THE BRITISH COLUMBIA FEDERATIONIST

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

FIFTH YEAR. NO. 102. VANCOUVER, B.C., FRIDAY, MARCH 21, 1913. $1.00 A YEAR

SERIOUS UNEMPLOYMENT PROBLEM IN VANCOUVER BUILDING TRADES

In these piping days of "prosperity," when corporations and governments are busy spending thousands of dollars in publicity promotion, for the purpose of inducing jobless wage-workers to "come to Canada" and throw themselves upon the labor market, it may be interesting to note that there are already thousands of skilled and unskilled workers out of work in Western Canada, even at this time of the year, a time when ordinarily the industrial world is supposed to be humming.

In Vancouver city alone, especially among the building trades, there are enough men available for twice the amount of work now under way.

Out of 480 members of the Bricklayers' Union official reports this week show that only 192 are working.

The Plumbers, with a membership of 150, have 40 men working.

Of the outside Electrical Workers about one-third of the membership are on strike, as the result of a failure to secure terms demanded from the B. C. Telephone Co.

The inside Electrical Workers are fairly well employed, probably 80 per cent.

Of 66 Tile Layers 25 are idle.

The Painters are about 60 per cent. employed, out of a membership of 170.

The Sheet Metal Workers have 20 per cent. unemployed, out of a membership of 130.

Ten per cent. of the Elevator Constructors are idle.

Twenty per cent. of the Cement Workers are looking for jobs.

The actual membership of the Civic Employees and General Laborers' Union is fairly well employed, but there are hundred of men awaiting an opportunity to re-engage upon civic work, after a two months' spell of idleness.

As astounding as these unemployment figures are in Vancouver, the biggest union of the lot, the Carpenters' two unions are the hardest hit. It would be safe to say that less than half of the 1,000 union men are unemployed, besides a large number of non-union men of the same trade.

No wonder, then, with so many bread-winners idle, that so many women, young girls and even children, are rapidly filling the labor market in every avenue where possible, at wages which are a disgrace to any community, cost of living considered.

Pending the opening up of much-heralded public works and railway construction work throughout the province job-seekers on the outside would be well advised to take the above conditions into consideration before coming west to further intensify the competition for jobs.

Barbers' Organizer in Vancouver.

C. M. Feider, organizer Journeymen Barbers' International Union of America, with headquarters at Los Angeles, is an official union visitor in Vancouver this week. Along with the local business agent, C. F. Burkhart, he is busy lining up the tonsorial artists of the Terminal City. During the coming week Organizer Feider will visit New Westminster, Victoria and Nanaimo.

Mr. Feider was a witness at the recent trial of alleged "dynamiters" at Indianapolis, and he is very emphatic in expressing his opinion that the whole thing was a deliberate "frame up," an opinion shared by many who happen to know the inside history of the struggle going on between the National Erectors' Association and the Structural Iron Workers' International Union.

Ontario Brotherhood of Carpenters.

The Provincial Council of the Brotherhood of Carpenters in Ontario will meet in convention at Toronto on March 22.

Hamilton Labor Temple.

The Labor News reports that shares in the Labor Temple project at Hamilton, Ont., are being sold at a rate which ensures success. The directors are meeting regularly and making ready for the actual construction work.

The New B. C. Voters' Lists.

Organized labor officials in British Columbia seem to be pretty well satisfied with the government's decision to abolish the old voters' lists. No effort is now being spared by central labor bodies and unions to place names on the new list.

A Woman's View.

"The women! yes, and the men also, must rouse themselves, think for themselves, and when the opportunity is again given them to record their votes in favor of men who have brains to understand, and hearts to feel, that the multitude who do the work should enjoy the delight of being treated as human beings."

Architects Sue Labor Temple Co.

Messrs. Lang, Major & Co., architects of Calgary and Lethbridge, are suing the Lethbridge Labor Temple Co., Ltd., for $1,178. The claim is based upon services rendered in the preparation of plans and specifications for the proposed new Labor Temple, which have not been accepted by the directors.

School Teachers Overlooked.

"Seems to me the school teachers were overlooked at the recent sittings of the Provincial Royal Labor Commission," said a local teacher to The Fed. on Wednesday. "We are the poorest paid lot of them all, other things considered," continued the gentlewoman. All of which corroborates the statement that God helps those who help themselves.

The Difference.

"You might have the reporters stay half an hour later," said the great editor to a subordinate, as he buttoned up his fur coat before going to the opera. "You never can tell when something is going to break loose."

"Shall I have the printers stay also?"

"The printers!" shouted the great editor, growing red in the face. "I should say not. Don't you know that the printers are organized and that they would charge for overtime?"

Quiet With the Printers.

The local daily newspapers are cutting down in size, as a result of advertising patronage falling off. "About 25 per cent. less business being carried than this time last year," said a publisher yesterday to The Fed. As a result quite a number of Typos are beating it for pastures new, keeping Secretary Neelands busy issuing travelling cards. The job printing side is particularly rotten at present. Machine operator subs. are catching enough to keep a canary alive; ad. and floor dull.

Syndicalism has received quite a boost. Peter W. Collins has condemned it.

GEORGE CASTELL
President Trail, B. C., Mill and Smelltermen's Union, No. 105, W. F. of M.

BRITANNIA MINERS' STRIKE STILL SHOWS NO SIGN OF SETTLEMENT.

Employment Bureau Sharks Unable to Secure Strike-breakers at Any Cost.

The strike at Britannia mines and Beach remains unchanged. After four weeks the company has failed to make any appreciable progress. Information received from reliable sources shows the company to have between forty and fifty men working, practically all of whom are foreigners, the company being unable to get any English-speaking strike-breakers.

One of the company's agents attempted to send men from Portland, Oregon, to work at the mine, but he met with very little success. Two men sent by this agent arrived in Vancouver about ten days ago. They were sent here in ignorance of the fact that a strike was on, and on arriving in Vancouver and hearing about the strike, refused to act as strike-breakers. The local union paid their expenses while here, and sent them back to Seattle.

Some more of these agents are trying to create the impression around the city that there is no strike, but naturally the public refuse to believe this, as the strike is well advertised.

The foreman at the Lunnell camp has quit his job. All men with any principle refuse to handle men who act as strike-breakers.

From the present outlook the Britannia Mining Co. will not pay such large dividends as they did last year.

Employment agents in the city are striving hard to send men to work at the mine, but their efforts have been in vain.

MERCHANTS SHOULD SHUN ALL ADVERTISING FAKERS.

In order to protect friends of organized labor against unscrupulous advertising solicitors, the Central Labor Council insists that all requests for advertisements be authorized by that body. Pay no attention to these requests unless the solicitor has credentials stating that the proposition has the endorsement of the Central Labor Council, and that is worthy the support of those believing in the aims of organized labor.

Simpson Again a Commissioner

James Simpson of Toronto has received and accepted an invitation to serve as a member of a commission appointed by the executive committee of the National Reform Association of the United States.

Toronto Tailors' Long Strike.

On March 1, the tailors of "Toronto the Good" entered upon the second year of their strike. The fight started with the demand of the union for clean, sanitary workshops, fair working conditions, and a living wage. The International Union of Journeymen Tailors is assisting the local union in its fight.

Industry's Human Slaughter.

During the month of February, in Canada, 485 industrial accidents were reported to the Department of Labor at Ottawa. Of these 85 were fatal and 400 non-fatal. This is 15 fewer fatal and nine more non-fatal than was recorded in January. The record for February, 1912, was 66 fatalities and 391 non-fatal accidents. The greatest number of the fatal accidents occurred in the railway service and in the mining, industrial and lumbering industries.

The greatest number of non-fatal accidents occurred in the metal trades, there being 140 workmen injured, followed by the steam railway service with 83 injured.

Socialists Getting Busy.

The Social Democratic Party in B. C. is taking a referendum vote as to whether they will make a proposal to the S. P. of C. to unite forces.

Local 69, S. P. of C., reports that some wag has stolen its charter from the meeting room in Labor Temple. And, to add insult to injury, forwarded same to the Spokane headquarters of the I. W. W. with a report that the local has "gone over in a body" to the no-political-actionists.

Mass educational meetings are being held in the Empress and Granville theatres every Sunday night, with capacity houses.

Editor Burroughs, of The Western Clarion, recently resuscitated by the S. P. of C. Dominion executive committee, reports that it is now on a paying basis, for the first time in years. Or, more properly speaking, there is sufficient revenue in subs. and contributions coming in to pay the printer.

All locals throughout the Province are busy placing names on the new voters' lists, anticipating a general federal election in June.

The local situation among the socialists is more promising just now than for some years.

What is the next step, as a result of the finding in the Cheslakee inquiry?

MINERS TO CELEBRATE MAY DAY AT LETHBRIDGE

The coal miners of the Crow's Nest Valley and Southern Alberta coal fields, covered within the jurisdiction of District 18, U. M. W. of A., have decided to hold their joint annual First of May (International Labor Day) mass celebration at Lethbridge, Alta., this year.

J. W. Wilkinson, secretary of Vancouver Trades and Labor Council, will probably be one of the speakers.

LEADING EXCITEMENT AT CITY HALL STILL IN EVIDENCE

The autocrat of the City Hall, Engineer Fellowes, is continuing to pry around the waterworks department, with results that are eminently pleasing to himself and disturbing to others.

Occasionally he comes across something which he thinks is a rankly scandalous thing, and then he goes hopping and snooping around like the very devil. Nobody dare approach within hearing distance at such times, and generally speaking it is a rotten quarter of an hour for the first individual he gets hold of.

"It's all vastly amusing to the onlooker, especially those who are a little behind the scenes.

Mr. Fellowes is the only thing that keeps matters interesting these days at the City Hall, for with the excitement of the C. N. R. bylaw victory now a thing of the past, business is a trifle dull there.

By an overwhelming majority, by 3 1-3 votes to 1, the C. N. R. bylaw was passed by an electorate which had been dazzled by the brilliant hues painted by the plausible spokesmen favoring the agreement.

If but one-half of the good things promised materialise the Millenium will be within grasping distance in Vancouver. Certainly some people are going to benefit very materially, for they were able to get in on the ground floor, as it were, on First avenue.

However, in the words of Premier Asquith, we must "wait and see."

It was charged by Mr. Macintosh of the firm of Letson & Burpee, at the board of works session Wednesday, that City Engineer Fellowes, after having promised to recommend the calling for new tenders for sewer and water works castings, had, on the contrary, recommended the acceptance of a tender from the Vancouver Engineering Works for sewer castings.

EVERYONE SHOULD GET ON VOTERS' LIST

All who are qualified are urged to have their names placed on the voters' list at the earliest possible moment. Some misunderstanding seems to prevail as to the need for registration. All the old Provincial and Dominion voters' lists have been canceled, so that all who want to vote at forthcoming elections, either Federal or Provincial, must register anew. Those who fail to do so will have no voice in the affairs of the country.

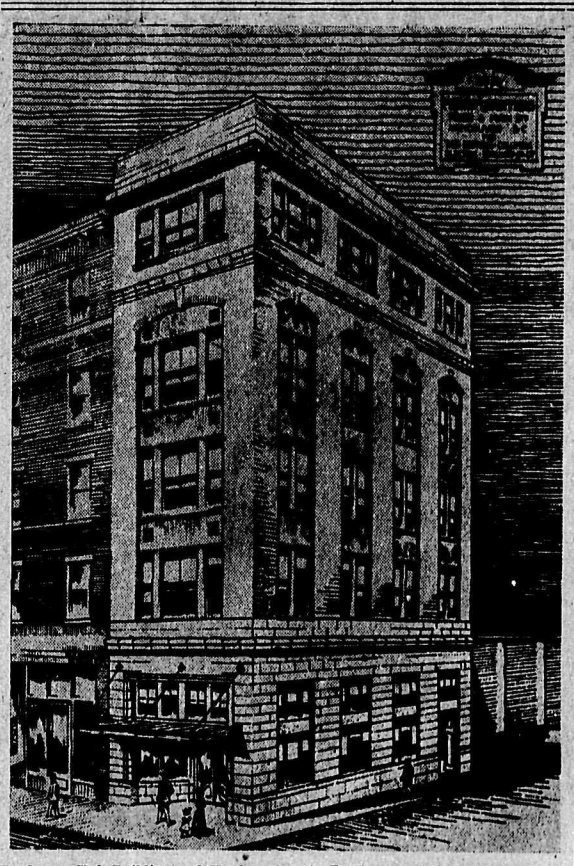
Registration forms can be secured and filled in at The Federationist office during any hour of the business day, from now until April 7, when the lists close.

TRADES AND LABOR COUNCIL MEETINGS OPEN TO VISITORS

It may not be generally known among the wage workers of Vancouver that the Central Labor body meetings, held on the first and third Thursdays of each month, are open to visitors and to the press.

At a time when so many men in the city are on the unemployed list it might be well for those who are anxious to learn something of the aims and objects of the organized labor movement, including the relationship between their poverty and their vote, to pay the council meetings a visit.

"I wear gloves at night to keep my hands soft." "You must also sleep with your hat on."



Handsome Club Building and Headquarters to Be Erected at Once by the B. C. Electric Ry. Co., for the Accommodation of Motormen, Conductors and Employees, all Members of Division No. 101, Street Railway Employees' Association.

A handsome club building and headquarters for the motormen, conductors and shop employees of the B. C. Electric Railway Company, Limited, will shortly be erected at the southwest corner of Main and Prior streets, directly opposite the principal car barn of the company. Tenders for the construction of the building have already been called and it is planned to rush the work to completion so that the block may be ready for occupancy during the coming summer. On this page of The Federationist appears a view taken from an artist's sketch of the building, which shows that the company intends to provide for its men quarters that are both comfortable and convenient.

The block will have a frontage on Main street of 25 feet and a depth along Prior street of 60 feet. It will be five stories in height with a Mezzanine gallery on the ground floor. The plans call for a substantial building, the type of construction being of reinforced concrete, with the street frontages faced with brick and artificial stone, thus making the block of imposing appearance. The estimated cost of the building is about $35,000. This outlay, taken in addition to the value of the plot on which the block is located, means a considerable investment on the part of the company for the benefit of its employees.

The entrances are provided on the ground floor, one from Main street and the other from Prior street. The depot master's office is located at the Main street entrance and behind this apartment is the large general waiting room for the men. The Prior street entrance is located at the rear of the block and leads to the elevator and stairways by means of which the upper stories are reached. On the mezzanine floor will be located the offices of the traffic superintendent and his staff.

Above the ground floor the first story will be entirely devoted to lockers for the men, this large space being necessary because of the hundreds of employees who will take advantage of the provision of the building. The second floor utilized for a reading room and games room, the plans of the company contemplating the complete furnishing of the rooms for these purposes. The billiard room will be located on the third floor, the plans showing a room which provides space for one billiard and two pool tables.

The entire upper floor is left clear and will be used as a gymnasium, being made 18 feet in height for this special purpose. This floor will be equipped with a full outfit of gymnastic apparatus of the latest type.

The building will be heated throughout with hot water. Lavatory accommodations will be provided on each floor and in connection with the gymnasium, shower baths are planned. The elevator will operate from the ground floor to the gymnasium and will probably be of the automatic type. The plans for the building have been prepared by the company's architect after an examination of the plans of similar buildings maintained by other electric railway companies, and represent as complete an equipment for the comfort and convenience of the men as can possibly be arranged.

ELECTRICAL WORKERS OF THE B. C. TELEPHONE CO. ON STRIKE

FRANK CAMPBELL
Financial Secretary Trail, B. C., Mill and Smelltermen's Union No. 105, W.F.M.

Union Officials Give Out Authentic Statement of the Position.

The Electrical Workers, No. 213, are on strike against the B. C. Telephone Company, operating in the Province of British Columbia, and no doubt a number of our readers have been deluded by the statement of other papers, which was or has been given out by the officials of the company.

Our position in the matter is that about a year ago we called for a Board of Arbitration, under the Lemieux Act. The appointments were made at the meeting. Mr. Haise, for the company, stated that they did not need to go into working conditions, as they would get the same as the other companies in the neighborhood, and the only question to decide was the wages.

Why did not the company stand by their promise regarding the conditions instead of keeping the members of our organization continually fighting for these same things which the company promised but has never carried out in any way, shape or form?

Our grievances are that the company did not give us the conditions we asked for over a year ago. They only gave us the 25c raise, which the board recommended. The classifications are: Foremen (wire chiefs to be classed as same), linemen, cable splicers, gas-von meter men, switchboard men, installers, cable testers, repair men, trouble men, inspectors, repeater men, facility men and ground men.

What we term a lineman is a man who has had three or more years in one or all branches of the trade. A wire chief is a man in charge of material and men, but still the company do not want to class him as such.

All the other classifications come under the head of journeymen electrical workers and should be classified as such, and this the company refuses to do.

In all our agreements with other companies we have a rates of apprentices clause inserted, which the other companies have no objection to. This seems to be a very important issue for various reasons.

In one department during the latter part of February the company had working 17 journeymen and 16 apprentices. In another department the same month they had 18 journeymen and 9 apprentices. These are the conditions we are striving against.

We want our organization recognized by the company, which the company refuses to do, the argument being that we broke an agreement we had before.

We are satisfied that at the time of the strike of 1906 we had reasons for so doing.

The conditions, as stated before, are not of the best. For instance: A short time back girls were getting the following wages: First 6 months, $1.20; 12 months, $1.30; 18 months, $1.40; 24 months, $1.50; 36 months, $1.60, and 10c increase each year thereafter. They work about eight hours a day, get a lunch consisting of bread, butter, cheese and jam and tea, with just sufficient than allowed to satisfy it. The "hello" girl's position is what we would like it to be. They become nervous wrecks, during the true rights of womanhood.

The experts of the company state that 225 calls per hour are as many as can be handled without injuring the service of the public. It is safe to say that the breaking point of the operators health is not far from the breaking point of efficient service.

It is a regrettable fact that some of these men have practically refused to help these girls by bettering their condition. These same men are working night and day to take the bread out of the mouths of the wives and children of workingmen and girls who are striving for better conditions.

Furthermore, the company engages girls to watch the operators and call them observation clerks. These girls have to keep tab on all the calls, and if an operator is a little slow in getting a subscriber's number she is reported and censured. It has been reported that they have put a supervising operator on a certain subscriber's line for the purpose of reporting who is being called up and what the conversation is about. This, of course, the company deny.

But the question is, we are fighting, and as such it will be seen that we are out to win, regardless of the company's attitude and the threats and intimidations they are using to coerce the men to return to work.

The letters sent out by some attorney, acting for the company, may do for men who have corporation brains, but we are workingmen and have workingmen's brains.

BRICKLAYERS IN PACIFIC NORTHWEST WANT UNITY.

Bricklayers in the states of Washington, Idaho, Montana, Utah, Oregon, California, and the Canadian provinces of British Columbia, have formed the Pacific Coast Conference of Bricklayers and Stone Masons. They urge that the international union join the A. F. of L., and also adopted a resolution requesting that local unions join the city central bodies and bring about a closer relationship with other trades.

Another "Strike."

Pacific coast steamship companies are endeavoring to stage another "Klondike" boom, using a recent gold "strike" near Teslin Lake as a pretext to lure fortune-seekers to burn up real money in transportation.

Among the Types.

Conditions have slightly improved in the printing business during the past two weeks, largely due to a number of members withdrawing their cards, also on account of special holiday editions of the daily newspapers being issued.

Wage-Earner's Labor Temple Number.

The Wage-Earner published by Editor Fred Urry in the Twin Cities of Port Arthur and Fort William, Ont., announces a special Labor Temple edition to appear on April 25th. The proposal to erect a Labor Temple is meeting with splendid success and the chances are good for the commencement of actual construction at an early date.

NELSON UNIONISTS WANT PIECE OF THE "PROSPERITY"

Nelson bricklayers are demanding $6 per day, plasterers $7 and hod-carriers $4, and employers must insure painters, pipelayers and carpenters.

Demanding increased wages for several classes of labor and a Saturday half holiday for some occupations, a new scale was presented by the Nelson Trades and Labor Council and referred by the council at a meeting last night to a committee of the whole for report. The proposed new scale is to become effective on April 1.

The present rate of wages and that demanded under the proposed new scale are: Carpenters, from $4.50 to $5; painters, from $4 to $4.50; pipelayers, from $3.50 to $4.00; teamsters, from $80 to $90 per month and eight hours instead of nine; laborers, from $3 to $3.20 to $3.50.

Electricians in the proposed agreement submitted asked for double pay for Sundays and holidays. A foreman under the suggested agreement is a workman in charge of one or more men, and his wages are to be $150 per month. He is not to be allowed to use tools for performing journeymen's work. The rate of pay for the workmen is scaled as follows: Linemen, inside wiremen, metermen and inspectors, $5 per day; head operator, $140 per month; station operators, $120 per month; station oilers, $100 per month.

Street Railway Employees.

G. E. B. Member Magnus Sinclair during January organized Division No. 614, Moose Jaw, Sask. He also visited and addressed meetings of Division No. 588, Regina, and rendered service upon proposed legislative matters in the interest of labor in the province of Saskatchewan. He visited Saskatoon in the interest of organization work, making arrangements for the movement to organize to continue under the supervision of A. F. of L. Organizer F. J. Barton. He returned to Port Arthur, Ont., where he assisted upon the affairs of that local. He was then dispatched to Hamilton, Ont., where he addressed a meeting of Division No. 107, reporting the local in very good condition, there having been obtained a recent increase in wage, establishing the wage rate at 22, 23 and 25 cents per hour with two cents additional for Sunday work.—Motorman and Conductor.

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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 wage-workers.

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

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

FRIDAY.....MARCH 21, 1913

PROGRESS AND PERSPECTIVE.

The younger a man is the more he is influenced by the things of the moment. The past, the present, the future, and all eternity, are compressed into the immediate present which lies beneath his nose—and precisely for that reason he looks at it cross-eyed. But as he grows older, his accumulated experiences supply him with guides and gauges by which he is enabled to judge the various happenings of a day as they come along. He realizes that life is very much like looking at a large picture. When one is close up to the canvas it seems to be nothing but a smudge of black, white, green, red, or blue pigment without any apparent coherence or reason, and not until we stand back do we perceive the balanced effect which is produced by distance. Then we understand the meaning of that which we could not see because it was so near, and what is true of a picture is true of life in general. We do not realize the real value of anything that happens until it has taken its place among the sum total of our experiences, and by the time experiences have been ours Youth has passed on its joyous way. Youth has been sung by minstrel and poet for ages, but the eternal tragedy of mankind is that it is born ever young, and each unit is replete with all the possibilities of folly and failure, which have tripped the footsteps of its ancestors on their march from cosmic slime to boiled shirts and picture shows, and by the time a man has to die he has gathered just about half enough information to know how to live. If the scheme of things had been so arranged that men could take up the threads of life where their fathers laid them down, the race might advance in worthier fashion, but it is not so, and perchance the gods are satisfied, lest men should become even as they, knowing good and evil.

It is true that each generation slightly alters the pattern of the social fabric of its time, and the aggregate of those changes is the measure of the real and abiding progress which is made by the human family in its journey to—well, who knows? That is on the knees of the gods, and 'twere too curious to meddle o'er much with such matters for "he that increaseth wisdom increaseth sorrow."

But what youth lacks in experience it possesses in enthusiasm and that abounding belief in everything which is only fully attained by those who know nothing—including themselves. The precocity of youth and the faith of the fanatic are twins begotten of the loins of well-intentioned ignorance wandering at large in the highways and byways of a world which only smiles at the bubbling vitality of the former, the while it builds prisons to save itself from the latter.

Now the trade union movement, like most other things in British Columbia, is full of the bounding spirit of youth which brooks no delay, and there are not wanting those amongst us who are bursting with schemes for reaching the tops of mountains without climbing the sides, with the unbecoming result that their bones litter the trail and sadden the eyes of those who would have commended them to better methods had they the intelligence to profit by the instruction.

The mission of the working class—if it has one other than to illustrate to posterity the possibilities of human stupidity in the twentieth century—is to save itself, and the first business of its would-be saviours is to try and get a correct estimate of their class. Nothing is easier than to climb on the hind legs and brazenly assure an audience of workers that they represent the cream of intelligence and the salt of the earth, for the simple reason that being neither, they will the more readily believe both. What we are is not our fault since we are in no way responsible for the parental preliminaries which are responsible for our being here. Coming of ancestors who were slaves it is but scientifically correct that up to now the workers have not done anything half so well as those things they were told to do, and it is no wonder that in the larger affairs of management and responsibility they have not figured much. But with the knowledge of how to read and write, and how to exchange thoughts and ideas tending to the improvement of their condition, has come a wider outlook on life and a more spacious conception of the possible destiny of their class. Increased literacy and intelligence has opened the floodgates of yearning and aspiration for a larger and fuller life, and the problem of the working class today is how to organize that new force and marshall its efficiency to produce the desired result as quickly as possible. The mere cramming of the cranium with the terms and phraseology of some particular school of economic thought, so that when the head is shaken it sounds like a tin can with stones inside, is no proof of ability to grapple and deal with the practical difficulties of the question as it confronts us. The world as we find it is the given quantity from which the solution of the problem has to be extracted, and out of the fabric of the old order the new one has to be woven; and in spite of the desire of some for violent and sudden re-adjustment of the social and industrial relations of men, nothing will ever be accomplished by such means which is not in danger of being itself swept aside by similar methods. Whilst the trade union movement seems most sluggish to those who know it best and who are the hardest workers in its ranks, yet it has done, is doing, and still has to do, a great and patient labor for the men and women who do the world's work.

LISTEN!

Do you hear it? It is the wind shaking with an ominous rustle, the leaves of the fear haunted woodland! It is the first breath of the gale of the future, stirring vaguely the quiet somnolence of the underbrush; it is the virgin sigh of Freedom in the vast forest of the world, as she receives on her pensive forehead the kiss of the impetous Aeolus.

Do you hear it? It is the wild wind rending to tatters an unseen mantle in the hollows of the sleeping hills, the flame-like force of the Idea blowing in gusts through the thickly clustering branches of the mighty nations, a wilderness of souls; it is the first blast that shakes the oak trees; it is the unloosening of the hurricane; sweeping away, through the ravines and upon the peaks, the dim haze of sterile resignation.

Warm and fruitful breeze, pass through the forest. Each leaf that you touch is a voice newly born; each branch that you stir is an arm that takes up a weapon—a voice that shall join the heroic concert to salute the bright morning of emancipation—a strong arm that shall stretch itself forth to find the breast of a tyrant.

It is the breath of the revolution!

Do you feel it? It is the upheaving of the granite, under the hills, which is crumbling to pieces, beaten by the iron fists of Pluto; it is the bleeding heart of the world throbbing beneath its titanic chest; it is the white hot spirit of a giant who breaks from his hateful prison and hurls into space the words of flame.

It is the rumbling of the earthquake that announces the full bursting forth of the crater.

Do you feel it? It is the reverberation made by the mighty hammers of the gods striking at the very bottom of the abyss. It is new life that is being born in the depths of the black whirlpool—life that causes a shudder of fear, even in the asylum of Death where the invisible vampires reign.

LISTEN!

IT IS THE REVOLUTION WHICH IS ADVANCING.—From the Spanish of Praxedis G. Guerrero, the heroic martyr of the Mexican revolution. (Translated by Ralph H. Chaplin.)

WE GET WHAT WE VOTE FOR.

The labor as well as the socialist press frequently contain vigorous denunciations of the conduct of the upper strata of society, and yet, this denunciation is not warranted when the conduct of the wealthy receives calm consideration, says the Miners' Magazine.

It may be that countless thousands of people, when looking upon the palace and the hovel, upon the master and the slave, will feel a revulsion against such contrasts in society, but the great mass of the people support the hellish system that builds a palace for the exploiter and a hovel for the exploited.

Our words bristle with indignation when we read in the columns of the daily press a description of a monkey banquet tendered by a fashionable damsel who has "money to burn," but at every election the great majority of people who howl against feasts for monkeys and diamonds for dogs march to the polls and cast their ballots for the continued reign of an industrial system that enslaves the worker and enthrones the economic tyrant.

We denounce the white slave traffic and condemn prostitution; but we vote for capitalism that breeds both.

We denounce war with all its horrors and yet with our votes we uphold a system that requires gatling guns and cannon to maintain it.

We denounce injunctions, militarism and corruption in official life and yet the ballots of the vast majority of the people are recorded in favor of a system that demands mandates from courts, armed force and the debauchery of so-called "servants of the people."

As long as men support a cause from which spring effects that arouse indignation, there is but little consistency in the condemnation of such effects.

The army of "dreamers" is rapidly increasing.

"Be slow to cast old shoes or friends aside—there is a great deal of comfort in both."

"He is a brave man who refuses to be disheartened by the fact that he was beaten yesterday."

One child in every twenty on the American continent is sacrificed on the altar of capitalist cannibalism.

Lethbridge, Alta., city council has decided to build and operate a civic abattoir, and appoint a meat inspector.

The Union of Domestic Servants in Austria is publishing a monthly journal devote dto the interests of the membership.

"You honor yourself and prove yourself worthy of final success when you do some good for the mothers of the world."—J. E. Lewis.

Canada is a wonderfully rich country, inhabited chiefly by poor people, who devote much of their time to keeping themselves poor.

Sorrow, sickness, filth, worry, jealousy, envy, and all the misery that comes to the human race is the result of ignorance and poverty.

Calgary city council is considering ways and means of establishing a civic coal supply yard, coal to be supplied at cost to purchasers.

A considerable portion of the population of British Columbia are just now engaged as governmental commissioners of inquiry as to how the other portion makes its living, with special reference to school trustees.

It has been estimated that the total number killed in the Balkan war is 35,000, while the wounded number 163,000. The workers have shed all the blood and received all the wounds. This is about all they will receive from the struggle.

Now is the time in the world's history for us to organize. The organizing of industry is an accomplished fact, and but awaits us. Let us cast aside our jealousies and self interests and make a move for the ending of the dark horrors of capitalism.—The People.

The socialists in the French Chamber of Deputies have decided to oppose the additional war appropriation of $100,000,000 demanded by the government. They demand instead that the chamber vote $130,000,000 for the public schools.

For this time of year, the middle of March, there are more idle carpenters and building tradesmen in Vancouver than has been the case for years. While the building permits continue to pile up actual building operations are anything but brisk, attributable, the contractors say, to the scarcity of money.

Patrick Burns, the Cattle King, is nothing if not candid. He was asked at Calgary last week why he did not pay the union scale of 55 cents per hour to certain tradesmen employed in the erection of a new abattoir. "Because," he naively replied, "I can get plenty of men for 40 cents per hour."

"Fair criticism is both honorable and laudable; to construct, to build up, to do better, is an honorable ambition. To have patience in the shortcomings of people less gifted in intellect and experience is a valuable asset. The aim to improve and to do right, regardless of reward, is a priceless trait of character."

If the retail clerks of Vancouver ever expect to obtain a Saturday half holiday, better working conditions, more wages or anything else, they will have to expect to do the job for themselves. Organization alone will do the trick. Better get in touch with the organization committee of the Trades and Labor Council, at all times ready to assist in such work.

It begins to look as though the Electrical Workers' controversy would resolve itself into a permanent division after all. Indications at this date go to show that the inside workers will line up with the McNulty-A. F. of L. section, while the outside workers will stick with the Reid organization. The attitude of the Pacific Northwest Council of Electrical Workers is a considerable factor in the lineup.

Political Equality Leagues throughout British Columbia are waging a campaign of education among gentlewomen, with a view to altering the government's attitude upon the question of enlarging the franchise. Premier McBride himself evidently tipped it off to a provincial delegation last month at Victoria that the way to get things was to become strong enough to take them. Sound logic withal.

Winnipeg unionists, like Vancouver, Calgary and other cities, are infested with advertising fakirs who are pulling off all kinds of stunts to annex easy money in the name of organized labor. Just when merchants and others will learn to see that properly accredited credentials are forthcoming before patronizing these various schemes seems problematical. Meantime the legitimate labor press hovers 'neath the shadow of the sheriff while many advertisers save up their money to fall for smooth tricksters who traffic upon their credulity.

Since the beginning of time the man wounded in the struggle of life has been compelled to nurse his own hurts or die. The soldier wounded in battle has received some consideration in all countries and all times, but the soldier of industry crippled while endeavoring to earn the bread he eats, has ever been left a helpless outcast, and now that efforts are being made to remedy this world-old wrong, there are those who cry out against it because it will reduce their profits by compelling the industry that produces cripples to support them. Such men are out of tune with modern tendencies.—Labor Clarion.

Every unionist should see to it that the Union Label is in evidence on everything he wears, not only for the good that will result to others, but because of the protection that it gives him. He will be assured that he is not wearing a garment from some foul workshop loaded with disease germs. There is no other way to get this assurance. It is worth the trouble. Some union men find it difficult to explain why they give their union wages for the product of the sweat-shops, tenement houses or prison. In buying union labeled goods you are sure you are employing union men or women, as the label tells you under what conditions the goods were made.

Every loyal member of a labor organization should try to induce fellow workers who are not now members to join. The dangers which seem to threaten one union threaten us all, and are not confined to the organized, nor to the unorganized. The members of the union may look to the union for protection and feel somewhat safer than those who are not members. Still, if those who are not members have their wages reduced, competition may bring wage troubles upon those who are members. For this reason it is to the interest of every member that he shall induce the largest possible number of non-union workers to become members of the union.

Did it ever occur to you that the best advertisement in the world is the recommendation of a friend? If every member of a union would say a good word for it every day, the resulting advertisement would be worth more to the union than would any advertisement that we could buy in any of the most popular newspapers or magazines in the country. If you feel that you haven't as many friends as you ought to have, perhaps a little introspection will prove that it is your own fault. Your friend is your friend, because you are attractive to him. It is safe to say that the long-faced recluse is not attractive to anybody unless it be the scientific man who is looking for freaks.—C. J. Scherneck.

"I tell you, when all men in this country get their rights, when all have work, when all are equal, there will be no dynamiting. But so long as there are hungry babes, while others are living on the fat of the land, there will be violence. I do not favor violence. I have fought the labor unions all my life. I drew up the famous anti-picketing ordinance. Yet, if I had walked the streets all days long, offering to sell my hands or head to feed my hungry, crying baby, and couldn't get work, and knew there were others living on bees' knees and humming birds' tongues, and giving monkey dinners, I'd commit violence, and tear the front off the First National Bank with my finger nails."—Earl Rogers, attorney for Clarence Darrow at Los Angeles.

"The Building Trades Protection Act" is the title of a bill just introduced by Hon. Chas. Mitchell, minister of public works, in the province of Alberta, incorporating provisions suggested by the executive committee of the Alberta Federation of Labor a couple of weeks ago at Edmonton. The act provides for the appointment of inspectors whose duty it will be to see that scaffolding and other appurtenances in connection with the erection and repair of buildings are carried out according to its provisions. The measure is a comprehensive one and if enforced should prove very acceptable to wage-workers engaged in the building trades. The idea of having such legislation made provincial, rather than municipal, is one that should commend itself to the consideration of unionists throughout Canada.

"The agitator is generally a man fighting in the face of public prejudice for his theories. In this age of hypocrisy and slavish subservience such men should command our attention if they do not deserve our respect. Thought is changing fast, what is jeered at today becomes an accepted fact tomorrow. The new rapidly displaces the old, and the truth ultimately prevails. In the words of an agitator, 'This generation will pass away, but my word shall not pass away.' Truth is eternal. So it is with the sociologists of this generation. The agitator, frequently mistaken, sometimes blundering, at other times stumbling upon the truth, consciously or unconsciously carries the torch of progress on past the dens of ignorance and faith, the powers of privilege and throne, and lights the way to the highest truths that command the recognition of man."

The cry of the employer when a demand is made for higher wages by his employees is that he cannot afford it; it would ruin his business. He wants the trades unions to take his business into account when they are asking for increases. He does not ask his employees if the wage he pays suffices to keep the larder filled; the rent paid, or the doctor's bills from piling up. Oh, no. If the workingman is not satisfied with the wages he receives he can go elsewhere, no matter what the condition of work elsewhere or the employee's ability to go. That is none of his concern. He expects, however, that his employees should give his business, his luxuries and pleasures, consideration before asking for an increase to keep himself and family from going into debt and suffering the ills that follow insufficient food and insanitary conditions around his home.—Union Record.

Edmonton, Alta., not only owns and operates more public utilities than any other city in Canada, but it is not afraid of establishing precedents when it comes to doing things. Its latest venture is the establishment of a city farm upon which victims of the police court will have an opportunity to break away from the humiliating in- of filthy cells and all that goes to make criminals. Frederick W. Lyons, who opened the prison farm at Guelph, Ont. (visited by the delegates to last year's Congress convention) has been engaged to take charge of the venture. Whatever may be one's opinion of the danger of "convict" labor coming into competition with "free" labor the fact remains that so long as the social system that produces "criminals" prevails the next best alternative is the establishment of such humane institutions as that now in operation at Guelph. Of course there is the "danger" of making the civic farm conditions so attractive, compared with railway construction camps and other outdoor work, that outoforks may take easily to the idea of becoming "criminals" for the sake of economic security. At any rate the Edmonton experiment may lead to something better. For instance, it might dawn upon some people that if "criminals" can operate a farm successfully under governmental paternalism the same could be successfully carried out on a much larger scale by "free" laborers.

Is your name on the new voters' list?

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.

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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 249. 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 305.

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. Deziel, 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. Conahor; 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, 735 Semlin Drive, phone Sey. 639.

BRICKLAYERS' AND MASONS', NO. 1—Meets every Tuesday, 8 p.m., Room 367. 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, Kurts 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 1238.

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. 6380.

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. E. Ward; treasurer, D. Evans.

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, E. R. Still. Phone Sey. 1514.

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

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 897—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, E. 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 988, New Westminster, B. C.

UNITED BROTHERHOOD OF CARpenters, Local Union No. 1695—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. 106 Western Federation of Miners—Meets Sunday evenings, in Union Hall. President, E. A. Hines; secretary-treasurer, M. P. Villeneuve, Kimberley, B.C.

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

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

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

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

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, 3 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 221, 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.

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Women's blazer sweater coats in extra fine fancy weave, shown in regulation or Norfolk styles, in navy and white, cardinal and white, sky and white, or maroon and white; at $5.00 and $6.00.

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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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Handsome suit of light grey Bedford cord. The coat is cut on straight lines with two-button fastening and rounded front, coat collar and black satin revers, three-grey satin. Neatly cut skirt, showing pleats on side gores. Price $35.00

Dressy tan suit, made of the new piplin material. The coat shows cut-away front and fancy shaped back, collar and cuffs, smartly trimmed with cream and brown Eponge two-button fastening, lined with tan messaline. The skirt is made with high waist line and new wide front. Price $40.00

Fancy black and white Bedford cord suit. The coat has a slightly cut-away front, fancy shaped collar and blac ksatin revers, three-button fastening, tailored sleeves with fancy cuffs, lined with grey satin. Four-pieced skirts with panel front and back. Price $30.00

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Secretary, Bureau of Provincial Information, Victoria

SOCIALISM AND NATIONAL DEFENCE

Victor Fisher.

When the question of armaments is under discussion, trade unionists, labor party men and socialists are usually to be found to be opposed to armaments at any time, in any form, or for any purpose. The following article presents a point of view differing from the ordinary. Victor Fisher is one of the best known and effective opponents of socialism in England, and his views as here presented, raise points which cannot be eliminated by the simple process of disagreeing with him. Mr. Fisher says:

There are three main canons of criticisms by which to form one's opinions on the problem of National Defence. You can hold, in the first place, the primitive Christian thesis that the use of physical force is, under any circumstances, wrong, and therefore cannot be justified. "Resist not evil; but whosoever shall smite thee on the right cheek turn to him the other also," etc. Or secondly, you can hold, if it pleases you, that national catastrophe may be deliberately pursued as a policy, in the hope that it may culminate in national upheaval, revolution, and ultimate transformation to a higher social state. Or again, you may believe that whatever inequalities or wrongs there may be in any given social state, the nation, qua nation, has something worth defending, is ethically justified and politically bound to defend it, and should, therefore, take adequate measures for its defence.

I will not waste time on the first proposition, for it does not affect in the least appreciable degree the wagging of this hoary old world. However hallowed it may be by the lip service of orthodox Christianity—and the lip service only—or the fantastic vagaries of isolated Eastern fanatics, the Juggernaut car of world-affairs, national and individual, wheels over the bodies and souls of men and women *who are incapable either personally or* as members of a corporate life, of vindicating through the exercise of Force, positive or latent, their right to live.

As to the second idea, it is entirely a matter of degree and one that cannot be judged on first principles or by preconceived notions of the meliorist value of social catastrophe. It would, for instance, be a perfectly arguable proposition that a disastrous foreign war suffered by Russia in Europe, leading possibly (though by no means certainly) to internal revolution, and the dawn of political freedom in that immense Empire, might logically and morally be welcomed by any Russian equally attached to liberty and fatherland. So, too, I can quite understand that the man on the Thames Embankment, with neither scrip nor staff, might welcome the advent of a foreign invader, for his position could certainly not be worse and in any upheaval, even though such an upheaval resulted in a general lowering of the national life, his position might conceivably be improved in the resulting scramble. But however black a picture we may choose to paint of England under Capitalism, it is not a condition that the British people could not change rapidly in their own interests without any catastrophic shock to the national life, were they possessed of adequate intelligence, patriotism, and will. The British people have secured potent instruments for still more notable advances to a higher social state—potent instruments of both a local and national political character as well as of an industrial nature, but they are showing themselves rather less than more capable of appreciating their value and of using them. Such is certainly not the case with Russian democrats, for in Russia all the main channels of healthy, normal public service are at present effectually dammed. But the well-being and wealth of a great and complex society, with all its traditions, cohesions, racial complexities, and mental and emotional idiosyncracies cannot be judged by the elemental outlook of the starving, homeless wanderer by the great river's brink. Such unhappy creatures are pathological eruptions on the body social, a menace *to its health and life*, but they afford no criterion of its normal, healthy growth.

Whatever its shortcomings, and they are manifold with the frailties and blemishes of our common humanity, this English folk has grown old in its stout struggles for liberty; it has not lagged in the rear, but has marced in the van of European civilization and has left an imperishable imprint on the world. It has been a great adventurer, not only in physical prowess and in military achievements, but in science, in literature, in philosophy, in all the arts of life and human government. The bones of its sailors lie in every sea; of its pioneers in every land. It has attracted into the aura of its national life the boldest spirits of the European family and is knit together by splendid traditions. It is now, I believe, in its various families, scattered throughout the world, but bound by the most potent of all ties, big with a higher and a more spiritual civilization than the world has yet seen. This, I believe, is what England stands for; this is what we Socialists have got to realize in her, and this is what we have to defend.

It is because I love England, because I have a clear eye for the wrongs suffered through an incoherent economic system, because I wish to see enlarged the frontiers of English freedom, that I am a Socialist. But such a movement as ours and such a people as this people have nothing to gain, but an immense loss to suffer by the triumph of a reactionary political and militarist autocracy, such as German Kaiserdom incarnates. This conviction in no way imputes motives of criminal aggrandisement on the part of the German people as a whole; but when the Prussian autocracy thinks it can safely make its traditional spring on another victim, it will make it, as it sprang at Poland, at Denmark, at Austria, and at France. This is the German menace embodied in the most potent army in the world and a navy inferior only to our own, and far beyond the needs of a pacific Teutonic policy.

Armaments indeed largely depend on policy, and we socialists might well agree to unite on a common demand for the abolition of the present iniquitous secret system of diplomacy; the establishment of a Foreign Affairs Committee of Parliament and the right of Parliamentary ratification of foreign treaties. In the meantime how many Socialists have thought out the pros and cons of British foreign policy, the necessity for the balance of power, while the capitalist regime endures, and the basic facts which make that essential in the conduct of our international relations? Alliance or entente is necessary to the safety of France in the face of the tremendous growth of German power since 1871. If the Anglo-French entente breaks up, France must make her peace with Germany, and that would and could only be at the price of the isolation of this country and all the peril to peace such an isolation and position of inferiority in which Great Britain would then be plunged. The best guarantee of the world's peace is in a strong Britain and a strong France, firmly united in a common policy.

I do not accuse German Imperialism of contemplating an invasion—permanent or temporary—of this country. I think that idea is almost fantastic because unnecessary to the aims of the Pan-Germanic policy. Those aims must be, at least at first, towards the incorporation of Holland and Belgium in the Imperial system, in sweeping British commerce from the seas, and in thus reducing us to starvation and impotence. It is unnecessary to the task of subduing this island of 45,000,000 people for German Kaiserdom, to land the traditional single Pomeranian grenadier in England.

In our present powerless military condition, for which we have largely to thank that present Whig, Haldane, there is nothing easier than for Germany to overrun the Low Countries and seize Rotterdam and Antwerp. The German Federal system is admirably adapted for the incorporation of such States into the German Empire. The Kaiser would blandly explain that his dear cousin, the Dutch Queen, and his other dear cousin, the Belgian King, would remain on their respective thrones; the Dutch and German Parliaments would continue to be convened—the only difference would be that their foreign relations and their military organization would be dealt with from Berlin, instead of being directed at the Hague and at Brussels. Germany would secure two magnificent ports, half a million more soldiers, and a vast, wealthy and industrious population. At a bound she would become the first military and naval power in the world, a far more formidable, as she would be a far more reactionary, government a fond than the Napoleonic Empire ever was. With the aristocratic Austrian alliance, the German Empire would hold France and England at her mercy.

Well, I have to tell my Socialist friends that the British people will never tolerate such a vassalage unless the British nation has suffered another and a more complete Sedan. The political party that flirts with such an idea is doomed to impotence and even extinction. A British defeat at the hands of Germany would leave the overwhelming mass of Britons seething with a determination to "get their own back," Anglice for La revanche, and God help the party or politicians who were, rightly or wrongly, associated in any way with the national humiliation. You cannot sum up human nature in an economic formula, and if Socialism becomes synonymous with treason to the British national integrity and safety, or to the national traditions and temperament, we may bid a long farewell to the realisation of Socialist hopes and aims.

One word more: I advise my foreign comrades to make themselves less prominent in this controversy if they are out for a pro-German and anti-British agitation in Great Britain, or in seeking to associate English Social Democracy with a futile and dangerous Pacifism. They must not presume too much on the easy-going toleration and political liberty they enjoy in this country in comparison with the police customs of Continental lands, whence many have fled. British democrats may be educated into becoming Internationalists; they will refuse to embrace mongrel, and spiteful, anti-nationalism.

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land has never been afraid that the opinions of these different people would hurt her sons, and it amazes us to think that one of England's colonies would set such a precedent as to deny to our shores one who has not broken the laws of any country.

Again, by what right do the immigration officers constitute themselves our moral teachers? Either we think ourselves, or we allow others to do our thinking; and we of the longshoremen feel that we are perfectly capable of thinking for ourselves.

THOMAS NIXON.

Miners Make a Statement.

Ladysmith Local Union No. 2388, District 28, has forwarded The Federationist the following copy of a self-explanatory resolution, unanimously passed by that organization at its last meeting:

"Whereas, for certain purposes, a wide circulation has been given to the report that our local union in Ladysmith is being used for the furtherance of socialism, to the exclusion of the purposes of unionism;

"And whereas, in the present struggle one regrettable incident did occur which we could not have foreseen, and for which we in no sense assume the responsibility; this unforeseen incident being used by certain parties so as to cast a reflection on the good name and intention of our organization:

"Therefore, be it resolved that Local 2388, U. M. W. of A., do declare unanimously that it stands absolutely and without reserve on the side of law and order, and whatever power is vested in it will be used to preserve the law and prevent infractions thereof amongst its members:

"And be it further resolved that we do declare that Local 2388, U. M. W. of A., is not being exploited by any political party, but stands for unionism and unionism alone; that at all times, as in the present struggle, it is our ordinary duty to protect our members from oppressive measures; and further, it is our unalterable determination, whatever may be the sufferings of ourselves and those immediately dependent upon us, that every lawful means will be used to oppose the resumption of operations by the Canadian Collieries (Dunsmuir), Limited, until an honorable agreement can be arrived at, which will insure us against the tyrannous methods of an alien manager who is not even the holder of a B. C. certificate as such, and grant to us that measure of freedom which should be the birthright of every British subject."

S. GUTHRIE,
President.
D. McKENZIE,
Secretary.
For Executive Committee.

The Timber Workers' Union.

When the Shingle Weavers' Union first considered the question of extending its jurisdiction many of our members asked "Can it be done?" The question is answering itself. Encouraging reports come from all quarters. The splendid spirit of the unorganized is an inspiration. It shows that they realize the need of organization and are ready to join in a movement that promises success.

The Shingle Weavers themselves are a unit in this movement. It is their splendid solidarity that has made it possible for them to withstand the battles of the past. It is their fine spirit that has enabled them to come forward at this time with an invitation to all timber workers to join us in the labor movement, the movement that voices the discontent, misery and oppression of the working class. The entire labor movement is in harmony with us, with the exception of the "hammer gang," and they are at variance with themselves.—Harry Call.

S. P. of C. Organizer Here.

J. R. Knight, organizer for the Socialist Party of Canada, under the auspices of the Dominion executive committee, who has been touring the province for the past few weeks, reached Vancouver during the week and is now engaged at Vancouver island points. Organizer Knight is scheduled to address a mass meeting in the Empress theatre here on Sunday evening, March2 3.

MANY CENTRAL LABOR BODIES IN FAVOR OF ONE INDUSTRY; ONE UNION

Vancouver Circular Caused Quite a Flutter in American Labor Circles

Some months ago Vancouver Trades and Labor Council submitted a circular to all the central labor bodies of America, asking for an expression of opinion as to the merits of industrial unionism.

To date the following replies have been received:

In Favor.

Columbus Federation of Labor, Columbus, Ohio.

Wallace Trades and Labor Council, Wallace, Idaho.

Brandon Trades and Labor Council, Brandon, Manitoba.

Racine Trades and Labor Council, Racine, Wisconsin.

Toronto District Labor Council, Toronto.

Kokomo Trades and Labor Council, Kokomo, Indiana.

Central Labor Union, Newport News, Virginia.

Brantford Trades and Labor Council, Brantford, Ontario.

St. Thomas Trades and Labor Council, St. Thomas, Ontario.

Calgary Trades and Labor Council, Calgary, Alberta.

Allied Trades and Labor Association, Ottawa.

Spokane Sectional Central Labor Council.

Vallejo Trades and Labor Council, Vallejo, California.

Victoria Trades and Lazor Council, Victoria, B. C.

Gray's Harbor Trades and Labor Council, Washington.

Brownsville United States Council, Brownsville, Pa.

Lethbridge Trades and Labor Council, Lethbridge, Alberta.

Danville Trades and Labor Council, Danville, Illinois.

Alameda County, California, Central Labor Council.

North Yakima Trades and Labor Council, North Yakima, Washington.

Cigarmakers' International Union, Chicago, Illinois.

Ashville Central Labor Union, Ashville, North Carolina.

Syndicalist Educational League, New York, N. Y.

Salt Lake Federation of Labor, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Non-committal.

The following considered the time was not ripe for industrial unionism:

Moncton Trades and Labor Council, Moncton, N. B.

Montreal Trades and Labor Council, Montreal.

Against.

The following voted against the resolution:

Fall River Central Labor Union, Fall River, Mass.

St. John, N. B., Trades and Labor Council, St. John, N. B.

WAGE WORKERS' FORUM

International Longshoremen's Association Local No. 38-52, 133 Water Street.

(Copy.)

Vancouver, B. C., March 11, 1913.

To the Honorable Mr. Rogers (and Mr. H. H. Stevens, M. P.), Minister of the Interior, Ottawa, Canada.

Sir,—I have been instructed by the organization I represent as secretary to protest against the action of the government deporting Organizer Joseph Ettor of the Industrial Workers of the World, on the grounds that something more than the holding of opinions should be made a pretext for such arbitrary action.

This man is one of those who assisted in solidifying the Textile Workers of Lawrence, Mass., in their late successful efforts for better conditions, and thus incurred the ill-will of the mill-owners who were instrumental in imprisoning him, and left no legal stone unturned in an endeavor to murder him by procedure of the courts.

This latest attempt of the powers that be to stifle free speech by deportation is a lesson in sabotage by the authorities which is so unholy a crime when practised by the Workers, and we most emphatically protest against this amazing piece of autocrasy in discrimination by the government against a man whose offence is that of being undesirable to the employing class.

It is slowly but surely dawning upon the workers of this country that class rule exists, and the employing class and those whose interests they so faithfully represent have little to congratulate themselves upon when the present system of exploitation of the workers rests on a foundation so insecure that it has to be supported by the denial of speech, and can only be preserved by the continuance of the ignorance of the workers to a sense of their own economic strength.

We are not protesting because this man is a member of the Industrial Workers of the World, but because England has always boasted as being a haven to all classes. The nihilist of Russia, the anarchist of Spain, etc., etc., are all welcome so long as they conform to the law of the land. Eng-

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Enamel Water Pitchers, Reg. $1.25, for 35c and 89c

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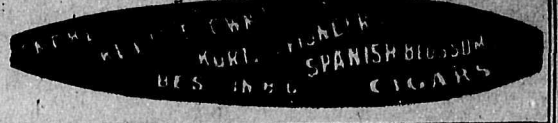

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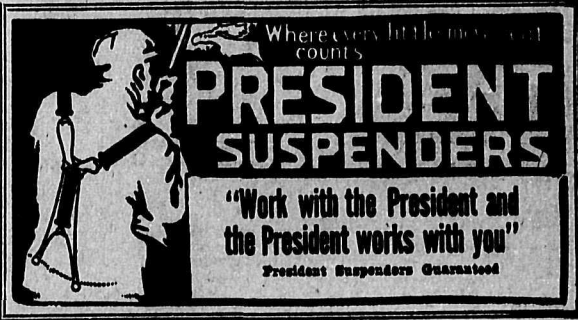

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