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. 104. VANCOUVER, B. C. FRIDAY, APRIL 4, 1913. $1.00

J.W. BRUCE DESCRIBES CONDITIONS IN NOVA SCOTIA STEEL PLANT

John W. Bruce, writing to the B. C. Federationist from Sydney, N. S., where he has personally investigated conditions as they exist in the iron and steel industry in that locality, verifies all the statements and charges made by the delegates from the Maritime Provinces at the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada which convened in Guelph last September. These charges are so direct and of so scandalous and shameful a character that it is difficult to see how the Dominion Government can ignore the demand of the Congress to appoint a commission and make a rigid and searching enquiry into such an intolerable state of affairs.

Mr. Bruce states that it is absolutely impossible to describe the situation that actually exists, and that the degradation of the workers engaged in the industry is so complete that they lead an existance worse than the lowest animals.

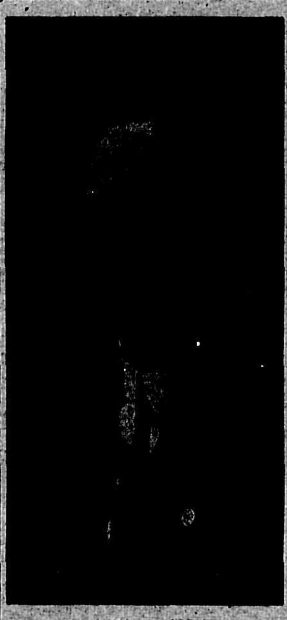
In order to keep the workers divided the policy of the corporation is to import the most ignorant class possible, most of whom cannot speak a word of English, and among the nearly 6,000 employees the majority are composed of Italians, Germans, French, Polanders, Russians, Bohemians, Bulgarians, Greeks, Hungarians, Crocians, Ruthvenians, Roumanians, Austrians, Newfoundlands and negroes, forming such a polyglot mass existing under such conditions of mutual distrust that it is a sheer impossiblity to arrive at any understanding on the question of organisation, and it is developing a system of slavery and misery that is simply unbelievable and indescribable.

In open violation of the Lord's Day Act these people are worked seven days every week, and oftimes 12 hours and more a day, few earning more than $1.40 per day. They are herded together in shacks that are indescribably filthy, there are rows of rooms for men, measuring about six feet square, no conveniences, only room for a stove and shake-down and these pill boxes rent at $4 per month.

Mr. Bruce states that at one home he visited the breadwinner was lying ill, he had worked for the company for years, and the highest wages he had ever received was $1.40 per day. He had a wife and six childrene, the eldest 13 years of age and a cripple. This family was practically starving with not a particle of food in the place and dire necessity had compelled them to all live in the one room and they were being kept warm by the heat of a very small apology for a stove which was kept going by the scraps of fuel that the children were forced to go out and gather up. The father had been lying sick for three weeks, and no efforts had been made to relieve the distress of his destitute family.

A most reprehensible system of espionage is maintained over every stranger who visits the locality, and any person known to favor a trade union is shadowed by the company's officials and detectives every hour of the night and day. Many of the workers, to curry favor with the foremen, supply them with liquor, and it is a case of every man working against his fellow and seeking to undermine him.

The corporation maintains a so-called mutual benefit society, the operation of which relieves them of the liabilities they would otherwise incur under the provisions of the Nova Scotia Workmen's Compensation Act. A study of the benefits paid its sick and injured workmen and insurance to widows and beneficiaries, according to their own figures of the annual report of 1912, demonstrates that the employees got mighty little assistance from the fund.



J. W. BRUCE.
The Well-Known Organizer Who Tells of Vile Conditions in Nova Scotia.

During the year 551 cases were reported for sick benefits, but only 355 were allowed. Sixteen members died from natural causes, and the total amount expended was $8,117.17. In the accident insurance we find 1,747

(Continued on Page Four.)

Presentation to R. A. Stoney.

At the last meeting of the Typographical Union of New Westminster, a presentation was made to "Dick" Stoney as a testimony of appreciation of his work on behalf of the movement. Mr. Joseph Tyler presented Mr. R. Stoney with a beautiful gold locket, with the union label engraved on one side and on the other the inscription: "To R. A. Stoney, from New Westminster Typographical Union No. 632, for Faithful Service." Mr. Stoney responded feelingly to the words of the president, and everyone felt that faithful services had been recognized, at least, if not commensurately rewarded.

Like a Nice Coffin?

The coffin merger has arrived. Seven companies have amalgamated under the title of Dominion Manufacturers, Limited. These companies are the Winnipeg Casket Co., Winnipeg; the Globe Casket Co., London, Ont.; Semmens and Evel, Hamilton; National Casket Co., Toronto; Elliott and Sons, Prescott, Ont.; Girard and Godin, Three Rivers, Que.; Christie Brothers, Amherst, N. S. The trust is seizing upon the abodes of the dead as well as upon the life of the living.

The good employe, as understood by the employer, means that a man must work for what he is offered, be glad that he can get it, and put up no back talk.

Mandy—What foh yo been goin' to de post office so reg'lar? Are yo corespondin' wif some other female?

Rastus—Nope; but since ah been a'readin' in de papers 'bout dese "conscience funds" ah kind o' thought ah might possibly get a lettah from dat ministah what married us."—Life.

W. J. Burns Supplies Spies to Kill Labor Organization

NEW YORK BOSTON PHILADELPHIA DETROIT — PITTSBURG CLEVELAND MINNEAPOLIS — CHICAGO NEW ORLEANS ATLANTA — ST. LOUIS KANSAS CITY HOUSTON — LOS ANGELES SAN FRANCISCO DENVER — PORTLAND SEATTLE BALTIMORE

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WILLIAM J. BURNS, PRESIDENT. Formerly U.S. Secret Service. Late San Francisco, Cal. Graft prosecution.
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Seattle, Wash. March 12, 1913.

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Gentlemen:

We desire to call your attention to our Industrial Department, wherein we maintain a competent force of experienced Operatives, comprising every nationality and occupation.

Our system of inspection and checking of employees must certainly appeal to every business man who desires to secure the most efficient service from them, and to know whether they are honest, loyal and working together as one, without friction, finally attaining profits.

Agitators are a detriment to any business, and by eliminating these, strikes and all other labor troubles are controlled, prevented or reduced to a minimum.

By having a secret service operating in your plant, you can know just what is going on at all times. They mix up with the employees, finding out just how they feel towards their employers--just what their grievances are, if any.

They being skilled, scrutinize the work and carefully point out the defects, if any exist. They in addition to the information, furnish a good day's work, thereby making the cost of the information furnished comparatively slight to you.

You pay a large amount of money each year for Fire Insurance, Employers' Liability Insurance, etc. Why not pay a modest premium to insure yourself against labor troubles? Also to insure yourself in favor of efficiency?

No matter what you may have in mind, we would be pleased to take it up with you further, and respectfully ask an interview for one of our representatives.

Very truly yours,

THE WILLIAM J. BURNS NATIONAL DETECTIVE AGENCY, INC.
Walter R. Thayer
Manager.

THE ABOVE COPY OF A CIRCULAR LETTER SENT OUT BY THE BURNS DETECTIVE AGENCY SHOULD PUT UNION MEN ON THEIR GUARD AGAINST SPIES.

PRES. J. C. WATTERS PRESENTS REPORT

TRADES AND LABOR CONGRESS OF CANADA.
Interim Report Upon Dominion Leegislation.

To the affiliated membership in the Dominion of Canada—Greeting:

Gentlemen.—The following interim report on legislation before the Dominion Parliament is submitted for your information as setting forth, in small degree, the matters engaging the attention of your Parliamentary representative.

Public Bills affecting Labor, directly or indirectly.

1. **Eight Hour Bill.**—(Mr. A. Verville, M. P.)
2. **I. C. R. Act.**—Providing for the payment of the total sum contributed by any employee to the Provident Fund in the event of his being discharged for political partizanship. (Hon. Mr. Cochrane.)
3. **Amendment to Lord's Day Act.**—Providing for the exemption of the work of musicians in churches, church parades, funerals, etc., from the meaning of the Act. Also cooks and waiters in hotels and restaurants. (Mr. A. Verville, M. P.)
4. **Amendment to Industrial Disputes Investigation Act.**—By adding to Section 65 of the following subsection—This section shall not apply to any benefit paid or given by a trade union to a member thereof, or received from such union by such member. (Mr. A. C. Macdonell, M. P.)
5. **Amendment to Dominion Elections Act.**—Providing for the limiting of each person to one vote only. (Mr. Lancaster, M. P.)
6. **Amendment to Railway Act.**—Providing for the non-compulsory payment by a municipality of any portion of protecting a railway crossing within the limits of such municipality. (Mr. Lancaster, M. P.)
7. **Amendment to Railway Act.**—Providing for the payment of damages by the Railway Companies to any one suffering loss resulting from the killing or injuring of sheep, cattle, etc., on the railway tracks by moving trains. (Mr. Meighen, M. P.)

8-9. **Amendment to Dominion Elections Act.**—To abolish the election deposit, or failing such, to permit of the amount of deposit required in the elections of the different Provinces to apply in each Province to the Dominion elections. (Mr. Burnham, M. P.)

10. **Amendment to Dominion Elections Act.**—To make it obligatory on the part of the employers to permit of each employee taking the time from 12 o'clock noon till 2 o'clock in the afternoon in order to register his vote (unless sufficient time is allowed during some other part of the day) without loss of compensation for the time so lost. (Mr. A. C. Macdonell, M. P.)
11. **Amendment to the Railway Act.**—Providing for the length of sections and the number of employees required to keep same in repair. (Mr. A. C. Macdonell, M. P.)
12. **An Act to Abolish Titles.**—To abolish all titles of honor created by the Government of Canada, and to prohibit the Government of Canada from making any recommendations for such titles of honor. (Mr. Burnham, M. P.)
13. **Amendments to R. N. W. M. Police.**—Providing for a general increase of wages and salaries and other minor regulations. (Rt. Hon. Mr. Borden.)
14. An Act to assist and encourage the Improvement of Highways. (Hon. Mr. Cochrane.)
15. **Amendments to the Naturalization Act.**—Providing in the oath of allegiance that the declarant must be able to speak in either the English or French language. (Mr. Currie, M. P.)
16. **An Act to Authorize Measures for Increasing the Effective Naval Forces of the Empire.**—Providing for the expenditure of $35,000,000 in construction of warships for the British Navy. (Rt. Hon. Mr. Borden.)
17. **An Act Respecting Banks and Banking.**—(Hon. Mr. White.)
18. **Fishery Licenses.**—Questions by Mr. Sinclair, M. P., respecting number held by Japanese.
19. **Conditions of Laboring Classes.**—Questions by Mr. Devlin, M. P., respecting inquiries made any improvement of same.
20. **Immigration.**—Questions by Dr. Paquet, M. P., respecting the societies to which subsidies are paid by the Government.
21. **Immigration.**—Questions by Mr. Sinclair, M. P., respecting Oriental immigration.

In addition to the above a Bill for the regulation and operation of co-operative societies is in the hands of Mr. Meighen, but on account of the deadlock in the House on the Navy Debate, he has had no opportunity as yet to introduce the measure.

At this time, because of the peculiar situation developed as a result of the Navy measure before the House, it is difficult to determine what measure, if any, will pass into law.

The one absorbing question before the House is that of where the life destroyers shall be built; the preservation of human life itself, particularly that of the working class, being apparently of the most minor importance.

Yours faithfully,
JAMES C. WATTERS,
President and Parliamentary Representative.

VANCOUVER ISLAND COAL MINERS BEFORE THE LABOR COMMISSION

The Royal Labor Commission appointed by the Provincial Government to investigate labor conditions throughout the Province of British Columbia commenced their labors in Cumberland February 19th and completed their work of receiving testimony and evidence relating to mining conditions under the Canadian Collieres Compan at Ladsmith on February 28th. The foregoing announcement will undoubtedly be of interest to the members of the United Mine Workers of America, in as much as the function of the commission on the occasion mentioned was to learn the causes which created our present trouble on Vancouver Island.

To recount all the testimony given before the commission under judicial oath would make an article too voluminous for ready comprehension. Hence only a recapitulation of the general testimony will be given, which will be sufficient to show that the Canadian Collieries Company is entitled to high rank among the scientific exploiters of labor. The story written into the records of the commission by the miners' representatives, and unrefuted by the company, is the same story that is woven into the history of every mining district where men toil wthout the protection of an organization. Frugal living, industrious and practical men who have spent all their working days in the pursuit of mining, told of cruel oppression, iniquitous robbery, infamous abuses, official arrogance and soul-racking drudgery encountered during their struggle to win a mean livelihood from this company. Poorly ventilated mines, dangerous working conditions, excessive cost of living, exorbitant rentals, short weights, monthly pays and lax, or non-enforcement, of mining laws, are only a part of the cycle of evils surrounding these men. This company respects no specified or uniform scales for narrow work, dead work or company work. The rates of compensation paid for these classes of labor depend entirely upon the caprice of the pit boss, who is the only determining factor. No one employed at such work knows when he starts work what he is going to receive for his labor until pay day, when he receives what the pit boss has decreed he shall have. Those who object to the price paid have one of two alternatives to choose from, which is to accept the boss' flat or quit.

The day wages paid range from $1.25 to $2.86; narrow work price from nothing to what the boss wishes to pay; dead work price the same as narrow work. The tonnage rate is 82½ cents, based on the long ton of 2240 pounds, plus 10 per cent. coal added for impurities, which means that the miner must load 2464 pounds of coal for one ton. Or, in other words, a miner loading 100 long tons of coal receives pay for 90 long tons, the company confiscating 10 per cent. of his output to cover impurities, even though there are no impurities in his coal.

To add to this iniquity the company operates a docking system under which any particular car of coal found to contain 50 pounds of impurities is seized by the company.

The miners of Cumberland are compelled to pay the company 20 cents per pound for 30 and 40 per cent. giant powder. The miners of Ladysmith pay 20 cents per pound for the same explosive, while the miners working for the Western Fuel Company at Nanaimo receive identically the same grade of powder for 16 cents per pound. These three camps are all within a radius of eight miles, so that the wide difference in the price of powder cannot be rightfully attributed to the difference in freight rates. Neither is the comparatively low cost of powder at Nanaimo any recommendation for the Western Fuel Company, which concern has its own schemes for fleecing its employees. Nor is the inequality between the cost of powder at Ladysmith and Cumberland any evidence that the Canadian Collieries Company favor the Ladysmith men, who, while they suffer to a less degree from extortionate powder cost than do the Cumberland men, nevertheless equalize the discrepancy through the application of other impositions. This powder abuse is given added significance by the fact that this coal is of an extremely stubborn nature, full of faults, and that it is not unusual for a miner's powder expense to run as high as $50 per month. This one evil alone demonstrates the utter helplessness of the men and the complete mastery of the company.

A few abbreviated quotations taken from the great volume of testimony follows:

Mike Gedritis: "I worked two months and averaged $1.75 per day. The following month I earned $4.50 per day, and the boss told me I was earning too much money and reduced my yardage price 50 cents per yard."

Frank Terry: "I drove 12 yards of narrow work and was paid for 9 yards. Was ordered out of the company's office when I went to claim the other 3 yards."

R. Smith: "Was earning $3.16 per day when my place caved and had to clean it up without compensation."

A. Briosi: "Received $9 for 10 days' work, but was afterwards made up to $2 per day."

Fred Doherty: "Drove 31 yards of narrow work and was paid for only 20 yards. Made complaint and was told that I was earning too much money. I did not receive pay for the other 11 yards due me."

John Borus: "I worked a place where I had 5 feet of dirt to handle. I earned $31 for 22 days' work. I complained and was told by the mine

(Continued on Page Four.)

TRADES COUNCIL MEETING

The Trades and Labor Council meeting last night was attended by 78 delegates. President Benson was in the chair. One of the first matters to receive atention was the resignition of Delegate W. R. Trotter from the executive committee owing to his inability to attend on account of his night work as a printer. The resignation was accepted with regret.

The tile layers wrote asking what the duties of the Council business agent would be if one were elected. The following motion was put and carried: "That if a business agent is appointed his main duties shall be those of an organiser."

Letters were read from P. M. Draper, Secretary-Treasurer of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, Mr. H. H. Stevens, member of the Federal Parliament for Vancouver, and the Hon. R. Rogers, Minister of the Interior, stating that the Council's protest against the deportation of J. Ettor was receiving attention. Spokane Sectional Central Labor Council wrote warning the Council against one Louis Le Clair who was stated to be a bogus label-league organiser, deriving his living from defrauding labor unions and business men.

The Wireless Telegraph Operators Union of the Pacific Coast, notified that they had organized, and were desirous of the Council's support and interest. One of the most important matters dealt with was a letter received from the headquarters of the A. F. of L. notifying the Council to expel the Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners from the Council because their charter had been revoked by the American Federation of Labor. The matter was filed without discussion.

The remaining $300.00 which the Council owed on the last thousand shares they purchased in the Labor Temple Co., was ordered paid.

It was decided to appoint a special committee to organize a library to be established in the Labor Temple for the use of the trade unionists of the city. The Organization Committee reported having organized a label league and had visited several unions to advertise the league and the work it was expected to do. Bro. F. M. Fielder, organizer of the Barbers' Union, who had done excellent work in the city during the last few weeks, was invited to address the Council and delivered a really rousing address which received the appreciation it deserved. All the delegates from the building trades unions reported trade very slack, and practically the only union to report satisfactory conditions of employment was the bakers union. The moving picture operators reported that nearly all the picture shows were worked by non-union operators. The election of trustee in place of Delegate Trotter brought forth the following nominees: McVety, Kavanagh, and Jones. The voting resulted, McVety 39, Kavanaugh 19, Jones 16. Delegate Mc Vety was thus elected on the first ballot. Delegate Kavanagh was elected Sergeant at Arms by 38 votes to 37 votes polled by Delegate Pipes.

The meeting was one of the best attended and most interesting that the Council has held for some time, and did not adjourn until 10:30 p. m.

Men's Suits

Spring Wear **$15.00**

In tweeds and serges, guaranteed indigo dye, and guaranteed to retain their shape. Made with single breasted sacque coat, with three button front and the Bartlett patent pocket, which prevent the coat sagging at the side, and have the popularized seams and double stitched edges. Trousers are medium peg-top style, and have side buckle for adjusting the waist measure. They represent the greatest suit value ever offered. Special for $15.00

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CORNER OF GRANVILLE AND GEORGIA

WHALERS WIN STRIKE.

After being on strike for a week, the seamen and firemen working on the whaling vessels operating from Victoria, have secured their demands. The firemen get the $55 per month they wanted. The old and new scales of the seamen are:

Old scale—$28 per month and "lay" money on each whale as follows:

For a sulphur whale	$1.30
For a humpback whale	.80
For a finback whale	1.10
For a sperm whale	3.00

The new scale is $35 per month, lay money $1.50 for sulphur whale, $1.00 for humpback, $1.25 for finback, $5.00 for a sperm.

E. A. King Takes Holiday.

E. A. King, business agent of the Building Trades Council of Victoria, has gone on a visit to his home in the Old Country, and is not expected back again until the fall of the year.

STAY AWAY FROM NELSON

All the workers in the building trades in Nelson, B. C., are out on strike for the various new wage scales which have been brought forward this spring. Teamsters, machinists, and city electricians are also out, and The Federationist is in receipt of a request from G. Hardy, business agent of the Trades and Labor Council of Nelson advising all workmen to stay away from Nelson whilst the trouble is on.

J. W. Doggett Resigns.

J. W. Doggett, who has acted as business agent for the Toronto branches of the Amalgamated society of Carpenters and Joiners, for several years, has resigned his position, and R. J. Nicholls has been elected to succeed him. A. Turner has been appointed assistant.

LOCAL LABEL BOOSTERS.

At the last meeting of the Organization Committee of the Trades and Labor Council, it was decided to form a Union Label League, and all unions are requested to send representatives to the next meeting which will be held in Labor Temple, Tuesday, April 15th, in order to build up a good strong League to boost the union label and to stir up in their respective unions the idea of buying goods and patronizing places which display the Union Card or Label.

Guessing.—A lady was looking for her husband, and inquired anxiously of the housemaid: "Do you happen to know anything of your master's whereabouts?"

"I am not sure, mum," replied the careful domestic, "but I think they are in the wash."—Harper's Magazine.

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Pender St. Branch, Cor. Pender and Carrall Sts.

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General Manager.
W. E. JARDINE,
Assistant General Manager.

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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 wageworkers.

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Vice-President	J. McMillar
Treasurer	J. H. McVety
Managing-Editor	R. Parm. Pettipiece

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Tel. Sey. 2690.

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

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

FRIDAY.......... APRIL 4, 1913.

THE PASSING SHOW.

Among the students of political economy, those who are not racking their brains to discover effective apologies for the industrial system of our time, believe they have an explanation for the current religion, the politics, and general social customs and usages of any age. A close study of history, and the growth and development of peoples, will make the fact apparent that, what is regarded as true religion in one age is looked upon as rank heresy in another. Social customs and practices which pass the censors of conduct in one age would bring ostracism and condemnation in another. Morality also, whilst the educated stupid still try to make believe it is a fixed and inviolable quantity, is seen to be a matter of time and geography more than anything else. Indeed, nations, like individuals, when their intelligence is unequal to comprehending the viewpoint of others, find sanctuary for their ignorance in the sheltering shadows of the fatuous generalization known as—Immorality. Having agreed with themselves that they are right, they find themselves the delighted possessors of the knowledge that everybody else is wrong, and in that way contribute their tithe to the sum total of inconsistencies which is the only consistent thing about mankind.

Bearing in mind some of these more picturesque manifestations of the human mentality of the twentieth century, it is not to be wondered that the red herring has never yet been discovered which is too malodorous for the working people to run after; and those who have accumulated enough good-humored patience and philosophy to stand aside ever and again to watch them, are of the impression that as long as there is a wrong way left, they will not see the right one. But as the student surveys the Pageant of Pity which the mistakes of men have fashioned for the compassion of Posterity, he detects one fact which is common to all ages, a fact which, once having been securely grasped, serves as the key to the religion, politics and morals of all ages. He sees that each age or epoch of human society has had its own method or system of producing the social wealth of its time, and that the methods whereby that wealth has been produced have determined the nature and quality of the religious, political, and social superstructure which is based upon them. In our day and generation the wealth of the world is not produced to enrich its occupants, but to enrich those who own the means whereby that wealth is produced and to whom the product belongs. Modern industry is not for health or pleasure or charity; nor is it primarily for the purpose of giving to men those things which nature requires they shall have or die. It is not carried on for the benefit of society in general but for the profit of individuals in particular. Profit is only made in one way and that is by taking from the worker the wealth which he has produced by exercising his mental and physical energies upon the natural resources of the earth, and in return giving him or her just so much of the value of that product as is necessary to meet the bare exigencies of nature in the matter of food, clothing and shelter. In case any simple soul does not find the foregoing as clear as he might wish it, the proposition may be stated in more artistic terms by saying that any rube who expects his donkey to do as much work tomorrow as he did today must be prepared to give Edward sufficient hay and oats to regenerate the ginger in his heels. There is no more charming versatility in a somewhat unversatile world than that made possible by a good humored understanding of the origin of profit.

Having thus realized the fact that robbery is the basis of all commercial activity, the willing disciple finds little further difficulty in understanding most of the things which are justified on such an economic principle. And at the same time that some of the bye-products of Capitalism are sometimes rather nauseating in quality, they are at least explained—which is something to be thankful for in a world which is rather puzzling to those who are not careful enough to see that they are born of rich parents.

One of the most loathsome of all the diseases which the workers have to suffer from is the private detective of the variety offered for sale in the catalogue of The W. J. Burns National Detective Agency, of which a copy is reproduced in another column for the edification of all who love The Good, The True, and The Beautiful. He is the skunk of skunks, the thrice distilled essence of all the concentrated abominations of Capitalism. He is the vilest of all the abortions of industrialism vomited forth from the loins of commercial corruption.

But 'twere well in our contempt for the individual not to overlook the fact that he is but one of the cogs of the machinery which makes the modern business world go round. He but serves his master for hire, and differs not in any essential particular from a judge who sells decisions for shares, or a politician who barters the birthright and heritage of a people for the fulsome approval of real estate speculators. Indeed, if either has the advantage in the matter of common decency it is the detective for, according to W. J. Burns himself a detective is usually a born criminal whose cranial contour is a handsome source of profit for his employer.

Mack—I see here that a New York pastor states that there is no hell.

Jack—He's mistaken. I didn't get home until 3 o'clock this morning and my wife was waiting for me.

"SIX MEN OF DORSET"

At Tolpuddle, in Dorsetshire, Eng., a monument has just been erected to the memory of the "six men of Dorset," also called "the first martyrs of trades unionism," and memorial exercises were held there to mark the seventieth anniversary of their martyrdom. It was on February 24, 1843, that the six labor union pioneers were thrown into prison to serve a sentence of seven years imposed upon them by Judge Williams, who had said:

"Not for anything you have done, or as I can prove you intend to do, but as an example to others I consider it my duty to pass this sentence upon each and every one of you."

The "six men of Dorset," who are now enrolled in labor's hall of fame, were common laborers. Reaching the point where they could no longer support their families on their scanty wages, they joined in a demand for an increase of one shilling,—24 cents—a week. This "impudent demand" was forthwith refused by their masters, and the six men held a conference on the situation. This meeting was held to constitute a deep, dark and devilish conspiracy against the peace and prosperity of the British Empire, and the men were arrested, convicted and sent into transportation for seven years in hardly more time than it takes to tell it.

George and James Loveless and Thomas Stanfield, all local Wesleyan preachers, who toiled on farms for a living and served their flocks without charge; James Brine, James Hammett and John Stanfield are the names of the men inscribed on the Tolpuddle monument. They were described as honest and industrious men, whose only desire was to obtain better conditions of living for themselves and their neighbors."

As farm laborers, the six men of Dorset originally received nine shillings a week. Despite the fact that the price of food was advancing, their wages were reduced to eight shillings, and then to seven shillings, or about $1.75 a week. With this income they could get little to eat but coarse bread. The straw was placed on the camel's back when the employing farmers held a meeting and decided to reduce wages to laborers to six shillings a week. This conference of the landlords was not considered any offence against law or justice, but when the six men of Dorset conferred on the subject of maintaining wages, and attempted to form a union of farm laborers, they were promptly clapped into prison.

San Francisco, March 22.—The differences between the Pacific States Telephone and Telegraph Company and their electrical workers appears to be in a fair way of settlement. The employes ask for recognition of the wire chiefs, repeater men, testboard men, galvonometer men and facility men. A 50 cent per day increase, a weekly pay day and a preferential clause, giving preference to union men when obtainable. The company at first refused all the demands, but later granted a 25 cent increase to all branches of the trade. This offer was rejected, however, but the latest information is to the effect that the company has made further concessions and the new offer will again go to a vote of the men involved.

At the convention of the Structural Iron Workers' union held at Indianapolis recently, it was decided to pay $25 per week towards the support of the families of the convicted ironworkers so long as the men are unable to attend to business. International officers have been elected at the conventions up to the present, but an amendment to the constitution was passed changing the system to that of referendum vote of the membership. This will be submitted to the membership for ratification. W. H. Blow, of Winnipeg, was appointed organizer for Western Canada. The next convention will be held at Peoria, Ill., in September, this year.

Street Railwaymen in Philadelphia

The average monthly housekeeping expenses of married motormen and conductors in the employ of the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Co. are $66.90, or $3.92 less than their average wages, according to an investigation into the cost of living conducted by the company itself. As a basis for that average, the expenses of 500 families were taken by the company. It was found that most of the families consisted of four members. The average rent paid was $14.01, food $32.18, and other expenses averaged $20.71, and now the company is proposing to establish company stores for the alleged purpose of decreasing the cost of living of its employes, and, incidentally, of course, to draw in a few shekels for itself, instead of paying to the men a living wage.

Mayor Lunn, the Socialist official of Schenectady, and a number of strikers, are now on trial at Little Falls, N. Y., as an outcome of charges filed against them during the recent industrial struggle. It is now claimed that the indictments were secured by the police authorities upon framed-up evidence. It seems that John J. Kenny, employed as a special police officer during the strike, now admits that he and other private detectives swore falsely before the grand jury. He says he testified according to written instructions given him by the Little Falls police and that the 15 indictments found by the grand jury were all based on perjured evidence. Kenny has made affidavit to this effect and other affidavits secured by Mayor Lunn support his story.

Women's Wages in France

Some interesting figures lately issued by the French Minister of Labor gave the total number of women who earn their living in France both as home-workers and out-workers, as 4,150,000, who are employed as follows:

Agriculture	949,000
Factories, etc.—	
Out-workers	1,385,000
Home-workers	540,000
Business, public services, liberal professions:—	
Out-workers	504,000
Servants	772,000
Total	4,150,000

These figures are based on the census returns for 1906. Wages vary, of course, considerably; but according to a commission of inquiry in 1893, those engaged in out-work earned 3 francs a day in the Seine Department, and 2f. 10c. in the provinces.—The Pioneer Woman.

Steps are being taken to revive the Hamilton district council of United Garment Workers' Union. The council, if formed, will consist of representatives of the three Hamilton unions and the Dundas local.

BRIEFLY DESCRIPTIVE LIST OF GREAT BOOKS AND MEN, FOR THE USE OF STUDENTS

Shaman is the name given to sorcerers by the different populations of Northern Asia. They are supposed to deal with the dark forces of Nature. By their incantations and dances they are supposed to conjure illness and all sorts of misfortunes.

Rousseau, Jean Jacques (1712-1778), French philosopher. A forerunner of the Great Revolution, whose writings, together with those of Mably, greatly influenced most of those who stood foremost in the Revolution, especially in its Jacobinist wing. He preached the return to a simple and natural life, equality, democratic and republican institutions, and a sound education embodying a knowledge of both science and manual work; and he endeavored to "lay the foundations of a natural religion which might supersede Church Christianity. He has had an ardent follower in Leo Tolstoy. Chief works: "On the Origin of Inequality among Men," "Le Contrat Social," "Emile," "Le Vicaire Savoyard," "The New Heloise," and "Mes Confessions."

Thierry, Augustin (1795-1856), a renowned French historian, who combined an admirable descriptive talent with a deep study and comprehension of the primitive institutions of the so-called "barbarian" period. His "Letters on the History of France" give the best key to a comprehension of this period, and of the subsequent period of independent city-republics in France. He also wrote a history of the Norman Conquest of England.

Wallace, Alfred Russell (born 1822). English naturalist who contemporaneously with Darwin, in 1857, developed the theory of evolution of species through natural selection in the struggle for life. His work, "Darwinism," is an admirable exposition of the subject, popularly written and thoroughly scientific. In his youth he came under the influence of Robert Owen's teachings, and is still in favor of land nationalization.

Smith, Adam (1723-1790), English economist and philosopher; founder of Political Economy as a science based on observation and on the inductive methods, which he developed in his classical work, "The Wealth of Nations." In that work he considered wealth as the product of labor, and criticised the many obstacles which Governments at that time put in the way of the growth of industry and commerce—thus becoming the founder of the so-called "Liberal school" of Political Economy. In a far less known, very much boycotted, and yet very deep work, "The Theory of Moral Sentiments," he wrote a full theory of Ethics based on the common observations of mutual sympathy.

Spencer, Herbert (1820-1903), English philosopher who developed a full system of synthetic philosophy on a materialistic basis, embodies in the following works: "First Principles," "Principles of Biology," "Principles of Psychology," "Principles of Sociology," "Ethics." Also "The Man versus the State"; an excellent work on education; a polemics against Weismann upon the direct action of surroundings and natural selection; and so on. In his "Principles of Biology" he developed a full theory of evolution, based chiefly on the lines of Lamarck's "Transformism," i.e. on the direct action of the surroundings modifying the organisms in the sense of adaptation to their surroundings ("direct adaptation"),—natural selection ("the indirect adaptation") only coming in to aid the preservation of the best adapted ("survival of the fittest"), and to give stability to the acuired adaptqation.

Bernard, Claude (1813-1878), great French phyciologist, widely known for his discoveries in physiology, and especially for his experimental work tending to lay down the bases for a physiological psychology. Chief works: "Lessons in Experimental Psysiology," 1855; on toxical substances, 1857; and on the physiology of the nervous system, 1858.

Berthelot, Marcelin (1827-1907), French chemist, opened a new field of research by his wonderful syntheses of organic bodies—that is, by producing in the laboratory, through the combination of chemical elemtns (oxygen, hydrogen, nitrogen and carbon) various substances which enter into the composition of living bodies, or are produced by such bodies: hydro-carbons, oils, fats, and so on. All his work was a beautiful illustration of the unity of physical forces, which represents the greatest conquest of science in the course of the nineteenth century, and of that other great conquest, the transformation of mechanical movement into heat. He therefore retained till his death a firm belief in the unlimited power of science to give well-being to mankind, and in his philosophy and in its application to life he remained true to the best traditions of the Encyclopaedists. He published during his lifetime no less than 1,200 scientific memoirs, his chief works being "Organic Chemistry Based on Synthesis," 1860; "Lectures on the General Methods of Synthesis," 1864; "Lectures on Isomery," 1865; "Chemical Synthesis," 1875.

Babeuf, Francois Noel (1764-1797), French Commonist, who took part in the Revolution, and published a paper, Tribun du People, in which he preached the social revolution. After the fall of the Robespierre party, he organized, with Sylvain Marechal, Darthe, and several others, a secret Communist society, which intended to overthrow the Government and to constitute a Communist Directorate. The conspiracy was betrayed and the leaders were shot in 1797.

Bacon, Francis (1561-1626), great English philosopher, known as the father of the "inductive" method of scientific research, because he was the first to show that research and discovery will only be able to progress when the human mind has grown accustomed to consider observation and free, methodical, experimental research as the only means to discover natural laws and the true causes of phenomena. Scholastic wisdom, which only juggled with words, had to be given up, and true knowledge be acquired through induction—i.e., through the closest study of the separate phenomena themselves, before generalizations are "induced." This was the fundamental idea of all his work, and this is why Bacon is truly considered as the father of modern science. (See below, "Inductive-Deductive Method.")

Bain, Alexander (born 1818), one of the chief English representatives of physiological psychology. His chief works were: "Mind and Body," "The Senses and the Intellect."

Bakunin, Michael (1814-1876), political writer and an indefatigable revolutionist. Took part in all the revolutionary and Socialist movements of his own times, in Germany, Switzerland, Italy, Austria and Poland. Had a prominent part in the Dresden revolution of 1849. Was condemned after its defeat to lifelong imprisonment, and extradited by the Saxon government to Austria. After two years confinement in an Austrian fortress, where he was chained to the wall, he was surrendered to the Russian Tsar, Nicholas I., who kept him imprisoned in the fortress of St. Petersburg till 1856. Released after the death of Nicholas I., he was banished to Siberia, where he was very well received by the then Governor-General of Eastern Siberia, N. Muravioff-Amursky. Escaping from Vladivostok in 1862 he came to London, and took the liveliest part in the European revolutionary agitation. He soon became a member of the International Working Men's Association, joining the Jura Federation, which, in opposition to the General Council of the International, was the stronghold of the Federalist, anti-Statist, revolutionary, and excluded from the International; whereupon the Jura, the Spanish, the Italian and the East Belgian (Vesdre) Federations broke entirely with the General Council, which was transferred next year to New York, where it died; while the Federations just mentioned, concluding a federative alliance among themselves, and abolishing all central authority, continued the work of the International Working Men's Association on federalist principles, and up to 1878 held regularly yearly Congresses, until this became impossible, owing to Government persecutions. During this period Bakunin wrote a number of pamphlets in which he developed the principles of Anarchism, the chief of which are: "God and the State," "The State Idea and Anarchism," "Letters to a Frenchman" about the war of 1870-71, "The Kneuto-Germanic Empire," etc. An exhaustive biography of Bakunin has been written by Dr. M. Nettlau, in three large volumes; a short abstract of this work has also been published.

Bentham, Jeremy (1748-1832), English political writer, who received French citizenship from the Republican Convention for his work in the reform of legislation. Founder of the English ethical school of "Utilitarianism," which considers the aim of all social organization to be the attainment of the greatest happiness for the greatest number. J. S. Mill subsequeqntly developed these ideas in his well-known essay, entitled "Utilitarianism."

WAGE WORKERS' FORUM

HOME AND DOMESTIC EMPLOYEES' UNION

The members of the Home and Domestic Employees' Union are constantly being told that in view of the accepted fact that "A woman's work is never done," one of their objects for which they have a union, namely, a nine-hour day, is not attainable.

In dealing with this question, work must be clearly defined. Some women call afternoon teas, entertaining their husbands' friends, dressing to pay calls, etc., work, and to a certain extent they are justified, because their object is mental and social advancement, which cannot be obtained without work of some sort or other. But after all, they have a free will in regard to their affairs, and if in the pursuit of their own advancement they work, it is they who reap the benefits of so doing. It does not hurt to have this saying applied to them.

There is another class of women, namely, the wives of working men, to whom this saying can be applied with truth. Their husbands take it for granted that their wives work because hey like it. Some men are foolish enough to say that it is not really work—it is just "keeping at it." These women, however, do not need our sympathy—the remedy is in their own hands.

But the women to whom this saying is applied in its most deadly aspect are the domestic employees. The other day, a woman writing to a London daily newspaper said that what Canada needed was women who could chop wood, carry coal and water, do the family washing and cook. It seems to us that what Canada really needs is women who will realize that work in the home, as in other places, must be paid for and also properly organized—women who will substitute business methods for sentiment. It is really amazing what is done in the name of sentiment. The Home and Domestic Employees' Union intends to bury this commodity forever as far as their relationship with labor and capital is concerned. Too long has it sheltered a system which has no place in our modern life; a system which has lingered as long as it has owing apparently to the fact that domestic employees work practically in units. The call to combine has now reached the uttermost circle of the world's workers, and we believe in obeying the call, we shall accomplish the economic and social emancipation of domestic employees.

LILLIAN M. COOTE.

Label Leage at Tacoma

The Cigarmakers' union, of Tacoma, has taken the preliminary steps toward calling a convention, to meet in Tacoma, April 13. Oregon and Washington are to be represented and the object is to organize a Northwest Blue Label League. There are ten local unions in the two States, and it is believed that a campaign of education among the working men of this district would result in vastly increasing the membership. The Farmers' Union and the Grange have pledged themselves to buy union made cigars for their co-operative stores. Within a radius of 100 miles of Tacoma there are 6,000 miners, nearly all of whom belong to the miners' union. The cigarmakers also propose to ask the international that an organizer be apointed for the district to be covered by the league.

When a woman begins to show interest in political reform, that is an indication the debt on her church has been cleared off.

Men Who Rely on the Spencer Store for Their Spring Suit

will find every preparation made to give them the same sterling value for their money as heretofore. In fact, we have excelled ourselves.

This spring we have found two new factories that have broken into the wholesale world of clothing in Canada, and the old adage of "new brooms sweeping clean" is amply illustrated in the clothing we have received from them.

PARTICULAR MENTION IS MADE OF THE NAVY SERGE SUIT AT $15

We honestly believe that it is the best value of its class offering in the city. The material is soft finished medium fine twill; the style is smart although quite conservative and the tailoring is flawless. You owe it to yourself to see this clothing.

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TRADES AND LABOR COUNCIL—Meets first and third Thursdays. Executive board: H. C. Benson, president; W. Manson, vice-president; J. W. Wilkinson, general secretary, Room 210 Labor Temple; Jas. Campbell, treasurer; W. Foxcroft, statistician; J. Sully, sergeant-at-arms; F. A. Hoover, V. R. Midgley, W. R. Trotter, trustees.

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ALLIED PRINTING TRADES COUNCIL—Meets 2nd Monday in month. President, Geo. Mowat; secretary, F. R. Fleming, P.O. Box 66.

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, H. McEwen, Room 209, Labor Temple. 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, C. Hald; recording secretary, Geo. W. Isaacs; secretary - business agent, C. F. Burkhart, Room 208, Labor Temple. Hours: 11 to 1; 5 to 7 p.m. Sey. 1776.

BARTENDERS' LOCAL NO. 676.—Office Room 208 Labor Temple. Meets first and third Sundays of each month at 2.30 p.m. President, Wm. Laurie; financial secretary, A. MacDonald.

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. Williams, 305 Labor Temple; treasurer, L. W. Desiel, 305 Labor Temple. Phone Sey. 1380.

BROTHERHOOD OF CARPENTERS and Joiners. South Vancouver No. 1208—Meets Ashe's hall, Twenty-first and Fraser Ave., first and third Thursday of each month, 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.

BOOKBINDERS' LOCAL UNION NO. 105—Meets third Tuesday in every month, in Room 205 Labor Temple. President, F. J. Milne; vice-president, H. Perry; secretary, George Mowat, 515 Dunlevy avenue.

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.

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.

ELECTRICAL WORKERS, LOCAL NO. 213.—Meets Room 301, every Monday 8 p.m. President, Fred. Fuller; vice-president, Geo. B. Moulton; recording secretary, A. F. Gibson, Labor Temple; financial secretary, Robt. Robinson; treasurer, Harold T. Johnson; business agent, H. A. Jones, Room 207, Labor Temple.

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 1003 Burrard street.

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. Estinghausen, 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 1288.

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

MACHINISTS', NO. 182—MEETS SECond and fourth Thursdays, 7:15 p.m. President, Chas. Mattinson; 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. P. Howett; treasurer, W. Fowler.

OPERATIVE PLASTERERS' INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION, No. 89—Meets first and third Wednesday, O'Brien Hall, 8 p.m. President, G. Dean; corresponding secretary, F. Sumpter; financial secretary, D. Scott; treasurer, I. Tyson; business agent, R. R. Still. Phone Sey. 1614.

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 3; business agent, W. J. Nagle.

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

STEROTYPERS' AND ELECTROTYPers' Union, No. 88, of Vancouver and Victoria—Meets second Wednesday of each month, 4 p.m., Labor Temple. President, Chas. Bayley; recording secretary, Chris Homewood, 249 13th Ave. East.

STREET AND ELECTRIC RAILWAY Employees, Pioneer Division No. 101—Meets Labor Temple, second and fourth Wednesdays at 2 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.

STEAM ENGINEERS, INTERNATIONal Local 397—Meets every Wednesday, 8 p.m., Room 201, Labor Temple. President, F. Blumberg; financial secretary, Wm. Byatt, Room 216.

TAILORS, JOURNEYMAN TAILORS' UNION OF AMERICA, Local No. 178—Meetings held first Tuesday in each month, 8 p.m. President, J. T. Ellsworth; recording and corresponding secretary, W. W. Hocken, P. O. Box 503; financial secretary, L. Kakely, P. O. Box 503.

TILE LAYERS' AND HELPERS', LOcal No. 62—Meets first and third Wednesdays each month, 8 p.m. President, J. Kavanagh; secretary, E. A. E. Morrison, 1759 Eleventh Ave. East.

TYPOGRAPHICAL UNION NO. 226—Meets last Sunday each month, 2 p.m. President, A. E. Robb; vice-president, A. H. England; secretary-treasurer, R. H. Neelands, P.O. Box 66.

VICTORIA, B. C.

VICTORIA TRADES AND LABOR Council—Meets first and third Wednesday, Labor Hall, 731 Johnson street, at 8 p.m. President, A. Watchman, secretary, L. H. Norris, Labor Hall, Victoria, B.C.

AMALGAMATED SOCIETY OF CARpenters and Joiners, Victoria Branch. Meets every Thursday, 8 p.m., Labor Hall, Johnson St., Victoria. Business Agent, H. J. Sheen. Office hours, 8 to 9 a.m., 1:30 to 2:30, 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Secretary, A. E. Wrench; office hours, 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., and 2 to 5:30 p.m.; phone 2568. P. O. Box 770, 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, B. 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 965, New Westminster, B. C.

UNITED BROTHERHOOD OF CARpenters, Local Union No. 1589—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.

BARTENDERS' LOCAL 784—MEETS IN Labor Temple, New Westminster, corner Seventh street and Royal avenue, every second Sunday of each month, at 1:30 p.m. President, P. Paulsen; secretary, S. W. Jameson. Visiting brothers invited.

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 Varcol, 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.

Socialist Party Directory

DOMINION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, Socialist Party of Canada, meets every Sunday, 3 p.m., Finn Hall, 516 Main street. J. H. Burroughs, secretary.

BRITISH COLUMBIA PROVINCIAL Executive Committee, Socialist Party of Canada, meets every Sunday, 8 p.m., Finn Hall, 516 Main street. J. H. Burroughs, secretary.

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

VANCOUVER LETTISH LOCAL NO. 58, S. P. of C.—Holds its business meetings every first Sunday in the month, and educational meetings every third Sunday in the month in Room 211, Labor Temple.

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

LOCAL VANCOUVER OF SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY — Meets for business and propaganda every Thursday at 8 p.m. in Labor Temple. Public meetings in Dominion Theatre, Granville street, Sunday evenings. Secretary, O. L. Charlton, City Market, Main street.

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF THE UNITED BREWERY WORKMEN OF AMERICA
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Bi-color Bedford, 44 inches wide, $1 per yard. Comes in alternate cream and black, cream and navy, cream and grey, and cream and brown.

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For Spring, embraces absolutely every good feature possible—good materials, good workmanship, good fit, good style and good patterns.

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Deputy Minister of Lands, Victoria, B. C.

Secretary, Bureau of Provincial Information, Victoria

FROM FRANK FARRINGTON.

Editor B. C. Federationist:

I offer herewith, a variety of items dealing with conditions in the Pacific Northwest, which may be of interest to your readers.

The members of the Western Federation of Miners, who have been striking against the Britannia Mining & Smelting Company, a Guggenheim concern of Britannia, B. C., for nearly two months, are putting up a circumstances. The men involved in stubborn fight under rather adverse this contest are struggling to maintain their organization. For some time before the strike was inaugurated sentiment in favor of organization prevailed among the men. The company objected to an organization and used all their influence to discourage and prevent its establishment, and did temporarily prevent it from gaining working proportions. However, the sentiment in favor of organization still smouldered among the men and the question of whether the company should or should not allow them to organise was finally submitted to arbitration, in accordance with the terms of the Industrial Disputes Act of Canada, the arbitrators deciding in favor of the men, and, notwithstanding the company had agreed to arbitrate the issue, they refused to accept the decision with good grace. Nevertheless, the men, acting on the strength of the arbitrators' decision, formed an organization which the company immediately started in to destroy, and were doing their work of destruction so effectively that the men were finally forced into a strike in defense of their upion.

These men are at a decided disadvantage because they have been forced to move far from the field of action. This camp is located thirty miles up the coast from Vancouver City, and the only feasible means of entrance is by boat from the above mentioned place. Otherwise, a detour of about four hundred miles, over rough, snow-covered and untravelled mountains is necessary to gain entrance thereto. The company owns the wharves at which the boats must land, as well as all the habitable ground for miles around the mines. When the men struck they were compelled to vacate company property, which left them with no place of refuge short of Vancouver City, and it is at this point where the men are clustered, and from whence they are now directing their fight.

The Indians in the Teslin Lake district of Northern British Columbia are holding war councils and threatening to go on the war path, because they claim they have been robbed of their lands through the land allotment policy of the Provincial Government. The Indians call Sir Richard McBride, premier of British Columbia, the "White Devil," and are openly making threats of massacre. While some innocent prospectors will probably meet with devastation or massacre because of the outbreak, if one occurs, Sir Richard will escape injury inasmuch as he is safely ensconced in Victoria and separated from the scene of disturbance by twelve days' travel over a wild and uncharted stretch of country.

Sir Richard is the same dignitary who recruited 250 roughs and loafers, clothed them with police power and rushed them into Cumberland to establish martial law and terrorize the striking miners at a time when that community was as peaceful as a benediction. We wonder if the red men have not a keener sense of discernment than have their white brethren who for sixteen years have honored Sir Richard with the premiership of British Columbia.

John L. Howard, president of the Western Fuel Company, and his associate officers, have been indicted by the federal grand jury at San Francisco, charged with having defrauded the United States government out of more than $450,000. The charge is that for years this company has swindled the government in three ways, namely, on the "draw back" on coal sold to American vessels, and on the weights of coal sold to the American government for use by army transports, and on the duty due on coal coming into the United States. This is the same coterie who operate the mines at Nanaimo, and who have reaped immense profits through the robbery of their employees, the consuming public, and now the United States government. Evidently no one escapes their rapacity, "Get Rich Quick Wallingford" certainly had nothing on this bunch.

Section 50 of the British Columbia Mining Laws reads as follows:

"No certificate of competency shall be granted to any coal miner who does not satisfy the majority of the Board of Examiners that he is sufficiently conversant with the English language, and with the provisions of the acts relating to coal mining and rules and regulations made thereunder, to render his employment as such safe, and also that he has been employed in a coal mine for at least twelve months previous to the date of his application for such certificate, and has sufficient knowledge of methods of coal mining to render him competent to perform the duties appertaining to his employment."

In the face of this section of the law the Board of Examiners met in Cumberland a short time ago and in absolute contravention of the law granted certificates of competency to 90 illiterate Chinamen, who, because of their inexperience and inability to read or speak English, were wholly incapable of meeting the terms of the law and are unable to cope with the dangers encountered in mining. But what does a little perversion of the law amount to when strike breakers are needed, and what if the inexperience of these unfortunate wretches does lead them into unknown dangers and death? Though the death toll be great the ghastly greed of the dominating forces must be appeased, and though many of these unfortunates will perish some will survive and become part of the machinery necessary to crush the striking miners who are striving to free themselves of fiendish greed by upsetting the despotism of the Canadian Collieries Company. One curious feature of conditions here is that although they have seen the labor in the fishing industries monopolized by Japanese, and can see the white workers in the lumber industry gradually being displaced by Hindoo workers, and the white man engaged in the mining industry slowly supplanted by Chinese and Japanese, the priggish and patriotic "Canuck" still continues to rave about the invasion of a foreign labor union, and just will persist in shouting their hackneyed phrase, "Canada for the Canadians."

ORPHEUM THIS WEEK.

Ida Fuller and Her Dancing Nymphs, one of the most gorgeous and spectacular terpsichorean novelties of the present day in vaudeville, will be the headliner for the week commencing Monday matinee, April 7th, at the Orpheum Theatre. Miss Fuller, who is a sister-in-law of the famous La Loie, has expended more than $10,000 on this act, which played the big Orpheum Circuit last season, and it is declared by press and public to be the finest of its kind. Miss Fuller is a terpsichorean artiste par excellence and her corephees come from the famous European ballet schools, so that should be sufficiency. Vancouver audiences will doubtless enjoy this spectacle, as it is so different from the general run of vaudeville acts.

Another headline act next week will be the old favorites, Mr. and Mrs. Mark Murphy, who will return in another of their Irish sketches called "The Coal-Strike." They were here a little over a year ago in "Clancy's Ghost," and were the laughing hit of the bill. This sketch is said to be even better and presented by such artists as Mr. and Mrs. Murphy it will be well worth seeing.

Vilmos Westony, the celebrated Wagnerian pianist, will also make his reappearance and will be the third headliner on a bill that for quality has never been excelled in Vancouver. He returns this season with the greatest repertoire of his career and comes direct from a triumphant tour of Great Britain, where he returns upon the expiration of his Sullivan & Considine contracts.

Marie La Varre, the pet of the Parisian music-halls, will make her initial appearance out here next week. She is a singing comedienne, and infuses plenty of ginger and spice into her songs. Her gowns are the latest word in the Parisian styles and these with her own pulchitrude will make her a dazzling picture in the spotlight.

Ernest Rackett is another newcomer out this way, but it will not take him long to become a favorite, as he is naturally clever. He is a song-writer and sings his own songs. He also tells a number of tories that have a punch to them and all in all delivers an act that tickles the risibilities of vaudeville audiences.

Hall & Clark, known as the perfect physical culturists. These boys made a big hit at the New York Hippodrome last season, and with their classy and well executed acrobatic tricks are in a sphere by themselves. They will introduce several novelties that will keep the audiences on the qui vive. There will be the usual new motion pictures and up to date musical selections by the Concert Orchestra under the leadership of W. Pilling.

Girls' Wages Being Raised.

Advices received through the labor press indicate that already the wages of young girls and women engaged in industry on this continent are being "voluntarily" raised by employers as a result of the publicity given to the subject through "investigations" and the reports of same in the daily press. The most drastic changes, however, have been made where the employees organized into unions.

Ills of Industry

That industrialism is the principal cause of the filling of jails and insane asylums, the killing off of one-third of all babies in the first year of their life, and the restricting of other births, is declared by Dr. M. G. Schapp, professor of neuropathology at Cornell University, in an address here recently at the conference on mental hygiene. "Degeneration and race suicide increase with industrial supremacy and the stress of modern competition is the cause of much of the insanity. Employment of women in factories and the almost ceaseless activity demanded of all classes in efforts to retain their positions are leading causes in the breakdown of mental health."

Printers' Federation

Kalamazoo, Mich., March 22.—The employment bureau in connection with the Michigan Printers' Federation has proven a success, in that the local unions of the State are now informed as to the state of trade, and have also been able to place a number of men who were out of work, or who wished to change. In a recent report issued a statement is made that Kalamazoo recently secured a new three-year agreement with a raise in wages. Port Huron union also secured a three-year agreement with a raise all round. Pontiac secured a new scale and a two-year agreement. At prsent Traverse City, Battle Creek and Houghton are negotiating for new scales. The next convention of the Michigan Federation of Typographical unions will be held in Dansing, Mich., January 23 and 24.

In Rotten Russia

Remarkable statistics have been laid before the Duma recently with regard to the population of the Russian prisons.

It appears that between the years 1905 and 1911 the number of prisoners in Russia had increased by 95,000 and that the increase was largely among the political prisoners. From 1903 to 1911 the expense of all departments concerned had increased by 85 per cent.

Acts of terrorism in Russia during the last few years have been of rare occurrence. It is not anarchism which is filling the prisons but trade unionism and Socialism. The information regarding the prisons was laid before the Duma as a result of inquiries instituted into the large number of cases of suicide reported from the prisons.

Owing to the scarcity of coal, caused by the trouble between the miners and mine owners on Vancouver Island, coal from New Zealand, Australia and Japan is now coming into the markets of the Pacific Northwest. This fact should furnish food for thought for the exponents of a general strike of miners.

It is strange but true that the United States Navy Yard at Bremerton, Washington, receives much of its coal supply from the Pocahontas field of West Virginia. This coal is loaded into vessels at Newport News and freighted 16,000 miles around Cape Horn, before reaching its destination at Bremerton. This practice should make it obvious that, with the necessity of the long haul around the Horn removed by the opening of the Panama Canal, it will be entirely practicable to ship coal from the Pacific coast of British Columbia to the Atlantic seaboard, and to some degree denotes the magnitude of the work confronting the United Mine Workers of America.

FRANK FARRINGTON.

A WOMAN'S STANDING UNDER B. C. LAW

There has been a good deal of discussion lately on British Columbia laws as relating to women. A statement of some of these laws may be of interest.

Education and disposition of the Child.—A mother has no right of possession in her legitimate child.

The father has sole authority in the education and disposition of his child, even before its birth, till it shall be 21 years of age.

The consent of the father or guardian is necessary to the marriage of minors of either sex under 21 years of age, but the consent of the mother is not necessary if the father, or guardian appointed by him, consents.

A girl of 12 years or a boy of 14 years may be legally married in this province.

In the case of a deserted wife the husband has the right to collect and use the earnings of their minor children. He may also collect and use his wife's wages in some cases.

A wife is not entitled to dower in any land in the ownership of her husband. He may sell it or give it away without consulting her. This holds good even if the wife's money helped to buy it. He may leave her penniless.

A widow's portion.—If the husband should die without a will, the widow has one-third interest for life in all real estate owned by him at his death. If a widow and children survive, the widow gets the use of one-third of the real estate, the children inherit two thirds and at her death the mother's portion.

If there are no children, one-half of a man's estate goes to his widow, the other half to his own people, however remote the relationship. If no next-of-kin can be found it may go to the crown.

If an unmarried son or daughter die without a will, leaving a father, mother, brother and sisters, the father inherits it all, the mother nothing, unless the property came through her, when she inherits a life interest in it. A minor (under 21) cannot make a will.

Attempts to reform these laws have again and again been made but have always failed, and must inevitably fail so long as women have no representation in the legislature.—The Pioneer Woman.

Captain—Private Murphy, why should a soldier be ready to die for his country?

Murphy (after searching his head for a moment)—Sure, Captain, you're quite right. Why should he?

Alberta Coal Mines.

A Coal Mines Regulation Act for Alberta has been passed by the Legislature of that province and will become law as soon as it has received the formal assent of the Lieutenant Governor.

Important items in connection with the amendments asked for by the Mine Workers have been put through, and include election of checkweighmen by employees, independent inspection, and two-weekly pay.

The Act will come into force immediately it has received the assent of the Lieutenant-Governor, and all wages must be paid as provided in the Act, notwithstanding any existing agreement between the mine operators and the miners. The amendment is provided by the addition to the following sub-section to clause 34, which states how wages shall be paid:

"All wages earned by any person or persons employed in or about a mine from the first day to the fifteenth day of each month, both days inclusive, shall be paid on the first Saturday in the following month, and all wages earned from the sixteenth day to the last day of each month, both days inclusive, shall be paid on the third Saturday of the following month—provided, however, that if the first or third Saturday is a holiday, the wages payable on such Saturday shall be paid on the Friday next preceding such Saturday."

Another important amendment asked for by the miners was inserted in the bill on motion of Hon. A. J. McLean. This is in regard to inspection of the mines periodically, and the examination of a mine after an accident. Clauses 90 and 91 of the act, as it stood provided that the men who undertook this inspection must be working miners elected from workingmen in mines. The amendment makes it possible for miners to appoint for such purposes of this inspection, any two persons residing in the province who are practical miners, and have had not less than five ears' experience in underground work.

Four clauses in the act relating to duties of engineers and firemen and mechanical workers were struck out, and the clause substituted, which states that no person shall stop any fan, or alter the speed of any ventilating fan, until the manager has had the opportunity to withdraw the men from the mine.

Merry England

Death by starvation claimed 102 persons in England during 1912, of which forty-four were residents of London and fifty-eight in Provinces, according to a report issued by White Paper of the Local Government. London police made returns on a recent Saturday showing that one in every forty-one of the population were paupers, and the total number of such were 109,462. This is exclusive of 3,811 sick paupers and 19,682 crazy. In the latter class there were 3,552 children, exclusive of imbeciles. The London Times claims 1912 was a year of unprecedented trade prosperity and "the deplorable conditions evidenced by the increase of pauperism is due to labor disputes."

Carpenters Get Agreement.

The carpenters of Scranton have secured an agreement for three years with the master carpenters. It provides for the wages remaining unchanged for this year, the scale of 42 1-2 cents to be continued until January 1, 1914. It is then agreed that the carpenters shall receive 45 cents an hour and in 1915 they will receive another increase to 47 1-2 cents per hour, and in 1916, the last year of the agreement, they are to receive 50 cents per hour. Provision is also made for a semi-monthly pay day.

Don't you think it is time you thought of the future of your kiddies, when you are again called on to register your opinions at the ballot-box? Cease being a slave forging chains for them and yourself, and join the army of rebels. You will feel like a man then. Register!

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6-in. Bell Hangers Plyers, reg. 85c for 60c
8-in. Bell Hangers Plyers, reg. $1.50 for 75c
7-in. Combination Plyers, reg. 75c for 45c
8-in. Combination Plyers, reg. $1.00 for 60c
Disston Brick Trowels, all sizes, reg. $3.00 for..... $1.85
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NEW WESTMINSTER TRADES AND LABOR COUNCIL.

New Westminster, Mar. 26. — The regular meeting of the New Westminster Trades and Labor Council was held on the above date, President Stoney in the chair.

Reports of Committees.

Labor Day Committee, Del. Gibb, reported having secured Queen's Park for use of unions on Labor Day, and that the last committee meeting was very poorly attended. He asked that the Labor Day celebration be made a special order of business at the next meeting of the council. Report received, request granted.

Entertainment committee reported having nothing on hand at present, and the chair suggested the committee should act in concert with the Labor Day committee. Report received.

The committee on organizer reported the St. Ry. Employees as not having yet decided on the 15c capita tax. No report had been received from the barbers. Report received. Committee continued.

Reports of Unions.

Typos—All working. The Royal Theatre will at an early date exhibit a series of films showing how the fight against tuberculosis is being carried on in the Colorado Home for incurables maintained by the International Typographical Union.

Bartenders—All working.

Cigarmakers—All working again.

Street Railway Employees — All working except a number of car shop employees.

A. S. Carpenters—A few idle men.

Barbers—All working. King's Hotel shop has signed up. Walker's and Magee's still unfair. Gibbs, Kundsen, that King's Hotel barber shop be taken off the unfair list.

Teamsters report many idle men.

U. B. Carpenters—Some men idle. Taken all round the situation is not so good as a year ago. Many non-union jobs can be found.

Painters—Men nearly all working. Many non-union men in town.

Federal Labor Union—Just getting started; have a great deal of organization work ahead of them.

Newsboys—Have 20 members and are trying to get the delivery boys to join. The manager of the Province office had said that he would fire any of his boys who joined the union. These boys get from $1.50 to $3.00 per week and are afraid of losing their jobs, and consequently difficult to organize.

Plumbers report that business is picking up a little.

New Business.

Wardrope Grant, that election of organizer be postponed until a report is received from all the unions and that each union be asked to nominate candidate. Motion ruled out of order.

Delegates D. S. Cameron and H. Knudsen were nominated for the position of local organizer and on the ballot being taken, Del. Knudsen received 15 votes and Del. Cameron 14, and Del. Knudsen was declared elected to fill the position, duties to begin April 1st. On motion the salary was fixed at $30 per week.

The letter of the Progressive Association asking this council to co-operate in a "Buy B. C. Produce" campaign created considerable discussion.

Moved and seconded that the Progressive Association be notified that this council stands in favor of a civic commission and supply house, run by the city council at cost of maintenance where the consumer can deal directly with the producer.

Amendment: That the matter be left to a committee to confer with the Progressive Association regarding the question.

Further amendment that the letter be re-addressed to the writer thanking him for his information. Amendment lost. Original motion carried.

On motion the Secretary was instructed to write the chairman label committee, Vancouver, notifying him that there is no boycott in this council on the News-Advertiser

ALBERTA PROVINCIAL ELECTIONS

The legislative assembly of the province of Alberta was dissolved on March 25th and an election is to take place on April 17th. Nominations by the various political parties are being made all over the province. Up to date the socialist party have four men in the field: G. Paton in Red Deer, R. Burge in Calgary, J. R. Knight in Calgary, and C. M. O'Brien in the Rocky Mountain riding. W. B. Powel, late president of District 18, United Mine Workers of America, is nominated for the Rocky Mountain riding on the Liberal-Labor ticket, as also is Alex Ross in North Calgary. The surprise is provided by J. O. Jones, vice-president of District 18, United Mine Workers of America. He is nominated by the labor party in Lethbridge and endorsed by the Liberals of that city, who are not putting up a candidate. Mr. Jones' position seems somewhat anomalous, having in view the fact the convention of his organization, which was held in Lethbridge a few weeks ago, endorsed socialism as the political expression of the working class.

C. M. O'Brien is the unanimous choice of the working class in the Rocky Mountain riding and it is possible the Liberals and Conservatives will concede his seat and make his election by acclamation. In the other constituencies it is anticipated that the Socialists will make a vigorous campaign, and amongst the farmers anticipate showing a surprising growth in their vote from the men who are supposed to be suffering under the burden of prosperity that the Liberals claim to be so broadcast in the province.

BUY UNION FLOUR

The Flour and Cereal Mill Employes' Union of Lethbridge makes announcement as follows:

"To organized labor and friends.—This will advise you of the agreements being duly signed by the American Federation of Labor and the two Flour Mills in Lethbridge, the Taylor Milling Company and the Ellison Milling Company. Both mills employ union labor exclusively on an eight-hour day although the agreements call for at least nine hours. These are the only mills in Canada carrying the label of the A. F. of L.

"It will be for the benefit of organized labor to support and buy the product of these mills, now that the companies operating them have shown that they are fair towards their employes by signing the agreements. The product of these mills has attained a high place on the market.

"For the present the sticker label of the A. F. of L. will be pasted on the bags until another is decided upon."

The march of trades unionism, from its earliest inception, is marked with the wrecks and failures of low dives and cheap John institutions that might possibly flourish during times of peace, but which have lamentably failed in the hour of stress and storm.

ELECTRICAL WORKERS ORGANIZE IN NEW WESTMINSTER

The electrical workers in New Westminster were formed into local union No. 558 on Saturday evening, 125 becoming charter members. Fifty more are members of the Vancouver local, and will ask for transfer cards to the New Westminster local this week. Officers elected are as follows:

President, William Utterback; vice-president, O. E. Woodward; recording secretary, S. R. Clough; financial secretary, B. W. Sherwood; treasurer, Tom Rennie; first inspector, R. C. Harker; second inspector, J. J. Doolan; foreman, F. A. Bower; trustees, M. Pratt, A. McGregor, J. W. Maine; delegates to Trades and Labor Council, E. T. Fenton and Ben Sherwood.

Typos Recommend New Westminster Bonds.

At the regular monthly meeting of Typographical Union No. 682, New Westminster, a resolution was introduced and passed authorizing the officers of the local union to use their best endeavors to have the International Union invest several thousand dollars of its surplus funds in bonds of this city, as the local union believed it would be one of the safest and best investments that the International Union could make with its funds. Already the union has invested about $80,000 in bonds of Ottawa, Toronto, Victoria, and cities in the United States.

Many people who are not deeply interested in hours of labor and rates of wages would be quite intensely interested to know that something they put on ther children came out of a tenement where there was contagious disease!

Employers turn to this sweated labor in the home and tenement because it is very cheap; but for the community it is very dear.

MINERS AND LABOR COMMISSION

(Continued from Page One.)

boss that the company did not pay anything for handling dirt."

William Langden: "I worked a ploce where I handled 8 and 9 cars of rock each day. I earned $54.80 in 25 days. I complained and was told that if I did not like it I could take out my tools."

The above quotations are only samples and are not an exaggeration of the testimony of numerous other witnesses who testified before the commission, and are quoted only a additional evidence to prove the unscrupulous practices and ravenous greed of the Canadian Collieries Company.

Furthermore, it was developed before the commission that the employees of this company have been contributing to an accident and sick fund, of which the company's general manager is the custodian, and which was created to care for the funeral and medical expense of killed, injured and sick employees. At the inception of this lockout there was a combined surplus of $8000 in this fund, which, by every manner of reasoning, belongs to the men who paid it in, but, notwithstanding, the compan have paid nothing into this fund their general manager now refuses to allow the creators of the surplus to reap any of the benefits therefrom, but is expending it to care for men who were imported to fill the places of the men who created the fund.

This coal retails in Vancouver City and Victoria for prices ranging from $8.50 to $10.00 per ton, so that both the producers and consumers are being pillaged and the loot is going into the hungry maw of the Canadian Collieries Company, one of whose spokesmen testified that he did not believe in labor unions and that he preferred Chinamen to white workmen. The reason is obvious.

Evidently fearing the light of publicity, the real culprits who are responsible for the policies of this company did not appear before the commission in defense of their merciless and thieving practices, but remained in the background and sent a few petty subordinates to the front, who, in the main, testified that they were without power to answer for the actions of the company. And this is the company whose officers, while deserving the scorn and mental lashing of every decent and justice-loving man, wields sufficient power to have maintained at the expense of an already outraged public an army of special provincial police to protect them in their villainy, and whose general manager has decreed that the United Mine Workers of America must be driven from Vancouver Island.

F. FARRINGTON.

J. W. BRUCE DESCRIBES CONDITIONS

(Continued from Page One.)

cases reported of accidental injury, and only 971 claims were allowed. Five cases resulted in death, and six from the loss of a limb, with the total expenditure of $14,094.55. Here we see a startling state of affairs, and no wonder the workers complain of the scant benefits they receive from the fund. Had the company been compelled to live up to the Compensation Act of Nova Scotia, the beneficiaries of the five men killed would have absorbed half of the amount used by the company to settle all its claims. What a state it is producing in the homes of the people who have had the misfortune to lose their breadwinner: Case No. 1—The husband got killed last March and the company gracefully allowed the widow, with a family of five childrene, the munificent sum of $40. Fortunately the man had a policy in a life insurance company for the sum of $500, which was immediately paid. The poor widow appealed in vain to the management to do something, but the fact of her husband trying to protect his future outside the company's gigantic fizzle was enough to outlaw her in their eyes. Out of her little store she bought a horse and cart for her boy and we find this lad of 13 years of age hauling coal to keep his mother and her family of four other small children. Each load of coal returns 50 cents, the boy is compelled to shovel it all on and off; if things are fair he gets from 6 to 8 loads a day, thus we see a mere child moving from 3 to 4 tons of coal a day to make a living for the family and working from daylight to dark.

Another case of sickness I visited was that of a man with a wife and four children; he had worked for the company for a number of years. He paid $10.50 for four rooms not fit to call a stable. He had tried to be thrifty, and was a total abstainer, but with only two weeks' illness he found himself on the verge of starvation. He had hardly known what it was to have a holiday in seven years, working seven days a week, 12 and 14 hours a day.

Another case of death and the helplessness of the widow. She lost her husband through circumstances arising out of his employment. He had not been working long enough to come within the meaning of a permanent employee, to make her a beneficiary under the rules of the benefit society. However her appeals to the company brought forth the liberal response of an allowance of $45. Her husband had $7.25 to come in wages, making a total of $52.25. As against this the company charged the following: $1.00 hospital, $1.50 doctor, $1.50 ambulance, and $52 for funeral expenses, leaving the poor widow in debt to the corporation.

Another poor fellow was unfortunate enough to lose the sight of his eye through an explosion of metal, and was allowed $53. When he was well enough to return to work he appealed to be put on a more suitable job, but his request went unheeded, he had to return to his old occupation. With only one eye the poor fellow could not meet the exacting conditions of the industry, and, not making good, was fired.

There are scores of cases of a similar character that should emphasize the necessity of a rigid investigation.

At the present time there is an agitation on foot to take over the hospital. The president of the company has made an offer to turn it over if the city will arrange to take care of its patients, another case of saddling their burdens on the public of Sydney. That the hospital is too small is very evident, and the treatment accorded the patients, if reports be true, does not conduce to rapid convalescence, and with the city's demand for more hospital accommodation for its indigent poor, the company see an excellent chance of ridding itself of another of its burdens that eats into the profits, thus posing as a public benefactor, while getting rid of the necessity of looking after the workers maimed in its employ.

Now we come to the moral and social welfare of the people. Why has not the church joined in this crusade when its representatives are sent to minister to the poor and oppressed, and know of the terrible conditions existing? While the management of the company takes a certain amount of notice of the clergy it does not allow them free intercourse with its employees. At a meeting of the Presbyterian Board of Missions not so long ago, a request was placed before that body that they seek permission from the company's officials to allow its missionaries free access to the workers inside their property line, but with all the religious interest they have for their workers this request has been refused by the representatives of the corporation. Efforts made by members of the church to bring to light the revolting conditions that exist, have been persistently thwarted. I know some good workers in the church who are as cognizant of these conditions as I am, and they recognize their inability to deal with this great corporation. However, a spirit of revolt is developing, and the day is not far distant when the workers in this industry and its many subsidiary companies will be awake to their own power. The discontent prevalent amongst the people is remarkable, and when the bolt is drawn and the floodgate loosened up, it will produce a revolution that will awaken Canadians to the fact that while they may sing "Britons Never Shall Be Slaves," that within our own borders there exists a form of slavery so revolting and brutalizing that the very foundations of our future civilization are affected thereby, producing a class of serfs as brutalized as any in the history of the world.

These conditions can be seen on the surface, but what must be the suffering, degradation and misery of the people that does not come to light. So let the government of the country be humane enough to establish a fair and impartial Royal Commission to investigate and probe into this evil with the hope of making life worth living in this Dominion of Canada: the boasted home of freedom and opportunity.

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SCHEDULE
Provincial Elections Act.

Notice is hereby given that the list of voters for the Vancouver City Electoral District has been cancelled, and that applications to be placed on the voters' list will be received at my office at 501 Pender Street W., Vancouver, where printed forms of affidavit to be used in support of an application to vote will be supplied.

The list of persons claiming to vote will be suspended from and after the seventh day of April, 1913, and a Court of Revision will be held on the nineteenth day of May, 1913, and notice of objections to the insertion of any name on the register of voters must be given to me thirty clear days before the holding of the Court of Revision.

Dated this 4th day of March, 1913.

J. MAHONY,
Registrar of Voters for the Vancouver City Electoral District.

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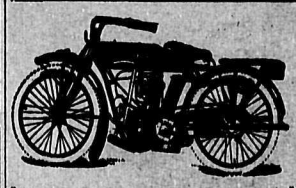
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