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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STATE CONTROL OF INDUSTRY NOT SOLUTION

Australian Correspondent On Public Ownership In N. S. W.

Unions There Are Likely To Control Industry In The Future

[Special Australian Correspondence.]

SYDNEY, N. S. W., May 7.—At the labor conference just concluded at Sydney, one of the greatest achievements was the bringing together of two bodies of thought in New South Yales—the revolutionary and the moderate groups—to talk out their differences. It seems now that there will be a decided advance along lines more revolutionary than formerly. The time is opportune now for a candid talk on the present system as carried out in Australia.

State Control and Socialism.

One of the objects of socialism is the freeing of the worker from the necessity of having to work for a master. The true idea of socialism is the establishment of a state in which the capital would be owned by the workers co-operatively instead of being owned by private capitalists. True socialists are against state ownership or control.

The idea that the "extension of the functions of the state as an employer of labor" is socialism, seems to have been suggested by certain writers of socialist thought, and was eagerly seized upon by Australian politicians to substitute bureaucracy as socialism.

The intervention of the state as a means of bringing about socialism seems to have been first proposed in France by Louis Blanc, who advocated the state subsidizing of co-operative societies of workmen. At the same time the same sort of state assistance was proposed in Germany by Ferdinand Lassalle.

Union for Political Purposes.

True socialists, however, have no such belief in the virtues of state assistance as either of the two above exponents. In France and Germany, Blanqui and Marx declared themselves to be communists, aiming at the "temporary dictation of the proletariat" by means of a revolution. After the failure of revolutionary attempts, a compromise between the followers of the two schools was affected. It was agreed that both sections should unite for the peaceful capture of political power, chiefly as a means of propoganada, but it was never contended that state ownership or control was socialism.

Would Be Merely Changing Masters.

Such a condition of things, it was pointed out, would be merely a change of masters. The private capitalist would be wiped out by the state; but in his place would be the public official, paid high salaries, yet, still a member of a privileged class, a kind of official aristocrat, while the actual producer of wealth would still be the wage earner, having his wages paid out to him by a black-coated bureaucrat instead of a capitalist.

He would still be a wage slave, and his condition might be even worse, for there would be but one employer asking for his services, where there might, otherwise, have been several. Furthermore, if he should happen to offend some boss bureaucrat or other, his plight would be particularly parlous.

N. S. W. Very Bureaucratic.

Candidly, Australia is, in its state enterprises, almost as extensively bureaucratic as Prussia. New South Wales even seems to be ahead of Prussia in bureaucracy. For apart from state railways and tramways we have the following state industrial enterprises: Brickworks, limeworks, blue metal quarries, joinery works, clothing factories, metal quarries, stone quarries, building construction, timber yards and building workshops, state printeries, cement pipe and reinforced concrete works, and state bakery.

Reminds One of Prussia.

The variety and number of these enterprise reminds one very much of the dominant German state of Prussia. In that state there are many state industrial enterprises just as there are in New South Wales. There are in Prussia state porcelain factories, mines, furnaces, iron mills, forges, salines, lotteries, and many other things managed by the state, as well as state railways, tramways and printing offices.

A leading New South Wales newspaper dealing with this very thing the other week points out the similarity between Prussia and New South Wales.

State Bureaucracy Must Go.

But bureaucracy is not socialism, nor is it any satisfactory substitute for socialism, as socialists know it. It may be a means to an end, but unless the position is more properly defined the workers of Australia may be enticed into the belief that it is socialism and so lose touch with the true ethics of socialism. Socialism will no doubt come to Australia, and by the signs of the times it will come before very long. But it will not be brought about by bureaucracy. State control or "state socialism" as we know it will have to give way to a combined effort on the part of the workers themselves, without the management of the state.

What Part Will Unions Play.

The socialists of this country are beginning to say that socialism will be inaugurated by the combined unions taking hold of the organization of production and distribution. It is highly probable, and the theory is put forward by many of the most advanced socialists here, that socialism will come in the way of a kind of democratic revival of the old system of guilds, which existed in the middle ages.

If the rare ability required for the organization of industry were drawn into the unions and were applied to co-operative production and distribution, then we should have socialism. But as we stand now with our present system of state control, while it has its admirable points in comparison to capitalistic domination, bureaucracy is but a change of masters for the worker (notwithstanding his political influence) and he remains yet a "wage slave," practically as much so as if all industry were in the hands of the private owner.

Better Off Than a Decade Ago.

This article is not put forward to be understood that the Australian workman is not satisfied with his lot. He is very much better off to-day than ever he was, and this is due in the main to the efforts of the labor governments we have here. He has increased wages, better living conditions, and is generally more advanced physically and mentally than he was ten years ago.

But the purpose of this article is to show that after all state control is not socialism, and until socialism comes to us, we have been worshipping a fetish, though it is fair to admit that we have profited immensely by it. And by present appearances the labor politician of Australia seems to have seen the point of the argument also. So, after all, the lesson has not been lost.

W. FRANCIS AHERN.

CONFERENCE WILL MEET HERE TO-DAY

Full credit must be given Vancouver Trades and Labor Council for the conference, called by Acting-Premier Bowser, which is taking place in Vancouver to-day, in the Board of Trade rooms. Representatives of Vancouver city, South Vancouver, Burnaby, Point Grey, North Vancouver and other nearby municipalities, along with delegates from board of trades, trades and labor councils and other public and semi-bodies will be present to confer with the provincial government representatives, to thoroughly discuss the whole question of unemployment in Vancouver and vicinity, and plan, if possible, some comprehensive scheme whereby those willing and eager to earn a living for themselves and their families may have the opportunity of doing so.

At last meeting of Vancouver Trades and Labor council the reports of affiliated unions were such that the question of unemployment came in for special attention. The upshot was that a committee of three were elected, consisting of Delegates McVety, Gutteridge and Sully, to proceed to Victoria, there to wait upon acting-Premier Bowser and present the case for the central labor body. The conference took place on Saturday morning and for more than an hour the delegates piled up data and presented so much evidence of the seriousness of the situation that they secured a definite promise that action would be taken by the government without delay.

Big Conference in Session To-Day.

And the conference to-day, mentioned above, seems to be a fulfilment of that promise—so far. Certainly nothing so businesslike and definite has been undertaken before. It almost makes one feel that possibly, after all, the insistent and repeated efforts of organized labor will result in something practical being accomplished. The outcome of to-day's conference will be watched with unusual interest, not only by the members of organized labor, but by thousands of jobless men and those dependent upon them.

Interning Nanaimo Strike-Breakers.

Another matter that the central labor body delegates took up with Acting-Premier Bowser was the advisability of interning the alien coal miners working at Nanaimo, who had been imported as strike-breakers during the Vancouver Island strike, and thus forcing the Western Fuel company to employ old-time resident coal miners who are also true-blue trade unionists. The fact that this request is already being complied with, no matter what the real motive may be, is cause for congratulation, both to the committee and the members of District 28, U. M. W. of A.

Royal Commission Will Investigate.

That Thomas Graham, chief inspector of mines for the government of British Columbia, should be at once removed from office by Acting-Premier Bowser, and proceedings taken against him for complicity in causing the deaths of nineteen miners who were drowned in the mine of the Pacific Coast Coal company at South Wellington, last February, was the view expressed by the delegation from Vancouver Trades and Labor council. While Mr. Bowser would not go that far in meeting the wishes of the committee he announced that he had apointed Mr. Justice Murphy (a Liberal appointee—Ed. Fed.) as chairman of a Royal Commission to fully investigate the facts and upon the report of that commission Mr. Bowser assured the representatives of organized labor that he would act without fear or favor.

Warm Up the City Council.

The same committee called upon the city council on Tuesday evening and urged that the by-law providing for the construction of a city hall be also submitted, with others which are to go before the civic electorate shortly. The request was turned down, as will be the by-laws submitted, through the casting vote of the mayor, if some of the aldermen have their way. But when the committee makes it report to the Trades and Labor council next Thursday evening it is just possible that provision will be made to upset the calculations of men whose patriotism does not extend to their pocketbooks.

Tackle Mr. Stevens This Morning.

The same committee are taking a fall out of Mr. H. H. Stevens, M. P., this morning, as The Federationist goes to press. As the member for this federal riding they want to know why the contractors for the new government elevator on Burrard inlet must import their employees, when there are already so many on the spot, ready and willing to do the work. There is another little matter that will come up for attention. Just why the laborers' wage is to be $2 per 10-hour day. In fact there is to be a general clean-up in connection with a number of matters that seem to need considerable fixing. A proper understanding is at least necessary, so that the members of organized labor will know exactly where they are at, and, incidentally, where the other colored gene'men presides.

All things considered, the developments of the past week have justified the action of last meeting of Vancouver Trades and Labor Council.

Title Socialist on Drink Question.

It is the custom of the capitalist class to give the workman bad drink with one hand and to raise the other hand with an expression of holy horror against the sin of drunkenness, quite ignoring the truth that the quality, rather than the quantity, that people drink is often the deciding factor—that every class drinks, and that if the vice looks worse in one class than another it is because the poorer the man or woman, the viler the alcohol supplied to them.—Lady Warwick in Daily Chronicle.

The Last Body Is Found.

With the finding last week of the body of G. H. Marvos the remains of all of the nineteen victims of the South Wellington mine disaster of February 9 have now been recovered. Marvos was a miner of Greek nationality, aged 27 years and unmarried.

BEFORE ITALY DECIDED.

Affrays Between Police and Unionists Were Frequent.

In view of the decision of Italy to join with the Allies against Germany and Austria, the following taken from an European labor newspaper is interesting:

"Our Italian comrades continue with magnificent tenacity to fight against the intervention of Italy in the present war. In spite of the government's prohibition of public meetings, rarely a day passes without several demonstrations against the war. Most of these meetings are terminated by affrays with the "Interventionists." On each occasion the police have acted with brutality, and the number of wounded is always considerable. At a recent public meeting in Milan, for instance, the affray between the police and the people assumed alarming proportions. One policeman aimed a blow at the head of a young mechanic named Inocente Marcora with such ferocity that the youth was killed on the spot. The death of the young workman caused so great a sensation among the working class that the trade unions declared a general strike in Milan as a protest against this culminating example of police brutality. The strike lasted three days and was unanimously adhered to by the whole of the workers, even including the "Interventionists." During these three days not a single shop was open and not a single tramcar ran through the streets of the city. The Lord Mayor of Milan, has published a manifesto deploring the brutal police repression.

Calgary Wants Day Labor.

The Calgary city commissioners last week adopted the following resolution relative to day labor on city work:

"The city commissioners decided definitely against letting contracts for the construction of the big Centre street bridge, laying down the rule that all the work on the bridge will be done by day labor, as this has been the understanding among the alderman for some time."

THE ISLAND MINERS SAY DISCHARGE INSPECTORS

Public Should Carefully Note Action Of The Government

Forecast That Miners Who Were Witnesses Will Be Discharged

[The following letter has been received by The Federationist from the union coal miners on Vancouver Island, during the past week, on the subject of the South Wellington disaster. Previous to the publication of our front page article last week, relative to the culpability of Chief Inspector Graham, we did not know what the sentiment of the miners on the matter in question might be. But the article below, from the headquarters of the miners, serves to show that they are as much alive to the seriousness of the situation, as the newspaper reports of the inquest would lead any impartial person to believe is necessary.]

Editor B. C. Federationist:

Disclosures relative to the causes of the deaths of nineteen men who lost their lives in the South Wellington mines should be watched very carefully by the general public. For these reasons the miners' organization has contended all through its strike, and previous to said strike, that the government inspectors did not compel the coal companies to comply with the mining laws, and on different occasions have informed Sir Richard McBride that he knew this to be true, but that it was impossible to get a direct charge against them on account of the system of victimization which exists through the coal mining companies on the Island.

Discrimination Against Miners.

Any miners who would give evidence against these companies or inspectors would be indirectly discriminated against and have to seek work elsewhere.

His answers were always ,that if we brought a direct charge against any of the inspectors he would prosecute same. Watch the proceedings of the government regarding the disclosures that have been brought out at this coroner's inquest. Four of the miners who gave evidence are now working. Some of them are at the reserve shaft under the management of Thomas R. Stockett, and some at South Wellington.

They swore that there was a seepage of water through the coal, with a stagnant smell, and in our opinion they will be indirectly discriminated against in the very near future and victimized and fired from the mines on Vancouver Island.

Says Miners Will Be Victimized.

It is our intention as each of these men are victimized to call upon the general public and show them definitely what the miners on Vancouver Island have to contend with. Now I want to call the attention of the general public to the fact that at the time of the said disaster every paper was expressing sympathy for the relatives of the unfortunate victims. Will that same sentiment of sympathy prevail in assisting to have a fair and impartial enquiry into these matters, and compel the provincial government to pass a law making it compulsory to have mine inspectors elected by the miners and not appointed by the government? If so it will be a humanitarian act and will result in the saving of many, many lives of the men who follow the mining industry for a livelihood.

Inspectors Ex-Managers and Superintendents.

At the present time there is not a mine inspector in the employ of the provincial government who has not been taken from the position of superintendent or mine manager from the various coal companies, while there are numerous miners in the province who have the necessary qualifications to fulfill these positions.

In conclusion we wish to ask the organized labor movement and the general public to endorse the following resolution, and forward same to Sir Richard McBride, minister of mines, at Victoria, B. C.:

"Whereas it has has been proved by the coroner's inquest at Nanaimo, re the South Wellington disaster, in which nineteen men were drowned, that Chief Inspector of Mines Thomas Graham and Inspector John Newton wilfully and wrongfully allowed the jury to be misled relative to the scale on the blue prints, in which one scale was one hundred feet to the inch and the other one hundred and thirty-two feet to the inch, and in doing so are guilty of criminal negligence to the general public, in their capacity of mine inspectors.

Therefore, be it resolved, that we insist upon the immediate dismissal of these two men for the benefit of humanity and the saving of lives of men in the mining industry.

The plan of the old Southfield workings has been in the government offices for many years and all inspectors have free access to same, and according to the Coal Mines Regulation act it was their duty to know what scale the South Wellington company was operating under.

Just So.

The Swiss socialist party has failed to secure a meeting of representatives of the entire socialist international, but it is persisting in an attempt to organise a conference of socialist representatives from the neutral countries. The conference is announced for May 30 at Zurich, and will consider what action can be taken by neutral socialists to secure peace.

Organizer Bruce Here.

J. W. Bruce, international organizer of the Plumbers, arrived in Vancouver this week and is engaged on business for his organization.

B. C. F. OF L. MONTHLY PROVINCIAL REVIEW

(By A. S. Wells, Secretary-Treasurer of B. C. Federation of Labor.)

VICTORIA, May 26.—Reports from vice-presidents of the B. C. Federation of Labor during the month give a comprehensive idea of industrial conditions throughout the province. The activities of officials of organized labor are consequently affected and reflected, as indicated in the reports below:

In the Crow's Nest Pass.

Vice-President Carter, of Fernie, reports that conditions in his district are still very bad and the miners practically all idle, and general labor conditions such that very little can be done. District 18, U.M.W. of A., will, in the near future, take up the question of the Workmen's Compensation act with the Federation.

At Revelstoke.

Vice-President Lyons reports that conditions in his district are as reported last month, with the exception of further reductions in the staff of the railroads, and that he has secured the affiliation of the Railway Carmen of Revelstoke and sent their per capita tax on 27 members, and that the shipworkers have been reduced, both staff and time workers.

At Prince Rupert.

Vice-President Denning reports the settlement of the Longshoremen's strike, and reductions in the number of employees in private enterprise at Prince Rupert, and that civic employees are only working half time, and general conditions are bad. He also reports the organization of the laundry workers, and the hotel and restaurant employees, and the Labor members of the city council are endeavoring to inaugurate a reciprocal movement with other cities with a view to the reduction of the cost of living.

At New Westminster.

Vice-President Yates reports that conditions in New Westminster are getting worse and that the city council have made a cut in the wages of the civic employees from 37 1-2 cents per hour to 30 cents, and to also cut down the programme of work, and that the workers are protesting against the reduction by holding a mass-meeting. He introduced the following scheme to the city council, as a measure of relief for the unemployed situation: The city council to put a money by-law before the people for the sum of $20,000, for the general purpose of the relief of the unemployed; that the bonds covering this by-law be issued in $10 denominations, for a term of ten years; that the city undertake to clear vacant city lots, paying for same out of the relief by-law money; that the city assess each owner of a lot cleared in this manner an amount equal to the sinking fund and interest on such part of the by-law money as was used on the lot. The scheme was endorsed by the central labor body.

At Victoria.

Vice-President Simmons, in a lengthy report, outlines the situation in the Capital city, which shows that conditions are worse than ever. Machinists expecting a little better time owing to the fact that shells are to be manufactured in the city for the imperial authorities. Referring to the Central Labor Bureau, he says that the second and final resignation of the head of the bureau, Dr. Millar, has been accepted, and that the bureau has continuously made the mis-statement that they have solved the unemployed question, while at the same time making the statement that they have registered over 2,000 unemployed. Referring to relief work he reports that the city engineer of Victoria, and the engineer of Sannich, have reported adversely on the system of relief work as being more costly than the usual system, and unsatisfactory, and that they have returned to the old system, but at reduced rates of wages.

Vancouver and Vicinity.

From Vancouver and vicinity Vice-President McVety reports a dismal condition existing. A committee, consisting of representatievs of various public bodies, together with three aldermen, had charge of the relief work, but so energetic was the committee in relieving distress that the City Council, on the grounds that the council could not delegate powers to spend city funds, wiped out the committee and turned the work over to a committee composed entirely of aldermen, they at once cutting off all the single men who have not a residence period of six months in the city to their credit.

While it is true that the federal government is doing considerable public work in the city, it is benefitting mostly non-unionists, as they always receive preference of employment. A complaint is now being taken up with the member that some of the contractors are importing men from other provinces and the United States to do the work that it is alleged is being carried on at this time for the sole purpose of furnishing employment for the residents and citizens.

From a provincial standpoint there is little to report of interest from this district.

Workmen's Compensation Committee Busy.

The compensation act committee of the Federation is busy at this time on its criticism of the draft act of the government and will, as soon possible, with the desire to be thorough in its efforts, publish its views in pamphlet form. Any organization or member having any ideas on the subject, or any clause in the draft act that they desired analyzed, should communicate with any of the members of the committee, which consists of Messrs. Jas. H. McVety, Vancouver; A. S. Wells, Victoria, and Wm. Yates, New Westminster.

UNION NOMINATIONS.

After June 1st Names Will Be Submitted to Referendum.

Unions are requested to note that nominations for parliamentary candidates must be in the hands of the secretary of the Trades and Labor council not later than June 1st.

The following nominations have been received:

W. R. Trotter, Typographical union—Nominated by Typographical, Bricklayers, Pattern Makers, Cooks, Waiters and Waitresses, Sheet Metal Workers, Machinists, Street Railway Men unions.

J. W. Wilkinson, Typographical union—Nominated by Typographical, Bricklayers, Pattern Makers, Cooks, Waiters and Waitresses, Machinists, Street Railway Men unions.

J. H. McVety, Machinists' union—Nominated by Machinists, Pattern Makers, Bricklayers, Cooks, Waiters and Waitresses unions.

F. H. Hoover, Street Railway Men—Nominated by Street Railway Men, Cooks, Waiters and Waitresses, Bricklayers, Machinists unions.

C. H. Benson, Typographical union—Nominated by Typographical, Cooks, Waiters and Waitresses, Sheet Metal Workers unions.

J. G. Lyon, Pattern Makers union—Nominated by Pattern Makers, Cooks, Waiters and Waitresses unions.

F. Mansell, Bookbinders' union—Nominated by Bookbinders' union.

G. Hardy, Brotherhood of Carpenters—Nominated by Machinists' union.

H. Schofield, Street Railway Men—Nominated by Machinists' union.

F. Williams, Tailors' union—Nominated by Stonecutters' union.

F. Haigh, Street Railway Men—Nominated by Street Railway Men.

Richmond Riding.

J. E. Wilton, Typographical union—Nominated by Typographical, Bricklayers, Pattern Makers, Cooks, Waiters and Waitresses, Stonecutters, Sheet Metal Workers unions.

F. Welsh, Plumbers' union—Nominated by Machinists' union.

South Vancouver Riding.

H. Neelands, Typographical union—Nominated by Typographical, Pattern Makers, Cooks, Waiters and Waitresses, Printing Pressmen, Sheet Metal Workers, Machinists unions.

F. Welsh, Plumbers' union—Nominated by Bricklayers' union.

MORE THAN TWENTY MINERS MEET DEATH

NANAIMO, V.I., May 27.—(Special to The B. C. Federationist)—Explosion at Reserve mine here this afternoon killed more than 20 miners out of the 36 on shift. Only two bodies brought out. Rescuers are of opinion that none of entombed miners can possibly be alive.

British Columbia has the world's record for killing coal miners and yesterday's "internment" will help to keep up the average. It will also provide another opportunity for Chief Inspector Graham to deceive a coroner's jury, in the interests of the mine owners. And it might occur to him that his resignation is in order, if the Department of Mines still lacks common decency enough to demand it.

MONEY BY-LAWS SHOULD BE PASSED

Necessary Works Could Be Started To Help The Unemployed

Report Of City Relief Work Showed Wide-Spread Privation

[By Miss Helena Gutteridge]

The object of the inauguration of a policy of retrenchment by the city council is somewhat difficult to understand, for never was there a time in the history of Vancouver when the need for the raising and expending of public money was more urgent than the present. Never was the need for the undertaking of public works by both civic and provincial authorities more pressing than it is to-day.

Report on City Relief.

The report of the City Relief Association shows that the number of applicants for assistance are increasing day by day. During the month of March, seventy-four new applications were received, from April the 1st to 30th inclusive one hundred and twenty-seven heads of families applied for relief, an increase of fifty over the previous month, while during the month of May a similar increase was noted.

Between eleven and twelve hundred families are being supported by the association, dontaining three thousand five hundred and sixty-seven children, making in all, the men their wives and children, a total of nearly six thousand adults and children dependent on the city relief because their father is unable to find employment.

In addition, the report of the Teachers' Relief Association reports one hundred and twenty-six families containing three hundred and sixty-five children entirely dependent on the funds of the association, with seventy-seven families containing one hundred and eighty-five children partially dependent. Some five hundred dollars' worth of children's boots were also distributed to children whose parents were utterly unable to supply them. Always the same story from the children, father out of work.

Many Applicants are Residents.

Many of the applicants who have recently applied for assistance, are men who have been resident in the city for a considerable period, and are, or would be if they could earn the money, tax payers. Most of them have waited and waited, sacrificing almost everything before applying for assistance, in the hope that the spring would see an improvement in the situation and that employment would be theirs during the summer months, also hoping that the work of the summer would enable them to face the distress of the coming winter. However conditions are no better now the spring is almost gone and the summer is upon us, and the inevitable distress of the winter will be here before there is time to prepare for it. Surely it is time for both the civic and provincial authorities to take advantage of the offer of the federal government, made a few months ago, to loan money to those provinces, municipalities and cities needing it to provide employment and alleviate distress.

Much of the work that could be arranged would be of such a nature that it could only be done during the fine weather, so now is the time to discuss ways and means if there is to be any benefit for those who need it before winter and more cruel want appears.

Short Sighted City Council.

The action of a majority of the city council voting down the motion to submit to the people the building of a $200,000 city hall by-law, in view of existing circumstances, is curious and to some people a rather short-sighted policy.

Suppose the additional taxation, if the by-law should pass, does fall most heavily on the big property owners, they are comparatively few, also they are big property owners because the population, chiefly of the working class, has so increased the value of their original real estate investments as to enable them to acquire more.

Should Build City Hall Now.

At a time like the present the greatest good for the greatest number should be paramount and not the saving of the pockets of a few big real estate owners. And after all the people should decide and not the aldermen.

A new city hall is absolutely necessary and will have to be built in the near future, therefore why not now when there is most urgent need to provide the work it would furnish to a number of men. It will be infinitely cheaper in the long run.

To pay wages to men for work done, work that must be done soon, those men in turn by spending such wages enabling other men and women to obtain work thereby, appears even to the most limited intelligence both cheaper and better all round policy than supporting the same men and their families through the city relief department.

Goes One Better Than B. C. Court.

A court of law cannot interfere with or review the action of a labor union which disciplines or expels a member for violating union rules, according to a decision rendered Wednesday at Seattle, by Superior Judge Ronald in nonsuiting the plaintiff in the case of Schultheiss vs. Amalgamated Sheet Metal Workers' Local Union, No. 99. G. A. Schultheiss filed charges that a fellow member was working in an unfair shop. The union tried and acquitted the member, then expelled Schultheiss from the union for bringing unfounded charges. Counsel for the union raised the point that Schultheiss could not go into court until he had appealed to the international union. The court went further and sustained the union's right to expel.

"Where the palaces are splendid there the fields will be waste and the granaries empty."—Chinese proverb.

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

FRIDAY ..... MAY 28, 1915

VANCOUVER TRADES and Labor council can boast of as lively and varied selection of critics as any similar body in Canada. The line of criticism is usually to the effect that the council does not accomplish as much as its critics would have it do. But of late, at any rate, the work of the council in trying to move the powers that be to action, which it is believed will be beneficial to the workers in these bad times, has not been without results. As the outcome of the deputation which visited Victoria last Saturday to interview the provincial government regarding unemployment in and around Vancouver, a conference called by acting-Premier Bowser will meet in the Board of Trade offices at 11 o'clock this morning.

THE TRADES COUNCIL'S BUSY WEEK

* * * *

The conference will consist of representatives from the city and surrounding municipalities, the Board of Trade, the Trades and Labor council, and other bodies concerned in the relief of the distress which prevails. The deputation which went to Victoria also asked for the removal from office of Chief Mine Inspector Graham, for his action at the recent inquest on the South Wellington victims, and there is good reason to believe that a result favorable to the council's request will ultimately be secured.

* * * *

The same committee also asked for the internment of the Austrian and German miners on Vancouver Island, with the full knowledge that they were late strike-breakers. The action of the government in this matter is already known. Last Tuesday night the committee visited the city council to ask that the by-law providing for the erection of a new city hall be submitted to the electors so that more work could be started up. In this quest they were not successful, but they were able to make some aldermen who profess a lot at election times come out and place themselves on record.

* * * *

At ten o'clock this morning the same body will interview Mr. H. H. Stevens, M. P., relative to the alleged proposal of the contractors for the new government elevator to bring men in from outside places—including, it is said, Minneapolis—to work on the erection of the elevator, while the city is already bursting with unemployed building tradesmen of all kinds. The captious critic, of course, will see no value in this work—chiefly for the reason that most likely he does not want to. But it goes to prove in some measure that the Trades and Labor council is at least doing its best in face of the appalling conditions which prevail, to stir things up as much as possible for the benefit of the workers.

A DEAD SET is being made in certain quarters in Vancouver against the money by-laws which are shortly to be submitted to the vote. The chief instigators of this organized opposition are big property owners who do not want the by-laws to pass. From the working class standpoint, it is more than desirable that they should passs. If they are sanctioned by the electorate, it will mean at least a little more work for some of the unemployed in the city, very many of whom are rate-payers.

SUPPORT THESE BY-LAWS

* * * *

But if they are to be passed it will be necessary for all workmen who feel sufficiently interested, to use their utmost effort to bring about that result. The Trades and Labor council is aware of the strong effort which is being made in some quarters to defeat the by-laws, and it is believed that the leader of the opposition forces is none other than ex-Alderman Hepburn of parsimonious memory. If such is indeed the case, then that fact alone should be a satisfactory indication to all working men as to how they should act.

UNEMPLOYED WILL BE one of the star attractions provided by the city of San Francisco this exhibition year. In a little while, there will gather a great assemblage of persons interested in the Phenomenon of the Unemployed. It is not likely that any of them will be actual horrid examples of the disease. Indeed most of them will be in the nature of physicians—"practitioners" as the medical term puts it. But even so, it would not to be proper or seemly for garrulous minded or cynical persons, to imagine for one minute that they do not intend to make a most spectacular onslaught upon the monster. The gathering will consist of "expert economists," social reformers, good intentionists, and every hue and variety of "uplifter" that can be gathered from the four quarters of the United States of America. Admission will be free, and the hope that springs eternal in the human breast will be the keynote of the deliberations. Proletarian pessimists will be quite out of place, and it is to be hoped they will accept this, the only intimation.

IRRIGATION TO SOLVE UNEMPLOYED

* * * *

The gathering does not propose to start out with the idea that unemployment is anything chronic, or an industrial ailment which cannot be cured by intelligent treatment. On the other hand, it will commence its solemn task in the firm conviction that workless men and women are a local disorder which, with skilled understanding, can be effectually regulated in the interests both of those unemployed and the localities in which they may be. In the sagacious language of those responsible for organizing the conference. "It has long been suspected that if proper provision could be made for transferring the unemployed from the places where there is no demand for their labor, to places where there is, this apparently insoluble problem would be seen to be a simple question of supply and demand coupled with geographical considerations." In other words, labor, being one of the most fluid of commodities, all that is necessary is to make the right kind of pipes to convey it from one place to another. We must confess that the idea had never struck us before. It is so charmingly simple as to be simply charming.

* * * *

So all these Handy Andy's will gather together with one accord, with one mind, in one place, with convention ribbons in their button-holes, with fatuous faces all aglow with "up-lift," and will, with one mighty swipe, lay low the monster which has been haunting the dreams of the haves with the fearsome spectre of the havenots. It is a touching picture. But it does not touch the question before the house. Still the gathering will doubtless result in a most voluminous report, full of words which say nothing, and just chock full of resolutions covering everything from bimetallism to the domestic policy of the Peruvians. But it will not say in plain terms what is the solution of the problem of unemployment. That would disturb the festivities too much, even if the honesty and intelligence were there to do the job with—which is more than doubtfud. Indeed, in view of all the circumstances it is almost more than reasonable to expect it.

* * * *

Really, at bottom, this whole question is not one of whether a man has got a job or not. The thing which causes the trouble is that men must eat and be clothed and sheltered. The fact that they must have those things does not say they will get them. There are two other conditions to be considered. One is, that before a man can get those things he must have a job so as to be able to earn wages with which to buy his needs. The other is that he cannot give himself a job, nor can he claim one from society by right of being a member of it and a live human being.

* * * *

So far as the job itself is concerned a man could manage to patch along without it. But he has to have a job or starve, the question really resolves itself into how many jobs there are and how many there are who need jobs. There are far more men available than the needs of industry can absorb. If that were not so, there would not be so many thousand looking for jobs and unable to find them. Yet from the standpoint of industrial activity and output of finished product of all kinds, there is more of both in the world today than ever before.

* * * *

It is a matter of applied mechanics misapplied. Machinery has put workmen out of business. That would not matter very much providing, that side by side with the development of that condition the workmen had entered into possession of their new competitor and were thus able to enjoy its facile products, instead of being cast on to the industrial scrap heap like any other old old piece of machinery. But they did not. And the machine and its products belong to but a few; a process which goes forward with accelerating speed leaving behind it an ever growing number of men for whom there is no place in the present day scheme of things.

* * * *

The Solons who are to ponder over this at San Francisco may do all they feel inclined to in the way of labelling, and numbering and otherwise fiddling around with the unemployed. But the unemployed will still be there in just the same numbers when the wise ones get through. Of course they can devise schemes for the temporary relief of workless and starving men and women. But if such measures are to be looked upon as being more than temporary then the mistake of a thousand previous conferences of a similar kind will be repeated. The best they can do, if they have the brains to know how to do it and the honesty to say so, will be to confess in plain terms that the only solution of unemployed men and women is, to take the natural resources of the earth and the means whereby they are transformed into things necessary for the daily life of all men and women out of the possession of the few, and put them at the service of all who are able and willing to work in return for the social value of the things they produce with the skill of their hands and brains. But they won't do it.

THE RECENT INQUEST on the victims of the South Wellington mining disaster, causes the Nanaimo Herald, press champion, of the Vancouver island mine owners, to say:

"While it surprising that the Trades and Labor council should have accepted as correct the reports of the inquest published in the Vancouver papers, it is all to the good that a labor delegation should get at the real facts. The mine inspectors and the mines department have nothing to hide, and will welcome this opportunity of giving out the real truth of the business."

THE NANAIMO HERALD IS SURPRISED.

If Chief Inspector Graham's anxiety to give out the truth was exemplified in his reported action at the inquest, then the less credence put upon his unsupported word the better. Meantime it is evident from the government announcement that a royal commission under Judge Murphy will sift the affair, that there is a smell about the whole business which is too strenuous even for such seasoned nostrils as those of the government.

WHOLESALE INTERNMENT of Austrian and German miners on Vancouver Island, looked at from a working class standpoint, and in view of happenings over there during the past three years, really means internment of men who were imported by the mine owners to work as strike-breakers during the late miners' strike. They are entitled to no sympathy, and they will get none, from those who know the despicable part they have played in the defeat of men of their own class struggling against great odds to improve their working conditions.

WE SHOULD WORRY

* * * *

But the action of the provincial government in this matter need not cause anyone to gush with gratitude. It is due to two reasons. One is to curry favor with the island miners before the coming election. The other is that so abject and poverty stricken is the plight of most of the Brtish miners on the island, that the government has been obliged to give out some relief to keep them from actually dying—just that and no more. By interning the Austrian and German strike-breakers the government will not have to pay so much out in relief. It will not cost so much to keep the interned as it does to relieve others, and doubtless the federal government will pay a portion of the cost.

* * * *

Just while we are on this point, it is well worth while to remember that the strike-breakers were brought here with the full approval of the McBride government, as part of its policy of helping the mine owners to defeat the miners in their strike. From the moment they reached the island they were protected in all their comings and goings by the special police and thugs of the government. They were allowed to carry guns with the full knowledge of the government officials. Indeed, expressed in the wages of special policemen, McBride bought these strike-breakers at so much per head. They were paid for out of the public treasury of British Columbia, by the McBride government which found them excellent "allies" at that time.

DEPORTING RUSSIANS to their native country, because they are unemployed in Canada, contains a possiblilty which we believe the organized labor movement should keep a sharp eye out for. The danger which we see is, that the right of political asylum which exists for people of every nationality who happen to be in the British dominions, may be violated. In Canada, as in most other British countries, there are men who have fled from Russia to escape the rigorous punishment which the Czar's government visits upon those whom it chooses to find guilty of political offence. Among Russians deported from Canada, it might very likely be that there were some whom the Russian bureaucracy would be delighted to lay hands on.

THE RIGHT OF POLITICAL REFUGEES

* * * *

In such case it would be a fine thing for the organized labor movement to feel that through an oversight it had assisted to send a political refugee into the clutches of Russian bureaucracy and thence to Siberia. It is only a few years since the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada had to put up a very strong fight to prevent the extradition to Russia of a political refugee whom the Russian government wanted to get into its hands. This is something which should be closely watched, and if any Russian whom the Canadian authorities propose to deport wishes to stay here because he is a political refugee, he should receive all the support which organized labor in Canada can give him.

THE LOUNGER is the editor of a column of current comment in the Victoria "Week", a journal carefully attuned to the delicate sensibilities of the real estate nobility of that paradise of the remittance man. He has a most diverting capacity for handling life with a long pair of tongs, and it may be safely assumed, when his journalistic delvings bring him to a discovery not quite as pleasant as usual, that there is something in it if he feels called on to make comment upon it. Last week he felt constrained to mention the "war babies" and the discussion which is raging around their mothers in Britain.

WAR BABIES HERE TOO

* * * *

Apparently the subject has a distinctly local interest in Victoria since The Lounger says:

"I do not feel competent to speak at length, but knowing something of the conditions which prevail in Victoria, I venture to ask whether suitable provision is being made to deal with such cases here. I hear that there are hundreds, and it would be a reproach to Victoria if we lagged behind other parts of the Empire in meeting a condition which is a direct result of the war and which undoubtedly calls for the most intelligent and delicate of handling."

We confess that the boldness of The Lounger has given us the temerity to say, that unless rumor is a more lying jade than we feel we can suspect of any lady, the condition to which he alludes in Victoria is similar to that which prevails in Vancouver.

We are assured that the wicked will get their just deserts in the hereafter. Perhaps that is meant to be a sort of counter-balance to the suspicion which many people have that the good get it in the neck now.

The saying that revolutions come from the bottom is sometimes only half true. They are often inspired from the top which cannot get the job done without fooling the bottom into the idea that the result will be in its favor.

"Come on, you bull-necked, beetle-browed, hog-jowled, peanut-brained, weasel-eyed, four-flushers, false alarms and excess baggage!" Gentle reader, this is no booze fighter's closing hour challenge, so don't be alarmed. It is only Billy Sunday's latest exhortation to those who have strayed from the "straight and narrow."

A professional lecturer from New York recently came to Vancouver to speak to those who were willing to pay for the experience, on the subect of "The Destiny of Men and Nations." The entertainment was partly advertised by a poor, half starved and ragged man, carrying a board on a pole over his shoulder with the lecture title printed on it. Picture the poor wretch. Remember the title. The rest is easy.

"When you know that 25 per cent. of our population is actually starving, and we as aldermen take it upon ourselves to continue this state of affairs, we are doing an absolutely wrongful thing."

If a labor deputation had said that it would have been pooh poohed by the "best people" in the city. But it is true, and the fact that the chief magistrate of Vancouver said it this week should be sufficient to make some people think who do not usually indulge in such a luxury.

The following extract from the British "Labor Leader" of May 6th is not entirely devoid of a certain amount of interest which, in view of subseuent developments, may seems to some to be of a somewhat cynical flavor:

The press would have us believe that all Italy is clamoring for war. Yet, in two by-elections which took place last week at Bologna and Montecchio, the candidates of the Socialist party, which is opposed to intervention, were returned at the head of the poll.

We could say things. But this is an age of surprises. The philosophy of the cautious soul nowadays is "You never can tell."

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BROTHERHOOD OF BOILER MAKERS and Iron Ship Builders and Helpers of America, Vancouver Lodge No. 16. 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 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 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. —Meets room 301, Labor Temple, every Monday, 8 p. m. President, Sam. Cawley, 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.

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CAPITAL CITY UNION MEN HOLD BUSY SESSION

The Unemployed Situation Growing Worse—Need of Government Action

Karluck -Victims Left Uncared For By Federal Authorities

VICTORIA, May 20.—The Capital City central labor body held its regular session this evening, with president A. S. Wells in the chair. Reports of delegates from affiliated unions indicated that trade conditions were generally very bad. It was the concensus of opinion that some move would have to be made by the city council or the provincial government to remedy the situation, as the relief work going on at present scarcely touched the real needs of the unemployed calling for help.

Reports of Committees.

The dispute between the Longshoremen and Pile Drivers was reported as settled.

The committee having in hand the issues between the Engineers and Brewery Workers reported progress.

Plumbers and Steamfitters reported that they were still locked out.

A communication from the B.C. Federationist in re account was referred to the finance committee.

The delegates to the Island Development league reported that through being lucky enough to secure a job they had been unable to attend all the meetings called. They dealt with the report of Commissioner Cuthbert. One question, the city clearing-up scheme, through which some work may come, was commented upon and the committee instructed to attend to, the report being accepted as one of progress.

The report from the delegate to the Labor Bureau was left over, pending further action by the city council.

The Ill-Fated Karluck.

Delegates Day and McMurtrie of the Plumbers' union brought up a matter of grave importance and urged that the matter be given all the prominence possible in their official paper, The Federationist. The ill-fated Karluck sailed from Victoria, with bunting flying, under the special favor of the government, the human freight receiving every attention at that time. Reports from time to time of the progress of this boat was watched with interest. When it was finally reported that the boat was lost and stories were told of the terrible conditions and sufferings of the officers and men, the public naturally expected that the government would do everything in its power in the way of sending out a rescue party, so that the victims might be restored to their respective homes, in consideration of their noble efforts. But instead some will never return, and in the case of a plumber named Chafe, after the sufferings he experienced in the Artic, he came back with the after-effects of a frozen foot. Not being able to secure proper attention at the time he at least expected that, after his lucky escape and return, that every attention and help would be given him. But it appears that the government officials, acting for the people, would rather have seen this unfortunate man lost with the rest, to save worry and expense. If the story told is half true the federal government in Canada will stand forever disgraced for its neglect to stand by and help the men saved and those still in the north. Strong feeling was expressed by several of the delegates and there was a determination evident that this particular case should not be neglected any longer. The motion was passed: That this central body of organized labor of Victoria, through the president and secretary, place the facts before the minister of fisheries, and copies be sent to Mr. Barnard, M. P.; also that it be brought to the notice of the president of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada requesting that immediate action be taken by that body.

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

From Parm's Potato Patch

At a Country Dance.

Wherever there are enough people to make a few couples, living within easy distance of each other, you are fairly sure to find a dance going on every now and then. Dancing is the oldest and still the most popular form of amusement. It is also the most natural, the tendency to dance having grown right up along with us ever since we began to regard polly-wogs as our social inferiors.

The country-bred young man who would be deterred from "taking in" a dance because it was twenty miles away, would be adjudged incompetent to battle with the world. Of course there are exceptions. Some people would regard a young man who would do such a thing as not only foolish but sinful. These mental rheumatics are mostly adherents of the Methodist church. They at one time not only regarded it as wrong to dance but also to smile on the Sabbath.

The heads of that church have recently, however, decided that this is a matter for the individual conscience. All the healthy young individual consciences became immediately filled up with great glee and carried their owners off to the nearest dance. To prove how natural it is to dance, most of these young Methodists already knew how, and of course they could not possibly have learned when it was forbidden.

I once went to a dance in the country myself, merely for the purpose of looking on, my education not having fitted me to take part. To keep from being too conspicuous, I hunted up the oldest man in the party and engaged him in conversation.

"Hello, John," I remarked, "your spuds up?"

"Sure," said John, "We'll be eatin' 'em pretty soon, if we get some more rain. Ain't you going to dance?"

"Not me. Can't do it. Like to, though, that fiddle makes my feet itchy."

"Young feller like you should be at it. When I was your age we used to hit 'er up till six o'clock. Dances now ain't like they was—sometimes they bust up here at two, just when they oughta be gettin' warmed up. Now, what you wanta do is jump right in and go to her. You'll soon get on to it. All you need is a little courage. Look at Herman there. Two weeks ago he couldn't dance a step. Now he's up every dance."

I looked at Herman, and decided that Herman's courage might be construed as infernal nerve in some places. Still, it seemed that it would be impossible for an average person to be any more awkward, and I almost plunged. But no, timidity came uppermost and I finally decided to hang around till refreshments were served, then go home. Just then the floor manager shouted:

"Ladies' choice for a two-step."

To my utter horror there immediately appeared before me a plump lassie who sweetly inquired: "May I have the pleasure of this dance?" Too shattered for words, I rose unsteadily and bowed.

I explained that not having danced for some time, she must excuse me for any awkwardness. "All you have to do is follow the music," she kindly replied. Then the fiddler struck up and we started. That is, she did, I merely went. At first it seemed easy to sway rhythmically to the notes that streamed from the violin. In fact the swaying part was alright, but something seemed to stampede both my feet, so that they surged wildly about entirely at variance with any desire on my part.

"You are stepping on my toes," pleasantly observed the young lady. Although this was not my fault, I being firmly attached to two uncontrollable appendages which had suddenly grown to prodigious proportions, I murmured a gentle apology.

However, making a tremendous effort of will, I succeeded in drawing the feet back out of danger. Then they stuck out so far behind that a passing couple promptly fell over them. The young man, who was six feet three and had spent much of his life at exercise in the open, rose and glared at me with defiance. But that was no place for a scene so I let him glare. If I ever catch him outside though, it will be through my lack of vigilance.

My blood now rose. Seizing my partner firmly around the waist I made a violent stride forward, not noticing, in the excitement of the moment, a stout lady just ahead. Not being a good dancer, she could not get out of the way, so I flew to her bosom, losing my partner in the impact. Making a nice bank, I went from there, caromed off the stove and pocketed myself neatly in the water bucket.

Dancing is an art, but the successful dancer always knows when to go home. That is the way it is with me. On my way out the old man said: "There's nothing like trying. Better get in the next quadrille." I was raised well, and taught never to be uncivil, so made no reply, but took my lonely way, pondering over the frivolities of the young. That partner I have never seen since. One thing now is certain, anyhow. I shall be forever safe during "ladies' choice."

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. ***

May Interest Some Workers.

An order-in-council has been presented by the government protecting homesteaders who have gone to the front, by remitting their homestead dues during their absence. By this order a homesteader, whether he is an alien or a British subject by birth or naturalization, on active service, and, who for this reason or by reason of illness is unable to resume operation of his homestead or complete his conditions of entry, will be relieved from such condition. In the event of his death, similar relief will be granted to his legal representatives.

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VANCOUVER, B. C.

ROYAL CITY LABOR COUNCIL HELD SESSION

Reports of Unions Show No Change in Employment Problem

Will Make Vigorous Protest Against Civic Reduction In Wages

NEW WESTMINSTER, May 26.—At the last regular meeting of the Royal City central labor body, with President Cropley presiding, routine matters occupied the attention of the delegates. Del. Kempf, Brewery Workers, was obligated and seated.

A communication from Westminster Trust company was referred to chairman of campaign committee; from secretary to W. J. Bowser, received and filed; from Hon. W. J. Bowser, saying he was not sure what date he could give New Westminster for address on Workmen's Compensation act; received and secretary instructed to write for date.

Reports.

Del. Cropley said that no deputation turned up at the city council meeting to protest against relief work as general work. An executive meeting decided to call a public meeting to consider the matter. Report received.

Reports From Unions.

Typos—Same as usual. Bartenders—No change. Plumbers—Quiet. Cigarmakers—Five or six working in city; took in one new member. Street Railway Employees—No change whatever; still working short time; about half working. Barbers—About same. Engineers—No change. Moulders—About the same.

New Business.

President Cropley said that everything had been done to keep up wages of municipal employees and municipalities should be the last to cut wages, not the first. It was moved that a public meeting be called to protest to the city council against regular contract work being done as relief work. Del. Dodd did not believe it advisable to call a public meeting and he told how all aldermen and the mayor had endorsed the $3 a day wage outright or inferentially. Since election some aldermen, notably Goulet, seemed to favor cutting down wages. He told of the Bitulithic company deal which would result in a saving of only 60c to 75c per year for a 60-foot front lot, while it meant a loss of 60c per day to the laborer, which he thought was more important than the saving to the property holder. He moved an amendemnt that the Trades and Labor council appoint a committee to visit the city council and protest against the doing of contract work as relief work. Amendment carried. Dels. Yates, Knudsen, Cropley and Parlett were selected as the committee. A motion that former Del. Cameron be placed on the committee as business agent was ruled out of order.

Resolution of Condolence.

Del. Dodd moved that a resolution of condolence be drafted and spread on the minutes relative to the demise of ex-Delegate P. McKercher and as many as possible attend the funeral. Carried. Del. Maiden reported that Col. J. D. Taylor, M.P., had informed him that the authorities at Ottawa knew nothing about any demand for mechanics in this country to go to the Old Country, but since that information had been imparted it had been announced that a representative of the British government was on his way to Canada to hire machinists to work on war munition production.

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(Northwestern League, 1915)
Vancouver vs. **Tacoma**
June 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

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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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LETTERS TO THE FED.

Re Proposed By-Laws.

Editor B. C. Federationist: With your permission I wish to bring out for the ratepayers some points in connection with the proposed money by-laws to be submitted to the electors and the refusal of some of the aldermen to send others to the ratepayers.

Of the $700,000 of by-laws to be submitted only about $200,000 is for new work to be undertaken, the balance being to cover overdrafts for work done under previous by-laws—raising a dead horse I call it.

On general principles there is no valid reason for refusing to send money by-laws to the electors.

Those aldermen who are taking that position are either themselves large taxpayers or under the influence of those who are. Their argument that this is not an opportune time for borrowing money and so adding to the tax burdens of the city is not reasonable. The European countries at war are heaping up enormous burdens which will have to be borne by posterity and the only result of this debt is destruction and death. Here we are asking that these by-laws be submitted and carried in order to provide work and livelihood for our own people.

Since last Octber hundreds of men have been on half time, they will be on half time all summer and next fall their position will be desperate. The building of the city hall would not only relieve the lot of many working men in the city but it would give an impetus to other work in the building trade which just now is stagnant. Furthermore it would be creating a very much needed improvement in the city. The old city hall is and has been a disgrace to Vancouver for many years and it cannot but give the impression to visitors and others that Vancouver is poverty stricken and down at the heel when the civic offices and council are housed in a place not fit in some respects to make a decent hog pen.

It is significant that west end aldermen always vote against any proposal to improve the city hall. For years the west end councilmen here have consistently voted down city hall improvements and the charge that they vote on sectional grounds cannot be denied.

Let the aldermen and ratepayers take a broad view and a farsighted stand on these matters. Let us look ahead to the ultimate good of the city. Surely the aldermen can trust the ratepayers to vote in their own interests. I cannot see how aldermen in the council are going to justify their action in refusing to allow these by-laws, especially the city hall, to be voted upon by the electors. In the last analysis the ratepayers and not the aldermen are the responsible element and they have the right to say whether or not money shall be expended. As matters stand now some of the aldermen seem to think the ratepayers are not responsible or that they are children and should not be trusted to vote on the expenditure of their own money. I would like to know what pressure is being exerted upon these aldermen to induce them to prevent the electors from expressing their will on this matter. What explanation will these aldermen have to give their constituents when they are faced with votes in council next January?

JOHN SULLY.

Vancouver, B. C., May 27, 1915.

Union men should stick to the street railway men who wear their union button.

Abandon May 1st Celebration.

The London, England, "First of May Celebration committee" had tabled a resolution for their Hyde Park demonstration sending fraternal greetings to their socialist and trade unionist comrades throughout the world, declaring that the workers of Europe have no quarrel with one another, calling upon the workers to concentrate on the demand that the war shall be brought to a speedy conclusion on such terms of peace as will prevent the repetition of so disastrous a crime against humanity urging the establishment of a United State of Europe on democratic lines as the only way to put an end to the present ruinous forms of militarism, and emphatically protesting against the action of the Russian government for imprisoning socialist members of the Duma and banishing trade unionists to Siberia. The Commissioner of Police, however, refused to allow the last clause to be submitted to the meeting and the committee, rather than consent to the deletion, abandoned the procession and demonstration.

Holland Protest Food Prices.

On Sunday, April 25, the social democratic party of Holland, held enormous demonstrations to protest against the rise in the cost of living and to demand government intervention. In Rotterdam alone four of the largest halls were crowded by representatives of 120,000 workers. The day before the meetings were held the government agreed to take over the supply of bread, but the socialists are demanding state control of the entire food suply.

Just So!

For every woman who is protected by an eight-hour day, there are a thousand men so protected. Does anyone doubt the value of a vote?—Mrs. Raymond Robins, President National Women's Trade Union League.

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PRAYERS FOR ALL MOTORMEN AND CONDUCTORS

Street Railwaymen's Press Correspondent Asks Assorted Mercy.

Evils Of The Flesh Endured By Those Beneath The Trolley Pole

Spare us, good Lord from cracked and muffled gongs, greasy rails and windows, slack brakes, flat wheels, empty sand boxes, plugged ditto, automotoneers that slip, stick and wobble; short bells, loud bells, noisy circuit breakers and buzzers, stools with slivers, no stools at all, blunt and bent switch irons, short circuits, bum doors, steps, fenders, index and dash signs, signs of fog, snow, sleet and rain; from broken windows and draughty vestibules.

Protect us from point policemen who never point, and from those who feign deafness and blindness, from cranks who borrow our lead pencils to write down our numbers, and from pedestrians who wander aimlessly, and from boobs bravado who want to know how it feels to get knocked down, from those who chase their headgear, and little children who have only the streets left them in which to play.

Spare us from those who want a car but keep it a secret, and others who hail us and then go for a hair cut, cyclists who hang on to the sides of our car, from quadrupes which love the chase, dogs in distress which linger on the track and (stoop to conquer) whilst we rapidly approach, from autos that turn, shoot, perform and stop suddenly across our front, weary stragglers from the day's toil at connecting points, from freight trains a mile long, insulators on steep hills, electric switches that fool us, from a mud bath at a switch, and milk men who trust to their horse's sagacity to steer a safe course whilst they deliver the goods a block away: Rigs left at an angle on the track, undertaker's rigs with their inanimate freight in the dead o' night. Protect us from all and sundry rigs which carry no lights and from rigs with altogether too d———d much; automobile's blinding glare one behind the other from Broadway to False Creek (darnthe-smells.)

Protect us from electric pole lights that spit and splutter, spare us from the drunks who sit and carouse in our path, from narrow escapes and close shaves. Forgive us for being human.

To All Conductors.

Pray for the motormen who start on series and stop on emergency, and those who knock the trolley off and coast too much; that run late and erratic, that stop the car twice a minute for pedestrians who just walk around the back and disappear, spare us from he who whacks his gong to start before he has stopped, from the one bell nuisance, stiff trolleys, broken ropes, reversible seats, windows that won't shut, baby carriages and other heavy freight, lap dogs as big as the owner.

From those who take our number for not seeing them in a maze of traffic; half smoked political cigars, the peanut fiend and he who expectorates and resteth his feet on his neighbor. Spare us from the booze stained breath of some, for we become reminiscent and thirsty; the ten and twenty dollar bill, and free ride artist.

From rear platform orators who walk on our feet and insist on telling the life's history of their great grandmother's aunt. See to it that street names are not changed over night. Deliver us from the persons who play with the air valves and blow the sand away; fool questions, ten and twenty minutes hunt for a lost nickel.

Lost articles we do not find. Spare us from much more book-keeping, clerking and counting, from accident reports, love letters, bulletins on discipline and rules we have, as inconoclasts, broken; from repeated visits to the traffic superintendent and his deputies. From less than $40 a pay and the 8th and 23rd falling on a Bank Holiday, non-union cigars that are made to give away and not to smoke.

Also spare us from the query, "Were you up to the last union meeting?" "What was doing, etc?" Attend the Temple which is within the gates of thy city thou "scally-wags" or at the next agreement thou may'st be smitten hip and thigh.

Deliver us into the barn in safety and spare us from anymore of this brand of humor; Thou knowest that outside of this the job's alright.

T. C.

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!"

Something Else Sherman Said.

I confess without shame that I am tired and sick of the war. Its glory is all moonshine. Even success, the most brilliant is over dead and mangled bodies, the anguish and lamentations of distant families appealing to me for missing sons, husbands, and fathers.—General Sherman.

Unusual.

A British officer inspecting sentries guarding the line in Flanders came across a raw-looking yeoman.

"What are you here for?" he asked.

"To report anything unusual, sir."

"What would you call unusual?"

"I dunno exactly, sir."

"What would you do if you saw five battleships steaming across that field yonder?"

"Sign the pledge, sir."

Little Willie—Say, pa, why do they always have a bandage over the eyes of Justice?

Pa—Probably because the lawyers have talked the poor woman blind, my son.

Unfair to Musicians.

Bijou, Broadway, Cedar Cottage, Colonial, Crystal, Fairmont, Fairview, Family, Kitsilano, Majestic, National, Princess, Rex, Star. Cafes: Astor, Lotus, Travellers.

Lots of people would get a good send-off if we were sure they would never come back.

MOTHER JONES TESTIFIES.

Commission On Industrial Relation Hears Some Home Truths.

"I reside where there is a good fight against wrong—all over the country. Wherever the workers are fighting the robbers I go there."

This was the opening statement of "Mother" Jones before the Federal Commission on Industrial Relations last week. More than eighty years of age, "Mother" Jones displayed remarkable vigor, and was permitted to tell her story in her own way, beginning with the part she played in the Pennsylvania Railroad strike of 1877, when she was in Pittsburgh.

"The lawless element that had gathered in Pittsburgh following the panic of 1873, combined with business men who had a hatred for the Pennsylvania Railroad, were responsible for the violence which occurred in that strike," she said, banging the table vigorously with her clenched fist.

The conduct of the military authorities during the West Virginia strike of 1913 was roundly denounced by the witness, who told of her own imprisonment for three months. In this connection she paid her respects to Judge Goff, saying:

"Old Judge Goff—he is a good enough man in a way—told them I was kept in a nice boarding house. The trouble with him is that he has been dead forty years and does not know it. Maybe that's why he was sent to the Senate.

She told of the sentencing of fifty strikers to ten years during the West Virginia strike.

"The morning after we held a mass meeting in Washington, attended by Senators and Representatives, the doors of the prison were thrown open and these men turned loose," she shouted with flashing eyes. "If that is law, God help us!"

In all her experience with strikes she had seen little violence before the coming of the militia, or, in the case of Pennsylvania, the constabulary, and said she always counselled peace. Telling of her arrest in Trinidad, Col., during the recent strike, she said:

"There were 150 cavaly, 150 infantry and 150 gunmen of the Standard Oil, and they came to arrest an old woman of eighty years. After that, you Americans ought to be placed in nurseries for ten years and fed from bottles."

"SAFETY FIRST"

The more you insist upon carefulness on the part of others, as well as exercising it yourself, the safer it will be for all.

Did you ever stop to think of the great amount of hardship, suffering and sorrow that will be eliminated when every employee takes up safety work earnestly and persistently.

Look for unsafe practices. Be on the alert. Get the safety habit. Practice it every minute. Be a minute man of safety.

Boards with nails sticking up in them must not be left lying around.

Don't work with defective tools having battered heads or loose handles. A chip may break off the head and put out your eye—unless you are wearing goggles. Don't work so close to other men that they will strike you with their picks or shovels. Use a chisel with a handle when chipping so that sledge cannot strike your hand. An ounce of prevention is worth many pounds of cure.

Men who wish to avoid accidents will guide themselves in their daily work by the hints to prevent accidents wherein many men have been injured. It is the wise man who profits by the experience of others, as experience is a dear teacher.

Election Campaign Fund.

Miss Helena Gutteridge, secretary-treasurer of Vancouver Trades and Labor council, wishes to acknowledge through The Federationist the receipt of $12.50 collected by Mr. H. Blazier, of the Street Railway Men's union, as a contribution to the provincial election campaign fund.

A "graft" war between local aldermen is a reproach upon a peaceful community. It is a distressing exhibition. It is setting a bad exabple to the young. How are citizens in the lower walks of life to respect and reverence the municipal authorities when the aldermen who should live together in peace and amity are bandying epithets, discrediting one another's intelligence and exposing the low state of their civic righteousness?

German Unionists in War.

Secretary Jochade, of the International Transport Workers' Federation, is authority for the statement that on the whole 34.1 per cent of all the trade unionists in Germany have been enrolled in the army.

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Crisco.—Regular price, 35c, only 30c
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Strawberries—Large local juicy berries, only, box.....10c.
Oranges—Nice new Valencias, just arrived direct, dozen.....20c.
Lemons—New crop, Reg. 30c dozen, 18 for .....25c.
Potatoes—Chilliwack Highland, half sack.....45c.
Cabbage—New California, hard and fine, per lb..... 6c.
Onions—Large fine stock, lb.....2c.
Bananas—Large fat fruit, doz...20c
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FULTON NO. 416—Go-cart, 10-inch rubber tired wheels, nickeled mud-guards, padded seat and back. Price $10.90

FULTON NO. 423—Go-cart with 10-inch wheels, nickeled push bar and mudguards, padded seat and back; rambler hood. Price $14.50

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These sulkies are the ideal two-wheel cart for children. They are without exception, the strongest and most stylish sulkies on the market—distinctively so. With the full knowledge of the import of our words we say that these sulkies have no near competitors at the price.

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NO. 130—Fully collapsible two-wheel sulky with foot well, curb wheel and mud guards. Price $5.90
NO. 132—With upholstered seat and back Price.....$6.90
NO. 131—Upholstered seat and back, with hood. Price.....$7.90

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Provincial Election Manifesto

Adopted by Vancouver T.&L. Council

The condition of the working class in British Columbia has been getting steadily worse for the past five years. To-day it is a hard struggle for thousands of citizens to get mere bread and butter. Industrial activity is at a very low ebb, and the labor market is glutted with workless men reduced to the indignity of accepting food at the hands of civic charity. The organized labor movement has spent a great deal of time and money during recent years in gathering from time to time to consider the industrial and domestic circumstances under which the working class of the province works and lives. Out of those meetings has come the conviction that laws should be enacted by the provincial parliament, which would improve the working and living conditions, not only of those who are actually members of labor unions, but the whole working class and citizens generally. Legislation of this kind has been repeatedly asked for by organized labor, and just as repeatedly has it been refused by the government. Many strikes have taken place. Some of them have been long and bitter. The industrial power of the workers has been tested to the limit of men and money. But alone, and unassisted by sufficient political prestige, it has failed to accomplish the work of securing the redress which it sought. Out of all this experience, has come the opinion that labor must organize its political power, to supplement its industrial influence, by electing working class members pledged to the task of securing in the provincial Legislature the passage of those laws which labor is convinced would be to the interest of the whole of the working class population.

Liberals, like Conservatives, stand for the corporate ownership, and exploitation of natural resources, by the wage labor of the workers for the sake of profit to be derived from it. Their party programmes contain no plan for the transference of the ownership of industry from corporate hands to public control. Vancouver Trades and Labor Council has placed candidates in the field for the coming provincial elections. Chief among the laws which will be sought through its representatives, if they are elected, are the following:

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION

A Workman's Compensation Act based upon the principle of state taxation of industries according to the risk involved in them. The revenue thus derived to be paid out by a state commission in the form of definite awards to injured workmen according to the gravity of the injuries sustained. Legal fees, along with the vexatious delays and uncertainty of litigation, would be eliminated. The late government brought down such a proposed act at the close of the last session and laid it on the table for one year. It contains many faults from a working class viewpoint. Moreover there is no guarantee that it will be passed in any form without adequate working class representation in the next parliament. At the present moment it is no more than a scheme of the Conservatives to secure the working class vote.

ABOLISH ELECTION DEPOSITS.

The abolition of the $100 deposit which must at present be put up for every candidate nominated for election will be fought for.

ADULT SUFFRAGE.

Adult Suffrage for both sexes in provincial elections.

WAGES IN LEGAL TENDER.

A law making it compulsory for all employers to pay wages in legal tender instead of cheque, time slips, etc.

BI-MONTHLY PAY DAYS.

The payment of wages in all industries at intervals of not more than two weeks.

EIGHT-HOUR DAY.

Legislation providing for the eight-hour day in all industries, and a maximum working week of not more than six days.

IMMIGRATION SUBSIDIES

The abolition of the practice of granting government subsidies to immigration concerns.

THE LAND QUESTION.

An expert investigation of the records of the Department of Lands. The subsequent expropriation of lands fraudulently held. Better facilities for pre-emptors, and long-term government loans, at low interest, for those desirous of acquiring small holdings.

FREE TEXT BOOKS.

The free provision by the government of school text books in all grades of public schools.

THE UNEMPLOYED.

The establishment of a comprehensive government scheme of productive public work for the relief of the unemployed at a minimum wage of $3.00 per day of eight hours.

The parliamentary work of candidates, if elected, will be directed, first of all, to the task of securing legislation dealing with the foregoing matters. They will also be required from time to time to present the claims and demands of the working class on all current questions affecting its interests.