalism is the enemy. Do all that is possible to mitigate its effects certainly, but realize at the same time that only with the abolition of capitalism will the white slave traffic disappear.—Justice.

Gompers and Labor.

President Gompers, of the American Federation of Labor, is vigorously fighting the adoption of a direct political policy at the convention now in session. For years this fight has been going on, each year the sentiment for such a policy being greatly increased. In speaking against its adoption, President Gompers said last week: "Only the recognition of the rights of the toilers to the best and all that is produced can end the struggle of the toilers of our time."

These words sum up all that can be desired by working people. As a matter of fiat interpretation, they claim the earth for labor. But one is left wondering how he purposes securing the recognition, and the reward to which he referred. It is an easy matter to desire the earth, but somewhat different to lay plans by which it may be possessed.

There are only four ways whereby labor can secure what it believes to be its rights—wishing for them, asking for them, striking for them, voting for them. The first is universal; the second has largely been proved futile; the third is being recognized as increasingly ineffective under new social conditions. The fourth has yet to be tried. And from press reports it is evident that a large number of the delegates to the convention desire to try it at the earliest moment.

It is surely true that the day of the trade union strike is disappearing. The method has served its purpose. For protection against a trust of capital it was doubtless necessary to form a trust of labor, as a trades union might well be termed. It was a defensive measure. But in the development of industry and society, it is found that trades cannot supply a broad enough basis for defensive or aggressive action. The interests of all laborers are one. The Industrial Workers of the World form an illustration—though a malodorous one—of the breaking down of trades units and divisions.

Sane and safe reform lies along the line of the ballot. The vote is the "Open Sesame" of the door of industrial fortune. A strike is a relic of barbaric compulsion. Political action is the modern method of solution. Let men vote for their rights, and there will be no need to strike for them. Labor can never secure its rights until it uses the ballot in collective action against the wrong. The recognition of that fact by the Federation of Labor means the ultimate success of its efforts.—Ottawa Citizen.

How "Patriots" Are Made.

You know how a patriot is made.

The process is begun when the critical faculties of the young lie dormant. Children's toys are usually in the form of guns, drums and tin soldiers, guns with bayonets and miniature cannon and forts. Juvenile stories are crammed with narratives of war slaughter and bloodshed, and teach reverence and admiration for aristocracy and nobility in ease and luxury.

The histories of the schools abound with deeds of valor on the battle fields in the conquest for commercial privileges. Pages are devoted to pictures of bloody battles and likenesses of military heroes who are extolled for their peculiar abilities to lead armies of men to slaughter other armies of men. Hatred for foreigners is taught and foreign achievements are belittled and every line of the history reeks with national conceit. Young men are reared to crave distinction on the battle field and young women to worship heroes of international slaughter bedecked in gold braid and brass buttons. Girls are applauded when they shower their admiration and their kisses on some returning bloodstained butcher from the seat of war, the result of the poppycock instilled in their juvenile minds while at school. The school children are taught to worship wealth and, are educated along business lines. The "almighty dollar" is the god before which they are taught to kneel. People who have accumulated immense wealth and who have been able to keep out of the penitentiaries through the cunning practices of hired legal talent are pointed out to them models of success.—The New Era.

A Pretentious Humbug.

The dividend shark is a pretentious humbug. He is a parasitic excrescence that society at the present stage could get rid of with advantage. He makes investment an effective instrument of robbery and exploitation He is driven by an insatiable hunger for gold, and, to feed that gold hunger and increase his gains created by the labor of others, he is eternally scheming. He is a boss of parliaments, courts, departments and markets. The whole world of servile officialdom bows and scrapes to him and does his behests as submissively as a lag gang under the rifle. He is an employer because he is too lazy and too cunning to work himself. He has modernized and made respectable the business of Dick Turpin. He and pirates like him have got control of most industries, and, in these, in order to carry on production for profit, he employs men, women and children giving them a living wage, or as much less than a living wage as the law allows him to give, and, of all the things made and produced by individual or corporate labor, he shears away the surplus value, and calls it his wages of ability. He is a solemn fraud, economically, but unfortunately the world yet takes him at his own value. Strictly his alleged wages of ability is on a par with alms cadged by a roving mendicant from a circle of benevolent fools. Capitalism is mendicancy exalted and systematised and given a power of legalized extortion.—Labor Call.

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ALBERTA PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE Socialist Party of Canada, meets every alternate Tuesday, at 429 Eighth Ave. East. Burt E. Anderson, Secretary, Box 647, Calgary.

SASKATCHEWAN PROVINCIAL EXecutive, S. P. of C., invites all comrades residing in Saskatchewan to communicate with them on organization matters Address D. McMillan, 222 Stadacona Street West, Moose Jaw, Sask.

MARITIME PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE Committee, Socialist Party of Canada, meets every second and fourth Sundays in the Cape Breton office of the Party, Commercial Street, Glace Bay, N. S. Dan Cochrane, secretary, Box 491, Glace Bay, N.S

LOCAL VANCOUVER, NO. 69, S. P. of C. Headquarters, Labor Temple, Dunsmuir street. Business meeting on first of every month at 8 p.m. Secretary, F. Lefeaux, Labor Temple, Vancouver, B C.

LOCAL FERNIE, S. P. of C., HOLDS educational meetings in the Miners' Union Hall every Sunday at 7:30. Business meeting first Monday in each month at 7:30 p.m. Economic class every Sunday afternoon at 2:30. H. Wilmer, secretary, Box 380.

LOCAL ROSSLAND, NO 25, S. P. of C., meets in Miners' Hall every Sunday at 7:30 p.m. E. Campbell, organizer; Will Jones, secretary, Box 125. Finnish branch meets in Finlanders' Hall Sundays at 7:30 p.m. A. Sebble, secretary, Box 54, Rossland, B.C.

LOCAL MICHEL, B C., NO. 16, S. P. of C., holds propaganda meetings every Sunday afternoon at 2:30 in Crahan's Hall. A hearty invitation is extended to all wage slaves within reach of us to attend our meetings. Business meetings are held the first and third Sundays of each month at 10:30 a.m. in the same hall. Party organizers take notice. T. W. Brown, secretary

LOCAL NELSON, S. P. of C., MEETS every Friday at 8 p.m., in Miners' Hall, Nelson, B.C. I A. Austin, secretary.

LOCAL REVELSTOKE, B.C., NO. 7 S. P. of C Business meetings at Socialist headquarters fourth Thursdays of each month. B. F. Gayman, secretary.

LOCAL SANDON, B.C., NO. 36, S P. OF C. Meets every Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. in the Sandon Minres' Union Hall. Communications to be addressed Drawer K, Sandon, B.C

LOCAL SOUTH FORT GEORGE, B. C., No. 61, meets every Friday night at 8 o'clock in Public Library Room. John McInnis, secretary; Andrew Allen, organizer.

LOCAL CUMBERLAND No. 70, S.P. of C. Business meeting every Sunday, 10:30 a.m. Economic class held twice each Thursday, 10:30 a.m. (for afternoon shift), 8 p.m. (for morning shift). Propaganda meeting every Sunday 3 p.m. Headquarters: Socialist Hall, opposite post office. Financial Secretary Thomas Carney. Corresponding Secretary, Joseph Naylor.

VANCOUVER-LETTISH LOCAL, No. 58, S. P. of C.—Business meeting every first Sunday of the month and propaganda meeting every third Sunday. Rom open to everybody at 512 Cordova Street East, 2 p.m. Secretary P. Anderson, Barnet B. C.

LOCAL VANCOUVER, B. C., NO 45, Finnish. Meets every second and Fourth Thursdays in the month at 213 Hastings Street East. Ovia Lind, Secretary.

LOCAL GIBSON'S LANDING, NO. 49. S. P. of C.—Meet first and third Sunday of the month in Socialist Hall. Secretary. J. N. Hintsa, Gibson's Heights, B. C.

LOCAL COLEMAN, ALTA., NO. 9, Miners' Hall and Opera Houe. Propaganda meetings at 8 p.m., on the first and third Sundays of the month. Business meetings on Thursday evening following propaganda meetings at 8. Organizer, T. Steele, Coleman, Alta. Secretary, Jas. Glendenning Box 63 Coleman Alta. Visitors may receive information any day at Miners' Hall Secretary, Wm. Graham, Box 63, Coleman.

LOCAL EDMONTON ALTA. NO. 1. S. P. of C. Headquarters 622 First St. Business and propaganda meeting every Wednesday at 7:30 p. m. sharp. Our reading room is open to the public free, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. daily. Secretary J. A. S. Smith, 622 First Street. Organizer, W. Stephenson.

LOCAL CALGARY, ALTA., NO. 4, S. P. of C.—Business meeting every Saturday evening at 8 o'clock at the headquarters 134 Ninth Ave., West. S. K. Read, Secretary.

LOCAL REGINA, NO. 6, SASK., MEETS every Sunday Trades Hall, 8 p.m. Business meeting, second Friday 8 p.m. Trades Hall. W. B. Bird, General Delivery, Secretary.

LOCAL LETHBRIDGE, ALTA., NO. 18, S. P. of C. Meets first and third Sundays in the month at 4 p. m., in Miners' Hall, Secretary, Chas. Peacock, Box 1983.

LOCAL MOOSEJAW SASK., No. 1, S. P. of C.—Propaganda meetings every Sunday, 7:30 p.m. in the Trades Hall. Economic Class every Sunday, 3 p.m. Secretary, J. Harrison, 102 Hochelaga St. A. Stewart Organizer.

LOCAL OTTAWA, NO. 8, S. P. of C.—Business meetings first Sunday in month in the Labor Hall, 219 Bank Street, at 8 pm. Secretary, Sam Horwith "The White Book Store," 144 Rideau Street, Ottawa.

LOCAL GLACE BAY, NO. 1, of MARITIME—Headquarters in Rukasin Block, Commercial St. Open every evening. Business and propaganda meeting at headquarters every Thursday at 8, p.m. Alfred Nash, Secretary, Box 158. Harold G. Ross, organizer Box 505.

LOCAL SIDNEY MINES NO. 7, OF NOVA SCOTIA—Business and propaganda meetings every second Monday at 7:30 in the S. O. B. T. Hall back of Town Hall. William Allen, Secretary, Box 344.

UKRAINIAN SOCIALIST FEDERATION of the S.P. of C., ir organized for the purpose of educating the Ukrainian workers to the revolutionary principles of this party. The Ukrainian Federation publish their own weekly organ, "Nova Hromada" (New Society), at 448 Kinistino Ave., Edmonton, Alta. English comrades desiring information re the Federation write to J. Senuk

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A PAGE FOR SOCIALISTS

The matter for this page is furnished by Secretary of the Dominion Executive of the Socialist Party of Canada

Dominion Executive.

Tuesday, Nov. 26. Present: Comrades Kingsley, S. Lefeaux, Burrough, Mengel, Anderson and Secretary Com. Lefeaux in the chair.

Minutes of previous meeting adopted as read.

Correspondence—A charter application filled out by nine farmers in the neighborhood of Collins, Sask., accompanied by a letter explaining that the writer was unable to get in touch with the Provincial Executive committee.

Application granted as to Local Roseland, and the comrades notified to communicate with the Dominion Executive Committee until such time as the Provincial Executive Committee of Saskatchewan reveals the whereabouts of its existence.

A communication from the Lettish comrades of Vancouver was laid over for the next meeting.

A communication from W. Harrison, secretary of Moose Jaw, Alta., Local, enclosing $13 for Western Clarion account and Dominion Organizing Fund, and notifying the committee that the previous secretary of the Local had been expelled for standing for election on the ticket of a capitalist party.

Secretary instructed to acknowledge receipt of communication, expulsion of Wm. McAlister confirmed and ordered published in the minutes.

A communication from Calgary Local, enclosing copy of circular letter sent by them to all Alberta Locals in connection with the suspension of the Western Clarion, and stating that they had commenced raising funds to pay off the Clarion indebtedness.

The Secretary was instructed to reply, and it was further decided that the whole question of the party press and organization be given full space in the next Bulletin.

Good of the Movement—The advisability of calling a Dominion convention in the spring of 1913 was fully discussed. The Executive were unanimously of the opinion that the time was ripe and necessity pressing for such a step. Adjournment.

WM. WATTS, Secretary.

B. C. Provincial Executive

Tuesday, Nov. 26.—Meeting convened at 8:30 p. m. in Labor Temple basement. Present, Comrades Kingsley, S. Lefaux, Burrough, Mengel, Anderson, and Secretary.

Comrade S. Lefeaux voted to the c..air.

Minutes of previous meeting adopted as read.

Correspondence.—A letter from Com. C. M. O'Brien (being a copy of the original sent to Jas. Cartwright of East Wellington) in reply to one from the latter (enclosed) admitting and giving reasons for having joined the S. D. P. in Nanaimo, B. C., at the same time seeking to retain his membership in the S. P. of C., were read.

Burrough-Mengel:—Motion: "That Jas. Cartwright is no longer a member of the S. P. of C., and that the letter read be published in the next Bulletin."

Anderson-Kingsley — Amendment: "That the letters be filed," instead of "published in the next Bulletin."

After discussion, the motion was withdrawn, and another motion embodying the amendment put, and carried unanimously.

A letter from the secretary of Fernie Local, asking for information as to the probable cost of procuring speakers from Vancouver if any available, and offering to assume responsibility of routing such in their district.

Secretary Watts instructed to reply that Fernie Local will be advised when speakers are secured.

In answer to Com. Kingsley, Sec. Watts stated that the receipts from the cards sent out for securing contributions to the Organizing Fund had been over $200 for the first month and about $20 for the second. Many cards had not been returned.

Bills—None. Adjournment.

WM. WATTS, Secretary.

To B. C. Comrades

Comrade J. R. Knight of Edmonton, Alta., our candidate last spring against the Hon. Chas. Cross, attorney-general, now organizing for the Alberta Executive of the S. P. of C., has agreed to make an organizing and lecturing trip through the Kootenays, Boundary and Okanagan to the Pacific, thence along the Coast wherever needed. Those east of Vancouver who want to use Comrade Knight, write to C. M. O'Brien, Box 58, Coleman, Alta. Those along the Coast can get dates from Wm. Watts, secretary S. P. of C., New Labor Temple, Vancouver, B. C. Don't be discouraged because you wrote for O'Brien and did not get him. It was a rush trip he made. Comrade Knight is a good speaker and active worker and will fill all the dates he can get.

One thousand carloads of potatoes have been dumped into a gravel pit at Elgin, Illinois, so as to keep up the prices of the commodity and at the same time thousands of people within a few miles of the place are almost starving. Since this discovery charity workers have found out that 18,000 families are sorely in need of food in Chicago, and a great stir has been made about the destruction of the spuds. Charity workers would have the spuds distributed amongst the poor, but the men interested in the selling of potatoes say no, the potatoes are ours, and we have a perfect right to do as we like with our own goods. When the products of labor belong to labor, commodities will not be destroyed as long as people are in need of them. There is only one remedy and that is the collective ownership of the means of wealth production.

Have you ever read the Manifesto of the Socialist Party of Canada? Interesting and instructive, it is well worth ten cents of your money. Send to the Dominion Secretary for a copy or get one from the Local in your town.

When the workers grow old, the capitalist class do not want them in their factories and the landlords do not want them in their shacks. They are of no further use to them as profit makers and rent payers; hence we find families turned out of their miserable shacks in almost every city.

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BOND GUARANTEES.

By T. EDWIN SMITH.

Premier Sifton is making his greatest plea for support on his railway policy, and we should vote for him or not according as this railway policy affects us. Let us examine it, and see how we stand in relation to it.

His policy consists in having guaranteed the bonds of the C.N.R. and a few subsidiary companies for various branch lines and for various amounts.

Suppose one of these lines, for example the C.N.R. from MacLead to Calgary, a distance of 100 miles. The Province of Alberta guarantees the bonds of this line to extent of $25,000 per mile at 4 per cent. The C.N.R. can now issue bonds for, say, $2,500,000 bearing 4 per cent. interest, and the Province of Alberta undertakes to pay the interest in case the railway company is not able to do so. This would amount to $100,000 per year. The Province of Alberta simply backs the note for the C.N.R.

The whole thing hinges on whether the C.N.R. can operate this branch of line and earn this $100,000 over and above all the operating expenses. In considering this particular case, we must assume that this branch is operated as a separate road, and the earnings of this branch considered separately instead of as merely as a part of the whole system.

In actual practice this is not done, but we can do it for purposes of illustration.

This road is to be used to transport various commodities used by man from the points of manufacture to the consumer, and in the process value is given to the commodities transported. But this road cannot move the commodities alone. The engines cannot move unaided, nor will the cars roll along. Human labor power is needed. This human labor power is applied in many ways. As wipers, switchmen, mechanics, clerks, telegraphers, superintendents and others. There are two factors in the transportation. The depreciation of the plant and the necessary repairs and human labor power. Both are necessary and both give value to the commodities.

The $10,000 we spoke of before must be part of the value given to the commodities moved. It is what is left over after all expenses incident to transportation are paid. It represents no value given, so it must be value taken with no equivalent rendered. It must be part of the value added by one of the factors in transportation mentioned above; either the passive factor represented by the original cost and necessary repairs and improvements or the active factor, the human labor power. One of these factors has given value to the commodities greater than it has taken out. Either the equipment has given values to the goods greater than its own cost, or the human labor power has given values to the goods greater than it **has taken** out in wages. Which has it been?

The equipment and the supplies necessary to repair on the average have been bought at their true value. How can they give values greater than themselves? Most emphatically no! The steel rails spiked in position never increase in form, magnitude or usefulness to humanity, though left for a million years. In fact they decrease, for rust attacks them, and in a period of time, varying according to local conditions, wear out completely. A steam engine can never increase in usefulness, but constantly decreases.

The reason for which we buy an article and its value to us as purchasers consists in its usefulness. All increases in value are due to increases in usefulness to humanity, although they are not necessarily in the same ratio. All changes and efforts that do not increase the usefulness of some parcel of existing matter are waste efforts, and therefore without value.

All the equipment and supplies if left alone can never increase in value, but on the contrary decrease. If they are kept in action during the decrease, then the value lost by the one goes to the other commodity. If they are kept in idleness the value has not been transferred, but simply wasted.

The best we can do is to transfer the value of the equipment direct to something else, but we can never make it increase. This being the case, the equipment, roadbed and supplies of that railway can never give to the commodities moved values greater than themselves.

There is the other factor, human labor power. The willingness and the ability of the men to work. Can this factor create values greater than it takes back in wages? Most emphatically yes. The wages men receive for work on the average is determined by the cost of living. The cost of living is the amount of food, clothing, shelter and a certain amount of enjoyment necessary to enable the man to do as good work the next day. The average workingman, by the use of the improved tools handed down by society, is enabled to produce far more than he needs to keep him in decent condition. Though he can do this he must still be content with barely enough to keep body and soul together, while the owner of the machine where he applies his labor takes the rest. The difference between the wages (or cost of living) and the value of the increase to the object of his labor is called surplus values and goes to others in the form of rent, interest and dividends.

We see, therefore that the active factor in production (and transportation is simply one step in production) can produce values greater than it takes out in wages. This being the case, that $100,000 that must be paid out of the proceeds of transportation on that line must be values created by the men and withheld from them. These men must give up part of the products of their labor to men who have produced nothing.

In the case of this line, MacKenzie & Mann are the men who make the workers give up this value. They are supposed to have a right to control these men by virtue of their superior smartness, cleverness, shrewdness, or whatever you have a mind to call it.

Let us assume, for example, that for a certain year the railway has not earned a profit of $100,000, or any profit at all. In plain English, for one year McKenzie & Mann were not smart enough to take from these men any part of their product without giving them some equivalent. In this case the province of Alberta must pay the money to the bondholders. But the province of Alberta is not merely an inanimate thing, it is the people in that particular stretch of territory. This money represents something produced by those people. The productive industries of those people are farming, mining, transportation with small groups of retail and manufacturing people. We will consider them as all being in the first three.

Now, when the province of Alberta pays over to the bondholders in London $100,000, it delivers to them products of these people to that value. It takes from the farmers and miners $100,000 and hands it over to a group of parasites.

McKenzie & Mann start out to extract from the men engaged in transportation $100,000, representing food, clothing and shelter. If they are not successful, A. J. Sifton, Cross & Co. take the amount out of the farmers and miners. McKenzie & Mann do not need to be clever any more. They get the conventional reward for shrewdness without needing to possess it. By his very act Sifton destroys the only excuse McKenzie & Mann ever had for their existence.

This bond guarantee is a fine thing. It sets the miners and farmers against the railroad men in spite of themselves. If the railroaders kick on dividing up, so greatly we miners and farmers will array ourselves against them and to protect ourselves we will compel them to be submissive. The railroad magnates set us to fighting each other and no matter which way the victory goes they get the plum.

It is a grand thing for another reason. Now all the powers of the courts, police and militia can be put in action against every worker in the province to see that they come through, whether the recipients are able to do anything in return for it or not.

Farmers and miners of Alberta, remember this: "Sifton's policy of bond guarantees is simply a trick to make us pay up if McKenzie & Mann aren't slick enough to rob the railroad men."

Lettish Comrades, Attention!

Comrades: A Lettish organizer, Miss Milda Klawin, elected by a general vote of the U. S. and Canadian Lettish members of the S. P., will take a lecturing trip through Canada this winter, beginning in January from the eastern locals westward to Vancouver.

The foreign slaves in this country are far more in need of an organizer than English, because of their lack of language; they have to meet here unfamiliar ways and strange traditions in the fight between capital and labor, and an organizer is the only one who can put them on solid ground in the revolutionary political force, and also tie them up with all nationalities in a union on the industrial field.

A labor union is just as necessary under the present system as our political S. P. Our victory is their victory, and their victory ours.

Organized labor begins to draw nearer socialism every day, and in many cases greatly supports it; just like the B. C. Federationist, a fighting weekly, who takes action politically as well as industrially, like a double-bitted sword.

Every member of the S. P. should get on the firing line for this paper. Subscribe for it, hustle for it, and at the same time support us with our organizer financially, especially Lettish comrades who are scattered all over the Dominion. Take notice, Funds could be sent directly to me or Comrade Wm. Watts, Secretary, Labor Temple, Vancouver, B.C.

Further particulars about the organizer's trip, see the B. C. Federationist.

Fraternally yours,
P. ANDERSON,
Barnet, B.C.

SASKATCHEWAN DRY FARMING CONGRESS

John B. Worst, President of the North Dakota Agricultural college, says that scientific dry farming will reduce the high cost of living. J. S. Dennis, assistant president of the C. P. R., says: "Dry farming must be adopted by the farmers where irrigation is impossible, as a railway company was mainly interested in anything that had for its object the improvement of agricultural conditions." He also states that "the man behind the plough is the man that has made the country." Dr. Bailey, official representative of President Taft to the dry farming congress, also stated that "the duty of every man on the land was to do his best, for the surface of the land belongs to society (?), and in the future those who do not realize their responsibility will not be tolerated. With this a new religion will come out of the earth, a religion that means to love, to work and to pray." Several other speeches were made, but the trend of the whole thing was, "Work, you sons of guns, work—for the moment you quit working, our or our masters' profits cease; adopt every scientific method you can because it means more in our pockets," and the slave of the farm makes up his mind to work ten times harder and buy more machinery, adopt new methods and thereby increase the income of his (master's) family.

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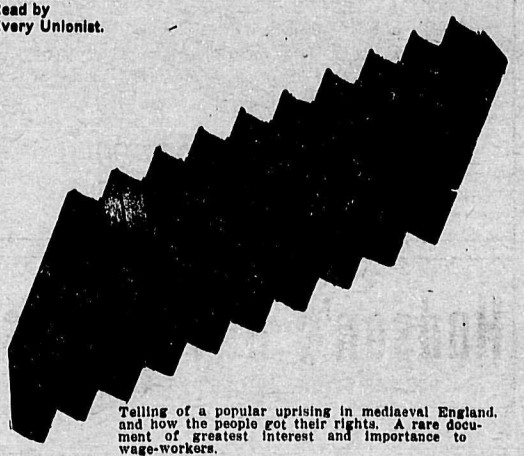

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Limiting Output and Baiting Suckers

I have just returned from Vancouver Island, where a number of mine workers are on strike. So it is expressed. Marx has taught us that just as we do not judge a man by what he says himself, neither should we judge social conditions by their expression.

There is already considerable evidence that the trouble on Vancouver Island is a lock-out. Under the rule of capital wage slaves do not produce wealth for their own use and enjoyment, but for the profit and glory of the capitalist class. There are times when it pays to limit the output of an industry, and to put the blame on others than those who are guilty. The representatives of capital quietly encroach upon the so-called dignity of the slaves. That is, they reduce the slave's portion (wages), then the slaves come out on strike. So they are blamed for industrial stagnation.

With this, as with most strikes of late, the slaves have done everything in their power (even to sacrificing some of the privileges that they formerly had) to avoid a strike. But the representatives of the mine owners refused, and the Conservative government, whose first minister is also minister of mines, also refused to try to get a settlement.

According to the law, if a slave finds gas and does not report it he is committing a criminal offence, as well as a moral offence against himself and his fellow slaves. Some time before this strike a committee of slaves reported gas at or near where a number of slaves had been killed in a gas explosion. One of the committee notified the department of mines. The following quotation is a part of the reply as well as an acknowledgment of the correctness of the committee's report:

"I beg to say that those places will be attended to at once, as I have been out to see the places you refer to myself.—(Signed" Acting Chief Inspector of Mines."

For daring to take such interest in the enforcement of the law regarding the safety of his own life and that of his fellow slaves, one of the committee was discharged. Rather than cause his Local Union any trouble trying to get him reinstated, he went away about one hundred miles to another mine. When they learned his name they refused to employ him. Then the Union took up his case.

After every effort to do business with the representatives of the mine owners failed, they wrote to the Hon. Richard McBride, and asked the following question:

"Sir, the information that we desire from you is this—when men are appointed or elected as a gas committee at any mines in the Province, and do their duty under the law, what protection does the law offer them? Does it prevent the employer or his agents *from discriminating against* them or discharging them in case they make a report not satisfactory to the management?" Signed by the Union officials.

Note in the reply how the Hon. Sir Richard evades the question: "Have carefully perused your letter of the 21st instant, and fail to find grounds warranting an inquiry under the coal mines regulation act." Signed, Minister of Mines.

He also refers them to certain sections in said act which have about as much bearing on the question as have the Books of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.

The government was building a wagon road surveyed through the new towns populated by the slaves at No. 7 and 8 mines, near Cumberland. Now that these slaves are on strike the government has changed the survey; so these will be closed towns, with private roads to the King's highway.

Since I have been a member of the Alberta Legislative Assembly I have tried to get several important amendments to the Coal Mines Act, but each time they were voted down by Liberals, Conservatives, and Independents. However, I was successful in getting the government to appoint a commission to prepare a new Coal Mines Act. I expect it will be submitted at the next session.

At the last session I introduced a resolution censuring the government for the horrible conditions of the Alta mines, particularly censuring the government for not prosecuting those responsible for 31 deaths in the Bellevue disaster. I quoted statistics from the 1910 Blue Book compiled by the Department of Mines at Ottowa to show that from 1905 to 1910 inclusive, Alberta had killed and injured seriously and slightly more men and boys per thousand employed in the mines than in any other *part of the English speaking* world during this long period of time. I also proved that the government, and particularly the mines department, was familiar with these facts. I read from their files letters and telegrams sent by Miners Unions telling of open violation of the Coal Mines Act, and pleading with the government to take some steps to protect the lives of the men and boys. About the only record to show any effort on the part of the government to remedy these conditions was when urged by the Union they prosecuted a mining company for killing a boy under age in the mine, for which the company was fined twenty dollars.

In the face of these facts and many more that I produced, that space will not permit here, Liberals, Conservatives and Independents stood as one man against the resolution. I stood alone on the floor of that assembly in support of my resolution to censure the government for allowing such wholesale slaughter of mine slaves.

His Majesty's loyal Opposition (most Loyal) the Conservatives, did not dare support such a resolution, for they are the political expression of the C.P.R., and are heavily interested in coal mines. A few weeks later the Conservatives met in convention at Calgary. They did not take their representatives to task for supporting the government by voting against my resolution of censure; but, true to the vulgar character of those who profess one thing while acting another, they incorporated in their platform something to the effect that they believed in more safety appliances for the mines. No doubt such bait, coarse as it is, will catch some suckers. Ill informed slaves are usually very sceptical regarding every statement coming from the political party of their own class. But long experience at swallowing coarse, vulgar bait from capitalist *politicians* has developed a wonderful gullibility.

For about ten years the Socialists in the B.C. Legislature have been constantly agitating the government for better conditions and more protection for the slaves. They introduced many important amendments, and were successful in having some of them incorporated in the Mines Act. The Socialists said the Act was far from being what they desired, yet it was one of the best Acts they knew of. When the Chief Inspector of Mines cancelled the certificate of a mine manager who discharged a slave because he reported gas, the slaves did not suspect that this, with other such acts, was so much bait to catch suckers; but when the election took place the Chief Inspector of Mines was a candidate, and elected on a master class ticket. His successor, the new Chief Inspector of Mines returned the certificate, and that mine manager is now taking the place of one of the striking slaves.

It would take volumes to tell of all the coarse bait that slaves have swallowed at election times, and there are *still as easy suckers as ever were* caught; but they are not so numerous, thanks to the Socialist propaganda. The slaves are learning to view things as they are, not as they appear.

C. M. O'BRIEN.

CHAIRMAN IN MATTER OF YARDAGE REFERRED TO MINISTER OF LABOR

After making application to the Minister of Labor for the appointment of a board to deal with the matter of yardage at Fernie and Michel, the C. N. P. Coal Company saw that the union is in earnest and asked that the minister not to appoint a board under the Lemieux Act until they had an opportunity of taking the grievance up directly with the union. So now, *President Stubbs for the mine workers*, and Commissioner McNeil for the operators, have the whole dispute under consideration.

A chairman could not be agreed upon by these parties and Mr. Crothers has been asked to appoint one.

With regard to the dispute at Frank and Hosmer, Mr. J. O. Hannah, of Calgary, has been agreed upon by Commissioner McNeil and President Stubbs.—District Ledger.

Says the Nelson News.

The long trial of the leaders of the Lawrence, Mass., strikers has ended in acquittal. The verdict will bring pleasure to the labor unionists of the continent, and will be commended by others who know the circumstances of the struggle in which these men were engaged.—Nelson News.

Fort William Wage Earner.

The Wage Earner, published at Fort William and Port Arthur, Ont., has entered upon the second year of its career by enlarging to six pages. Editor Fred Urry says the Wage Earner has broken even the first year and the prospects for the coming year are encouraging. As elsewhere, in the transitionary stage of the labor movement, the difficulty of getting the workers to act in unison politically is one of the problems which the Wage Earner is endeavoring to solve in the Twin Cities.

Metal Trades.

At the recent convention of the Metal Trades in Rochester, N.Y., it was agreed by the delegates to recommend to the organizations affiliated the appointment of an organizer from each international organization for the purpose of conducting an organizing campaign among the metal trades during the coming year. It is expected that all of the metal trades organizations will respond to this plan, the effect of which will be to inaugurate a revival in the metal trades and secure a large number of local councils, as well as an increased membership.

Winnipeg Municipal Politics.

The labor men of Winnipeg have decided that henceforth elections for civic or other honors will not be conducted in the haphazard manner characteristic of the past, but that it will be systematized as far as possible. To this end the different unions are appointing delegates to a conference to take place shortly, at which some sort *of an organization* or party may be formed, through the medium of which labor men hope to elect their representatives to places where labor men are absolutely needed to represent the workers, and secure legislation which cannot be secured by any other means. Much good is expected from this movement, and it is the hope of all trade unionists that through it they will be given the opportunity to "vote as they walk."—C. A. H.

To the Jokers.

Say, brother, 'fess up now, honest Injun like, and tell us you joke when you talk about YOUR unionism.

You—who haven't reached that point where you will cease handing union made dollars to your "open shop" enemy.

You—who haven't enough ability to even organize your purchasing power.

You—who work beside a non-unionist, day in and day out, and never tell him what organized labor means.

You—who haven't ability enough to demand an eight-hour day, which will give you time for leisure and time to think.

You—who won't even spend five cents a month to support your labor press.

You—who imagine you are working wonders when you attend one meeting a month.

You—who think you have "done your part" because you probably served one term as sergeant-at-arms, or in some other office of your local union, several years ago.

You—who look on your union as a THING that will automatically improve conditions, instead of realizing that YOU and men like you ARE the union.

You—who sulk, and growl, and fume, and worry, and fret, instead of jumping into the fight—AND STAYING THERE—instead of putting your shoulder to the wheel and saying a good word for the fellow beside you, who is also lending a helping hand.

Don't fool yourself, brother. Begin now to LIVE the life of a UNION man. Of course, it's tough sledding—the knocks are hard and many. But God Almighty has no use for a quitter. Neither has this old world of ours. The quickest way we can come into our own is for every one to do his or her part.

You may say, "Oh, it will come out all right." That's only a guess. remember—zlflV 66|Mc

But even if it's true, you must remember that some one else is doing YOUR SHARE to make this possible. Some one is doing double duty because of your inaction. If you will only do your part, "things will come out all right" just that much quicker.

Quit fokin', brother. Get into the fight—AND STAY THERE.

Be a UNION man, and not merely a member of some labor organization. —Toledo Union Leader.

Wage Workers Forum

Unfair Rooming-House Competition.

Editor B.C. Federationist: The average rooming-house landlady, or landlord, depends for personal income upon the difference between receipts from the letting of rooms and the various expenses of maintenance.

This is due to failure to grasp the full significance of the rooming-house business. The custom is to give as much physical comfort as in possible for the money without regard to the spiritual well-being of the roomer. This is lamentable; every rooming-house should care for the souls of its patrons as well as the.r bodies. So far from entailing additional expense, this would eliminate expenses altogether, and the receipts would be clear profit. How? Why, just as soon as some interest would be taken in keeping roomers out of hell, all expenses would be immediately assumed by the Government and the Public.

Anyone who thinks this is an idle dream, will please have an eye to the Central Mission of this city. This organization conducts a large rooming-house on Abbott Street, especially designed to catch what money is left in the workingman's pocket after the "Skidroad" gets through with him. It has, however, a more lofty purpose even than this. That is, to fit his soul for higher things and his body for lower. To promise salvation on high and teach resignation to low wages.

The McBride government could not, then, refuse $10,000 to such a worthy institution, knowing that when the Central Mission gets through with a man he is ready to accept most anything that is rotten on earth, and the business of strike-breaking be made so much easier. The General Public also comes through most liberally, that vague quantity always being willing to pay handsomely for the privilege of being deluded into the belief that it is doing something charitable.

This article is merely by way of advice to other rooming-house keepers to do likewise. Undue competition would, of course, spoil the game. The proper way to do is to form a coalition, then jointly hire preachers to spread the gospel and good advice among the various roomers at stated intervals. A whirlwind campaign for public support of a "worthy cause" would then be in order.

L. M. N. O.

Employers' "Benefit" Schemes.

When working men who have been paying into those supposed "benefit" funds get down into the question, and begin to see how these benefits are paid and what other things are between the lines, cleverly concealed by these humanitarian features, they will begin to question this form of philanthropy and wonder whether they have not been duped through these benefits.—Labor Clarion.

Local Industries.

Mr. Dennison's statement to the Progress Club concerning Vancouver should arrest the attention of those who are advocating new industries for this neighborhood. The Vancouver printing industry pays out $443,380 a year in wages. This goes largely to high class workers, who maintain families and are good customers for local traders. But the business men of Vancouver appear to be paying $150,000 a year for work done in other parts of the country and are thus encouraging one industry to remain away from Vancouver. Moreover, the Vancouver printing firms spend much money here besides the amount paid in wages and salaries. They use paper made in this province. They pay rent and buy supplies here. Besides the craftsmen who work in printing offices there are clerks and other office people. It will be seen that an industry supporting many hundreds of persons could be added to Vancouver by the general consent of local business men to have their printing done at home.—News-Ad. editorial.

A Loss to the Civic Federation.

Mark Hanna was more than a shrewd politician. He came nearer being a statesman than any other man in American public life within the last forty years. One of his biggest ideas was that of the Civic Federation.

Hanna clearly understood the fundamental conflict of interest between capital and labor, and he saw in this conflict a grave danger to society as now organized, and did his utmost to avert it. He used all his great powers to build up an institution which, he hoped, might indefinitely postpone the decisive struggle and prolong the life of capitalism. He did not imagine that the interests of the two classes could be harmonized. But he thought that a modus vivendi might be established between them and the antagonism prevented from reaching a breaking strain.

If Hanna's great plan is failing, the cause of its failure is the stubborn arrogance of the class he sought to save. The Civic Federation was launched under favorable auspices. In spite of Socialist warnings, the working people as a whole were pleased with the idea. Many labor disputes were settled at small cost to the employers. Prominent labor leaders were cajoled into becoming the diplomatic representatives of capitalism within the labor organizations. Several large unions seemed for the time entirely deprived of militant spirit. But, unluckily for the founder's hopes, the masters of industry were too much intoxicated with power to keep up even a plausible show of moderation. Many great ctpitalists stood aloof. Even among the Civic Federation leaders were some who, in their separate dealings with labor, threw away the velvet glove and ruthlessly used the iron hand. Their deeds spoke louder than their words, and the working class gradually opened its eyes.

A year or more ago the United Mine Workers—the largest union in the country, numbering 339,000 men—after long and sharp discussion gave its leaders the option of cutting loose *from the Civic Federation or forfeiting* their union membership. This example has now been followed by the Brotherhood of Carpenters, with its 240,000 members, whose national convention has peremptorily ordered its officers to sever their connection with the Civic Federation. It also passed a resolution advising local unions to discuss social questions with a view to the overthrow of the wage system and the establishment of the co-operative commonwealth. The words of the Socialist delegates who proposed these measures probably counted for less than the acts of the organized employers, who have been using the lockout, the blacklist, and the injunction to prevent the union from getting a foothold among the workers employed in the manufacture of sash, doors, blinds and other carpenters' materials.—Metropolitan.

Honig's Changing Hands

$100,000 worth of Staple and Fancy Goods to be Cleared Out before the first of the year, when a new Proprietorship takes over this business

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$4.50 Carborundum Grinders $3.25
$7.50 Carborundum Grinders $5.25
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These are the latest model in oil running machines.
25 only, Stanley Wood Bottom Jack and Jointer Planes. Values to $3.00; to clear at.....$1.65
Hand Saws in all makes; values to $2.00; for $1.25
These are fully warranted saws.
Heavy Blade Coping Saws; regular $1.25 for 85c
Ratchet Braces; regular $1.25 for 85c
Carpenters' Aprons—Seven pockets, heavy brown duck; regular $1.00 and $1.25, for.....75c
3, 4 and 5-inch Tapes Files, four for 25c
6-inch Stillson Wrenches; regular $1.00 .....75c
8-inch Stillson Wrenches; regular $1.15 .....85c
10-inch Stillson Wrenches; regular $1.25 .....95c
14-inch Stillson Wrenches; regular $1.75 .....$1.25
Quick cut Emery Oil Stones, 75c value for 35c
$1.00 size for.....40c

Builders' Hardware

Sash locks, each.....5c
Cupboard catches, 15c, each.....5c
Casements adjusters, best made.....20c
Casement fasteners.....15c
4-in. japanned door butts, pair.....5c
Hat and coat hooks, $ doz.....25c
Drawer pulls, doz.....40c
Steel butts, per pair.....5c
Strap hinges, pair.....10c
Door bolts, each.....10c

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Get Your Money's Worth

SMOKE KURTZ'S OWN KURTZ'S PIONEERS OR SPANISH BLOSSOMS BEST IN B.C. CIGARS

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MASS-MEETING SUNDAY IN DOMINION THEATRE

Mr. Union Man

Here is the place to buy a union-made

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We carry the largest assortment of union-made hats in

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—IN CANADA

Leader Exclusive $2.00 Hat Store

S.W. Corner Hastings and Abbott Streets

Largest Canadian Retailers of $2.00 Hats

B. C. City Advertises in Labor Paper.

The City of New Westminster is advertising £256,300 sterling 4½ per cent. debentures for sale in The Daily Citizen, the new Old Country Labor daily newspaper. Circulation counts, to be sure; but there must be others than wage-workers reading The Citizen.

Nanaimo Mines Change Hands

Newspaper reports indicate that the coal mine interests of the Western Fuel Co. at Nanaimo have been purchased by a big London company, capitalized at $7,500,000, a sum that will keep the coal diggers busy paying the normal rate of interest upon. Manager Stockett continues in charge.

Congress Delegate Returns

D. S. Cameron, New Westminster Trades and Labor Council delegate to the Guelph convention of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, who proceeded to the Old Cuntry from Guelph, has returned to the Royal City, after a pleasant holiday. He is again in harness, and as secretary of the new Westminster Labor Temple Co. is endeavoring to make up for lost time.

An Awful Price.

The following advt. appears in a Victoria daily paper: "88th Victoria Fusiliers, 917 Douglas Street, Victoria, B.C. Notice—Recruits are wanted for the above Regiment. Terms of enlistment are for three years. All men must be in regular employment, and must pay an entrance fee of $5.00 to the Regimental fund on attestation Orderly room will be held on Tuesdays and Thursday at 8 p.m., commencing on Thursday, the 21st inst.—W. BEALE, Major, Acting Adjutant."

Alberta Coal Mines Regulation

Before the opening of the coming session of the Alberta legislature and probably within the next month, the *report of the coal mines commission*, appointed early in the year for the purpose of inquiring into proposed changes in the Coal Mines Act, will be presented to the cabinet. John T. Stirling, provincial inspector of mines, who as a member of the commission has been in attendance at every session held during the summer and fall months, states that a number of important changes will be recommended with a view to increasing the safeguards against explosions in the mines and increasing the means of escape in even of a disaster.

"When a union elects a member to an official position it does so not to make him a target for censure ani abuse, but that he may be a center around which the members shall gather to make effective the work of the organization. This is a lesson that has no ttaken hard enough hold on the minds of union members There is a peculiar perversity possessing many union people that makes *them knock the men they have elected* to office. They seem to have an idea that because they have elected a brother to office they have a right to dog him to their hearts' content. They treat him very much the same way the Indians used to treat their squaws, only worse... The Indian male his squaw do the work, but he did not have much to say, while the union man piles all the work of the organization on the shoulders of the officer and a heap of abuse on his head. If the union members who are guilty of this folly would have as much to say in the way of boosting as they have in the way of knocking, how easy would be the work of the officers and how successful the organization."

Union Tailoring

Union Men, Support Your Own Principles

¶ When you buy your suits from us you are doing so. We employ union workmen only.

¶ In dealing with us you are helping yourself in another way, because you are assured of the BEST FABRICS; the BEST FIT and the MOST UP-TO-DATE STYLES

AMERICAN TAILORING COMPANY

62 HASTINGS ST. EAST
VANCOUVER, B. C.

CITY COUNCIL ASKED TO AID IN TRAINING IN GENTLE ART OF MURDER

Never So Many Requests Made for "Charity" as During this "Prosperous" Year.

What will Vancouver's chancellory of the exchequer—otherwise the finance committee—do with the two appeals for monetary help which will come before it at its next meeting?

The appeals are widely apart in their intent, as one is to aid in training good little boys to become good soldiers, and the other is to help to buy Christmas presents for the children *of those miners on the Island*, who have been on strike since September.

Working men of Vancouver will wait somewhat impatiently to see the members of the finance committee *torn between the upper and nether* millstones of a desire to make a grand gift of some hundreds of dollars to buy uniforms for would-be cadets who ought to be spanked and put to bed, and the chance of contributing a humble little sum towards the very laudable object of bringing a little joy and dren who are suffering because their brightness into the lives of little chilfathers are fighting for a great principle—the right of themselves and their babies to live decently.

Is it not the irony of fate that the finance committee may make a gift that will help to train some lads carefully and gloriously to shoot down in years to come some other lad whose Christmas this year will be dull indeed if a few paltry dollars cannot be collected.

Just listen to this:

At Monday evening's council meeting a letter was read from the Cadet with the 72nd Seaforth Highlanders. Corps, recently formed in connection stating that 148 boys had already joined and a hundred uniforms had just been received from Scotland. These, after payment of freight and duty, had cost $20 apiece. The motive of the corps was to make the boys good citizens and good soldiers. So far the corps had been entirely suc*cessful, although handicapped* by lack of funds in paying for their uniforms and providing a proper place to carry on the winter's work.

Wouldn't that rasp you? But what about this for a piece of bumptious effrontery?

The corps actually has the impudence to ask for an annual grant of $2,000.

Quite in keeping, isn't it, with the spirit of that great Christ of Galilee, whose coming we commemorate during this month.

By all means, train the boys to be good soldiers; then some time when their brothers are fighting the old, old never-ending fight for improved conditions, the authorities can trot out these nicely trained boys, armed with magazine rifles and biff! the working man is over-awed and he must crawl into his hole or come a-running and eat out of the capitalists' hands such old hard crusts as, out of their beneficent natures, they choose to give.

Two thousand dollars, to make de*cent human boys into kilted killers*; two thousand dollars to aid in training healthy and mischievous lads to grow up into uniformed, legalized murderers.

Two thousand dollars!

Two thousand hells, more like!

What a difference between this arrogant appeal and the humble petition of Robert Walkenshaw, of Ladysmith who, as one of a committee, are seeking to raise a sum of money with which to buy Christmas presents for the unfortunate children of the miners of that district.

This is the recognized season of "Peace on earth and good will to men," although Christ and Mahomet seem to be having a deucedly rough scrap in the Balkans.

But on the subject of children at Christmas time we all ought to be at one.

It is no fault of the little ones that their fathers' homes will not be visited by Santa Claus this year, so why should the children have their young hearts *wrung with anguish because* there are no toys for them at Christmas.

Vancouver's finances are almost at their last gasp for this year, but surely to God, there is not a decent minded man or woman in this fabulously *wealthy city*, who would scruple at the city recommending a decent sum for a delightful cause, even if some of the would-be cadets had to go with his legs entirely bare.

What will the committee do? The Lord knows, but Vancouver will wait with mixed feelings the outcome of the members' deliberations.

Just a suggestion: A few of the chairman's chocolates thrown in for good measure would not hurt him and would please a few chinldren who do not get many luxuries.

Everybody seems to be wanting money nowadays. Even the Salvation Army has been holding out its red-trimmed hat and has gathered in $500 of the city's good dollars.

Yet Staff Captain White said there was not as *much privation in the city* as one might imagine from the nature of his request. But he wanted a little help in dealing with individual cases

Curious that! What is privation made up of, if not from individual cases.

So when the Army is on the warpath and doing good by anything but stealth, they come around asking for help from extraneous sources, meanwhile salting down their own wealth in good real estate, which cannot be blown to Eternal Light or Friend Lucifer, and then sitting back with the patience of a jelly-bellied Job to wait for the inevitable increase in value.

But if they desire to feed the hungry even at somebody else's expense, here's more power to them!

The electors of Vancouver will be asked in January to pass a bylaw for $70,000 to purchase sites and acquire buildings for creche purposes, and as these are used for caring for little children while their mothers are out earning their *living honorably* if hardly, we hope the ratepayers will give it a gigantic majority.

B.C. Miner at Bisbee, Ari.

R. Graham, an old-time quartz miner of B.C., is now located at Bisbee, Arizona. He writes: " . . . I find the miners more alive and advanced concerning their own welfare than when I was here last. The Socialist party maintains its headquarters in the Union hall, and nobody seems to be apologizing for it. The union here is over a thousand strong, and still growing. Debs polled a majority vote in No. 1 ward. Muckers receive $3.75; miners $4. . ."

NEW WESTMINSTER TRADES AND LABOR COUNCIL MEETING

Enter Municipal Politics; Endorse Industrial Unionism and Raise $137.50 for Widow.

Regular meeting held on Wednesday, Nov. 28, Vice-President Cameron in the chair.

The minutes of previous meeting were read and adopted.

Credentials were read from the Lathers for B. Dodson, L. Cotell and H. G. Stroup, accompanied by the affiliation fee of $5. Credentials were received, and Delegates Dodson and Cottell were obligated.

Communications.

International Association of Machinists. Reference to new business.

Report of Committees.

The Municipal Election Committee reported that a public meeting is to be held on Friday, Nov. 29, for the purpose of *nominating candidates for* civic honors. Committee continued.

The Entertainment Committee reported that the benefit concert was a success, the sum of $137.50 being realized for Mrs. Hardgraves. Committee continued.

Reports from Unions.

Typos., all working.

Plumbers, business slack. Industrial unionism lost by 12 votes to 20.

Cigarmakers, one shop closed at present.

Street Railway *employees, a vote on* industrial unionism 425 for, 12 against.

A.S. Carpenters, nearly all working.

Bakers, absent.

Teamsters, still adding new members.

U.B. Carpenters, going along well and everybody working.

Painters, work slack on account of weather.

Letter Carriers, all working, busy season beginning.

Lathers, a little slack.

Unfinished Business.

The communication from the Vancouver Trades and Labor Council re industrial unionism, was brought up. Moved and seconded that a vote be taken. Considerable discussion ensued, both of instruction and edification of the meeting. Del. Maiden stated that the Typos had a majority against Industrial Unionism and the delegates had been instructed to vote against it. Some of the members suspecting it was merely Socialism with whiskers, and others did not know what was meant by Industrial Unionism. Del. Grant explained that Industrial Unionism means Unions by Industries as against the present craft form of organization; while Socialism means th abolition of the wage system entirely and the establishment of a co-operative commonwealth, two entirely different propositions.

The vote stood 14 for, 6 against. The unions who have taken a vote reported as follows:

	For	Against
Typos	5	6
Plumbers	12	20
Cigar-makers	11	5
St. Ry. Employees	425	12
A. S. Carpenters	20	0
Teamsters	12	0
U. B. Carpenters	20	4

New Business: Communication from Winnipeg Machinists asking this body to forward resolution to the Dominion Premier, Minister of Labor, the Minister of Public Works and the Minister of Railways protesting against public money being granted to a company whose employees are on strike, and against the giving over of the Government railway shops at Transcona to the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway.

On motion the secretary was instructed to comply with the request.

Bro. Geo. Pettigrew of Nanaimo, District Board Member of the United Mine Workers of America, addressed the meeting, giving an excellent resume of the Mine Workers' strike on Vancouver Island and incidentally traced the growth of Industrial Union*ism in Great Britain.*

A hearty vote of thanks was tendered to Bro. Pettigrew for his instructive address and delegates urged to bring up this matter at their next meeting. Del. Gibb suggests that there is a splendid opportunity for the organization committee to get busy, as the Electrical Workers and others are ready for organization.

Del. Jamieson for Bartenders asked if the Cosmopolitan Hotel had been placed on the unfair list and was informed that no such action had ever been taken by this council. Bro Jamieson stated that the Cosmopolitan is and always has been.

Receipts $8.00.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 p. m.

As Viewed at Seattle.

The best news that has reached Seattle for many moons, from a union standpoint, was flashed over the wires last Saturday evening, when we were informed that the next convention of the American Federation of Labor will meet in our city next year, and it is naturally expected that every member of every union in th city will be as proud of the fact as he would be to attend one of his old time "Down East" neighborhood reunions. For while he *may not meet his personal friends at* this convention, he will have a chance to meet those friends who have been tried out in the tests of unionism and found not wanting Therefore his very **best friends. Brothers, a year** is only a little span; let us not lose sight of the fact, for one day of the time till this convention approaches, that we are to be the hosts and, to make the visit of our guests a pleasant one as well as one fraught with much good to organized labor generally, all along the Pacific coast, should be our whole aim. Therefore, from this day till our guests have arrived let us not cease in our preparation for them. Let us start the pot boiling and keep it boiling until the feast is spread. The carpenters of Seattle have ever held the banner for a progressive union, so let us not give it over now to some other union. Let us commence boosting and keep boosting for A. F. of L., Seattle, 1913.—Seattle Record.

A. F. of L. 1913 Convention

That the holding of the next American Federation of Labor in Seattle will prove the greatest boon to organized labor in the Pacific Northwest, and particularly the International Shingle Weavers' Union of America, is without argument. After a careful study of the proceedings of the Rochester convention, just closed, no conclusion can be reached other than that the 1913 meeting will witness many radical changes in the American Federation of Labor, politically, industrially and otherwise. Many of these will be welcomed by the rank and file, especially by those who take a broader view of the labor question than is found in the present form of unionism. —Shingle Weaver.

BIG STRIKE ON AMONG ALGOMA STEEL WORKS AT SAULT STE. MARIE

New Corporation Imposes New Cow Conditions on Workmen and Refuse to Compromise

SAULT STE. MARIE, ONT., Nov. 23—The conditions of work, time and pay in the Algoma Steel Works where the men worked were: Time and a quarter for overtime until 10 o'clock, and time and a half after that hour; time and a half for Sunday work, i.e., 12 hours for 8. Not much work on Sunday and none for the blacksmith except in case of break-downs.

The Algoma Iron Works were transferred to the Algoma Steel Company in September. The men got their September and October pay under the new management. No change was made in their pay, the time of their pay, their time or Sunday work, even the pay sheets were the same.

On or about September 30th, a notice was posted which read as follows: "From this date, the Algoma Iron Works will take their time from the Steel Plant; 7 a.m. till 12 noon; and 12:50 to 6 p.m. on all days except Saturdays, and on Saturdays, 7 to 12 a.m. and 12:50 to 5 p.m." This notice was signed by "H. Derrer, Supt., Algoma Iron Works." The Moulders were told by Mr. Derrer that they were not working under the steel plant regulations or time, so the men who had been transferred from the Algoma Iron Works had had no intimation of any change in their regulations under the steel plant management.

The first intimation they had was on Sunday, Nov. 3rd. Some of the men were called ot to work. During the day the foreman blacksmith told them that they were working on steel plant time. The men worked under protest. The foreman told Mr. Derrer of their complaint. His reply was that they would receive their old rate for that day. This intimation caused a meeting to be called by the men during the week in which they said that if they were asked to work on Sunday, they would inquire of the foreman if it were necessary work and if they were working under the old rates for Sunday work. If assured that it was necessary and that they were working under the old rates, they would work, otherwise, they would not.

On Saturday evening, Nov. 9th, the foremen of the machine shop, black*smith shop and boiler shop asked most* of the men to report for work on Sunday. The foremen told the men that they would receive time and a quarter, instead of what they had always received, time and a half for the work. They did not go to work.

On Monday morning when they returned to work, they found this notice: "The machine shop, blacksmith shop and boiler shop will be closed down, and the men find their pay checks at the time office, at 7 o'clock."

The molders went to work on Monday, and when they asked Supt. Duncan whether or not they would get pay for overtime, the same as they had always, he replied, "No, no extra pay for overtime, if compelled to work 15 hours or less; but if they worked 16 hours or more they would receive double time. This, we foundry men, say is unreasonable, as it is practically impossible for a man to work in a foundry on a single job, 6 hours overtime.

To sum up: If there were any changes to take place concerning time or pay, we feel we should have been consulted, or at least notified. We consider, further, that the Company's way of dismissing us was unfair and should be beneath the dignity of a great corporation. To call us all out *for Sunday work, a thing unprecedented*, and then dismiss us for not coming, when they knew as well as we, that it was not for emergency work, was not fair treatment. Had they wanted to cut down our wages, they could have told us; had they wanted to dismiss us from their employ, they could at least have posted a notice to that effect. We men do not want to work on Sunday and if compelled to do so, we ought to get time and a half for our work. 1st. Because it is what we have always had and no notice of any change had been given. 2nd. 2nd. Because the wear and tear of seven days' work a week on our bodies and minds is such that we ought to get the extra price for it. We feel that the time and a half is needed as protection to us from Sunday work.

Following our previous statement regarding the men's side of the question, perhaps it is wise to give some idea of the efforts put forward by the workmen to effect a conciliation.

They have approached the mayors of Sault Ste. Marie and *Steelton*, and also several of the ministers of the district, and have influenced them to put forth efforts to bring the management and a committee together to discuss the situation and if possible to come to terms.

All efforts of these gentlemen have failed, the officials refusing to meet anyone.

Further than that, the men have spoken with Mr. A. C. Boyce, M.P. for the district, and he promised to do all he could.

This morning a committee of three men called upon Mr. Hale, comptroller of the steel corporation, at his office, but he would not see them. He referred them to Mr. Duncan, mechanical superintendent, with whom they got in telephone communication, but Mr. Duncan refused to meet them.

This leaves the matter at a standstill, the company evidently being unable to face a just argument.

Committee:

S. J. PEPLOW.
J. STUART.
M. WILKS.

Carpenters Wanted.

All carpenters, their families, sweethearts, and friends who wish to get together and get acquainted, are specially invited to participate in the first joint social evening this season, under the auspices of the Vancouver and District Carpenters' organizations, to be held in the Labor Temple on Thursday, 19th Dec., at 8 p.m. This *social will take the form of* a whist drive (for which prizes will be donated) in the early part of the evening, after which a dance will be held, when all those inclined can trip the "light fantastic" to their heart's content. Songs and recitations will be given and refreshments provided, the committee in charge leaving no stone unturned in their efforts to make this the event of the season. The New Westminster carpenters intend giving all their assistance, and are represented on the committee. So all together for the carpenters' social. Tickets 50 cents each (ladies free), are now on sale and can be had from the business agents or members of the committee. —H. J. McE.

Down Go Overcoat Prices

Our brisk Overcoat selling this fall has left us with a lot of broken lines. Just one or two of each number in stock.

¶ We have picked these odd lines out, between fifty and and sixty overcoats in all, and will place them on sale Friday and Saturday at the following greatly reduced prices.

$18 to $20 Overcoats.....$14.75
$22.50 to $27.50 Overcoats..$18.75
$30 to $35 Overcoats.....$24.75

¶ These coats are our very best selling lines, in the new shades of Brown, Blue, Gray, in the diagonal and combed fleeced tweeds.

DO NOT MISS A CHANCE LIKE THIS.

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J. N. Harvey LIMITED

125-127 Hastings Street West
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"Best Three Dollar Hat on Earth"

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HATS WITH THE UNION LABEL

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642 GRANVILLE STREET

TOBACCOS and CIGARS

NEW PROCINCIAL EXECUTIVE TO BE ELECTED NEXT SUNDAY

A convention of all the locals of the Socialist Party of Canada within the Vancouver City electoral riding will be held on Sunday, Dec. 8, at 3 p.m., for the purpose of electing a provincial committee, which is also the Dominion executive committee, pending the calling of a Dominion convention. Two English-speaking Locals, Nos. 1 and 69; the Lettish and the Finnish Locals will be present. Some drastic changes are slated.

U. S. Department of Labor.

President-elect Wilson of the United States is credited with the announcement that *it is his intention to initiate* measures that will result in the establishment of a Department of Labor, separate and distinct from existing departments.

Demand Union-Made Bread

It is said that many bakeries in the city are discouraging the use of the union label by telling patrons that their bread is union made, but that labels are scarce and can not be obtained. Union men and women should not pay any attention to such statements as they are wholly untrue and every employer can get an unlimited supply of them. Demand the union label and see that you get it.

Thoughtful Union.

A resolution of condolence and sympathy was passed on Friday evening by the Edmonton Street Railway Employees, and is forwarded to Mr. and Mrs. Ecker, parents of the little schoolboy who met a tragic death beneath an electric car last week. The resolution is as follows:

"Dear Mr. and Mrs. Ecker—I am instructed by the employees of the street railway department, division 569, to tender you our deepest and heartfelt sympathy in the sad bereavement which befell you in the loss of your little son. I may say next to yourselves, there is no one who feels more deeply than the car crew. Trusting that time will soften the blow, we remain, yours in sympathy, Edmonton Street Railway Department, Division 569—Charles H. Wentworth, recording secretary."

/*Honey at half the price of butter: Does that tempt you? It's from the fertile alfalfa fields in the mountain valleys of Idaho, and *it's pure*. Get a 60-pound tin for $9.00 delivered. Write or phone O. L. Charlton, City Market. Fairmont 2047.

LANGLEY:—Owner has a few 5 1-4 and 5 3-4 acre farms, 12 miles from New Westminster, near B. C. E. R. Rich soil, suitable for fruit and gardening. Wishes to sell at once and will take on-third less than price of surrounding property. Three year terms. No interest. No Agents. For full particulars apply Box 2343, North Vancouver.

SECOND NARROWS BRIDGE construction will soon start. Buy now before prices jump; four large lots left; only a block from waterfront, right at Second Narrows; $550 each; quarter cash, balance 6, 12, 18 months. What will these be worth when building begins? Whitaker & Whitaker, The North Vancouver Experts, 430 Howe street, Vancouver.

It is not often that The Federationist can agree with Attorney-General Bowser; but the way he put it up to the moral reform Vancouver delegation last week was worth while. That the advice of the Attorney-General to the clergymen in question will be acted upon seems improbable, judging from previous records of that brand of social surface-skinners.

JAEGER UNDERWEAR

If you want to enjoy all the comforts and advantages of pure wool underwear, you can make no mistake in buying Jaeger Brand.

T. B. Cuthbertson
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Goods Delivered Free to all parts of the city

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Carpenters' Tools Our Specialty

Bargain sale of bankrupt furniture—dressers, beds, heaters, sideboards and cook stoves at prices that defy competition

135-8 Cordova St. East
Near Main Phone Sey. 1579

$10 Makes First Payment on 10-acre Farm

We are offering for sale a limited number of specially selected 10, 20 and 40 acre farms in the Bella Coola district, suitable for mixed farming, hog raising, poultry raising or fruit growing. Ideal climate; mild winters; good soil; plenty of water; practically no clearing; level, open land. Will be served by two railroads. Unlimited market. Good road and government telegraph line right to the property. Price while they last $20 per acre; payable on the very easy terms of $1 per acre cash, balance $1 per acre per month. No interest. Send your name and address for further particulars to:

J. I. Eakin & Co.
416 Holden Building,
Vancouver, B. C.

Name .....
Addr ss .....