THE BRITISH COLUMBIA FEDERATIONIST

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

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AUSTRALIAN UNIONS AND POLITICAL ACTIVITY

Compared With Conditions and History in U. S. A. and Europe

The Fight for Political Control is Now the Main Issue

[Special Australian Correspondence.]

SYDNEY, N. S. W., May 23.—In no place in the world has unionism attained a stronghold, industrially and politically, as in Australia. Indeed, the noted publicists of the world make no secret of the fact that on present appearances Australia promises to be the very first of the socialist republics that will in time come upon the earth.

Unionism in Europe and U. S. A.

The history of unionism in various parts of the world is by no means pleasant reading. In Europe the cause has been surrounded with difficulties, and in that land it has never in reality attained much more than a name.

In the United States, which is supposed to be one of the most democratic countries in the world, the unions have had one constant and bitter fight against a mighty organized power of wealth and monopoly.

In that land every vested interest, every commander of capital has sworn undying antagonism to the cause of unionism. They have been able to fight unionism in the United States in a way that would not be possible in any other land, because of the wealth and monopoly at their hands.

In Australia this power was not in the hands of the conservative body, for the simple reason that we have no millionaires in the way they are understood in the United States. Again, our larger interests are not in the hands of private individuals, but are controlled by the governments, which makes the work of the capitalists somewhat harder than in the United States.

A Power in Australia.

Australia has proved a very fruitful ground for the sowing of the unionistic spirit. Slowly but surely and steadily unionism has advanced here, and to-day because of its wonderful progress, it stands an unchallenged power in the land.

There have been temporary set-backs, but the position has always been regained with something added to it, until to-day the cause is an assured success.

Unionism Supported Politics.

In no other country has the cause of unionism been identified with a political power. Most people outside of Australia do not understand how unionism has grown up in Australia alongside a political party, but it must be remembered that the growth of unionism and the growth of the labor party are on a parallel. Unionism supported labor politics from its birth, it sent its first men to parliament that formed the labor party that is to-day the strongest weapon the people have politically.

Politics Helped Unionism.

The labor party has in return placed unionism on its present secure basis in Australia. Were there no labor party there could not have been any unionistic strength such as we alone understand it in Australia. Had we continued government by a party naturally and instinctively opposed to the claims for betterment on the part of the working masses, we would have been in the same position as other communities of unionism in other parts of the world. Where the labor party had obtained control of the administration it has identified itself with the cause of unionism, and this has culminated in the unswerving action of the present labor parties in Australia.

Fight for Political Control.

Our position became so strong then, that at the last election we were able to throw down the gauntlet to the rest of Australia and say "The fight for political control in Australia will be decided by one question—preference to unionists or preference to non-unionists." That was the batle-cry of the labor party in the last federal elections, and there was no attempt to hide it or place it in the background.

The conservative party took it up with delight and kept it well before the people, feeling sure that Australia would not tolerate this piece of "unionistic impertinence" as it was termed. The "as good as labor man" would have none of it—the conservative pronounced it anathema. On the other hand the labor party frankly told the people that were it returned to power it would unflinchingly and unswervingly adopt the policy and strictly apply it. Well, the issue was fairly put to the whole of Australia, who pronounced judgment.

Refused to Make War the Goat.

Let the figures here speak for themselves:

1,052,614 voted for preference for unionists.

941,140 voted against preference to unionists.

Who will dare deny, in face of those figures, the labor party's right to apply the principles of unionism throughout Australia? Conservatism was shattered in the biggest fight that was ever known in the political history of Australia. Yet with a coolness that is amazing, the opposition in the federal parliament now asks the labor party to regard the war as a loophole for proving false to the pledges and obligations of unionism.

It was pleaded that all political differences should be forgotten at a time like this, and that the unionist should take the "scab" to his bosom like a prodigal and permit the sweater to work at his own sweet will. One could hardly expect anything else from a discredited conservative party, but it was as a voice crying in the wilderness—indeed, "Rachel was not comforted." The labor government refused to go back on its pledges to the workers who put it there.

Eight Hour Day is Prized.

On the banners of Australian unionism are emblazoned a long and remarkable roll of vicotries. Our great 8-hour principle, frankly and finely admired by the rest of the whole world, was won by the solid front of unionism. To-day, throughout Australia, it is celebrated as a national holiday by all classes, and the principle is recognized as a sound one throughout Australia. As a result of the steady and never-ceasing crusade of unionism, the Australian worker of to-day lives in a degree of comfort unknown in any other country in the world.

Compared With United States.

It is as well to remember that our triumph has been a bloodless one. In America the cause of unionism has been associated with bloodshed and outrage, not on the part of unionism, but on the part of those opposed to it.

The bitter opposition shown to unions there has been aided by the almost boundless supply of cheap, foreign labor from the poorer and more sweated countries of Europe. This has led to murderous conflicts between unionists and capitalists, in which the latter have invoked the aid of the state, and even in some cases, of the federal armed forces.

Scenes that would have been impossible in Australia have frequently occured in America, and the consequence is that while high rates of wages prevail there for skilled labor, the hours are far longer, the conditions of work more strenuous and health destroying, and the worker is more completely at the mercy of the capitalist.

There have been strikes in Australia—some have been in our little way of thinking very bitter ones. But by the principle of picketing, we have done much good, and despite what opponents to labor may say there have been no strikes worthy of the name, when we compare ourselves with other countries, and it is safe to say that in the future we shall not have any serious strikes.

State Servant of Capitalists.

But look at the state of affairs that exist in the United States, if a union dare oppose the will of, say, the "oil king," a state of war at once breaks out like unto nothing save the present strife in Europe. On the one side are men rendered desperate by wrongs and the prospect of starvation or slavery for themselves and their families determined to make at least one grim struggle for exisetnce.

On the other we see all the forces of the state called in to aid the capitalists, as they always are in that land of boasted freedom. Armed and ordered to shoot down the workers like game, they obey their orders and are not particular whether they shoot men or women or even children. Blood flows freely, homes are burned, and red terror is everywhere.

Reply to American Critics.

This is the picture of unionism as it struggles in America, and, if perchance some political refugee comes to Australia, goes back again and tells you that we are an overgoverned country, and that our industrial laws are impotent, remember we have, with our faults, no such picture as that I have painted above.

We have been blamed by well-meaning enthusiasts in America for assisting a political party, instead of following other lines of emancipation, but we can safely say that our political arrangements have given us what we have to-day—unionism, with strength, as it is not understood in any other part of the world.

Compare Before Condemning.

It is not for me to order or direct what other bodies of men should do in, say, America, in the working out of their emancipation. But I would urge that the lesson of Australia be taken seriously to heart. Study our history of political and industrial progress. If you find it wrong, do not adopt it.

But if you find it has done all I have claimed for it, and you think it possible that a like set of circumstances can be instituted in your own fair land, then if the working man's lot can be benefitted by the application of our system, Australian unionists would welcome your advancement along the same lines.

W. FRANCIS AHERN.

B. C. E. R. OFFER TO STREET RAILWAYMEN

General reduction in wages of ten per cent.

Method of this reduction to be discussed with the employees.

Working conditions to remain the same, except for the necessary alterations in the wording of such clauses as cannot properly be made to apply to the extended period.

The agreement to be for a period of two years.

These proposals made without prejudice and to be unconditionally withdrawn unless accepted without the intervention of any outside party.

A mass meeting of members of the Street Railway Men's union in Vancouver was held last Saturday midnight. Six hundred were present.

The purpose of the meeting was to consider the offer made by B. C. Electric Railway company of certain terms and conditions to form the basis of a new agreement between the men and the company. The terms of the company's offer appear at the head of this article.

General Manager Mr. George Kidd had previously expressed a desire to address the meeting, and was present. In the course of his speech he dealt with the financial position of the company, more especially since the advent of the jitneys, and said in effect that the company's offer was the best it could make under present conditions.

A resolution was moved, and unanimously adopted, that the offer of the company be not accepted. It was decided that the Street Railway Men would insist upon a renewal of the wage scale and working agreement which expires on the 30th of this month.

The proposed alliance between the unions of the Electrical Workers and the Street Railway Men was endorsed, to form a joint Light, Power and Transportation council.

NEW WESTMINSTER LABOR MEN IN SESSION

Reports No Improvement in the Employment Situation

Royal City Unionists Hold Picnic Despite Hard Times

Regular meeting of New Westminster Trades and Labor council held, with Vice-President J. R. Flynn in the chair.

Communications from Carpenters, withdrawing, owing to lack of funds. Received and secretary to notify them that they are still in good standing.

Committee Reports.

Delegate Knudsen reported that he and Delegate Yates attended the meeting of the city council as members of the special committee appointed to protest against street grading being done as relief work. No other members of the committee were present and there was no communication read stating that they would appear, so nothing was done. Report received and committee discharged.

Reports of Unions.

Typos—Slack. Bartenders—Slack. Cigarmakers—Four working, two on limit. Street Railway Employees—Little flatter, blacksmiths and machinists on shorter time.. Electrical Workers—Slack. Engineers——Slack. Brewery Workers—Everybody working.

New Business.

Delegate Knudsen wanted to know if the council was willing to undertake running a general picnic this year, as he understood that the Bartenders were not going to have their annual picnic this year. Delegates Knudsen, Schofield and Stoney were appointed a committee to consider the proposition and report at the next meeting.

Factory Inspector Present.

Delegate Stoney said that Mr. C. R. Gordon, factory inspector, was present asking for information, and on his motion that Mr. Gordon be given the floor passing, that gentleman stated that he sought information as to the comparative number of men engaged in the various trades from 1913 to 1915. He was referred to the financial secretary for his information.

Delegate Knudsen critized severely members of the council who have not been attending meetings lately and suggested that if they did not wish to attend they should resign and let men be elected who would attend and care for the business of the organization. He thought it would be well for the delegates present to report any absentees of their union to the locals, so that there would be a better attendance in the future.

Death of Union Bricklayer.

Thomas Townsend, bricklayer, died at the General Hospital from pneumonia on Wednesday, June 10th. The deceased caught cold whilst working in the sewer at Cedar Cottage and was taken to the hospital on Saturday, June 5th. He came to Canada about 14 years ago, residing several years in Montreal. At first it was thought he had a good show to pull through, but he gradually got worse until Wednesday the doctor realized there was no hope for him. He was conscious to the last. Deceased had been a member of the B. M. and P. I. U. for about 24 years and was well known in Vancouver, having superintended the construction of several brick buildings, among which were the Alcazar Hotel. He was 48 years of age and will be buried from Mount Pleasant Undertaking Parlors at 3 p. m. on Saturday, June 12th. Deceased leaves a widow and two small children to mourn his loss.

DIURNAL DOINGS DETECTED BY DIOGENES

Contradictions, Conceits and Complexities of the Cosmic Scheme

Our Ruminating Critic Rubs Raw Spots of the Self Complacent

Bancroft, one of the foremost American historians, admitted to James Davie Butler that, in speaking of felons perpetrated upon the early settlers of America, "He had been very economical in dispensing the truths he had discovered." Thus is history manufactured, with all due consideration of the "powers that prey."

As to Hero Worship.

There is another phase of history—especially that brand which is taught in the scools to the plastic minds of the young—which deserves the attention of all thinking working men and women, and that is the gospel of praise and worship accorded to "great" heroes and sheroes, for lifting humanity out of the mire and directing their faltering footsteps in the way they ought to go. While the social life of workers, the great bulk of the people, their hopes, aspirations and struggles for a fuller, freer life are entirely overlooked—and the crimes committeed upon them by "rampant profit" either glossed over or told in a manner that places these powers as saviors of humanity.

Showing China How It is Done.

And now China, the land of flowers and dragons, and mutilated pigtails, is becoming civilized also. In a recent interview, President Yuan Shi Kai said, "I propose to survey extensively our mining fields, and to develop the best ones first, so that, with small investments, there will be large profits." Shades of Confucius protect the "heathen Chinee" working plug!

Epidemic of Civilization.

China is also learning the ethics of "high and frenzied finance." A domestic loan of sixteen million dollars was floated last August, for the first time in the country's history. The next thing we can expect to be floated—and "floated" is a peculiarly expressive term in regard to this business—will be a penny savings bank, to corral the stray coppers that the domestic loans miss.

The Slit-Eyed Celestial Wakes.

And what about our standard of living—or, rather, standard of existence—when the suplus products of the industrious millions of China begin to appear upon the world's markets in sufficient quantities to make themselves felt? The present standard of living of the average worker on the North American continent is certainly nothing to write home about; but compared with what the average Chinee can scrape along on, it looks like a St. Patrick's day banquet against a two-penny fish supper. The surplus products created by the American worker cannot possibly hold their own in competition in the world's market—either under free trade or protection—against the surplus products created by an industrially-developed cheap Chinese labor. What then, Mr. "B. C. white?" Class revolution, or another fake world's war between "whites" and "yellows?" Or will you believe by then that the "workers of the world should unite?"

Oracle of the Orient.

Japan, also, is a factor which requires due consideration. Being refused legitimate expansion towards the east—other than what her cheap products can obtain—she is industriously developing the Chinese market. This great war—which is neither great nor is it war—has given her the long-sought opportunity, and she is taking full and free advantage of it. Japanese labor, in its present unprotected condition, readily lends itself to the purposes of the financial interests. Labor is cheap in Japan, very cheap, and all phases of it can be employed—men, women and children—with few restrictions as to hours, wages or ages.

Pooh! Purely Psychological.

And the United States Department of Labor states that 400,000 wage earners in the city of New York, or sixteen per cent. of all wage earners, were out of work in the first half of February. Also, more than half of this number had been out of work for more than two months. And President Wilson diagnoses this as a "psychological condition."

Fattening the Gobbler.

Many enquiring individuals have been wondering how the "lazy and indolent" Turks managed to have the Dardanelles so strongly fortified, and how the British came to have so intimate a knowledge of the fort locations. The following telegram, from Constantinople, in the London "Times", of December 3, 1913, may shed a ray of light: "A contract was signed to-day with the Armstrong-Vickers group for the re-organization of the Turkish naval dockyards. The government hands over to the Armstrong-Vickers group the arsenal and docks on the Golden Horn, with all the existing machinery and buildings. It likewise provides for a site for a naval base at Ismid. The English group finds the capital for the exploitation of the works, and supplies the technical knowledge and control essential to the success of the undertaking." After the British displaying their "technical knowledge and control" in reconstructing these forts and naval bases for profits, they, with their allies, are now busily engaged in displaying some more of their "technical knowledge and control" in demolishing them, in the name of patriotism—with the expectation of more profits in rebuilding them. Such is the system for which the workers are giving their life's blood! After us the deluge!

How It Works Out.

There is one main difference between the armament manufacturer and the manufacturer of any ordinary useful commodity, which is, that the latter does not increase his home demand by selling abroad, while the former does. It works out thus: If a British firm can boost orders for submarines and destroyers from, say, Austria, this leads to a demand for an increase in the British navy; if Krupps can work up "scares" in the French papers, so that the French government gets busy and order more munitions from Schneider, then the Germans counter-balance by ordering from Krupps. Then Krupps-Schneider-Maxim sit back and laugh and garner the profits!

W. M. C.

SURVEY OF SITUATION FROM COAST TO COAST

"The seriousness of the industrial situation throughout the Dominion is beginning to be realized by the wage-workers," said Mr. J. W. Bruce, general organizer of the United Association of Plumbers and Steamfitters of North America, to The Federationist yesterday. "The widespread and prevailing condition of unemployment is causing the workers serious concern, because of the fact that there is no apparent relief in sight, and the federal government and all governing bodies seem indifferent to finding any means of solving this pressing problem.

"The future holds a very dark picture, so far as the workers are concerned, in view of the fact that it will be many years before there can be a return to even normal conditions. In this western country cities and towns are over-developed and cannot, even under the best of industrial conditions, return to the same conditions as prevailed during the last few years.

A Hopeful Outlook.

"The only satisfaction I can take out of the present depression is the determination of men and organizations to maintain, at all costs, their present conditions. The trades union movement, while suffering severely from lack of employment, with its subsequent loss of membership, through the migration of its members, seeking better economic conditions in other fields, has, with few exceptions, been able to maintain itself in the position that it has fought for and so dearly won.

Patriotic Employers.

"I regret to see the conditions prevailing in many of the cities, where employers of labor are shouting from the hilltops for men to enlist in defense of the empire, which we are led to believe stands for justice, freedom and liberty, but there does not seem to be any sense of justice among the great army of the employing classes, for while thousands of trades unionists have given their services in defense of the empire and are at the front fighting this fight of freedom, we find these selfsame employers robbing the rest of the workers of the conditions which previously obtained.

Need of Political Action.

"To-day we find the worker thoroughly realizing the benefits of an economic organization, which now in itself is encouraging a spirit of recognition of the great necessity of a political organization, and in almost every town which I have visited, on my road west, I have found the spirit of revolt permeating the workers to such a degree that there is a great unanimity of opinion regarding the necessity of workers establishing a political working class movement for themselves than ever before. And I am hopeful that in view of the conditions prevailing that the workers will now see the necessity of a change and lose all their old-time prejudices and enter into the political field with the same determination as they have displayed in the industrial movement.

The Congress Vancouver Convention.

"The thirty-first annual convention of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, which is going to meet in your city on the third Monday in September, in my opinion, should go down in history as one of the most important conventions that has ever been held, for the labor movement has never faced a crisis in this country like the present one. The many problems which will be presented by the delegates from all parts of Canada will demand the keenest scutiny and most careful judgment of those present, because of the fact that the labor movement has arrived at that stage when it must emphatically declare itself on all questions so vitally affecting the working class.

Congress Should Assist.

"In my judgment the time has arrived when we must declare ourselves from a political standpoint, and seek the election of men to seats in the federal and local houses of government. There are many constituencies throughout this Dominion which, with time and attention, and due regard to the calibre of men who may be selected, could casily be won for labor, and I am hopeful that the next session of the Trades and Labor Congress will take this matter into consideration and try, if possible, to find a common basis of understanding and provide ways and means of electing men from its own ranks to these seats.

An Object Lesson.

"The workers have had an ample opportunity to study the methods and means of the old-party politicians, who, during all these trying times, have been interested in anything but the welfare of the workers, and while they can find millions of money for expenditure in warfare, assisting railroads, banks and other financial institutions, none of them have been willing to find a dollar to help relieve the sorrow and suffering of the great industrial army who are idle to-day through no fault of their own—except it be their political stupidity. So let us hope that the lessons being learned to-day will bear fruit in the near future. To this end the Congress can play an important part and I trust the delegates will rise to the occasion."

Bartenders' Big Convention.

Shall the bartenders and culinary workers be divided into separate international unions? This question will be settled by the 500 delegates to the biennial convention of the Hotel and Restaurant Employees' International Alliance and Bartenders' International League of America, which convenes in San Francisco next Monday morning. Officers of the International are opposing the plan.

"Jim" Roberts Back Again.

"Jim" Roberts, of Moyie, B. C., was a welcome visitor to The Fed. office last Monday. He is one of the best known members of the Western Federation of Miners in the province, and was for some time an executive board member of the B. C. Federation of Labor. Never in the best of health, he went to England two years ago, under the firm conviction that he had not long to live, as the doctor had told him he could not. But after a long and painful experience of sick bed and operations, he is alive and back here, although not by a long way feeling as vigorous as he ought to and as he would like to be.

ALL WEST FEELS PINCH.

Correspondent Says Prairie Country is Very Quiet Industrially.

C. H. Lake writes The Fed. from Stewart, B. C., under date of May 28: ". . . Nothing but hard times all along the line; jobless wage stiffs and shivering business fry. From Winnipeg to Edmonton saw only two new buildings, on the daylight run of G. T. P. From Edmonton to Prince Rupert there is nothing doing, not even a coat of paint. No jobs, no money, and Europe in the melting pot! . . ."

J. Kavanagh in Bellingham.

J. Kavanagh, a late member of the Tile Layers and ex-delegate to the Trades and Labor council, has gone to Bellingham, where he is now filling the position of a head chef and chief gastronomic expert.

Painters At The War.

Mr. A. E. Scott, 6th vice-president of the Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators and Paperhangers, located at Winnipeg, was in Ottawa the latter part of last week. His chief mission was undertaken with the department of militia, making arrangements for the identification of the many Canadian members now in the military service who may suffer death or disability. All the Canadian locals are keeping their members in good standing and by the arrangements made by vice-president Scott, certificates from the militia department will be sufficient for headquarters to pay over any claims made. From coast to coast the chain of locals has more than five hundred of the members in the enlisted ranks, Winnipeg heading the list with more than fifty.

Plumbers Organizer Here.

General Organizer Bruce, of the United Association of Plumbers and Steamfitters, reports things very bad in his trade all through the Dominion and not much relief in sight. While in Saskatoon he was able to effect a settlement of the controversy in that city, which had been of six months duration. He signed up a new agreement for a closed shop with 60 cents an hour for a period of two years. Organizer Bruce has been in Vancouver working in the interests of Local 170, which has been on strike for the past six months against a wage reduction of a dollar per day, but reports nothing definite as yet. He will leave for Victoria on Monday, to spend some time there, where similar conditions obtain.

HAGUE CONFERENCE IS POSSIBLE FOR JULY

Difficulty in Securing Complete International Representation

Swiss Make Plans; Probable Agenda Which Will Be Discussed

An international congress of socialists is to be attempted at The Hague early in July. All the neutral countries will be represented, and delegations have already been selected to represent England and Germany, but it is not yet certain that Russia, France and Belgium will participate. The Russian socialist leaders have accepted the invitation subject to certain special conditions.

None for Vandervelde.

The Belgian leader, M. Vandervelde, has refused point blank to have anything to do with any conference in which Germany participates. The French socialists and syndicalists also declined the invitation in the first place, but M. Ottorino Morgari, leader of the Italian neutralist party, has gone to Paris in hopes of persuading them to reconsider. Austria and Hungary will be represented if it is possible for their delegates to get through Germany for this purpose.

The German Delegates.

The leading German delegates will be Messrs. Scheidemann and Bernstein. The English delegates, although already chosen, have not been announced. They include, however, representatives of both pro-war and anti-war movements in the British labor party.

The preliminary organization of the congress is in charge of the Swiss socialists. The tentative platform, which is understood to have received the approval of committees in Germany, Austria, England, Italy and the Scandinavian countries, contains the following demands relating to the European war:

Outline of the Agenda.

Evacuation of Belgian and French territory and indemnity to Belgium.

Immediate limitation of armaments by all countries, with a view to ultimately abolishing altogether all armed forces of individual states.

Obligatory arbitration and conciliation in cases of disputes between staets.

Absolute right of all small nationalities to decide their future destiny; this decision to be made a matter of referendum in which all adult males and females shall participate.

Active Against Party.

According to reports the German government's attitude toward the party has been growing more severe during the last two months. Socialist newspapers have been suppressed, and many socialist meetings have been prohibited, or allowed only under strict police supervision. At Duesseldorf, which is said to be the centre of a pronounced peace propaganda there have been frequent police raids and searches of socialist houses.

Smoke Local Made Cigars.

All you cigar smokers listen! The local Cigar-makers' union is confident that cigars made locally will compare more than favorably with cigars made either in the east or anywhere else. Cigars made locally mean less local cigar makers out of work. Here is a list of local made cigars:—Kurtz's "Pioneers," Kurtz's "Royal Honor," "Terminus," "Booth Bouquet," "British Lion," "Mainland," "P. & R," "Lovello."

Smoke them once, and you will always smoke them. They are the last word in the way of good value and good smokes.

TAILORS' PICNIC.

Knights of the Scissors and Their Friends Will Go to Bowen Island.

The annual picnic of the Tailors' union will take place on Tuesday, July 13th. Bowen Island is the place chosen. The boat leaves the Union steamship dock at 9.15 a.m. Tickets can be obtained from Miss Gutteridge, Labor Temple, or members of the union. Adults, $1.00; children, 50 cents. A very enjoyable time is looked for and visitors are cordially invited.

Longshoremen's Wages.

Negotiations for a readjustment or wages and conditions of labor at all ports on the Washington, California, British Columbia and Alaska coasts have begun at a conference between officials of the International Longshoremen's Association and representatives of the Waterfront Employers' union held in Seattle this week.

A general increase in pay, a uniform wage scale, or one as nearly uniform as possible, and improvements in the conditions under which the men work are among the questions which will be placed before the representatives of employers.

Mechanics For Britain.

The Ottawa Citizen says: "Messrs. Barnes and Wyndham, the British delegation which has come out to secure Canadian machinists for war munition factories, are facing a very difficult task. There is a dearth of machinists in the country.

According to the advices of the labor department all are busy and more are wanted. The Ross Rifle company for instance wants a thousand. There is talk of importing machinists from the United States. Ordinarily the alien labor law would operate against this, but the present conditions are exceptional with the factories busy alone on war munitions. The British representatives do not wish to engage any Canadians now employed and, in view of the domestic situation, there is small chance of securing any large number of men. They may endeavor to secure some in the United States.

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"Unity of Labor; the hope of the world."
FRIDAY ..... JUNE 11, 1915

IT IS DOUBTFUL if the Federal government really wishes to see skilled mechanics taken from Canada to Great Britain to work on either war munitions or anything else. It paid, in many thousands of cases, good money to immigration concerns to bring mechanics to Canada, and it figures that when industrial activity returns in the Dominion, it will need them. Premier Borden practically said so, to a deputation from the Trades and Labor Congress of Canad which recently appeared before him on this very question.

PLENTY OF MECHANICS WAITING

* * * *

What is to happen to these men in the meantime does not much concern the government, as long as they can be just kept alive and quiet. All this talk from the east, about men being hard to get, looks a good dead like "inspired" newspaper stories. Mr. G. N. Barnes will do well not to be influenced by what he reads or what is told him along such lines. When he gets right out here into the far west he will be inundated with requests from mechanics—most of them old countrymen, who are practically starving at the present time.

* * * *

Not a day passes but a dozen or more fresh faces come round to our office, or the office of the Trades and Labor council inquiring as to ways and means of getting into touch with those who have been entrusted with the business of geting mechanics for Britain. This has been going on now for two months, and our experience is absolutely the opposite of the assertions which we see in the eastern press that men cannot be got. Let Mr. Barnes wait until he has seen the conditions out here. Then there should be no more heard of possibly having to seek men in the United States.

CITY ALDERMEN of Vancouver went last Monday to "inspect the calibre" of those seeking relief at the city relief office, where in return for eight hours work they get 50 cents worth of meal and bed tickets. After the review some of the aldermen, in view of the city's finances, expressed the opinion that these men would have to be "thrown on their own resources." What a jewel of aldermanic wisdom! What resources does any intelligent man think a fellow has who will work eight hours for 50 cents worth of bed and board?

RESOURCES OF THE DESTITUTE

* * * *

We are of the opinion that he cannot have any. But if the plan which some of the aldermen recommend is put into operation, it may not be long before some of these unfortunates have more resources, and some residents of the city less. "Honesty" is very much a matter of economics when a man reaches that point of desperation which we feel he must have done, when he will do eight hours work for 50 cents worth of board and bunk.

TIME'S WHIRLIGIG makes some strange turns. Sir Edward Carson is the Attorney-General in the new coalition cabinet in the British parliament. He held that office some years ago. But that was before he raised an armed force of ten thousand Ulstermen to start a rebellion in Ireland to prevent the Home Rule act from being put into practice. This time last year, he was in the position of threatening to do the most illegal thing a British subject can do—that is oppose the King's authority with armed force.

ATTORNEY-GENERAL CARSON

* * * *

At this moment he is in the position of being the foremost law officer in the British Empire. The secret which makes such an amazing anomaly possible is, that the ruling class never forget fundamentals even if some of them are sometimes a little estranged from each other politically. The final touch to this instructive little comedy will come when Attorney-General Carson again drops the "Attorney" part of his title.

MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS next January seem to be a long way off as yet. But tempus fugit. And it was a timely move on the part of Vancouver Trades and Labor council last week to start out now to make preparations to take part in the elections. Elections are not won by a short spell of feverish activity indulged in a few weeks before election day, but by systematic preparation of ways and means long before-hand. Property is the monster which the working class is up against in municipal elections, and all workmen would do well to remember the qualifications which are necessary before a man can even run for the office of alderman—much more be elected.

JANUARY MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

* * * *

Under the new provisions of the city charter, a man must have possessed property to the value of $500 free of all encumbrance, for six months previous to nomination day, if he wishes to run for alderman; and to the value of $1,000 for the same period if he intends to contest the mayoralty. Workmen should also see to it that they are on the city voters' list, if qualified either as owner or tenants. The list closes in September. Go up to the city hall now, and get this thing fixed. Don't leave it till to-morrow. To-morrow, in these matters, never comes until the day after the last day for registering.

KING CHARLES 1st is to be added to the calendar of the saints according to a recent decision of the lower house of convocation of Canterbury. Poor old Charlie—as all the world knows—lost his head because it appeared to the reformers of the seventeenth century that his head was a menance to the welfare of the state.

KING CHARLES HE WAS KING CHARLES

* * * *

But where in the name of goodness did Charlie's saintliness come in? That he took himself very seriously, and regarded himself as an able and impeccable ruler we know. It might also be allowed for the sake of peace and quietness that he was well meaning, and a martyr to the truth as he saw it. But thousands of better men have died in the gutter, and will do again unless the world gets a move on much quicker than present signs would predict.

* * * * *

Charles believed in the divine right of kings and his own infallibility—opinions which still continue to bring awkward results for those who hold them. Quite conscientiously no doubt he perpetrated many acts of cruelty, injustice and vindictiveness. Even death itself did not always satisfy his feelings.

* * * *

For instance, when the son of Sir John Eliot petitioned that his father's body might be taken from the Tower and buried in Cornwall, Charles got quite nasty about it and said, "Lett Sir John Eliot's body be buried in the churche of that parish where he dyed" —the Tower. If this is the stuff of which saints are made, the calendar might be made a very long one.

WORKMEN IN BRITAIN have been subjected to very strong criticism by the press of that country for having gone on strike, or threatened to, while the country is at war. By their agitation many thousands have raised their wages considerably since the war began. The war is proving a veritable gold mine for manufacturers who supply any of the things needed, and they are making profit hand over fist. Food prices, and the cost of living generally, have gone up absolutely forcing men to demand more wages.

WAR AND STRIKES

* * * *

But if the profiteers could have chloroformed them into inactivity by talking loudly that particular brand of patriotism which is such a useful business asset to them, they would have slopped over with unctious approval rendered articulate by anticipated dividends. The workers did not, however, fall for the blandishments. So now they must expect the spiteful results. War or no war, they were wise to demand a higher wage in face of the increased industrial activity which prevails, and the phenomenal profits which are being made.

* * * *

Every cent they can get now, they will need when the war is over. A slump in the trades which are now active is almost sure to follow. Into the bargain there will be two or three million men coming back into industrial life from the army, and all signs point to a period and a condition of unemployment absolutely without parallel in the history of the country. Let them make hay while the sun shines. Every cent they get will have to be worked for—which is more than can be said of the fabulous profits of their masters.

THE MELTING POT is claiming some of the ancient clauses of of the unwritten British constitution to-day, for some of the most unexpected things have happened. Once, the supremacy of British trade, together with the exaltation of British commercial profits, were the sole end and aim of British government. Now, in the highest political circles the state limitation of profits is being propounded.

LESS PROFITS LESS WAR

* * * *

The great international armament trust, in whose hand in the past pressmen, politicians, statesmen and diplomats have been but puppets, has succeeded beyond its wildest expectations. The western world has become one vast suicide club whose members are bent on mutual self destruction, and an entirely limitless demand for death dealing implements has sprung into existence.

* * * *

Under an ordinary condition of affairs this limitless demand would mean limitless profits for the armament trust and its shareholders in various countries. But just at this point a faint gleam of sanity seems to have illumined the national mind. The hitherto revolutionary idea of limiting profits is a consequence of that new and strange light.

* * * *

That one half of the people of the western world should be engaged in the task of slaughtering each other, while the other half toiled terribly to provide the weapons of slaughter, must have seemed to the armament trust an absolutely beautiful and ideal arrangement. It was its millenium, the goal for which it had worked for so many years. "Der Tag" had come.

* * * *

Signs of returning sanity will be a sadly disturbing element from the armament maker's point of view. But to those who still believe that civilization is possible it will be a gleam in the darkness. If the social consciousness of the warring states could be brought to the point of depriving the manufacture of armaments of the element of profit, that would go further to promote peace than most of the peace resolutions passed at the international working class gatherings in recent years.

THE BALLOT TAKEN by the Railway Workers and General Laborers' Union of New South Wales to decide whether the organization should amalgamate with the A. W. U., resulted in a decisive triumph for the one union idea, the final figures being: For, 5,203; against 1,541; which works out at practically a 3 1-2 to 1 majority against the patched-quilt variety of unionism. The victory is all the more significant when it is remembered that, for some queer reason, the scheme was violently opposed by one or two of the incoming union's officials. Also, sinister outside influences whispered vaguely about the tragedy of being "swallowed up." However, the decision can be accepted as an unmistakable indication of the trend of modern unionist thought.

FORGING THE WEAPON

Kaiser Bill always was strong on gas.

Charity uncovers a multitude of sins.

Put that mile-a-minute critic in office —then listen to the brakes.

Virtue commands our respect, but the other thing gets the best clothes to wear.

Are you entitled to be on the city voters' list? Are you on it? No. Well then get busy.

Let us be thankful these days that there is such a thing as mud. Otherwise where would our ideals be?

We hear altogether too much about the length of the Law's arm, and altogether too little about the length of its ears.

There is plenty of room at the top. And it will continue to be there so long as falling down is easier than falling up.

The plausible liar is the darling of every age. The only excuse for the age is that it is dead before its folly is generally known.

Our carpet-bag Premier is expected back soon. Please try and keep your face straight while he explains what he has not been doing.

Probably why Orthodox Morality isn't a regenerative power in the land to-day is because it is too busy looking at the bare leg to notice the barer cupboard.

The test of oratory nowadays is whether the orator supplies a copy of his speech to the press beforehand. The average newspaper report would reduce Demosthenes to a Demoniac.

There is no recruiting officer so succesful as poverty. Before the war two thousands outcasts were taken nightly into Salvation Army shelters in London, but the number has now dropped to a hundred or two.

Time heals many wounds. But if delay in bringing on the inquiry into the South Wellington disaster causes the workers to forget Chief Mine Inspector Graham's reported statement at the inquest, let them never complain again. But it won't.

Wonder if the real reason for postponing the inquest on the victims of the coal mine disaster at Nanaimo was that the authorities thought that perhaps another "accident" might take place, and trouble and money might be saved by holding two inquests together?

After all, it can be said that some of the mining inspectors of this province are a true reflection of the way in which the office of minister of mines—which is in the hands of Premier McBride—has been conducted during recent years.

Do you remember the days when it all seemed so clear to you, that all which seemed necessary was to climb on the nearest housetop and tell the rest of the world of the wonderful discovery you had made? How long after that was it before you found out that lies find credence at first telling, while the truth must be told and told again before the world will even listen to it, much less begin to suspect it may be worth believing?

Diamonds may possibly be found in dust bins. But those who succeed in making such discoveries, usually become so begrimed in the process that diamonds are about the last thing they can appropriately wear. The next best thing they can think of is to make "ladies" and "gentlemen" of their children, who, by the time they are "finished," have only very limited use for pa or ma, but are fully prepared to take over the administration of the dustman's treasure.

When one comes to consider the number of safe-guards against infectious disease, and so on, which are deemed necessary for the preservation of human life now-a-day, it causes a thinking person to marvel how the race ever managed to survive the cave age. Yet if we are to judge by the deeds they did, and the things they left behind them, the early dwellers on the earth managed to patch along without "twilight sleep" or sterlized milk. Can it be that civilization itself is a disease?

Regarding the departure of one of the union miners of Nanaimo for Britain, the following story is going the rounds of that most dismal of towns. One of his widest known and particularly vicious enemies was heard to gleefully remark that the individual referred to had gone taking with him his wife and family. This drew forth the following retort from a bystander: "Yes, but he has taken his own wife; not someone else's." This had a peculiar personal interest for the person to whom the remak was addressed, inasmuch as it is understood that when leaving Britain he was so confused as not to be able to distinguish his own family from other peoples', with the result that he left the country with another man's wife.

DO YOU LIKE WORK?

Some people, notoriously Thomas Alva Edison, like to work, and some are neutral, but most of us are openly prejudiced against the practice. A closer analysis might show that even Edison is not working; he is really playing. He is that luckiest of mortals, that blessed above kings and millionaires, the man who earns his living by doing what he likes to do.

Ideally, all men's work would be what each one liked to do best. A number of utopian commonwealths have been laid out on this basis. Hard, disagreeable work, in such imaginary commonwealths, is done by machinery, or given over to young men who love exercise.

But such communities never were, on land or sea. For most modern men the tasks, which require less muscular effort, but are probably less fun, also, than the old-fashioned kinds of labor that the machine displaced. Monday morning, all over the civilized world, is a drear day. It is possible that war itself has been accorded a degree of welcome, because it breaks the hopeless monotony of the individual's daily life.

The work problem may be solved by cutting down the hours of labor, or, contrarywise, it may be solved by turning real work into play. It will be settled in some fashion, or people will begin to wonder what good there has been exchanging the rude freedom of savagery for the gilded cage of civilization.—San Francisco Bulletin.

Roslyn Sends Sympathy.

Roslyn, Washington, local union of the United Mine Workers of America, writes The Fed. expressing sympathy and condolence with all the sufferers in the explosion which occurred recently in the Reserve mine at Nannimo.

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Electrical Workers (outside)—E. H. Morrison, Room 207.
Engineers (steam)—Room 216; E. Prendergast.
Longshoremen's Association — Office, 145 Alexander street; G. J. Kelly; phone Sey. 6359.
Musicians—H. J. Brasfield, Rooms 304-305, Labor Temple.
Street Railway Employees—Fred. A. Hoover; phone Sey. 508.
Typographical—R. H. Neelands, Rooms 212-13-14.

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Bartenders—H. Davis, Box 424.
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Bookbinders—W. H. Cowderoy, 1885 Thirty-fourth avenue east.
Boilermakers—A. Fraser, 1151 Howe St.
Brewery Workers—Frank Graham, Labor Temple.
Bricklayers—William S. Dagnall, Room 215, Labor Temple.
Brotherhood of Carpenters District Council—F. L. Barratt, Room 209, Labor Temple.
Cigarmakers—Care Kurtz Cigar Factory, 72 Water Street.
Cooks, Waiters, Waitresses—Andy Graham, Room 206, Labor Temple.
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Granite Cutters—Edward Hurry, Columbia Hotel.
Garment Workers—Labor Temple.
Horseshoers—Labor Temple.
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Laborers—George Harrison, Room 220, Labor Temple.
Lathers—Victor R. Midgley, Labor Temple.
Locomotive Firemen and Engineers—C. Howard, 607 Davie street.
Loco Engineers—L. T. Solloway, 1157 Harwood. Tel. Sey. 1348R.
Longshoremen—J. G Kelly, 10 Powell Street
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Railroad Trainmen—A. E. McCorville, Box 243.
Railway Carmen—A. Robb, 420 Nelson Street.
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Structural Iron Workers—Room 208, Labor Temple.
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Sheet Metal Workers.
Street Railway Employees—James E. Griffin, 166 Twenty-fifth avenue east.
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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.

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ALLIED PRINTING TRADES COUNCIL.—Meets second Monday in the month. President, H. J. Bothel; secretary, R. H. Neelands, P. O. Box 66.

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. 1 —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. 194—Meets first and third Mondays, 8 p. m. President, A. Campbell, 73 Seventeenth avenue west; secretary, A. Fraser, 1151 Howe street.

COOKS, WAITERS AND WAITRESSES Union—Meets first Friday in each month, 8:30 p. m., Labor Temple. A. Graham, business representative. Office: Room 206, Labor Temple. Hours: 8:30 a. m. to 10; 2 to 5 p. m. Competent help furnished on short notice. Phone Seymour 3414.

DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CARPENTERS meets in room 208, 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, Sam. Cawker, 557 Templeton Drive; recording secretary, H. Hogan, Labor Temple; financial secretary and business agent, E. H. Morrison, Room 207, Labor Temple.

HODCARRIERS, BUILDING AND COMMON Laborers' union, No. 65—Meets first and third Friday of each month, Labor Temple. President, E. C. Appleby, 1419 Pendrill St.; secretary, George Harrison; business agent, John Sully, room 220, Labor Temple. All laborers invited to meeting.

MACHINISTS, NO. 182—MEETS SECOND and fourth Fridays at 8 p. m. President, J. McIvor; recording secretary, J. Brookes; financial secretary, J. H. McVety.

MUSICIANS' MUTUAL PROTECTIVE Union, Local No. 145, A. F. of M.—Meets second Sunday of each month, 303 Labor Temple. President, J. Bowyer; vice-president, F. English; secretary, H. J. Brasfield; treasurer, W. Fowler. Phone Seymour 7495.

PLASTERERS' OPERATIVE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION, No. 89 — Meets every first and third Wednesday in the month in room 301, Labor Temple. President, A. Hurry; vice-president, A. Berentsen; corresponding secretary, Joe Cornish, 1309 Eleventh avenue east; financial secretary, George Montgomery; treasurer, Harold Reid.

PAINTERS', PAPERHANGERS' AND Decorators', Local 138—Meets every Thursday, 7.30 p.m. President, H. Grand; financial secretary, J. Freckleton, 1021 Comox street; recording secretary, R. Dowding, 622 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 205. H. Nightscales, president, 276 Fifty-sixth avenue east; Jos. G. Lyon, financial secretary, 1721 Grant street; J. Campbell, recording secretary, 4869 Argyle street.

STREET AND ELECTRIC RAILWAY EMPLOYEES, Pioneer Division, No. 101—Meets Labor Temple, second and fourth Wednesdays at 2:30 and 8 p. m. President, Jos. Hubble; recording secretary, Jas. E. Griffin, 166, Twenty-fifth avenue east; financial secretary and business agent, Fred. A. Hoover, 2409 Clark Drive.

STEAM ENGINEERS, INTERNATIONAL Local 897—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.

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

PROVINCIAL UNIONS

B. C. FEDERATION OF LABOR—Meets in annual convention in January. Executive officers, 1915-16: President, A. Watchman; vice-presidents—Vancouver, W. F. Dunn, J. H. McVety; Victoria, B. Simmons; New Westminster, W. Yates; Prince Rupert, W. E. Denning; Revelstoke, J. Lyon; District 28, U. M. W. of A. (Vancouver island), S. Guthrie; District 18, U. M. W. of A. (Crow's Nest Valley), A. J. Carter; secretary-treasurer, A. S. Wells, P. O. box 1538, Victoria, B. C.

NEW WESTMINSTER, B. C.

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

VICTORIA, B. C.

VICTORIA TRADES AND LABOR COUNCIL—Meets first and third Wednesday, Labor hall, 1424 Government street, at 8 p. m. President, A. S. Wells; secretary, F. Holdridge, Box 302, Victoria, B. C.

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VOTES FOR WOMEN IS A LIBERAL CATCHVOTE

Suffragettes Should Not Forget the Record of British Liberals

Women Did Spade Work for Many Years; Were Then Turned Down

[By Miss Helena Gutteridge.]

The formation of a Liberal Women's Club in Vancouver is an instance of how very easily the mistakes of past generations are repeated. The fact that so many members of this adjunct to the Liberal party are prominent suffragists, shows that votes for women as a plank in the party platform and the promise of a Women's Suffrage measure in the dim and distant future, in return for services rendered in the present, is the bait that has been swallowed by those women, who are either Liberals first and suffragists after, or else are so guileless as to think that the promises of a party looking for assistance to strengthen their desperate weakness, can possibly mean anything.

Many years ago the women of England swallowed a similar bait and formed the Liberal Women's Federation. For thirty years and more they slaved at every election, doing all the tiresome and monotonous work of the party, votes for women being the carrot dangled before their nose.

When, however, after twenty years of Conservative government, the Liberal government was returned to power with such an overwhelming majority that it was known as the "strongest government of modern times," the woman's suffrage plank proved a rotten one.

It would be well if the members of the Liberal Women's Club were to read up the history of the Liberal government and the woman's suffrage movement in the "old country" during the past ten years and see how much worth promises are, made during elections campaigns by those who are out of power and seeking office.

The worst feature of the move is the making of Women's Suffrage a party question and particularly of a party out of power. The unity of women of all parties and of no party has heretofore been the strength of the suffrage movement in British Columbia, small though it was. With the division that will come, as the nevitable result of the linking up of any section of the women with Liberal party politics will come lack of unity, that will justify the atitude of the present government on the enfranchisement of women.

There is only one thing absolutely sure and that is, the Liberal party will accept all the work of the women, whilst almost as sure, is the impossibility of the party to deliver the goods during the next decade at least. Therefore why waste time and energy in working for the almost impossible when the possible, if not the probable, is at hand.

The policy of all political parties, is to make use of anything and everything that will further the aims and objects of the various parties. The frantic efforts of the Liberal party, in this respect, during the last few months have been positively indecent, and would almost appear to be the last despairing efforts to rescue the party from oblivion.

Flirting With Labor.

First there was the attempt to induce organized labor to co-operate with the party and bolster up its weakness, an attempt that proved a failure owing to the fact that organized labor recognized the fact that there is no difference whatever between either the Conservative or Liberal parties, except that of one party being in power and exploiting the workers and the other party being out of power, but wanting to get into office and use the opportunity thus afforded to exploit in their turn.

Organized labor made it perfectly clear to the Liberal party on the occasion referred to, that it preferred to do its own work in its own way and had not the faintest desire to be made the cat's paw to pull the chestnuts out of the fire for the Liberal party.

The next step taken was the publishing of the "Crisis in B. C.," an indirect emanation from the Liberal party through the Ministerial Union of the Lower Mainland. To issue such a pamphlet directly as a party production would have looked too much like the "pot calling the kettle black," but no doubt the Ministerial Union thought that the publishing of a list of the delinquiencies of the Conservative government, was a duty to humanity, while the Liberal party chuckled gleefully at getting the benefit of the exposure of the government, without any direct responsibility. Perhaps a libel suit or two will not only keep the Ministerial Union too busy to take any further part in the election campaign, but may open their eyes to the fact that they have been made use of to further the interests of a party that will not hesitate for one moment to turn them down when they have no further use for them.

Would Use The Women.

The value of the next move, the formation of a Liberal Women's Club, is exceedingly doubtful, both to the party and the women, the women being only a handful of the suffragists of the city, will not have the strength necessary to give the Liberal party a great deal of assistance, while the help the Liberal party will give the women could be expressed by the mathematical X, an unknown quantity.

However, everything has a value and the value here will be the proving to the women whose feminine charm is to be exploited, that "woman's influence is absolutely powerless to obtain Votes for Women, so long as the influence is that of only a minority of women and is used for party interests and not for the principle of woman's suffrage.

Women Lack Enthusiasm.

The backwardness of the suffrage movement in British Columbia is not due to the opposition of any party, or to the desire of men to dominate their women flk, but to the lack of interest displayed by women themselves.

Naturally when a handful of women have been working fruitlessly to educate their sister women to a sense of their own dignity and rights, it may seem to some, especially those women who are at heart keenly interested in the Liberal party, the line of least resistance, to accept and believe the promise to give them suffrage in return for assistance during the coming election.

This Is The Reason.

The lesson to be learned during the next few years will be similar to that learned by British women during the last ten years, namely: That Liberal promises made before election to office, are about as binding as the "scrap of paper" the British are fighting about, was to the Germans when the neutrality of Belgium was violated.

However, just as the workers did, the women must find out by bitter experience that if you want a thing you must get it for yourself, and only when you want it so badly that that determination and organization result; will the hearts desire be obtained.

LETTERS TO THE FED.

A. F. of L. at Exposition.

Editor B. C. Federationist: You no doubt are aware of the action of the Philadelphia 1914 convention of the American Federation of Labor directing that the A. F. of L. be represented in the Panama-Pacific exposition which is being held in San Francisco in celebration of the completion of the Panama canal.

All of the national and international organizations were requested to co-operate and make an exhibit of their history, work and achievements. Many of them responded to the request and prepared most helpful and instructive charts and other materials showing what their organizations had done in promoting the welfare of the workers. In addition there were prepared at the headquarters of the A. F. of L. numerous charts and illuminated inscriptions, literature and other informational matter showing the aims, purposes, methods and achievements of the organized labor movement. These materials have all been sent to San Francisco where they have been established in a booth artistically and beautifully designed and constructed, which is in the Palace of Education.

An A. F. of L. representative has been put in charge of the exhibit. Descriptive information and photographs have been sent me which show that the exhibit is in every respect a great credit to the labor movement and cannot help but impress all who see it with the importance and the extent of the work that the labor movement is doing.

The purpose of my writing to you is to urge you to help in giving publicity to the A. F. of L. exhibit and to urge all visitors to the San Francisco exposition to visit labor's exhibit. Unless you do your part many may visit San Fancisco and not be aware of labor's exhibit and thus miss a valuable opportunity to learn more of our movement and to receive the inspiration that must come from the tangible proofs of the great successes that the trade union movement has won since the organization of the A. F. of L. In helping along this movement for wider publicity for labor's exhibit you will be rendering a very helpful service to the cause of labor and humanity.

Fraternally Yours,
SAMUEL GOMPERS,
President American Federation of Labor.

Editor B. C. Federationist: Local union, No. 2299, U. M. W. of A., Cumberland, met in regular session and passed the following resolution regarding the recent mining disasters on Vancouver Island. We do not forget that the mining department of this province did everything in their power to defeat the organizing of the miners on this island. And as we view the cause of the strike, re discrimination of men that were faithful enough to themselves and their fellow workers to report the true conditions of the mine, that one if not both of these disasters would have been avoided, if the efforts of the true men had been accomplished there is no doubt. Therefore, be it resolved, that we condemn the members of the mining department from the bottom up as men unworthy and unfit for the positions the now occupy. Also our heartfelt sympathy and condolence to the relatives and friends of the men that have lost their lives after fighting for months to amend the conditions of which they have met their deaths.

LOCAL UNION, NO. 2299, CUMBERLAND, B. C.

Answer for "C. V. C."

Editor B. C. Federationist: I just noticed "C. V. C.'s" enquiry in the edition of 21st ulto. Sorry I overlooked it, and for delay in answering. I don't know whether to take "C. V. C." in a serious or a facetiously-philosophical vien, but I may say that, so far as my knowledge extends, the "what" that "determines the mode of production" is also, and chiefly, a "who;" viz., mankind, working in conjunction with other natural forces, in a desire for social betterment. This desire may be conscious or unconscious—but it works just the same. W. M. C.
June 8, 1915.

Your home decanter should be filled with "B.C. Special." One trial will convince. For sale at all leading retail liquor stores.

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VANCOUVER, B. C.

VICTORIA TRADES COUNCIL HOLDS SESSION

Supports Agitation Against Oriental Labor on Exported Lumber

Will Assist Mechanics Who Wish to Seek Work in Britain

Regular meeting of Victoria Trades and Labor council called to order by President Wells.

Trades reports are still bad and Plumbers and Steamfitters still locked out.

Oriental Labor on Lumber.

Communications were received from the Prime Minister's office, Wellington, New Zealand, also from the City clerk regarding the employment of Orientals in the lumber industry. This matter had been sent to the city council from the labor bureau asking for co-operation of the council in an effort to see that white labor was employed. A request was made that the Trades and Labor council send delegates to a meeting to be held at the city hall, also to the Board of Trade and other organizations. The Trades and Labor council having dealt with the matter in relation to using their efforts to ensure that the colonies only receive lumber handled by white labor, Delegates Wells Day and Sivertz were appointed to attend the meeting.

Miners' Resolution Endorsed.

Communication was received from the Miners' unions signed by Mr. Foster and reported in the previous week's B.C. Federationist. The council endorsed the resolution and sent the same to the proper authorities.

Delegates from Street Railway Employees reported that they had received notice of cancelling of agreement and that they had sent delegates to meet the B. C. Electric at a meeting to be held on Friday.

Mechanics For Britain.

Messrs. Barnes and Wyndhams's visit to British Columbia for mechanics to go back to the old country was next dealt with. It was moved and duly carried that the matter be referred to the executive and the secretary be instructed to write to each local union. Delegate Watchman stated that a request had already been sent from the B. C. Federation of Labor to Mr. Barnes to come to Victoria, informing him that men could be found here who were willing to go back. Delegate Day complained strongly at the refusal of the B.C. Federationist to publish a letter of great importance to the council. He stated that it was with the sanction of Delegate Watchman and Wells that he should send this letter, but it appeared to him that Victoria could only have what Vancouver wished. He was positive that Victoria locals would not give the help they could unless this question was taken up. The matter was left in the hands of Delegates Watchman and Wells for them to report back to the council.

MECHANICS FOR BRITAIN.

Terms and Conditions Offered by the Commission.

Information concerning the purpose of the forthcoming visit to Vancouver of the British mission of inquiry into the armament labor supply, has been received by Mr. W. A. Blair, secretary of the board of trade, from Mr. W. Windham, secretary of the commission.

The commissioners are making a tour of Canada with a view to ascertaining what supply of mechanics may be secured for work in England in munition factories. The skilled workmen are expected to enter an engagement for six months at least.

The terms of the contract which the workman is expected to sign are as follows:

1. Standard British rates, including war bonus, etc.

2. Minimum engagement of six months it suitable. If not required for any work in his trade on munitions of war in any of the principal centres and he wishes to return at once, fare paid back by government.

3. If government transport not available, fares to be paid to the United Kingdom. Fares in the United Kingdom in any case.

4. Fares to be paid back if men stay as long as wanted for government work during the war.

5. Subsistence on authorized scale from date of leaving home after selection to date of starting work.

6. No families will be brought at government's or employer's expense.

7. Undertaking to stay for six months if suitable work is available.

The workmen required by the Imperial government comprise the following trades: Machinists, including fitters, turners, millers, millwrights, etc., rivetters, drillers, shipwrights, including ship carpenters; boilermakers and boilermakers' helpers; sheet iron workers, coppersmiths, blacksmiths and blacksmiths' helpers, moulders.

Whenever you can consistently do so, when you require anything you see advertised in The Federationist, be sure and explain that you saw his ad. in The Federationist, and that it was because of that that he is patronized. Don't forget this. ***

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Spencer's Dept. Store (Cashier's office, Information Bureau and Exchange Desks), near Richards.
Wood's Pharmacy—Seymour Street corner.
Campbell's Pharmacy — Granville Street corner.
Owl Drugstore—Main Street corner.
Harrison's Drug Store—Near Carrall street
MAIN STREET—
Browne & Beaton, Druggists, Pender street corner.
Law's Drugstore — Harris street corner.
CORDOVA STREET—
Owl Drugstore — Abbott street corner
POWELL STREET—
Owl Drugstore — Dunlevy street corner.
DENMAN STREET—(English Bay)
Torrence Drugstore — Davie street corner.
GRANVILLE STREET—
Hudson's Bay Co. All departments Georgia street corner.
Gordon Drysdale's (Notion Counter) near Dunsmuir.
Owl Drugstore — Dunsmuir street.
Harrison's Drugstore — Robson street corner.
Browne & Beaton, druggists, Davie street corner.
Pill Box Drugstore — Nelson street corner
Law's Drugstore — Davie street corner
Harrison's Drugstore — Pender street corner.
FAIRVIEW—
Harrison's Drugstore — Granville street and Seventh avenue.
MOUNT PLEASANT—
Law's Drugstore — Near Broadway
GRANDVIEW—
Campbell's Drugstore — Broadway and Commercial Drive.
STANLEY PARK—
Mitchell's Confectionery— Georgia street entrance.

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RELIEVES INDUSTRY FROM BURDEN OF APPRENTICE

Technical Training Factory for Manufacturing the Workers

Contains Limited Good But Needs Very Careful Watching

There is a new system of education which takes from the shoulders of industry the burden of working over its human raw material, says San Francisco Bulletin. It is in danger of becoming a kind of worker factory. When it is perfected it will be possible to feed all sorts of boys and girls into its hopper, and have them come out, a year or so later, accurately moulded to fit definite grooves in the industrial machine. Put in this way, the scheme is pretty grim and repellant. Put in other ways, it can be made to sound as reasonable as the multiplication table. Approximately 80 per cent. of us must work with our hands. Should it not be the first purpose of our education to teach us to do our work well?

Making Soles, and Souls.

The answer depends on whether or not people have souls; that is, whether they have souls that can be of any use to them before they die. We can believe that the most important thing is to get as much work as possible out of every man, that he shall make as many hundredth-parts of a shoe, or as many thousandth-parts of an automobile, as possible. Or we can believe that it is still more important that he shall enjoy and reason and let his soul grow. The former is "practical"; the latter is not.

State Apprenticeship.

It is possible to have altogether too much practicality, to bow too low before industrialism. The state of Indiana lays down, as among the requirements of its new vocational schools, "that pupils be trained, as far as possible, for the leading skilled occupations of the community; that pupils taking the vocational courses be fitted specifically, each for his intended occupation."

"The preparation for efficient and profitable employment in the shop, in the home or in the farm," says the report of the Indiana Board of Education, "requires instruction or training which is as specific and distinct in its purpose and methods from the so-called general or cultural education as the instruction now given in our state law and medical schools differs in method and aim from the work pursued in a general college course."

The Sheep and The Goats.

"Culture" subjects have had their evils, many and greivous, but where they have been obligatory they have not split the school children—as these grimy rules do—into 80 per cent. who will have to work with their hands, and consequently need to have their hands but not their souls developed, and 20 per cent. who will not have to work with their hands, and can be carefully grown, like rare flowers in a garden. Never until now have school children been split into two classes—flowers and vegetables.

Technical Training Needs Watching.

Some excellent ideas on this subject may be found in a recent book by Edwin Davies Schoonmaker on "The World-Storm—and Beyond." Another stout defender of the rights of children against the new experiment in stultification is Dr. John Dewey. Both these men concede that children should be taught how to work, but believe that they are good for something more than to be trimmed, like old-fashioned Dutch gardens, into shape for industrial use.

Vocational education has in it germs of great but limited good. It needs watching. As practiced, it is altogether too much in line with the tendency to sacrifice the soul of the people to the Moloch of industrial efficiency.

Omar Khayyam To Date.

"A Book of Verses underneath the Bough,
"B.C. Special," a Loaf of Bread—and Thou
Beside me singing in the Wilderness—
Oh, Wilderness were Paradise enow!"

"BOB" CRAIG STILL BOOSTING.

Now Claims Stettler, Alberta, as his Home.

Who, among the old-time trades unionists of Vancouver, doesn't remember "Bob" Craig? Well, Bob is now located at Stettler, Alberta, and reports the cigar business flourishing in that commercial metropolis of the foothill province just east of the Rockies. Of course, as a live union label booster and an ardent unionist worker, Bob still has to have The Fed. and, as of old, insists that all his neighbors do likewise. Under date of June 7, Bob writes:

"Dear Parm: Enclosed find postal note for $1.50, one year subscription to The B. C. Federationist, the best little labor paper in the Canadian west. This is union meeting night, so the message will be short. There are 36 members in this local of Cigarmakers and we are all working steadily. Have not lost a minute this year, except the 24th of May. Turning out 40,000 Van Loo cigars per week. That is more than the entire city of Vancouver produce now. Mike Nugent and I read the editorials in The Fed. with delight; they suit us fine. J. W. W. is there on the moral reformers and uplifters just right. We have seven Vancouver boys and three Westminster boys working here. Several fine dwelling houses are going up and prospects are good for a crop, which will make things hum. We have a butter factory here turning out 2,000 pounds of butter daily. Some of it will be on the Vancouver markets shortly. You would be surprised at the number of ex-Vancouverites living in Stettler. We all hope to come back when B. C. gets rid of the "Solid Five" prosperity gang. It's a fact, everybody ridicules the McBride government, especially its land deals. We vote on the wet or dry question on July 21st. Hope it stays wet. Feeding on mushrooms these days and mallard duck later on. That's better than B. C. coffee and sinkers, eh? Have not had to join any orders yet to hold down this job. Best regards to Hackett and the rest of the old guard."

From Parm's Potato Patch

Insect Life.

No one can have any idea of the wonders and diversities of life on this planet without pausing occasionally to contemplate the myriad varieties of insects that everywhere surround us. Entomology is one of the most fascinating of studies. So great are its intricacies and so profound its mysteries, that the amateur student can never be satiated, but must ever find fresh food for thought and fresh stimuli for the imagination.

In order to provide a basis upon which to work in the pursuit of this interesting study, one should begin by making a small collection. A very good start in this direction may be made by going to sleep in the shade of some forest giant. Upon awakening, the first thing that strikes one is that the idea of collecting is not peculiarly human, but is somewhat general among insects themselves, portions of the human frame being highly prized among them.

I once had a very good collection of hearty and virile insects. There were four ants up my left trouser leg and a wasp up the right; my hair was full of gnats and a mosquito had entered my left ear. Great scientists have begun their careers with smaller collections than this. I may say, however, even at the risk of being accounted immodest, that they did not go as far as I went with mine, nor did they accomplish the same interesting things. Among other feats, I may mention that of disrobing while in full flight, until I might have been seen sailing o'er the face of nature like the transit of Venus, wearing an harrassed appearance.

An insect that offers many opportunities for close observation, and one that rouses many and varied emotions, is the mosquito. To the delight of rural life this winged lancer adds his gentle hum. What camper or country-dweller has not, after he has blown out the lamp and forgotten where the matches are, been lulled to slumber by the pleasant murmur of the mosquito's lullaby? But mayhap he is a crabbed individual with no musical soul. In which case he will not immediately go to sleep, but will lead with his left and bash himself in the eye. Then, making a wild swing with the right, he will knock the lamp off the table and send it crashing against the wall. The hum will continue. Rising, he now decides to light a match and pursue the thing until it is slain or dies of exhaustion. Heading for where he thinks the matches are, he loses his sense of direction and bangs his shin against a chair. He utters an exclamation, but decides to be cautious. So he stands stock still and listens. The hum approaches, describes several evolutions, and then ceases near at hand. Ha! it is on the wall—within reach. Raising his hand, the disturbed makes a fearful swipe and knocks into oblivion his aunt's photograph that had been enlarged at great expense. Now, he almost loses control, but perceiving the window gleaming dimly through the darkness, he thinks there may be matches on the ledge and starts for there, forgetting the bed which is in the way. Over this he stumbles. Tired nature now wards off madness by sending him at last to sleep. The next day is spent scratching a white spot which he carries somewhere about his person.

VERDE.

Bumble at His Best.

It is stated in the correspondence columns of the New Statesman that the Gateshead, England, Education Committee have decided to discontinue school meals, although they admit that 182 of the children still need them. At the same time, they have agreed to set aside a sum for providing the children with pamphlets on Patriotism.

Edgett's

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