THE BRITISH COLUMBIA FEDERATIONIST

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

EIGHTH YEAR. No. 18 — SIX PAGES — VANCOUVER, B. C., FRIDAY, MAY 4, 1917 — (In Vancouver City $2.00) $1.50 PER YEAR

MINING INDUSTRY IS STILL HELD UP AT ROSSLAND

Patriotic Employers' Appeal To Locked Out Men

Miners Refused Publicity For Statement of Their Case

THE CONSOLIDATED MINING AND SMELTING COMPANY OF CANADA, LIMITED.

Trail, British Columbia,
April 17th, 1917.

TO ALL EMPLOYEES:

During the past fortnight officials of District 6, Western Federation of Miners, have made demands on behalf of all our employees in District 6 for an increase of 50 cents per day, and also for the check-off system.

In the past the policy of the Company has been to treat with committees of employees at each of our camps regardless of whether or not members of the committee belonged to a union.

We have told the officials that this policy will be adhered to. We have said that we considered it impracticable for one committee to represent all the camps because no two camps work under the same or even similar conditions, and that therefore each camp should select its own committee, which we will be glad to meet at any time.

In granting the War Bonus effective after March 31st, we did more than our profits justify, but we shall welcome a discussion with your committees as to the fairness of our position.

Mr. McNiven is here. He represented the Minister of Labor last year when the existing contracts were agreed to. His presence should be taken advantage of to bring about an amicable understanding.

We sincerely hope that the long-time friendly relations may be continued, especially as our output of metals is so vitally necessary for our men at the front, who are risking everything for our protection.

CONSOLIDATED MINING AND SMELTING COMPANY OF CANADA, LIMITED.

James J. Warren,
Managing Director.

ROSSLAND, May 1.—(Special to The Federationist).—As a further evidence that the miners of the interior cannot even get a statement of their case placed before the reading public, I am forwarding you herewith a communiation that we submitted to the Rossland Miner for publication last week, which was promptly refused. Above is a copy of a circular which was circulated among the mine employees here recently and it speaks for itself. It is plain that the company in question has determined on an "open shop" policy, and if the issue has to be fought out again in this and other interior camps, it may as well come now, for the miners were never in a better position to enforce their demands, and enforce them we will. The circular mentioned above reads:

Statement on Behalf of Employees.

"From time to time during the past two years this camp has been disturbed by unpleasant rumors of industrial unrest. Fortunately in the past these complications have adjusted themselves, but today we appear to be confronted with a more serious situation.

"Since the outbreak of the War the price of commodities has been constantly on the increase, with the result that the wages received by the workingman of today are inadequate to meet the high cost of living. On the other hand, the price of raw materials has gone soaring—especially is this true of the base metals, such as copper, lead and zinc. The former of these is a product of our local mines. The miner naturally asks himself is he sharing proportionately in the increased earnings of his production. The question then, is he or is he not, and what are the means or should be the means employed in determining the question.

"Conditions have undergone many radical changes in the past few years and some people—including our popular representatives and especially the members of the Federal government—have not kept abreast of the times. For example, take the pusillanimous conduct of the negotiations in the Crow's Nest Coal strike. With the examples of Lloyd George before him for precedents, the methods of the Minister of Labor, Crothers, have been puerile.

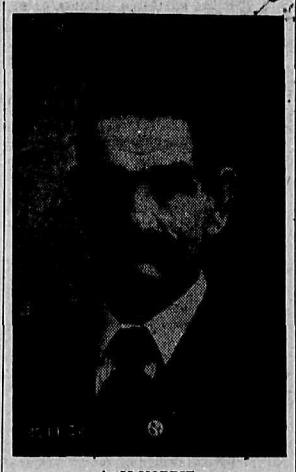
"It should be an elementary principle, not difficult to grasp, that once a corporation passes beyond the bounds of mere private industry and becomes a public corporation upon which the public or a community are directly or indirectly dependent, then there should be a corresponding measure of public control.

"It would seem that the Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company is precisely in this position. Not only is this community solely dependent upon this Company for the continuance of its existence, but the nation—even the Empire—is relying upon the production of materials for a successful prosecution of the war.

"It follows, therefore, that any agitation calculated to cripple or discontinue the operations of this corporation is a quasi public matter and one which requires action on the part of our Government.

"It would appear that if our institu-

(Continued on page 5)



A. McMORDIE

For the last twenty years secretary of the Federated Association of Letter Carriers, with headquarters at Toronto, well-known from one coast of Canada to the other.

WORK AT SHIPYARDS IS COMPLETELY TIED UP

Workers In Both Wood and the Metal Trades Quit Work

Men Asking Wage Scale As Paid At Other Coast Centres

All shipbuilding in the vicinity of Vancouver was tied up on Wednesday as the result of the employers refusing to grant the men a reasonable increase of wages, and proper working hours. The employees connected with the wood-working trades laid down their tools on Tuesday evening and, at a meeting on the same night, decided not to return to work Wednesday morning. On Wednesday the machinists, blacksmiths, pipe fitters, etc., decided to quit work until their differences with the employers had been adjusted, thus practically tieing up the yards tight.

The step taken by the men has been under consideration for some time, and organization work, looking toward the action having real force behind it has been in progress for several months. The aim behind the movement is to secure for the shipyard workers of Vancouver the same wage scale which now prevails in other shipyards on the Pacific coast. The men claim that the Vancouver scale is far below that paid at other points, and far below a living wage at the present cost of living here. It is also stated that there is a lack of uniformity as to the wages paid here, and it is desired to rectify this condition and place all skilled workers in any line on the same plane.

The Men's Demand.

The demands of the shipyard woodworkers were for an 8-hour day, and a 44-hour week, with a wage scale as follows: Shipwrights and joiners, 62½c per hour; caulkers, 68¾c; carpenters, 56¼c.

The shipyard machinists quit work at noon on Wednesday, and during the ame afternoon the blacksmiths and pipe fitters decided to join them. Shipyards do not use sheet metal workers to a great extent, but such as are employed have also quit.

Th demand of the machinists is for a 44-hour week and a minimum wage of 56¼c per hour. The blacksmiths went out some weeks ago, but returned to work in a day or so under a temporary arrangement. As there appeared to be no chance of their securing their full demands by amicable arrangement, they decided to join with their fellow workers in their present movement and thus force a satisfactory adjustment of their case.

In a press statement the management of the Wallace shipyards stated that he was willing to grant 9 hours' pay for 8 hours' work, but intimated that further than this he would not go.

The interests of the workers is being looked after by the international organizers of the various trades, and Mr. A. Watchman, vice-president of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada.

Workers Are Determined.

On Wednesday night an enthusiastic meeting of the striking employees was held at the Labor Temple at which it was evident that the men are determined to fight their cause to a successful conclusion.

It was reported that the laborers employed around the shipyards had formed a temporary organization with over 60 members, and would make application to the American Federation of Labor for a charter covering their line of work.

Messages were received from the various internationals sanctioning the strike, and giving assurances of support. The hope was expressed that the men would stand firm, and not be led to make any agreement with the employers which did not fully recognize the claims of organized labor.

The shipyard caulkers reported that during the week their local had received 69 new members. In this line there was a 100 per cent. organization in every local shipyard except one, and organization work was now being carried on at that point with every prospect of success.

Winnipeg Telephone Girls Win.

The new union of telephone operators at Winnipeg has secured recognition. They have returned to work pending arbitration proceedings covering wages.

Where a Labor Alderman Counsels.

New Westminster city council has thoughtfully decided to send the sum of $250 to the Fernie Miners' union in aid of the relatives of those lost in the recent explosions at the Coal Creek mines.

THE ONCOMING TREAD OF THE PROLETARIAT IS NOW HEARD

May Day Incidents That Portend the Rapid Approach of the Social Revolution—The Voice of Militant Labor Now Heard Above the Din of Ruling Class War—Increasing Labor Unrest Presages the Collapse of Capitalism

INTERNATIONAL LABOR DAY has come and gone. But little attention was given to it upon this western continent. That is easily explained by the fact that this continent is capitalistically blessed with, perhaps, the most backward and even reactionary labor movement of any country on earth. The only recognition of May First as the International holiday of Labor, that was made by the workers of B. C., was by the miners of South Wellington, who observed the day by appropriate ceremonies. But, however backward the labor movement of this continent may be in recognizing and observing the day that the militant workers of the world have set aside as International Labor Day, sufficient news of the events of last Tuesday have leaked through to warrant the belief that vast numbers of the European workers have neither forgotten nor repudiated their loyalty to their class and its cause, even in the midst of the turmoil and clash of ruling class war. Throughout the capitalist world industrial unrest is rapidly increasing. It is being expressed in numerous ways. The capitalist executives (governments) are proving absolutely incapable of dealing with the situation. The capitalist administration of the affairs of human society is being forced into bankruptcy, by the mathematical impossibility involved in the world production of wealth and the selling of it for more than it cost. It is a bankruptcy through impotence. The tramp of the revolutionary proletariat heralds the speedy approach of the day of judgment.

May Day in Petrograd.

To the tottering thrones and the trembling capitalists of the world, the marching of fully a million men and women in the various parades in the city of Petrograd, on May 1st, under the red banner of International Labor, and singing the songs of liberty, could not have been a pleasing and inspiring spectacle. But to the struggling slaves of capitalism in all lands it should be an inspiration and a message of hope, urging them forward to a like participation and activity in the great movement that alone promises relief to the harried and tortured victims of ruling class rascality and profit grinding that now casts its black and baneful shadow across the earth; the militant and revolutionary labor movement of the world. During no revolution that has yet occurred in human history, has the red flag of labor been so completely in evidence as in this Russian revolution. From all that we have been so far able to learn, the red flag is the only recognized national emblem in Russia now. The supreme command appears to be in the hands of the workers and others who are disciples of democracy and warriors of the social revolution. In no other way can the adoption of the red flag and the celebration of International Labor Day by millions marching under its sacred folds, be accounted for. The sight of that flag flung to the breeze as its national emblem, by a nation of people hundreds of millions strong, might be quite meritoriously taken as a somewhat scathing criticism of the mental status of the labor movement in those lands where the workers still loyally worship and proudly march under the commercial trade marks of their unscrupulous and conscienceless exploiters and economic masters.

In Holland Also.

The workers of Holland also observed International Labor Day. At The Hague, the workers, with the red flag at their head, sang the Internationale while passing the royal palace, presumably for the purpose of soothing the royal nerves that may have been more or less set on edge by the noisy salutations extended to each other by Holland's friendly neighbors next door. The red banners carried by the paraders bore inscriptions calling for peace, expressing approbation of the Russian revolution, and faith in the proletariat, and the eventual triumph of its cause.

In England and Elsewhere.

The only May Day demonstration in England so far recorded was the return to work of 1500 striking clerks of Woolwich arsenal, and 3000 dock workers at Tilbury, after a promise of adjustment of their wages had been made. The tremor given to the British throne by this militant action may be easily imagined. Nothing is yet known as to what observance of the day was made in France, and the remaining European countries. A rigid censorship has prevented any information as to what happened in Germany from coming out. While there are rumors of considerable unrest, and probable significant demonstrations in that country on May Day, there is nothing yet more relinble than mere surmise upon which to base speculation. It is hardly likely that anything very startling has occurred there, as it would be unreasonable to expect the German workers to sufficiently break loose from their long established habits of servility and meekness to authority, to indulge in any rude and threatening conduct.

The United States and Canada.

The labor world of this western continent is pretty well in a ferment, but it is principally over the matter of wages. Strikes are in evidence all over the land. There is nothing else that particularly disturbs the average worker of this side of the earth, but interference with his "eats," his "hay and oats." His rulers can safely deprive him of everything else, but when his wages will not cover more than half or two-thirds of what is actually necessary to keep him in condition to properly serve his master, he sooner or later shows signs of kicking. Well his wages are continually going down. The tremendous rise in the price of everything that goes into his stomach or on his back, expresses that fall in wages. And he is kicking, and in many cases striking. Every time he gains an advance in wages he loses it by a corresponding or greater advance in the cost of living. He cannot prevent it, and neither can his employer, and the beauty of it is that the latter does not want to. There are strikes everywhere. Here in British Columbia the metalliferous mining industry of the interior is practically shut down, ostensibly because there is no coke available on account of the strike in the coal district. But the miners assert the shut-down is for the purpose of forestalling the demands of the mine employers for an advance of wages to enable them to keep pace with the advancing cost of living. The miners are to be starved into submission, and a continuation of work at the old wages. The owners are all patriots, and are not at all slow in appealing to their recalcitrant slaves to return to work and thus keep the mines running, because "the production of metals is so necessary for our heroes at the front, who are so bravely fighting to protect us." It might be added, "and our profits." For everybody knows what is meant by "us."

What It All Means.

There are numerous strikes on all over the land, and more are threatened. That which causes the strike in one case will bring on others, and this will go on, like a continuous performance at the movies, so long as the cause that prompts strikes remains. And that cause is human slavery. There is nothing else that man ever struck against. Ther is nothing else to strike against. So long as one man or set of men is master of another man or set of men, so long will these acts of rebellion occur. For there is nothing else to mastery but plunder. And against being plundered men will strike. They may not realize that they are being robbed. But that is all that is happening to the working people of the earth, under the rule of capital. That is all that ever happened to them under feudal serfdom and chattel slavery. There never was anything to revolt or strike against in the past, and there is nothing else now. In its struggle with the mid-European survival of the middle ages, modern capitalism, as expressed by the Entente Allies, will win. The medieval survival will go down and out, and in the place of it will come a state or states wearing modern political garb. Capitalism will win, but capitalism will be bankrupt, and therefore, ill-equipped to withstand the onslaught of the proletarian army that will be, and is even now, battering at its gates. In conquering its enemy, feudal autocracy, out of whose loins it sprang, capitalism is but conjuring forth its Nemesis, the revolutionary working class, which will in turn cast it into oblivion as it is even now casting therein the left-over feudal remnants of the past. Capitalism, in a bath of blood, is now washing itself clear of remaining feudal taint, but it is a case of "washing out the baby with the bath." It is itself going down and out, and that right speedily. The tread of the oncoming proletariat may be distinctly heard. The end of human slavery rapidly approaches. The dawn of liberty's day is breaking upon the social horizon. "Labor omnia vincit."

MAY DAY SPIRIT OBTAINS OVER THE WHOLE PROVINCE

There's something doing in the field of organized labor throughout British Columbia right now.

On the coast two federal wage inquiries are going on, covering the demands of the civic employees and wireless telegraph operators for increases. The workers of the sugar refinery are now out for just recognition, and a general strike of the wood and metal trades workers in the shipyards has been declared.

In the interior, there is a fairly general cessation of work in the coal mines, as well as strike conditions prevailing at a number of mining and smelting centres.

The claim of labor for more adequate compensation of the workers has a sure foundation in the higher cost of living.

It is up to organized labor to support to the limit these just demands of their fellow workers.

MANY COMPENSATION CLAIMS ARE HELD UP

Because about sixty per cent. of the workmen personally concerned in seeking damages or compensation for injuries under the terms of the Workmen's Compensation Act fail to send in their personal claim to complete the record, the Workmen's Compensation board has about 600 claims on file awaiting adjustment, it is announced. During the current month the board has passed and settled 400 claims for compensation, but there are over 600 in various stages of adjustment, the great majority of which have been held up, owing to the fact that the workmen most concerned having failed to file his claim. This is one of the very essential points in the procedure, although the employers and the surgeons have made their reports on these claims, the board cannot make the final adjustment and pass the claim until the applicant's personal claim has been filed to complete the record.

THE CIVIC EMPLOYEES HAVE CLOSED THEIR CASE

Strong Testimony As to Justice of Men Receiving Increase.

The board of inquiry which is considering the claim of the civic employees for an increase of wages, has held nightly sessions during the week. The case for the employees was closed on Monday night, and the city is now presenting its case. From present appearances, the men have made out a case which cannot be controverted. Interesting testimony on the present cost of living was given by Mr. Cotsworth, who stated that for an average family, the cost of supplies was now $15.90 for the same foodstuffs as would have cost $10.15 in 1914. With a wage of $3 per day prevailing in 1914, a wage of $3.88 per day would now be demanded to even matters up, instead of the prevailing rate of $2.25 to $2.50 for ordinary labor.

ENGINEERS' UNION NOW HAS A BUSINESS AGENT

W. A. Alexander Already Doing Effective Work in Building It Up.

Vancouver local of the International Steam & Operating Engineers, is one of the latest unions to add a business agent to its list of officers. This decision was made at last Sunday's meeting. W. A. Alexander has been elected to the position, and is now making his headquarters in room 216, Labor Temple. Eight new members were initated at last meeting, and fifteen the meeting previous. New wage schedules are being secured in every direction, and the working conditions generally have been much improved of late. It is confidently expected that despite the opposition of the mill owners of the province, the government will pass legislation providing for an eight-hour shift in lieu of the present twelve-hour grind for engineers. The Engineers' union is making good.

LABOR TEMPLE MEETINGS DURING THE COMING WEEK

SUNDAY, May 6—Bartenders; Moving Picture Operators; Steam Engineers; Steam Shovel & Dredgemen.

MONDAY, May 7—Electrical Workers; Iron Workers; Boilermakers; Tailors; Street Railwaymen's Executive.

TUESDAY, May 8—Stone Cutters; Pressmen; Barbers.

WEDNESDAY, May 9—Stereotypal Trades Council; Press Feeders; Street Railwaymen; Meters.

THURSDAY, May 10—Machinists; Shipwrights and Caulkers; Milk Wagon Drivers; Sheet Metal Workers.

FRIDAY, May 11—Pile Drivers & Wooden Bridge Builders.

SATURDAY, May 12—

MACHINISTS' LOCAL ELECTS OFFICERS

The recently organized local of the machinists held a very enthusiastic meeting on Monday night, at which temporary officers were elected. The interest taken in the meeting, as shown by the spirit of the discussions, promises that the new organization will be a "live wire" in the field of organized labor in the city. The temporary officers elected were: President, C. A. Fisher; recording secretary, W. Street; financial secretary, W. Wareham; sentinel, W. Fleming. The application for the charter has already been forwarded, there being over 50 charter members.

MINERS ON THE ISLAND OBSERVE LABOR'S MAY DAY

Cumberland Local to Further Assist in Circulating The Federationist.

SOUTH WELLINGTON, V. I., May 1.—The members of local 872, U. M. W. of A., are planning to get The Federationist into every home in this district. Our local is getting along fine and we can afford to spend a little money to help the campaign along. Am sending along the first lot of names of our membership; the balance will follow as soon as I can get round to it. May Day is being observed here today. President Naylor, of the B. C. Federation of Labor, and J. H. Hawthornthwaite are the speakers of the day. The mines are closed down tight, and the boys are out for a royal good time.

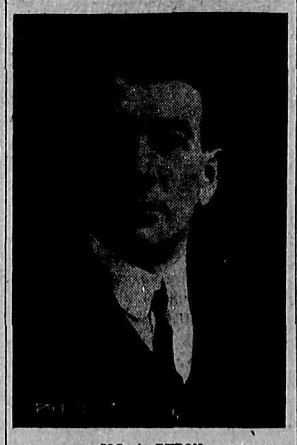
EMPLOYERS TRY TO EXPLOIT RETURNED SOLDIERS

Firm Which Discharged Men for Union Causes Now Seeks Soldiers.

The engineering firm of Letson & Burpee recently sent a communication to the Returned Soldiers' club stating that work would be found at its plant for returned soldiers who were machinists. The action should be borne in mind by readers of The Federationist, as it affords a local illustration of the effort of employers to exploit, through the medium of returned soldiers' organizations the principle of non-unionism. It will be remembered that some weeks ago the machinists at the Letson & Burpee shop walked out as the result of two of their fellow employees being discharged admittedly because of their connections with the Machinists' union.

Toronto Unionists Active.

May Day passed quietly in Toronto. Two hundred cigarmakers, who struck two weeks ago, asking an additional dollar per thousand, remain out, but no strikes were inaugurated. There are prospects of large demands by the street railway employees and other unions, but expected negotiations are some weeks ahead. Union officials state that employers were never so ready to listen to their representations as now.



JOS. A. BYRON

A nominee of Pioneer Division No. 101, Street Railway Employees, along with E. S. Cleveland, submitted to the central labor body for the primary referendum of organized labor, to choose a Labor candidate for the forthcoming bye-election in Vancouver.

STREET RAILWAYMEN ARE LOYAL TO EMPIRE

Indirect Criticism By Semi-Public Body Is Not Well-founded

Two Local Street Car Men Killed At the Front This Week

The street railwaymen believe that the local organization, which recently passed a resolution advising that the B. C. Electric let out a large number of its conductors and replace them with women, acted without understanding the conditions.

"I think that the street railwaymen have shown as much, if not even greater loyalty than any other class of Vancouver residents," said an official of the men's union in discussing the subject. "About 135 men from Pioneer Division alone have left their work and are now fighting for the Empire. This statement covers only men working in connection with the actual operation of the street cars, and does not include any of the head office employees who enlisted. In addition to this number, many of our men have volunteered for service, but have been rejected for various reasons.

"As a matter of fact, there is but a very small percentage of single men operating on the street cars at present. In replacing the 135 men who have gone to the front, the company has been engaging only married men. As, even before the war, the majority of our men were married and had families, it will be seen a fair survey of the situation would make it clear that the street railwaymen, as a body, have done their duty by their country."

Financial Conditions Govern.

Another street railwayman said that it was possible that some of the men would enlist if they could see that their families were properly taken care of. With the cost of living as at present existing, however, and the fact that the wages the men receive is only sufficient for a "hand to mouth" living, these men, unable to lay up anything, cannot see their way clear, in justice to their families, to volunteer for service. As things now are, it was said that men are leaving the cars because of the impossibility of making a living wage at the rates they are now paid, because of the great advance in the cost of living.

The indirect criticism of the attitude of the street railwaymen in connection with serving their country received a striking answer during the week, when the casualty lists noted the death at the front of H. A. Willis and W. R. Chandler, both well-known and popular street car employees. Mr. Willis was employed as a car repairer, and Mr. Chandler was a Vancouver conductor.

Negotiation of Men's Executive.

It is stated that the men's executive is taking up with the company officials several important questions which the men have asked be pressed immediately. Conferences have been held between the various divisions and steps taken to carefully outline the men's case. This work necessarily takes some time, but careful preparation of every point which may be brought up is judged to be of prime importance in enabling the men's case to be presented with telling force.

Business Agent Fred. A Hoover has been appointed a commissioner for taking affidavits for the purpose of placing names on the provincial voters' list. Members should remember this, and see that their names are "written there."

CARPENTERS REPORT IMPROVED CONDITIONS

All Local Contractors Have Acceded to Demand for 50 Cents Per Hour.

Last meeting of the Amalgamated Carpenters' union was well attended. Reports of job stewards and business agents showed that all the local contractors had come through with the raise, and the membership was fully employed under the new schedule.

The Workers' Defence league of San Francisco asked for financial assistance and it was decided to grant a sum of money, the Trades and Labor council having endorsed the appeal.

Thirteen new members were initiated.

The Minister of Labor and Fair Wage Officer McNiven will be immediately notified that the wages for carpenters in Vancouver is now 50c per hour.

STATE CAPITALISM THE PROMISE OF THE FUTURE

Some Speculation As to the Probable Progress and Reforms

Stage of Journey of Human Race from Apehood to Manhood

[By R. C. Woodbury]

IT WAS THE opinion of the distinguished historian, essayist and orator, Lord Macaulay, who lived from 1800 to 1859, that education should be made compulsory by the state. If this was so in his time, it is more apparent that under state capitalism such will be the case. It will not only be compulsory, but more thorough, practical and technical in its nature, so as to produce experts and specialists, while dead languages will be interred and English become more and more the universal means of expressing and exchanging thought.

The metric system of weights and measures, a decimal system, which originated in France in 1801, and which is as superior to ours as a tungsten lamp is to a tallow candle, and now in use in practically all countries except English-speaking ones, is to be adopted by the United States on January 1, 1920. This will greatly facilitate commerce and doubtless Great Britain and her colonies will speedily follow suit.

Probable Reforms.

Economy will be applied to daylight, an hour of which will be saved each day during the summer months, by the general adoption of the daylight-saving plan; simplified spelling come into universal use; capital punishment, a relic of barbarism, repudiated, and absolute monarchs, with other savage survivals in the higher peoples, thrown overboard.

Slums and their landlords, along with slum newspapers, devoted to keyhole journalism and backyard politics, will disappear; crime and insanity henceforth known as diseases, and treated as such; the ringing of church bells discontinued, as such is unnecessary since the invention of the dollar watch; while even the cemetery with its waste of large tracts of land, will have to go, and cremation, which is more economical as well as more sanitary, replace it. Then instead of being hurried to the grave in a motor hearse, our ashes will repose in an urn or be scattered to the four winds of heaven.

Harmonizing Oil and Water.

Religion remains a personal matter, and it will be kept alive for the people so long as they desire it, but religions, too, change with the times. Even now they are amalgamating like corporations, and in the future will likely conform more to the standard set by the I. B. S. A., which aims to harmonize religion and science, has abolished the time-worn practice of taking collections, and sends forth trained lecturers, with expenses prepaid, to propagate the gospel in all languages.

Steady Jobs in Sight.

Since the state will in time become practically the only employer, nearly all workers will possess what has in the past been so much coveted, namely a government job. Then when one worker meets another, the hackneyed questions, "What are you doing? Who are you working for?" will not require to be asked. Where there is not government ownership there will be state supervision and direction of industry. Industries, like railroads, will be as economically and efficiently operated as is now the post office.

For the first time an attempt will be made to regulate supply by demand, and to that extent periodical panics cease, but the condition will be chronic, depending on the rapidity or slowness of the industrial development of Russia, China and South America.

The recent standardization of automobiles and ships shows what labor and machinery can produce, but in the future improvements in machinery and efficiency will, like the present war, be unprecedented and unparalleled. Machinery will in the future, as in the past, be introduced when its cost is not more than that of labor.

"Fair Wages," "Fair Work."

Under state capitalism, "minimum" wages will be paid, or in other words, "a fair day's wages for a fair day's work." What is "fair" will be decided by arbitration boards. This will be compulsory in theory, but strikes will occur so long as the workers have grievances, not though, if the state can prevent them. Even now in military Prussia they occur, but when they do, they will doubtless be put down with an iron hand.

Militarism will reach its highest point of development, and since the state and the standing army were contemporaneous in origin, will decline with state capitalism, and when the latter goes out of existence, the state ceases to function as such.

Good food, clothing and shelter ought to be, and will be, compulsory to some extent, since the main characteristics of state capitalism, as contrasted with capitalism's earlier forms, are compulsion, organization, efficiency and economy.

Since the ruling ideas of any age are the ideas of its ruling class, and working class ideas and institutions are necessarily patterned after capitalist ones, compulsion or coercion of members of trade or industrial unions, by those bodies, will develop rapidly. This is a reflection of the fact that in return for the state caring for the physical wel-

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THE B. C. FEDERATIONIST

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R. Parm. Pettipiece.....................................Manager

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REPRESENTATIVES
New Westminster..........W. Yates, Box 1021
Prince Rupert........S. D. Macdonald, Box 268
Victoria.........................A. S. Wells, Box 1538

"Unity of Labor: the Hope of the World"

FRIDAY..............................May 4, 1917

THE POWER OF IMAGINATION.

A 20 per cent. increase in wages has been secured to the miners of the bituminous coal field of Illinois, Indiana Ohio and Western Pennsylvania. This affects about a quarter of a million miners. That it will be appreciated by the miners goes without saying and that it insures a substantial betterment in their daily living conditions is no doubt true. But that it registers no permanent gain is equally true. Like all other gains that have been recorded in the past, it is likely to be offset at any time by such an advance in price of the necessaries of life as to completely nullify all that has been temporarily gained. That there has been any permanent improvement in wage conditions since the advent of the wage system of separating wealth producers from their products is not a matter of fact, but of imagination. Like all previous systems of slavery—or more properly speaking, previous methods of dealing out provender to slaves—there has been a progressive lowering of the standard of living for the slaves and a continual widening of the chasm existing between those slaves and their masters The conditions of the chattel slaves of old were far worse, in comparison to their masters, during the latter years of that form of slavery than during its earlier days. The same is true of the feudal system of serfdom. And the same is true of wage slavery. There is a wider gap between the wage slave and his master now than ever before since capitalism came into power. At no time in all history was there such a wide margin between the average wage and the average output of the worker as now. And that alone tells all there is to tell about continually bettering the conditions of labor under the capitalist regime. Never was it more impossible for the worker to lift himself out of the wage slave class and become a proprietor and independent than now. And from all parts of the labor world comes overwhelming evidence that never would the average wage purchase less of the necessities of life, than right now in these glorious days when wage increases are of almost as frequent occurrence as rainy days in B. C. Never were such gigantic fortunes piled up in such short time as at present and that phenomenon could not occur if wages were actually on the increase.

* * *

There are some people in this world who are possessed of very elastic imaginations. They can see progress where no progress occurs. They can see liberty where nothing but slavery exists. It has been said that none are so blind as those who will not see. Perhaps so, but it also seems that there are none who can see so many things as they who will persist in remaining stone blind. For instance, we quote an authority, perhaps a self-appointed one, upon this matter of an increase of wages for the coal miners, as follows: ''This something more than 20 per cent. wage increase for a quarter million mine workers, SECURED BY PERFECTLY FRIENDLY AND BUSINESS LIKE NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE MINE OPERATORS, will undoubtedly mark an epoch in the progress of trades unionism and in the development of industrial equality of workers with employers The collective bargaining of two sets of free men, free workers and free employers, has been set forward a whole generation and has been set on a sure and permanent foundation.'' Now there is real imagination for you. ''Friendly and business like negotiations'' between exploiter and exploited, between masters and slaves, could not well be discerned except by means of an elastic imagination. One is almost tempted to wonder why, if the relations existing between them are ''friendly,'' the advance should have been, say, 100 per cent., instead of the comparatively small one of 20 per cent.

* * *

But the best part of it is ''the development of industrial equality of workers with employers.'' Industrial equality between they who have everything that is, and the power to obtain everything that is to be, and they who have nothing but empty hands. Industrial equality between those who control all means of life and they who do not and cannot even control the power to labor that is stored up in their bones and muscles and upon the expenditure of which they depend in order to obtain the things necessary to their continued existence? That is indeed rich. We would give anything to be possessed of an imagination like that. We could live upon it. It would provide all that is necessary, without any wages at all. But perhaps the most wonderful picture ever painted by the imagination of man is that of ''the collective bargaining of two sets of free men, free workers and free employers.'' What in the deuce these free men would or could be bargaining about is beyond our ken, more especially in view of the fact that one set is composed of free masters and the other of free slaves Free men would certainly not be compelled to bargain for their living. They would not have to if they were free. That is all there is to freedom. Therefore, if there is any bargaining of that sort going on, it is proof positive that no such thing as freedom exists, either on the one side or the other. But a duly constituted and properly trained imagination can perform wonders. The plain fact of it all is that some people are trying to see things that do not really exist, in order to bolster up some unsound philosophy that they have been weak enough to follow and are not yet strong enough in the mental backbone to throw overboard, although it is as plain as a pikestaff that it is sure enough punk.

WE ARE NOT SEEKING MARTYRDOM.

SOME GO OUT into the world and wring fortunes out of the most obtuse and disheartening circumstances. Other equally good men and well intentioned withal, fall into the ruck of ill fortune, no matter how earnest their efforts to avoid it. And yet again, others there are who it seems could not escape the embraces of good luck, even though they set forth with the most profound determination so to do. It is much the same with martyrdom. Some can unearth it out of circumstances that would appear upon the surface to be most unpromising and impossible. Others fall into it no matter how earnestly they try to sidestep it. Still others find it thrust upon them without the least desire upon their part, or without their even having sense enough in their heads to enable them to distinguish between martyrdom and a horrible nightmare, in any case. Here within the sanctum sanctorum of The Federationist we seek neither fortune nor martyrdom. The former because we are duly impressed with the knowledge that there are no surface indications to warrant any hope in that direction, unless it might be that of ill-fortune, and we have had a sufficiency of that as it is. The latter because we have an instinctive feeling that martyrdom implies more or less discomfort, and might upon occasion be even painful. We like to be comfortable. We don't enjoy being uncomfortable at all, and we acknowledge a positive aversion to painful experience. And as to fortune, if we had one we should be put to the trouble and annoyance of either becoming a slave to it or blowing it in. We don't care to be afflicted with the bother of it in either case.

* * *

But we do get numerous requests to do things, some quite reasonable, others positively ridiculous. We are touched for money; we are called upon to solve great public questions; our services are frequently requested for the purpose of composing marital infelicities; for settling quarrels between employers and employees; for removing all doubts as to the probity of British Columbia politicians, and our advice is always at the disposal of those who wish to become especially well informed on how to comport themselves in good society, how to nonchalantly assimilate a high-priced potato, and how to properly appreciate the ''patriotic fund.'' But of all the requests we have ever received the following takes the persimmon:

* * *

Editor B. C. Federationist: Please find enclosed copy of Brockway's defence, recently published in the ''Canadian Forward,'' as a reprint from the Labor Leader, England. I presume you have been informed that a charge of sedition has been laid against the editor of the before-mentioned paper, and in view of your fight for liberty, I have the audacity to ask you to reprint it in The Federationist. The time has come when all defenders of liberty should be in durance vile. Yours for democracy.''

* * *

There are several reasons why we do not feel justified in complying with the above request. One is our extreme modesty, a modesty in fact that is so well known hereabouts that it is unnecessary to further proclaim it from the housetops, as we have been in the habit of doing for quite some years. We are so conscious of our insignificance and lack of worth that we are sure we would make as sorry a figure as a martyr as did the renowned Don Quixote as a knight errant. Another reason is that we are not unmindful of the fact that this martyr business is exceedingly dangerous at this particular time. And as already implied, we are not very enthusiastic in the search for trouble just at present. But perhaps the strongest reason of all is that we have perused ''Brockway's Defence'' most carefully and are, as a result of that perusal, quite convinced that the aforesaid Brockway should be given time for a thorough study of the present war and the cause which led up to it, as well as for serious contemplation over the utility of futility in coping with the problem of a brutal and conscienceless ruling class and its overthrow. Not that we are in favor of jailing Brockway or anyone else in order that they may be given time for study and contemplation. If they will not take the time otherwise it looks as though the hand of providence might be discerned, however, in the time being given to them in that manner. But that is none of our doings, as any one may readily understand.

* * *

We know that British law provides that the ''conscientious objector'' shall be exempt from military service, but in the opinion of those impartial tribunals so inseparable from the administration of British justice, only pious and holy persons can have a conscience. In fact they have to be positively and incurably religious, in order to be safe on this point And it logically follows that if Brockway had not been properly inoculated with the true religious virus, he could not have a conscience and, therefore, could not be a genuine ''conscientious objector.'' That is easy enough to be seen, unless one be so wilfully blind that he will not see. If we were possessed of a desire to be haled before some tribunal upon a charge of sedition it would not be necessary to draw upon England for inspiration. Our own initiative would be able to find ample material to draw upon right here at home.

* * *

We do not believe that the time ''has come when all defenders of liberty should be in durance vile.'' That is purely the doctrine of a ruling class. In the opinion of a ruling class, there is where all ''defenders of liberty'' should be at all times, either there or in their graves. But liberty's cause does not make any such demands. That cause demands that all of her warriors should remain outside of the bastiles of tyranny and should so wage her battles as to keep clear of crippling the cause by being in any manner removed from the firing line and rendered impotent. The walls of capitalist Jericho will not fall down before the tin trumpet blasts of ignorant piffle and irresponsible and ill-considered bluster. The soldiers of liberty must remain in the open, and there wage the battle against the tyranny of the ages, being directed in their fight by a sound knowledge of the task in hand, the obstacles that must be overcome, and the legitimate and invincible weapons that reason and good judgment have forged for the occasion. A live coward is said to be better than a dead hero. That may or may not be true. But of one thing we may be sure. A single warrior in the cause of human liberty intelligently wielding his weapons in her behalf outside of jail, is infinitely more powerful than a dozen or a hundred shackled and in ''durance vile.'' We can do little enough outside of jail, and knowing that, we decline to comply with the request of our correspondent, for ''in durance vile'' we could do nothing.

GREAT BRITAIN'S FOOD SUPPLY.

IT MAY BE readily gathered from reading the columns of the daily press that the German submarine warfare is somewhat seriously threatening the food supply of the British Isles. It is hardly within the bounds of probability, however, that this method of warfare can or will accomplish the purpose that has prompted it, unless it be powerfully aided by the fear or the blundering stupidity of the British government itself. There is but one thing that can bring defeat to the cause of the Allies in their struggle against feudal mid-Europe and that is the inherent weakness of those governments that for the moment hold sway in these various capitalist countries. Capitalist industry is run for profit, and profit itself is but another name for waste. It saps the substance of the producers of wealth without any compensatinf advantage. It therefore makes for social weakness rather than for social strength. During normal times, nations worry along in spite of this drain upon their vitality and energy, but it leaves behind it a perfect deluge of physical, moral and spiritual degeneration and social degradation that are as unmistakeably the evidences of unclean living in the case of nations, as similar phenomena would indicate unclean living upon the part of individuals. However successfully nations may be able to drag out their existence under such a handicap during normal times, whenever the occasion arises calling for extraordinary efforts in order to survive, this deadly drain, if continued, may so sap their strength as to render them incapable of withstanding the storm that has been raised against them.

* * *

All modern nations are based upon human slavery. The producers of wealth are slaves. Their slavery is none the less merely because the masters bear the more euphonious names of employers. Slavery by any other name is in essence the same. It produces the same effects whether the slave be called chattel, serf or free laborer. The British Empire is engaged in the fight of its life. Along with other nations it is in a death struggle with what has been left over from the unbridled autocracy of the middle ages. Britain and her Allies must conquer or even the little progress that has been made along the lines of democracy and a greater human liberty must go down to defeat and the world revert to the feudal political status of bygone days. And the only force that threatens to thwart the triumph of the Allies is that virus of profit that still runs its poisonous course through the veins of civilization. It is that alone that even now is sapping the strength of nations and rendering it extremely difficult for them to cope with the extraordinary situation that has come upon them. And especially is this true of Great Britain.

* * *

The British Isles produce not more than one-sixth of their necessary foodstuffs. The balance has to be imported. That at least was the condition at the outbreak of the war. It has not been materially altered since. Owing to terrific strain placed upon her by the war the government of Great Britain has been compelled to inaugurate a few measures to somewhat lessen the drain upon the national vitality and energy that has been made by the profit-sucking interests during past years. This has been done in order to be able to withstand the tremendous pressure of the feudal enemy at the gates. But when all is said and done, the effect to curtail this profit-sucking of the life blood of the nation have been but feeble and half-hearted efforts at the best. The profit has only been cut down a trifle. It has not been cut out entirely, as should have been done. The poison is still at work and unless it is entirely eliminated, its deadly effects may so weaken the nation that defeat will be the result.

* * *

From the April number of a circular issued by the Northumberland Miners' Mutual Confident Association, we gather some valuable information bearing upon what is done to solve the food problem of the British Isles. During th eyear 1916, 65,000,000 bushels of grain was used up in Great Britain in the making of 36,000,000 barrels of beer. 162,000 tons of sugar was also used up in the process. During the year an enormous quantity of fruit was lost because sugar could not be obtained with which to preserve it. A great London caterer who feeds 40,000 working people per day, ordered an enormous quantity of sugar from the Philippines. When it arrived he received notification that his sugar was ''stopped by Food Controller, unless for Brewers. If for Brewers, certificate to that effect required.'' The Brewers' requirements evidently were of more concern to the government than the food requirements of the people. So much indignation has been expressed because of the government's subserviency to the liquor interests that it has finally been decided to reduce the production of beer to 10,000,000 million barrels per year. But to produce this will require ''45,000 tons of sugar, 20,000 tons of maize and 360,000 tons of barley.'' And the German submarines are still threatening the national food supply. Ships are still being sunk. And yet the tonnage space required to bring to Britain the sugar and grains used up last year in the making of beer, amounted to the equivalent of ''60 ships of 5,000 tons each working at the rate of six voyages a year.'' And all of this sugar and grain is used up in the production of that which lessens the energy and saps the vitality of a people, instead of being turned to energy producing and vitality conserving purposes. But the evil influence lying behind it all is that of profit. To Brewers that profit is of far greater importance than the triumph of democracy over autocracy. To all capitalists it is of far greater importance than the life of the nation, or the lives of the slaves that are foredoomed to vegetate under the brutal sway of their profit-mad regime. While British workers are fighting and dying for ''liberty and democracy,'' they might also make a note of the fact that they are also fighting for the conservation of not only Brewers' profits, but the profits of all the blood-thirsty and patriotic capitalist pirates on earth, that keep right on sucking the life blood of nations while the workers fight their battles. Great Britain's food problem is a most interesting one once the light is thrown upon it.

Just in the way of a few hints as to the cause of the high cost of living we beg to mention: The American Sugar Refining Co. made $7,000,000 more profit last year than the year before; the American Woollen Co., $3,000,000 more; the Diamond Match Co., $2,000,000 more; and so on down the line, or rather up the line, for these are only some of the small fry when it comes down to trimming productive suckers and getting away with the loot.

''Wanted—A home for a few months for a soldier's pet dog (spaniel); gentle with children; soldier's mother out working. Box 1125 Province office.'' The above from the Daily Province of this city. We beg to suggest that the ''dog'' apply to the ''patriotic fund.'' It would do the soldier's mother no good to make application on her own behalf, for she has a job. In making this suggestion, we are, of course, presuming that the dog is leading a good life, and is not addicted to unduly extravagant habits. One of the female ''investigators'' could be sent around before taking action.

The German government has expressed regret for the sinking of the Argentine ship Monte Protegido. As reparation for the offense, and as a mark of respect, a German imperial squadron is to salute the Argentine flag ''at the first opportunity.'' Owing to unforeseen circumstances of a prohibitive nature, the imperial government does not know with complete exactitude when that ''opportunity'' will occur, but until then the balance of trade in international monkey business will be in Argentine's favor. The Monte Protegido still remains sunk.

A peace meeting at the Academy of Music at Baltimore on April 1, attended by 3,000 people, and being addressed by David Starr Jordan, was attacked by a mob led by the son of a local banker namer Osborne. Among the rioters were several professors, a number of prominent business men of the city, as well as members of the faculties of John Hopkins University, the University of Maryland, The City College, Baltimore Polytechnic Institute and Mount St Joseph's College. There was not an I. W. W. or a socialist or any similarly disreputable character among them, no, not even a low down workingman of any sort or description. It was a strictly respectable affair in every way, so to speak.

The railways of the United States only had the miserable pittance of $1,029,241,804 left at the end of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1916, after all fixed charges and all other expenditures, including taxes, were paid. It is no wonder they are now asking government permission to increase their rates by 15 per cent. in order to save them from a bankruptcy that is surely threatened as a result of the Adamson law establishing the eight-hour day in the railway train service. Unless they get permission to advance rates, it is not easy to see how they are to get by. It may be true that ''figures never lie,'' but it ought to be against the law to publish them when their publication so completely strips the mask of hypocrisy and humbug off the capitalist skin game. It's an awful looking thing once its stripped. If we didn't know what it is doing to us it wouldn't look so bad.

''That solicitation of public funds by various charitable bodies on behalf of Canadian soldiers should not be allowed except by permission of the government was a suggestion made to the special committee considering the welfare of returned soldiers by Major Todd of the pension board this morning. Sir Herbert Ames, chairman of the committee, agreed that there should be supervision by the government.''—Ottawa press despatch. Very good, as far as it goes, but it stops far short of the goal. Street begging is street begging, it matters not for what purpose it may be practiced. It is an unwarranted nuisance, whether it be practiced by indulgent persons on their own behalf or for professed patriotic and other pretended worthy purposes. This nuisance has been so energetically worked in behalf of all kinds of alleged charitable schemes that scarce a day passes that the pedestrian upon the street is not buttonholed and often impudently solicited by either females or hemales, mostly the former, for financial aid for some of these schemes. And the giver has no means of knowing as to the bona fides of the solicitors or the ultimate destination of his contributions. It is high time that this business was cut out in its entirety, whether practiced allegedly upon behalf of Canadian soldiers or for any other purpose. The Dominion of Canada is amply able to take due and proper care of not only its soldiers, but of such other of its people who may unfortunately become so circumstanced as to require public assistance. For a city, a province or a state to sanction street beggary, no matter for what alleged purpose, is for the city, the province or the state to sink to the undignified, impudent and vulgar level of the confirmed street beggar himself. In the name of decency and dignity it should be cut out once for all.

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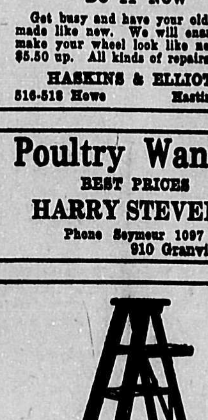

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Post Office Inspector's Office,

J. F. MURRAY,
Post Office Inspector.

Vancouver, B. C., April 14th, 1917.

VANCOUVER UNIONS

TRADES AND LABOR COUNCIL—MEETS first and third Thursdays. Executive board; James H. McVety, president; Fred A. Hoover, vice-president; Victor R. Midgley, general secretary, 210 Labor Temple; Fred Knowles, treasurer; W. H. Cottrill, statistician; sergeant-at-arms, George Harrison; A. J. Crawford, Jas. Campbell, F. Haigh, trustees.

ALLIED PRINTING TRADES COUNCIL—Meets second Monday in the month. President, J. McKinnon; 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. 4752; recording secretary, Wm. Mottishaw, Globe Hotel, Main street.

JOURNEYMEN BARBERS' INTERNATIONal Union of America, Local No. 120—Meets 2nd and 4th Tuesdays in the month, Room 205 Labor Temple. President, L. E. Herritt; secretary, S. H. Grant, 604 Georgia street.

BRICKLAYERS AND MASONS, NO. 1—Meet 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 8 p.m., Room 307. President, Chas. F. Smith; corresponding secretary, W. S. Dagnall, Box 53; financial secretary, W. J. Pipes; business agent, W. S. Dagnall, Room 215.

BREWERY WORKERS, L. U. No. 281, I. U. U. B. W. of A.—Meets first and third Wednesday of each month, Room 302, Labor Temple, 8 p.m. President, A. Sykes; secretary. Frank Graham, 2256 Twelfth avenue west.

BROTHERHOOD OF BOILER MAKERS and Iron Ship Builders and Helpers of America, Vancouver Lodge No. 194—Meets first and third Mondays, 8 p.m. President, A. Campbell, 73 Seventeenth avenue west; secretary, A. Fraser, 1151 Howe street.

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF STEAM AND OPERATING ENGINEERS — Local No. 620. Meets every Sunday, 8 p.m., Room 216, Labor Temple. President, Wm. Walker; vice-president, J. R. Flynn; secretary-treasurer, W. A. Alexander, Room 216, Labor Temple. Phone, Sey. 7495.

DEEP SEA FISHERMEN'S UNION OF THE Pacific—Meets at 437 Gore avenue every Tuesday, 7 p.m. Russell Kearley, business agent.

ELECTRICAL WORKERS, LOCAL NO. 213—Meets in Room 205, Labor Temple, every Monday, 8 p.m. President, D. W. McDougall, 1162 Powell street; recording secretary, John Murdock, Labor Temple; financial secretary and business agent, E. H. Morrison, Room 207, Labor Temple.

INTERNATIONAL LONGSHOREMEN'S ASsociation, Local 38-52—Office and hall, 10 Powell street. Meets every Thursday 8 p.m. Secretary-treasurer, F. Chapman; business agent, J. Mahone.

MACHINISTS, NO. 182—MEETS SECOND and fourth Thursdays at 8 p.m. President, Wm. Small; recording secretary, J. Brooks; financial secretary, J. H. McVety, 211 Labor Temple. Seymour 7495.

MOVING PICTURE MACHINE OPERAtors' Union, Local 348, I. A. T. S. E. & M. P. M. O.—Meets first Sunday of each month, Room 204, Labor Temple. President, J. R. Foster; business agent, Sam Haigh; financial and corresponding secretary, O. A. Hansen, P. O. Box 345.

PATTERN MAKERS' LEAGUE OF NORTH America—Vancouver and vicinity.—Branch meets second and fourth Mondays, Room 205, Labor Temple. President, Ray McDougall, 601 Seventh avenue west; financial secretary, J. Campbell, 4869 Argyle street; recording secretary, E. Westmoreland, 1512 Yew street. Phone Bayview 2698L.

BROTHERHOOD OF PAINTERS—Local No. 138—Meets second an fourth Thursdays of each month, room 303, Labor Temple. President, John McMell; financial secretary, Geo. H. Weston; recording secretary, Jas. Wilson, room 303, Labor Temple.

STREET AND ELECTRIC RAILWAY EMployees, Pioneer Division, No. 101—Meets Labor Temple, second and fourth Wednesdays at 8 p.m. President, J. Hubble; vice-president, E. S. Cleveland; recording secretary, A. V. Lofting, 2561 Trinity street, phone Highland 168R; financial secretary and business agent, Fred A. Hoover, 2409 Clark drive, office corner Prior and Main streets.

JOURNEYMEN TAILORS' UNION OF America, Local No. 178—Meetings held first Monday in each month, 8 p.m. President, J. T. Ellsworth; vice-president, Miss H. Gutteridge; recording secretary, W. W. Hocken, Box 503; financial secretary, T. Wood, P. O. Box 503.

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

PROVINCIAL UNIONS

B. C. FEDERATION OF LABOR—Meets in annual convention in January. Executive officers, 1917-18: President, J. Naylor, Box 415, Cumberland; vice-presidents—Vancouver: Jas. H. McVety, V. R. Midgley, Labor Temple. Victoria: J. Taylor, Box 1815. Vancouver Island: W. Head, South Wellington. Prince Rupert: W. E. Thompson, Box 694. New Westminster: W. Yates, 996 London street. Kootenay District: A. Goodwin, Box 26, Trail. Crows Nest Valley: W. B. Phillips, 176 McPherson avenue. Secretary-treasurer: A. S. Wells, Box 1538, Victoria, B. C.

VICTORIA, B. C.

VICTORIA TRADES AND LABOR COUNCIL—Meets first and third Wednesday, Labor Hall, 1424 Government street, at 8 p.m. President, E. Christopher, Box 337; vice-president, Christian Siverts, 1278 Denman street; secretary, B. Simmons, Box 302, Victoria, B. C.

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF STEAM AND OPERATING ENGINEERS—Local 446, Victoria, B. C. P. O. address Box 92. Local union meets first and third Sunday, 10 a.m. Place of meeting, Labor Hall, DeCosmos blk. President, J. Johns, 322 Dallas road; secretary, J. M. Amer, 1045 McClure street; business agent, S. Cullum, phone 1101R.

NEW WESTMINSTER, B. C.

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

PRINCE RUPERT, B. C.

PRINCE RUPERT TRADES AND LABOR Council—Meets second and fourth Tuesdays of each month, in Carpenters' hall. President, S. D. Macdonald; secretary, J. J. Anderson, Box 273, Prince Rupert, B. C.

SOUTH WELLINGTON, V. I.

LOCAL UNION, NO. 872, U. M. W. OF A.—Meets second and fourth Sunday of each month, at 3.30 p.m., Richards Hall. President, Walter Head; vice-president, Wm. Iven; recording secretary, Jas. Bateman; financial secretary, S. Portray; treasurer, J. H. Richardson.

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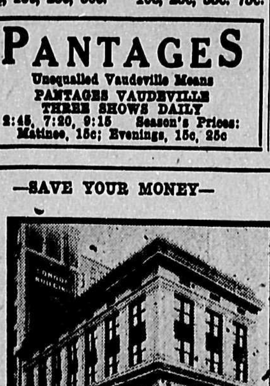

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OFFICIAL PAPER VANCOUVER TRADES AND LABOR COUNCIL

THE BRITISH COLUMBIA FEDERATIONIST

OFFICIAL PAPER BRITISH COLUMBIA FEDERATION OF LABOR

EIGHTH YEAR. No. 18. SIX PAGES VANCOUVER, B. C., FRIDAY, MAY 4, 1917 (In Vancouver City, $2.00) $1.50 PER YEAR

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WAR DOES NOT afford a spectacle any too well calculated to please the cultivated susceptibilities of the highly civilized man. It is too disgustingly coarse and brutal and too nauseatingly bloody and evil-smelling for that. And it surely does afford a most vulgar and unpleasing display to he who fancies that the world is ruled by love, and whose philosophy of life is that he who is smitten upon the one cheek should meekly turn the other for a similar swat. And yet the law of life is struggle. The law of life is war. Everything that lives does so only by persistent and continuous warfare against all other living things that may cross the pathway of its existence. John Swinton once asked Karl Marx the question: "What is?" to which Marx replied, "struggle." And that seems to be about all there is to it anyway. Without struggle there is nothing, and life would be unthinkable. With it there is everything. Life is all about us.

THE LAW OF LIFE IS STRUGGLE.

* * *

Human society is an organic thing, that has come up through the long tortuous path of the ages in obedience to the eternal law of struggle, of life. Its history is a tale of incessant struggle against the obstacles that have beset its pathway. Its history for the past ten centuries has been written in letters of fire and blood. It is still being thus written, and there is, undoubtedly, more to follow. But it can come in no other way than by eternal struggle and even by blood and carnage, for that is the law of life and growth. Every institution in human society likewise develops and arrives at the zenith of its powers only by ruthlessly brushing aside everything that lies in its pathway, and it in turn goes down to its death only under the overwhelming pressure of opposing forces that rise up against it. Today the forces of capital are engaged in the final struggle against the remaining powers of the feudal age that at one time held their baneful sway over the then known world. Capitalism, with its nascent democracy, is just now completing its triumph against its constitutional and age-long enemy, by sweeping what is left of that feudal rubbish from the stage of world events. And just as surely as capitalism conquered feudalism, out of whose loins it was born as the result of industrial conception, so will that nascent democracy which has been conceived in the womb of capitalism, eventually conquer and destroy the capitalist mother who bore it. It will be as absolutely ruthless and without remorse in crushing all opposition to its growth and development as are all other living things in the attainment of their growth, and the realization of their powers. For that is the law of life. As we have suggested in previous issues, we see in the years following the end of this war a pronounced and vigorous impulse given to the cause of democracy throughout all lands. Its mission is to free the resources of the earth and the tools of industry from the control of that small portion of the people who dominate them under the regime of capital, and place them in the hands of, and under the administration of the whole people, for the common benefit of all. It will strike the fetters from the limbs of the now enslaved toilers of the earth.

* * *

That there is a virtue existent in even a nascent democracy, that is lacking in even a most powerful autocracy, is clearly being manifested in Europe during this present war. The foremost nation of the earth, speaking from the standpoint of civilization and democracy, is France. A striking peculiarity of the highly civilized man is that he does not seek war. He does not go around looking for blood and carnage. On the contrary, he studiously tries to avoid it. But in spite of his abhorrence for war, and his pronounced inclination for peace and the avoidance of blood and carnage if possible, if he is compelled to fight he invariably proves his superiority over the less civilized man, by giving him a costly run for his money. In other words, the highly civilized man is the master of the less civilized, when it comes to the show down of war. The French, the most highly civilized and cultured people on earth, suddenly sprung upon by the most powerful and surely the most brutal and bloodthirsty military autocracy the world ever saw, for fully two years withstood the shock of the most terrific assault ever recorded in history. Although stripped by the suddenness of the assault of nearly all of her industrial territory, France not only checked the assault, but turned the tables upon the almost overwhelming forces of the invader, and from the day that invader was turned back at the gates of Paris, France has proven to the world the superiority of a civilized people imbued with the spirit of democracy, over autocratically driven cattle of semi-civilized status and imbued with nothing more ennobling than the servile will to obey their overlords and accord due respect to all that is "verboten."

* * *

It may be a harsh thing to say, that the struggle in Europe is but a struggle between the highly civilized nations upon the one side, and a horde of semi-barbarians upon the other, who have as yet but little more than arrived at the gates of civilization. As Lloyd George recently remarked, "Germany," at the beginning of the war, "was not a nation. Germany was an army." No highly civilized nation could be an army. Therefore Germany was not a nation, as Lloyd George asserts. As a result of the war, she may eventually become one, that is if there is anything left after the capitalist world, with its democratic taint, gets through with her. If the Teuton tribes are completely exterminated in the process, there will be no occasion to shed tears over the matter. It will be strictly in accord with the law of life. Democracy must grow.

RETAIL CLERKS WILL BOOST B. C. UNION-MADE GOODS

The following resolution was passed unanimously at the semi-monthly meeting of the Retail Clerks' association, held Wednesday evening:

"Resolved, that members of the Retail Clerks' association do everything in their power to boost the sale of 'Made in B. C. goods,' if manufactured by union labor, in preference to goods made outside the province."

The provisional government of Russia has taken over the entire trade in grain and flour, and the graft of the speculator is finished. The "graft of the speculator" has not even been threatened here in Canada as yet. He is still perfectly safe to go the limit. The people of Canada are too highly civilized to cut out profit gambling. Too d——— silly besides. And the government knows it, too.

"I will allow no one to outdo me in patriotism," said Artemus Ward. "As proof of this I will sacrifice all my wife's relations upon the altar of my country." This noble example has already been followed by at least one body of patriotic working people in the United States, which has risen to the occasion by unanimously offering to sacrifice its capitalist employers upon the same altar. Ward's sacrificial offering, however, appears to be the greater, for some of his wife's relations might have been good for something else. As for capitalists, their case is hopeless. They are not good for anything that has yet been discovered.

Tom Mooney has been granted a new trial. The rotten "frame-up" engineered by the prosecution has been so completely uncovered that it became impossible to go through with the murderous scheme. The Bulletin did yeoman work in uncovering the infamy and thwarting the intentions of the would be murderers. It looks now as though all of the charges would fall down and the accused ones be set at liberty, including Billings, who is now under life sentence upon testimony that has been clearly shown to be the work of the "frame-up." Take it all around, it has been the most vicious and damnable attempt to take the lives of persons active in the labor movement that has yet been recorded in American history. And that is going some.

Some wise guy has said that "without political organization the labor movement cannot triumph; without organization the day of its political triumph would be the day of its defeat." And yet this wise guy evidently was blind to the fact that without "industrial organization" a labor movement is absolutely unthinkable. For what is "industrial organization" but organized wealth production? And is not that already in evidence and thoroughly established throughout the civilized world, and is it not being perfected and made more complete each day? What other "industrial organization" is possible? By what other scheme or process can the workers be more effectively and permanently organized than in the factories, mines and mills of capitalism? What was the aforesaid wise guy talking about anyway? We give it up.

The attorney-general of Colorado has filed a confession of error in the case of John R. Lawson, former district president and international board member of the United Mine Workers of America, who was convicted of murder in connection with the Southern Colorado coal fields strike in 1914. Lawson was sentenced to life imprisonment, and the attorney-general now asks that he be set free. "Confession of error" is merely the polite legal term applied to a "frame-up" that went wrong. There is another about due in the case of Tom Mooney and his comrades in San Francisco. Strange to say, these "frame-ups" are the sole product of the capitalist, the "law and order" element in human society. Though the working people, more especially the organized workers, are generally acknowledged to be instinctively criminal, no "frame-up" to murder or imprison has yet been attributed to them. They have long since sunk to lower criminal depths than that of mere murder. Their criminal inclinations are expressed along the line of wicked attempts to get more wages.

Some one says that in the partnership between capital and labor, the employer furnishes the capital, and the employee furnishes the labor. All of which sounds very nice, only it is not true. In the production of wealth, labor furnishes everything. There is nothing else that enters into the production of exchange value except the labor of human beings. Capital furnishes nothing, for in the last analysis, capital is nothing but the control of labor, and that control which is solely expressed for the purpose of seizing for the capitalist the wealth that labor alone brings forth. In short, labor makes wealth, capital takes it. Labor pays the entire cost of production, and gets nothing in return. Capital takes all the wealth that is produced and pays nothing for it. So there you are, and out of this interesting situation, shallow pates are welcome to develop whatever theories they choose about the brotherhood of capital and labor, and the delightful and eminently satisfying partnership that exists between them. But their conclusions are as excrutiatingly humorous as the diplomatic pronouncements and suggested peace terms of the Germans.

THE PRICE of copper has been above 30 cents per pound ever since the opening days of the war. Copper magnates are known to be great boosters for war, and there seems to be ample reason why they should be. But now that Uncle Sam has decided to take part in the delightful scrimmage going on in Europe, the copper magnates of the United States are among the first to give practical demonstration of their patriotic fervor and the intense nature of their love for a land that is truly theirs, both in fact and theory. These copper magnates have offered to supply the United States government with copper for the coming year at 16.67 cents a pound. This is something of a comedown from the market price of fully double that sum. In making this patriotic offer, the copper men, however, display sufficient business sagacity to carefully fix the price at a figure that will not altogether eliminate the element of profit from the operation of the industry. It is well-known that copper at 16.67 cents per pound will bring to the owners of the industry a far greater rate of profit than was made during the ten years prior to the war. And then again if the government can be committed to a huge scheme of militarism, it may be readily seen that the copper interests can well afford to waive a portion of their profits for the period of one year, and leave succeeding years to heal the patriotic wound. A huge military programme, such as Uncle Sam is evidently being plunged into through the machinations of military braggarts and venal politicians, backed by those sordid and baneful interests that especially fatten upon blood and carnage and which of necessity look to a powerful and servile army to protect them in their right to exploit and torture the wealth producers of the land, will require enormous supplies of copper. A judicious sacrifice of a part of their profit during the succeeding twelve months will be but the castings of bread upon the waters. It will return, no doubt, later on. Evidently the copper barons are not altogether lacking in foresight.

DIFFERENT GRADES OF PATRIOTISM.

* * *

Another patriot is Henry Ford. Now Henry is not quite patriot enough to forego all profit in time of peace. But when it comes to war, Henry is among the very first to express his willingness to abandon all profit, by turning his factories over to government service without reservation. Of course Henry does not long for war and carnage. He is quite willing to reap tremendous profits from the exploitation of slaves in peaceful industry, but he does not care to have such profits come to him through the blood and carnage and bestiality of war. The copper pirates do not care how they get the profit, so long as they get it. Apparently Henry does. All of which goes to show that there are different degrees of patriotism among those who control great wealth. It is but fair to state, however, that none of them are of such a character as to seriously threaten the continuance of that control. And that is the main thing, for without that there would be nobody left after the war to furnish the volunteer and conscript slave survivors with jobs. What would they do then, poor things?

The demand is being made in some quarters that the government fix prices upon everything required to carry on the war, so as to hold down owners to a "reasonable profit." By the way, what is a "reasonable profit?" Profit being something gotten for nothing, it would be just as sensible to demand that robbers should be limited in their takings, to a "reasonable" amount, say about 10 per cent. upon their investment, for instance. How does that strike you?

A volunteer army can never be used against free institutions. A conscript army can be used for any purpose desired by the interests that lie behind its commanders and direct their movements. Conscription is a direct denial of democracy. The elected representatives of a free people who dare to force conscription upon their constituents are guilty of a more traitorous and dangerous attack upon free institutions than ever came at the hands of the most unscrupulous monarch that ever sat upon a throne.

All of this talk about the "right of the poor to improve their condition by legitimate means" is so much nonsense. The poor have no such right. To grant otherwise would be equivalent to assuming that they have the right to take from the rich, for there is no other way that they can get out of their poverty. And that would be preposterous in the extreme for that would spoil the rich and then where would the world be? In a devil of a fix, to be sure. To deprive the rich of their power to rule and rob would be to "destroy initiative," and discourage "thrift and abstinence" and — well, you know the rest of it. It would not do at all. Let's hang on to the poor, lest we be undone.

Suppose you had been forced to make goods for somebody else and those who owned what you have made got into a quarrel with those who disputed their right to bring these goods to the foreign markets. Wouldn't you be an ass to fight for them voluntarily? You certainly would. This is a vulgar explanation of the why of the war.—Alaska Labor News. Vulgar explanation? Well, we should say it is, but its vulgarity consists solely in the fact that it is neither an explanation of this war or of any other war that ever happened or is at all likely to happen in the future. A vulgar explanation of any phenomenon is all that can be expected, however, from those who possess no understanding of that which they would explain. The News better make another vulgar guess, and then give it up.

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Wherever possible we have always endeavored to handle UNION MADE GOODS.

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LETTERS TO THE FED.

The Lord's Day Alliance.

Editor B. C. Federationist: My attention has been called to a letter in your paper, under date Friday, April 13, signed G. F. Stirling, which manifests an ignorance of the aims and methods of the Alliance which is not, I am afraid, confined to the writer, and which I am sorry exists at all. I wonder if you will allow me some space to reply to the same, and if possible correct this wrong conception of our work.

Maybe I can do this most easily by quoting some passages from the letter in question. After referring to the words of Jesus that, "it is lawful to do good on the Sabbath day," Mr. Stirling writes: "Recreation is good, for stimulating muscular activity. Amusement is good, for toning jaded nerves. Reading is good, for mental refreshment. Yet all these exercises are under the ban of this Pharisaical society." I do not think Mr. Stirling means just this; but that these things done on Sunday are under the ban, etc. Well, if this is so, I am afraid one of the secretaries of the Alliance is guilty, and he hopes the time will never come when he is too old to enjoy them one and all, Sundays as well as other days. But of one thing he will be careful, and that is not to require other people to work on Sunday for his enjoyment, for they surely have just as much right to a free day as himself. It is not the use of Sunday for pleasure and recreation that the Alliance opposes, but the business of amusement, the exploiting of some people for gain in order that other people may have amusement.

This is the Alliance point of view, and with it Mr. Stirling will no doubt coincide, for he writes farther on in his letter: "We believe in a day of rest * * and thus far I am in perfect harmony with the Alliance." But in the next sentences he shows a distorted vision, for he writes: "But when these gentlemen proceed to dictate to me how I shall rest, whether with my back against a hard pew in church, or lying on the grass in a field listening to the rippling laughter of children and the whistling of unorthodox birds, I positively object." Dear me, this is terrible! What unauthorized person has been dictating to Mr. Stirling in this manner? Let us know his name. Mr. Stirling must be joking. I hope nobody has such cruel designs against Mr. Stirling's Sunday comfort.

I am afraid that Mr. Stirling has been reading some of the very silly stuff about the impossibility of making people good by act of parliament. Of course, you cannot make people good in any such Teutonic manner as that. Goodness comes from within and by freedom, and not by compulsion. But it is possible to create conditions under which goodness can develop, and among these not the least is freedom from compulsion of others. In this connection I would suggest to Mr. Stirling that he read a little book entitled, "Liberalism," by Hobhouse, published in the Home University Library, price 35 cents. The Alliance believes that the Sabbath was made for man, that it should be a day as free from the ordinary work of life as is possible in the very complex social order in which we live, that it should be a day when every man can be his own boss, and develop that power of self control and self direction without which he is a mere automaton, to be moved about by others and not a free human being. For this reason it works unweariedly to see that unnecessary business and industry shall cease on Sunday, and that even those who are employed in continuous industries and in transportation, shall have during the week a day of rest. How people use the day is another matter. I do not think it is an unimportant matter, however, and I am sure our fathers were right when they taught it should be used, in part at least, in the interests of the bigger and higher things of life. This is what Emerson meant when he said, "the Sabbath is the core of civilization." But I do not think that any one or any institution, however sacred, had the right to dictate to me or to any one that the day be used in this or in any particular way. That's a matter of conscience, and our men in Europe are giving their lives to put an end to that sort of tyranny of state over the people. But I do believe it is the function of the state to set apart one day in seven as a day of rest and to indicate that day and to preserve it by the enactment of laws, because the law of the Sabbath is written deep in the physical nature of man—written there long before it was written in a sacred book. And I believe the state has a right to recognize that religion plays an important part in the lives of men and to make such provision of quiet and freedom from activity as is needful for the cultivation of the same. Here I would like to quote the words of Lecky, who surely cannot be called a prejudiced writer, in his important book, "Democracy and Liberty": "No one who knows England," he writes, "will doubt that the existence of an enforced holiday, primarily devoted to religious worship, has contributed enormously to strengthen the moral life of the nation, to give depth, seriousness and sobriety to the national character, to save it from being wholly sunk in selfish pursuits and material aims."

Now as to Archbishop McNeil and his address at Toronto, and the things we are fighting for—well, the archbishop was speaking for himself, and it's a free country and people have a right to their opinions. By the way, did I or did I not get a wrong idea when the suspicion crept into my mind as I read the latter part of Mr. Simpson's letter that it was inspired by a dislike for the church and for organized religion generally? Well, let it go, perhaps I was wrong. I do not belong to the particular section of the church to which the Archbishop belongs, but all the same I find myself somewhat of his opinion, not on the matter of Sunday work in munition factories, but as to what we are fighting for; though it is probable that my conception of the meaning of "Christianity" differs somewhat from that of the Archbishop. I happen to have two sons at the front in France, one of them at present dangerously wounded; and I would be ashamed to have them anywhere else at this time. They may not be fighting for Archbishop McNeill's nor for Mr. Sterling's "Christianity," but they are fighting against a false conception of life and conduct of which the Prussian military machine is the greatest world embodiment; they are fighting against the tyranny of the State over the People, they are fighting for Freedom and Democracy—and these are the things Jesus went to the cross fighting for. And their defeat would mean the triumph in Europe, and ultimately in the world, of brute force supported by two spiritual forces which it has mobilised, science and religion. But if Mr. Stirling thinks differently, I have no quarrel with him, only I wish he had read history more diligently! "Let every man be fully persuaded in his own mind," as Mr. Stirling quotes Paul. By the way, I was a little surprised to see Paul quoted as an authority by Mr. Stirling. Not that he is not a good authority—on some matters. I am afraid the modern Feminist finds it difficult to see eye to eye with him; and I should think there was a little too much of that view point of the Roman aristocracy—that "be-subject-to-higher-powers" idea to make him persona grata with a Federationist correspondent! But I wish Mr. Stirling had quoted all Paul said about every day being alike, and observing or not observing it. He ends with, "He that observeth it not, to the Lord he doth not observe it." What Paul means here is that however we observe the day it must be with due consideration to the rights of other people; and with this I am sure Mr. Stirling agrees: it is the crux of the Alliance position.

And now as to the making of munitions on Sunday. I am afraid I cannot agree with the Archbishop in that; and for this very good and practical reason, that **we cannot lick the Germans if we do.** That was the reason that Mr. Lloyd George last year, when he was Minister of Munitions, gave orders, as published in the London Times, that all Munition workers under Imperial control should close on Sunday. I have not learned that that order has been rescinded.

And while I am on this subject and in view that this letter is written to the official paper of the Trades and Labor Council, may I say a few words as to the future, when the time of reconstruction comes. The only way in which the terrible wastage of this war will be made up is by work, and those countries will recuperate most quickly which have the best and most industrious workers. But with the urgent and heightened industrial tasks of the future there will be a tendency to speeding up and application of the methods of scientific efficiency that will be fraught with grave danger to the working people. No deadlier thing can menace the life of a people than cumulative fatigue, the fatigue that piles up from day to day, and which is not quite eliminated by the night's rest. It is probable that in its degenerative influence it is a graver menace than the unrestricted use of spirits. In this connection I may quote the following wise words of Lord Sydenham, in the London Times, September, 1915:

"At this time of supreme national effort it is vital that the conditions of labor—of brains and muscle alike—should be such as to prevent cumulative fatigue, to conserve the energies of the workman and to enable him to give his best service to the State without mental or physical deterioration. In the more difficult times which will follow the war the need for increasing economic production and at the same time for jealously guarding the public health, will be forced upon the nation by inexorable necessity. The great principle of compulsory rest which Moses taught to mankind calls for scientific application to lives far more strenuous and more complex than those of the Israelites."

Yours sincerely,
CHARLES H. HUESTIS,
Secretary for B. C. and Alberta
Lord's Day Alliance.

Red Deer, Alta., April 27, 1917.

AFTER THE PROCESSION

(To Mr. W. Lane, by one of the Sugar Refinery Strikers).

How dare you, sir, march men up street,
With pipes and flag, like sojers,
Or o'er your grievance think to treat
With haughty B. T. Rogers?

His erstwhile serfs might find some ground
To meet the annointed Czar on,
But no such level may be found
With our great Sugar Baron.

No weakling he, like Russian Czar,
Or such obliging codgers;
Unmoved by threats of mimic war
Remains the crown of Rogers.

'Gainst rebels all his blade is drawn,
Oh fiercely doth he fume, sir;
He swears behind his "super" man
To "stand till crack of doom," sir!

As once he armed his costly yacht,
Then sailed, with mien terrific,
And drove the Huns, without a shot,
Afar from shores Pacific.

So he'll affright your workers' band;
He'll teach you, and McVety,
Old England's not the only land
To boast an Admiral "B. T."

He'll fight you both with might and main,
All mediation spurning,
To prove that long indeed is Lane
That never has a turning.

Why British men should wish a house,
When they should be poor lodgers,
With scarce the spirit of a mouse,
Sore puzzles selfish Rogers.

"B. T." alone great wealth should get,
And have abundant wassail,
While employees should toil and sweat
To keep him in his castle.

And there to spread himself in state,
Like purse-proud, vain upstarts, sir,
'Mid tapestries and costly plate—
A patron of the arts, sir!

His bearing bold, his features quaint,
In oils might be outlined, sir,
But sure no artist e'er could paint
A picture of his mind, sir!

April 28th, 1917.

TWO-PLATOON SYSTEM FOR WINNIPEG FIREMEN

That Winnipeg firemen are entitled to more time off duty than has hitherto prevailed was a point on which all were agreed at the meeting of the city fire, water and light committee on Monday, says The Voice. The system now in vogue in the fire brigade is the same that has been in existence as long as the brigade has, which is about forty years. Forty years ago the hours of labor in all trades and employments were long, very long. In this Dominion trades unions had not made any impression, for they were few and weak. But between then and now they have made great progress, and the length of the day's work has been gradually curtailed. But the firemen have held aloof and the public generally has been content to think that they did not do much real work at all and might just as well be around the halls as anywhere else. So the rule has been that there were but few hours of freedom during the week for the firemen. If Mr. Fireman is a married man he has a home, wife and children, and he has one whole night off during the week in which to get acquainted with them. The single man gets less.

The committee agreed that the system was desirable, but—. Chairman Fowler explained that it was a good time to be working towards the two-platoon system, but on account of the large increase in wages which had just been granted to the firemen a great increase in the cost of the brigade was already incurred. There are many members of the brigade now at the front who had been guaranteed their positions when they returned. The proposition was to contemplate taking them back without dismissing the men now on brigade and in this way the two-platoon system could then be inaugurated. It was further proposed that enough new men should now be taken on to enable the chief to give every man one full day off every four days, and the council will so recommend to the city council. Ald. Queen insistently favored the two-platoon system now.

"Caring for the Dead."

Mortuary benefits paid by the International Typographical Union in the last 12 months:

April	20, 1916	$ 23,690.34
May	20, 1916	22,430.10
June	20, 1916	21,762.55
July	20, 1916	21,902.89
August	20, 1916	19,086.66
September	20, 1916	18,022.95
October	20, 1916	19,999.18
November	20, 1916	25,947.39
December	20, 1916	26,784.23
January	20, 1917	30,758.67
February	20, 1917	28,278.31
March	20, 1917	29,696.91
Total for the 12 Months		$288,360.18

Who's a Nut?

Henry Collins, a young mill hand in Massachussets, having some slight mental trouble, was sent to a state asylum. After he had been there a few weeks a fellow worker visited him.

"Hello, Henry!" he asked. "How are you getting on?"

"I'm gettin' on fine," said the patient.

"Glad to hear it. I suppose you'll be comin' back to the mill soon?"

"What!" exclaimed Henry, and a look of great surprise came to his face. "Do you think I'd leave a big, fine house like this and a grand garden to come back to work in a mill? You must think I am wrong in my head!" —Harper's Magazine.

MORTUARY BENEFITS ARE PROMPTLY PAID BY I. T. U.

Mortuary benefits amounting to $7,675 have been paid by the International Typographical Union to the beneficiaries of twenty-seven members of its Canadian unions who have been killed somewhere in Europe. Nearly 600 members of the International Union have enlisted in the overseas service, Canadian Expeditionary Force.

TO FEDERATIONIST SUBSCRIBERS:

Please remember that no letter acknowledgment of subscriptions or renewals are made. The address label on your paper carries the date to which your subscription is paid. If, after forwarding monies to this office, the correct change in your label date is not made, notify us at once. When you have a kick to make regarding delivery, or otherwise, kindly send it to this office—not to the other fellow. Thus you will get matters adjusted, and we'll all be happy.

B.C. Federationist
E. PARM. PETTIPIECE, Manager.
Labor Temple, Vancouver, B. C.

LETTERS TO THE FED.

Reply to "J. B."

Editor B. C. Federationist: In scanning over the last issue of The Federationist, my eye caught the heading to a letter. It was "Workers of the World Unite." With a heading like that, I thought that here, at least, was something really worth while. I got a shock when it stated, right at the start, that it was an interesting suggestion of Bartley's that a woman be chosen as Labor's standard-bearer in the hope that she would be accorded unanimous support. I hardly like to say what I think of the suggestion—it would not be nice. I quite agree with J. B. that the suggestion does not reach the root of the matter, and also that it is not a question of sex, but I do most strenuously deny that the cause of the lack of cohesion amongst the workers is "petty jealousy" and "intolerance of each other's private beliefs and affiliations." Ignorance of their class position is the root of the trouble. And it is evident that J. B. is not above criticism in this respect. She (I'm not much of a Sherlock Holmes, but I'll risk "she" anyhow), appeals to the workers to support a working man for parliament on the "broad (very) grounds that he is a working man and therefore able to look at things from the workers' point of view." Choice that! When we notice that the vast majority of workers look upon everything from their master's point of view. J. B. says she would vote for the worker, but would not ask whether he was a socialist, trade unionist or Baptist—considering those views quite private and consequently immaterial. The inference being, of course, that the representative ideas on the Labor movement, or religion, would have no bearing upon the policy that J. B. considers desirable. The remainder of the letter throws some light on the nature of that policy. It is asked in the next sentence of the letter, "What does it matter what he believes or what he calls himself as long as he is a worker and knows what the workers want?" Now, as a matter of fact, Mr. Editor, right there is the crux of the whole thing. What do the workers want? J. B. advocates, towards the end of the letter, taht the workers' representatives throw their weight on either the Conservative or Liberal side, as the case may be, "so that they may get the reform we want. So it is reforms we want, is it? If that is the case, then I will agree that any Dick, Tom or Harry who has at one time worn overalls, will do—any further, even if he has never been a worker, he can be just as efficacious as a reform getter, because it must always be remembered that no reform is allowed to receive the sanction of the ruling class unless it is to its interest to do so. It is in what we want that our differences of opinion originate, and our wants, at least in the political sense, are determined by our knowledge. Those who understand the nature of capitalist society know that nothing less than the abolition of the wages system can permanently better the workers. As long as we remain proletarians—as long as the capitalist class own the means of production—the mines, factories, land, railroads, etc., our position is determined by the economic laws based upon that ownership. Reform as we may; unionize as we may; we do but sell our labor power to the capitalist class—at its value—that value being determined, not by the legislature, but by the amount of labor contained in the food, clothing and shelter necessarily consumed by the laborer in order that his existence, and that of his class, may continue. This view cannot be seen without some knowledge of economics, but when once the nature of capitalism is understood, it becomes clear that there is a vast difference between the socialist and the pure and simple trade unionist or the Baptist. It makes all the difference in the world to me what opinions my representative has, because those opinions are a criterion of his knowledge, and whatever other qualifications he must have, sound knowledge of the worker's position in society is absolutely necessary in order that he may be of any use to me as a worker. The remedy is plain. Let the workers of the world unite in a thorough understanding of the nature of the present regime. Let us unite first in an endeavor to propagate that method of thinking that alone can result in understanding, in order that when opportunity which the development of capitalism itself must sooner or later present, occurs, the working class will know where they are at and will act accordingly. In the meantime, any person who advocates reform and pins his, or her, faith upon a worker, merely because he is a worker, retards the progress of our class, because not only are the reforms, even if accomplished, worthless, but in striving for them the main issue is obscured. Let us not take the parliamentary antics too seriously. Political action, or the struggle for the control of the state, is too often mixed up with mere politics. The workers will probably find that the struggle for supremacy will take place before an election, but however that may be, knowledge of our class position is the first condition for our progress, so let the workers of the world unite on that point now.

AMBROSE TREE.

HUDSON'S BAY CO.'S ANNIVERSARY CAKE

One of the most attractive window displays arranged by local merchants during carnival week was that of the Hudson's Bay Co. The central point of this display was a giant cake which was made in the kitchen of the Imperial restaurant operated by the Hudson's Bay Co. This great cake was typical of the great growth of the company, which is this week celebrating its 247th birthday, in token of which the surface of the magnificently decorated cake is covered with electric candles. In keeping with the public spirit of the store, the cake, after the celebration is over, will be divided and donated to the Children's Aid society and the Alexandra Orphanage, where the "little ones" will attend to its finish.

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STEEL FLY RODS—9½ feet; each.....$2.50
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COMBINATION ROD—Fly or bait; each.....$3.25
STEEL FLY AND BAIT RODS—9 feet; each.....$1.75
SPLIT BAMBOO RODS—Each.....$1.50 and $2.25
BOYS' RODS—Bamboo jointed; each.....25c, 50c and 95c
SALMON RODS—High grade, English.....$6.95 and $9.75
REELS—English walnut; each.....75c, $1.45, $2.25 and $3.50
REELS—Double multiplying; each.....85c, 95c, $1.10 and $1.25
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LINES—A large assortment of the best English and American lines, new season's stock, at prices ranging from the 10c boys' line to the highest grade tapered lines at.....$3.25

Every angler should make a point of inspecting our showing of accessories. —Fifth Floor.

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DON'T put off a visit to my office. I will make no charge for examining your teeth and advising you, and I can probably save you both pain and trouble if you act promptly.

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Porcelain Crowns	$5.00	Silver Fillings	$1.50
Bridgework, per tooth	$5.00	Painless Extraction	50c

No charge made for extraction when in preparation for Plates or Bridgework.

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The permanence of my work is assured by my written ten-year guarantee on all crown and bridge work.

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SOLDIERS SHOULD HAVE MONEY PAID AS WAGES

Whole System Underlying Patriotic Fund Is Wrong.

A writer in the Vancouver Daily Province this week, discussing the Patriotic Fund, says:

"It is safe to say that every Veteran will support the suggestion made at a public meeting last week that the government take over the management of the Patriotic Fund, and instead of collecting the money by popular subscription, levy a tax upon the whole country and pay the money out in the form of wages to the soldier, or add it to the separation allowance which his family receives.

"The fact that early in the war the general public discovered that the pay of a soldier was not sufficient to maintain his family and that it was deemed necessary to augment his income is sufficient argument that the government should take the matter in hand and manage it properly. There is no use attempting to close one's eyes to the fact that where there is smoke there is fire and there must be something radically wrong with the management of the Patriotic Fund when there are so many complaints heard regarding it.

"It is quite probable that some of the complaints are exaggerated and those who are charged with the management of the fund may be given credit for doing certain things of which they are entirely innocent. But the feeling has got abroad that everything is not as it hould be, and it would be a wise move to place the fund in a position where everyone would be assured of fair treatment.

"When a soldier enlists he is told that his family will be well looked after and not be allowed to want and every effort should be made to see that the contract is carried out With the management of the fund in the hands of the government, and the money paid to the family of the soldier as a regular portion of his wage, there would be no ground for complaint, and the wife of the soldier would not be called upon to answer impertinent and sometimes insulting questions put forth by parties who evidently have not had very intimate acquaintance with the 'milk of human kindness.'"

STATE CAPITALISM THE PROMISE OF THE FUTURE

(Continued from page 1)

fare of the workers, certain duties and obligations will be required in return.

Political Possibilities.

According to the Hon. W. S. Fielding, who was minister of finance in the cabinet of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, "platforms of political parties, like those of cars, are for the purpose of getting in on." In the future, though, it is possible and probable that the workers will discern that the old political parties are as nearly alike as are the alligator and the crocodile, and will have a political party exclusively for their own. This will in time cause the old parties to fuse, while on the benches to the left will sit the representatives of labor.

Speculative Conjecture.

These few stray thoughts and conjectures on the trend of social development, put down in a dry statistic-like manner, are not so effervescent as a novelette, or as interesting as war news, but to know from whence we came, whither we are travelling, and some idea of the direction of the road, ought to be as important as the winds are to a sailor, or the postscript to a woman's letter.

In conclusion, we recall that at the commencement of the present century, Sir Wilfrid Laurier declared that "the nineteenth century was the century of the United States. The twentieth century will be Canada's century." We might say with equal truth that the nineteenth century was the century of the capitalists, and as fervently wish that the twentieth may yet be the century of the working class.

MINING INDUSTRY STILL HELD UP AT ROSSLAND

(Continued from page 1)

tions are in fact democratic, the Government should be equally representative of both Capital and Labor. If such is the case, then it should be the logical intervenor in such a dispute; and intervention should be made at once with a view to determining the matters in controversy. They wait until the evils resulting from the situation have become irremediable. If as a result of such an investigation it can be determined that the company can pay the wages demanded and still operate without loss, they should be granted.

"It is an elementary principle of justice that capital should pay a living wage before any profits or dividends are declared.

"If, on the contrary, it should be found that the wages asked cannot be granted, then recourse should be had to an investigation into the increased cost of necessaries. In fact, such an enquiry should be made concurrently.

"I am not a socialist, but it would seem to me that we are entering an era of co-operation. The policy of the nations at war in nationalizing industry would seem to point to this; and old conditions will not be reverted to when the war is at an end.

"Co-operation does not mean the elimination of capital and labor, but implies a correlation of the two in such a manner that their aims will be identical. They must each learn that their interests are in common—that they are interdependent—Capital is entitled to a reasonable return on its investment; Labor should participate in the earnings of its production. When these principles are fully recognized I venture to affirm that the old wage system will become obsolete; and that instead we will behold the worker drawing his dividends in proportion to his profit producing capacity. The system of bonusing is a step in this direction.

"Adverting however, to the immediate question. Who should take the initiative to obtain Government intervention? This, I believe, should be done by the Municipality whose future and existence depends upon an adjustment of the controversy. It is under an obligation to do so. It has become incorporated; induced people to come and reside here and invest money or open business and as a result, individuals and companies have advanced its citizens loans on local real estate; its bonds and debentures have been hypothecated abroad. Now unless the industry upon which it depends continues, can it discharge these moral obligations, redeem its pledges and re-pay its debts?"

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It is a Mennonite grain foxed blucher—half bellows tongue—single sole and slip.

It is certainly a shoe that will stand up under the hard knocks of rough work.

At Your Dealers

"NATIONAL SERVICE."

How It Works Out When Applied To Shipping Interests.

Enormous profits have been made by British shipowners — some profiteering there as well as here. Before Liverpool bankers recently, Mr. Edgar Crammond gave very interesting statistics showing gross and net profits of British shipping in 1916. The gross earnings were 367 million pounds sterling the working expenses 179 millions, leaving a profit of 188 million. Of this amount 88 million was absorbed by excess profits tax and 24 million by income tax, leaving 76 million for distribution in dividends. It's a pile of money. One steamship company, the Bennett Steamship Company, has paid a dividend of eighty per cent. for 1916, which with 20 per cent. paid for 1915, the shareholders have received in two years of war by way of dividend, an amount equivalent to the value of their shareholdings. The Bennett Company! We wonder—but perhaps we had better not.

These figures are interesting, but the actual profits of the shipping industry were probably greater than even the huge figure shown, for there are many ways of tucking away profits, and shipping companies' balance sheets are not usually marvels of lucidity. When a ship is lost the owners receive from the underwriters an amount equal to the present extraordinary increased value of the ship, which is equivalent to having sold it at its present inflated value, while the insurance premiums are included in the working expenses, which, as indicated above, were in 1916 less than half the gross profit.—Calgary Nutcracker.

In 1910 the employees of the French State Railway went on strike for decent wages and hours of working. They carried on their strike in a most orderly manner. They being all conscript soldiers and graduates of universal military training, the government called them to the colors and they were obliged to take their places in the ranks and run the trains as soldiers. You workers in those lands where the infamy of conscription has not yet been forced upon you had better make a note of this. Better be wise in time, than be sorry afterwards.

John Sharp Williams, a political sharp of the democratic brand, a member of the United State senate, declares that "there has been a hysteria throughout the country, and that the cause of high prices was largely psychological." This removes the onus from the innocent shoulders of food gamblers, profit sharks and similar capitalist vermin. Placing the blame upon wicked old "psychological," where it no doubt properly belongs, tends to remove much of the fog and confusion from the public mind. And what are political guides and sharps for if not for the purpose of dispelling confusion and dissipating fog.

A New B. C. Mining Journal.

Vol. 1 No. 1 of The British Columbia Mining News a monthly magazine devoted to the development of mining and allied industries in British Columbia and the Yukon, published from 824 Birks building, Vancouver, is the latest exchange to reach The Federationist. Louis D. Taylor is editor, and W. R. Hull an associate writer. The letterpress is typographically up to the mark, and its advertising patronage gives promise of a useful future. And, of course, it bears the Allied Printing Trades union label.

Promoter Pattison's Boxing Carnival.

A series of boxing bouts will be run off in the Arena rink tonight, under the management of J. W. Pattison, the well-known Vancouver promoter of high standard boxing tournaments and other sporting events. Mike Gibbons, middleweight champion, will probably face Ray Campbell of Seattle, and Harry Anderson, former champion of the northwest, will meet French Vaise, ex-champion of the Dominion. These with other bouts, promise a good evening's sport. A part of the proceeds will be devoted to patriotic purposes. The boxing will start at 8.30 promptly. ***

Pauline Frederick at Broadway Next Week.

So imbued with the spirit of the out-of-doors was Pauline Frederick after she had completed "Nanette of the Wilds" for the Famous Players Film company, that the celebrated star departed on a four-day hunting trip as soon as the last scene for the production had been completed, and it was ready for presentation on the Paramount programme. It is the featured attraction at the Broadway this coming week, on Friday and Saturday. "Nanette of the Wilds" is a tale of the Royal Canadian Northwest Mounted Police, which tells the story of the battle between one of the fearless souls and the equally brave daughter of a Canadian liquor smuggler. The play was written by the well-known author and actor, Willard Mack, who also plays an important part in the pproduction, the entire action of which transpires in the wilds. ***

TYPO. UNION NOMINATES OFFICERS FOR THE YEAR

Election Will Take Place at Labor Temple of May 23.

A very well attended and interesting meeting of Vancouver Typographical Union was held Sunday last, in Labor Temple. President Benson occupied the chair, and all officers were in their places.

Mr. C. Withers of the World was initiated as two-third member, and two applications for membership were received.

Keen interest was displayed in nomination of officers for the ensuing year, consequently a lengthy ballot will be placed before the members on election day, Wednesday, May 23. The following is a complete list of nominations: for president, W. S. Armstrong and H. C. Benson; for vice-president, F. W. Fowler, W. H. Jordan, R. G. Marshall and W. R. Trotter; for secretary-treasurer, R. H. Neelands; for executive committee, J. Bohle, M. D. Buchanan, R. Fleming, W. H. Jordan, J. R. Melsom, E. Ore, A. J. Pelky, J. Rankin, J. Sorrell and N. Williams; audit committee, M. D. Buchanan, W. B. Currie and R. J. Lukey; conciliation committee, W. S. Armstrong, H. C. Benson, J. R. Melsom and W. H. Youhill; trustees, H. C. Benson, W. R. Trotter and Geo. Wilby; reading clerk, H. L. Corey and J. E. Wilton; sergeant-at-arms, H. F. Connell; delegates to Allied Printing Trades Council, Geo. Bartley, J. Hazeldine, R. H. Neelands and J. Rankin; delegate to I. T. U., Geo. Bartley; delegates to Trades and Labor Council, Geo. Bartley, H. C. Benson, H. L. Corey, W. H. Jordan, J. R. Melsom and W. R. Trotter; delegates to Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, W. C. Metzger, W. R. Trotter and W. H. Youhill; delegates to Northwestern Typographical Conference, Geo. Bartley, H. L. Corey, J. R. Melsom, R. H. Neelands and J. E. Wilton; sick committee, W. S. Armstrong, F. W. Fowler, W. H. Jordan, W. C. Metzger and A. J. Pelky.

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VANCOUVER, B. C.

HOTEL ALCAZAR
Opposite Labor Temple
VANCOUVER, B. C.
Headquarters for Labor men. Rates 75c and $1.00 per day. $2.50 per week and up. Cafe at Reasonable Rates.

COUNTRY STORE
COLUMBIA
TONIGHT
Come and have a good time, perhaps take home a side of bacon.
Hastings Street, near Abbott

Real Telephone Service, Co-operation Between Companies, Means Ultimate Advantage to the Telephone User

B. C. Telephone service is valuable because the telephone user is able to benefit by the excellence of the relations existing between this company and smaller concerns operating in contiguous districts. Co-operation is cordial, and each company gives to the other the benefit of its facilities.

JUST HOW cordial are the relations was exemplified on Friday last, when word was received at plant headquarters in Vancouver of the destruction wrought by the bank burglars at Ladner. The telephone system in Ladner and district is owned by the Delta Telephone Company, what is known practically as a farmers' company, but the switchboard is operated by the B. C. Telephone Company, along with the B. C. Telephone long distance lines in the B. C. Telephone Company's building.

IT MEANT no great material advantage for this company to hustle the repair work of the Delta Telephone Company's local lines on Friday, but it was an opportunity to show the smaller concern that the resources and equipment of the larger company were at its disposal. It was in line with this company's idea of service to make the telephone a real utility, dependable and continuous.

THE OFFICIALS of the B. C. Telephone Company were greatly gratified to receive the following letter from Mr. A. deR. Taylor, secretary of the Delta Telephone Company, in connection with this matter:

Ladner, B. C., April 29, 1917.

Delta Telephone Co. Limited,
Ladner, B. C.

G. H. HALSE, Esq.,

Secretary B. C. Telephone Co. Limited,
Vancouver, B. C.:

Dear Sir,—I wish to express the appreciation of our company and the subscribers at Ladner Exchange for the prompt manner that damage done to the cable by the bank robbers has been repaired.

Your emergency gang were at Ladner 55 minutes after our lineman had repaired a toll line, and I had 'phoned your company of the damage done.

Yours truly,

A deR. TAYLOR,
Secretary.

B. C. Telephone Company Limited

10 SUB. CARDS $10, PAY FOR WHEN SOLD

Canadian Northern Railway
TRANSCONTINENTAL
THE LOWEST POSSIBLE PASSENGER FARES
TO
EASTERN DESTINATIONS
MODERN EQUIPMENT—COURTEOUS ATTENDANTS—TRAVEL COMFORT
CONSULT OUR NEAREST AGENT OR WRITE
DISTRICT PASSENGER AGENT, 605 HASTINGS W., VANCOUVER
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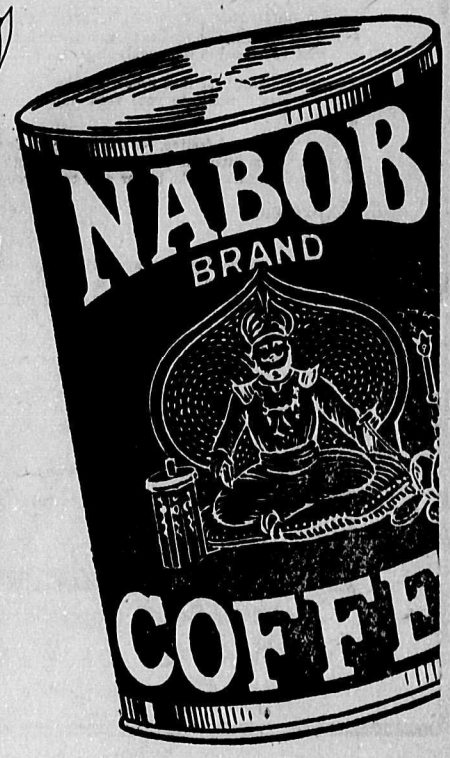
"First in the hearts & homes of the people"

Always in the Lead
The NABOB Queen became Queen of the Carnival This Week



BUY

"Fashion-Craft"

Quality Clothes

Do it now whilst the selection is good. Each day brings our stock nearer completion for Spring business.

* * *

Drop in and try on a few of this season's models—no need to purchase unless you desire to do so. Samples sent on application.

* * *

Thos. Foster & Co.
LIMITED

514 GRANVILLE STREET VANCOUVER, B. C.

Dependable Paints
—FOR—
Spring Painting

We solicit your paint orders for your Spring Painting. Our stock of paints, brushes, emanels, etc., is most complete, and prices most reasonable.

HUNTER-HENDERSON PAINT CO.
642 GRANVILLE STREET

PURE SEEDS

SAVE MONEY

High Grade Tested Seeds are always reliable when of Rennie Reputation.

White Wonder Millet, yields 50 per cent. more than others, per lb., 30c.
Rennie's Early Yielder White Seed Oats, 10 lbs. 95c; 100 lbs., $8.50.
High Grade White Cap Yellow Dent Seed Corn, 10 lbs. 85c; per 100 lbs. $8.50.
High Grade Angel of Midnight Yellow Flint Seed Corn, 10 lbs. 90c; per 100 lbs. $8.00.
Dwarf Essex Broad Leaved Sowing Rape, 10 lbs. $1.90; 100 lbs. for $17.00.
High Grade Cream Calf Meal, guaranteed, 50 lb. bag, $2.75.
Early Rochester Rose Seed Potatoes, 10 lbs. 60c; 100 lbs. $4.50.
Prolific Golden Wax Butter Bush Beans, 4 ozs. 15c; lb. 50c; 5 lbs. $2.25.
Early Eclipse Blood Turnip Table Beet, pkg. 5c; oz. 15c; 4 ozs. 40c.
Copenhagen Market Cabbage, best early, pkg. 10c; oz. 75c; 4 ozs. $2.00.
Half Long Danvers Red Table Carrot, pkg. 5c; oz. 25c; 4 ozs. 65c.
Crosby's Early Sugar Table Corn, pkg. 10c; lb. 35c; 5 lbs. $1.50.
XXX Table Cucumber for Slicing, pkg. 10c; lb. 35c; 5 lbs. $1.50.
New York Wonderful Lettuce, summer head, pkg. 10c; oz. 25c.
XXX Earliest Water Melon, best for north, pkg 10c; oz. 20c.
Select Yellow Dutch Onion Setts, lb. 35c; 5 lbs. $1.70.
Shallott Multiplier Onions for early use, lb. 30c; 5 lbs. $1.40.
Rennie's Extra Early Garden Peas, very early, 4 ozs. 10c; lb. 30c; 5 lbs. $1.25.
Sparkler Radish, crisp table, round red, pkg. 5c; oz. 15c; 4 ozs. 40c.
IXL Extremely Early Tomato, very prolific, pkg. 15c; half oz. 30c.
Spencer's Sweet Peas, choice colors, mixed, pkg. 10c; oz. 30c.
Rochester Giant Asters, pink, white, lavender or mixed, pkg. 15c.
XXX Nicotiana, splendid colors, mixed hybrids, pkg. 10c.
Seed Grain, Potatoes, Calf Meal and Rape. Prices do NOT include freight charges.

Rennie's Seed Annual Free to All. Cotton Bags, each, 30c Extra.
Order through your LOCAL DEALER or direct from

Rennie's Seeds

WM. RENNIE CO., LIMITED.
872 Granville Street
ALSO AT TORONTO, MONTREAL, WINNIPEG.

Workingmen, don't neglect your teeth---

AS a workingman, you need good teeth as do no other class. Your work is usually heavy and demands that you eat well and that your food is thoroughly digested.

You can't digest your food properly unless it is well masticated and you can't masticate your food unless your teeth are in good order.

If your teeth are defective, see me at once. You will find that by giving them attention you will improve both your digestion and general health and be better able to do your work.

Expression Plates — Crowns and Bridges

My work is of the highest standard and my prices are reasonable. On crown and bridge work I use only 22 kt. gold 30 g. thickness, strongly reinforced on the biting surface. My plates conform with your own teeth and preserve perfectly your natural countenance.

N.B.—I make special efforts to do dental work promptly for out-of-town patients. Write me as to the day of your coming and, on your arrival, phone Sey. 3331 at once for an appointment. Workingmen in Vancouver and vicinity may take advantage of my office being opened Tuesday and Friday evenings.

Free Examinations by Appointment.

Open Tuesday and Friday evenings. Close Saturday at 1 o'clock.

Dr. Brett Anderson
Crown and Bridge Specialist
602 HASTINGS ST. WEST
Corner Seymour Street

HEARTY SUPPORT FOR SUGAR REFINERY WORKERS

Central Labor Body Promise Strikers Moral and Financial Aid

Severely Criticize Policy and Methods of the Patriotic Fund

THE OPINION of organized labor with reference to the methods employed at the sugar refinery and the personality of B. T. Rogers, its ostensible owner, were expressed with no uncertain sound at the meeting of the Trades and Labor council last night. The delegates unanimously endorsed the strike now in progress at the plant, and promised moral and financial support to the strikers. They also requested affilinted locals to arrange for giving financial assistance, and also favored a suggestion that the public be asked to subscribe to a fund to aid the strikers. The resolution passed included the suggestion that other central labor organizations of British Columbia and Alberta be requested to ask the government, in view of the refinery being a practical monopoly controlling a supply of foodstuffs, to take over the plant under the War Mensures Act, and operate it in the interests of the public.

Strikers' Deputation Heard.

A deputation of the striking workers was given a hearing by the council. They stated that the refinery was now closed tight, and that it would not be opened until the owner was willing to treat with his employees as a branch of organized labor. It meant something to say that they intended to beat a man like B. T. Rogers, but the employees now held the whip hand, and intended to dictate the terms. The men who were absolutely essential to operate the plant were out, and they would stay out until their demands were met.

The speakers said that they were greatly indebted to the longshoremen for showing them how to handle the matters. They had been apt pupils, however, and there were then only eight men in the refinery beside the police and detectives. On Monday 130 men went in, but on Wednesday not a man went in, the only ones in the plant on that day being the 40 men who stayed there over night. The engineer was willing to leave, but understood that he was compelled to stand by his machinery.

Constant Watch Essential.

Del. Kavanagh said that it was necessary to keep the refinery under close surveillance. Mr. Spreckels had a non-union refinery in California, from which a crew might be sent. For the longshoremen, Del. Thomas said that sugar boats would not be unloaded here while the strike was in force.

Some question was raised as to the remarks of R. P. Pettipiece, manager of The Federationist, advising the employees to return to work. Mr. Stevenson of the strikers' deputation, said that some of his remarks had been interpreted to have this meaning, but the advice had not been followed. Later in the meeting, Del. Thomas introduced a resolution censuring the manager of The Federationist for the alleged advice. This motion was referred to the executive with instructions to investigate the matter and report.

Along the line of financial assistance, it was stated that the street railwaymen would donate $100 to the strikers, and that the longshoremen had given $150 to the strike fund. A number of contributions to the fund were handed to the secretary-treasurer during the meeting.

Patriotic Fund Criticized.

Del. Corey stated that at the request of the Typos. he would present a resolution in connection with the Patriotic Fund, which covered the opinion of the union, after a full investigation of certain complaints as to the management of the fund. This resolution stated that as the fund was really treated as a charity fund, and not as a supplementary aid for soldiers' dependents, and as there had been discrimination and maladministration of the fund, that the council withdraw its representative on the board controlling the fund, that the government be asked to take over the fund, and that provision be made for a graduated income tax to meet the demands of the case.

Supporting the resolution, Del. Corey gave facts concerning the cases which indicated glaring defects in the distribution of the fund, and also alleged that the management of the fund had used their powers after the manner of a collecting agency.

Del. McMaster and Miss Gutteridge objected to the council representative being withdrawn, saying that while the fund existed, no matter how much the council might approve of its basis and methods, it was better to have a representative of Labor on the local board.

President McVety said that while he would personally like to be relieved from the difficult task which was his as a representative on the board, he did not think it wise for the council to withdraw. As to the charges against the management, he could only say that out of almost daily complaints for the past three years, there had only been half a dozen cases where the complainants were not being treated equally with others.

Employees Forced to Contribute.

Several delegates said that employers practically forced employees to contribute to the fund, some who earned barely enough to live on being told to "come through" or lose their jobs. While it was true that the dependents did not really care where the money came from so long as they got what they thought they should, the way in which the fund was now being conducted meant hardship to many who could not afford it.

After lengthy debate, the council laid the discussion over until the next meeting.

The Building Trades council asked that all union men stop work on the new market at Main and Hastings streets, and that the bricklayers be suspended for working on the job. The latter part of the reso lution was referred to the executive for full investigation and report. The letter also requested the council to request the school board to place a union clause in all contracts.

A delegate complained as to The Federationist carrying the advertisements of firms which employed Orientals. Replying to the president, he said that the cases had not been officially called to the notice of the manager. He was advised to adopt this course.

Labor Party Nominees.

It was reported that Messrs. Kingsley, Pettipiece, Hoover, Midgley and Welsh had declined the proposals by affiliated locals that they stand as nominees for the Labor party candidates at the coming bye-elections. Messrs. J. A. Byron, J. H. McVety, E. S. Cleveland, W. R. Trotter and Miss Gutteridge replied that they would enter the race, if desired. The council directed that the names of those consenting to run be sent up to the unions for the selecting of two on a referendum vote.

A number of other matters of a minor nature were dealt with by the council which, owing to limitation of space, cannot be mentioned in this issue of The Federationist.

Women's Cotton Crepe Dressing Sacques

Two styles, one with embroidered front trimmed with ribbon round neck and sleeves and at waist, and the other style with lace and ribbon trimming. These come in all sizes and are specially good value at the price, $1.95 each.

Middy Waists

IN THE SCHOOL GIRLS' SECTION

A new shipment of Middy Waists just received embraces three excellent styles in fine quality drill.

All white with 2 pockets.

All white in Norfolk style. White with trimming of navy and white or saxe blue stripes.

Ages 10 to 16 years. Special at $1.75 each.

GIRLS' WASH SKIRTS

In white drill with waist attached. These are made with two front patch pockets and are specially well designed and finished; ages 7 to 14 years, at $1.95 each.

Gordon Dye & Sale LIMITED

Store Opens at 8.30 a.m. and closes at 6 p.m.

575 Granville Phone Sey. 3540

At The J. N. HARVEY Stores

These Men's Suits at $15, $18, $20 and $22.50

are attracting many buyers, who are getting a good deal more than their money's worth.

A large variety of colorings and snappy patterns to select from.

Smart styles in Pinch-backs, Norfolks, patch pocket effects for the young men.

Regular, staple styles for the older men of quiet tastes.

'Twill Pay You to Buy Now

J. N. Harvey
LIMITED
125-127 HASTINGS ST. WEST
Also Yates Street, Victoria

CALGARY UNIONISTS TO CONTEST TWO RIDINGS

Form Labor Representation League and Adopt Platform

Preparing to Put Up Lively Campaign in Coming General Election

Calgary trade unionists have organized a Labor Representative League, and under its banner will contest local seats for the legislature in the forthcoming Alberta election. Of the movement a Calgary weekly says: "There is a gleam of hope, however, in the Labor Representation League. They have organized for a definite purpose, and based their claims for the suffrage of the people upon great fundamental principles that refuse to be ignored by a thinking people in this time of National crisis. Justice and Democracy, terms so glibly used by autocrats and mal-administrators have a real setting in the programme of the Labor League. This organization is paving the way for the realization of what our soldiers are fighting for."

The platform adopted reads:

The Platform.

Public Ownership and Control of all the Means of Wealth Production and Distribution.

1. Natural Resources.
2. Transportation, Communications, etc.
3. Banks.

Proper Regulation of Workers and the Pay.

1. Abolition of child labor, no child to be allowed to work under 16 years of age.
2. Equal pay for equal work for both sexes.
3. Universal maximum 8-hour day.
4. Semi-monthly pay for all workers now paid on a monthly basis.

Taxation.

1. A direct tax on unimproved land values, including all natural resources.
2. A sharply-graduated income tax upon all incomes over $2000 per year.
3. A graduated inheritance tax on estates.
4. A graduated income tax on the profits of corporations.

(This is a sharp distinction to the present method of raising a revenue which consists of taxes on bread, boots, coats, and every single human thing which makes life possible or even desirable. It denotes, too, the abandonment of all petty licenses except purely regulative measures and so far as taxes are concerned it covers the only sane ground of tax legislation ever suggested.)

Other Planks.

1. The extension of the Federal Franchise to every British subject of 21 years of age and over.
2. Satisfactory arrangements to be made whereby a citizen may exercise the right of the franchise, whether such person or persons be at the point of registration on the Election Day or not.
3. The abolition of property qualification for civic offices to all British subjects.
4. The abolition of all deposits for candidates seeking Public Office.
5. Election day to be fixed in Legislative Assembly and recognized as a Public Half-Holiday.
6. Proportional Representation.
7. Direct Legislation, including Initiative, Referendum and Recall.
8. Civil Service reform, all appointments to be made on merit.
9. Abolition of the Senate.

A LOVELY ALABAMA GRAVE

(A cheap iron tomb with flowers about its one miserable little grave.)

Inscription:

Here lies in one grave (because it's cheaper) Tommy, Nellie, Bessie, Freddy and Kitty Downtrod. Brothers and sisters. Adults, who died at the average of eleven years, in the year 1917 A. D. This memorial is generously presented by Hon. Cant Workem Enough, mill owner, in grateful memory.

After a long life of happiness and child-play in the factory, they sleep well (for the first time). Their highest enconium—before they died, they wove 1,273,871 yards of unbleached cotton cloth at less wages and longer hours than any other family in Buncom county—$1.50 per week—16 hours a day.

May their lives thus devoted to industry not have been in vain. May they prove a blessing and encouragement to other and similar adults now engaged in work in the mills in this grand old state.

Stranger, pause and shed a few tears
For the loss to the mill owner of these little dears. —Life.

Observers say that there are many reasons to believe there will be more flies this season than for a number of years.

Clean up your own premises; see and insist that your neighbors do likewise.

Especially clean "out-of-the-way-places," and every nook and cranny.

Flies will not go where there is nothing to eat, and their principal diet is too filthy to mention.

MISS JOSIE SIDDONS

Who on Wednesday was crowned Queen of the War Dance Carnival, now being carried on in Vancouver under the direction of the Commercial Travellers. Miss Siddons won this signal honor on a popular vote of Vancouver citizens. In private life she is the telephone operator at the great warehouse of Kelly, Douglas & Co., the home of the famous "Nabob" line of household supplies, which are well-known throughout the entire province. Miss Siddons was nominated for Queen by Kelly, Douglas & Co., and was accorded the delection on the popular vote by an overwhelming majority. At her place of employment, she is now known as the Nabob Queen.

JOE WOOD.

Joe Wood he was a carpenter,
A straight-edged man of rules;
A cold once seized upon his chest,
And a thief upon his tools.

He called his wife in through the panes,
And, though much pained, he kissed her;
She placed a blister to his chest,
And for her pains he blessed her.

Next day he found his pain removed,
His tool-chest likewise gone;
"'Tis plain I cannot plane," he 'plained,
"For planes I now have none."

To quench his grief and taste relief,
He drank a pint of gin;
His wife she thought a screw was loose
When he came hammering in.

"You're on the beer," she quick exclaimed;
"Not so," said Mr. Wood;
"But being in so great a strait,
I've got a little screwed.

"You know I have no compass now,
Though compassed round with care;
My square is also stolen away,
And hence I'm off the square.

"I ne'er again shall see my saw,
Nor mend your chairs and stools;
Oh may the thief be braced to bits
Who chiselled all my tools.

"I am, indeed, a hard-ruled man,
If I ain't ruined, axe me;
The thought that I can't cramp a frame
Cramps all my frame and racks me.

"And now I sit upon the bench,
And on my panels gaze;
No rays of hope within me rise
Another pint to raise.

"To dream of being a gentleman.
I must henceforth forbear;
For if I cannot drive a nail,
I cannot drive a pair."
—Fugitive Poetry.

The revenue for carrying on the war ought to be raised very largely by a tax on incomes. Those who have large incomes receive more protection from the government than do those of small incomes, and they should be made to pay for it. In this way the leaving of a large burden of debt to future generations could also be avoided.

"The war furnishes no excuse for failure to demand the union label on all purchases. In fact there are reasons to be advanced in favor of tremendously increasing the demand in order to insure justice for the organized workers. If you are a real unionist you will do your duty in this regard. Demand it, and get it."

Colonial Theatre
Programme changed every Monday and Thursday.
POPULAR PRICES
Most up-to-date photo- play house.

GET YOUR MEALS
—AT—
McLeod's Restaurant
ROGERS' BUILDING
476 Granville Street (downstairs)

HOME COOKING
QUICK SERVICE
MODERATE PRICES

GIVE US A TRIAL

A pleasant surprise awaits you if you go to the

Orpheum CAFE

for your meals. A joy to travellers.

The Pick of the Market.
Charges Moderate

762 GRANVILLE STREET
Opposite the Orpheum Theatre

SHOP AT
SLATER'S

Slater's Ayrshire Bacon, lb... 25c
Slater's Streakey Bacon, lb. 25c
Slater's value Tea, lb..... 25c
Slater's value Coffee, lb. 25c

We deliver to all parts.

131 Hastings St. East Sey. 3262
830 Granville St. Sey. 866
3214 Main Street. Fair. 1683

WE CATER TO UNION TRADE

It is definitely known that the fly is the "carrier" of the germs of typhoid fever; it is widely believed that it is also the "carrier" of other diseases, including possibly infantile paralysis.

FACTS ABOUT SHOES

When yu buy foreign footwear you pay nearly 40 per cent. of the price to the customs for duty.

What's the use?

When you can get equally as good, made in Canada by union workmen. Perfect in every respect; fully guaranteed and save $2.00 to $3.00 per pair.

CLUFF SHOE CO.
649 Hastings Street West

DON'T ARGUE!

CON JONES
Sells Fresh Tobacco.