THE BRITISH COLUMBIA FEDERATION

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

FIFTH YEAR. No. 91. No. 701. Watch your address label. VANCOUVER, B.C., FRIDAY, JANUARY 3, 1913.

VANCOUVER ISLAND COAL MINERS' LOCK-OUT ONCE MORE REVIEWED

Editor Free Press, Nanaimo: I notice in a recent issue of your paper you state that you would like to have a true and unbiased account of the strike in Cumberland.

Considering that I am a man who has resided here nearly 16 years, am not a socialist, and never worked a day in the mines in my life, I feel that it is my duty to state the rights of this trouble, as I have seen it.

Being a subscriber to your paper, I have occasionally been shocked on reading some of the awful things which have happened up here since the commencement of this trouble.

I wish, Mr. Editor, to start right in at the commencement and touch on every point connected with the affair up to the present day.

The Cause

A certain man acted on the gas committee at Ladysmith, the committee reporting that in a certain part of the mine, which the government inspector had shown the places to be clear, shortly after this the man was informed that there was no place or work for him, he came to Cumberland, and got a position as a driver with a certain contractor who was drawing pillars.

The contractor was informed by the mine manager that the company would not pay $3.50 per day for drivers, which was the figure the contractor was paying this man, and that he must discharge him.

After being discharged this man applied for a position as driver for the company, but was informed by the boss driver that he was too late, although other men were being employed.

The contractor mentioned above had paid his driver $3.50 per day for two months previous to his employing this man from Ladysmith and the company had never made a murmur.

The supposition is that this Ladysmith man found gas where the government inspector had reported the places clear, and the company did not want men of this calibre about their works.

I claim, Mr. Editor, that it is up to every man, no matter where he works, whether in the mines or above ground, to look after his own safety. The British Columbia mine laws allow a committee of the men to investigate the conditions in the various coal mines in this province and make a report, should their investigations show something contrary to the report made by the government inspector, have they no protection when the company under whom they happen to be working discriminates against them.

The Effect

The U. M. W. of A. took up this man's case and asked for his reinstatement, he being a member of this organization, but the company would not listen to any deputation from this order nor recognize them in any way, therefore they decided to cease work, just as other organizations have done in England, pending the re-instatement of this man.

Since then they have drawn up a schedule of wages and asked the company to recognize their union, but so far to no purpose.

The company are producing a certain amount of coal, chiefly through the medium of Asiatic labor, but at what a cost!

We have been informed time and again through the press that this government stands for a white Canada, and it has always been a mystery to me how the employment of Chinese and Japs has been allowed in the Cumberland mines, when they do not appear underground in any other mines in British Columbia.

I am still awaiting a solution of this problem.

How many men in British Columbia or anywhere else in the civilized world go to work for a corporation and do not know until the end of the month what they are making per day?

I do not think that this state of affairs exists anywhere else in the known world except in Cumberland, but such is the case here.

A man starts as a digger in a place that is deficient in coal and at the end of the month the officials size up what coal he has produced and pay him whatever they see fit for the rock he has shifted.

I know of one instance where a man worked in water nearly to his knees, wearing oilskins, for it was teeming all about him, and he was paid off at the magnificent sum of 99 cents per day.

It is generally allowed that comparisons are odious, but I wish to compare a few of the figures that prevail for miners' supplies here and in Nanaimo:—

Article.	Nanaimo price.	Cum. price.
30% powder	..16c per lb.	30c per lb.
40% powder	..17c per lb.	30c per lb.
Monobel	.....22c per lb.	30c per lb.
	Ft.	Ft. —
Ordinary fuse	75c per 100	$1 per 100
Coal shovel	....$ .85 each	$1.50 each
Rock shovel	.... 1.25 each	1.50 each
Coal picks	..... .60 each	1.25 each

The miner here is supposed to receive 60c per ton of 2,240 lbs., but 20 per cent. is deducted for slack and 10 per cent. is then added for what coal he has produced, this 10 per cent. also applies to dead work. Compare this with Nanaimo, Northfield or the Jingle Pot figures and see how it pans out.

A great deal has been written about the rioting and violence which is supposed to have taken place here, and the consequent call for special police protection.

I will admit that some women did in one or two instances maul some men who happened to be working, and called them some objectionable names, and in one instance a man was supposed to be molested in his own house, but does that call, Mr. Editor, for the flooding of the town by 200 special foot and mounted police, or necessitate the closing of the bars.

Then there was the dastardly attempt to blow up Trent river bridge.

I will leave it to any man with common sense to state if he does not think that a miner, a man well versed in the use of handling of powder, would not have had the giant thawed and laid his plans to secure the wrecking of the structure, instead of the futile attempt "reported." I say reported for I have heard two versions of this affair from men on the force here. One stated that they had found 18 sticks of giant, and another that a quantity of black powder had been discovered somewhere about the structure. Now, if they had found 18 sticks of giant or the black powder mentioned, what caused the blackening of the uprights reported in your paper, for it is evident the powder neither exploded or burnt, for they found it there, "they say."

A resident living in the neighborhood of the bridge states that he examined the structure the next day and could find no sign whatever of any burning or explosion having taken place.

The question is who found the powder, and if found, was it giant or black powder.

Of course, the police have a good thing up here, nothing to do, and all day to do it in, and wish to hang on to the job, therefore you need not be surprised if you hear of more scares.

I don't know what we would do if we were in the same position here as they are in the Old Country with the suffragettes. It would mean another 1,000 police here at the least.

There has positively been nothing here approaching a riot.

The company have seen fit to discharge their operator, a man who has held the position for the past 18 years because he refused to weigh coal during the strike, and quite recently they discharged the operator who held a position in the freight shed, for what reason nobody knows, neither would the company explain.

Now, Mr. Editor, these are facts which I can substantiate. What the outcome of the trouble will be nobody knows.

I might have some idea were I a member of the U. M. W. of A., but unfortunately I am not. I am merely an ONLOOKER.

Cumberland, V.I., Dec. 26, 1912.

Comes to its Own

The Bellingham Journal, the official organ of the Central Labor Council of that city, has been designated as the official city paper of Bellingham, the contract for the city printing for 1913 having been awarded to this paper by the city council. The Journal has a wide circulation in the city.

The Australian Way.

All sugar grown in Australia in future must be prodced by white labor and the minimum wages advised by the sugar commission must be paid to all sugar workers. This is the edict of the federal government, following the abolition of the sugar bounties previously paid and the excise duty.

A Frightful Toll

Perhaps the most important feature of the annual report of the U. S. Interstate Commerce Commission, which has been transmitted to congress, was the summary of railroad accidents in the United States for the year ending June 30, 1912. This report gives some startling facts relative to the enormous loss of life on American railroads. The compilation of this report shows that the total number of casualties for the year on steam roads was 180,123, of which 10,585 is the number of persons killed and 169,538 represents the number injured, showing an increase of 189 in total number of persons killed and 19,379 in the number injured.

CRIMINAL PENALTY OF CO. REBUILDING ON OLD SLIDE SITE AT FERNIE

"That It May Please Thee to Comfort and Provide for All Fatherless Children and Widows"

The grim reaper never leaves Fernie for long at a time. Last Monday morning six men were killed instantly, and seven more injured in such fashion that some of them are not expected to live.

The killed are: James Buckley, Fernie; Harry Nail, West Fernie; Alex Worthington, Coal Creek; D. Roszeyo, Fernie; D. Nasiycsuk, Coal Creek; T. Kitenary, Coal Creek.

The injured are: Archie Nicholson, Fernie, injured back; Percy Jones, West Fernie, injured back and pelvis; Fred Platt, West Fernie, foot fractured and face injured; Sam Cardamon, Fernie, shoulder fractured and back injured; Tony Secreti, Coal Creek, fractured skull; George Michel, Coal Creek, injured leg; Walter Campbell, shock.

The disaster occurred early in the morning, when the men were gathered in the carpenter shop which is situated at the foot of a steep bank. A heavy snow had fallen the previous day and on the morning of the disaster a slide one hundred and fifty feet wide came tearing down the mountain side overwhelming the structure and all its occupants.

Scarcely a week passes but there is an accident of some kind or other at Coal Creek, and each month the steady dribble of death winds its way from the mines of the Crow's Nest Pass Coal Co. to the quiet place on the hill.

And those who are left, what of them?

Little can they expect beyond the never-failing kindliness and charity of the only really charitable people on earth—the poor.

Certainly they cannot look for much from the Crow's Nest Pass Coal Co., after the bitter fight they made over the notorious Krus case.

Krus was killed whilst working for this same comp company, and the United Mine Workers claimed compensation for his widow in the supreme court of British Columbia.

The legal representative of the company said: "This woman has no claim on this court."

Shylock, claiming his full pound of flesh, was nothing compared to the modern company lawyer making himself worthy of his hire.

"Nay, nay, not upon thy sole, but upon thy soul, harsh Jew."

There is reasonable ground for thinking that this disaster could have been avoided if warning had only been taken from the fact that a similar accident occurred in the same place a few years ago. Since then the company has erected a snow break on the hillside which has proved too weak to prevent a repetition of the slaughter.

LOVE AND LOANS—FAMILIES TO BE FURNISHED ON INSTALMENT PLAN

LABOR COMMISSION MEETS DURING CONVENTION WEEK.

The newly appointed Labor Commission will hold its first meetings in Victoria January 14th and 15th. The convention of the B.C. Federation of Labor will meet in Victoria Monday, January 13th. This makes a very delightful combination, and only those who are aware of the disgust which the personnel of the commission has aroused among the organized workers of the Province can make a guess as to what is likely to happen. One thing is almost certain, that one of the very first matters to be discussed at the convention will be the attitude of that body towards the Commission.

Jewish Workman's Circle

A concert and ball will be given by the above organization in the Orange hall on Friday, Jan. 17th, at 8 p.m. Tickets 50 cents. Ladies free.

The $3.00 poll tax, which has been collected each year from every citizen of British Columbia that could not avoid being caught by the tax collector, will be discontinued from the first of the year. The abolition of the tax is the result of a recommendation which came from the Taxation Commission which investigated the revenues of British Columbia a year or more ago. It is said that Premier McBride is satisfied that his "White B.C." policy will bring him more revenue from the $500.00 head tax on Chinamen coming into this Province than he got from the $3.00 poll tax.

Another instance of the awful price which workingmen pay for their participatin nin the wars of others is offered in the experience of a South Vancouver church audience while ushering in the New Year. An insane man named Jamieson rushed into the church and took possession of the platform, until the preacher had telephoned the police and had the unfortunate victim removed to the police station. Jamieson said he had been through the South African war, and ever since, owing to the awful sights he had witnessed, had been subject to dreams. Like many others, the insane man was looking for "justice." Readers of The Federationist will remember that scores of "returned heroes" of the South African war have since committed suicide, gone insane and in some cases became "criminals." For all of which there is undoubtedly a deep underlying cause. What is it?

Nearly every large city in Canada has a branch of the "Home Reunion Association." This is an organization of business men formed for the purpose of loaning money to workmen who are living in this country and who have left their wives and families in England and elsewhere, whilst the bread-winner comes out here to try and rebuild the home which socialism has broken up in the country of his birth.

The shrewd Gradgrind mind of the little business man has noticed that large sums of money are sent out of Canada every month by workmen to support their families whom they have left behind. That money means trade, and there is naught in heaven above or earth below that is better than trade to the mind of a real estate man, or your modern aromatic grocer. It is very amusing to hear a real estate man voicing his imperial sentiments and his love of the flag. But it is more than funny to see him using the flag which he professes to love so well, for the purpose of advertising his land "snaps," and he will chase a Chinaman with the most indecent haste if he thinks he can get a few dollars profit by selling him a piece of the British Empire. Neither does your enterprising grocer scorn to decorate his nasty little sugar bags and soda packets with libellous portraits of "the first gentleman in the land," and his loyal consort too, if he thinks that by so doing it will enable him to sell his wares quicker and make more profit.

However, to come back to our muttons: The "Home Reunion Association" has discovered that the love of "home" is something which all men will do much for, and has laid its plans for the purpose of exploiting that home love for all it is worth.

The Gradgrinds gathered themselves together, and each put so much money into the business. Then they spread it abroad that they were prepared to loan that money in various sums, at "reasonable interest," to "deserving persons" who wish to bring their families out to join them in Canada. This brings scores of applications from workmen who are anxious to be re-united with those they love, and without whom life is not worth living. But not every one that saith unto me "A loan, a loan," shall enter the number of the blessed. First of all a man must be able to show that he is able to repay the money by being in regular work. Then his employer must be able to testify that the workman is a good "steady" man, and a "deserving person," according to the specifications. That means that he must be a man who is not likely to kick for more wages, for fear of losing his job, and is not likely to join one of those wicked trade unions which are composed of "coarse persons," who are always agitating for more wages, which would enable them to bring their loved ones out without having to surrender every scrap of personal dignity by crawling to their masters for a loan to finance the job with.

When the worker has entirely satisfied the Association that he is a worthy subject for their long-sighted charity, he gets his loan, and, having handed it over to the tender mercies of the C.P.R., he eventually gets his family, whose grown-up members can then compete with their father for a job in the labor market.

Our much-worried worker then finds that his troubles are just beginning, for his debt, in the shape of that loan, haunts him sleeping or awake. Like all the working class, he has a horror of debt. Not so with his master or his kind. He rather glories in being in debt. He does not scorn to owe his tailor a bill a yard long, or his wine merchant one twice as long. In fact, his capacity for incurring debts is only limited by the credulity of his creditors, and only excelled by his sons.

With the workers it is different; they never rest as long as they are in debt, and even if they were inclined to, their creditors would not let them. Consequently, with the debt to the "Home Reunion Association" hanging over his head the worker will put up with almost any conditions his boss tries to impose upon him, and the more there are like him, the harder it is for the trade unionist to make a successful fight for the better conditions which he cannot get for himself without getting them for the other fellow as well.

These men who come out under debt to this Association do not understand that wages here bear just the same relation to the price of living as they do in England or elsewhere, and the result is that they are an easy prey to employers of the Y.M.C.A. half-baked philanthropic type who watch for the coming of their carcases like so many vultures awaiting the finish of battle.

The worker under modern conditions finds himself unable to be sentimental over this question. He realizes that if there are more jobs than men, he can get a better wage and better conditions; and that if there are more men than jobs, he has a hard time to keep going.

Consequently, whilst he can understand the desire of others of his kind to be re-united with their families, he is bitterly opposed to any scheme for bringing that about which tends to weaken the measures which he has taken for the protection of his standard of living before others of his kind were on the ground. J. W. W.

RYAN AND TVEITMOE.

A Recollection by J. W. W.

Among those whose names have figured most prominently in the trial which has closed at Indianapolis this week are Frank M. Ryan, ex-President of the Bridge and Structural Ironworkers, and Olaf A. Tveitmoe, Secretary of the State Building Trades Council of California. As a delegate to the Atlanta convention of the American Federation of Labor, in 1911, I met and made the personal acquaintance of both these men, and my recollections of them do not bring to my mind anything in their manner or appearance which might lead one to think that there is truth in the astounding charges of which an American jury says they are guilty. The whole affair leaves me amazed beyond measure.

Frank M. Ryan, as I remember him, was a quiet-mannered man, between fifty and sixty years of age, of medium height and hair turning iron grey, with kindly eyes and an unassuming manner. In the course of conversation he spoke of being tired of the life-long wear and tear of fighting against the fierce opposition which the Iron Workers have had to face from the Erectors' Association for many years, and said that he intended to retire from office and seek freedom from his cares on a farm if he could find land cheap enough to be bought by his modest savings.

Olaf A. Tveitmoe is a man of giant stature, standing between six and seven feet high. He has the shoulders of an Atlas, and the voice of a Stentor, with a chest girth which must measure fifty inches. Physically at least he is a typical descendant of the Scandinavian Viking stock from which his ancestors sprung. In the convention of the A. F. of L. I sat at a table about four feet in front of him, and when he spoke to the house it was as though a thunder storm poured from his tremendous lungs, and one could understand why his friends called him "The Hammer of Thor."

At the convention of the Building Trades Department I served on a committee of which he was the chairman, and thus saw quite a deal of him personally. As his build would denote, he is undoubtedly a very forceful man, and bears a strong facial likeness to ex-President Roosevelt. As he expressed himself from time to time his views seemed broad and generous, as might be expected from a man who had travelled much and had seen a good deal of the world through the eyes of a workman.

Certainly there was nothing in his manner to lead one to think that he would allow himself to be drawn into the insane business which is responsible for his present dilemma.

Work for Union Printers.

The census figures showing that there are 280,000 persons engaged in the printing industry in the United States would indicate that there is plenty of organizing work ahead of the printing trades unions. In the United States and Canada there are less than 100,000 union members in the allied printing trades—less than 50 per cent. of those engaged in the business. Apparently the gain in membership in the last ten years has kept pace with the increased numbers entering the industry. Think it over, Mr. Union Printer.

Timber Workers' Organization Planned at Seattle

Coincident with the decision of the American Federation of Labor to place funds and organizers at the disposal of the Shingle Weavers' International Union and the Washington and British Columbia State Federation of Labor, for the purpose of organizing the lumber workers of the Pacific Northwest, comes an announcement from the I. W. W., in the form of a special number of the Industrial Worker (Spokane) that "the timber workers must be organized." "The I. W. W. must concentrate every organizer on the Washington camps."

Advantage must be taken of the agitation carried on by the A. F. of L. to swing the men into the Salvation Army of the labor movement. And all of this tender solicitude on behalf of men who have repeatedly been importuned by I. W. W. organizers to throw in their lot with the "best organization in the world," and as repeatedly refused.

Following the preliminary effort put forth by Vancouver Trades and Labor Council, in placing Organizer George Heatherton in the field to organize the loggers, a general campaign has been inaugurated by the Shingle Weavers, backed by the American Federation of Labor, to extend the jurisdiction of the latter organization so that every worker in the timber industry can be enrolled under one charter and without the necessity of forming another international union.

With the idea of working out the details of the program, a meeting took place in Seattle last week, the various organizations being represented as follows: C. R. Case, president Washington State Federation; Vice-president E. P. Marsh (Everett), Vice-president Hall (Bellingham), J. G. Brown, International president Shingle Weavers' Union; Wm. H. Reid, secretary-treasurer Shingle Weavers; Arthur Jenson, editor Free Press, Hoquiam, Wash.; C. O. Young, general organizer A. F. of L.; Thos. Russell, president District No. 10 United Mine Workers; Robert Harlan, executive board member United Mine Workers; Geo. Heatherton, organizer B. C. Lumbermen, and Vice-President McVety, representing the British Columbia Federation of Labor.

From the general discussion at the Seattle meeting, the writer is of the opinion that the problem of organising the woodsmen of Washington and Oregon is a much more simple one than to carry out the same work among the workers in British Columbia. In the states mentioned the millworkers are all white; the shingle weavers have shown what a small compact body of men can do to better working conditions; the camps are large and, comparatively speaking, close together, and there is a great deal of discontent among the men themselves that only requires to be crystallized to make a strong militant addition to the working class movement.

In this province conditions are entirely different. Here the camps are separated by wide distances; few men in a camp; no connection whatever between the woodsmen and the millmen, because the latter are about 95 per cent. Asiatics and without the fighting experienced shingle weavers to show the way to secure the removal of some of the damnable conditions of employment that curse the life of a lumber-jack.

The situation from California to Alaska was thoroughly canvassed and at a number of large camps in Washington the feeling in favor of organization is so strong that one union has been formed without any assistance from the outside.

The delegates were unanimous in their choice of Geo. Heatherton as the first of the organizers to be appointed by the A. F. of L., recognizing that inasmuch as he had been carrying on the work in British Columbia that his experience will be very valuable in the greater work that is now to be undertaken.

For obvious reasons the detailed plan of campaign cannot be given out at present, but with the assistance or opposition of the I. W. W. the lumber workers of the Pacific Coast are going to be organized.

UNION MEETINGS AT LABOR TEMPLE FOR COMING WEEK

Sunday, Jan. 5.—Picture Operators, 7 p.m.; Bartenders, 2.30 p.m.

Monday, Jan. 6.—Boilermakers, Pile Layers, Electrical Workers, No. 213; Builders' Laborers, Brotherhood of Carpenters, Elevator Constructors.

Tuesday, Jan. 7.—Sign Painters, Cigarmakers, S hinglers, Tailors, Amalgamated Carpenters, Loco. Firemen and Enginemen, Bricklayers.

Wednesday, Jan. 8.—Stereotypers, Cement Workers, Marble Cutters, Photo Engravers, Amalgamated Carpenters, Street Railwaymen, Plumbers, Stationary Engineers.

Thursday, Jan. 9.—Barbers, Horseshoers, Marble Cutters' Helpers, Painters, Sheet Metal Workers, Machinists.

Friday, Jan. 10.—Structural Iron Workers, Parliamentary Cooks, Floor Layers.

Saturday, Jan. 11.—Bakers.

PORCUPINE STRIKE NEWS

The master class in this district have now thrown off all pretence at observing the law, and have enlisted the support of all the powers of government to assist them in carrying out their nefarious designs.

Last night (Friday) sixteen men were brought in, in the Pullman car "Inverness," and as soon as it pulled into the station, the provincial police blocked the approaches to the cars, even those which formed part of the regular train, refusing to allow anyone to board the train.

Some of the boys, having the idea that the public had the right to use a railroad that they are supposed to own, insisted on their rights, with the result that four of them were badly clubbed and beaten up and thrown into jail, being held on bail of $1,000 each.

There can be no doubt that this whole episode was purposely arranged by the authorities in order to incite a disturbance, which would provide an excuse for the militia being shipped in to murder the workers wholesale.

We have dozens of witnesses who are willing to swear that one of the provincial officers emptied his revolver in the attempt to murder a man who was doing his best to avoid trouble by leaving the scene of the trouble. This miserable caricature of insulted humanity is known and he may rest in the assurance that somewhere, sometime, he will reap his reward, the reward of any other cur that, losing his usefulness to his owner, is spurned under his master's feet.

It should be noted here that the Thiel gunmen who shot down our brothers in Timmins in cold blood, are still at liberty, the only one who was committed for trial being allowed out on $1,000 bail, and has not been seen since. If a slave tries to enter a public vehicle and only succeeds in getting into jail, his bail is $1,000 (might as well be $1,000,000), while a company tool can attempt murder and get away with it $1,000 being less to the men who employ them than 10 per cent. is to a workingman.

Notwithstanding these difficulties, the fight is going on with added vigor, and the ultimate result is no longer in doubt; the working class is now becoming too intelligent to allow themselves to be divided upon the field of industrial conflict and defeated by detachments.

The gigantic strides that have been made in this respect may be seen by comparing this conflict with that of Cobalt in 1907.

At that time it was a simple matter for the labor skinners of Cobalt to get all the miners they wanted from the unorganized districts of the various Eastern provinces.

Today, notwithstanding that the scabherders of Canada and the United States have been scouring the country to secure miners to break the strike, it would not be too conservative an estimate to say that there are not twenty competent men working in the mines of this whole camp.

The first bunch of real miners that the operators have been able to hoodwink into coming up here, deserted in a body when they discovered that they were required to work against their own class interests; and these men were from the vicinity of Sudbury, where it has been the proud boast of the Canadian Copper company that an organizer of labor could not stay.

Authoritative word has been brought out from the Dome mines that even the scabs have organized a little strike of their own, as they all want to quit and the company has refused to pay them.

The Hollinger mines have seized on the personal effects of a lot of the men who quit their employ and refused to give it up, and when this was reported to the local judicial authority, he made the remark that "He did not give a d—n if they ever got their baggage."

One thing is certain that the workers in this camp are not getting what they voted for, as at the last election the workers here rolled up a big majority for the socialist canidate, and whatever the result of the industrial fight may be, there will be some capitalist politicians who will sincerely regret having opened the slaves' eyes to what they may expect from a parasite government, under the present system of exploitation.—H.B.

"Invictus Shoes"

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SOME makers of cheap shoes claim that they use oak tanned leather for the soles. If they do it's certainly different from the oak tanned sole used in Invictus Shoes. Did you evere xamine the sole of cheap shoes? If you did, the color was apparently all right. But did you notice the texture of the leather? Did you observe what a coarse, spongy, and porous appearance the leather had? Compare it with the sole leather used in Invictus Shoes. The soles of Invictus Shoes are made of genuine oak tanned solid leather.

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FRIDAY.....JANUARY 3, 1913

EXPLOITATION

Wealth is produced by the application of labor-power to raw materials. It is the embodiment of the labor thus expended.

We can conceive of an individual producing by his own efforts everything he needs. The wealth he would thus produce would be the embodiment of all his labor. This would be pure and simple individual production. We can further conceive of a number of individuals thus independently producing wealth. The sum total of the wealth thus produced would embody all the labor of all the individuals. It would, nevertheless, still be individual production.

If, however, we conceive of a number of individuals working together to produce wealth, each one doing that which he is most capable of doing, or that which, for any other reason, falls to his lot to do, we have social production. Such a group of individuals would constitute, in its bare outlines, a society, and their labor would be social labor.

The wealth thus produced, being the result of the combined efforts of this society, would logically be the property of the society as a whole, and each individual would own a share in the social wealth. The proportion of each individual would be equivalent to the proportion of his social labor embodied in that mass of wealth.

Now this may appear very simple, in fact childish, but it leads us to a point on which there is a great deal of misunderstanding, that is, as to who is exploited and who exploits.

If we conceive of a society that has collectively spent 1,000 hours producing a certain mass of wealth, then each individual would logically be entitled to the ownership of a thousandth part of that wealth for every hour of labor he performed. Any individual member of that society receiving more than that proportion, can only do so when some other member or members receive less. That is to say, he would receive it at the expense of the others. The latter would thus be exploited out of a portion of the wealth they produced. The former would benefit by this exploitation, however accomplished.

This gives us the dividing line between the two classes and may be broadly generalized thus: Whoever receives from society more than he gives to society belongs to the class of exploiters. Whoever receives less from society than he gives to society belongs to the class of the exploited.

The existence of such a division is most notoriously the case in society as at present constituted. Those who do little or nothing are wealthy, those who do the most have the least.

To go at all comprehensively into the details of the classification of the various members of capitalist society would require far more space than the writer has at his disposal, nor, for such a task, has he the ability.

All he can do is to sketch the outline, leaving who will to fill in the details for themselves.

There, then, are the two classes in society, the exploited, working, or slave class, who get less than the full product of their toil, the exploiting, or master class who get more than the product of theirs.

True it is that there are many who perform no function useful to society and yet derive an income therefrom, but, it should be self-evident that they can thus get something for nothing only because others are getting nothing for something. They are, therefore, beneficiaries of exploitation and belong in the exploitation class.

It might be well to remark that it is by no means necessary that a man should be an employer of labor to be an exploiter of labor. To belong to the exploiting class it is merely necessary to receive from society more than one gives. On the other hand it does not stand to reason that to be an employer of labor is to be an exploiter of labor. An employer of labor may be and very often is merely in the position of a foreman or overseer, the proceeds of the exploitation of his employees passing through his hands to the exploiting class behind him. He may himself be exploited, and unless he receives the full product of his own labor, he is exploited, though perhaps in a degree less than his employers, yet even this is often not the case. The ownership of a blacksmith shop does not entitle a man to a position in the master class ust because he happens to have a husky slave or two doing the manicure act on horse-nails. Nor is a contractor necessarily a bloated plutocrat by virtue of the fact that he has the hiring and firing of some 'steen bricklayers and other satellites of the barrow brigade. Some builders' supply company may have him by the slack of his pants.

Some understanding of this point appears to be necessary, as, in the writer's experience, not a few socialists need to revise their system of classification. It is the more necessary at the present time, when things hav ecome to such a pass in some quarters, that a man is likely to be branded as no proletarian if he should accidentally happen to wash back of the ears.

It may be objected that the above classification would place in the category of the exploited not only what is generally known as the working-class, but also a large proportion of the so-called "middle-class." This the writer is prepared to admit. However undesirable company they are for the working-class, there they are. Their presence there is by no means a subject for congratulation as it entails consequences the reverse of beneficial to the political movement of the workers. But of this more later when we get around to our good friend the petty bourgeois.

One more point before we leave this unconscionably long dissertation on classification. Some socialists are fond of pointing to the vast amount of useless labor performed under the present system, such as advertising, etc.

It should, however, be borne in mind that this is the capitalist society we are examining, and that, however useless such functions as advertising would be under the co-operative society, they are a part and parcel of the present society, are useful and necessary to it, and that the labor so expended must be reckoned with as being embodied in the mass of social wealth. It may be laid down as an axiom that the usefulness of a function performed in one state of society is not to be gauged by the standards of another state of society of a totally different character.—Mc.

THE LESSON.

It was not so long ago that it was the almost universal custom for trade union men to decry the need of political action.

Did a member of a union wiser than his time and kind, dare to hint, even in the mildest manner at the need of such, he was certain to be overwhelmed by a chorus of blatant know-nothings whose only argument was, "No politics in the union."

But things do not remain the same, and the time mentioned is happily past, or passing. Trade union men of today are increasing who realize the need, the great need, of labor taking action on the political field. There is, on the other hand, a form of unionism—and we have no quarrel with its form—many of whose prominent adherents, moved by impatience, disgust, want of knowledge, or utter brainlessness, who are not content with the old cry of "No politics in the union," but go out of their way to attack the very idea. And yet, at every turn these same individuals find themselves confronted and thwarted by the powers of the state. Either they are too blind to see, or, seeing, from some ulterior motive, they choose to ignore the need of obtaining possession of the state in order to move it out of the path of labor's aspirations to be free.

Even in those petty squabbles for a little more hay and oats and a little better stable—in a word, higher wages—in the form of a little more money, shorter hours, or better conditions, they find their masters using the powers of government when it suits their purpose.

Harrassed, beaten up and driven from Aberdeen, Hoquaim, San Diego and numerous other places, by the powers of the state, the political power of the employer class, they seem incapable of realizing how that power, so useful to their masters, would be equally useful to them, aye, even more so; for while the employer class can only use that power, while they have it, to make the rule of capital last a little longer; in the hands of labor, political power can be used to settle labor's problem for good and all.

We have lately had an object lesson in the result of the trial of the "dynamiters," Ryan, et al Now, whether these men are innocent or guilty we know not, and we are not going to express an opinion, as it behooves one to be careful in expressing opinions on such matters since the McNamara confession, but, innocent or guilty, the fact remains that they were hunted down by the state, tried by the state, convicted by the state, and will be kept behind the bars by the state as long as it suits the state.

What has labor to do? **Become the state itself,** in order to use the powers of the state on its own behalf as its present possessors are using it today.

It is not by senseless individual violence, either on a small or large scale; it is not by sabotage, either in its petty form of putting sweaty soaks in the dough, sand or emery powder in machinery, or in its extreme form of dynamiting buildings, that labor will realize its aspirations and achieve its freedom. These expressions of uneducated resentment and impatience, or this stool-pigeon treachery, can only in the long run work to labor's disadvantage, and postpone its triumph.

Labor must be educated to become fit for freedom, and, in the present stage of the game, the only sensible way a unionist can express his resentment at wage slavery and his impatience to see its finish, is to educate himself, to educate his fellows to combine for its downfall.

Hypnotic Phrases.

"Peace on earth, good will to men." Such is the palava handed out right and left by our friends the enemy, "Peace on earth?" How can there be peace when thousands, aye millions, of men, women and children driven to work in mine, mill and factory for a mere pittance, driven to work in places dangerous to life and limb, driven to slave in an insanitary sweltering atmosphere?

How can there be such a thing as "Peace on earth," that these parasites vomit forth week in and week out when our sisters and daughters are being forced to sell their bodies on the streets to satisfy the lusts of these damnable horse thieves and murderers?

"Good will to men!" And the penitentiaries are overcrowded, asylums overflowing, charity institutions kept up for the benefit of a few officials, murder ships being built to knock hell out of the poor dumb fools who get in their way, armies and navies, police and thugs, murders, robberies, strikes, divorces, suicides and a thousand other beautiful things that suggest the possibility of "Good will to men."

The prostituted press, political skunks in the form of human beings, pilots that slobber over ignorant women, and deliver ghgost stories from the pulpit, grafting lawyers who squeeze the last dollar from their victims, wage slaves dressed like monkeys in colored uniforms, judges who always do the bidding of their masters, and others are helping to uphold the present system of robbery and exploitation. These are the human vultures who keep the slave class from knowing the truth; these are the hoggish pimps that live off the sweat and blood of the working class; and these are the tools that are used by our masters to slobber and vomit forth "Peace on earth, good will to men," to the pauperised wage mules of the twentieth century.

Slaves, wake up! Throw those words back into the mouths of the lick-spittals that say them; tell them to get to hell; brace yourself up; look these parasites in the face and tell them that you can be fooled no longer with their cursed, goody-goody talk; tell them that from this day you will stand up with your class, the working class, in an endeavor to teach the working class that they, and they alone, are entitled to what they produce; and that the working class will some day not far distant stand forth as a man and mark their ballots for the abolition of the present system, and in that day you will see the true expression and the founding of a system that will bring "Peace on earth, good will to men."

VANCOUVER TRADES AND LABOR COUNCIL IN REGULAR SESSION

Labor Temple, Vancouver, B. C.
Dec. 19th, 1912.

The regular meeting of the Trades and Labor Council convened this evening at 8 o'clock, with Vice-President McMillan in the chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Credentials were received and delegates seated as follows: From Bricklayers and Masons for John O'Prey and Thos. D'Arcy; from Shinglers for G. E. Peterman and S. Ellingson; from Plumbers for Coghill, Holmes, Welsh and Cowling; from Typographical Union for H. C. Benson.

Reports of Committees—Report of Executive Board.

Room 210, Labor Temple.
Dec. 18th, 1912.

The executive committee met this evening at 8 o'clock, with the following members present: McMillan, Trainor, McVety, Campbell, Wilkinson, Beasley, Pipes.

Communications:

From Attorney-General Bowser, enclosing two reports re conditions at cement works, Saanich Arm. Recommendation, that it be filed, concurred in.

From Department of Labor, acknowledging receipt of circular re "Industrial Unionism." Recommendation, that it be filed, concurred in.

From Trades and Labor Council, St. John, N. B., stating that they concurred in industrial unionism. Recommendation, that it be filed for compilation, concurred in.

From "Half Million League," asking that two representatives of the council be sent to their meeting. Recommendation, that it be filed, concurred in.

From Grant Hamilton, Washington, D. C., re Industrial Unionism. Recommendation, that it be filed, concurred in.

From Frank Morrison, secretary A. F. of L., acknowledging our order for literature. Recommendation, that it be filed, concurred in.

From Moncton, N. B., Trades and Labor Council re Industrial Unionism. Recommendation, that it be filed for compilation, concurred in.

From B. C. Federation of Labor, containing call for the convention of the B. C. Federation of Labor to be held in Victoria, B. C., January 13th, 1913. Recommendation, that it be referred to the council. Moved and seconded that it be laid over to the order of new business. Carried.

Bills.

Remington Typewriter Co. for new ribbon	$ .75
James Campbell for December	10.00
J. W. Wilkinson for December	10.00
B. C. Telephone Co. for 'phone rent	12.35

Recommendation—That these bills be paid, and that the items on the bill of the telephone company, which are chargeable to the B. C. Federation of Labor, be charged to that body by the secretary-treasurer of the council. Concurred in.

Recommended—that the council pay another three hundred dollars on the last one thousand shares taken in the Labor Temple Co. Moved and seconded that we concur in the recommendation. Moved and seconded, in amendment, that the balance of six hundred dollars owing on shares be paid twelve months from now. Amendment lost; motion carried.

The report of the executive board as a whole as amended was, on motion, adopted.

Organization Committee Report.

The committee reported progress, and the report was, on motion, accepted.

Parliamentary Committee Report.

The committee reported as follows:
Dec. 13th, 1912.

The parliamentary committee convened this evening at 8:30, and Delegate Freckleton was elected to the chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Credentials were received for Bro. Trainor, who was duly seated.

It was resolved that the following list of questions be submitted by the council to candidates for municipal honors:

Are you in favor of the extension of the municipal franchise to include all lodgers paying an annual rent of $60 or more?

Are you in favor of the abolition of contract work and the substitution of day labor on all city work?

Are you in favor of the employment of union labor on all city work?

Are you in favor of the strict enforcement of the 44-hour week on all city work?

This part of the committee's report was, on motion, adopted, and the secretary of the council was instructed to mail copies of the list of questions to all candidates for municipal office.

The committee further recommended that in view of the numerous accidents occurring daily on buildings in this city, candidates should also be asked the question, "Are you in favor of an amendment to the city charter providing for the appointment of a scaffolding inspector?" This recommendation was, on motion, adopted.

The report of the committee as a whole was, on motion, adopted.

Miners' Meeting Committee Report.

Vice-President McMillan reported for the committee that a meeting had been held in the Dominion theatre on Sunday, Dec. 8th.

The following account of receipts and expenses was presented:

Receipts.

By collection	$40.65

Expenses.

Hire of Theatre	$12.50
Musicians	7 50
Wages, D. Brickley	3 50
Hopps & Duker for signs	5.00
	$28 50
Receipts	$40.65
Expenses	28.50
Balance	$12.15

On motion, the secretary-treasurer was instructed to hand this balance over to the miners of District 28, U. M. W. of A.

Reports of Unions.

Burgess (Molders)—Trade improving. Owing to lack of finances the molders were not able to send delegates to the B. C. Federation of Labor.

Trainor (Civic Employees)—Making many new members. Expected to be very strong by the coming spring.

Walker (Cooks and Waiters)—Had made one more union house since the last meeting of the council. Pioneer restaurant not in satisfactory condition from their point of view.

Abbs (Painters)—Trade fair. Making new members.

Mrs. Baumgarten (Garment Workers)—Union in good condition, with good prospects for the coming year.

Smith (Horseshoers)—Trade brisk, and only one man out of work.

Smith (Amalgamated Carpenters)—Trade quiet. Making new members.

Herritt (Barbers)—Meetings of barbers were being well attended. Had given $25 to striking miners of Vancouver Island. They had taken 50 more shares in the Labor Temple Co.

Jones (Electrical Workers)—Outside men had signed up an agreement with Western Canada Power Co as follows: Minimum wages for groundmen and helpers, $3.30 per day; linemen track bonders, 74.55; operators, $4.05; lamp trimmers, $3.80; telephone installers, $4.55; automobile drivers, $3.30; metermen, $4.55; cable splicers, $5.55.

Pettipiece (Typos)—They had elected four delegates to the B. C. Federation of Labor.

Faulkner (Teamsters)—Organizing was going ahead.

Motion, McVety-Harrison—That owing to the illness of President Kavanagh, all checks be signed by Vice-President McMillan until further notice. Carried.

Roll Call.

The statistician reported 65 delegates present.

New Business.

Moved and seconded that we send two delegates to the convention of the B. C. Federation of Labor, and that in view of the fact that we are paying $300 on our shares in the Labor Temple, we only pay the expenses of the delegates.

Moved and seconded, in amendment, that we send two delegates and pay their wages and expenses.

Moved and seconded, in amendment to the amendment, that we pay the wages and expenses of one delegate and give $40 to the striking miners.

Amendment to the amendment lost; amendment lost; motion carried.

Delegates Wilkinson, Midgley and Trotter were placed in nomination. The result of the election was: Wilkinson 48, Midgley 37, Trotter 24. Delegates Wilkinson and Midgley were declared elected.

The matter of sending representatives to appear before the Royal Commission on labor conditions was then taken up.

Motion, that the matter be filed and no action taken; amendment, that we send two representatives. Amendment carried by 24 in favor to 14 against.

A motion to extend the time of meeting for 15 minutes was carried.

Nominations were alled for. Delegates Wilkinson and MVety were nominated. There being no further nominations, they were declared elected to represent the council before the Labor Commission.

Motion, Pettipiece-Trainor—That the secretary get into touch with the Central Labor Council of Seattle, with the object of having the delegates to the convention of the A. F. of L. visit Vancouver for one day next November. Carried.

A motion to adjourn was made and seconded.

At this point the secretary called attention to the notice of motion from the Painters' Union, but the motion to adjourn being called for, the council adjourned at 11:15 p m.

UNION DIRECTORY

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B. C. FEDERATION OF LABOR—Meets in annual convention in January. Executive officers, 1912-13: President, J. W. Wilkinson; vice-presidents, Clem Stubbs, B. D. Grant, J. H. McVety, R. P. Pettipiece, J. Roberts, C. Sivertz, J. J. Taylor; sec.-treas., V. R. Midgley, Box 1044, Vancouver.

TRADES AND LABOR COUNCIL—Meets first and third Thursdays. Executive board: J. Kavanagh, president; John McMillan, vice-president; J. W. Wilkinson, secretary, Room 210, Labor Temple; Jas. Campbell, treasurer; A. Beasley, statistician; J. H. McVety, sergt.-at-arms; F. A. Hoover, W. J. Pipes, E. Trainor, trustees.

ALLIED PRINTING TRADES COUNCIL—Meets second Monday in month. President, E. Jarman; vice-president, George Mowat; secretary, A. H. England, P. O. Box 66.

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AMALGAMATED SOCIETY OF CARpenters and Joiners—Room 209, Sey. 2908. Business agent, J. A. Key; office hours, 8 to 9 a.m. and 4 to 5 p.m. Secretary of management committee, Wm. Manson, 928 Raymur avenue. Branches meet every Tuesday and Wednesday in Room 302.

BAKERS' AND CONFECtioners' Local No. 46—Meets second and fourth Saturdays, 7:30 p.m. President, J. Kinnaird; corresponding secretary, W. Rogers, Room 220, Labor Temple; financial secretary, F. Robin-

BARBERS' LOCAL, NO. 120—MEETS second Thursday, 8:30 p. m. President, Geo. W. Isaacs; recording secretary, Charles Brown; secretary-business agent, C. F. Burkhart, Room 208, Labor Temple. Hours: 11 to 1; 5 to 7 p.m. Sey. 1776.

BARTENDERS' LEAGUE NO. 676—Meets first and third Sundays of each month, 7:30 p. m., Room 306. President, Walter Laurie; secretary, A. MacDonald; treasurer, Wm. Mottishaw, Tel. Sey. 458 (Yale Hotel).

UNITED BROTHERHOOD OF CARPENters and Joiners, Local No. 617.—Meets Monday of each week, 8 p. m. Executive committee meets every Friday, 8 p.m. President, A. Richmond; recording secretary, Arthur Paine, 305 Labor Temple; financial secretary, G. W. William, 305 Labor Temple; treasurer, L. W. Desiel, 305 Labor Temple. Phone Sey. 1350.

BROTHERHOOD OF CARPENTERS and Joiners, South Vancouver No. 1203—Meets Ashe's hall, 21st and Fraser Ave., every Friday 8 p.m. President, W. J. Robertson; vice-president, J. W. Dickieson; recording secretary, Thos. Lindsay, Box 36, Cedar Cottage; financial secretary, J. A. Dickieson; treasurer, Robt. Lindsay; conductor, A. Conaher; warden, E. Hall.

BRIDGE AND STRUCTURAL IRON WORKERS' International Union, Local 97—Meets second and fourth Friday, Labor Temple, 8 p.m. President, J. A. Seeley; secretary, A. W. Oakley, 738 Semlin Drive, phone Sey. 639.

BRICKLAYERS' AND MASONS', NO. 1—Meets every Tuesday, 8 p.m., Room 307. President, James Haslett; corresponding secretary, W. S. Dagnall, Box 53; financial secretary, F. R. Brown; business agent, W. S. Dagnall, Room 215. Sey. 8799.

BROTHERHOOD OF BOILER MAKERS and Iron Ship Builders and Helpers of America, Vancouver Lodge No. 194—Meets first and third Mondays, 8 p.m. President, F. Barclay, 353 Cordova East; secretary, A. Fraser, 1151 Howe Street.

CIVIC EMPLOYEES AND GENERAL Laborers' Union.—Meets first and third Fridays, Labor Temple, 8 p. m. President, P. Hurst; secretary, E. Trainor, Room 220, Labor Temple.

CIGARMAKERS' LOCAL, NO. 357—Meets first Tuesday each month, 8 p.m. President, Geo. Gerrard; secretary, Robert J. Craig, Kurtz Cigar Factory; treasurer, S. W. Johnson.

COMMERCIAL TELEGRAPHERS', British Columbia Division, C. P. System, Division No. 1—Meets 10:30 a.m. third Sunday in month, Room 204. Local chairman, J. F. Campbell, Box 432, Vancouver. Local sec.-treas., A. T. Oberg, Box 432, or 1008 Burrard street.

ELECTRICAL WORKERS, LOCAL NO. 213.—Meets Room 301, every Monday 8 p.m. President, W. P. Carr; vice-president, Fred Fuller; recording secretary, A. A. McDonald, 5 Lorne street east; financial secretary, Harvey Sauder; treasurer, H. H. Free; press secretary, Arthur Rhodes; business agent, H. A. Jones, Room 207, Labor Temple.

ELECTRICAL WORKERS', LOCAL NO. 621 (Inside Men)—Meet every Friday Room 205 8 p.m. President S. S. Duff; recording secretary, L. R. Salmon; treasurer and business agent, F. L. Enginhausen, Room 202. Sey. 2348.

GLASS WORKERS' LOCAL, NO. 40—Meets second and fourth Tuesdays of each month. President, J. Fox; vice-president, Wm. Thompson; financial secretary, Wm. Worton; secretary, A. O. Hettler, 425 Dufferin street. Telephone, Fairmont 1238.

LONGSHOREMENS' INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION, No. 38 x 52—Meets every Friday evening, 133 Water street. President, G. Thomas; secretary, Thomas Nixon, 133 Water street.

MACHINISTS', NO. 182—MEETS second and fourth Thursdays, 7:15 p.m. President, Robt. Thompson; recording secretary, J. Brookes; financial secretary, J. H. McVety. Sey. 6360.

MUSICIANS' MUTUAL PROTECTIVE Union, Local No. 145, A. F. of M.—Meets second Sunday of each month, 640 Robson street. President, J. Bowyer; vice-president, F. English; secretary, C. F. Ward; treasurer, D. Evans.

PAINTERS', PAPERHANGERS' AND Decorators', Local 138—Meet every Thursday, 7:30 p.m. President H. Murry; financial secretary, F. J. Harris, 1668 Robson St.; recording secretary, Skene Thompson, Sub P. O. No. 8, Box 8; business agent, W. J. Nagle.

SHEET METAL WORKERS', LOCAL No. 280—Meets every Thursday, 7:30 p.m., Room 302. President, H. Spear; recording secretary, Jas. Jamieson, 931 Drake street; financial secretary, Ed. Dormody.

STONECUTTERS', VANCOUVER Branch—Meets second Tuesday, 8:00 p.m. President, J. Marshall; corresponding secretary, Wm. Rowan, Box 1047; financial secretary, K. McKenzie.

STREET AND ELECTRIC RAILWAY Employees, Pioneer Division No. 101—Meets Labor Temple, second and fourth Wednesdays at 2:45 p.m. and first and third Wednesdays, 8 p.m. President, H. Schofield; recording secretary, Albert V. Lofting, Box 178, City Heights P.O.; financial secretary, Fred A. Hoover, 2409 Clark drive.

TAILORS, VANCOUVER BRANCH NO. 178—Meetings held first Friday in each month, 8 p.m. President, H. Nordland; secretary, W. W. Hocken, P.O. Box 503; financial secretary, L. Wakley, Box 503.

TILE LAYERS' AND HELPERS', LOcal No. 62—Meets first and third Wednesdays each month, 8 p.m. President, R. Neville; secretary, P. O. Hoeuke, Suite 2, 1202 Woodland drive.

TYPOGRAPHICAL UNION NO. 226—Meets last Sunday each month, 2:30 p.m. President, W. S. Armstrong; vice-president, G. W. Palmer; secretary-treasurer, R. H. Neelands, P.O. Box 66.

VICTORIA, B. C.

VICTORIA TRADES AND LABOR Council—Meets every first and third Wednesday, Labor Hall, 731 Johnson street, at 8 p.m. President, H. J. Sheen; secretary, Christian Sivertz, Box 302, Victoria, B. C.

NEW WESTMINSTER, B. C.

NEW WESTMINSTER TRADES & Labor Council—Meets every second and fourth Wednesday at 8 p.m., in Labor Hall. President, R. A. Stoney; financial secretary, J. B. Chockley; general secretary, S. D. Grant, P. O. Box 934. The public is invited to attend.

PLUMBERS' and STEAMFITTERS' Local 495—Meets every second and fourth Friday of month in Labor Hall, 7:30 p.m. President, D. Webster; secretary, A. McLaren, P.O. Box 955, New Westminster, B. C.

UNITED BROTHERHOOD OF CARpenters, Local Union No. 1625—Meets every Monday, 8 p.m., Labor Temple, corner Royal avenue and Seventh street. President, M. C. Schmendt; secretary, A. Walker, Labor Temple, New Westminster, B. C.

MINERS' UNIONS.

KIMBERLEY MINERS' UNION, NO. 100 Western Federation of Miners—Meets Sunday evenings, in Union Hall. President, E. A. Hines; secretary-treasurer, M. P. Villeneuve, Kimberley, B.C.

LADYSMITH MINERS' UNION, LOCAL No. 2388, U. M. W. of A.—Meets Wednesday, Union Hall, 7 p.m. President, Sam Guthrie; secretary, Duncan McKenzie, Ladysmith, B. C.

NANAIMO LOCAL UNION U.M.W. of A.—Meets every Sunday in District Office, Vendome Hotel, at 7:30 p.m. Arthur Jordan, recording secretary, Nanaimo, B. C.

ROSSLAND MINERS' UNION, NO. 38, Western Federation of Miners—Meets every Wednesday evening, in Miners' Union hall. Band and orchestra open for engagement. Theatre for rent. President, Sam Stevens; secretary, Herbert Varcoe, Box 421, Rossland, B. C.

TRAIL MILL AND SMELTERMEN'S Union, No. 105, W. F. of M.—Meets every Monday at 7:30 p.m. President, George Castell; secretary, Frank Campbell, Box 26, Trail, B. C.

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Development of I

Many years ago England was the workshop of the world. In those days we did not find huge manufacturing concerns, but found in almost every case the raw material brought in from other countries and the individual bought such, then in their own homes made it into the manufactured commodity and proceeded to the market to have it exchanged for the other commodities necessary for life. Those were the days when the tanner made the leather from hide in his own home, the shoemaker made shoes in his own home, the weaver sun cloth in his own home, etc.

From records we find everybody did not happen to be so fortunate in his home and the outcome being the finding of men employing other men to produce for them and paying them in wages for labor performed.

As time was going on we also find the brain of man developing to the need of invention and improved machinery, to meet the demands of manufactured goods. For many years England bought those raw commodities and in return sold the finished product, but as time went on and machinery introduced and improved other nations also began to copy its position and in many cases we found our engineers leaving and going to the European and American continents.

For many years the men engaged in the different crafts, who were working for wages, began to consider ways and means of protecting their labor by having their wages increased and hours of labor shortened, we find the men organising into unions of the different crafts. The principal methods sought by the crafts were to have as few men employed in their particular craft by restricting a limited number of apprentices for so many skilled men and making the period of apprenticeship as long as possible. This worked fairly satisfactory for a number of years, but as improved machinery and greater competition from other nations continued we find they were not having the necessary increases in wages to meet the higher cost in living, etc.

We find the advice given by the men at the heads of the various crafts was merely the calling of men to strike in their particular crafts in the various districts and having the men engaged in the same crafts in other districts by means of levies, etc., pay the men on strike an amount sufficient to keep them comfortable till the employers had granted the conditions asked. Then, when the men had won their point these men in that district returned to work and the men in the other districts in their turn asked for similar improved conditions, which, usually, were granted without resorting to a strike, till the conditions had been improved all round in the crafts engaged.

This sometimes was not too difficult as the employers in the different industries had not grown to the point where they owned anything more than one concern and consequently they had something to lose by those strikes and competition between employers did exist at that time, sometimes they being very bitter at each other, but as competition began to get keener between the employers themselves and the men who were producing similar commodities in other countries, thus causing a falling in the price on the markets to the sellers and the methods which had been adopted by the unions, the outcome of such being a formation of unionism by the employers, and in many instances, by amalgamating their various concerns together, thus making it more difficult for the craft unions to fight with success, as had been in the past.

The men who had been employed as unskilled laborers had, up to this point, never been really organized and were merely dependent on the generosity of the employers when increases had been got by the skilled men in having their wages raised.

This went on up to the year 1890-1, when we find the trades best organized began to suffer repeated defeats The trades then which had good organizations numerically and financially, were the engineers, molders, railwaymen, miners, etc.

In 1890-1 the Scotch railwaymen dedeclared a general stoppage of work and were defeated, principally by the unorganized, unskilled men who were unemployed at that period, then in the end of the year 1891, the engineers who were the best organized at that time, got notice of a threatened reduction of wages on the Tyneside in the north of England. This brought about a strike in that district and the employers gave the Amalgamated Society of Engineers notice that in the event of them raising (by levy in other districts) money to support the men on strike, a general lockout all over the country would be declared.

From the year 1896 onward the unions in Britain, believing they could strengthen their position materially by linking the various unions together, formed and strengthened an organization kown as the Federation of Trade Unions. Many of the large unions joined this new organization, as it looked strong by name, but when it had been tested in the critical periods from 1896 onwards it did not prove to be a success, as it had not added in strength of numbers in any way, only linking in a sympathetic way during the time of disputes. Then when it came to holding conventions the business done was merely a duplication of the business done by the British Trades Union Congress, this organization being much the same nature as the American Federation of Labor.

The men in the various unions began to see that too many organizations were in existence and the personnel in each case was nearly the same and the business likewise, the result being the death in a slow way of the Federation of Trades unions.

This was taken as bluff on the part of the employers, and the men's union immediately ordered a levy to be raised by the men working, and the outcome was a general lock out. The lock out lasted for nearly twenty-six weeks, and after the yhole of the money of the Engineers had been exhausted, and also monies subscribed from other unions, they returned in defeat. This was the defeat of the largest and most aristocratic of trade unions, and was regarded by the employers as the defeat of trade unionism. Then in the latter part of the same year the molders in Scotland were forced to make a strike also against a threatened reduction in wages When the strike hook place, owing to the large number of men who worked as molders' laborers, and these men having previously wanted to join the molders' union, and having been met with the refusal owing to them not being skilled arti-

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Merely Merchandise.

I wonder, when applying for a job, whether any of my comrades have ever been given food for thought when the boss says: "I will pay you what you are worth." The average wage-plug thinks that sounds all right, but to some of us who know the way in which capitalists' profits are made, it makes us smile grimly. We know that labor-power is a commodity bought and sold on the industrial market of the world, just as eggs, or boots, or coal. Goods are sold on the average at the cost of production, and if that is so, we know our labor-power will be paid for at the same rate, but when we realize that the wages, that is, the price of the labor-power, is quite different to the actual worth of it to the capitalist, we are apt to say things.

The working class today get back on the average, in the form of wages, enough to buy the necessaries that will keep them fit to produce more wealth for their masters. In the cost of production is included also enough to enable some wage-slaves to marry and rear up a fresh batch to be exploited.

Well, if goods are sold on the average at the cost of production, that is, at their real value, where does the profit come in?

Here I want to say the law of supply and demand fix market prices, causing a rise and fall in money values, but average for average it works out to goods being sold at the cost of production.

Now, into the production of a commodity goes:

(1) Raw materials;

(2) Wear and tear of plant, including, of course, all the attendant expenses of running the same;

(3) Labor-power.

No profit can be made out of raw material; full value has to be paid for it, and so into the commodity goes the cost of raw material. Wear and tear of plant produces no fresh value, only its own value is added to the commodity. By that, I mean to say just that amount is added to each commodity that will pay for the introduction of new plant when the old is worn out. Now we come to labor-power which the wage-slave is forced to peddle for a living (such as it is). The capitalist buys this peculiar property, and having paid for it at its real value (its cost of production) uses it as long as he possibly can. He finds that after working two hours, say, the labor-power he has bought produces its own value, but he, by virtue of his ownership for the time being, keeps it working for another eight, we will say. Now we arrive at the point.

To the commodity being produced has been added cost of raw materials, cost of wear and tear of plant, and now is added the cost of the labor-power embodied therein. If this particular commodity has taken two hours to produce, and also, as we have supposed, two hours is the necessary time to produce the worker's wages, this article will now be sold at its real value. Our worker, however, having earned his wages, does not stop, but continues applying his labor-power for another eight hours, for which he receives no pay whatever. In that time four other commodities have been produced; these commodities, like the first one, are sold at their real values, that is their cost of production; but the capitalist has not paid the worth of the labor-power to him, although he has paid for the production of it. He is therefore, enabled to make profits not by selling commodities above their value, but at their real value.

Competition among the capitalist class demands ever cheaper production which sweeps the small capitalist and petty trader into the ranks of the wage earner, thus causing greater competition among the sellers of labor power. Now appears the trust which eliminates competition and starts to apparently undersell any rivals, and the point is put forth that the trust can rule the market and put prices up if it wishes. If this is so, where does our law of "All commodities are sold on the average at the cost of production," stand?

It stands good, for the market controls the trust and not the trust the market, for if the trust puts its prices high above the cost of production for any length of time, it will force buyers of that particular commodity to use less, the sales will decrease, and consequently profits will fall. On the other hand they may undersell a competitor for a time, forcing him to sell out or quit business, but immediately this happens, prices will rise to the average cost of production.

In this system of barter which goes on today, money being the medium of exchange, the worker exchanges his labor power for the necessary commodities to keep him alive. The tendency of modern capital is then to decrease the necessary labor time in the production of commodities, so that more of the working day can be set aside in which to produce profit, and that is unpaid labor.

All commodities exchange with each other on the average at the cost of production, and the thing common to them all by which all of them are measured, or by which their value is determined, is labor power. Without labor power being applied, no wealth is possible. Commodities are of value then just to the amount of the necessary labor power embodied in them.

Capitalists may exchange goods and make a profitable bargain thereby, but the trick of besting one another has nothing to do with the worker who, whatever else happens, gets back on the average but wages to the amount that will maintain and perpetuate his labor power, from the surplus product of which all profits are made.

Comrades, our sole aim is then to abolish the wage system, and for a worker not merely to get "what he is worth" as merchandise, but to get all he produces. Hence we are working always for the Social Revolution.

B.

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WAGE-WORKERS' FORUM

THE NEW EXECUTIVE AND PROPAGANDA WORK.

Editor B. C. Federationist: The study of the growth of socialist locals, which are, in a sense, the units of the provincial or state rather than national and international organized efforts of wage slaves who are seeking freedom from the rule of capital. This is interesting and instructive to all who are part of the socialist movement. Composed, as we are, of the only useful—yet lowest—social class in human society—muscularly and numerically much superior to our masters—even mentally—in every respect but one, namely, how to enjoy the things that make life worth while. A knowledge of the new science called socialism is rapidly making us equal and pre-eminent to our masters in every respect. Though race, color, religious, national and language differences are not with us to the extent that they used to be, still we have them to contend with—particularly the latter—and even those who speak the same language are from such widely different parts—therefore they are creatures of different industrial, climatic and traditional environments, all of which are but a part of the difficulties to contend with in uniting our forces.

But, in spite of, or perhaps because of these facts, the socialist movement has organized locals in most every city, town and hamlet in the civilized world. I think the few features that I am about to relate regarding English-speaking locals will be equally true of those of other languages. Just how long it takes us to pass through the Utopian stage depends on how correct and plain the public speakers state the case for socialism. We are most apt to read and study the literature they express, because after hearing them it will be easier and more interesting than any other. Once a bunch of slaves in any community acquires a knowledge of the materialistic conception of history—that is, how to account for historic events—including how to measure value and the struggle of the classes. In proceeding to thrash everybody they come in contact with some will be added to their ranks. All others will be forced to leave them strictly alone—except when a very noted speaker comes to that locality. There are not many renowned speakers in the socialist movement, and besides these well-informed comrades will not tolerate any speaker that happens to become noted. In such a community other than famous orators, no matter how worthy they may be, cannot get an audience. Noted speakers will not bother with rural or unorganized places, except by the assistance they get from the well organized districts. When a number of locals become affected in this manner about the same time active propaganda is tied up. Then the well informed, organized comrade must either take to studying biology, astronomy, physics, chemistry and other sciences that are so closely related to sociology, or move to fresh fields (usually at that stage of their development they are too philosophical to do the latter), otherwise they scrap among themselves, or blame the general body, of which they are a part, for hampering—anyhow not creating more active propaganda. About two years ago a number of most worthy locals in the socialist party of Canada arrived at the stage above briefly sketched, producing among other abnormalities a premature convention on the Pacific coast which only added to the confusion and increased the burdens of the B. C. and national executives who volunteer their services and individually gave more to finance the party organ than the other members. Had many of those who were most active in making trouble been on the executive they would have became discouraged, but our executive stayed with it—done everything to mend matters, though personal feeling still runs high in some places. The last few months shows healthy signs of renewed activity. There is a demand for even young speakers, that is, speakers that are not well known. In the meantime the executive had to cease publishing the party paper. Rather than disappoint the subscribers they merged it into this paper. At the election of the party officials, Comrades Burrough and Karme were the only two of the old executive that would accept nomination. They, with six others, were elected as field workers. It is necessary for me to know what is being done, and what they intend to do. At headquarters such information cannot always be satisfactorily obtained by correspondence, so I traveled from Alberta to Vancouver, B. C., to meet the new executive. As they do not take office until the first of the year, we could only have an informal meeting. I am well pleased that I made the trip. As I traveled from the Atlantic to the Pacific, or vice versa, comrades asked me all manner of questions about the personnel of all the prominent members of the party that they have not met, particularly about the members of the executive. For the benefit of those who do not know the new executive they are here named, as follows: Jack Reid, native of Scotland; Adam Karme, Finland; J. H. Burrows, England; H. Rahin, India; A. Conners, Ireland; W. A. Pritchard, England; W. Cassidy, Irish descent. Through some oversight our Lettish comrades were not in good standing, and so they could not have a member on the executive. No doubt that will be remedied. For the benefit of the new comrades, the B. C. executive are also the Dominion executive. That has been and is yet the best we can do. Members of both the old and new executive, as well as several other old time comrades in Vancouver, expressed a desire to have the Dominion executive moved further east. But I do not know of any place where the comrades want to take on such a task. A representative party convention would be a grand treat for the delegates and through them a benefit to all other members. This has been and is yet a financial impossibility, even if they could finance a convention, there are as yet several other ways that such money could be spent with greater advantage to the movement. Organizers and speakers of the west to go east and return and comrades from the east to come west and return would do far more propaganda, as well as bring about a much better understanding than could a convention. One local passed a resolution urging the provincial executive to call a convention. In the same letter they said their local was so short of money that they could not give even one dollar to a fund to maintain the party organ. If such locals would spend their time doing propaganda instead of annoying the executive, it would be better for all concerned. Quit washing dirty linen and remember the past, so as to avoid pitfalls in the future. Let us resolve to give the new executive all the assistance we possibly can to make the S. P. of C. what it could be if we were worthy members.

C. M. O'BRIEN.

Brotherhood of Carpenters

Local Union, 1208, Brotherhood of Carpenters, continue to meet the second and fourth Friday of each month in Ash Hall, corner Twentieth and Fraser avenues.

Our meeting December 13, was fairly well attended and a visit was paid us by a committee from our district council and an all round heart to heart talk was indulged in pertaining to the welfare of our organization and the trade in general. The regular order being disposed of, includiung the admission of an old time member and active worker, formerly of Montreal and Winnipeg, in the person of Bro. Muir by card, the members were entertained with vocal and instrumental selections contributed by Bros. Phillips, Fraser, Lindsay, Conacher, also Bro. Chisholm of Union 617.

At our meeting of the 27th the usual order of business was transacted and two new members initiated and our election of officers deferred till our meeting on the 10th of January, when we hope to see a good turnout of the members.

We desire to advise non-union men of our trade that our initiation fee has been reduced to five dollars for a time, and we hope a goodly number will take advantage of this, become members, line up with us and help to make better working conditions for our trade. We desire also to extend an invitation to members of 617 who are our near neighbors, to pay us a visit and get acquainted.

Remember our meeting night, every second and fourth Friday, 8 p. m., Ash Hall, Twentieth and Fraser avenues. Give us a call.

G. W. W.

INTERNATIONAL LABOR DAY

The last act before adjournment of the British Labor Congress, held in Newport, Wales, was to pass a resolution for observing May 1 as Labor Day, thus falling in line with all other European countries.

In view of this action on the part of Organized Labor in Great Britain, the following article, by Kaspar Bauer, is interesting:

One Labor Day.

Every year has two labor days. One of them makes the tyrants of all Europe tremble. One, which the robber class of the earth fears and dreads and prepare—annually—to meet with a mailed fist. A day, when the infantry of every European city stands nervous and apprehensive, with loaded musket ready for instant action. A day, when in Germany, Russia or France, Italy or Spain, the cavalry horse waits saddled and bridled, and murderous artillery is stationed at every vantage point. A day when the capitalist Trinity: Infantry, Cavalry and Artillery, shows its teeth in token of what it will resort to in meeting the rising working class cry of Solidarity, Liberty and Fraternity. A day when the workers by the hundreds of thousands come together beneath the International banner of Labor, keeping step to the Marseillaise. Parades that seem endless! Then to meet in halls or parks to hear their ideals voiced by earnest, eager men.

And the ideal? Everywhere in every country across the ocean—Freedom from Wage Slavery; the Rule of the Working Class; Peace and Plenty for all workers!

That is the International Labor Day. That is the First of May. That Labor Day—a day when Labor gathers and marshals its forces both as a protest and a prophecy—was gained as the result of much sacrifice. Rulers do not like workers to come together en masse, especially when that mass is quickened by the ideal of the ages. Anything is apt to happen when such masses gather.

The International Labor Day was forced from the European capitalists to hold sacred by the workers as a day of universal rejoicing in anticipation of Labor's freedom. And when one sees or reads of the thousands of workers marching in orderly parade—unarmed, carrying high Labor's motto and flag—there is born both an inspiration and a confidence. We feel that we can and will break the chains that bind us.

The Other Labor Day.

For business sagacity give me the American capitalist. Every bit as merciless and brutal as his crowned or titled compatriot across the sea; yet does he differ from him in many ways. He knows that a man appreciates that which he struggled and fought for, whether the thing itself is worth it or not.

He knows the value of the struggle. He also knows that if a man wants a thing very badly, and thinks he cannot have it, he will raise an awful row to get it. And rows of that sort are educational. But if the thing he thought he wanted and thought he could not have, is given to him before he ever even asked for it, nine chances out of ten, he'll never look at it or use it when he gets it. And, again, whether the thing is worth anything or not.

So, does Labor on this continent want a "Labor Day?" Sure, says Mr. Capitalist, here it is. And it was even so. State after state set aside a day as "Labor Day." And Labor, seeing itself "recognized," felt proud of itself, yawned and went to sleep, and it is taking many a hard prod to make our Giant realise that a Labor Day without an aim or purpose or ideal is just about the most melancholy day of the year.

But the dawn is breaking everywhere, and it won't be long until Labor's host, here as elsewhere, will keep its Labor Day, not merely as a day for merry-making, eating and drinking, but a day of high resolve and noble purpose, a day foreshadowing the time when Labor's fetters will be broken and scattered, and universal well being shall reign in a happy land.

Briefs from Guelph, Ont.

The labor movement in the Royal City is steadily on the increase, as shown by the increased membership of the different locals. Since the convention of last September the working class is beginning to realize that there is something in it for the toilers.

The carpenters have been busy in getting the workman in their craft into line and prospects look bright for a bumper local and another successful year. The Federal Labor Union members are taking more active interest in their local and are adding new members every meeting night. The iron molders are still doing business at the same old place and are one of the strongest locals in the city. The printers are right on the job, every shop has the eight hour day and the union label in the bargain. The bricklayers and masons are strong, fifty cents an hour and eight hours a day. They have ninety-five per cent. of their craft into line. The wine clerks' and barbers are in good shape with the exception of one hotel all displaying the union card. The weavers, since their disastrous strike in 1906, have made wonderful progress and are stronger now than any time in their history. The local held a grand smoking concert on November 8th, which was a howling success from every standpoint, and another will be held in the near future. The piano and organ workers are workers from the word go, as they know the benefits that are to be had through organization, but still there is a lot of work to be done in organizing the different crafts which are unorganized, but I hope to be able to succeed in this respect some time in the future. The trades council, I understand, will in the New Year, lay plans to try to raise funds for the building of a labor temple and if our efforts are successful it will mark another page in history for organized labor.

W. B. P.

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When your Grocery Bill comes due, why not pay it to yourself?

Did you ever think of the tremendous difference it would make to you, were you on the other side of the cash register when pay-day comes round?

Perhaps you did, but you immediately concluded there was no use—the more you thought about it the more disgusted you became.

With beef-steak rapidly climbing into the realm of luxuries, and wages remaining practically stationary, the butcher bill is even worse than the grocers.

Still, the butcher and the grocer can't help it. Neither can the baker. Some of them are failing every day. They are all competing against one another, wasting time, money and energy—and you pay the bills.

Some of the people in Vancouver have become tired of it. They have organized themselves into an association which is already supplying them and others with groceries and will soon supply them with all other household necessities.

Their store in here in the Labor Temple. Wage and salary earners entirely own and control it. Whatever profits are made are given back to them in the shape of either yearly dividends or monthly rebates, or both.

In this way when they pay their grocery bills they are really taking the money out of their pocket with one hand and putting it in the cash register with the other.

When we get fully organized and secure larger store space it is our intention to branch out into meats, hardware, clothing, furniture, in fact everything needed in the house.

How about yourself? Which side of the cash register are you on? If you persist on being on the wrong side of course we cannot interest you, but you should at least investigate this, and see how easy it will be for you to change your position.

Try us for groceries. Our stock is fresh and pure. Service courteous, delivery prompt. Use the telephone. No left-over, worn-out stock at eye-catching prices, but pure-food articles at prices as low as elsewhere, or lower. Information gladly given any time.

LABOR TEMPLE 419 DUNSMUIR ST.
PHONE SEYMOUR 8480.

CO-OPERATIVE STORES
419 Dunsmuir St. LIMITED Vancouver, Can.
"Watch Us Grow"