

PERTINENT PROPER WANTS TO KNOW ABOUT THESE

Where Did Asquith Get the "Pledge of Honor" From?

Biographical Sketches of the Personnel of the Holy Trinity

[By W. M. C.]
Conscription, partial conscription of the "single slackers," may be considered an accomplished fact in Britain; and what a howl of joy from the Miller-George-Carson-Northcliffe combination!

Took It for Granted.

There was very little pretence made that Derby's "voluntary" scheme had fallen flat, or that there was an actual shortage of the necessary material to fill the gaps at the front, or provide for contingencies; but a "pledge of honor" had to be fulfilled, and there you are! Who gave the premier permission to make this "pledge of honor" history recordeth not, nor can it be found in the pages of Hansard; but the pledged truth is a sacred thing, much more than the ten commandments.

About Industrial Conscription.

Assertions have been made by disreputable labor leaders and journalists that the main idea is to procure industrial conscription, and thus put all labor opposition to the profiteering pilfering of the patriots down and out for the count; but, of course, no sane person would believe such calumny of our worthy pilots of the ship of state. Have they not denied the allegations, and as the Irishman put it, proved the "allegators" bosom friends of Judas and Ananias? Well, we shall see what we shall see.

The Precious Trinity.

A brief synopsis of the Miller-George-Carson-Northcliffe combination may elucidate much to those personally unacquainted with the gentlemen. Miller, born in Germany, was the organizer of the South African campaign against small nationalities. George is the defender of liberty by and through the insurance and munitions acts. Carson is the modern St. Patrick of the Emerald Isle, whose incantations are guaranteed to charm the snakes of the Vatican from the land of the Shamrock; and is the associate of those who declared they were in negotiation with the German emperor during the Ulster campaign.

A Few Opinions Expressed.

Saturday Review, 21st Aug., 1915: "National service is required as much for the effect it will have upon miners and munitions, as for the part it will play in the actual raising of armies."
Spectator, 28th Aug., 1915: "Not every man will be wanted as a soldier, but all will be 'fetched' to do what is wanted of them, whether in work shops, or government departments, or mines, or merchant ships."
Lieut. Col. W. H. Maxwell, in the Outlook, Sept., 1915: "Trade unionism—that lecher for slinking shirkers—is impeding our existence, and by its action a rot of our national soul has set in. One remedy, and one alone, can eradicate this state of rot—martial law will cure it."
"Our national soul" sure needs saving!

A Typographical Error.

The press now reports that the "Welsh rarebit" is now campaigning for the "dilution of labor." This is apparently a case of "printer's pie." Should be "Delusion of labor."

Certain leading financiers and bankers have issued a statement declaring that the one thing now needed to finish the war is money. Very well, since the "worst has now come to the worst," with a heavy heart we submit to the conscription of wealth.

While there have been many casualties among the lives lent to the state, there have been no casualties among the sums of money lent to the state. In fact, they were exceeding fat with the progress of time and maturity.
Says the London Times, in relating the capture of Kum, in Persia, by the Russians, it is a place where "the population is much addicted to bigotry." Ottawa, we are pleased to say, has escaped capture so far.
Working for a "dead horse" is a labor of love compared with working for a total imaginary horse, and never getting out of debt.
The more the capitalist can cut down the cost of production and the higher he can raise the selling price of his commodities, the greater is the profit. Their business ideal, therefore, is "nothing at all" to the worker.

MACHINISTS FORGING AHEAD

Toronto Joins the Big Procession for Shorter Hours and Longer Pay.

The International Association of Machinists in Toronto is in a position to enforce the fifty-hour work week, and the union rate of wages, says the banner. Already fifty-three local establishments have conceded the shorter workday, and will pay the recognized union rate of wages.
During the past week four of the most important firms in the city were signed up, and in two cases the men had decided to lay down their tools on the following morning if their demands were not complied with.

A. S. Wells to New York.

Secretary-treasurer A. S. Wells, of the B. C. Federation of Labor, has gone to New York in connection with the affairs of the Amalgamated Society section of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners.



W. YATES
Secretary of New Westminster Trades and Labor Council and a delegate from the Street Railway Employees' Union—Vice-president of B. C. Federation of Labor—Royal City representative of The B. C. Federationist.

GREATER UNIONISM PROGRESSES IN AUSTRALIA

Railway and Tramway Men Will Amalgamate in a Joint Union

Day of Craft Organization Is Fast Coming to Its Close

SYDNEY, N. S. W., Jan 14.—One more link in the chain of big unionism in Australia has been forged.

An important move has been made which will amalgamate the railway and tramway men of Australia into one union, each state becoming a branch with autonomous powers in its own local affairs, the whole to be governed by a council of representatives from each state, which will direct the policy of the union, with power to affiliate with other units of the big union movement.

Headquarters at Melbourne.

The headquarters for the present, at Melbourne, where for several days past delegates have been in conference drawing up the new constitution. The matter has to go to the members for a full vote on the matter, but I am empowered to say here that the verdict will be unanimous.

The only difficulty in the way is the several state arbitration awards, but it is hoped that soon these will be consolidated. At any rate the council is now in existence, and awaits only the mandate from the members, legal recognition and registration.

Ere long, it is safe to say, that every state railway and tramway man will be under the banner of big unionism.

Australian Craft Union Dead.

With this consummated it will take its place in the labor movement and by its power and influence speed the day when democracy shall strangle the octopus of capitalism that today holds the masses in its tentacles and deprives them of the fruit of their industry.

W. FRANCIS AHERN.

STREET RAILWAY EMPLOYEES

Pungent Paragraphs by Correspondent No. 101, A.-A. of S. and E. R. E.

Every week sees more enlistments from our ranks. One of the latest is W. Shankster, our bantamweight from the barn department, who has joined the D. C. O. E. as a bugler.

The names of the tailors who were successful in obtaining the contracts for making the uniforms for the next year will probably be announced in a few days.

No person can accuse the conductors of being too fresh any more. They have been standing in salt water ever since the beginning of the cold spell. Many of them are packing various kinds of mats around with them for use on the cars rather than stand several hours on the wet floor. If Foster's prediction regarding the weather this month turn out correct, it's a cinch that the division will have to provide several wroaths. Maybe the Vancouver Auto Club will supply us with rubber mats.

Month's Building Record.

The smallest month for building permits since the establishment of the civic building department is recorded for January this year. During the month only 18 permits were taken out and these were for repairs amounting in value to but \$915. In January, 1915, there were 49 permits issued for a total value of \$48,525.

LETTER CARRIERS OF VICTORIA ACTIVE

Ask Co-operation of Other Branches to Secure Better Conditions

Delegates Elected to Vancouver Convention Next August

VICTORIA, B. C., February 2.—The letter carriers of Victoria are asking the post office department for several improvements in the conditions of their employment. Loyal idealists as they are to a man, they do not intend to permit the interests of their members to suffer through any false sentiments on the point of citizens' duty or patriotism. The fact is that they feel that the better the legitimate interests and the obvious rights of the membership is protected, a higher conception of citizenship and patriotism is developed. This idea, having once taken hold, the Victoria branch association goes right ahead seeking to improve here and strengthen there, as the occasion may call for. Accordingly they are asking the department, through their federal executive, to grant holidays to the extra men now working in the various post offices throughout the Dominion, on the same conditions as the annual leave granted to the permanent carriers.

Every branch association will be communicated with on the subject, and asked to take such steps as seem best calculated to secure the object sought. It is suggested that the postmasters in the respective cities be asked to endorse the request to the department.

Want Priority System.

Another matter of Dominion-wide importance which the Victoria branch association is bringing to the attention of the department, through the federal executive, is the question of priority in appointments, etc. The carriers wish the department to adopt as a rule, a method somewhat along the following lines: Any vacancy among the permanent staff, or new position created by extension of the service, to be filled by the man who has been longest on the extra or waiting list. New appointees, usually recommended by the members of parliament, for their respective cities to be placed at the foot of the waiting list.

Election of Delegates.

The last meeting of the branch decided to ask for several items in the way of betterment, among which the two subjects referred to above are the more important. Election of delegates to attend the bi-annual convention of the Letter Carriers of the Dominion in the city of Vancouver, next August, resulted in the selection of A. J. Bird and Christian Sivertz, president and secretary respectively, with Bro. F. Holdridge and G. Pretty as alternates.

Six Terms as President.

Pres. Bird is a thrice-blessed man this season. In the first place, he was elected as president of the branch association for the sixth time. He was also elected a delegate to the general convention of the Federation for the second time, and just about the same day found himself in the very pleasant position of entertaining a blue-eyed young lady at his home, as a permanent boarder. Both are doing well.

TYPOS IN SESSION

Short, Lively Meeting Last Sunday with Good Attendance.

The regular meeting of Vancouver Typographical union was held on Sunday afternoon last. President Pettipiece was in the chair, and a good representation of the members was present. As only regular business was on the table, the meeting was a brief one—lasting only about forty-five minutes.

As evidence of the promptness with which the mortuary benefit of the International Typographical union is paid to the beneficiaries of its members by the head officers at Indianapolis, it is stated that within eleven days from the time the local officers received the documents proving death of the late Lieut. R. P. Latta, who was killed on active service in France, a cheque for \$400 was placed in the hands of the executors of his estate. The local union is paying the dues of all its members who may enlist for military duty, and is thereby guaranteeing to them and their families all the benefits of the organization.

Death of James Brown, Jr.

James Brown, the only son of "Jimmy" Brown, the well-known old-time member of the local Bricklayers' Union, died at his father's house, 1840 Sixth avenue west, last Tuesday. The cause of death was grippe. The deceased, who was only 24 years of age, was interred at Mountain View cemetery yesterday, members of the Bricklayers' union acting as pallbearers. "Jimmy" Brown is well-known throughout the local trade union movement, and the deepest sympathy is expressed for him in his bereavement.

JAS. H. McVETTY AT PEOPLE'S FORUM SUNDAY EVENING

Next Sunday evening in the Labor Temple, at 7:30 p.m., the regular meeting of the People's Forum will be held.

The speaker will be Mr. J. H. McVetty, president of Vancouver Trades and Labor Council, and of the British Columbia Federation of Labor.

The subject of his address will be "Workmen's Compensation." In view of the new Workmen's Compensation act, which is to be introduced at the coming session of the provincial legislature, this meeting has an especial interest for working men as being directly affected, and also for those who may not be included in its provisions, but are interested in it as a piece of legislation.

Mr. McVetty is considered in the labor movement as the leading authority on this kind of legislation, and all who wish to learn something or more about it should make a point of being present at this meeting.

VANCOUVER TRADES AND LABOR COUNCIL

Will Again Protest the Hotels Employing Asiatic Labor

Chinese Take Places of Island Miners Who Have Enlisted

From the standpoint of numbers present, last night's meeting of Vancouver Trades and Labor Council was not as large as the previous ones, at which the election of officers was the great attraction. But for lively and intelligent discussion, it was one of the best held recently.

New Officers Installed.

Owing to the lateness of the hour at which the previous meeting adjourned, the newly-elected officers were not installed, so this formality was made one of the first orders of business last night.

Executive Board Report.

An appeal from the Danbury hatmakers for financial assistance was reluctantly filed.

The American Federation of Labor wrote, pointing out that the war in Europe would likely entail some alterations in the maps of that continent, and in the text books used in schools. Organized labor was urged to get busy and see that the new maps and literature was printed under union conditions.

The same body also advised the strongest of protests against any attempt to repeal the Seaman's act, recently passed in the United States.

Standing Committees Appointed.

Delegates Pipes, Wight and McDonald were appointed auditors of the council's finances.

Delegates Sully, McVetty and Knowles will attend to organization work and grievances.

The parliamentary committee for the ensuing term is composed of the following delegates: Graham, Hardy, Sully, Davis, Pettipiece, Crawford, Brooks, Trotter, Grant and Burns. In addition to these, each union is entitled to send one delegate to the committee meetings, which take place on Wednesday night's previous to each council meeting.

City Council Reduces Salaries from Last Day Laborer to Mayor

[By W. Yates]
NEW WESTMINSTER, Feb. 1.—At the regular weekly meeting of the city council last night, the third and last reading was given to the salary reduction bylaw, which cuts all salaries paid by the city from the mayor down to the last day laborer. The original cut for laborers was a reduction from \$3 per day to \$2.40, but the only representative of the laboring men on the council, Alderman Dodd, succeeded in getting an amendment through making the rate \$2.50 per day. The mayor received a cut of \$400 per year and the aldermen \$100. The firemen were cut 10 per cent; the linemen, in the electric light department, were cut to \$4.10 per day, and everyone else got a cut that will put a considerable crimp in their pay cheque.

The "Commodity" Labor.

While most of the employers of labor these days are taking advantage of the congested condition of the labor market to reduce wages and thereby increase their profits, one hardly expected representatives administering the city's business to do likewise, especially at a time when the cost of living is going up day after day as it is in this city at present.

Living Cost Still Going Up.

The price of the best grades of flour is still going up, there being an advance of 40 cents in the last six days. Local wholesalers are quoting flour at \$7.50 as against \$6.50 last Nov. 30, a raise of \$1.00 in two months. Retailers have had to increase prices, the best patents selling from \$1.85 to \$2 per sack. Sugar has increased 15 cents per 100 lbs. in the last month, 18-D sacks now selling for \$1.55. New Zealand butter sells now at 47 1/2 to 50 cents and local creamery at 45 cents. Potatoes are going up, the price of Ashcroft's rising 25c last week, and they are now selling at \$1.50 for 100-lb. sack retail. Apples are selling at \$1.35 to \$2 per box and eggs at 50c per dozen. At the weekly market last week there was an advance in the wholesale price of nearly all meats and poultry.

Unemployment Increases.

The amount of unemployment in this city is probably worse now than it has been for the last ten years, in spite of the large number of enlistments, but this is partly accounted for by the mills being most all closed down by the heavy snowfall, but even then it is a good place to keep away from for any one in need of work.

Look! Votes for Women!

A mass meeting to celebrate the enfranchisement of the women of Manitoba, with Mrs. Bengough as principal speaker, will be held under the auspices of the United Suffrage societies, on the evening of February 8, at 8 p.m., in Lester Court, Davie street.

HOW THE WINTER WEATHER AFFECTS LOCAL WORKERS

The heavy snowfall has at least made it possible for many of the unemployed to secure a few days' work at all the extras around the B. C. E. R. car barns have been busy and traffic on the entire system has been maintained, with the assistance of these and ten snow plows. The plumbers and steam fitters are happy, even if Dad has to foot the bills. Physicians are working overtime. Building trades continue at a standstill. News printers fairly well employed. Metalliferous miners seem to be somewhat in demand. No coal miners needed, as Orientals are taking their places on Vancouver island. Despite the increase in enlistment for overseas service, the unemployed problem is increasing. Coal and wood has increased in price, and is mighty work at that. "Freemium" McBride's "condemners" abounds in plenty, but it takes a lot of it to make a meal.

Colossal Stupidity of the Past.

Most men are workmen. Workmen need not argue about war. They need only refuse to be used in war. That they are not yet prepared to refuse is altogether too obvious. It is quite possible that a carefully aimed emotional appeal would sweep the working classes even of the United States into whole-hearted support of an unjust war. Yet it is clear to all of us now, whether we are workmen or not, that the working people of Europe are doing themselves, collectively, ghastly harm, and that their possible gains from war, whether economic, political or moral, are at the most an infinitesimal fraction of their certain losses in all three of these ways. They even know this themselves, but they have been trained and organized in such a way that this knowledge is of no use to them.—San Francisco Bulletin.



JOSEPH HUBBLE
Ex-president and acting business agent of Pioneer Division, No. 101, of the Street Railway Employees' union, who also takes an active interest in the affairs of the central labor body.

PLENTY OF SAILORS IF CONDITIONS MERITED IT

Demands Same Freedom as the Other Workmen to Quit

Bus. Agent Burns Points Way to Solution of the Problem

Discussing editorially the question of building wooden or steel ships on the Pacific coast, a few days ago, the News-Advertiser concludes:

"The problem is to find the sailors. Able seamen and ordinary seamen may yet be found in large cities, but those now sailing before the mast are represented to be mostly derelicts. It will be part of the business of the directors or committee of the proposed British Columbia organization to consider the human element in the east."

Mr. W. S. Burns, local business agent of the Sailors' Union of the Pacific, threw some light on the subject when interviewed by The Federationist.

"As the News-Advertiser states, the problem is to find the sailors," said Mr. Burns. "It is the same problem that confronts every maritime nation today. The white man is leaving the sea, and his place is being taken by the Oriental."

Sailors Seek Freedom.

"Why? Because the sailor no longer wishes to be a slave. He wants to be as his fellowman ashore, free to quit his job if he does not like it; to be able to earn a wage that will keep him in the necessities of life, and to have a decent place to live in."

"Any seaman will tell you which he would sooner go in, sail or steam. The answer would usually be steam. His wages are usually a little higher and the work a little easier. It is usually through force of circumstances that they go in sailing ships and he stays no longer than he can help."

The Sweet Here and Now.

"We have sailors' homes and churches and everything else to look after his spiritual welfare, but nothing is ever thought of for his comfort while on earth. Give the sailor the same freedom as his fellowman enjoys."

"The United States has taken the first step in that direction, by passing and placing on the statute books a law declaring all men who sail on United States ships free men and giving them better accommodation, better food and many other improvements. The results will not be noticeable for a few years, but when it does, it will be seen that a better class of men will man their ships, either sail or steam."

The Solution.

"Canada can do no other than follow the example set by the United States, if she wishes to have a merchant marine. Make the sailor a free man, and the problem of where to find sailors will not exist for long."

BRICKLAYERS AFFILIATE

Their Entire Membership in Canada with Trades and Labor Congress.

The Bricklayers, Masons and Plasterers' International Union of North America has voted to affiliate its membership in Canada with the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada. This action was taken at the Toronto convention last week, after the large delegation had been addressed by Mr. James Simpson on behalf of the Congress. According to Business Agent Dagnall, the affiliation will mean an addition of some 8000 to the membership of the Congress.

Australian Typos Amalgamate.

The printers of Australia have decided to link into one national union, and do away with the state sectional crafts as they have existed. It is to be known under the name of the National Union of Printers.

A provisional council has been appointed to carry out the necessary details, and the first meeting of the new body is set down to take place at Sydney early in 1916. Prior to this date the various bodies have never been an effective organization, but merely a loose affiliation of various unions.

Railroads and Electricity.

In the annual report of the United States bureau of mines prediction is made that the railroads of the country will be operated by electricity during the present generation. It is stated that the power to create the electricity will be obtained from gigantic plants at big coal mines.

LABOR'S EFFORT IN PRINCE RUPERT ELECTIONS

Still in Possession of Militant Minority on the Civic Board

The Central Labor Body Re-Elects Most of the Old Officers

PRINCE RUPERT, Feb. 1.—As a commentary on the recent municipal elections, which changed the personnel of the civic board, placing Labor's representatives on opposition benches, using the phrase in the sense that Labor's representatives are in the minority. Prior to the election the labor men believed, and still believe, that the policies which they advocated were superior in quality and more conducive to the well-being of the city than anything their opponents could marshal in opposition. For in truth the total absence of criticism on the part of the coalition administration, now in power, was proof conclusive that the business ascumen, in which they claimed monopoly, could not detect any flaw in the late administration, controlled, as they stated, by "a bunch of insignificant working men." Neither could they advance reasons that a change of administration was desirable. Hence their reasons must be sought in the underground workings to which it would not be desirable to call on the dear elector to sample the concoctions prepared until they were safely consumed in office.

Forwarded—Forwarded!

It would not have been good politics prior to the election, to have told the public they intended to make changes in the administration of the public market, with the hope that the medicine they had so carefully prepared would so cripple that institution that it would not survive the dose, thus leaving the field clear to demand whatever price they care to ask.

Neither would it have been conducive in securing their election to office, if they had frankly intimated to the horny-handed son of toil their plan of attachment, to reduce the wages of city employees, as is contemplated in the light department.

Decided on a Change.

But a majority of the electors decided that a change was necessary, and they were only fooled in one particular. They expected that the services of the gentlemen elected were going to be given free gratis, in the interests of the city; but the benevolent public spirited gentlemen in question decided at a recent meeting that the impression was entirely incorrect and felt deeply aggrieved that such an impression should have gone forth, as they intended doing business at the old rates.

Merely Strategic Retirement.

In the minds of some of Labor's more vindictive opponents, with especial reference to the activities of members comprising the Trades and Labor Council, giving vent to their high glee at what they consider Labor's crushing defeat, which, in choiceness of language, is described as the blow quinquies—the solar plexus wallop.

It is to be regretted that the Labor movement does not make a very well-behaved corpse. To be fashionable we could say, with the military leaders of the day, that we had accomplished "a strategic retirement," but that would be expressing so much puff.

However disquieting it may be to those who have entertained these day dreams of Labor's demise, we again announce that we are still very much alive, with all the vitality of Kilkenny cats, refusing to leave this mundane sphere, however harrowing it may be to that estimable aggregation who insist that we indulge in a respectable burial.

Trades and Labor Council Meets

A good live aggregation of delegates assembled at the Carpenters' hall at the semi-monthly meeting of the Trades and Labor Council. President Macdonald presided, with all officers present. The regular routine of business was speedily attended to, the bulk of the evening being turned over to the election of officers for the ensuing term. Matters pertaining to the city market were discussed, along with proposed changes contemplated by the new administration at the city hall, re the proposed reductions affecting the engineers employed in the light department. Plans were approved to meet the contemplated changes. Upon motion the last meeting night of each month will be set aside on lines suggestive of a public forum. Ald. Casey paid the council a visit, addressing them in his own appropriate way on matters of general interest. Ald. Barrie, the new Labor representative, thanked the council for their support rendered him in securing his election. The balloting for officers resulted in most of the old officers being re-elected: President, S. D. Macdonald; vice-president, Dan. McLean; recording secretary, Wm. Thompson; financial secretary, Anderson; treasurer, G. Rodderham; legislative committee, Dels. Anderson, McLean, Denning; press committee, Dels. Denning and Thorloffe.

REID GOT FIFTEEN MONTHS

Alberta Socialist, ex-Soldier, Pays for Having an Opinion

John Reid, socialist candidate for the Alberta legislature for Red Deer riding, was sentenced to fifteen months in jail, last Friday, after having been found guilty of sedition by a jury in the criminal court at Red Deer.

In the course of speeches on the public platform last year, Reid, who is a Scotchman and a veteran of the Boer war, had said the British equalled the Germans when it came to atrocities. He had also advised people neither to enlist nor give to the patriotic fund.

The Average British Capitalist Seems to Expect every British Workman to do his duty—while he does his country.

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TRADE UNION DIRECTORY
"Unity of Labor; the Hope of the World"

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1916

ONTARIO UNEMPLOYMENT

has reached such a chronic stage, that some time ago the government of that province appointed a commission to inquire into its causes, and to devise remedies, if it could think of or find any. The first report of the commission was published recently, and contains numerous recommendations as to dealing with the evil in question. In this respect it resembles a few thousand other reports by similar bodies on the same subject, and in the end it will achieve just about as much of real value to the working class as the others did—which was nothing.

The attitude of the ruling class mind towards the unemployed is not really a desire to entirely abolish them. And when governments say that unemployment is an evil, they generally mean it is becoming too prevalent for political peace. They know that practical personal experience of misfortune is the most likely thing to make those suffering it inquire into its causes, and that if the habit of inquiring into the causes of unemployment were to become a habit among the workers, the makeshift methods which politicians use in handling it might be exposed to their subsequent inconvenience.

They also know that the vast masses of the workers will not take the trouble to think out, or otherwise find out, the precise part they play in the economic fabric of nations, as long as they have got that glorious possession which constitutes about nine-tenths of what they call happiness—a job. So their efforts are directed to the devising of conditions so that at least a good clear majority of workmen have jobs. They are also not directed to the formulation of plans whereby all workmen would have jobs—for which there is, in their estimation, and out of regard for their economic interests, a very good and sufficient reason.

This is the reason. Industry is carried on with one main idea—to make profit. If it cannot make profit no other reason can keep it in existence. Industry cannot be carried on without workmen, therefore they are looked upon as a necessary evil in the scheme. The higher the wages they are in a position to demand, the greater are they considered as an evil. Workmen cannot be too cheap—providing their productive capacity is not impaired—in the eyes of the owners of industry. For that reason it is only natural they are interested in promoting or maintaining any condition which will give them an ample supply of cheap workmen.

Workmen are cheapest when they are more numerous than the jobs they seek. In other words, unemployed workmen are an economic advantage to employers of workmen. The government of Ontario, like most other governments, is composed of employers or men with the economic interests and outlook of employers, elected to their positions in the house of legislature by workmen's votes. That is why it is absolutely useless to look to such people to devise or even attempt to devise, measures having for their object the complete abolition of unemployment.

Under the capitalist form of industry, unemployment is just as much a necessary part of the economic systems of nations, as are markets for the disposal of the products of industry. Employers know that the most effective curb on the aspirations of workmen for higher wages is the threat that if they persist they will be discharged and others taken on in their places. Hence they favor the continual existence of an element of unemployed workmen who, pressed to it by the hunger urge which knows no answer but food, can be relied upon to take the places of those who ask for more wages in case they go to the point of striking to enforce their demands.

Putting it in shorter terms, that means that it is not the man who has a job who determines what he shall get for doing that job. The man who has not got a job, is the man who determines the wages of the man who has got a job. The truth of this demonstrates itself so practically and plainly, that employers look upon the unemployed as an industrial factor which could not be abolished without serious results to their yearly balance sheets.

Commissions may come and commissions may go, but it will make no difference to the unemployed as long as the labor of men is an article of merchandise bought and sold just like bricks and bacon, and, like them, subject in price to the laws of supply and demand. That will continue as long as the chaotic jumble known as private

enterprise is the rule in industry. It is wasteful, senseless and unjust. It gives the maximum of reward to the non-producer, and the minimum of sustenance to those by the labor of whose brains and hands the daily life of the world is made possible.

NANAIMO BOARD OF TRADE

wants the Dominion government to put a heavy duty on fuel oil. So do similar bodies in other coal mining districts of British Columbia. Their object is to subsidize the coal mine owners in their competition with the oil merchants, and doubleless, if they had their way, they would put such a prohibitive tax on fuel oil as to drive it out of the market altogether, thus leaving them an absolutely free field for exploitation.

To those who know the history and present conditions of coal mining on Vancouver island, this request of the Nanaimo merchants really means that the coal mine owners want the Dominion government to give the utmost measure of economic advantage to the largest and most consistent employers of oriental labor in Canada. Backed by the silent support and administrative apathy of the provincial government, the mine operators of the island are gradually driving the white miner out, and putting Asiatics in his place.

With the armed assistance of the same authority, they broke down the resistive power of the miners' union. The only thing that now seems to them to offer any obstacle to their complete monopoly is the competition of oil and fuel. We hope they will not get what they are asking for, and in so doing we do not feel we are expressing an opinion which, if realized, would make any detrimental difference to the position of the white miners working over there now.

The ideal of the coal owners of the island would be to have every white miner enlist in the army, and his place filled by an Asiatic. That would bring the price of coal production to the minimum. They would like oil fuel taxed out of the market. That would enable them to fix the selling price at the maximum figure the purchasing public could be made to pay. Such a combination in their eyes would be ideal. In seeking it they are true to their record as one of the most gluttonous aggregations of exploiters to be found from here to the Atlantic.

STREET RAILWAYMEN were disappointed last fall, when the international office of their organization advised them not to go to the length of a strike in resisting the terms offered to them by the B. C. Electric Railway company. A considerable amount of soreness and dissatisfaction resulted from it, which was quite natural. This feeling is being taken advantage of in a quarter which has no real sympathy with the men—indeed, it is the opposite—to create a sentiment among them to drop their affiliation with the international union, and form a Canadian organization.

This proposal is not a new one, as many of the older members of the Street Railwaymen's union know. But the time is considered, by some of those who favor the step for reasons they do not mention in their arguments, as a good one to revive the idea. It is a plan which has been advised at one time or another to every union in Canada which is affiliated with the American Federation of Labor.

It is also an objective which has been the ideal of Canadian employers for many years, and several attempts have been made to get legislation through the Dominion parliament which would bring about the severance of the Canadian locals of the international unions from their parent bodies. It is a movement which we have always opposed, and shall continue to oppose, because we are convinced that it would, if successful, be to the detriment of organized labor in Canada which, up to now, has drawn far more money in the way of strike, organization and other financial assistance from the internationalists, than it has paid in.

So far as the particular instance of the local street railwaymen is concerned, we will make this statement. If they had actually gone out on strike last fall, they would have received the constitutional amount of strike pay from the international office. That would have happened despite the telegram which came advising them not to strike. It is a very definite statement to make, but we make it because it was made to us by one of the highest officials of the international union, in fact by a member of the international executive board, who was present when the telegram referred to was sent to Vancouver last fall.

For the street railwaymen to learn this now, may not be of any practical value at the moment, but it is a fact well worth knowing, and filing for reference. They are not at the end of their troubles by a long way if we judge the signs aright. Indeed, they are probably only at the real beginning. The future shows the need for them to be ready to meet it with a strong and well-knit organization wherein every member is fully apprised and alive to the nature and extent of the difficulties facing them.

Another thing which will need care-

ful watching is the possibility of espionage right inside the union itself. Several instances have occurred lately in various parts of this continent which show the danger of paid spies within the ranks of the street railwaymen. They are a steady and indispensable adjunct to the companies in their dealing with the unions, and must be looked for everywhere. The more they are looked for the less of them there are likely to be. They flourish most where the membership is most apathetic and indifferent to what is going on and being done on their behalf in the union.

These men, so far as the Canadian union is concerned, are not likely to be heard loudly advocating such a course. Their work is of a mere cunning type, done below the surface. They would strive to use other members who were perfectly sincere in their views about it but who, being entirely honest themselves, would not suspect they were being used. The main argument in the whole question is contained in the fact that Canadian employers—and particularly street railway companies—would be delighted if the labor unions of this country would sever their connection with the internationalists.

What they want in this respect must of necessity be something which they consider would give them more strength with which to oppose the unions. For that reason it is obvious the unions should not want it. And despite many minor complaints which they may justly make against some of the methods of the international executive board, we are satisfied that in the long run the local street railwaymen will not want it. It is a would-be gift horse whose mouth will well repay for examination.

SYNDICALISM, in Latin countries, according to the reported statement of Dr. Mack Eastman, professor of economics in the University of British Columbia, is "similar to what is known as industrial unionism in America." That is a very sweeping assertion, and one which we do not believe to be correct. It may be partly true, but in any case it should not be taken to imply that syndicalism and industrialism are one and the same in their meaning and objectives.

Industrial unionism means the organization of all the workers in any one industry into one union. The machinery used in the industry, and the finished product of that industry, would still be the property of the private individual or public company which owned the enterprise. Syndicalism means that the men engaged in an industry would own both the machinery used in it and also the finished product. The latter form of organization seeks to eliminate the exploitation of the workers, at least insofar as their position as workers in that industry is concerned.

Industrial unionism would not change the fundamental relation between employer and employed, because it would not interfere with the ownership of natural resources, or the machinery necessary to make them into things of social usefulness or demand. In a word it would leave the profit system essentially intact, although perhaps a little less powerful by reason of the increased economic strength of an industrial union, as compared with the weakness of a dozen different unions trying to look after the interests of the workmen in one industry.

WHAT WILL LABOR DO in Europe after the war is over? That is the all-absorbing question which is exercising the minds of politicians, rulers, governors, financiers, and others interested in a return to similar conditions which prevailed before August 4th, 1914. They are troubled chiefly about their property and class status. The melting pot seems so near, and the fumes of it wait their way with most disquieting frequency and disagreeable odor. None of the exhaustive data and statistics of the past look like being of much practical use in laying plans for the future.

The war in the abstract struck them first as being very much like previous troubles of its kind. It was bigger, but that seemed the only difference. They had neither the imagination nor the knowledge of economic history and processes, to aid them to even remotely conceive some of the possibilities which the conflict might hold. Their deficiencies in that respect have been considerably reduced by practical demonstrations since then. Discomfiting facts have been forced upon them. They themselves have discovered, and have been obliged to declare more facts, which were doubly discomfiting because while they did not like them, they had no option but to declare them.

Among these disagreeable revelations the one they like least is that labor holds the entire situation in its hands. As long as it continues that way, they feel there is a gleam of hope left. But they are very afraid that labor may hold the situation less in its hand, and begin to consider it more in its head. That is why they are uncertain to an almost panicky degree about the future. They do not know what will happen. Nor does labor know what it will do. We might try to forecast what it will do, but the events of the past

eighteen months have bred in us a caution about the working class where war is concerned. The condition of economic pressure which will be upon the workers after the war, will provide the answer to the riddle.

Magistrate South has proved that he is not too inefficient to take a warning when it comes from the Trades and Labor council.

If it were not for unemployment, many a political party hawk would have been unemployed instead of getting a job "for value received" on a commission to inquire into the causes and extent of unemployment.

The working class, owing to centuries of servile labor for the upper and capitalist classes, has grown to regard its position as the right order of society, and cannot conceive of the sense of such a suggestion as that the wealth of a country should be of no more importance than human lives.

The crowd lift up a man to serve them, and then, forgetting that he is not over their heads by his own transcendent merit, are dazzled by his eminence. He in turn, being flattered and overbalanced by their adulation, forgets that he was elevated for their service, and not for his own glorification, and—well, and that's how it happens.

When an infraction of law is brought to the attention of the provincial government by a labor organization, formal reply asks for information which will establish the allegations made. That practically amounts to the government saying it is no part of its duty to look into the administration of the laws it makes, or to see that they are enforced. What is a government for then?

At the meeting of the industries committee of Vancouver city council last Wednesday, it was stated that in normal times many householders had purchased their wood supply from Hindus, to the detriment of the "white" yards. We hold no brief for the Hindus, but we know many "white" yards as they are called, which have no use for white men either in their yards, or on their wagons as drivers. In ordinary times it is customary for citizens of this city to see quite as many Asiatic drivers of wood wagons as white drivers. A "white" yard often means a woodyard run by a white man who employs only Asiatic labor.

English papers announce the death of G. W. Foot, editor of the Free Thinker. He was probably the ablest writer which religious criticism in Britain has produced, and many British papers have printed kindly notices of his death. The Daily Chronicle, after referring to him as "a scholar of ripe judgment and wide learning," added: "There have been, in recent years, few men of such uncompromising honesty and candor of character; few men whose public utterances seemed anti-Christian to the point of intolerance, yet whose private actions were so tolerant, generous, and free from malice and personal ambition." G. W. Foot was a keen critic, a polished satirist and a sound reasoner.

The Ottawa Evening Citizen, in an inquiring moment, makes the following comparison:

Wilfrid Gribble, a socialist agitator in St. John, New Brunswick, is alleged to have referred to the king as "a puppet." For this alleged offence, on the evidence of one man, Gribble has been sentenced to two months imprisonment. Hon. J. K. Fleming, a year or so ago, while premier of New Brunswick and, of course, the king's first citizen in the province, was found guilty by a royal commission of taking money from government contractors. The royal commission said that, by virtue of the position of public trust Premier Fleming held in the province, he might be said practically to have compelled the contractors to pay him the money. What sentence has the loyal province of New Brunswick imposed upon Hon. J. K. Fleming? It has nominated him as Conservative candidate for the federal house of commons, to represent the county of Carleton!

The point as we see it is, that if there were more working men in the federal house or legislatures in this country, such anomalies would be less possible. The existence of them proves that the class responsible for them feels itself in uncontested possession of the administrative power whereby they are perpetrated.

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SYNOPSIS OF COAL MINING REGULATIONS

Coal mining rights of the Dominion, in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, the Yukon Territory, the Northwest Territories and in a portion of the Province of British Columbia, may be leased for a term of twenty-one years at an annual rental of \$1 an acre. Not more than 2,500 acres will be leased to one applicant.

Applications for lease must be made by the applicant in person to the Agent on behalf of the district in which the rights applied for are situated.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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Ask for Labor Temple Phone Exchange, Seymour 7495 (unless otherwise stated):

Cooks, Waiters, Waitresses—Room 804; Andy Graham.

Electrical Workers (outside)—E. H. Morrison, Room 207.

Engineers (steam)—Room 210; E. Frendergast.

Hallbut Fishermen's Union—Russell Kearley, 437 Gore avenue. Office phone, Seymour 4704; residence, Highland 1844L.

Longshoremen's Association—Thomas Nixon, 10 Powell street, phone Sey 4122.

Musicians—H. J. Bradford, Room 805.

Salvors—W. S. Burns, 218 Hastings street west, Sey. 8703.

Street Railway Employees—Fred A. Hoover; cor. Mann and Union. Phone Exchange Seymour 5000.

Typographical—R. H. Neelands, Room 206.

TRADE UNION DIRECTORY

Allied Printing Trades Council—E. H. Neelands, Box 86.

Barbers—S. H. Grant, 1801 7th avenue west. Barbers—H. Davis, Box 424.

Blacksmiths—Malcolm Porter, View Hill fourth avenue east.

Bookbinders—W. H. Goweroy, 1888 Thirtieth avenue east.

Bookkeepers—A. Fraser, 1151 Howe street. Brewery Workers—Chas. G. Austin, 732 7th avenue east.

Bricklayers—William S. Dagnall, Labor Temple.

Brotherhood of Carpenters District Council—F. L. Barratt, Room 208, Labor Temple.

Cigar-makers—W. H. McQueen, care Kuris Cigar Factory, 72 Water Street.

Cooks, Waiters, Waitresses—Andy Graham, Room 804, Labor Temple.

Electrical Workers (inside)—E. H. Morrison, Room 207, Labor Temple.

Electrical Workers (outside)—F. L. Estinghausen, Room 207.

Engineers—E. Frendergast, Room 216, Labor Temple.

Granite Cutters—Edward Hurry, Columbia Hotel.

Garment Workers—Mrs. Jardine, Labor Temple.

Hallbut Fishermen's Union—Russell Kearley, 437 Gore avenue.

Horsehoovers—Labor Temple.

Letter Carriers—Bobt. Wight, District 68. Laborers—George Harrison, Room 220, Labor Temple.

Locomotive Firemen and Engineers—C. Howard, Port Quailham.

Local Engineers—L. T. Solloway, 1157 Harwood. Tel. Sey. 1848E.

Longshoremen—Thomas Nixon, 10 Powell St. Machinists—J. Brooks, Room 211, Labor Temple.

Milk Drivers—Stanley Tiller, 312 Eighteenth avenue west.

Musicians—H. J. Bradford, Room 805, Labor Temple.

Molders—Moving Picture Operators—L. E. Goodman, Labor Temple.

Painters—Geo. Weston, Room 808, Labor Temple.

Plumbers—Room 204L, Labor Temple. Phone Seymour 3611L.

Pressmen—P. D. Edgar, Labor Temple.

Plasterers—John James Cornish, 1809 Eleventh avenue east.

Pattern Makers—J. Campbell, 4869 Argyle Street.

Quarry Workers—James Hopburn, care Columbia Hotel.

Railroad Trainmen—A. E. McCovill, Box 248.

Railway Carmen—A. Robb, 420 Nelson Street.

Seaman's Union—W. S. Burns, P. O. Box 1965.

Structural Iron Workers—Room 208, Labor Temple.

Stonemasons—James Rayburn, P. O. Box 208.

Sheet Metal Workers—J. W. Alexander, 2120 Tenth street east.

Street Railway Employees—James E. Griffin, 166 Twenty-fifth avenue east.

Stereotypers—W. Bayley, care Province.

Telegraphers—E. B. Tennip, Box 342.

Trades and Labor Council—Miss Helena Guttridge, Room 210 Labor Temple.

Typographical Union—R. H. Neelands, Box 66.

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

BARTENDERS' LOCAL NO. 676—Office, Room 208, Labor Temple. Meets first Sunday of each month. President, James Campbell; financial secretary, H. Davis, Box 424; phone, Sey. 4754; recording secretary, Wm. Mottishaw, Globe Hotel, Main street.

BRICKLAYERS' AND MASONS' NO. 1 Meets first and third Thursdays. Executive board: James H. McVety, president; R. P. Pettipiece, vice-president; Isaac Helton, secretary; general secretary, 210 Labor Temple; Fred Knowles, treasurer; W. H. Cullery, statistician; sergeant-at-arms, John Sully; A. J. Crawford, Jas. Campbell, J. Brooks, trustees.

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, 715 Seventh avenue west; secretary, A. Fraser, 3151 Howe street; treasurer 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. G. Appleby; secretary, George E. Harrison; business agent, John Sully, room 220, Labor Temple. All laborers invited to meeting.

INTERNATIONAL LONGSHOREMEN'S ASSOCIATION, Local No. 3623, Omega Association hall, 10 Powell street. Meets every Sunday, 2:30 p.m. Thomas Nixon, secretary.

PATTERN MAKERS' LEAGUE OF NORTH AMERICA—Vancouver and vicinity. Branch meets 1st and 3rd Fridays at Labor Temple, Room 715, Seventh avenue east; president, 276 Fifty-sixth avenue east; George E. Lyon, financial secretary, 1721 Grant street; J. Campbell, recording secretary, 4869 Argyle street.

STREET AND ELECTRIC RAILWAY EMPLOYEES' UNION, District No. 10—Meets Labor Temple, second and fourth Wednesdays at 2:30 and 8 p.m. President, W. H. Cottrell; recording secretary, Jas. E. Griffin, 166 Twenty-fifth avenue east; financial secretary and business agent, Fred A. Hoover, 2409 Clark drive.

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TYPOGRAPHICAL UNION, No. 326—Meets second and fourth Mondays at 8 p.m. President, E. Farm; Pettipiece; secretary, W. H. McVety; secretary-treasurer R. H. Neelands, P. O. Box 66.

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NEW WESTMINSTER

BARTENDERS' INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE of America, local 784, New Westminster. Meets second Sunday of each month at 1:30 p.m. Secretary, P. W. Jamieson, Box 496.

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FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE BODY

TRADES AND LABOR CONGRESS OF CANADA—Meets in convention September of each year. Executive board: Jas. C. Waters, president; vice-president, A. Watchman, Victoria, B. C.; secretary-treasurer, P. M. Draper, Drawer 515, Ottawa, Ont.

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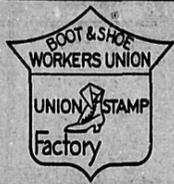
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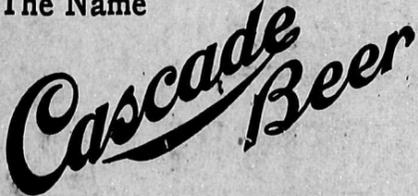
is good for all men; total abstinence is a matter of expediency for some men. The total abstainer has no more right to compel the temperate man to abstain by force of law, than the temperate man has to compel the abstainer to drink what he neither likes or chooses by force of law. Beer is the temperate man's drink; it's a food. Ask your dealer for our brands.

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AUSTRALIAN WOMEN WORKING HARD FOR PEACE

Objects of the Movement Are Outlined by Fed. Correspondent

The Conscription of Wealth Before Human Life Is Demanded

[Special Australian Correspondence] SYDNEY, N. S. W., Jan. 14.—In the columns of this journal, under date of October 15 last, I gave some particulars concerning the movement on the part of the Australian women for peace, at the same time asking for co-operation in the United States and Canada. I am glad to say at this date that my appeal has not fallen on deaf ears.

Letters are now reaching me, offering co-operation in a movement that, I hope, will not have been started in vain. The Women's Peace Army of Australia desires me, at this date, to thank one and all, for the proffered assistance. Steps will be taken in due time to get the movement in an international footing.

Objects of the Movement.

As many readers will doubtless wish to know just what our objects are, I think it well to state briefly the salient points of same.

We intend to bind together all the forces that are sympathetic to the establishment of peace and the maintenance of same, by means of international arbitration and such other methods as may be favored.

In Australia we intend to create a central council in each state of all organizations which are in sympathy with the movement. This for the purpose of consolidating interests to secure the one common goal.

In addition we wish to co-operate whenever possible with international peace and kindred organizations in other parts of the world.

We appeal for the establishment of an effective and permanent international arbitration court, elected on a democratic basis, including women delegates; the setting up of adequate machinery for ensuring democratic control of foreign policy; general reduction of armaments and the nationalization of their manufacture; organization of the trades unions and workers' associations with a definite view of ending war; termination of the present war at the earliest possible moment.

We consider that the principles that should govern the terms of peace are that no territory or province shall be transferred from one government to another without the consent, by plebiscite of the population of such province; control by the British parliament of treaties and foreign policy, and the abolition of conscription and compulsory military training.

Parliamentary Action Requested.

Those, briefly are our objects. Apart from the lecturing tours that have been undertaken to further the government, the central bodies at present located at the seat of Commonwealth government—that is, at Melbourne, Victoria, have lost no time in getting some very concrete proposals before the national government. At a recent meeting, December 2, 1915, the following resolutions were authorized:

"That the Women's Peace Army asks that the Commonwealth parliament be summoned immediately to consider the prime minister's mission to England, and give him a peace mandate from the people of Australia.

"That the method by which it is proposed to raise a new army of 50,000 men in Australia is nothing short of conscription for military service abroad and we are prepared to support those who in their love for humanity and freedom, desire to resist this shameful violation of the rights of mankind."

Other Resolutions Adopted.

A further series of resolutions have also been carried, as follows:

"That in view of the possibility of the terms of peace being considered by the forthcoming Imperial conference, the Australian peace alliance places on record its opinion that, as the peace settlement should aim primarily at the maintenance of world peace upon the lines of the democratization of foreign policy, the prime minister should officially represent democratic views at the said conference, and in this connection bear a mandate from the federal parliament or from a specially-convened federal labor conference; and as a basis for such mandate the alliance suggests the following as necessary provisions in the event of the peace settlement being considered:

"No province or territory in any part of the world shall be transferred from



T. A. BARNARD
A Royal City trade unionist, and aldermanic candidate, who has enlisted for overseas service, and is now in the trenches.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO
Trades and Labor Council.
February 1, 1891.

Hon. Robert Bevan, M. P. P., gave notice of motion in the legislature: "That the committee on standing orders and private bills, and the committee on railways, should see that all private bills granting franchises or rights contain sections providing against the employment of Chinese on any work to be undertaken in pursuance of the bill." The trades and labor councils of Vancouver and Victoria endorsed same.

Parliamentary committee appointed, composed of Messrs. Wm. Towler, J. L. Franklin, Wm. Fleming, A. B. Campbell and J. Gale.

Resolution carried: "That the principle of eight hours constituting a day's labor should be adopted in carrying on provincial works; and that a clause should be inserted in all contracts for such, to the effect that the hours making up a day's work of the workmen and laborers to be employed under it shall not be more than eight; and a penalty for the violation of such provision by the contractor or sub-contractor should be included."

Where is Phil Obermeyer?
What has become of Phil Obermeyer and the labor page in the Hamilton, Ont., Herald every Saturday? Without this feature, the Saturday Herald is too humdrum to bother with.

"Jim" Greer and the "Plague."
Next week there will be no issue of the Slooan Record. With an epidemic of la grippe in the district, people need liniment outside and dope inside, and the publisher wants a whole week's rest.—Slooan Record.

"The man who has no enemies has no following."
The Vancouver woman who divorces her husband to marry a Winnipeg man and goes to that town to live is certainly making an awful sacrifice for love.

one government to another without the consent of plebiscite of the population of such province.

"No treaty, arrangement or undertaking shall be entered upon in the name of Great Britain without the sanction of parliament. Adequate machinery for ensuring democratic control of foreign policy shall be created.

"The foreign policy of Great Britain shall not be aimed at creating alliances for the purpose of maintaining the balance of power, but shall be directed to the establishment of a concert of Europe and the setting up of an international council, whose deliberations and decisions shall be public.

"Great Britain shall propose as part of the peace settlement a plan for the drastic reduction of armaments by the consent of all the belligerent powers, and to facilitate that policy shall attempt to secure the general nationalization of the manufacture of armaments and the prohibition of the export of armaments by one country to another.

"The universal abolition of conscription and compulsory military service.

Country Faces Conscription.
Meanwhile pressure is to be brought to bear on the matter of compelling men to answer certain questions as to whether they are prepared to enlist now or at some future date.

It is as well to say here, that we are on the eve of conscription in Australia and as a preliminary the government in offering to provide an extra 50,000 men for the battle front from Australia, have decided to enter on a monster recruiting campaign.

Every man between the ages of 18 and 60 is to be circularized by the government and asked the following questions: (1) Are you prepared to enlist now for service outside of Australia? (2) Are you prepared to enlist at a later date? (3) If you are not prepared to enlist, state the reason?

No Conscription Fellowship.
To deal with this matter a No-Conscription fellowship has been formed. Briefly it has decided that it will not answer the first two questions, but shall answer the third in this wise:

"Because I am a member of the No-Conscription fellowship, an organization of men likely to be called upon to undertake military service in the event of conscription who will refuse, from conscientious motives, to bear arms. We deny the right of governments to say, 'You shall bear arms,' and will oppose every effort to introduce compulsory military service, and whatever the consequences may be, shall obey our conscientious convictions rather than the commands of governments."

Wealth Conscription Wanted.
Since the ugly head of conscription seems to be showing in our midst, there is a great force behind the peace and non-conscription movement. Besides the present arrangement is by no means logical.

NO COMPENSATION PROVIDED FOR JOBLESS

Switzerland Alone Makes Provision for Other Employment

Displaced Workers Demand Equal Opportunities to Work

The idea of demanding compensation from the state where property was confiscated through prohibition legislation is not new, says the Brewery Workers' Journal. When in 1910 the manufacture of absinthe was prohibited in Switzerland, provisions were made for compensation of all concerned—landowners, employers and employees. In England, in France and in some parts of Canada, after prohibitory laws were adopted, compensation of the license holders for the loss of their property was provided for. In a decision given in 1887, Judge Brewer, of the United States circuit court of Kansas, held "that the state can prohibit the defendant from brewing, but before it can do so it must pay the value of the property destroyed." All these precedents are encouraging the employers in the manufacture of alcoholic beverages to demand compensation wherever prohibition compels them to go out of business; in fact, bills to that extent have been or will be introduced in the legislatures in several states.

Wage Workers Overlooked.
But in all these cases, with the exception of Switzerland, the wage-earner is not considered, the one who loses not capital in the common sense of the word, but capital consisting of his working power and his acquired knowledge in his trade. He has only his labor and his knowledge for sale, and if the market for that is taken away, he is left helpless, as he cannot compete, for lack of skill and experience, with wage-earners in other industries; at least not without being compelled to make undeserved sacrifices and injuring those with whom he has to compete.

Compensation of Jobs.
When it appears that the principle of compensation has been recognized for those who lose their business through prohibition laws, why should the workman not be compensated who loses forever the opportunity to make an honest living in his accustomed way? The only just compensation is, providing or creating an opportunity to work. Any other form of compensation might be looked upon as some form of charity. But they do not want charity, they demand justice and work.

THE LABOR PRESS

A. F. of L. Suggests That Even Its Editors Should Have Decent Wages.

The 1915 report of the executive committee of the A. F. of L. to the San Francisco convention, says of the Labor press:

"These conditions made labor papers necessary and they have struggled against tremendous obstacles—hampered by lack of appreciation, friends, facilities and opportunities.

"Each year brings increases in the power and number of the labor papers of the land. They are tremendous dynamic forces giving publicity to the cause of human welfare and the struggle of the workers for justice and a better life. They herald abroad the news of Labor—the ideals that touch the things of daily life and make them to glow with the glory of humanity. They tell the facts of the workers' lives and of the struggles for a better life.

"Usually in a secluded office, work the labor editors who dedicate their lives to the cause of publicity for Labor. Their reward has been frequently but a meagre living and the satisfaction of a great work done. The Labor movement stands for decent wages—an ideal that must be extended to labor editors.

"The labor papers by bringing about understanding of conditions, are a powerful element in helping to unify and give direction to the Labor Movement. They journey throughout the length and breadth of the land entering into the mental life of each reader, expanding in some way his thought and consequently his acts. They are an incalculable power in the Labor movement and ought to be supported financially and morally by all the workers, and those who genuinely sympathize with the great cause of Labor."

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Special Winter Reduced Rates to Permanent Guests
Our electric motor bus meets all boats and trains free

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HAT shape will you be in for work if you have been awake half the night tossing restlessly with aching teeth?
Aching teeth come from continued neglect—putting off from day to day when you know you should have your teeth attended to.
Not only is a man out of condition for work if his teeth are not right—it affects his digestion if he cannot chew his food properly, and that opens the door for a whole train of trouble.

Put it down on your call sheet to make a date with me to have your teeth looked over. Examination costs you nothing. Estimates given before you have any work done.

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DEMANDS OF LABOR PRESENTED AT REGINA

Saskatchewan Congress Executive Met Cabinet Last Week

Agenda Comprises Subjects Very Familiar to Organized Labor

A minimum wage of not less than \$8 per week for women; equal suffrage and state accident insurance are among the matters upon which the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada labor executive of Saskatchewan are seeking legislation at the present session of the provincial legislature. When the members of the Saskatchewan labor executive waited upon the representatives of the government last week, twenty-two items were on the agenda paper in regard to which legislation was sought.

The Labor Deputation.
The labor deputation consisted of Messrs. R. H. Chadwick, vice-president, Moose Jaw; F. B. Judson, Prince Albert; J. D. Wallace, Saskatoon, and Alderman H. Perry, Regina, and they were introduced to the members of the government by T. M. Molloy, provincial labor commissioner. Hon. J. A. Calder, Hon. A. P. McNab and Hon. Geo. Bell received the deputation on behalf of the government.
Prior to the meeting a short session of the labor executive was held in Regina on Thursday, when a programme of the matters requiring attention was drawn up.
Included in the list are such items as direct legislation, amendments to the Cities act, compulsory contribution to the Patriotic Fund, standardizing of all school books and compulsory school attendance.

Complete Agenda.
The complete agenda was as follows:
1. State accident insurance as in Ontario. In regard to this clause in Ontario it was suggested that it would be advisable to look into the provisions of the Ontario Workmen's Compensation act, which includes this feature, with a view to amendments to the Saskatchewan act.
2. Compulsory inquest into all fatal accidents.
3. Minimum wage for women not less than \$8 per week.
4. Equal suffrage for men and women over 21 years of age.
5. Abolition of the election deposit.
It was explained that at the present session of the house the election act would probably be up for amendment, and this will be one of the things which will be considered.
6. To enact a law providing for direct legislation.
7. Abolition of all private employment agencies.
8. Union label on all government printing, including school books and that all government printing, ruling and book binding, in so far as is possible, be done in the province and that contracts for government printing should contain a clause stating that all work be done in the province.
9. That the Building Trades Protection act be amended by adding a new section providing for the proper disinfection of workmen and their clothing when engaged in plumbing, renovating, or altering plumbing or any other work in hospitals or similar institutions.
10. An act calling for the licensing of all plumbers.
11. Amendments to the Cities act.
Several amendments to this act were asked for, including the lengthening of the period up to which a householder could register his name on the voters' list, and also asking for reduction in the amount of rent which must be paid annually by a tenant before he could be placed on the list. In addition it was asked that the office of the city assessor be open for thirty days prior to the last day on which names could be placed on the list from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and during the hours of 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Another amendment asked was that any person on paying taxes for the current year or poll or income tax should be automatically placed on the voters' list. Another feature of the Cities amendment was the request that in addition to the lock block plan, etc., on the voters' list, there should be added the last known address of the voter.
12. Compulsory contribution to the Patriotic fund. This clause asks for an act to provide for taxing for the funds of the patriotic fund, so as to include everyone on a fair and equitable basis.
13. The enforcement of regulations for the protection of the Electrical Workers as provided for under the order in council passed at the 1914 session.
14. An amendment to the Cities act, calling for a change in the amounts paid to aldermen, changing the amount per meeting from \$3 to \$10, and fixing the maximum amount which may be paid in any one year as \$500 in place of \$150 as formerly.
15. Asking for a pamphlet to be printed outlining the rights of farm laborers and harvest help.
16. That justices of the peace be compelled to hear all cases laid before them.
In this respect the ministers had before them correspondence in regard to this matter, citing an example where a justice of the peace refused to hear a case. It is understood this matter will be taken up and investigated.
17. Bureau of labor to have control

Delegates Speak.
These matters were gone into in detail by the delegates of the congress provincial executive and each delegate spoke in behalf of several of the items on the agenda paper. The cause of state accident insurance was championed by Delegate R. H. Chadwick of Moose Jaw. Alderman Perry was the speaker on behalf of the clause relative to minimum wage for women; equal suffrage was championed by Delegate F. B. Judson of Prince Albert, while Delegate J. D. Wallace spoke on behalf of direct legislation.

Reflections on War and Peace.
Editor B. C. Federationist: The arguments against war have changed with the age in which they have been put forward. And so, in this capitalistic age they emanate from the profit and loss theory that nowadays wars do not pay even the victor.
This argument, though it may be the most obvious and indisputable ever put forward against war, will not abolish war, because it ascribes war to a most superficial cause, the lust of material gain.
It is said that capitalistic interests are the real causes of wars nowadays, but in reality they are an ephemeral incentive for the real causes of war to assert themselves.
The real causes of wars, at least of all wars of today, are conflicting ideals and the will of man to fight, to suffer and to die for an ideal. When such ideals are lost, wars will cease, and then humanity on our planet will live to fill its stomach and obey the rules to prevent indigestion. Such a humanity it is subject to conceive.
So when in a perhaps not distant future socialism will have achieved its end, and will have endowed everyone with roof and bread conflicting ideals will be the torches that will light future wars.
Until one supreme ideal is conceived by all humanity, conflicting ideals will preserve war. Yet what may be the one supreme ideal, absolving humanity from wars without precipitating it into abject meanness? Perhaps it may be a world religion. Yet for us today such an ideal it is affirming life, is as yet inconceivable and it being so it is a question if its existence is possible at all.
Yet this world delirium may be a negation of life come to through a weariness of the strife of conflicting; there are such, and their being recognized as the supreme error, the essence of life, the trick the world spirit has played upon us.
Or else such recognition, if it refuses to negate life, may come to exalt it and all it means into a religion of life. Then life will stand for its own sake, be accepted as its own meaning and its conflicting ideals as a means to attain life's fullest realization which may come to man only in a supreme contest with himself, a contest where only through readiness to throw away life he may attain the heights of its realization—in the end a negation of life, indeed, but through its first fullest and most primitive realization—heroism.
(MRS. C. B. L.)

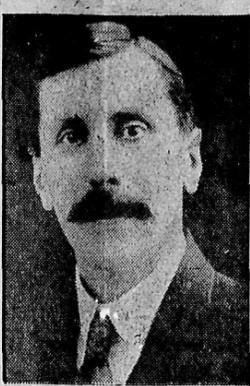
Porcupine Bristles with Profits.
Notices are again appearing in the newspapers containing the information that the Hollinger Gold Mines, Ltd., of Porcupine, Ont., have declared a four per cent. regular, four-weekly dividend, payable on January 28, 1916. This it may be said, is the 43rd dividend that has been paid. Four per cent. on a four-weekly basis would mean 52 per cent. per annum.
This is the corporation that imported Thiel private detectives and gunmen a couple of years ago to overawe the miners in its employ who were striking against a practical reduction in wages. It would appear to be up to the federal government to raise a part of the war expenditures by the taxation of big profits. If men are asked to sacrifice their lives for the country, wealth should be forced to sacrifice, at least, a part of its fat dividends.—Industrial Banner.

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Ten Sub. Cards for \$10.
Ten yearly Fed. sub. cards for \$10. Pay as sold. Order ten at once and help to push the Fed's circulation.



A. J. CARTER
Secretary-treasurer of District No. 18, U. M. W. of A., Fernie, who attended the recent Vancouver convention of the B. C. F. of L., and hurried home to attend both the District and International conventions.

of the granting of licenses to moving picture operators.
18. Standardizing of all school text books, the said books to be provided free to scholars, or sold at actual cost.
Also urged school attendance to be made compulsory.

19. Medical, surgical and optical treatment be made free to school children and that no school board be allowed to make vaccination compulsory.
20. That the teaching of the English language in all public schools of the province be made compulsory.
(With regard to the two above matters it was thought that as the whole educational question was now being discussed it would be good policy to continue co-operation with the educational league and that as this matter would probably be taken up at the next session the views of the labor organization could be presented at that time.)
21. That situations advertised as vacant shall in all cases state the name of the prospective employer.
22. That the Factories act be amended by adding certain regulations for the controlling of metal and gas fumes arising from typesetting machines in printing offices and providing for the installation of proper systems of ventilation.

LETTERS TO THE FED.

A MENACE SAYS MR. RIGG
Private Detective Agencies Should Be Legislated Out of Existence.
R. A. Rigg, M. P. P., Winnipeg, in the law amendments committee, when dealing with the Private Detectives bill, suggested that they ought to be legislated out of existence, was a very good one. These institutions are dangerous to any community in which they operate, as Winnipeg has learned from experience. During a street car strike here some years ago a bunch of these private detective thugs was imported from the States and sworn in as special constables, and given authority to club all and sundry citizens. They supply spies of all descriptions—gunmen, slug artists and any old artist at a price. Reports also to suit the price. Eliminate them, the community would be the gainer.—The Voice.

More Women Workers Wanted.
The British Labor Gazette for December says: "The shortage of both skilled and unskilled labor became still more marked. To some extent women have been used to make good the deficiency, but there is room for further developments in this direction during the war. The number of women ordinarily employed is not, however, sufficient to meet all the demands of the situation created by the withdrawal of so many men from their usual occupations, and by the requirements of the forces. A new supply of labor is therefore required, which, in the present circumstances, can only be drawn from among those women who have not hitherto been engaged in industry."

Men and Mules.
Under a new law in Pennsylvania, said to have been enacted to protect miners, it is provided that no less than 200 cubic feet of air per minute must be pumped into a mine for each man working therein, and it is likewise decreed that each mule employed shall be the recipient of at least 700 cubic feet of air per minute. Perhaps if the miners live long enough and the "working-man's friends" in the legislature remain sufficiently diligent and stick to their task as saviors of society the men may yet be placed upon a parity with the mules. Pennsylvania has long, very long, enjoyed the distinction of being the foremost state in the union in the matter of harboring within its confines the most shameless plutocrats and jack-ass voters that ever have come into juxtaposition anywhere.—American Socialist.

T. B. OUTHBERTSON & Co.
Men's Hatters and Outfitters
Three Stores

Furniture
Largest and most select stock in Western Canada. Easy Terms and decent treatment, at war time prices.
Hastings Furniture Co. Ltd.
41 HASTINGS ST., WEST

WORK STOPPED ON SEWERS IN SOUTH VANCOUVER

Speculation Amongst Employees as to Outcome of Notice

Estimates of School Board for Year—No Drastic Reductions

The prevailing severe weather is responsible for the temporary closing down of sewer work throughout the municipality of South Vancouver. Between three and four hundred men are thereby thrown out of employment.

There is considerable speculation amongst the municipal employees as to the probable outcome of a resolution passed by the new council giving one month's notice to those in all departments. The notice expires on February 29, and is given with a view to reorganization. For the purpose of inquiring into the systems prevailing in the surrounding districts, Reeve Winram and his council visited Point Grey, Burnaby and New Westminster during the past week.
At a meeting of the school board held on Friday, January 28, estimates for ordinary expenditure for the year 1916, aggregating \$158,085.50 were passed. This amount is made up as follows: Teachers' salaries, \$83,140; janitors' salaries, \$16,685; school supplies, repairs, etc., \$37,000; officials' salaries, management expenses, etc., \$21,300.50.
Several times during the meeting, Chairman Neelds was called upon to exercise his casting vote—chiefly in cases where drastic reductions in salaries were proposed, his decision always being against any unreasonable cut in favor of the salary more in keeping with the services rendered, and that would make for a continuance of the present high standard of efficiency of the school system of South Vancouver.

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"Saving the Empire!"
F. B. Carvell, member for Carlton, N. B., certainly got after the federal government in regard to shell contracts and other easy money propositions. He quotes some of the firms and some of the profits that were made in "saving the empire" at so much per save for the political friends of the government. He took a crack at the government's travelling whitewash machine that has been soothing the minds of the disturbed citizens, but it is quite evident that the shell scandal is of such proportions that it will not be downed.—Winnipeg Voice.

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