THE BRITISH COLUMBIA FEDERATIONIST

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

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FRENZIED FINANCE OF THE DOMINION TRUST

Government Is Really to Blame for the Disaster

Attorney-General Bowser And Legal Partners May Explain

By J. H. McVETY.

Ordinarily The Federationist does not bother to discuss in its columns the intricacies of modern finance or the methods of "high" financiers, but in the case of the Dominion Trust company, in the failure of which so many unions, union members and working people generally have lost their small savings, a deviation from the rule is probably warranted.

Were the Directors Decoys?

With a board of directors composed largely of pious church pillars, men chosen for the express purpose of leading the unsophisticated to believe that the company was a solid as the rock of Gibraltar, the few facts so far divulged in connection with the winding up of the company's office lead the average citizen to believe that the majority of the directors were merely decoys or that they were fully aware of the actions of the managing director, and consequently equally responsible with him for the state of affairs now existing. In fairness, it must be admitted that the directors were all heavy investors themselves and that many of them will be ruined along with those who entrusted their funds to the care of the company.

Who is Responsible.?

What was the cause of the failure? Who are the chartered accountants who were required to certify to the correctness of the accounts and to warn the shareholders of practices that the considered unsound? Where was the government inspector of trust companies who was given such wide powers under the new trust company legislation passed at the last session of the legislature at the instruction of the attorney-general?

Answering the questions in their order, it appears now as though the depositors and trust funds of the company were used by Arnold, the managing director in making loans to himself and his friend Alvensleben for their private speculations—That the affairs of Alvensleben became involved and further loans were made to him to protect what he had already borrowed. Then the war, with the practical exile of Alvensleben, completely ruined him and left the trust company unable to call in the loans when it most needed the assistance.

Where Were the Auditors?

Unless these disastrous loans were made since the last annual statement of the company was prepared it would appear as though chartered accountants are but little protection to shareholders and depositors and that in this case they were completely under the domination of the managing director. While the board of directors may provisionally appoint auditors, it cannot discharge them except by consent of the shareholders to whom notice of the intention to change auditors must be given in writing and the auditors must also be notified in writing so that they may appear and show why they are being discharged if the directors do not care to give the true reasons. It will be seen, then, that auditors need never be in fear of losing their work through failure to carry out the wishes of the directors. It may be that the auditors in this case have a good explanation and if so the sooner it is made the better for their professional reputations.

Bowser on the Job.

Great promise was held out by the Hon. Mr. Bowser about the safeguards to be thrown around the operations of trust companies by his new act, and the new inspector appointed thereunder. And where are the safeguards now? Where was the supervision that was to protect the working man, the widow and the orphan whose savings were deposited or whose estate was in the hands of this company acting as executors? And now it is said that the learned attorney-general is going to stop trust companies accepting deposits, which will no doubt strengthen his position with the banks.

Government Responsible.

There is no doubt that the publicity given the new trust company act by the government resulted in an increase of confidence in trust companies generally and did drive some of the smaller fry out of the business because of their inability to furnish the heavy deposit required by the government. If the people were led to expect safeguards and inspection and the safeguards were not provided or the inspection exercised, and money was lost thereby, it seems a reasonable expectation that the government would make good any loss suffered by depositors who though their interests were secured by the new act.

Impartiality Expected

Does the attorney-general intend to make a searching inquiry into the affairs of this company to determine whether there is criminal responsibility on the part of the directors for permitting the embezzlement of trust funds? And if it should be found to be true will he stretch out the mighty arm of the law and seize the big malefactors with the same speed and expedition with which he pursues the small thief? Will he prosecute as rigorously as he did in the case of the miners on Vancouver island? Will those charged be held in jail without bail for two or three months and forced to live on jail food? Maybe the connection between the Dominion Trust company and Bowser, Reid and Wallbridge, the company's solicitors, may assist the attorney-general in arriving at a decision?

Full of hope and trust in the strong arm of British "justice" as typified in the attorney-general, a grand opportunity here presents itself to show the "doubting Thomases" how he fearlessly exercises impartiality. Will he act?

AUSTRALIA HAS ITS SHARE OF WORKLESS

Labor Daily Newspaper of Twenty-four Pages to Start New Year

Non-Unionists To Be Paid Non-union Wages Is Government Policy

Special Australian Correspondence.

SYDNEY, N. S. W., Oct. 23.—While we have a great number out of work here, the government are doing all they can to handle the situation. The federal labor government, since it got into power last month, have been working at express speed to have legislation passed to take over a vigorous works' policy to absorb the surplus unemployment. We have the most of our unemployed on half time, which at the present time is better than no work at all.

To give you an idea of what we are doing, I might say that in this state of N. S. W. the labor premier announced in his budget speech the other night that so far the country had not suffered as a result of the war. He said the government was going to pass a further income tax assessment and a motor car tax to keep the public works policy going. This is a good start, and it means that the brunt of the taxation is to fall on those best able to bear it at this time.

New Labor Daily.

The machinery for our new labor daily newspaper is now being installed. The big Hoe press is capable of running 36,000 copies of a 24-page paper an hour. We are having two of these machines installed—giving an output of 72,000 an hour. Our circulation will be the biggest in Australia, and we are starting in a large way—24 pages. Owing to delay in shipment of machinery we do not expect to commence publication till February.

Non-union Wages for Non-unionists.

Since the commonwealth decided once and for all at the last Australian federal elections that the question of preference to unionists was to be adopted by the government, the plute in Australia has been strangely quiet. The government, for its part, have not been slow in carrying out its mandate, by giving instructions that unionists are to have preference over non-unionists. The N. S. Wales state labor government has gone further than this, and while it has authorized that unionists are to have preference to non-unionists, it has also authorized that if non-union men are employed they are to be employed at non-union wages—that is, wages that were ruling at the time before the unions got any increases in their pays.

Last week the government of New South Wales had notices set out at the works that if there were any scab-men found on the premises at the end of the week, they were to get scab wages, and that the present union rates of wages would only go to the men who were bona fide members of the trades organizations. This of course raised the ire of the few plute men in the N. S. W. state parliament, and one of them asked the minister of works if it was a fact that he had issued notices to this effect. The minister's reply was as follows:

Minister of Works' Reply.

"It is a fact that some time ago, I informed the officers of my department that it was the desire of the ministry that all workmen employed by the government should be members of the trade organizations proper to their callings. I went further by adding, that while we gave preference to such unionists, no pressure was to be brought to bear upon any man who had, or alleged that they had, conscientious objections to joining the unions; but if any workman chose to remain outside the union he was to be paid at the rate of wages ruling prior to the increase won by the union, under the award.

"If a man has any objection to join the union he can accept the wages ruling before the union went to the trouble and expense of obtaining an award securing increased rates of pay. Men outside the unions will not be allowed to benefit by the results obtained through the expenditure of time and money on the part of members of the unions."

When this is brought in force, not only in the government, but also in the outside industrial fields we will have settled the trouble of scabbery. By granting preference to unionists, the people at the ballot box are making this possible within a comparatively short space of time.

IN EUROPE'S HUMAN HOUSE OF SLAUGHTER

I have at least one case in my records where wounded men were thrown alive into the flames of a burning house. Looking down my notes, and those only made from authenticated cases, see only drunken orgies of lust and blood in which women are locked in rooms after being separated from their husbands and fathers and maddened soldiery let loose upon them; the burning to death of a body of wounded men in a church which, though flying the Red Cross was deliberately bombarded; fiendish assaults upon children; the mutilation of the dead on the field of battle; and through it all the smell of charred flesh and rotting bodies, which is summed up in the words of an English soldier: "The woods are full of rotting bodies. We crawled into them to escape the hell of fire outside them—we went back to the open because we couldn't face the stench." Nor would you understand if you were there to see these things. I say to you that this war has made Europe so beastly—so deadened—that these things seem the natural occurences of every day.—Shaw Desmond, British socialist writer.

When the oldest daughter marries, the rest of the family manage to get along comfortably without any boss.

The Press Gang in Canada

Of all institutions, there is not one which exercises a more powerful influence upon the upblic mind than the press. Hence, every association of men or women having in view the propogation of the idea which brought them together, regards the printed word as of first importance. They want a paper of their own in order, as they believe, to give their idea a better chance of becoming known. In a country like Canada, that want is more keenly felt than in older and settled countries, like England, for instance. The daily press of this country—particularly in the west—is a singularly one-sided affair. It has no bigness or dignity about it, to make it "public" in the large sense of the word. Its lack of distinctiveness and individuality, gives it a uniform mediocrity of tone, in pitiful contrast to the journals of a hundred and fifty years ago, when the fight for press freedom was being waged against ignorant conservatism. It has the "grocer mind," and looks out on the world and all that happens therein, through the spectacles of trade.

It speaks in bombastic terms about "the great blood-bought liberties of the British people." But when one of them is assailed, it is useless to look to the ordinary daily newspaper to champion it. The psychology of the mob mind is its daily guide, as it goes along hand in hand with the "damned compound compact liberal majority" as Ibsen calls it. Sham patriotism, sham politics, sham economics, sham anything and everything just so long as it pays, because it pleases those who are either too lazy or too stupid to be able to think things out for themselves. It is one of the props brought to the support of an age robbed of its self-reliance by a civilization which saps the mental vitality of men. The "man in the street," would rather have his thoughts and opinions laid on his doorstep daily for fifty cents a month, than go to the trouble of thinking and forming them for himself, from his own observation and his contact with the views of his fellows. The result of all this is, that any newspaper which sets out to swim against the stream, and to go the opposite way to the crowd, has a task before it as difficult as its work is necessary.

The Federationist is one of such, and so is every other newspaper which is trying to stem the tide of cant and indifference which threatens to swamp the fundamental things of life. Its claim to being of that class is not a modest one, for modesty is only a hindrance to a journal attempting such a task. The consideration given to working class interests by the rest of the press is sufficient reason for that. To excuse it would only be introducing Uriah Heap where there is no scope for his talents. The reason for such a paper justifies itself in face of the conspiracy of silence in the press of the city, when matters of vital material interest to the workers conflict with those of powerful aggregations of corporate finance.

As an instance typical of many, during all the protracted negotiations between the street railway men and the B. C. Electric Railway company, not one word about the matters in dispute appeared in any other paper than this. That, in spite of the fact that once or twice it appeared to be certain that a strike would take place, and the city car service be disorganized. If such a thing had happened, the first thing the public would have heard about it, would have been in the form of lusty condemnation of the carmen. There would have been publicity galore in that case.

What was true of the street car trouble, is equally true of every other working class question of a similar kind. The only paper in the city through which publicity can be obtained is The Federationist. Like most other things which have been established long enough to be looked upon as an institution, its value may not always be apparent. But if it was not here, the working-class point of view would stand but little chance of finding expression elsewhere. It does not make any attempt to treat the daily bread problem of its readers as matter for academic discussion of abstract issues. Its object is to be as human as the common man, and to present the labor point of view with respect to everyday happenings.

J. W. W.

HOW WOMEN ARE HELPING THE WOMEN

More Than Seven Hundred Workless Women and Girls Register.

League's Effort to Grapple with Appalling Problem Relieving Many Cases.

The Women's Employment League held their weekly meeting last Wednesday morning, and a report was presented of the registration up to date, as follows:

	Registered.	Helped.
Stenographers	125	31
Office assistants	30	12
Bookkeepers and stenographers	18	5
'Phone operators	3	2
Waitresses	15	2
Chamber maids	6	2
Cooks	10	2
Housekeepers	16	10
Nurse maids	5	2
Generals	197	74
Tailoresses and Garment workers	108	51
Dressmakers	13	4
Trained nurses	14	7
Laundresses	8	2
Stores	20	5
Married women registered	123	
tered	123	
General	197	74
Unemployed		500
Total	711	711

Out of the above number about 100 have been placed in positions as domestic help. Several have received meal tickets and financial assistance.

The real work of the Woman's Employment League began on November 9th, when some sixty girls and women were put to work at the making of dolls, toys, etc., in the premises opened recently at No. 1027 Robson Street. The sixty women were paid $3.50 for three days' work, that number has since been increased to 106 and will again be raised to 150.

Since the work started it has been found necessary to turn two sitting rooms and four bedrooms into work rooms. Work is proceeding in the most satisfactory manner, making dolls, dressing dolls, painting dolls' heads and faces, making dolls houses and models of Belgian and French houses.

One very satisfactory feature is an order of 1200 housewives, and 1200 hold-alls, to be made for the next contingent of soldiers to leave Vancouver. Twelve garment workers are doing this work and if other orders from another source materialize they will be kept working for the next six weeks, or until Christmas.

Dressmaking, alterations, and sewing of every kind is being done on the premises, and last though not by any means the least important item, is the making of Christmas puddings, orders for which are rapidly coming in.

There is no doubt that if the work continues as well as it is going at present the enterprise will be a huge success.

No Charge.

"What is the charge?" asked the magistrate. "Nuthin' 't all," snickered the prisoner at the bar; "this's on me."

Most of a man's illusions disappear with his hair.

PAPER-MAKING PAY ROLL AT POWELL RIVER

Output of Modern Plant Reaches 150 to 200 Tons Newsprint per Day.

Papermakers Have a 100 per Cent. Union with About 60 Members.

Powell River, B. C., is a thriving community of some 1,500 people, all engaged, directly or indirectly, in the production of newsprint paper, from a modern plant operated by the Powell River Paper Co. Some three years ago the present company took over the wreck of a previous concern and present conditions indicate that the officials know their business. The output just now reaches between 150 and 200 tons per day and this will be increased as soon as further equipment is added. The company seems to have a ready sale for its product, and its market extends to Vancouver, Victoria, Seattle, San Francisco and other cities on this continent, while consignments are also billed to Australia, New Zealand and South America. Powell River is about 65 miles from Vancouver, situated on the mainland, across from the north end of Texada Island, some six hours sail.

While the policy of company ownership and control of the townsite is general it must be admitted that it is the best of a bad system. The working conditions generally are not too bad and the wages will compare favorably with other points in British Columbia.

The Paper Makers' union, No. 142, with a membership of about 60, is the only labor organization established there as yet, and it seems to be getting along firstrate with the company. The officers have arranged for a series of educational meetings to be held under their auspices during the coming winter, the first of which was addressed by R. P. Pettipiece last Sunday afternoon. Miss Helen Gutteridge will probably be the speaker at the next meeting.

Why War Is Possible.

A united workingmen's movement against war promises more than any other weapon. Wars come about because the forces of militarism are organized to the last degree, subordinating the will of the individual to the will behind the machine. War spirit, which arises quickly enough when the first blood is shed, can be deliberately manufactured by means of this machine. The war organizatibn can be successfully opposed only by another organization as far-reaching and as determined. No workingman, of himself, can stop a war; in Europe he cannot even refuse to fight. But if the individual workingman knew that he had behind him two million brothers sworn to the same decision, he would stand firm, and no power on earth could force him to the shambles.—San Francisco Bulletin.

Foiled the Robbers.

When an Alameda girl was in a train hold-up the other day, she foiled the robbers by hiding her money. She put it on the floor, and not where you thought she put it.

Will Keep Better Company

Judge—Now, sir, you are discharged, but I advise you to keep away from bad company. Young Man—Thank you, sir. You won't see me here again.

COLORADO MINE TROUBLES NOT OVER YET

Wholesale Deportations if the Federal Troops Are Withdrawn

Hundreds of Gunmen Join Militia—Ludlow May Be Repeated

[Special Correspondence.]

DENVER, Col., Nov. 17.—Word has been received at the headquarters of the United Mine Workers in this city that if the federal troops are withdrawn before George Carlson becomes governor on January 1st, and before a settlement is made in the coal strike, that every strike leader who has been active in the coal miners' struggle will be deported. This information comes from apparently reliable sources and bears out the original programme of the C. F. and I. announced soon after the primaries.

Rockefeller's Contribution.

At that time it was stated that the Rockefeller interests had dumped $100,000 into the campaign fund of the "drys" and likewise paid $60,000 to a Denver newspaper to have it support Carlson. Rockefeller never donated any money unless he was sure of double returns, and it was announced that Carlson had promised the C. F. and I. to begin wholesale deportations as soon as he took office as well as to hang several leaders of the strikers.

Carlson's statement several days ago that there would be "no more trouble" in the strike district may or may not be a forecast of these attempted wholesale deportations.

Gunmen in Militia

Lieutenant-governor Fitzgarrald is credited with a statement that the federal troops will be withdrawn gradually. There are now 529 gunmen recruited into the militia in the strike district. They are fully armed and waiting for the federals to be withdrawn so "they can clean out those red necks." In addition, the operators have shipped seven machine guns into the strike district, according to reports, and are attempting to buy arms and ammunition in large quantities in Denver. If the federal troops are withdrawn before a settlement of the strike is affected or before Carlson takes office another Ludlow massacre seems almost certain.

R. A. RIGG AT A.F. of L.

Defines the International Policy of the Congress

In the course of his address as fraternal delegate from the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada to the Convention of the A. F. of L. in Philadelphia last week, R. A. Rigg said, "The Trades and Labor Congress of Canada stands four-square for the principal of international trade unionism, and the sophistries, the subtle, deceptive influences which employers of labor and ruling bodies bring to bear upon us is an endeavor to separate us in order that they may fleece and exploit us more effectively. We have noticed that so far as the patriotic Canadian employer is concerned, his patriotism evaporates when it comes to a matter of a strike. Then he himself is very eager and very glad to fall back upon an appeal to those organizations of strike-breaking thugs which are recruited in this country for the purpose of beating into subjection the workers of the United States and Canada when they seek to promote their own interests."

LABOR COUNCIL HELD SESSION LAST NIGHT

The Council Decides Not to Work with Civic Reform League

Twenty-fifth Anniversary Will Be Celebrated Next Meeting

A good attendance of delegates was present when the Trades and Labor council was called to order by President J. H. McVety at 8 o'clock last night. Delegate Trotter reported on the work of the Social Service council, and expressed the opinion that the labor movement would be well-advised to co-operate with the council in several branches of its work.

Delegate Harrison reported for the parliamentary committee in respect to plans for going into the next municipal campaign. The chief item of the report dealt with the request made in person by Mr. Porteous Jack of the Civic Reform league, that the council should hold a meeting jointly with the league December 11th or 12th. The council decided on the recommendation of the committee, to write the Civic Reform league declining their request.

Delegate Miss Gutteridge reported for the Women's Employment league. She stated that although the league was dealing with no less than 700 cases of destitute women, there was still a large number of cases which they could not handle for lack of means. More details of her report are dealt with in the special article appearing elsewhere in these columns over the initials of Miss Gutteridge.

President's Report.

President McVety left the chair to report on his work on the civic relief committee. Before doing so, he said that J. J. Taylor of Ladysmith, who was imprisoned in connection with the disturbances there last summer, had visited him and asked that he convey the thanks of Mr. Taylor to the council for its efforts to secure his release.

President McVety stated that the relief committee were developing a plan to prevent over-lapping and to make it certain that all cases got relief. He stated that many of the families of men who had enlisted were so hard up that relief had to be given to them at once.

Union Reports

Bakers reported that there was a move on foot in the city to reduce their wages.

Railway carmen said that C. P. R. were laying off more men.

Printers had about 250 members in town, of whom 105 were working

Musicians reported conditions very slack. There was a possibility that they might move their headquarters into the Labor Temple.

Cooks and Waiters still regarded Allen's cafe and cafeteria as unfair to them. Union men were patronizing both houses and in few of the number of union cooks and waiters unemployed this should not be.

Bartenders again appealed to union men to insist on their label.

Bakers in answer to a question said that Brewer's bread was union made.

25th Anniversary Celebration.

The next meeting of the council December 3rd will be an open one to celebrate the 25th year of the council's life. On that occasion, all old officers and delegates who can attend will be invited to be present. An effort is to be made to have Mr. Joseph Dixon, the first president of the council in the chair, supported by past and present officers.

The gathering will be held in the large hall of the Labor Temple, and a committee has been appointed to plan some entertainment to add to the pleasure of the occasion.

The council decided to protest to the city council against the proposal to close hotel bars at 6 p. m. each evening. It was pointed out that such action on the part of the city would not touch the bars of clubs. The opinion was expressed that the move came from the small business men who felt that they would benefit slightly in trade if the city adopted the plan. Delegates Walker, McVety and Dunn were appointed a committee to appear before the city council regarding this matter.

LATEST FROM MEXICO.

Zapata Administration Banishes the Priests from the Country.

Special to The Federationist.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Nov. 17.—The results of the Mexican workers' revolution have been witnessed by the people of San Francisco. Two hundred Catholic priests have reached the city from Mexican ports. They were expelled from Guadalajra by Governor Manuel Dieguez, who under the government of Diaz, was a miner agitator.

The priests are prohibited from returning to Mexico under death penalty. They refused to do useful work for the community when Governor Dieguez told them that, since the revolution was victorious, no priest would be allowed to live without producing.

A complete sweep of the Catholic priests is contemplated by the revolutionists throughout Mexico.

Zapata is in full accord with the policy and the Mexican people at large are awakening to the fact of the significance of the acts of the Catholic clergy, that used to be a powerful force in years past.

L. H. Burnham for 'Frisco.

L. H. Burnham, well-known in local union circles as the sometime secretary-treasurer of the U. B. of Carpenters and Joiners, and who recently tried farming in Saskatchewan, was a visitor to the Federationist last Friday before leaving for San Franscisco. As one resident here a few years ago, he was astounded at the change in conditions. He said the bottom seemed to have dropped out.

LABOR DAY GALA IN SYDNEY N.S.W.

Old-time Vancouver Labor Unionist Sends His Impressions

Fifty Thousand People Present at Labor Day Celebration

Labor day, or Eight-hours day, as more commonly known in Australia, is celebrated on the first Monday of October, exactly one month later than the day recognized on the American continent. The trades unionists of Sydney turned out in numbers far superior to previous years to demonstrate their strength and solidarity.

Commencing from the town hall, the route of the procession was through some of the principal streets, and Hyde park to the agricultural grounds, Moore park, about two miles distant. A force of fifty policemen controlled the traffic (all the street cars being stopped) and maintained an uninterrupted avenue throughout the line of march.

The professional musicians' band of sixty performers led the way immediately in front of the eight-hour committee's banner; then, marching on foot, were the prime minister, members of the federal and state ministeries, members of the commonwealth and New South Wales parliaments, and people prominent in the labor movement. Then came the members of 92 trade unions with their banners and emblems.

In all 18 first class bands played continuously throughout the march, one of the airs most popular being "It's a Long Way to Tipperary." Seventy beautiful banners (some of which cost several hundred pounds) depicting the emblems of the various organizations, were displayed by the 92 unions that took part in the proceedings.

A great number of crafts exhibited floats, produced articles or articles in the process of production. For instance, under a motto of "Australian Tweeds for Australian People," displayed by the Tailors' union, was an attractive lorry on which was built a design in Australian wool. In front of this posed a giant about twelve feet in height, clad in a tweed suit, whilst on either side of him were two fine large-horned sheep.

A very interesting exhibit was that of the Eveleigh Locomotive department, giving the history of the various means of transportation in this country from the beginning, when the swagmen had to traverse miles with loads on their backs, down through the period of the coaches to the present day.

The carpenters displayed some bank fixtures; the tilelayers, covings, dadoes, inscriptions, etc.; the railway and tramway employees, new and old styles of technical working, which would rather strike the eye of men trained in that particular line of industry. Between fifteen and twenty thousand unionists took part in the procession, whilst thousands upon thousands of enthusiastic people lined the entire route.

In the afternoon sports were held in the Agricultural grounds, when upwards of fifty thousand people were present. The weather was warm, but not unpleasantly so, and as a large and comprehensive programme was presented, a good afternoon's sport was enjoyed. Tickets for admittance have been on sale here for several months at one shilling each, 25 per cent. of which goes towards an art union drawing, 400 prizes being given, the first this year being a diamond tiara, valued at £850; second, value £450; third, £300, and so on.

The surplus funds derived from the sale of tickets go to the Trades Hall association, to be used for the purpose of building additions to the Trades hall, the maintenance of the library, etc. Every year an average of £6,000 is raised by this means, five per cent. of which goes to the library fund. As one who took part in the procession on Eight Hours day, I could not but realize the possibilities of labor in the Land of the Southern Cross. Later on, with the acquisition of a more mature knowledge of this country, its people and its ways, I will forward to The Federationist some of my impressions of the labor movement in Australia.

PUGH J. McEWEN.

Sydney, N. S. W., Oct. 10, 1914.

PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE.

Well Attended Meeting Wednesday Evening Hear Reports.

Encouraging reports were received at a well attended meeting of the parliamentary committee of the Trades and Labor Council on Wednesday evening, from the various ward sub-committees having in hand the problem of securing aldermanic material for the forthcoming municipal elections. Communications referred to the committee at last meeting of the central labor body were read and acted upon, and other routine business disposed of. The parliamentary committee will continue to meet at Room 10, Labor Temple, every Wednesday evening until after election day. Local unions, irrespective of their affiliations, are urgently invited to elect representatives to attend the meetings.

R. A. RIGG ON PEACE

The feature of the addresses of fraternal delegates to the convention of the American Federation of Labor last week was that of R. A. Rigg, secretary of Winnipeg Trades and Labor council and fraternal delegate from the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada. In the course of his address he made a fervent plea for united action of some sort looking to an ending of the war. Continuing, he said that the spirit of brotherhood is engendered among the workers of the world and that indicates that the time when secret diplomacies will cause us to fly at each other's throats is passing.

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FRIDAY.. .. ..NOVEMBER 20, 1914

LABORERS WORKING on the Central Park extension of the China creek sewer, have had their wages dropped by the contractors—Messrs. Hodgson, King and McPhelan brothers—from $3 to $2.40 per day. This has brought forth a protest, because the specifications were supposed to call for a $3 wage. There is nothing new in a firm of contractors seeking to wriggle out of paying the wages they are supposed to pay. But one of them—Mr. King—who must be the bright boy of the family, brings forward a very naive argument to support their case. It sounds so ingenuous that we should be genuinely disappointed to hear that he did not wear a neat little black velvet sailor suit with a spotless white lace-work collar to harmonize with his guileless argument.

OUT OF THE MOUTHS OF BABES, ETC.

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This is what he is reported to have said, by the faithful scribe who interviewed him on behalf of the "Province."

> As proof that the reduction was warranted, Mr. King says that no labor trouble has occurred since notice was given, no men having left from that cause and no strikes being threatened.

The real reason why no labor trouble has occurred—and Mr. King knows it—is that Central Park and the whole of South Vancouver, is full of men with wives and children literally destitute and starving. By this we mean that they are actually wanting bread and boots and clothing, for we know whereof we speak. Men from that district have enlisted with the deliberate purpose of having their families cared for by the War Relief committee, because they have had no wirk for months, and have no prospects of getting any. It is that condition which is making these men swallow the impositions of the contractors. And it is that condition which the contractors have taken advantage of to force the wages down so as to send the profits up. The strength of the contractor is derived from the empty stomachs of women and children. They do not scorn to take advantage of that. But if impudent hypocrisy can be made to furnish an excuse to cover the real reason they are glad to use it.

SALARY REDUCTIONS FOR all civic officials, as announced at last Monday night's meeting of the city council, has caused quite a consternation among the more highly paid employees of the city. Men who have had nice fat pay envelopes for years seem to be the ones making the most complaint. During boom times they received substantial increases, altogether out of proportion to those made in the wages of city workmen. When the wage of the latter was put up to $3 for eight hours it was considered a big step, but now, with half time the rule all round, they make a monthly wage of $33, and it will take a good deal of argument to shew why officials on $100 per month and upwards—a long way up some of them—should not bear some of the cost of economizing if such a course is to be adopted.

THE WOES OF THE HIGHER-UPS

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It seems to us that an expert sewer cleaner is far more important to the general social welfare than some of the barnacles which have fastened themselves on to the civic pay roll in late years. As long as their salaries could be preserved at the cost of reducing the common laborers' wages to a dry bread level, no word was heard from them. Now they are well to the front with arguments galore about the price of living. But they might just as well swallow the pill. The outlook is decidedly chilly for them, with the hatchet abroad in the land on all sides. The present administration will not save tthem. And certainly if that office-hungry aggregation which calls itself the Civic Reform league climbs into the city hall next January, they may fare even worse than a reduction in salaries. Meantime, they shew the real color of their so-called patriotism by announcing that they will no longer make contributions to the fund for maintaining the wives and children of those gone to the war, some of whom went because that was the only way of saving their families from starvation during this winter.

A FAVORITE ARGUMENT of some academic economists, and a following who are mentally either to indolent or ill-equipped to observe and think and form an opinion of their own, is that wages cannot possibly avoid falling when the labor market is over-supplied. The contention is upheld in all sincerity by many of those who believe that the labor union is of no economic value. It is also seized upon as a plausible excuse by some, to avoid payment of dues, and other obligations incidental to membership in a labor union. The contention is true where workers are not organized. It is partly true where they are partly organized. But where they are 100 per cent. organized—or thereabouts—it is not true. That percentage, if maintained, can and does keep wages up in face of unemployment.

UNION RESISTS SLUMP

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The Typographical union here and throughout Canada, is an instance of this. With practically every printer in the union, wages have not fallen in that trade. Nearly every other union has suffered reductions, but the printers have not, although a larger portion of their members are out of work than ever before in this city. The well-nigh perfect organization among the printers enables them to help the unemployed member by financing his journey to some other locality where there is a demand for printers. Many believe the printers are clannish and exclusive, all of which may or may not be true. But the point is, that their weekly wage envelopes are proof that with a high enough degree of organization the price of the particular commodity known as a printer can be maintained in face of a falling demand for that commodity. The practical value of labor organization is too obvious for them to believe that the day of the labor union is over.

THOSE WHO THINK the cradle and the cook-stove are the beginning and the end of woman's possibilities, must be getting a shock just now which will open their eyes—if they are not too thickly encrusted with barnacles of stupidity. In France practically all the men but the very oldest are either in the war, or preparing to go there. But the national services of that country, outside the war area, are not at a standstill. Railways, postal service, street cars, industrial plants, agriculture, hospitals, and a hundred and one other activities, are still being maintained. Women are doing it all, and from accounts of travellers are doing it well, too, in spite of the supercillious contentions of those who claim that women have no aptitude for anything outside the four walls of a house.

WOMEN IN WAR AND PEACE

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To read of the way in which big hospitals "manned" entirely by women, are handling thousands of wounded a week, must be disturbing to those conservative old saw-bones who have resisted the entry of women into the profession on the ground that they were not suitable for such work. And the same with respect to every one of the manifold activities into which women have been forced by the misfortune of war. If women are suitable to carry the burdens of the war, what logical reason is there why they should not have their public say in times of peace, be it politically or otherwise? Indeed the chances are all in their favor that, with wider political powers in peace times, wars would be less frequent, and perhaps not at all. Particularly if they were working women with an intelligent grasp of the real and underlying cause of war. All the commercial prestige in the world would not weigh as much with them as the lives of their children. Women bear children. Men only kill them. Wherein lies all the difference.

ONE OF THE MOST democratic of countries is Finland, which is politically so far ahead of Canada that it has women members of Paliament.

WHERE THE FINDLANDERS COME FROM

And to prove that democracy and culture go hand in hand, Finland awards prizes of $300, $450, $600 and $1,200 every year to the most gifted of its citizens in arts and letters.

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Recently it bestowed a pension of $1,000 a year on its leading composer, Jean Sibellius, and while that sort of thing is done in other lands, the Finns, who are only a small nation, trampled under the iron heel of Russia, do it with an enthusiasm the biggest and best-off nations cannot match. Russia's assurance to Finland that in return for her support in the war she will be given more freedom in matters of self-government is no more than the impudent mockery of a tyrant too busy elsewhere.

ORGANIZATION OF the women workers in England took place a little over 50 years ago. It was a trades union organization and was the direct forerunner of the Women's Protecting and Provident league formed by Miss Emma Smith in 1871. This league was principally for workers in printing and allied trades, and was chiefly for insurance against sickness. It seems strange to read that the leaders of the movement at the time, and for some years after its inception, disclaimed all desire to control or influence legislation. In 1886, however, Clementine Black, Lady Dilke and Gertrude Tuckwell came actively forward in the management of affairs, and the scope of the organization was materially increased. The National Federation of Women Workers was formed in 1906.

WOMEN WORKERS IN ENGLAND

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Speaking just prior to the outbreak of war Miss Mary Macarthur said that women's work was badly paid because women workers were badly organized, and women workers were badly organizd because they were badly paid. That it was, in fact, a vicious circle. In England two-thirds of the girls between the ages of 15 and 20 are wage earners; more than half of those between the ages of 20 and 25, and one-third of those between the ages of 25 and 35 also work for payment. Ten per cent. of the married women and 30 per cent. of the widows work for money.

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In England 36 per cent. of the women workers are domestic servants; 15 per cent. are in the clothing trade; 14 per cent. in textile work; 10 per cent. in food, tobacco, drink and lodging-house employment; 7 per cent. among the professional classes; and 2 1-2 per cent. follow commercial careers. With this army of women workers $3.25 is the average weekly wage, while one-fifth of them get less than $2.50 per week.

The destroyers of the architectural beauties of Louvain and Rheims have been lustily condemned. Compare their work with that of the builders of the great manufacturing towns of Britain. Think of the Black Country, Sheffield, Leeds, the cotton towns of Lancashire, the east end of London, and many other industrial centers. Which of these two is the greater violation of artistic sense? A dispassionate judge, with the necessary technical and aesthetic knowledge would find his job a somewhat embarrassing one. There is something paradoxical about a civilization which tolerates the slum land-lord, the rack-renter and the tenement block, railing against the destruction of ancient architecture.

The civic reform league—or whatever it is that mob of motley municipal misfits call themselves—would have been minus at least one parson if he could have landed the job of relief officer which has just been created. Assiduous lobbying and numerous broad hints that he would not think of running for the mayoralty if he got the job, killed his chances of support in a quarter where he felt such hints would prompt a desire to trade the job in return for possible opposition definitely withdrawn. If his flock could have heard the opinions expressed by him on that occasion, with respect to his ministry, some of them might have experienced a change of heart towards the gentleman, who doubtless, like so many others, is sacrificing a most brilliant career in deference to the call of a higher duty.

The Dominion Trust company! It did. Now it wishes it hadn't.

The first thing the Rockefeller investigation board should investigate is Rockefeller.

No one is more zealous for national honor than the man who wants to sell armor plate.

Many a poor slave who, for the first time in his life became a property owner during the boom, is now beginning to develop very definite views about "the risks of capital."

We are continually hearing of inventions which will revolutionize warfare. They all amount to filing the tiger's teeth a little sharper. One of these days, perhaps, it will occur to somebody that the easiest and least expensive plan would be to pull the teeth out.

It is announced that the Colorado Fuel & Iron company paid no dividend this year. The gross earnings of the company, as shown at the annual meeting of the corporation officials, Rockefeller's figureheads in Denver, decreased 50 per cent. compared to the previous year. "Gross earnings" is about right.

We hear much in these days about the break-down of the supposed international working-class understanding. But when all the hard and cynical things have been said on that score, it at least presents as edifying and creditable a figure as the churches do in connection with the conditions in Europe to-day.

Vancouver school trustees are insistent that the children shall be gathered round the flag-pole every Monday and Friday to sing patriotic songs. It would be a good thing if they shewed the same insistence in finding out how many children come to school these mornings without breakfast. Also how many have to stay away from school because they have no boots.

The American Federation of Labor, at its convention which has closed this week, went on record as opposing war. It was supposed to be speaking on behalf of its 2,000,000 membership. In similar fashion have the great industrial and political organizations of European workers recorded themselves for the past twenty years. Now they are killing each other. There is something wrong which will require more than mere resolutions to set right.

More evidence of hard times:

> Boston, Nov. 2.—The executioner at the Charlestown State's Prison has notified the warden that on account of hard times, he will reduce his price for electrocuting condemned prisoners. It is believed that he is not seeking to stimulate business, but rather to preclude his substitution by a cheaper man.

Why not an executioners' union? Are the hangmen afraid of the electrocutors infringing their jurisdiction claim?

Says the News-Advertiser of last Tuesday:

> The news that the heir to the Throne had been permitted to carry out the royal tradition as an army leader has been received with great satisfaction by the newspapers, which express the belief that it will stimulate recruiting.

No such stimulus to enlistment will be needed here as long as unemployment is as rampant as it is now. Men who are dead broke, who have applied for enlistment and been informed that no more men are required, are visiting the Labor Temple daily asking for advice and information as to chances of obtaining employment.

Joe Martin—ex very nearly everything that a politician can be—says he would like to know what the labor organizations think of him as a candidate for the mayoralty. There is a slang term used to describe the effervescent enthusiasm of the inexperienced. It is known as "going off at half-cock." Our gushing days are over and we think it preferable to adopt the plan of Joe's late chief and "wait and see." All in good time, if it appears that there is any considerable number of people in the city who take him seriously, we will endeavor to express an opinion of Joe's political merits. But this is not the psychological moment. Call again later, Joe.

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NEW WESTMINSTER, B. C.

NEW WESTMINSTER TRADES AND LABOR Council—Meets every second and fourth Wednesday at 8 p. m. in Labor hall. President, H. Knudson; financial secretary, R. A. Stoney; general secretary, W. E. Maiden. P. O. Box 934. The public is invited to attend.

PLUMBERS AND STEAMFITTERS' LOCAL No. 495—Meets every second and fourth day of month in Labor hall, 7:30 p. m. President, D. Webster; secretary, A. McLaren. P. O. Box 956, New Westminster, B. C.

VICTORIA, B. C.

VICTORIA TRADES AND LABOR COUNCIL—Meets first and third Wednesday, Labor hall, 731 Johnston street, at 8 p. m. President A. S. Wells; secretary, Thos. F. Mathison, Box 302, Victoria, B. C.

KIMBERLEY MINERS' UNION, NO. 100, Western Federation of Miners—Meets Sunday evenings in Union hall. President, Alex. Wilson; secretary-treasurer, J. W. Stewart, Kimberley, B. C.

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

BAKERS' AND CONFECTIONERS' LOCAL No. 46—Meets second and fourth Saturdays at 7:30 p. m. President, H. G. Leeworthy; corresponding secretary, R. J. Adams; business agent, J. Black, room 220 Labor Temple.

BARBERS' LOCAL No. 120.—MEETS second Tuesday in each month, 8 p. m. President, J. Bruce; recorder, E. Herritt; secretary-business agent, C. F. Burkhart, Room 208, Labor Temple. Hours: 11 to 1; 5 to 7 p.m.

BARTENDERS' LOCAL No. 676.—Office, Room 208 Labor Temple. Meets first Sunday of each month. President, F. F. Lavigne; financial secretary, Geo. W. Curnock, Room 208, Labor Temple.

BRICKLAYERS' AND MASONS', NO. —Meets every 1st and 3rd Tuesday, 8 p.m., Room 307, President, James Haslett; corresponding secretary, W. S. Dagnall, Box 53; financial secretary, F. R. Brown; business agent, W. S. Dagnall, Room 215.

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.

COOKS, WAITERS AND WAITRESSES' Union—Meets first Friday in each month, 8:30 p. m., Labor Temple. W. E. Walker, business representative. Office: Room 205 Labor Temple. Hours: 9 a. m. to 10:30; 1 to 2:30 and 5 p. m. to 6:00 p. m. Competent help furnished on short notice. Phone Sey. 3414.

DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CARPENTERS meets in room 209, Labor Temple, second and fourth Thursday of each month, 8 p. m. President, G. H. Hardy; secretary, F. L. Barratt; treasurer, W. T. Taylor. Local No. 217 meets first and third Monday of each month, and Local 2647 meets first and third Tuesday of each month.

ELECTRICAL WORKERS, LOCAL NO. 213—Meets room 301, Labor Temple, every Monday, 8 p. m. President, Dave Fink; vice-president, M. Sander; recording secretary, Roy Elgar, Labor Temple; financial secretary and business agent, E. H. Morrison, room 207, Labor Temple.

ELECTRICAL WORKERS, LOCAL NO. 621 (Inside Men).—Meets first and third Mondays of each month. Room 304, 8 p.m. President, H. R. Van Sickle; recording secretary, J. M. Campbell; business agent, F. L. Estinghausen, Room 207.

HODCARRIERS, BUILDING AND COMMON Laborers' union, No. 65—Meets first and third Friday of each month, Labor Temple. President, George Gibson; secretary, George Harrison, room 220, Labor Temple. All laborers invited to meeting.

MACHINISTS, NO. 182—MEETS SECOND and fourth Fridys at 8 p. m. President, A. R. Towler; recording secretary, J. Brookes; financial secretary, J. H. McVety.

MOVING PICTURE OPERATORS, Local 348 I. A. T. S. E.—Meets first Sunday of each month, Labor Temple, 8 p.m. President H. C. Roddan; secretary-treasurer, L. E. Goodman; recording secretary, 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, rooms 29-30, Williams Building, 413 Granville street. President, J. Bowyer; vice-president, F. English; secretary, H. Brasfield; treasurer, W. Fowler.

OPERATIVE PLASTERERS' INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION, No. 89—Meets every first and third Wednesday in the month in room 301, Labor Temple. President, A. Hurry; corresponding secretary, F. Sumpter, 1880 Twenty-third avenue east; financial secretary, D. Scott, 577 Richards street; treasurer, L. Tyson.

PAINTERS', PAPERHANGERS', AND Decorators', Local 138—Meets every Thursday, 7.30 p.m. President, H. Grant; financial secretary, J. Freckleton, 10 Comox street; recording secretary, J. Dowding, 632 Howe street. Business agent, James Train, Room 303, Labor Temple.

PATTERN MAKERS' LEAGUE OF NORTH AMERICA.—Vancouver and vicinity. Branch meets 1st and 3rd Fridays at Labor Temple, room 306. Robert C. Sampson, Pres., 747 Dunlevy Ave.; Jos. G. Lyon, financial secretary, 172 Grant street; J. Campbell, recording secretary, 4569 Argyle street.

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, A. Birnie, c.o. "News Advertiser."

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, W. H. Cottrell; recording secretary, Albert V. Lofting, 2561 Trinity street; financial secretary and business agent, Fred. A. Hoover, 2409 Clark Drive.

STEAM ENGINEERS, INTERNATIONAL Local 397—Meets every Wednesday, 8 p. m., room 204, Labor Temple. Financial secretary, E. Prendergast, room 216.

TAILORS' INDUSTRIAL UNION (International). Local No. 178—Meetings held first Tuesday in each month, 8 p.m. President, Miss H. Gutteridge; recording secretary, C. McDonald, Box 503; financial sec., K. Paterson, P. O. Box 503.

THEATRICAL STAGE EMPLOYEES, LOCAL No. 118—Meets second Sunday of each month at room 204, Labor Temple. President, H. Spears; recording secretary, Geo. W. Allin, P. O. Box 711, Vancouver.

TYPOGRAPHICAL UNION, NO. 226—Meets last Sunday of each month at 2 p. m. President, E. F. Pettipiece; vice-president, W. S. Metzger; secretary-treasurer, H. H. Neelands, P. O. Box 66.

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Big Committee Appointed to Arrange for Civic Election Campaign

All the Reports Show No Better Prospects for the Unemployed

New Westminster, Nov. 11.—Regular meeting of New Westminster Trades and Labor council held with Pres. H. Knudsen in the chair. Minutes of previous meeting adopted with amendment to Del. Yates' statement as to wages paid on Great Northern depot being 16½cents per hour, instead of 16 cents, and of Del. Cropley's statement as to increase of wages of men on the Heaps' Engineering Co.'s plant being from 50 to 70cents. per day instead of those amounts as wages per hour.

Communications—From Typo. Union, No. 122 urging unionists to write to the Kellogg Co. at Battle Creek, Mich., urging them to have the union label placed on their printing. On motion of Del. Jardine it was referred to the local unions and the secretary was instructed to the Kellog people. From Independent Labor Party of Hamilton, Ont., seeking funds for political campaign. Filed.

Credentials—For A. J. Oxenbury, Typos vice H. Gibb, resigned. Received and delegate obligated and seated.

Committee Reports.

Del. Maiden reported as impromptu delegate to the Progressive association, giving figures of building work in the city and conditions in general. Filed.

Special Committee—Del. Stoney favored a civic campaign committee and entertainment committee be joined together and call for a general meeting of organized and unorganized labor to inaugurate a civic campaign.

Report received and recommendation adopted, the following being named as the committee: Stoney, Typos; Dodd, Street Railway Employes; Feeney, Cigarmakers; J. R. Flynn, Engineers; J. W. Hunter, ainters; Jameson, Bartenders; Lewis, Pumbers; Parlett, Barbers; Cropley, Moulders; Pratt, Electrical Workers; Matthews, U. B. of Carpenters; Sell, Brewery Workers; Breacher, Musicians; Rogers, Hod Carriers; Ivison, Timber Workers.

Grievance Committee—Del. Stoney said his committee had not seen fit to take up the matter of the Brewery Workers and the Bartenders as they did not think they should but in. Report received and committee commended for the stand taken.

Reports from Unions: Typos—Another cut, losing one delegate, H. W. Smith; otherwise about the same. Plumbers—Dull. Bartenders—Five or six out of work and some half time. Cigarmakers——No improvement; one shop laid off last week some working; now working those laid off last time. U. B. of Carpenters—No improvement. Brewery Workers—Pretty quiet; two men working full time, two men working full time, the rest two days a week. Moulders—Pretty bad; about a third of the men in the city working. Painters—Getting a day here and there. Who's doing the painting on the Royal bank? Engineers — No improvement. Electrical Workers—About all working. Street Railway Employees—No change in the past three weeks. Hod-carriers—Little doing; about two men working.

New Business

Letter from Bartenders, saying that their delegate had merely asked a question in the council, and had not made a charge relative to the head brewer superintending construction of a building at the brewery and thus perhaps keeping a carpenter out of a job. From the Brewery Workers, protesting against the action of the council referring the bartenders statement to the grievance committee, and requesting the council to reconsider the action. On motion of Dels. Cropley-Flynn, the action was unanimously rescinded and the entire matter disposed of. The secretary to notify the parties to that effect.

Dels. Stoney-Maiden—That the T. and L. council endorse the action of Ald. Dodd in urging the city council to go into the coal business and sell it at cost unless the price here be lowered to the same as Vancouver. Carried.

Del. Stoney—Notice of motion to amend constitution so that no action may be taken by the council on charges against a member of any union until such union has been given a chance to defend itself.

Good and Welfare.

Del. Cropley objected to an article appearing in the British Columbian, taking exception to the report as to his remarks. He refuted statements as to wages paid on Heaps company's plant. He had referred to unorganized laborers and not to organized labor. He had taken up the matter as to organized labor and had had their wages raised from 50 to 75 cents per day, as result of complaints he had received. This was the result of organized effort. He objected to the statement that he wanted certain matters taken before the city council. He did not advocate the city council trying to take charge of private enterprises. He urged the reporters to be more accurate.

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". . . Enclose price of subscription for ensuing year. It is scarcely necessary for me to say that I am in hearty accord with your editorial views on almost all questions you discuss. Your paper should be widely read by working men, especially here in Eastern Canada, where European traditions die hard. I hope and believe that the present war will finally result in breaking such leading strings of superstition as the 'divine right of kings,' a landed aristocracy and other delusions that have cost the human family so much fruitless suffering. I hope to see a republican Europe emerge from the existing carnage."—N. S., Moncton, N. B.

"Enclosed find p. o. order for $6 from Silverton Miners' union for yearly subscription for six copies of The B. C. Federationist"—A. S. McP., Silverton, B. C.

". . . I notice that several labor and socialist papers are being compelled to close their doors owing to this damnable war in Europe, but I trust that the old Fed. will be able to tide the crisis over, although I realize only too well that it is only by herculean efforts will you be able to keep the pot boiling this winter. . . ."—H. J. McE., Sydney, N. S. W.

WORK OF LABOR PRESS

A. F. of L. Executive Committee Reports Thereon.

The report of the executive committee of the American Federation of Labor, now in convention at Philadelphia, Pa., says of the labor press of this continent: "The labor press has been the champion of the workers—the masses of our people; to speak the right word at the right time for those bowed by heavy burdens and weary hearts—the victims of injustice, heedlessness, greed and brutality; those whose cause did not have popular favor. Many of those who have ungrudgingly given the toil of heart and mind to the labor press have found reward only in the consciousness of worthy work worthily done.

Many a weary hour goes into the preparation of the news columns and the editorials of each issue. The difficulties are discouraging, but the labor editor knows that every bit of truth, however small or fragmentary, that he is able to inject into the thought material of the public is an entering wedge to blast away prejudice and misrepresentations. Every effort helps the ultimate purpose—the freedom and the welfare of humanity.

The labor press has a great work to perform. Its business is to get before the people the real news of life—the truths about living and working. The metropolitan press is largely a commercial undertaking—for it living and working are newspaper materials for stories that appeal to popular interests.

For the labor press the point is to make truths about living and working known to everyone. These truths have power to move men and governments.

The labor press must have support and opportunity to accomplish its purpose. Everyone loyal to the cause of labor should feel the duty developing upon him to support financially and morally the labor press that has done so much for the cause and can be enabled to do infinitely more."

REGINA LABOR TEMPLE

Unemployed Working in Return for Shares

Unemployed unionists of Regina are working on their new Labor Temple. The Trades hall is being utilized during the day time as a carpenters' shop. Members of the Carpenters' union are now busy making frames and finishing lumber in preparation for the building, which is expected to be ready for occupation before the end of the year.

The basement has been dug out, and the footings laid for building. Bricklaying would have started before this, but it has been necessary to wait for the brick. The labor on the building is being paid for by the company in shares so that every man who works on the job is getting an equivalent for his labor.

A slight alteration was made in the original plan which provided for two halls, one 47x24 and one 28x15. The change was made in the shape of the roof, which was originally to have been a flat one. It will now be a gable roof and will enable the company to provide a club room for recreation and reading, the size of the room being 47x20 feet.

The new hall will be a big improvement on anything the union men in the city have used in the past, and the directors are to be congratulated on the progress which has taken place under their administration.

Mill-workers Reduced.

A delegation of workmen from the Small & Bucklin's Lumber Mills, New Westminster, waited on the city council of that city last Monday night to complain of their wages. The men claim that their wages had been cut several times during the past year and that they are now offered as low as $1.15 for a ten-hour day. Some of the men refused to work for this wage. The council referred the matter to the labor and finance committees.

Helped Himself to the Furniture

"Please, sir," said the maid of the house, "there is a gentleman here to see you on business." "Tell him to take a chair." "O, he's already taken them all and now he's after the table. He's from the installment house."

VICTORIA MEETING OF UNEMPLOYED LAST SUNDAY

Pres. Watchman and Sec.-Treas. Wells of B. C. F. of L. Spoke.

Government Denounced for Its Callous Attitude and Inactivity.

The unemployed in Victoria held a mass meeting on Sunday, November 15, in the Variety theatre, at which there was a good attendance.

A. S. Wells, chairman of the committee presided, and reported to the meeting the work which had been done by the committee, giving briefly the history of the movement and the different proposals which had been submitted to the civic and provincial authorities for the ameloriating of the distress in the city. He stated that the committee had done all that was possible for them to do, unless the unemployed were prepared to do something for themselves.

A. Watchman then addressed the meeting, and said in part that while all were ready to lay the blame for present conditions on someone else, the civic authorities blaming the provincial government and the government blaming the civic administration or the federal government and the workers blaming all of them, yet the final responsibility rested on the workers themselves. They could not complain if they did not get that sympathic support from the governing bodies which the seriousness of unemployment warranted, because they had listened to political promises and returned men who showed no appreciation of the needs of the people. It was not much good advocating eating apples, as the Dominion department of trade and commerce was doing, if there would not be some more substantial food offered. Many of them were living on a single meal a day, and they wanted to know when there was to be a change in conditions. He did not favor physical force, because that was ridiculous, and the policy of lunatics, nor did he advocate hunger parades because the workers had paraded their needs too often and had been scorned, but he urged them to ask and demand food and not suffer in silence. The government had promised that they would assist when the city could not cope with the situation, and the time had arrived when it was necessary for them to test the reliability of these promises.

George Oliver condemned the government for giving away the public resources of the province to speculators, and said they must bring home to the ministry that the time of retribution was at hand.

On the motion of J. L. Martin a resolution calling on the provincial government to resign as an admission of failure to meet the situation was adopted unanimously.

It was further decided to ask the mayor and industrial commissioner to establish an unemployed fund, the list of subscriptions to be headed by the $50 contribution of R. F. Green, M.P.

A committee of 12 members, with power to add to their numbers, was appointed to carry on the work of the league.

Detroit Street Railwaymen.

Detroit, Nov. 15.—The Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railway Employees of America has 212 agreements with as many corporations. The last report of the general executive board shows that out of eleven strikes, only one was lost. Another encouraging feature is the statement that only $13,735 had been paid out in strike and lock-out benefits during the six months covered by the report, and that during the same time over 8,000 new members had been enrolled. Large numbers of controversies have been settled either by mediation or arbitration.

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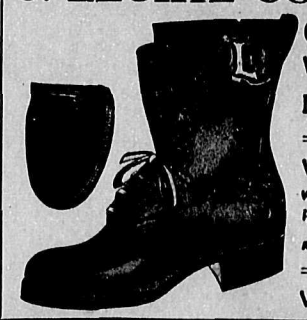

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FROM NORTHERN INTERIOR OF B. C.

Where Everything Is at a Standstill So Far as Work Is Concerned

The Writer Takes a Trip Over Grand Trunk Pacific Railway

[Special Correspondence.]

PRINCE RUPERT, B. C., Nov. 17.—To the breadwinners of Vancouver and sister cities—likewise those who have neither kith nor kin dependent upon them—who anticipate hie-ing themselves with their blankets to the northern interior of B. C., with a view to bettering themselves for the winter, we would say—"Don't!"

Prince Rupert is at a standstill as regards the artisan or laborer. The few jobs available here on city or government work from time to time are reserved for the faithful of the party.

At Pacific, 119 miles east of Rupert, a small amount of work is being performed on the G. T. P. round-house, and, with the exception of teams, a scarcity of which prevailed for a week or so, the work is being done by "floaters."

Old Hazelton, two miles off railroad, is dead, being so since the advent of the railroad. Practically the only excuse for its existence being that the government offices are situated there and is a prospectors' outfitting point.

At South Hazelton there is nothing; one or two large empty buildings stand as monuments to commemorate the blasted hopes of a coterie of real estaters.

New Hazelton, at which point is situated the hospital, lies a few minutes further east by train—alive, that's all, its inhabitants discussing with an occasional visitor from the Old Town the relative merits of "jack-rabbit—fried or boiled."

Smithers Reached

Smithers, a passenger divisional point, is the next town east. Here things loom up a little as regards a future city. At this point a 12-stall round-house, 214 feet from center to center, is being erected. About 25 or 30 men are at work—five on pile-driver, six carpenters and 15 laborers. Carpenters receive 40 cents an hour and work 10 hours a day; laborers, 20 cents, 10 hours. Strange to say, the firm—a Winnipeg one—find no difficulty in securing laboring men at these figures. For teams, they pay but $6 a day—man, wagon and two horses. For this sum they put in 10 hours and are expected to take but 30 minutes to feed self and team. The government for similar work pays $10, with an hour off for lunch.

The picture show at Smithers is having a hard time of it, likewise the four Chinese laundries. Two pool halls are breaking even, having cut all ways to do so. Four restaurants are existing in hopes of better times coming. In fact, they are the most optimistic of any business concerns in the north. The one bank, following the inspector's visit, recently tightened up its screws, and it is just quite possible that it may still use a wrench before the year is out to see if things can be made still tighter. The hotel is doing pretty well. Stage nothing. Wood dealers' season has not commenced. Snow fell for the first time on November 4th.

The tinsmith is idle. Rooming houses not making enough to pay the rent. Grocerers charge top figures for tea, flour and the necessities of life.

In a few instances at a couple of places along the line a hint to the police has secured for a business man or mechanic a little cash from those who would do a bunt out of the country.

At Aldermere, 10 miles further east, nothing doing—only one barber remains.

From Prince George, where there was a small building boom during the last few months, there is beginning to drift in a few to Smithers and way points in search of work. When questioned as to where they are bound for, they tell you Alaska.

Several notable discoveries have been made in this country in a mineral line this year, but a shortage of capital, combined with a deplorable lack of trails to the several districts, precludes all possibilities of anything being done as regards their systematic development. Unfortunately the owners hold their property so long, deprive themselves of so much, and put so much faith in the assay value of a choice specimen, that when an offer is made by a representative of say $100,000 they order him off the property and demand $150,000. They fail to recognize that unless it is free milling it is a company proposition and not for a poor man.

Eggs from Edmonton (small), 40c. a dozen; butter, 45c.—a large quantity finding a ready market. Prices in local lumber are still around $30 a thousand for poor stuff. Few good teams are in the valley—crowbait prevailing at prices around $350 to $450. The best price paid of late by butchers for local pork was 17½c. dressed; potatoes, 1½c. per lb.; hay $12 a ton; local eggs, 50c.; rabbits (from Indians), 15-25c. each; grouse, 50c. brace; round steak, 30c. per pound; pork and mutton same price; lemons 30c. per dozen; apples (good) from Wenatchee 40c. per dozen; cabbage, 15c. On the whole, root crops have done well this year, although the local market is a limited one. Hogs, it is believed will ultimately be the main stock raised in the Valley.

On all sides whenever one discusses the cost of living, people will exclaim: "Back to the land for mine." Comparing prices of necessities and wages obtaining 20 years ago at Winnipeg, Man., when Icelanders were emigrating to the west, one wonders what the average working man of to-day is made of. He seems to have his backbone where his elbow is. Yet at the round-house to-day they work for 20 cents an hour and pay 50 cents a meal and 25 to 50 cents for a bed. Five men working on the ballast train work for 20 cents an hour and consider that they made something, because they worked sixteen hours during the day, and pay $5.50 a week for board and free bunk.

Railroad watchmen employed to guard bridges have to supply their own outfit, comprising tent, stove, blankets and grub for a day of 12 hours. Preference given to those who have own rifle.

Reports to hand from vicinity of Edmonton and Dunvegan on railroad work give figures of $1.75 a day as top wages. Lillooet, Soda Creek, Quesnel and Fort George are dead as regards labor. The P. G. and E. paying $1.75 a day and soaking the men top prices for tobacco, soap, etc., which is 25 cents each for 10 cents value.

Everything taken into consideration, the farmers to-day pay the best wages to laborers, being $50 and board.. In the northern interior of B. C., as well as in Alberta, Saskatchewan and the dry belt, government laborers get $3.75 for nine hours, and board at cost—divided equally amounting approximately to 70 cents a day per man.

Workingmen, keep away from the northern interior of British Columbia.—unless you have a "pull" with the government or "stand in" with the contractors.

FIREMEN'S DILEMMA

A Reminiscence of the Year Nineteen Hundred and Eleven.

The civic firemen are complaining bitterly about the cut which is being made in their wages. Their case is one of peculiar interest to organized labor. In order to appreciate the matter properly, it will be necessary to go into a little history. The wages which the firemen are getting now were made possible by the assistance rendered to them by the Trades and Labor council. As far back as the beginning of 1911, the firemen began to agitate among themselves for increased wages. The assistance of the council was requested, and the work of actual organization was started March 8th, with the aid of the council. In less than a week, 95 out of 104 men eligible, had joined the new union. At the meeting of the Trades and Labor council held April 6th, 1911, credentials for two delegates from the new firemen's union were received. The delegates were N. Henderson and N. Lee. They were also present at the next meeting. That was the beginning and the end of the firemen's connection with organized labor. The new union had caused something akin to panic among civic officials and fire underwriters. Firemen were called on to the "carpet" by the fire chief, and requested to disband their union. Finally a committee consisting of the mayor and two aldermen went over to argue with them. None of those schemes worked. But at last the civic authorities agreed to give the increased wages, providing the firemen would abandon their union and sever connection with organized labor. They did so, and got their increased wages. The episode closed at that, but the present agitation recalls the incident which left a distinctly nasty taste behind it.

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Boilermakers—A. Fraser, 1151 Howe St.
Brewery Workers—Frank Graham, 2266 12th Avenue West.
Bricklayers—William S. Dagnall, Room 215, Labor Temple.
Brotherhood of Carpenters District Council—F. L. Barratt, Room 209, Labor Temple.
Hod Carriers, Builders and Common Laborers—George Harrison, Room 220, Labor Temple.
Cigarmakers—Robt. J. Craig, care Kurtz Cigar Factory, 72 Water Street.
Cooks, Waiters, Waitresses — W. E. Walker, Room 206, Labor Temple.
Electrical Workers (outside)—E. H. Morrison, Room 207, Labor Temple.
Electrical Workers (inside)—Room 207; F. L. Estinghausen.
Engineers—E. Prendergast, Room 216, Labor Temple.
Granite Cutters—Edward Hurry, Columbia Hotel.
Garment Workers—Miss McRae, Labor Temple.
Horseshoers — A. C. MacArthur, City Heights, B.C.
Lettercarriers—Robt. Wight, District 22.
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Loco. Firemen and Engineers—James Patrick, 1183 Homer street.
Loco. Engineers—A. E. Solloway, 1038 Pacific. Tel. Sey. 8671L.
Longshoremen—Geo. Thomas, 146 Alexander Street.
Machinists—J. H. McVety, Room 211, Labor Temple.
Musicians—H. J. Brasfield, Rooms 29-30, Williams Bldg., 413 Granville street.
Marbleworkers—Frank Hall, James Road, B. C.
Molders—D. Brown, 642 Broadway West.
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Plumbers—Room 218 Labor Temple.
Pressmen—P. D. Edward, Labor Temple.
Plasterers—John James Cornish, 1809 Eleventh Ave. East.
Pattern Makers—J. Campbell, 4869 Argyle Street.
Quarry Workers—James Hepburn, care Columbia Hotel.
Railway Conductors—G. W. Hatch, 761 Beatty street.
Railroad Trainmen—A. E. McCorville, Box 248.
Railway Carmen—A. Robb, 420 Nelson Street.
Seamen's Union—Cor. Main and Hastings.
Structural Iron Workers—W. L. Yule, Room 208, Labor Temple.
Stonecutters—James Rayburn, P. O. Box 1047.
Sheet Metal Workers—H. C. Dougan, No. 5, Fifteenth Ave. West.
Street Railway Employees—A. V. Lofting, 2636 Trinity Street.
Stereotypers—W. Bayley, care Province, City.
Telegraphers—E. B. Peppin, Box 433.
Trades and Labor Council—Geo. Bartley, Room 210 Labor Temple.
Typographical—H. Neelands, Box 66.
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MINARD'S LINIMENT CO., LIMITED.

Sirs,—I have used your MINARD'S LINIMENT for the past 25 years and whilst I have occasionally used other liniments I can safely say that I have never used any equal to yours.

If rubbed between the hands and inhaled frequently, it will never fail to cure a cold in the head in twenty-four hours.

It is also the best for bruises, sprains, etc.

Yours truly,
J. G. LESLIE.
Dartmouth.

We are now prepared to accept orders for delivery of our

Washed Nut Coal
$5 PER TON
Delivered

This coal, because of its price, is by no means a small size, inferior nut coal, but high grade, large sized WASHED NUT COAL for kitchen use

We know what this coal will do, having sold it in Victoria for a number of years We are therefore prepared to stand behind it and guarantee that it will give you as good a kitchen fire as any high-priced coal you are now using. If you use wood, we guarantee that it will give you a cleaner, quicker and more economical kitchen fire than either cord or mill wood.

Do not take our word for it, but try it on our money back guarantee.

KIRK & CO.
929 MAIN STREET
"26 Years in Victoria."
Seymour 1441

Special Edison Phonograph Outfit, No. 10
$46.80

Outfit includes cabinet of Fumed Oak beautifully finished, hinged cover, very latest horniess type of phonograph, giving the purest tonal quality, new type diamond pointed reproducer. Powerful spring motor perfectly adjusted and regulated. Removable front and top. Outfit includes 12 four-minute Blue Amberol (indestructible) records of your own selection. Terms ..6.80 cash, balance at the rate of $5.00 per month.

THE KENT PIANO CO. Ltd.
558 GRANVILLE ST.

PHONE SEYMOUR 9086

AT IT HERE SINCE 1900

DOW FRASER TRUST COMPANY

BUSINESS AS USUAL

RENTS COLLECTED

Principal and Interest on Agreements for Sale, Interest on Mortgages, Etc., Collected

SPECIAL FACILITIES
Very Moderate Charges
Prompt Settlement

DOW FRASER TRUST CO.
122 Hastings St. West.
Vancouver, and McKay Station, Burnaby, B. C.
Close at 1 o'clock Saturday.

J. N. HARVEY'S
4th Anniversary
Clothing Sale
OPENS SATURDAY MORNING

JUST FOUR YEARS ago this week we took over the Johnson-Kerfoot & Co. Clothing Business. Each year we have marked the Anniversary with a Big Genuine Bargain Giving Sale, until now, the people look forward to this as the Clothing Event of the Season. Be on hand Saturday, THE OPENING DAY.

OVERCOAT BARGAINS

10 OVERCOATS in Medium Weight Tweed Regular up to $16.50 ANNIVERSARY SALE PRICE..... $6.65

15 WINTER WEIGHT, Convertible Collars, Tweed Overcoats, Regular Price up to $22.50..... 4th Anniversary Sale Price, Only $9.85

8 OVERCOATS, in Medium and Dark Tweed, Convertible Collars, Regular up to $25 ..... 4th ANNIVERSARY PRICE ONLY. $12.85

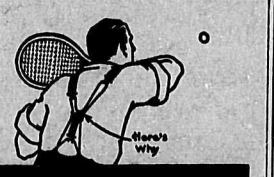
19 OVERCOATS, a choice lot, all well Tailored, good colorings, regular up to $30 ..... 4th Anniversary Sale Price, only.... $14.85

39 EXTRA CHOICE OVERCOATS, Regular up to $35 ..... 4th Anniversary Sale Price, only $19.85

The Bargain Prices extend to every department. Everything for Men and Boys except the Hats.

LOOK FOR THE BIG RED ARROW SIGN.

N. HARVEY, Ltd.
125-127 Hastings St. West



PRESIDENT SUSPENDER
NONE-SO EASY

MADE IN CANADA

Take that Watch to Appleby, 806 Pender West, Cor. Pender and Richards, for high-class watch, clock and jewellery repairs. All cleaning and mainsprings jobs guaranteed for 12 months.

FALL HATS

THE LATEST STYLES AND NOVELTIES IN MEN'S HATS in BORSALINO, HAWES, STETSON and other high-grade makes

PRICES:

$2.50 to $5.

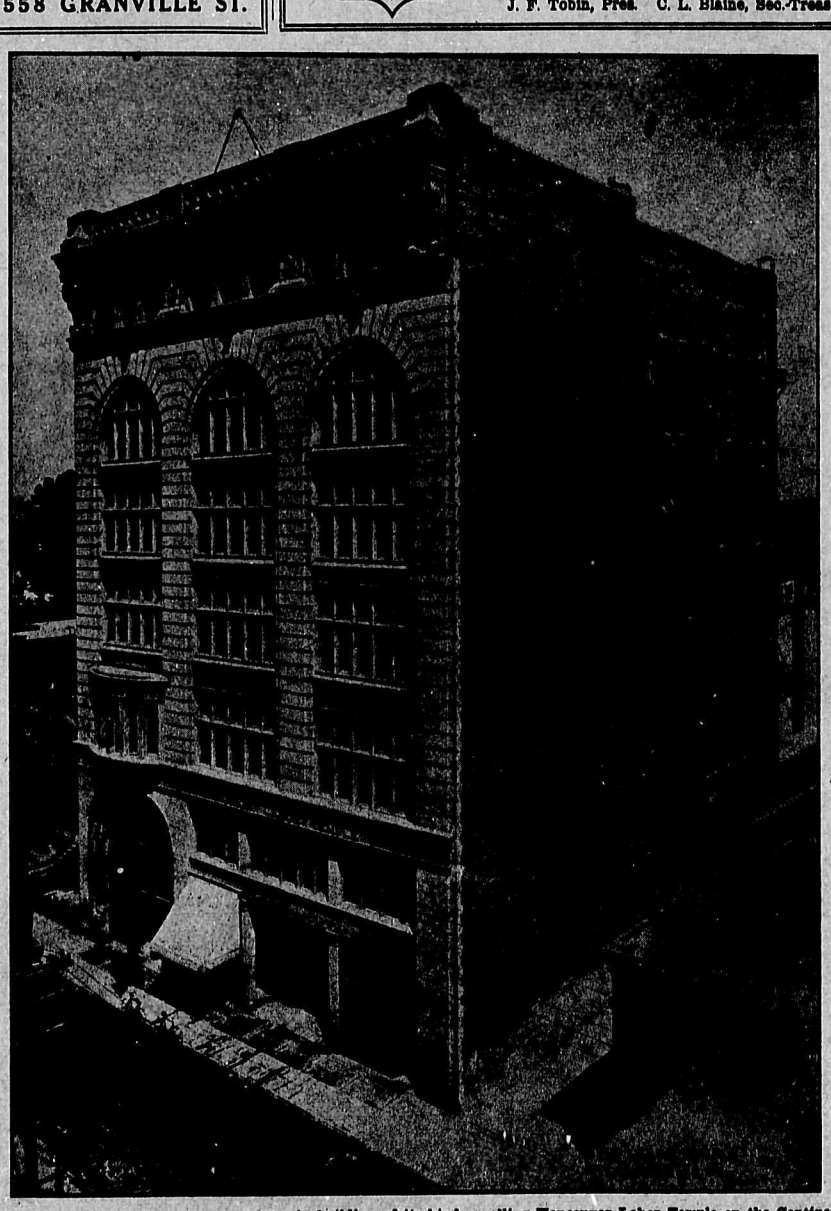
Clubb & Stewart
LIMITED
309-315 Hastings Street West.
Tel. Sey. 702

BOOT & SHOE WORKERS UNION
UNION STAMP
Factory

Named Shoes are frequently made in Non-Union Factories—Do Not Buy Any Shoe no matter what its name, unless it bears a plain and readable impression or this stamp.

All shoes without the Union Stamp are always Non-Union.

BOOT & SHOE WORKERS' UNION
246 Summer Street, Boston, Mass.
J. F. Tobin, Pres. C. L. Blaine, Sec.-Treas.



Los Angeles, Cal., Labor Temple, the only building of its kind equalling Vancouver Labor Temple on the Continent

MINARD'S LINIMENT CURES GARGET IN COWS.