THE BRITISH COLUMBIA FEDERATIONIST

INDUSTRIAL UN[illegible] STRENGTH. — OFFICIAL PAPER: VANCOUVER TRADES AND LABOR COUNCIL AND B. C. FEDERATION OF LABOR. — POLITICAL UNITY [illegible]

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ENGINE[illegible]S JOINING FORCES AT LABOR TEMPLE

Old B.C. Association Giving Way to International Union

New Members Coming Over at Rate of Twenty Per Week

A concerted movement is on foot among Pacific coast trades unionists to unite and solidify the men engaged as steam and operating engineers in this province under the jurisdiction of one international union. In last issue of The Federationist the subject was dealt with at some length by a member of the local international union. This week another correspondent, a member of the old B. C. Association of Stationary Engineers, writes:

"I have been a member of the B. C. Association of Stationary Engineers for several years, and being so situated that I could not attend its meetings for the last two or three months, I did not know there were negotiations pending for its affiliation with the International Union, and if I had not read The Federationist last week, it is possible that I would never have known anything about the matter.

"There can be no question but that propositions of this character are the most important that can come before an organization of any kind and there can be no question but that matters of such magnitude are only properly handled when considered and disposed of by all the members constituting the organization.

"The B. C. Association was brought into existance years ago, and when created was designed to deal with the industrial conditions at that time, and, while it was effective in securing better conditions for its members then, it has been a disturbing element as effecting working class unity and the growth of revolutionary sentiment ever since.

"This organization, like others of its kind, has a tendency to stereotype and perpetuate itself. It has built up within itself certain interests that through time have become opposite to the interests of those it is supposed to serve. The original form, ideas, and tradition that gave it birth are cherished. New ideas, and proposed changes though they may be in harmony with the changing industrial conditions and needs of the mass of those concerned, are frowned down and ostracized, especially if they are of such importance as to change its form and endanger the position of those in control.

"This organization is so far behind the demand of the times that it cannot hope to deal with the industrial conditions today. In fact it is of such ancient vintage, that instead of being a benefit to the working class, and its members as a part of that class, it is curse to both, since it, in reality, forms but an integral part of the capitalist organization. This organization, and those of its kind, always have been and still remain, largely responsible for the division in the working class, and when we recall that the engineers of today are more familiar with power and the effect produced through the revolution of forces, than any other element of the working class, it is difficult to understand why they tolerate a division among themselves as concerns organization.

"I have been aware of these facts a long time, but, like many other members of the association, I remained with it, hoping the time would come when all of its members, through the various agencies, especially the educational facilities maintained by the association, would wake up to a realisation of the necessity for unity among the working class, as well as the folly of divided effort, and end this struggle between themselves by joining the rank and file in a body, thereby extinguishing the antagonising factions, and being aware of the fact that fifty per cent. of the members of the association were anxious to affiliate with organized labor, I was not surprised to read of the recent negotiations instituted to attain that end, and being familiar with the environments, sentiments, personal and pecuniary interests of the members in general, I was not surprised to learn the manner in which these negotiations were terminated. As a matter of fact the proceedings had, by 'a handful of members' of the association, at the two meetings prior to Nov. 14th, as related in The Federationist, clearly affirms the statements herein made and gives those of us familiar with the 'environments, sentiments, personal and pecuniary interests of the members in general' to understand who it is that was responsible for the ignominious method employed to prevent affiliation.

"None of us need be told who the individuals are that assumed the privilege of legislating for all the members of the association, without their knowledge or consent, and we need no information concerning the incentive that actuated this 'handful of members' to rob their associates of the right to attend to their own business, because there are but few connected with the organization capable of conducting themselves other than as men of honesty and integrity.

"These few are well known to all concerned, and, while it is just possible that they are not prompted by some particular capitalist or capitalistic interest, to antagonize all things designed to promote the interests of the working-class, it is certain that they are an element honest working men are better without.

"At any rate I do not seen how any one can add to their dignity by associating with an element of this character and it can be depended upon that I will be a member of the international union before The Federationist appears this week."

PLENTY OUT OF WORK AND PROSPECTS VERY POOR

Officers of I. L. A. Visit Local Union—Funeral of Dan Heritage

Member Back from Shushanna—And Other News Items

Secretary George Thomas, of the local 'Longshoremen's union states that there are at present an overflow of out-of-works. "There is a large number who can hardly make a bare living owing to the slackness of employment," he says. Prospects poor.

J. V. O'Connor, president of the International Longshoremen's Association; J. A. Madsen (Portland), district secretary; Mr. Harrison (New Orleans), president of the Gulf coast district, paid the local headquarters a visit on Sunday, and left for Seattle where they will attend as delegates to the A. F. of L. convention. They will return, however, to attend the regular meeting of the union, which takes place this (Friday) evening in the hall, 146 Alexander street. President P. Peel will preside.

Dan Heritage (aged 44 years), an old-time Vancouverite, died recently of cancer of the stomach at the general hospital, where he had been only a few days. He had formerly been a tug-boat captain and master of the barge Ivy, a valued member of the union and well-liked by the "boys." The funeral was largely attended, the pall-bearers being Messrs. Haggerty, Wright, Cameron, Knight, Mills, Markey. The interment took place at Mountain View cemetery.

Joe Inglis, a member of the union, has been in the general hospital for the past six weeks as a result of an accident while unloading steel rails at Johnson's wharf. He is getting on as good as expected.

Sam Mortimer, old-time longshoreman, has just returned from the Shushanna gold fields, where he reports conditions as being good for the workers and where he hopes to get out of the "wage-slave class." He will return north next spring. Anyone intending to go there should be well-provided with a good grub-stake and some ready cash.

The "Miners' Liberation League" buttons found ready purchasers at the longshoremen's headquarters.

The membership is strong and keeping up to all expectations.

"Vessels in the coastwise trade pay only general cargo rates, namely 45 and 55 cents an hour for 'longshoremen, and 40 and 50 cents for truckers and pilers. The rate of 50 cents straight time and 75 cents overtime for 'longshoremen, truckers and pilers, shall apply on cement and plaster where the aggregate quantity on any ship amounts to over 100 tons, or on fertiliser in any quantities. On lumber up to 100,000 feet regular cargo rates will apply."

PRESIDENT SOVEY TENDERED A BANQUET

The Bookbinders' Union of Vancouver Welcomes Its International Head

The Trade Better Organized in the West—Left for Seattle

President A. P. Sovey of the International Union of Bookbinders was tendered a complimentary banquet on Tuesday night by the local organization, there being a large attendance present. In speaking the visiting president briefly outlined the history of the union, and hoped to have a membership of 10,000 ere his term of office expired. He paid a high tribute of respect to the late President Glockling who had done so much for the cause of labor, particularly the organization of bookbinders. The trade as a whole was much better organised in the west than it was in the eastern cities. He thanked the members for the kind reception tendered him, and hoped that they would send a delegate to the next convention.

Secretary Wilkinson of the local Trades and Labor Council, as well as others, spoke briefly, welcoming the distinguished visitor.

Harry Perry and George Mowat of the executive committee entertained their prominent guest in the afternoon to a motor outing. President Sovey left on the 11 o'clock boat for Seattle, where he is attending the A. F of L convention.

On the Altar of Profit

Rev. J. A. Cranston, in a sermon preached at Fort William last Sunday evening, stated that the loss of life on the lakes during the storm was due to the orders given by the owners to the captains, ordering them to proceed despite the impending storm. The greed of the owners in desiring to make money at any cost, claimed the speaker, was the cause of many disasters. The cargoes and vessels were of small amount compared with the loss of life.

WESTMINSTER BEST ORGANIZED CITY IN WEST

The Union Label—Protest Mass Meeting Called by the Trades Council

Report of Friendly Visit of Delegates to New Westminster Jail

NEW WESTMINSTER, Nov. 19.—The central labor body is feeling quite chesty these days. Two more unions were affiliated at last meeting, the tailors and the newly organized brewery workers, and the report of the hustling special committee which has this department in hand, several other unions will be gathered into the fold before long.

New Westminster is beginning to live up to its reputation of being the best organized city in the west. What is needed now is an old-time revival in some of the unions, for it is one thing to have a union and quite another to have all the resident workers of that particular craft enrolled as members. Some of the unions have a whole lot of hard work ahead before they are a hundred per cent. organised, and it is the duty of each and every member to do his share. The work would not be so difficult if the unorganized workers were fully aware of the facts that present status of hours and wages, as well as the conditions under which they labor, have been secured by the agitation and sacrifice of organized labor, and that all they have as wage-earners they owe to the unions. But all this many neither know nor care and a great deal of explaining is necessary to get them to assist in saving themselves by joining with their fellows in an organization which alone will enable them to improve the conditions under which they at present exist.

The Brewery Workers wish to announce that all beer bottled by them bears the union label, and request that all workers who are fortunate enough to have the price will see that they get the labelled goods.

The Tailors wish to draw attention to the fact that there is no difficulty in the way of obtaining a union-made, consequently a well-made, suit of clothes in Westminster. One source of worry among the boys is that they haven't the wherewithal to keep the tailors busy.

A public meeting of all liberty-loving citizens is to be called by the Trades and Labor Council to protest against the extremely severe sentences meted out to some of the striking miners by Judge Howay. All believers in the traditional British justice should be there to learn the facts of the case and assist in swelling the protest against the gross injustice which has been perpetrated on members of the working class whose only crime is that of endeavoring to better the intolerable conditions under which the Island miners are compelled to secure their daily bread. Do you know that these miners have been getting the magnificent sum of 70 cents per ton for digging the coal, subject to all sorts of dockages, buying at exorbitant prices their powder, fuse, etc., out of that, and, on top of it all, were unable to get the coal companies or government to carry out the provisions of the Coal Mines Regulations act, which was the only protection they had, while daily toiling to make profits for some one else. If the general public knew the facts of the case and what the miners have been up against all these years, these men would all be out of jail inside of twenty-four hours.

Now that the daylight saving proposition has been endorsed by organized labor in the city, it is up to the boys to begin practising turning out an hour earlier in the morning and, of course, retiring an hour earlier at night. The fellow in search of a wife may find the change in time a little tough, but he will soon get the habit.

One good that will eventually result from the miners' persecution is the publicity that is being given the jail methods that are being perpetrated in the province. With the ordinary class that from day to day finds its way into the sacred precincts of our jails and other corrective (?) institutions there is little danger of the public becoming wise to the methods pursued or the conditions that prevail within the walls, but in the present instance things are different. The miners who have been recently incarcerated in some of our pens were formerly as ignorant as the average citizen of the conditions that really exist, and the awakening came with such a shock that now they insist on sharing their knowledge with the general public. The report given to the Trades Council of the friendly visit paid by two of the delegates to a friend awaiting trial in the Westminster jail showed that a severe shock had been experienced by the delegates, and resulted in the council taking steps to secure further information. One of the delegates stated that he had been brought up to believe that under the Union Jack every man was considered innocent until proven guilty, but from what he saw that day he concluded he had been misled. From the way his friend was treated on that occasion he might have been a desperate criminal guilty of all the felonies on the calendar. For presumably innocent men to be compelled to live on prison fare, described as abominable, and to be under the espionage of an armed guard during a friendly interview, seems to be going it pretty strong, even in this despotic domain of Bowser.

COAL BARONS' HIRED MAN REFUSED TO LISTEN

Union Miners and Friends Give Bowser a Warm Reception

Dared Him to Visit Nanaimo and Repeat His Lying Statements

The attorney general, Hon Mr. Bowser, had a meeting for the conservatives of Ward III, Vancouver, advertised for Friday evening last. A rumor being around the city to this effect, a number of socialists and members of the I. W. W. attended the meeting.

Mr. McLennan took the chair at 8 p.m. and introduced Mr. Bowser. Mr. Bowser, at the outset of his address, welcomed the old faces and expressed delight at the many new faces he had seen in the hall, hoping they were new men from old countries with good conservative ideas. He dealt at some length with the land question, the railway question and the sewerage scheme, and was evidently intending to conclude his meeting at that.

The question was asked from the body of the hall: "What about the Island strike situation?", and he replied he had come to address the conservatives of the Ward III, but since the question had been asked he would deal with it. He then, from his own point of view, tried to evade the question by saying the miners on strike had no complaint relative to the gas committees or the bad working conditions in the mine, but the fight was simply one of recognition of the union. So far as law was concerned, he intended to see the law carried into effect, whether against the mine owners or mob rule amongst the miners, and he assured his hearers that he would leave it to the jury and the judges to decide as to what conditions prevailed in Nanaimo at the time of the riots.

Mr. Pettigrew then asked Mr. Bowser if he would come to Nanaimo and make the same address on the mining question as he had in Vancouver, and Mr. Bowser replied he was afraid of nothing, provided he got a fair hearing.

The chairman then announced the meeting closed by singing "God, Save the King." However, the audience interrupted this by singing the Red Flag. Mr. Pettigrew then personally asked Mr. Bowser when he was prepared to come to Nanaimo and deliver the same speech on the strike situation, and he made the reply only when it suited himself to do so.

CARPENTERS AGREE TO SOLIDIFY FORCES

The Plan of Both Organizations Considered and Approved

World-Wide Combination—Benefit "Smoker" for Miners, Dec. 12th

The Canadian and United States districts of the Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners have decided as a whole, with the consent of the general society, after a plebiscite vote of its members had been taken, to agree to the "plan of solidification of the Amalgamated Societies of Carpenters and Joiners and the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America." The plan was submitted by the joint committee of both organizations early in the year. The local societies after careful consideration at a general meeting the other night decided to accept the proposed plan, which provides that each party retain its constitution and rules as heretofore prevailed. An agent will be selected by the new joint district council when it is in working order. The new agreement will go into effect on January 1st next. It may be added that the two bodies in Vancouver have always pulled well together, and this is but a further demonstration of its good feeling that has always existed.

The general society is at present negotiating with the other building trades in the old country districts, with the idea of forming a federation of building trades for the purpose of fighting on the industrial field with a common fund and an executive council.

As an instance of the progressive character of the A. S. of C., and J., it may be stated that it is at present conferring with international organizations of woodworkers of continental Europe with a view to a world-wide combination of carpenters.

J. W. Key is acting agent of the local Amalgamated Carpenters.

The Vancouver carpenters' organizations will hold a benefit smoking concert in aid of the wives and children of the miners on strike in Vancouver Island, on Friday, December 12th, next. The free use of hall No. 401 has been kindly donated by the Labor Temple company for the purpose. The talent will be some of the best in the city.

RECEPTION GIVEN TO LIBERATED UNION MINERS

No Difficulty in Securing Bondsmen for All Bail Needed

Inspiring Address, Rousing Songs Cheer the Home-comers

LADYSMITH, B.C., Nov. 15.—This week has been a notable one in Ladysmith. When it became known that the miners' counsel had obtained bail for a number of the boys awaiting trial, there was quite a rush from the sympathising public to stand bail. Among the bondsmen are some of the prominent merchants and citizens, one merchant going bail for $6,000. Straws show which way the winds blow, and it appears the merchants have found out whom they have to look to for the future prosperity of their business.

On Friday the bondsmen were required to sign the necessary legal documents at Nanaimo, and in the meantime preparations were going ahead to give the boys a welcome home. On their arrival on the afternoon train the boys were given cheers in no uncertain manner. After greeting their loved ones, they marched to the Union hall to the inspiring strains of the Marseillaise and other patriotic hymns, where an informal reception took place. The reception took the form of a series of enthusiastic addresses by prominent officials of the U. M. W. of A., Parker Williams, M.P.P., D. McLean, and the boys who are out on bail, pro tem President Doherty presiding.

In the evening a social was held, the hall being decorated in an artistic manner with mottoes. The social, which was a great success, concluded with a dance lasting well into the small hours, when all returned home wishing success for the cause and freedom for the victims of Bowser's injustice.

Methods of Bowser's Pluguglies

On Sunday afternoon Bowser's thugs, plug-uglies and soldiers were engaged in a peaceful battle for supremacy in a game of football. During the game some slight hitch took place between a soldier and a thug. The spectators, out to see sport, criticized the action of the plug-ugly in a fairly audable manner, and the umpire called on the offender to play the game. This so enraged the plug-ugly that he forgot the high authority the law had placed on him and thought he could administer the law himself in the manner and place most convenient to him. He went up to an innocent spectator and started to beat him up, commencing with the optics. The thug only got one blow in as he was soon grovelling in the dust and begging for mercy, and had it not been for prominent officials of the miners' union, would have been in the hospital in quick time, as they quickly quelled the disturbance.

LABORERS' UNIONS AMALGAMATE FORCES

Members of No. 230 Join With the Civic Employees' Union

Public Works Shortly to be Started by City and Municipalities

At present writing there are a large number of builders' laborers out of employment. Business Agent John Sully stated that affairs regarding organization matters were, however, satisfactory. Heretofore the unskilled workmen have been supporting two unions, because the great amount of work going on in the city demanded separate organizations, namely, Civic Employees' Union, No. 65, with its jurisdiction as defined by the A. F. of L., and the general Builders' Laborers Union, No. 230, as connected with the building trades generally. It has new been decided to suspend the latter charter, its members being enrolled in the former body to the mutual satisfaction of all concerned. By so doing, the laborers cut down their expenses without in any way weakening their system of organization, but in reality they will maintain their old-time strength as an active organized body.

It is expected that in the near future two large public works will again be started. The sewer commissioners having in hand the building of a proposed joint sewerage system for Point Grey and Burnaby municipalities and the city of Vancouver, are now calling for tenders for same Besides the contemplated partnership water main for these districts will be laid across False Creek as soon as the plans have been approved by the Ottawa government. This huge undertaking will require the services of 400 or 500 men when the work commences.

Both these contracts will include the civic wage clause, which provides the payment of 37½ cents an hour for "top men," and 40 cents for men who work below the seven-foot level, and a 44-hour week, with half-holiday on Saturday.

B. C.'S UNEMPLOYED CRISIS GROWS ACUTE

Not in a Score of Years Has a Similar Depression Been Known Here

Conditions on Vancouver Island—Men Begging Work at Victoria

There is no doubt that Vancouver, and, indeed, British Columbia, have a problem of serious import to solve in the presence of the large army of unemployed workingmen that to-day throng the streets of this city and the highways of the lower mainland, as well as on Vancouver Island. Not in a score of years has a similar condition of industrial depression been known on the coast, and daily it grows worse.

Every week this office receives from trades reports that have a sickening monotony of "dull times," "shop closed down," "most of the members idle," and such like. Sober, industrious workmen, heads of families, as well as single men, state that they have been out of work for months, some are engaged at present on short time. And prospects are that things will not improve in the near future.

On the streets, around the employment bureaus and at the Labor Temple any hour of the day may be seen hundreds of idle men, singly and in groups, congregated. They are not bums or idlers from choice. Any opportunity for work will find plenty of eager applicants. But none offers. Why? Truly, a broad question is here opened. But it is not the purpose of this article to give reasons why it is so—only to

State Actualities

That misery is the proper word to use no one conversant with the conditions of the unemployed workingman can doubt.

A correspondent truly writes to the daily press of this city: "What about the sober, industrious, willing and energetic, experienced middle-aged man, the backbone of any nation, for whom this country has no need, who walk the streets day after day and envies others who are employed; who wrought steadily until he was deceived on the other side to come to this land where everything was sunshine. You had only to look at the land and it returned you of its abundance. He had better wages, work was everywhere, and day after day he sees his little hoard of savings growing less and less. It costs him three times to live here what it did at home, and no prospects. There are no large gates here that he can go to and look for a job. He interviews manager after manger, to be turned away. He answers advertisement after advertisement, and he is asked to put money into this and that wildcat scheme, until he does not know whether to use up his little store and return in disgrace to the place he came from with such high hopes."

Could Find No Work

It is no uncommon thing to hear of men staying in their bedroom as long as they can so as to make the one meal a day do them.

At Tuesday's police court three respectable Germans were acquitted. They had been arrested several nights previous at the corner of Commercial drive and Bismarck street. The "burglars' tools" which the accused had consisted of knives, goggles, a bolt-cutter, a hatchet and other instruments. They told a straightforward story to his worship. They stated that they were out of funds and had planned to walk to New Westminster to fill in the night as they could not pay for a bed and could find no work in Vancouver. They had found the bolt-cutter on the side of the road.

Scores of other cases of want might be mentioned.

Regarding labor conditions on Vancouver Island, if it were not for the miners' union supplying funds, men, women and children in the mining districts would practically be without food or shelter.

At the city of Victoria the out-of-work problem is acute. The News editorially remarks:

Begging for Work

". . . In spite of all the appeals that have been made through the public press and in other ways, only an infinitesimally small number of the community seem to realize that there are men amongst us who are reduced to the most desperate straits for want of work. . . . If we would only stop and think—try to imagine how we ourselves would feel if we found that our income was suddenly stopped, our money all gone, credit impossible and nothing but blank starvation staring us in the face. Yet this is just the position of some of the working men in Victoria to-day. We happen to know a number of the cases where a day's work of any kind would be a godsend. Other cases there are where the men have been in direst need, and did their best to conceal it. The question in front of us is: What are we going to do about it? The city council hopes to do something—has, in fact, opened a bureau where men begging for work can register their names. By and by the city will find work for some; for married men residents and who are voters. In the meantime hungry men are in the desperate plight of begging for work in order to live, and God alone knows how some of them do it."

The Colonist prints daily a list of names of jobbles people seeking employment of any kind.

A sociologist is a guy who advises a man who is keeping nine children on $10 a week that limousines and champagne are unhealthy luxuries.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

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ROYAL CITY LABOR PARLIAMENT IN SESSION

Will Arrange for Mass Protest Meeting Against Miners' Sentences

B. C. F. of L. Convention Committee Named to Receive Delegates

NEW WESTMINSTER, Nov. 12.—Regular meeting of New Westminster Trades and Labor Council held in the Labor Temple this evening, President Cameron in the chair. Minutes of the previous meeting read and adopted.

Credentials were received from the Electrical Workers for W. Callalan, J. T. Kelly and R. C. Harker; from Retail Clerks for D. S. Cameron and R. Masterson; from Tailors for G. Cooney, E. Boos and W. Fothergill; from Brewery Workers for J. Munday, G. Gillett and H. Jacobson, accompanied with an application for affiliation.

On motion the application was received and the delegates obligated and seated.

Communications

From I. W. W., re imprisoned miners. Filed.

From C. Stuart Wade re saving daylight resolution. Endorsed by the council.

Reports of Committees

Special meeting of Council, held on Oct. 30th, called to reconsider the vote placing the Occidental hotel on the unfair list. Reconsidered the motion, and an amendment was carried providing for a joint committee of this Council and the Bartenders to further confer with the proprietors and contractors. The committee reported having succeeded in straightening out the Occidental job and the work on the Depot hotel completed. Report received.

Hanging committee reported having completed their work and nothing remains but to secure the photos. Report received.

The smoker committee reported a balance of $57.75 towards The Federationists' Miner's Christmas fund. On motion the report was received, committee discharged and money ordered sent to The Federationist.

Del. Knudsen reported having gone with Organizer Proebstle and signing up a contract with the Westminster Brewery and the organization of a local. Committee on affiliations will visit Vancouver Molders next week and hope to get a local here. Report received.

Reports of Unions

Typos.—All working.

Bartenders—All working.

Cigarmakers—Six men idle.

St. Ry. Employees—Work slack and layoffs are in order. International President Mahon will be in Vancouver next Saturday, when a mass meeting will be held and a cordial invitation is extended to all to be present.

Barbers—Work as usual.

U. B. Carpenters—Half idle.

A. S. Carpenters—All working.

Letter carriers—All working and wish to thank Trades and Labor Congress for efforts in their behalf.

Engineers—Report progress.

Retail Clerks—Steadily progressing.

Musicians—No report.

Shingle Weavers—All working. Another reduction in wages at Fraser mills. Forty Russians quit.

Painters—Nearly all idle.

Plumbers—No report.

Brewery Workers—Pleased to be organised and qualified to sit as delegates on Council. Wish organised labor to support the home industry. Local beer will hereafter bear the union label and unionists are asked to ask for the label.

President Resigns and is Re-elected

Del. Cameron tendered his resignation as president of the Council, owing to the Teamsters' Union becoming defunct.

On motion Del. Cameron was unanimously elected to fill the president's chair for the remainder of the term, as a delegate from the Retail Clerks' Association.

New Business

Del. Gibb brought up the question of Del. Stoney having been accused by Mr. McDonald, of Tailors' Union, Vancouver, and on motion the Secretary was instructed to write the Vancouver Tailors' Union asking that they see that an apology is forthcoming for the statements made on the floor of this Council concerning Delegate Stoney, or that facts be produced in substantiation of his insinuations.

Del. Knudsen brought up the matter of Cooks' and Waiters' union to see if something can not be done to get the union on its feet, and moved that a special committee of three act in conjunction with organization committee and Bartenders' union in the matter. Carried.

Delegates Archbould, Gibb and Dodd were appointed to act.

The committee to organize Building Trades Council reported having held two meetings and will hold another next Friday, with good prospects of bringing about a closer affiliation.

Notice of motion was given by Del. Cameron to amend Sec. 24 of constitution to provide that all controversial questions be settled by the chair.

Moved and seconded that a committee of three be appointed to revise the constitution and bylaws of this Council. Carried.

Delegates Gibb, Grant and Peck were appointed to act as a revision committee.

Moved and seconded that a committee be appointed to arrange for a mass meeting to be held to protest against the severe and unjust sentences meted out by Judge Howay to the convicted miners. Carried.

The campaign committee asks that all unions be prepared to donate to the fund when committee calls.

Del. Dodd reported having visited one of the prisoners awaiting trial and found him treated exactly as a condemned criminal and the food is the same for all and is abominable, and moved that a committee of two be appointed to investigate the conditions in the city jail. Carried.

On motion Delegates Cameron, Grant and Maiden were appointed to act.

A committee comprising Delegates Knudsen, Dodd, Ivison, Kelly and Balfour were appointed to arrange for a mass meeting with power to act, and if necessary to add to their numbers.

Moved and seconded that committee of five be elected to arrange for reception of B. C. F. of L. convention in January. Carried.

Delegates Cameron, Gibb, Grant, Lugrin and Taylor were elected.

Bills: Columbian Co. $10.50, Burnetts $7.75. Ordered paid.

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SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY

By SAM ATKINSON.

On Sunday evening, November 23rd the subject of the lecture in the Dominion theatre, Granville street, will be "A Municipal Campaign." This will be one of the most important meetings of the season. A short musical programme will be rendered. The meeting will commence promptly at eight o'clock.

Next Thursday, November 27th, Local Vancouver No. 12 will meet in Room 204 of the Labor Temple. These meetings are open to the public and are proving of great interest. "Public Utilities" will be the subject for discussion.

Next week we shall be able to announce definitely the date of the social and dance which our women comrades are planning for the middle of December.

Incidentally, this is a hard world for women: I suppose that is because the men run it.

Judging by the way you women are handling matters, Addie, they won't run it long.

We extend a hearty welcome to Organizer Lemke, of Lockport, N.Y. He will prove a useful addition to our forces in British Columbia. He has had a wide experience in the work of organization, and has been associated with me for some years. In securing Comrade Lemke we have added two organizers to our list. Mrs. Lemke has the credit of being the best literature saleswoman in western New York. As a matter of fact, I think she is the best man of the two. I have heard it whispered that she wears the "breeks," but I wouldn't let Lemke hear me say that for the world.

WILLIAM D. MAHON
A Tribute

It is surprising how large a part sentiment plays in our lives. No man has exercised a greater influence upon my life that "Bill" Mahon, the International President of the Amalgamated Association of Street Electric Railway Employees of America.

The story of his fight to organize industrially the street car men of this continent reads like a romance.

Twenty-seven years ago, a motorman and conductor were taking their car out through the suburbs of Detroit in the "wee sma' hours." It was the middle of winter. They passed the comfortable homes of the suburbanites. Here and there a house was well lighted, and the sound of merry voices could be heard. The comfort suggested by the appearance of these homes made the condition of the street-car men all the more unbearable. There were no vestibules on the cars. The mules or horses they drove were taken care of, but no consideration was given the men. Mules are valuable. Men did not have horse-sense. Mules cost money to replace. Men were cheap. It was a common occurrence for the conductor to drag a motorman from his seat with frozen hands and feet. On this particular evening when this particular car reached the end of the line, and the motorman and conductor were stamping their feet on the ground and clapping their hands on their sides to get warm, the motorman said to the conductor, "John, if I never do anything else in my life, I am going to organize the street-car men of America." The motorman was William D. Mahon, and the conductor was John J. Thorpe, the first member secured by "Bill," and now first vice-president of the association.

To-day there are nearly 100,000 men in that organization. All the improvements street-car men enjoy have been secured through the efforts of organization, and almost every week sees a new division established.

The development of Bill Mahon has been very marked. He is a statesman. Party politicians have made many efforts to induce him to give up his work among street-car men. They have always failed. He inspires confidence in his associates. They would go through fire and brimstone to serve him. He is not an autocrat. I have seen him bend to the judgment of men with scarcely a third of his years, and without any of his experience, but only to have them realise in the end that his experience had taught him what was best. As counsel in the Chicago arbitration his summing up was the most logical argument of any labor leader I have ever read. In the Buffalo strike he won the support of 43,000 union men, whose threat to come out on the following Monday brought victory to the men on Friday afternoon. He has a way of winning the confidence of the most illiterate member of his organization. He has a wonderful amount of patience with new and untried officers. The world will be poorer when he leaves it, and the longer he stays with us the brighter will conditions grow for street-car employees. Last years the Mayor of Detroit appointed a commission to take into consideration the municipalization of the street-car system of that city, and his choice fell first upon "Bill" Mahon. In the twenty-seven years that has passed since he made that statement in the presence of the big fellow, John Thorpe, he has lead thousands of men nearer the co-operative commonwealth. When he came into my office last Saturday I felt stronger for his presence. He is never too busy to give me a word of advice. I take off my hat to "Bill" Mahon, because I have tried him and found him true.

RETAIL CLERKS ARE TRYING TO SECURE SHORTER HOURS

At New Westminster the Issue is Clearly and Openly Faced

Other Points Seek Reforms Outside Trade Union Movement

For the past few months retail clerks of the Pacific coast cities have been endeavoring to better their working conditions, and, naturally enough, have sought some form of organization.

At New Westminster a regularly constituted local of the International Retail Clerks' Union has been chartered and affiliated with the central labor body and has already secured worthy results.

In Victoria, Vancouver, Revelstoke, and at other points in British Columbia, local associations have been organized, outside the trade union movement, for the purpose of pressing their claims in the matter of shorter hours and higher wages.

Representatives of the provincial organization of the retail clerks, as expressed in Vancouver and Victoria, recently appeared before the Labor Commission at Victoria and among other things placed the following information in possession of the commission:

"There is a general unrest among those employed in the retail trade. They feel that they are working under conditions which compare very unfavorably with those employed by others engaged in other walks of life, and they feel that steps should be taken immediately whereby the amelioration of the present conditions shall be effected.

"Most workers employed in the crafts and trades work only eight hours per day and receive a Saturday half-holiday.

"In the case of the retail employee the hours worked are often very excessive and the conditions of labor are mostly monotonous and confined. The following list will serve to illustrate the number of hours usually worked in the stores in Victoria and Vancouver:

"Butchers — Week days, 11-11½ hours; Saturdays, 16 hours; total per week, 71 hours.

"Drug stores—69-75 hours weekly. (Clerks usually receive half-days off once in two weeks, and every other Sunday off).

"Grocers — Week days, 10½-11 hours; Saturdays, 14½ hours; total per week, 67 hours.

"Men's furnishers, clothiers, boots and shoes, etc.—Week days, 10-11 hours; Saturdays, 14½-16 hours; total per week, 64½-68 hours.

"Dry Goods—Week days, 9-10 hrs.; Saturdays, 13-15 hours; total per week 63-65 hours."

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FRIDAY......NOVEMBER 21, 1913

ORGANIZE THE UNORGANIZED

The American Federation of Labor convention at Seattle, which will probably conclude its session tomorrow, will undoubtedly stimulate the trade union movement of the Pacific Northwest. And especially will this be true of British Columbia. The convention has afforded many of the international officers an opportunity to pay the coast cities their first visit, and many of them will return to their homes in the east via Canadian territory, among the number being President Samuel Gompers. While in Vancouver these officers have made a discovery. They understand now why persistent demands have been made upon their respective executives, by local unions, for assistance in organization work. They realize, too, the huge possibilities this territory will soon have to offer in the way of an increased wage-working population, a population that will have problems akin to those of much older countries. As a result of their personal visits here many international trade union officers have seen what has already been done by those on the ground in the way of forming the nucleus of the organized labor movement to be. Local officers of every union in B. C. should take advantage of this happy turn of events and redouble their efforts to secure the co-operation of their respective international unions in every way possible. There is much need for organization work among the unorganised in B. C. There is room for the federation of other unions into larger ones engaged in the same industry. There is urgent need of political action. But the first essential is industrial organization. After that has been accomplished the membership can be trusted to determine for themselves what they shall do politically. The American Federation of Labor and its allied international unions can help us and have a right to help us organise on the industrial field. Politically we must work out our own salvation. Before anything tangible can be accomplished, however, the right to organize, not only on Vancouver Island, but everywhere in Canada, must be firmly established. To secure that right we must organise, organise, organise. It is probable that too much attention has been paid in recent years by the workers to political action and not enough to the founding of a militant fighting industrial federation of labor's forces. Our first duty is to organise the unorganised. Experience has proved that the membership invariably do the right thing politically, if organized thoroughly industrially. There are many ways to skin a cat, but the first thing to do is to get the cat. There are many ways for the workers to secure results. But the first thing needed is organization. Let's organize the unorganized!

Criminals are those who get caught.

"To know how not to know might well be the last word of wisdom."

Backcappers, like skunks, are known only by the stink they leave behind.

The A. F. of L. convention has certainly been "covered" by the Seattle daily press.

To some economists the trade union is but a jest—as soon as the meal ticket is punched out.

If Bowser is not afraid of public meetings he should at least be ashamed to show his face again.

The extent of some alleged unionists' activities ends with character assination of those who DO things.

"The golden age lies always ahead. Today is better than yesterday and to-morrow will be better than today."

A local box factory advertised last week for one young girl. More than sixty made application within forty-eight hours.

The lawlessness of the Bowser regime has done more to make socialists in B. C. than all the agitators from here to H——alifax.

Bowser may be as wealthy as he is said to be, but he and his coal mine friends haven't enough money to beat the union miners of Vancouver Island.

The slimiest backcapper on earth is the fellow who confidentially whispers his venom into ears always a safe distance from the victim of his cowardice.

Some union men are guilty of saying a lot of things about fellow-unionists that they would not dare repeat on the floor of their union. Backcappers are invariably cowards.

It will require more than the polished wile of Premier McBride to undo the mischief wrought by Big Chief Bowser during the former's absence among the "dooks." Bowser is a dead one.

The Vancouver Island miners are going to win a complete victory, whether the time be short or long. The U. M. W. of A. will be doing business in B. C. long after Bowser's political demise.

The workers of B. C. would be justified in introducing suffragette tactics if Bowser again attempts to appear on a public platform. He should never again be allowed to publicly slander those who make his miserable life possible.

Bowser's method of jailing socialist members of the legislature is in keeping with the other Mexican characteristics of his administration. It will not prevent, however, other socialist members from being elected at the next opportunity in this province.

It's about time the barbarous method of hanging those condemned to death was abolished in Canada. No less than seven hangings are scheduled for the next three months, west of Winnipeg alone. The proposal, too, to hang two young men for the murder of one policeman should be stoutly protested against.

A strong sentiment against international war prevails among the delegates to the A. F. of L. convention at Seattle, practically every speaker who has addressed the convention having denounced war. The Rev. Sidney Strong, fraternal delegate, declared that "war is a black angel of capitalism."

Attorney-General Bowser is not only an infernal liar, but a low-down coward. He should never again be permitted to address a public meeting in British Columbia. A man who so deliberately defames and lies about union workers, as Bowser attempted to do at Orange hall last week when dealing with the strike, should be tarred and feathered by the victims of his power and bare-faced alliance with the coal barons.

Some of the daily apologists for the Bowser regime are clamoring for increased pay for scab-herders, who have been serving the mine owners of Vancouver Island for the past few months. The dollar-a-day scale has resulted in a number of desertions and a mild term of mutiny in the ranks of militiamen, whose chief duty was to keep Bowser's "specials" out of mischief. To the wage-worker, who has been fighting for the right to organize in this province two bits a week would be more in keeping with the services rendered. At any rate the mine owners should be called upon to pay the bill.

Peter W. Collins, the glib-tongued gentleman who was once identified with the McNulty faction of the Electrical Workers, is still lambasting socialism at so much per lambast. Collins in his eagerness to prove too much against socialism proves nothing, and convicts himself in the minds of intelligent men as a blatherskite who has run to wind. The charges made by Collins will put him off the lecture platform, for his paymasters will realise that his work is too coarse to produce the desired effect wanted by capitalism. The exploiters want clever men who can delude the masses of the people, but Collins can hypnotise no one who lays the slightest claim to average intelligence.—Miners' Magazine.

"Of all the numerous lessons that labor has learned and still has to learn, the most important of all is the use of unity. Persons or groups of persons who foment endless internal strife within the ranks of labor are either misguided fanatics or servile tools of the enemies of labor. So long as the workers remain divided it is easy for the interests that exploit the workers and fatten on their labor to continue to be complete masters of the situation. Only when the workers get together, stand together and fight together—when fighting is necessary—can they hope to make any considerable headway. For ages labor has been the undergod. Steeped in ignorance and superstition, the workers of the past have been the easy victims of their masters. For a long time they hardly dared to think for themselves. But of late years there has been a marvellous awakening within the ranks of the workers. Every where they are organizing into unions and into political organizations."

New Westminster correspondent: No, the Retail Employees' Organization of British Columbia is not a branch of the Retail Clerks' International Union, nor is it affiliated with the central labor body in either Vancouver or Victoria.

Corporations generally increase the capitalization of their companies to the limit and then expect their employees to pay the normal rate of interest to coupon-clippers, whether increased wages come or not. An industry or business which cannot pay decent wages to those who make it possible has no further claim for existing.

Bowser has his nerve anyway to face an audience of decent working men. The reception given was coming to him. And then some. The workers are getting wise to his coarse work. True, he ran away like a criminal at the first sign of danger, but that yellow streak is true of all his kind. Better let the "specials" do the work after this.

How much longer will union men consent to beg and pray of lawyer politicians and other legislative hired men of the big corporations for a few concessions in the way of labor legislation? And then, after they secure a crumb or two witness the spectacle of seeing the self-same laws openly and brazenly violated by the minister responsible for the enforcement of the law? Surely this servile attitude is unworthy of men. If the members of organized labor want labor legislation and want it enforced they should know by this time what they will have to do to get it. Let the workers elect their own representatives and then there will be no further need of begging. Absolutely nothing can be expected from either the Conservative or Liberal parties. They both stand for the present form of property ownership, the basic cause of all the industrial strife and discontent in this as every other portion of the capitalized world.

Where Modern School Fails

One of the arguments in favor of the present-day scheme of education is that it keeps the children off the streets. Whether it does more, or at least whether it does as much more as it ought to, is sometimes open to question. Schools, generally speaking, have failed to keep up with the wonderfully swift passage of events in the outside world. Their blundering attempts to tack on the new without sloughing off the old have produced a curriculum calculated to give a student mental indigestion of the worst sort by the time he has graduated from the grammar school. Mental indigestion is not exactly the result which should be aimed at. Something more than trimming is needed. The school system ought to be overhauled altogether and made to justify itself point by point as to its ability to meet the needs of here and now. By this is not meant mere technical training. The schools ought to turn out men and women who will be socially efficient. It ought to get rid of the materialism of facts which has obsessed it and teach, far more than the superficial knack of handling tools, the idealism of service. The training of future citizens is a mighty serious business in a democracy. If it is done as it should be, the democracy will suffer, and it is not done as it should be unless the first emphasis is plced upon the spirit of service. A wonderful generation is ahead of us. It may see the socialization of many public undertakings in this country. It will certainly demand an answer to social problems which will require the highest civic intelligence and the utmost self-control. An educated, socially conscious citizenship is absolutely necessary. Broad-minded men and women, clear reasoners, soberly liberal citizens of the world should be the fruit of our school system. Let us have culture if we can. Let us have technical efficiency if we can. But, above all, let us have taught, and re-taught, and taught again, day in and day out, the lesson of co-operation, the lesson of progress, the lesson of brotherhood.—'Frisco Bulletin.

Folly Trying to Whistle Facts Away

Life is a collection of inexorable facts, and all our prejudices and all our strife arise from our attempts to alter them or escape from them. A striking fact today, or rather a striking "complex" of facts, as the psychologists would say, is the so-called economic unrest. Some of us, for material temperamental reasons, dislike the manifestations of this unrest; others of us welcome them; but few of us are able to be as calm and well balanced about it as we ought to be about facts. Scholars are about the only people who can discuss phenomena like the I. W. W. with as much fairness as they would the phases of the moon. "Their vehemence and their roll of membership," says Secretary Carlton H. Parker, of the State Immigration Commission, speaking of this organization, "are economic facts in need of as careful weighing as the bond sales in the New York stock exchange." And Dr. Parker does weigh them, apparently in much the same way. The I. W. W., like a dozen other manifestations, is a sympton. It has causes. It is a fact, good or bad. We cannot whistle facts away; we must first get rid of the causes.—'Frisco Bulletin.

Socialist Scientist Dead

Alfred Russel Wallace, natural scientist, evolutionist and socialist, is dead at the age of 91. To him, equally with Darwin as far as the clear formulation of the theory of evolution through variation is concerned, belongs the great honor that comes through this discovery, and to him belongs the gratitude of mankind for the endless vistas it opens up. Darwin, however, continued carefully, painstakingly and with scientific uprightness throughout his whole life to investigate in one field.

Wallace took up another line, and from the variation of species studied carefully, he entered on the line of the study of the evolution of humanity, and it led him to socialism. His last work, written at the age of 90, "Social Environment and Moral Progress," is not only a marvellous indication of the vigor of his intellect, but it is likewise a book of exceptional value in showing that as individual progress has not been great during the period of known history, social progress must take its place, and a juster, freer world be instituted. He is the last of those scientists who, in the middle of the last century, did so much to unfetter the human mind in natural, social and political science. Such men as Wallace, Karl Marx, Charles Darwin, Thomas Huxley, Lewis Morgan and Herbert Spencer, each in his separate way, contributed to that vast world movement which is now known as socialism.—New York Call.

The Brewery Workers

Organizer Jos. Proebstle, International Brewery Workers' Union, reports that his official visit to Victoria met with the same splendid results as in Vancouver and New Westminster. The Phoenix Brewery have signed the same contracts as now exist in Vancouver, and the Silver Spring Brewery contract calls for eight hours per day for the entire year as against eight for four months in the other agreements. Organizer Proebstle concludes: "It now remains for the new members to continue to build further and associate themselves with the general labor movement; educate themselves in trades union councils, and become helpful to other organizations; especially should they become supporters of their local labor paper and thereby retain the weapon of publicity so necessary in modern warfare between capital and labor."

Regina Musicians' Union

Editor B. C. Federationist: I have much pleasure in enclosing a cheque for $5 towards the funds for supplying the Christmas box for the wives and children of the striking miners at Nanaimo. We should like to have the amount somewhat larger, but I trust that our little mite will be of some benefit to the unfortunate ones. It is only among the laboring class that a labor man will find his friends. Wishing you every success in your undertaking.

G. E. NUTTY,
Secretary.

Regina, Sask., Nov. 15, 1913.

Prosecution Abandoned

A Dublin dispatch to the Daily Mail says that the government has decided to abandon the prosecution of James Larkin, head of the Transport Workers' Union, and his four lieutenants for conspiracy to incite breaches of the peace.

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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, 733 Semlin Drive, phone Sey. 639.

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BROTHERHOOD OF BOILER MAKERS and Iron Ship Builders and Helpers of America, Vancouver Lodge No. 191—Meets first and third Mondays, 8 p.m. President, F. Barclay, 353 Cordova East; secretary, A. Fraser, 1151 Howe Street.

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ELECTRICAL WORKERS, LOCAL NO. 213.—Meets Room 301, every Monday 8 p.m. President, Fred. Fuller; vice-president, D. Fink; recording secretary, Roy Elgar, Labor Temple; financial secretary, E. C. Knight; treasurer, George Hessell; business agent, W. F. Dunn, Room 207, Labor Temple.

ELECTRICAL WORKERS', LOCAL NO. 621 (Inside Men)—Meets first and third Mondays of each month, Room 205, 8 p.m. President, H. P. McCoy; recording secretary, Geo. Albers; treasurer and business agent, F. L. Estinghausen, Room 202. Sey. 2848.

LONGSHOREMENS' INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION, No. 38 x 52—Meets every Friday evening, 146 Alexander St. President, P. Peel; secretary, Geo. Thomas.

MACHINISTS', NO. 182—MEETS SECond and fourth Thursdays, 7:15 p.m. President, Chas. Mattinson; recording secretary, J. Brookes; financial secretary, J. H. McVety.

MOVING PICTURE OPERATORS, Local 233, I.A.T.S.E.—Meets every second Sunday of each month, Labor Temple, 8 p.m. President, J. H. Fletcher; secretary-treasurer, A. O. Hansen; business agent, G. R. Hamilton. Office: Room 100, Loo Bldg. Tel. Sey. 3045.

MUSICIANS' MUTUAL PROTECTIVE Union, Local No. 145, A. F. of M.—Meets second Sunday of each month, 640 Robson street. President, J. Bowyer; vice-president, F. English; secretary, C. F. 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, Joe Hampton. Phone Sey. 1614.

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

PAINTERS', PAPERHANGERS' AND Decorators', Local 138—Meet every Thursday, 7:30 p.m. President, J. E. Phillips; financial secretary, J. Freckelton, 811 Seymour St.; recording secretary, George Powell, 1559 Fourth Ave. W.; business agent, W. J. Nagle, Room 303, Labor Temple.

STEREOTYPERS' 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 Adam Taylor; recording secretary, Albert V. Lofting, 2636 Trinity Street, phone Highland 1672; financial secretary, Fred. A. Hoover, 2409 Clark Drive.

STEAM ENGINEERS, INTERNATIONal Local 397—Meets first and third Wednesday, 8 p.m.; Room 204, Labor Temple. Financial secretary, E. Prendergast, Room 216.

TAILORS, JOURNEYMAN TAILORS' UNION OF AMERICA, Local No. 178—Meetings held first Tuesday in each month, 8 p.m. President, J. T. Elsworth; recording and corresponding secretary, C. McDonald, Box 503; financial secretary, L. Wakely, 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, A. Jamieson, 54 Fifth 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.

NEW WESTMINSTER, B. C.

NEW WESTMINSTER TRADES AND Labor Council—Meets every second and fourth Wednesday at 8 p.m. in Labor Hall. President, D. S. Cameron; financial secretary, H. Gibb; general secretary, B. D. Grant, P. O. Box 934. The public is invited to attend.

AMALGAMATED SOCIETY OF CARPENTERS AND JOINERS meets every second and fourth Thursday of each month in Labor Temple, corner of Royal Ave. and Seventh St. at 8 p.m. President, J. L. Hogg, Hankey Blk, Sapperton; Secretary, A. McDonald, 831 Royal Ave., New Westminster.

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, E. S. Hunt; secretary, F. W. Jameson. Visiting brothers invited.

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, J. H. Norris, Labor Hall, Victoria, B.C.

BROTHERHOOD OF CARPENTERS and Joiners—Meets every Tuesday, 8 p.m., at Labor hall, 731 Johnston St. President, J. E. Bryan; recording secretary, Geo. L. Dykeman; business agent and financial secretary, W. A. Parkinson, Box 286.

MINERS' UNIONS.

KIMBERLEY MINERS' UNION, NO. 100 Western Federation of Miners—Meets Sunday evenings, in Union Hall. President, W. Fleming; 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 Monday at 7:30 p.m. in the Athletic Club, Chapel Street Arthur Jordan, Box 410, Nanaimo, B. C.

CUMBERLAND LOCAL UNION, No. 2299, U. M. W. of A.—Meets every Sunday 7 p.m. in U. M. W. of A. hall. President, Jos. Naylor; secretary, James Smith, Box 84, Cumberland, B. C.

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

LOCAL VANCOUVER OF SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY — Public meetings in Dominion Theatre, Granville Street, Sunday eevnings. Secretary, J. Adams, Room 304, Labor Temple.

SYNOPSIS OF COAL MINING REGULATIONS.

Coal mining rights of the Dominion, in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, the Yukon Territory, the Northwest Territories and in a portion of the Province of British Columbia, may be leased for a term of twenty-one years at an annual rental of $1 an acre. Not more than 2,560 acres will be leased to one applicant.

Application for lease must be made by the applicant in person to the Agent or Sub-Agent of the district in which the rights applied for are situated.

In surveyed territory the land must be described by sections, or legal subdivisions of sections, and in unsurveyed territory the tract applied for shall be staked by the applicant himself.

Each application must be accompanied by a fee of $5, which will be refunded if the rights applied for are not available, but not otherwise. A royalty shall be paid on the merchantable output of the mine at the rate of five cents per ton.

The person operating the mine shall furnish the Agent with sworn returns accounting for the full quantity of merchantable coal mined and pay the royalty thereon. If the coal mining rights are not being operated, such returns should be furnished at least once a year.

The lease will include the coal mining rights only, but the lessee may be permitted to purchase whatever available surface rights may be considered necessary for the working of the mine at the rate of $10 an acre.

For full information application should be made to the Secretary of the Department of the Interior, Ottawa, or to any Agent or Sub-Agent of Dominion Lands.

W. H. CORY,
Deputy Minister of the Interior.

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If you want real underwear comfort this winter we would recommend that you try Merode. We know its merits.

Merino separate garments at $1.00 and $1.25 a garment. Silk and wool Union Suits at $3.00 and $3.50 for girls of 10 to 14 years, and all sizes for women.

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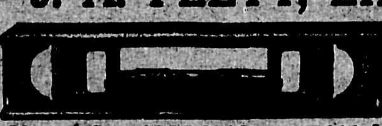

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EQUALITY — WOMAN SUFFRAGE — LIBERTY

Edited by MISS H. R. GUTTERIDGE, Room 219, Labor Temple.

THE REVERENCED HELPLESSNESS OF WOMEN

In the course of an anti-suffrage speech the Rev. Dr. O'Boyle stated that the woman's place and duty were home and motherhood, with a view to rearing good citizens. "Interfering in politics would tend to take away some of the finer qualities of womanhood, in the same way that the fact that women had invaded industry had spoiled women and taken away their greatest asset, feminine helplessness." A writer in the daily press recently had something to say about "a woman's reverenced helplessness or meekness."

Does the Reverend Father walk around Vancouver with his eyes closed? At the present moment there are in this city a great number of girls and women who are day by day trying their best to invade some branch of industry to get the necessary counters that represent food and shelter. Perhaps the Reverend Father will devise some means of keeping the bodies and souls of women together without food, and their bodies warm without clothes or shelter that they may remain feminine and charming. The motherhood, the divine motherhood, would have very little chanse of expressing itself today if all the women in industry retired from their occupations and relied upon their male relations for support.

We live in an age of hard facts and not an ideal dream land, we have to deal with conditions as they are and not as they should be.

Within the last two generations women have been forced from their homes into industries. The weaving that women did with the hand loom is now done in factories requiring the services of hundreds of women and children; the meat that at one time was cured in the smoke-houses is now prepared in gigantic meat-packing establishments. Butter is made at the creamery, the bread at the bakery.

The education of the children has passed into the hands of school trustees who direct the school curriculum.

The whole basis of woman's life in the home and in the labor market has changed within the last eighty or a hundred years, and so as woman's sphere has broadened out, so must we also—even the Reverend Father—widen our horizon and assume our share in the problems that seriously affect the lives of men and women alike. The child, the home and the women in the labor market is affected by legislation, the woman must then, if she is to do her duty to home and child, have a right to a voice in the making of such legislation. H. G.

MINERS' WIVES KEEN SUFFRAGISTS

At a public meeting held under the auspices of the Social Democratic Party on Sunday last, the people of Nanaimo to the number of five hundred or more, went on record as being unanimously in favor of "the parliamentary franchise being granted to women at the next session of the legislature."

Many of the striking miners and their wives were present, and the women, as a result of the action taken by the government during the recent strike and the excessive sentences passed on the miners now in prison, realize how valuable will be the possession of the franchise to them at the next general election.

The splendid spirit of the women is manifest everywhere in the strike area, in their determination to help their husbands to win the fight, and as always, the attempt of those in power to crush any sign of rising in rebellion against the powers that be, has resulted in an awakening into life in both men and women, a determination to win, that nothing can overcome. H. G.

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PUBLIC MEETINGS

A meeting is held every Wednesday at 8 p.m. in the Labor Temple, under the auspices of the B. C. Women's Suffrage League, and every Monday in the Lee hall, Main street, near Broadway, at 8 p.m. Come and ask questions or tell us your objection to women being political voters.

Debate

A suffrage debate has been arranged for November 26 in the Labor Temple at 8 p.m., when Mr. W. J. Conley will state the case against women's suffrage.

THE RIGHTS OF MOTHERS

The result of the votes for women campaign is seen in the proposed legislation for amending laws concerning women and the anxiety of the party press to show how much the attorney-general has done and proposes doing in this direction.

The uninitiated reading the two columns of matter in the Daily Province explaining the amendment to the Infants' Act, would almost think we had reached the millenium, and that Mr. Bowser's life work was the guarding of mothers and infants.

The real issue, however, is entirely overlooked. It is not the property rights of their children that mothers are so very anxious about, it is their own human rights in their children here and now, and in spite of the eulogy bestowed on the amendment to the Infants' Act, the position of the mother so far as her human rights are concerned remains the same as in the days of Charles II. All that the amendment has done is that the mother has the right to be co-guardian to her children with a guardian appointed either by the father or by the courts after the death of the father. The positions of the mother today is that she is not the parent of her child or children and has no right of control only through the courts.

It is very carefully explained how much better legislation is along this line in British Columbia when compared with the other provinces of the Dominion.

Women of B. C. are not concerned with the other provinces; they are asking for equal rights in their children in B. C., and if comparisons are to be made the women turn to countries where women are voters and have equal rights in their children, saying "we want the same."

The truth is, this sudden activity to amend laws concerning women and to bolster up present laws by effusive explanations of their scope and value, is the usual attempt to keep back the inevitable enfranchisement of women.

It is too late. Mr. Bowser's opportunity to pose as a friend of the women passed away when the women, after ten years' work, failed to get the legislation they asked for.

Let Mr. Bowser and Sir Richard McBride bring in and give full time and opportunity for the passage of a Women's Enfranchisement Bill next session and we shall then take them seriously when they talk of amending laws and caring for the welfare of children. H. G.

THE VALUE OF THE WORKING CARD

The writer has been asked several times since last issue wherein the demanding of the union card is the key to success and so I will endeavor to show wherein it is, says a contributor to the San Diego.

In the first place to have a card a man must be in good standing and to be that he must pay his dues. If he pays his dues he must attend the meetings thereby increasing the attendance and also builds up the treasury to defray the necessary exjenses. A large attendance causes the officers to take more interest in their work and encourages those who are devoting their energy and sacrifices for your good.

Then, when you begin to attend the meetings more often you begin to realize the good there is in it and what you spend your money for. And you then will demand that you receive the best results for the money expended.

When you demand a card from a man who is delinquent and refuse to work with him until he gets one, he always will want to get even and he will be waiting and watching for some one else who hasn't a card and insist that as he had to pay up and get a card the other fellow will have to do the same.

And so it will go on until everybody will be demanding the card then we will awake to our possibilities and the man in the building crafts of this city instead of saying "please" will say "I demand" and will receive.

Now you men who attend your meetings and are always there the first meeting in the month to pay your dues insist that the other man, who derives the same benefit that you do, pay his dues and have a card. Don't think he will ask you for yours—you are wrong if you do.

You are the one who must start the ball rolling, so let us get it started.

TRADITIONAL SENTIMENT

The conflict today, so far as votes for women is concerned, is a conflict between traditional sentiment and modern fact, and there is just a little humbug about our antisuffrage friends' argument when they say that their reverence for women inspires their desire to keep them out of the hurlyburly of politics and political strife for their own sakes. The women are too good and pure and must be kept secluded in the home, where man may worship, protect and die for them.

The men who say this, and there are quite a few, are just self deceived. If they really meant all they say would they let an angel woman scrub a floor, would they sit by and see an angel girl who is underfed do dreary and disgusting work for a miserable wage and for long hours? Would they allow the holy mother with the divine babe at her breast be sweated and live in foul slums? Would they look complacently on whilst poverty and the lust of men compel girls to sell their bodies on the streets for bread? No; they would not! So the sooner they fully waken, shake off traditional sentiment and see modern fact staring them in the face the better it will be for the men and women of today. E. M.

It is a mere idle declamation about consistency to represent it as a disgrace to a man to confess himself wiser today than yesterday—Whately.

WHY MEN SHOULD HELP WOMEN GET THE VOTE

There are several reasons why men who are husbands and fathers should help, that the conditions of women should be improved, that their wives and daughters may be more respected and have a more secure position in the world. Working men for their own sakes should help, because the underpayment of women workers is a serious danger to men. Employers will, wherever possible, turn men off to replace them with women at a lesser wage and the fact that women are obliged to accept small earnings often forces men to accept low wages too. It is well known that numbers of women have to keep themselves. There it is impossible to tell them to stay at home. The only way that men can do away with the bad effects of female competition is to help the women in their struggle for equal rights—equal pay for equal work. Men ought to want women to have the vote because if we are to have strong, intelligent men nothing should be done to hinder the development of the mothers. Further, to give women political responsibility will make them more able to educate their children to be public spirited and to be worthy citizens.

A Holland woman has taken the degree of Doctor of Divinity, but the Netherlands Church will not let her preach, on account of her sex. But she can work to help raise money to pay the male preachers. That is a privilege always open to women. Truly, a queer world!

A paragraph appeared the other day in a paper stating that "Public school No. 4 is very proud of having graduated sixteen young women factory workers, who have been attending special classes." But women have not sufficient intelligence to vote in New York!

The Union Label

We want to call the attention of readers to the union label. Union-made goods cost no more than scab-made goods and you know for an absolute certainty that your goods were not made by convicts in a penitentiary or by underpaid women and children. The union label is a guarantee that the goods are made under wholesome conditions with regard to sanitation and ventilation, and above all, the wages are the highest that prevail in that industry. Remember the union label when you buy your next cigar or package of tobacco. Insist on seeing the union label on your next pair of shoes that you buy. Look for the Garment Workers' label on your next suit or overcoat that you buy. Accept no hat or cap that doesn't bear the union label and don't forget the union label on your printing. It is necessary that women be taught to ask for the union label. Goods not bearing the union label have a sad story behind them. The "Song of the Shirt" brings to our notice in a forceful way the necessity of avoiding cheap goods. It is well to think of these things when you make your future purchases.

LIKE SLAVES WE TOIL

Like slaves we toil from day to day,
Like slaves we toil, and get for pay
Scarcely enough to keep our lives—
To feed our children and our wives.
The best we have we freely give
Of brain and hand, and yet we live,
Though wealth abounds on every hand,
As if a famine filled our land.

The noble souls who see the wrong
And dare denounce in accents strong—
With voice and pen would shackles break,
Not for themselves, but other's sake;
By minions of the law are seized
And thrust in jail. The masters, pleased,
Again the whips of hunger crack
And drive the striking workers back.
—M. J. Connolly.

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THE BUSINESS AGENT.

The name "Business Agent," used in reference to an official of a trade union, immediately evolves in the minds of those not directly in touch with the labor movement all shades of opinions and criticisms of some imaginary person who is not at all like the individual in question, says the Rochester Labor Journal.

Of all the difficult positions in life to fill, the one of a paid, permanent business agent of a trade union is the worst. Visions of easy times, fat cigars, high salaries, and dictatorial powers fade away completely as one faces the bare facts of his hard and difficult day's work.

Take the average business agent, for instance, of the Building Trades. Employers whose relations are not so happy, when they want men, ring up the business agent. The men who are out of a job also report to the business agent and he endeavors to satisfy the men and supply the employer. A business agent is not sure which is the most harassing position to be in, to have a lot of men that he cannot find jobs for, or have the employer driving him for men.

A great deal of diplomacy has to be used in sending out men, as any appearance of favoritism will bring unpleasant and, in a great majority of cases, unjustifiable criticism of the agent.

A difficulty arises in a shop, therefore he must trot off to see if he can straighten things out. Possibly he has to talk plainly to the boss, perhaps to the men.

He may not be financial secretary of the union, but he takes dues from members, and if there are any backsliders, he has the "pleasant" duty of bringing them to time.

He must know all the shops and the number of men working there. In fact, several agents have filing systems, and if you ask for a man you can be told his address, where he works, etc., almost immediately. He goes after non-union men to build up the organization, to help to get better conditions, and smiles often at some petty foreman, who, dressed in brief authority, sneers and insults him. Yes, he smiles, although his blood boils, at snubs from men many times his inferior. Sometimes he hands out a sharp rebuke to a man who, he thinks, is not giving the organization a square deal.

Men who come from other cities seek out the business agent. He must attend to them, direct them to jobs, if there are any, tell them where to look for rooms, etc., and look after a multitude of other duties.

Union hours, did you say? Not for a business agent. Often he works fifteen and sixteen hours a day, for he is naturally one of the most active in his own union. He must not miss meeting night or executive committee meetings. He is likely to be a delegate to the Labor Council, the Building Trades Council, or the District Council, and takes a heavy share of the work along legislative lines there.

If a strike occurs, his duties magnify until his folks at home rarely see him except early at morning, or late at night.

High salary? He rarely gets above the average wage of the mechanic or tradesman belonging to his union. Many of the better-paid men get more than he, and work less hours per day.

He is the one, too, to whom the deadbeat tells his story of being broke, to whom the real hard luck man reveals his plight, and this often means a dip into his own pocket.

He knows that many people who consider themselves respectable look at him as they pass. He is aware some employers dislike him because he is a business agent, and many men criticise whatever he may do.

Why does he do it?

Because he believes in the principles of the trade union movement, because he knows the majority appreciate his hard work, his sacrifice, the bitter pills he has to swallow. So he goes on working, fighting for better conditions, doing his best, making mistakes like every other human being, but learning from them to be better prepared for the future, taking his turn until someone else shall take up the burden.

Much misrepresented, little understood outside the labor movement, it is such men that have made possible the world-wide advancement by organization of the workers toward better industrial conditions.

His Unlucky Days.

Seated in a row on the porch of an old-country inn, with their chairs tipped back, some old cronnies were going on about unlucky days. After all had given what they considered their unlucky days a quiet old chap at one end spoke up:

"Aa'll tell ye ma unlucky days. Aa's fund oot in ma t ime that it's unlucky to be struck wi' leetening on a Monday; or te be catched wiv a circular saw on a Tuesday; or te tumble ower-board on a Wednesday; or te be run ower by a motor-car on a Thursday; or lose a ten-pun note on a Friday; or be bitten by a mad dog on a Saturday, and hev nowt for dinner on the Sunday!"

Every Drop 20 Years Old — HUDSONS BAY CO.

LETTERS TO THE FED.

Identical Interests?—Nit!

Editor B. C. Federationist:—That hoary old lie that "the interests of Capital and Labor are identical" is pretty well played out now, and the wonder is that the workers believed it as long as they did. The average capitalist believes it yet, and he never ceases to emphasize his belief whenever and wherever possible, but thanks to the arbitrary manner in which he has held on to his part of the said identical interests and ignored the interests of Labor there are very few working men who are still ignorant of the fact that the interests of Capital and Labor are diametrically opposed.

Whatever business the capitalist engages in it is with the sole idea of making profit out of it, and the greater the profits the greater the success of the business. But the men he employs receive no share of these profits, be they ever so large. They receive a fixed wage, just sufficint to support them from week to week, while the owner keeps for himself all they make over that fixed wage. If he employs a hundred men and their combined labor produces five hundred dollars a day he certainly does not recognize the "identical interests" of his workmen when he pays them two dollars and a half per day and keeps two and a half for himself, although he may be laboring under the delusion that he does. He halves the day's product with each individual workman, and if he employed only one man he would have a better chance of covering up the steal, because each would have one-half of the day's product, and two dollars and fifty cents is not such a great, big steal that it would make much stir in the mind of the average workman. But as the boss divides up with each of his hundred workmen he gets two hundred and fifty dollars as his share, while the hundred workmen have to content themselves with two hundred and fifty dollars divided up between them.

On the same principle, if he employed a thousand men he would get ten times as much, while the workmen would get no more than their regular wage—two dollars and fifty cents a day. Great scheme, isn't it? This is the way it has always worked. This is the way the interests of Capital and Labor are identical. It is the surplus taken from each workman that piles up the wealth for the owner, be it corporation or individual.

This is how the great industrial companies such as the C. P. R. are able to divide such vast sums amongst their stockholders every year in the shape of dividends. These stockholders may never even see the property, and certainly they never do a tap of work on it, but they are the owners and take the lion's share of the profits, while the men whose toil and sweat create these profits are compelled to accept a wage that in a large number of cases is barely sufficient to keep them and their families clear of debt. Some writers call this the "exploitation" of labor, but the Socialist writer calls it just plain robbery! How, then, can the interests of the robbers and the robbed be identical?

Now, while a large majority of the workers understand this robbery they do not understand the legal way to remedy it. They are kicking all the time against the bosses taking too big a share. They are quite willing to divide up with their masters to a certain extent, but they say the bosses are too greedy and don't want to allow them enough to live decently. And when conditions become unbearable they strike. In many instances that is just what the masters desire. They themselves are within the law; the strikers are outside the pale of the law. The law (government) provides the masters, free of charge, with police, militia, and regular troops to hunt down and coerce the striking workmen, who for the nonce are looked upon as insurgents and rebels against the law. They are rounded up, corralled like so many cattle and sentenced to long terms of imprisonment for merely looking at a strikebreaker.

And here is one thing the average working man—especially the average union man—does not seem to understand, and that is that the Capitalist system is solely responsible for the creation of the thing we know as a scab or strikebreaker. But the capitalist knows that if the system under which he thrives is to continue there MUST ALWAYS BE A SURPLUS OF UNEMPLOYED! Were there a job for every man capitalism could not continue a year longer!

There is only one remedy for the present unfair state of things, and that remedy is so simple that one would imagine the workers would fall over themselves in their eagerness to apply it. But no, these twentieth century workers seem to be obessed with eighteenth century brains. Somehow they can't grasp the idea that the law itself is against them. Nearly every law on the statute books today is a class law, drawn up by capitalist-minded (class conscious) politicians in the interests of the governing class, which is their own class, and as long as these class laws remain on the statute books so long will the master class hold the power to do as they please. They are backed by the government, the courts, the army, navy, police, the press and a host of other sycophantic institutions that draw their very existence from the present system. The masters' actions are always legal; the strikers' actions are always illegal. And the workers it is who elect the government that is always "agin' them."

Obviously, then, the only remedy is for the workers to capture the legislatures and parliament—and as the workers are the vast majority of voters this would be no difficult task—so as to be able to pass laws in their own behalf. I do not mean class laws; we have too many of them now. What the whole civilized world needs is a system of plain, simple laws for ALL THE PEOPLE. There is only one way to do this.

Many workers who are clearly able to size up the situation often stultify their aims by voting for what they term a "good man" in one or other of the two great political parties. They ought to know that the "good man" is still a Liberal or a Conservative and MUST VOTE WITH HIS PARTY or get out of politics. More often the "good man" is run by scheming party managers as a bait to catch the votes of such simple-minded workers whose thinking apparatus is more or less beforged. It has been proved over and over again that the "good man" is powerless to do anything for labor.

There is only one political party that stands for the rights of all workers, for the freeing of labor from its present servile condition, for the uplift of all humanity, for the real freedom of men and women which the world has never yet seen. That political party is the Socialist party. (I don't mean to emphasize the S. P. of C. more than the S. D. P. of C. or any other branch of the Socialist organization).

You workers who are wasting your time in strikes and stubbing your toes kicking against the impregnable walls of the citadel of Privilege get wise to the deep-rooted immensity of the thing you are up against; get wise as to what Socialism really means. To understand it is to vote for it, and to vote for it is to win your own industrial freedom, your emancipation from galling servitude that has kept you the under dog ever since civilization began. You have nothing to lose but your chains; you have a world to gain!

R. W. NORTHEY.
Keremeos Centre, B.C., Oct. 26.

WHO RUNS UNION?

There are members of unions who are continually complaining about the way their union is run but who never help run it. They pay their dues when they are urged to but never attend a meeting if they can get out of it and when they do they generally come to the conclusion that those who are doing all the work which they themselves are neglecting constitute a little ring having a desire to run things. The fact of the matter is that if these few active members did not do the work they are doing that nothing would be done at all. If they run the union it is only because the members of the union fail to attend the meetings and see to it that things are run by a larger number.

If any action is taken that does not suit any member of a union and such displeased member was not present at the meeting at which the action was taken he should blame himself a whole lot more than anybody else. It was his business to be there and make his argument on the floor of the union. If he neglected to do this he should keep his peace afterwards. If the nature of the action be such that he believes it should be different he should at least go to the next union meeting and there register his kick instead of whining outside and never going near the meeting.

Is the final analysis it is the members of every labor union who run it. If they fail to attend meetings they are doing that which if all did it would kill the union. Every member who stays away from a meeting of his union is doing that much to kill it. The smaller the attendance is the worse it goes and when the attendance ceases the union is dead.

Don't be among those who complain about somebody running the union when you are neglecting to do your part. Better blame yourself for everything that goes wrong because you are a part of the union and failure to attend meetings is a far worse offence than making a mistake trying to do something. If you attend the meeting and get voted down by what you call the ring, don't quit in disgust and leave the ring to complete control but stay with and induce the others to attend the meetings to help straighten matters out. No ring can run a union if the members do their duty. The majority can always run their own union whenever they want to. It is their plain duty to do this instead of sulking in the back-ground and knocking.—Eureka Labor News.

CARNEGIE'S LIBRARIES.

By Alice T. Sorenson.

There's a scent on the books of dead men's bones,
And a spatter of blood over all;
There's a rough, ragged hole in each leaf you turn,
Like the wound from a rifleman's ball.

There's the last gasp of men shot down at command
Of this gracious and generous man;
There's the blood and the groan, the grief and the shame—
You picture it, any who can.

There's a picture of Homestead—will we ever forget
How those brave, ragged men were defenselessly slain—
Were slaughtered like beasts, poor hunted beasts,
By Carnegie's will and for Carnegie's gain!

For these wrongs to our comrades we'll never forget,
Nor this master of bread, with his cunning and greed.
And the gift that he proffers—we spurn it and scorn him,
For we hold it in keeping with his class and his deed.

—Melting Pot.

The state makes use of the money which extorts from me to unjustly impose fresh constraints upon me; this is the case when it prescribes for me its theology or its philosophy, when it prescribes for me or denies me a special form of religious observance, when it pretends to regulate my morals and my manners, to limit my labor or my expenditure, to fix the price of my merchandise or the rate of my wages. With the coin which I do not owe it and which it steals from me it defrays the expense of the persecution which it inflicts upon me. Let us beware of the encroachments of the State, and suffer it to be nothing more than a watch-dog.—Taine.

Shingle Weavers, Sawmill Workers and Woodspeu

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All interested in organization are requested to at once call at Room 217, Labor Temple, or communicate with

GEO. HEATHERTON
A. F. of L. General Organizer

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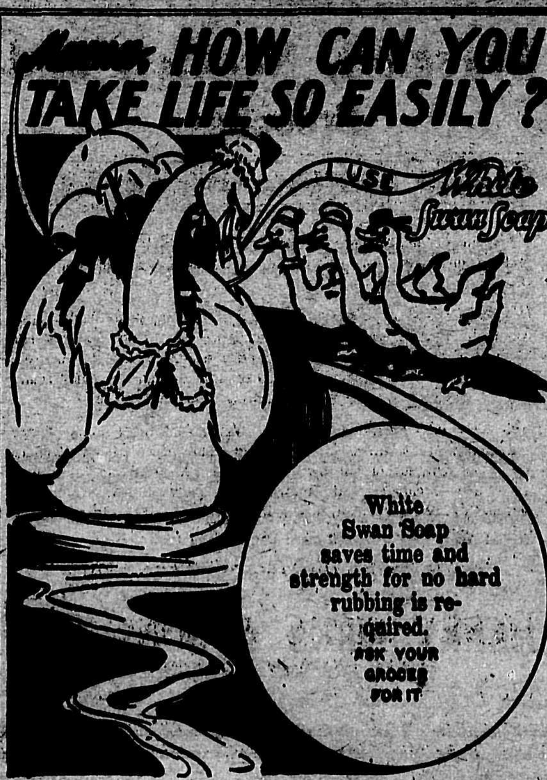

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BRICKLAYERS TO BUCK THE SUBSTITUTION OF CONCRETE FOR BRICK

International Union Sets Aside One Million Dollars to Re-establish Brick Industry

A fund of $1,000,000 has been set aside by the International Bricklayers and Stonemasons' Union of America, to protect its members against the movement now under way to substitute concrete work for brick work, which it is declared will eventually do away with the brick industry. The first step to be taken by the international to defeat the movement will be the establishment of clay-product manufacturing plants wherever there is a tendency toward using the substitute material.

The first plant of this kind will probably be erected at El Paso, and $250,000 has already been voted toward the plan. J. P. Duffy, third vice-president of the international, and a member of 'Frisco Bricklayers' union No. 7, recently visited that city to investigate the brick industry, and upon his return money was voted to establish the first clay-product plant there.

APATHY OF THE CHURCH CITED BY DUCHESS OF MARLBOROUGH, LONDON

The Duchess of Marlborough presided on Monday last at a conference held in London to discuss the sweating of women workers. The object of the gathering was asked that the Trades Board act be extended to the jam, pickle and confectionery trades, to the furnishing trades, and to many others where a substantial increase in wages is desirable.

The duchess said that 300,000 women earned less than 15 shillings a week, the minimum necessary for a decent life. Her Grace dealt freely and frankly with the lethargy of the church in regard to this matter. Why did the church leave Larkin to call attention to the conditions in Dublin, she asked.

Why did the church not appear before the country and tell what it knew of the horrible housing of the farm laborers, and of the wretched wages paid to them? Why did the church not point out forty years ago the conditions which then prevailed and have prevailed ever since? The necessity to make proper payment for a worker is the first charge on an industry and should be the basic principle in the sight of men and women, as it was in the sight of God.

She gave instances of the scandals in various industries, such as chain-making at 31 links for a penny, the making of match boxes at three pence a gross, and the sewing of men's shirts at nine pence a dozen.

One widow who worked in a sugar factory stated that she earned eight shillings a week and on that sum kept her mother and two children. Her dinner cost her a penny a day.

I say discuss all and expose all—I am for every topic openly;
I say there can be no safety for these States without innovators—without free tongues, and ears willing to hear the tongues;
And I announce as a glory of these States, that they respectfully listen to propositions, reforms, fresh views and doctrines, from successions of men and women.
Each age with its own growth!—Walt Whitman.

ROYAL CITY WORKERS IN MUNICIPAL POLITICS

Have Always Been in Politics But It Was the Other Fellow's

Workers Will Shift Scene to Their Own Stamping Ground

NEW WESTMINSTER, Nov. 19.—There has recently developed a good deal of discussion in various labor organizations as to whether the workers should go into politics, with the result that in many places an organized effort is being made to seat workers on city councils, school boards and other public bodies.

But why all this discussion? Whence this fear of facing the problems of government as workers? Is it because we are loth to admit even to ourselves that we belong to the class in present-day society that has to labor for a right to exist, or is it because we still dwell under the shadow of that fetish, the old-time party organization, which has for so long misled and betrayed the workers at every turn?

We have always been in politics, but it has been some one else's politics and for some one else's benefit.

We have been led by a process of flag-waving and newspaper education to follow in the wake of one or the other of the so-called parties, and have been beguiled, cajoled, flattered, intimidated or bought to deliver up our franchise, secured for us at so great a price, to some one whose material interests are diametrically opposed to our own and who when we have placed him in authority proceeds in conjunction with his fellows to weld our chains more tightly about us. We have all the evidence we need as to the truth of this in the treatment Labor has received at the hands of our own provincial or dominion governments. Time after time have committees delegated by organized labor waited upon and memorialized these bodies with demands for the lessening of the evils now endured by the working class, for a greater measure of safety to life and limb in certain occupations, for improved conditions in the shop and in the home, for an extension of the franchise, for the enforcement of what little labor legislation we have already been able to secure, and many other matters for the benefit of the workers. And with what result? Absolutely nothing has been done that would tend to reduce the profits of the corporations or jeopardize the stability of the vested interests that [illegible] try and [illegible].

Why, then, not [illegible] ground slightly and just stay in politics for the benefit of ourselves as workers, selecting men from among ourselves to fight our battles in the various governing bodies?

Never mind what we call ourselves. We need no name. All except ourselves know who we are. We do not need to organize a party. We are a party now, [illegible] it is true, lacking not unity of purpose so much as a unity of method. So long as we continue splitting hairs over how we shall go about it, what we shall call ourselves, whether socialists, laborites, independents or what nots, just so long will we be at the mercy of those who are appropriating the lion's share of what we produce, and powerless to effect any improvement in our own condition which is not more materially beneficial to the Vested Interests than it is to ourselves.

If we feel that we are workers, that we depend on some one else for an opportunity to toil that our children may eat, then we know to what class we belong and where our interest lies.

Then let us organize as workers, go to the polls as workers and elect workers to serve our interests on all governing bodies whenever the opportunity presents itself.

It is perhaps well to begin in the municipal bodies. Our experience there will be of benefit when we proceed to widen our sphere and we have only to gain control of the municipal government to discover its limitations and how necessary it is that we control the legislature as well.

In New Westminster a very simple expedient has been adopted to enable all workers to participate, regardless of their party affiliations or sectarian ideas. The Trades and Labor Council calls a public meeting of organized and unorganized workers at which a campaign committee is chosen and candidates selected. Subsequent meetings, the management of the campaign and all the rest is left in the hands of the campaign committee, although the labor organizations assist at their pleasure with funds to carry on the campaign.

This plan has worked so well in the past that up to the present there has been no attempt made to alter it in any way and each year the influence of the workers on the civic government grows stronger.

B. C. Miners Liberation League

Report of secretary-treasurer C. V. Cook:

Receipts	
Mass meeting collection	$139.45
Overflow mass meeting	7.80
Total	$147.25
Expenses	
Rent Dominion hall	$ 60.00
Wagon and handsigns	14.00
Twelve mass meeting cards	18.90
Carrying sign and distributing cards	10.50
Displaying wagon sign	9.00
100 envelopes	.20
Wire to minister of justice	3.80
	$116.40
Balance on hand	$ 30.85

Report approved by meeting of executive board of B. C. Miners' Liberation League at Longshoremen's hall, Nov. 12, 1913.

74 Hastings street west, Vancouver, B.C., Nov. 15, 1913.

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W. D. SCOTT Superintendent of Immigration OTTAWA

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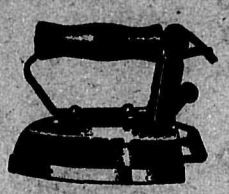

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VICTORIA WORKERS HOLD A PROTEST MEETING

Jack Place, M.P.P., Addresses Crowded House and Receives Ovation

Government Scored by a United Working Class at Rousing Meeting

VICTORIA, Nov. 17.—If a crowded house speaks a protest then there was a good one last night, the Kinemacolor theatre being filled to the doors long before the time for calling the meeting, a vast difference to the size of the audience at the meeting held last week by the Conservative club in honor of the premier and Billous Billy.

Christian Siverts, president of the B. C. Federation of Labor, occupied the chair and gave a brief outline of the reason for forming the Miners' Liberation League, and stated that a few resolutions would be put to the meeting before adjourning.

J. C. Turner, organiser for the socialist party, spoke at some length on the condition of the working man under the present government, stating that the daily press was trying to convince the public that the miners on the island were nothing more than a lot of ignorant brutes, to be thought of only as slaves. He believed the reason the mine owners were supported was the desire of the present government to capture Nanaimo and Newcastle seats, but that they would find the working man was not to bluffed any more.

Mr. J. Place, M.P.P., took the floor amidst great applause. He stated that he had only been liberated from prison on Saturday, with a hundred other miners who were taken when Bowser's helpers were sent to corral all the men who had any sand to stand up for themselves. He told them how and why he was arrested. A certain Mr. Frank Shepperd, M.P., a member of Billy's clique, called a meeting to explain the conservative side of the trouble. After speaking at some length, Mr. Place jumped up and explained the workers' side of the trouble. Mr. Shappard's speech was published in the Nanaimo Free Press a few days after Mr. Place was placed in jail for speaking at a "riotous" meeting, showing that Mr. Place, being one of the hard workers for the working men. Billous Billy decided it would be better to have him out of the way. He also believed the reason bail was refused was because Mr. Bowser, who had sent militia to the district, wished to make the offence appear as serious as possible. The working men were urged to organize as this was not only an industrial fight but a political one as well, and the present government should be shown that we had had enough of their administration.

Geo. Hardy claimed that the strike was organised by the government through the mine owners and the working man must see that this state of affairs ceased. It was up to every worker in B. C. to see that the miners were liberated at once. We should do as the workers in the old country have done, lay down their tools until they got what they asked for.

President Foster of District No. 28, took the floor amidst loud applause. He gave the history of how the U. M. W. came to the Island, after the amalgamation of all miners on the Island. The men who took prominent part in organizing the union were then laid off, in that way trying to break down the union. After the first day or two the government sent in fifty special police, not to keep order but to force the Asiatics back to work. The next move the mine owners made was to call the militia, and when they held a regular meeting, were surrounded and searched, not with the object of finding any firearms but to try and raise trouble. If the U. M. W. went to the McBride government to-day and offered to leave the island, if the men in jail were given their freedom, what would they say? Yes, by all means. But the men in jail would rather stay there than give up their right to organise, which would help to give them better working conditions, and he would say that there would be no reconciliation with the mine owners until their union was recognised.

Advantage had been taken of the situation to increase the hold of the mine owners on Asiatic labor. In Cumberland there were now about one thousand Asiatics and a number of negroes employed in and around the mines.

In alluding to the sentences given the miners by Judge Howay, he declared that the action of the judge in giving out an interview to justify his sentences was unprecedented in the annals of British courts.

The following organisations combined to promote the meeting: B. C. Federation of Labor, Trades and Labor Council, Social Democratic Party, Socialist Party of Canada and the I. W. W. A collection was taken up to defray expenses, which amounted to $42.

The following resolutions were unanimously passed at the close of the meeting:

"Be it resolved—That this mass meeting, held under the auspices of the Victoria Miners' Liberation League, composed of the Victoria Trades and Labor Council, the B. C. Federation of Labor, Industrial Workers of the World, the Socialist Party of Canada, the Socialist Democratic Party and the citizens of Victoria, protests against the action of the courts in refusing bail to the miners who are waiting trial, as men are innocent until proved guilty, and the action of the courts in this respect is without precedent and savors of class distinction in the administration of the law; and be it further resolved that we protest against the brutal severity of the sentences imposed upon the miners of Vancouver island, and demand of the Minister of Justice of the Dominion of Canada that they be at once released, and that the Minister of Justice be asked to forward an early reply to the secretary of this league indicating the line of action he intends to take.

"Be it further resolved—That this meeting condemn the action of the governments of British Columbia for refusing to enforce the provisions of the Coal Mines Regulations Act, which refusal on their part is responsible for all the trouble which has occurred in connection with the situation on Vancouver Island."

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MERRITT MINERS HOLD MEETING AND HEAR STORY OF THE ISLAND STRIKE

MERRITT, B.C., Nov. 19.—At the request of the miners of Nicola valley to hear the latest on the strike situation on the coast, and as an appreciation of their good efforts on the Children's Christmas Box fund, Mr. Geo. Pettigrew, international board member of the U. M. W. of A., left Vancouver on Saturday morning last. A meeting had been advertised for Sunday evening at 7 p.m., but owing to delays on the C. P. R. the speaker did not arrive until 8.30 p.m. Sunday evening. Many miners were at the station on Saturday, and on Sunday evening again a large number were at the hall and station, but as the train was late and the evening cold, only a few were left for the meeting. The chair was taken by S. Gibson at 8.45, who explained how travelling business men were continually telling stories in their own way as to the riots on the Island and the end of the strike. Mr. G. Pettigrew was then introduced and gave an explanation of the whole situation and at the close answered several questions to the satisfaction of all present. There were about two hundred present and resolutions similar to the Dominion hall meeting were unanimously passed. A collection on behalf of the Miners' Liberation League was taken to the amount of $27.10. A meeting was again attempted for Monday evening, but owing to the usual counter attractions following pay day, in the form of shows, etc., and the cold weather, this failed. This looks like a promising centre for the circulation of The Federationist, and Mr. Ed. McAdam, a busy and interested young man, will undoubtedly look after it. Work at the mines at present is not at its brightest, but hopes are entertained again for a busy future. G. P.

DEATH OF TWO MEMBERS OF AMALGAMATED CARPENTERS

The Passing of T. Cook and H. Skeen, the Latter an Organizer and Business Agent Here

Only last week the above organization had to announce the death of one of its members, T. Cook (No. 5 branch), who was killed through accidentally falling down a well hole in the new Hudson's Bay stores. The attendance at the funeral was one of the largest known in the history of the society in the city. The Amalgamated Carpenters deeply appreciate and take this opportunity to tender their thanks to their sister organisation, the United Brotherhood of Carpenters, for the large turnout of their members to pay their last respects to our dead brother.

This week we regret to announce the death of Herbert Skeen, late business agent at Victoria. Also he was a former president of the central labor body of that city. Four years ago he came to Vancouver, during which time he had been untiring and unselfish in the cause of the organized labor movement. His sole ambition was to raise the standard of living of his own class to the highest possible place. For a time Herbert was a member of the district council and the carpenters joint committee, which bodies he rendered yeoman service. For two years he fulfilled the duties of organizer and business agent so satisfactorily that in that brief space of time the membership of the Amalgamated Society leaped from 70 members to about 450 at Victoria. Of a genial and kindly disposition, "Bert," as he was familiarly called, endeared himself to the hearts of all with whom he came in contact, cut off in the prime of life. The society to-day mourns the loss of one whose memory will ever remain as a man of sterling quality and worth, who has fulfilled his share in the battle of life.

The funeral will take place from the residence of his mother, 3871 Quebec street, on Saturday, November 23rd, at 2.30. All members of the Amalgamated Carpenters and organised labor generally, are invited to attend and show their respect and appreciation of one who was a man among men.

HUGH J. McEWEN.

Bowser Challenged

The Sun is in receipt of a communication from Isaac Portrey, Ladysmith, member of the gas committee, which investigated the working of the coal mines on Vancouver island, respecting the remarks made by Attorney-general Bowser recently, that the strike was not caused by there being gas in the mines. Mr. Portrey in the communication issues a challenge to Mr. Bowser to meet him on a public platform, where he states he will prove that there were large bodies of dangerous gases existing in No. 2 mine, at Extension. He also challenges Thomas Graham, chief inspector of mines, to be on the platform at the same time, should Mr. Bowser accept the challenge.—Vancouver Sun.

Copy of Letter from Mr. Doherty

Ottawa, Ont.

"... I have received your letter-gram of 11th inst., reciting two resolutions asking for the release of certain miners now in custody in the province of British Columbia. I shall have the usual reports obtained with a view to ascertaining whether the circumstances of these cases will justify the exercise of clemency.

"CHAS. DOHERTY."

ROYAL CITY UNIONISTS WILL HOLD PROTEST MASS MEETING MONDAY NEXT

A mass meeting will be held by New Westminster trade unionists in Eagle hall, on Monday evening next, under the auspices of the Trades and Labor Council, to protest against the severe sentences handed out by Judge Howay to the union miners on Vancouver Island, and asking for their release.

Even Judge Howay himself has found a New Westminster jury which he terms "most extraordinary." The miners were aware of it long since.

CAPITAL CITY LABOR TEMPLE COMPANY FLOURISHING

Next Annual General Meeting Fixed for Wednesday, Nov. 26

$22,283.69 Is Balance of Assets Over Liabilities of the Company

VICTORIA, Nov. 18.—The directors of the Victoria Labor Temple Co., Ltd., in their annual statement to shareholders, under date of November 14th, report progress.

An ordinary general meeting of the company has been called for Wednesday, Nov. 26th, for the purpose of receiving the report of the directors, auditors' report, annual statement and balance sheet, the election of directors, the appointment of an auditor, and transact such other business as may be brought before the meeting.

Secretary Siverts has issued the following statement in connection with the business of the company:

Balance Sheet
Nov. 1, 1912, to Oct. 31, 1913

Assets

Lot 400 Victoria City	$37,500.00
Amounts Owing by Sundry Shareholders	281.75
Balance in Dominion Bank.	1,356.04
Cash with Secy.-treas.	9.00
	$39,726.79

Liabilities

Capital stock issued	$13,890.00
Mortgage on lot 400, Victoria City	4,500.00
Estate of Jos. Peirson	53.10
Balance, being excess of assets over liabilities	22,283.69
	$39,726.79

Profit and Loss Account for Period Ending October 31, 1913

Dr.

October 31, 1913—	
To general expense acct. for stationery, printing, etc.	$ 255.95
To loc. imp. taxes, '12	$10.90
To taxes, 1913	644.70
To loc. imp. taxes, '13	9.90
	665.50
To int. on deferred payments, lot 400, Victoria City	399.75
To balance carried forward to balance sheet	22,283.69
	$23,604.89

Cr.

November 1, 1913—	
By balance brought ford.	$23,196.89
October 31, 1913—	
By rent received, lot 400	334.00
By suspense account	74.00
	$23,604.89

Statement of Income and Expenditure for the Period Ending October 31, 1913

Income

October 31, 1912—	
Balance in Dominion Bank.	$ 114.74
Balance with secretary	20.15
October 31, 1913—	
Sale of shares, by cash	$3,865.85
Sale of shares, by note	75.00
	3,940.85
Rent	329.00
Borrowed from bank	800.00
Sundry accounts	3.85
	$5,211.99

Expenditure

R. P. Clark	$1,000.00
Interest	399.75
Taxes, 1912	532.90
Taxes, local imp., 1912	10.90
Taxes, 1913	644.70
Taxes, local imp., 1913	9.90
General expenses	256.80
Repaid to bank	940.00
Trades and Labor Council	2.00
Balance in Dominion Bank.	1,356.04
Bal. in hands of Sec.-treas.	9.00
	$5,211.99

Bartenders' Union

Local No. 676, Bartenders' International League, held its regular meeting in Labor Temple on Sunday, a small attendance being present. The secretary reported that the civic licensing board had refused to grant any more licenses or permits to bartenders this year. The union card has been put in the Empress hotel. The executive committee was endeavoring to get up an entertainment in connection with the next meeting at which no doubt there will be a bumper attendance. The union tendered their thanks to the other unions for their influence in organising union hotels.

The many friends of Samuel Kernighan, member of the Brotherhood of Carpenters, will regret to hear of the death of his wife, which occurred on Monday evening.

LOCALS

Alderman McBeath is opposed to overtime work being done for the city. He referred to ten men who had earned $291.46 regular wages, and in the same time had drawn $345.89 for overtime. At the last meeting of the city council he moved a motion "that no worker in the employ of the city should be allowed to work longer than 48 hours a week," which would give four hours' overtime. Later he amended this to 54 hours. The matter was referred to a committee to report at the next meeting.

M. P. Cotton Construction Company has been awarded the contract for the construction of the North Vancouver ferry subway for $30,105. Union rules will prevail on the job.

Robert McPherson, ex-alderman, is announced as a candidate for ward four in the approaching January elections. He is an ex-delegate to the T. and L. Council.

School Trustee H. Neelands of South Vancouver, will be a candidate for re-election at next January elections. He is secretary of the Typographical union.

In answer to a query, it may be stated that there is no union of mailers in this city.

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It is probable that a plebiscite wi be taken at the municipal election next January on the question whethe there should be a board of control fo Vancouver.

Manager Sperling of the B. C. E ectric, states that his company wi not build the proposed extension o the Nanaimo street car line at pr sent owing to the financial stri gency.

The Painters' and Decorators' union asked the city council to pas a by-law for the better protection o men working on swinging scaffold The request was referred to th building committee.

A. R. Hoerle, member of Vancouve Typographical union, who has bee for a number of years prominentl connected with the affairs of that or ganisation, will leave shortly for Co lorado Springs, Col.

It is rumored that there will b three candidates in the field for th mayoralty for 1913, namely, Mayo Baxter, ex-Mayor Taylor and Rev Mr. Fraser.

President McSorley of the Interna tional Lathers' union, will be in Van couver next week. He is now attend ing the A. F. of L. convention a Seattle.

Ernest Campbell, a B. C. old-time carpenter, but now of Portland, was in the city on Tuesday. He is on his way to Edinburgh, Scot., where he will spend Christmas and New Years returning in February. "Aye, mon, but it's grand," is what he said of the Labor Temple.

John Caldwell, carpenter, of Portland, after spending a few days renewing old acquaintances, left for Winnipeg today.

"Tom" Spinks, member of the Typographical union, formerly foreman of the News-Advertiser, is ill at his home near Port Haney.

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