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. 10 — VANCOUVER, B. C., FRIDAY, MARCH 9, 1917 — (In Vancouver City $2.00) $1.50 PER YEAR

STATE CONTROLLED INSURANCE IN AUSTRALIA

Good Results from the Plan Now Prevailing in Queensland

Act to Ultimately Cover All Forms of Insurance Business

[W. Francis Ahern]

SYDNEY, N. S. W., Feb. 5.—(Special Correspondence to The Federationist.)—It is, or should be, the duty of every nation to safeguard the welfare of its citizens in every manner possible. As has been shown in these columns before, no country in the world is doing more for the workers than Australia. As Australians, we figure that poverty is the root-cause of most of the social and economic ills which mankind is heir to and, in the competition of nations, the victory will be to the nation possessing the strong and virile manhood.

Economists the world over recognize that each industry should be made to provide against the risks to health and life incurred by the people so employed, and an industry not able to comply with this standard is not worth keeping alive. To permit an industry to annually throw upon society a large crop of cripples, degenerates, widows and orphans, is to license a class of employers to live upon the community at the expense of everybody else, and to the irretrievable damage of the people as a whole. This is why insurance against accident must be made compulsory, and paid solely by the employer.

Prior to the passing of the new Insurance Acts of the State of Queensland, (of which more will be said later on), the assistance granted by employers for accidents and death in industries was spasmodic only and, when such cases were taken into the courts and contested, the working man or his dependents were very often beaten because of the fact that they could not follow the cases through the mesh of legal entanglements, or were forced to accept just what recompense the capitalists offered as charity.

Profits of Private Companies.

In the case of insurance against accident, fire and other risks under private manipulation, expense was the prominent feature of the bill. After a very exhaustive enquiry into the amount of money paid in premiums and the amounts paid out as claims, it was found that in Australia, out of every $300 paid as premiums, but $100 was paid back as claims. And I dare say that this difference is larger in countries where the government has no method of checking the robbery. This huge difference is accounted for by profits and wasteful administration that, under state control, can be eliminated. It represents the salaries of whole armies of competing salesmen, heavy city rentals and country agencies, the fees of overlapping board of directors, hundreds of clerks and the hundred and one other expenses that go to make up the army of men employed in one office competing with the other. Needless to say, under government control, all this is done away with.

Queensland under its scheme of state owned insurance is taking up the business that previously was handled by over 60 companies, each competing with the other. And the state now handles more business than was handled by all of the companies put together, for the simple reason that insurance in Queensland is now compulsory, and no longer is the disabled worker left to the charity of capitalism.

Provisions of Insurance Act.

The Workers' Compensation Act of 1916 provided for the establishment of a State Accident Insurance office. Life and fire insurance are to be controlled by the same office, but legislative machinery is yet to be completed to put the whole business in working order. Under the state accident insurance scheme now in operation, the maximum weekly allowance granted to a disabled worker is $10 per week. The amount payable in the case of death is $3000, and for permanent incapacity the amount paid is $3750. The settlement of claims has been expedited, and in future nobody stands to gain anything from contesting a fair claim for compensation. In the event of an accident occurring, the employer does not figure in the subsequent transactions, for he will have no interest in them. The matter rests between the claimant and the state. The employer, having complied with the law making insurance compulsory, is already indemnified against loss or, if he has failed to make provision for his workmen, the state will soon see about prosecuting him for his neglect. The amount paid for various injuries is fixed according to a scale in the act, instead of the old private company method of computation before a judge, who very often leaned too much on the side of the employer.

All employers receiving less than $2000 yearly come within the provisions of the act. No limitation exists as to the nature of the work, as all manual workers up to domestic servants are covered as well as casual laborers. The scope of the act has been widened, so that a man receiving injuries on his way to or from work also receives compensation, or for injuries received while at work away from the establishment of his employer, such as the work done by a message bearer. Under the state paines have never been "guilty" of so acting towards their clients, their idea generally being to delay payment as long as possible.

It is unnecessary to say that the state has benefited greatly because of this monopoly in the insurance business. Competition, advertising, canvassing and all the unnecessary duplication incidental to competing offices has been eliminated. As a result of this, the state of Queensland is able to repay as claims all the money derived by way of premiums, less, of course, the amount of money spent in actual administration of the scheme.

Such is the object lesson that the state of Queensland offers to the world. And it is but one of the many things that are being done in Australia for the benefit of the worker.

act an injured workman may either take his compensation in a lump sum or by gradual payments made weekly or when he pleases.

No Costly Litigation.

Private companies are still allowed to do business, provided that they carry out the law as laid down by the state insurance office, and pay the same benefits, and no private company can make a private agreement with an employee for rates different to what the state acts provides. All such agreements made between private companies and employees must be inspected by the government, and registered, so that the government can see that the law is carried into effect.

There are no legal fees in connection with the stae insurance scheme, all such advice being as free as the air the people breathe. The only legal claims asked are when an applicant thinks fit to contest the state claim and, even in this respect, costly litigation is not allowed, since but one appeal will be heard in each such case and settled forthwith.

In cases where, owing to the death of the breadwinner, payment is required urgently by the dependent wife or children, provisions exist where the actual money can be paid within a couple of hours following death, with the absence of red-tapism generally associated with government departments. Private com-

ORGANIZED LABOR TO MEET GOVERNMENT ON MONDAY WEEK

Arrangements have been made by Secretary-treasurer A. S. Wells, of the B. C. Federation of Labor, with Premier Brewster for an interview of the officials of the Federation with the executive council of the provincial government.

The meeting will be held at Victoria next Monday morning. The Federation will be represented by all the coast and island members of its executive, headed by President Naylor.

The question to be discussed are the several matters on which action was taken at the recent Federation convention at Revelstoke, which call for legislative action or departmental regulations. The conference has been arranged for an early date during the present session of the legislature in order to provide for prompt action being taken on the matters at issue.

ALBERTA STEEL WORKERS WIN OUT AT REDCLIFF

Discharged Men Are Reinstated and New Scale of Wages Established.

The strike of the workers employed by the Canadian Western Steel Co. at Redcliff and Medicine Hat, reported at last week's meeting of the Trades and Labor council, has been settled. Wm. Grinnel, vice-president of the local, writes stating that the men who were discharged on account of union activities, have been reinstated and a satisfactory scale of wages agreed upon.

CIVIC EMPLOYEES FAVOR LABOR ENTERING POLITICS

Proposal to Name Candidate at Coming By-election Is Endorsed.

At the meeting of the Civic Employees' union last Friday night, a resolution was passed approving of the proposal that the Trades and Labor council place a candidate in the field at the coming by-election. Some doubt was expressed as to the scope of the provision of the civic authorities as to watchmen and others engaged on special work being paid overtime rates, and the secretary was instructed to have the clause definitely outlined. Owing to Mr. Woods, one of the union's delegates to the Trades and Labor council being engaged on night work, Mr. McFarlane was chosen to take his place on the central labor body.

Winnipeg Firemen's Union.

At the meeting of the Winnipeg Trades and Labor council, the question of the opposition of the city council to the Firemen's union was discussed. The letter from the Vancouver Trades and Labor council and one from the central labor body of Hamilton were read, stating that there was no opposition to the Firemen's unions in these cities. The Hamilton letter stated that as a result of the union, the firemen had obtained an increase of 10 per cent. last year, and another of 5 per cent. this year.

DEMANDS OF COAL MINERS PRESENTED AT CALGARY MEETING

At a joint meeting of representatives of District 18, Western Federation of Miners, and their employers, opened at Calgary last Tuesday, the miners presented their demands on a new working agreement.

These provide for an all-round advance of 25 per cent. in wages; an eight-hour day for all classes of work; extra pay for double and treble shifts as well as overtime rate for Sundays and holidays; wages to be computed on run-of-mine basis; differential to be paid where blasting is prohibited and alterations in the general clauses of the old agreement. The new agreement to expire Aug. 31, 1918.

The employers met on Wednesday and refused to consider the miners' demands, saying that no negotiations would be entered into with the men until the latter had given evidence that the terms of any agreement which might be reached would be adhered to.

GOVERNMENT WHARF IS DOING GOOD BUSINESS

Increased Facilities Needed to Meet Business Offered

Present Shed Is Filled and Cargoes Are Waiting Accommodation

THAT THE principle of public ownership in connection with the government wharf on Burrard Inlet, which is controlled by the Vancouver Harbor commission, is working out successfully is shown by the fact that already has been developed the need for the consruction of an additional shed on the wharf to meet the demands, the present large shed being filled to its capacity, with a large shipment of oil also stored on the wharf, outside the shed.

A visit to the inlet waterfront during the week shows that the statement of the Harbor commissioners as to a government wharf meeting a positive demand was certainly well founded. Inside the great warehouse was stored shipments of merchandise totalling over 7000 tons, while outside was a shipment of 5000 barrels of oil. In many cases the shipments were piled up to the rafters of the shed, thus showing the wisdom of the Harbor board in providing a wharf of the most modern construction, capable of carrying exceptionally heavy loads, to meet the demands of shipping at this port. Incidentally, it may be mentioned that, as far as construction is concerned, the Vancouver government wharf is the best of its kind on the Pacific coast.

Foreign Shipments in Transit.

Nearly all the merchandise on the wharf consists of foreign shipments in transit, such as formerly went to other Pacific coast points. Here, for instance, is part of a cargo of sulphur and, again, a large shipment of sugar beet seed, which is being stored while it is being tested out before being shipped to its destination in the States.

"You see for yourself that the shed is filled to its capacity, and that there is an urgent need of additional accommodation for storage," said Harbor Commissioner McClay. "And you will understand the need the more when I tell you that on Saturday a shipment of 3000 tons of rice is coming which the shippers desire to be unloaded at the wharf. Just how we are going to accommodate it, I don't see just now, but it is possible that some of the goods now on the floor will be shipped by that time.

"The problem before the Harbor commissioners is not to get enough business for the wharf—it is rather to accommodate the business which is being offered us. There is not now in Vancouver a wharf which is capable of receiving a full ship's cargo, and I think it is up to us to meet such a demand. Such accommodation would mean that a vessel could discharge its cargo very quickly, the longshoremen later attending more carefully to such shipments as are to be stored for a time. Provision of this character is of great importance to the development of Vancouver as a shipping port, as every hour's delay at a wharf means dollars to vessel owners nowadays."

Charges on Wharf Are Low.

It was explained that the rates on the government wharf, both on transit and storage charges, are only half those prevailing along the waterfront prior to its opening, this point being declared to show conclusively the advantage of public control along the waterfront. Especial emphasis was placed on the schedule of charges for storage, which are based on the square foot occupied, as being greatly to the advantage of the merchant. This provision for storage at moderate rates allows a merchant to order shipments in quantities, taking them from storage as he needs them, without having the trouble and expense of taking them to a warehouse.

The plans of the Harbor commission for the development of the wharf to meet the demands contemplate the construction of a double-deck shed on the west side of the pier, a warehouse of this type enabling shipments to be handled much more expeditiously than is otherwise possible, as well as affording double the storage space than is otherwise possible.

DETERMINATION OF LONGSHOREMEN'S WAGES

Proper Figure Desired As Basis for Compensation Board Action.

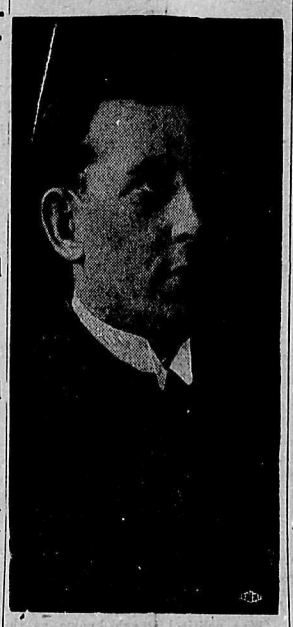
Yesterday morning Mr. F. Bodwell, of the staff of the Workmen's Compensation board, met Mr. G. J. Kelly of the Longshoremen's union, and J. H. McVety, of the Trades and Labor council. The conference was arranged to discuss the question of a proper statement as to the average wages received by longshoremen, this being desired by the Compensation board in order to arrive at the percentage amount which should be paid as compensation in case of accident.

After discussion of the matter, arrangements were made for a further conference on the subject with the full Compensation board, the meeting being fixed for tomorrow morning.

Last Friday evening the Longshoremen's union listened to an interesting address by Mr. McVety on the Workmen's Compensation Act. The underlying principles of the measure were outlined, as were also its many advantages fro mthe standpoint of the worker.

Fernie Miners Get Bonus.

The first payment of the war bonus, on the promise of which the coal miners of District 18 went back to work, was paid this week. It covered the extra payment for the first half of February, and totalled $10,000. A representative of the department of Labor will be in the district shortly to arrange for the payment of arrears, covering the bonus due from Nov. 16 to Feb. 5.



D. S. CAMERON

One of the old-timers in the trade union movement in New Westminster, who has joined the colors, enlisting last week in the Foresters' contingent. Mr. Cameron is well-known in the city as a partner in the Auto Transfer Co., also as a member of the hospital board of the Columbian hospital. While he has not been an active member of any trade union for some time, he is still considered by all trade unionists to be one of them. Pte. Cameron will be stationed at Queen's Park for about a month, when he will be sent overseas with the next draft from the company of which he is a member.

PROTESTS ARE FILED BY LABOR AGAINST POLL-TAX

B. C. Federation Is Asked to Vigorously Oppose Proposal

Workers in the Shipyards Organize to Better Conditions

VICTORIA, March 7.—Secretary A. S. Wells, of the B. C. Federation of Labor, has been flooded during the past week with resolutions from organized labor bodies, covering protests against the re-establishment of the poll tax in any form. These formal statements have been the result of discussion on the subject by civic and municipal authorities, and semi-public organizations, such as lead to the belief that an organized attempt will be made this year to again impose the tax.

The resolutions, without exception, declare the attitude of the various locals and unions, as strongly opposed to the poll tax, and request the Federation officials to voice their protest to the provincial authorities in a vigorous manner. The resolutions are thoroughly representative as to territory, coming from the Crows' Nest Pass and Boundary districts, as well as from many points on the Island and other parts of the mainland.

It is probable that the protest of organized labor will be made when the executive meet the government shortly to discuss legislation requested by the Revelstoke convention.

Shipwrights Present Demands.

Local 1598 of the Shipwrights and Caulkers' union, has presented demands to the employers for an increase in wages from April 1. Should the requested increase not be given, and the agreement signed, the men state that they will discontinue work at that date. The demands of the men are for a wage of 62 cents per hour, and an eight-hour day, with double pay for holiday and overtime work. The justice of the increase is based on the increased cost of living.

With the growth of shipbuilding activities in Victoria, the men engaged in the wood working trades in the local shipyards are seeing the necessity of protecting their interests to a greater degree, and organization work is now being carried on among these workers with excellent results.

As the result of the recent successful attempt of the machinists and boilermakers to better their conditions and the faithful work of Organizer "Dune" McCallum, the machinists here are now able to report a practically 100 per cent. organization.

LABOR TEMPLE MEETINGS DURING THE COMING WEEK

SUNDAY, March 11—Musicians; Stage Employees; Pile Drivers and Wooden Bridge Builders.

MONDAY, March 12—Amalgamated Engineers; Electrical Workers; Pattern Makers; U. B. Carptnters, No. 617; Bro. Loco. Engineers; Street Railwaymen's executive.

TUESDAY, March 13—Stone Cutters; Pressmen; Barbers.

WEDNESDAY, March 14—Stereotypers; Street Railwaymen.

THURSDAY, March 15—Trades and Labor Council; Maintenance-of-way Men.

FRIDAY, March 16—Railway Carmen; Granite Cutters; Civic Employees; Molders.

SATURDAY, March 17—Bakers.

STREET RAILWAYMEN REAP RESULTS OF UNIONISM

Pres. Mahon's Report Shows Benefit of Workers Organizing

Vancouver Car Men Enter Team in the Billiard Tournament

THE REPORT of President W. D. Mahon of the Street Railwaymen's union, to the general executive board of the organization, at its recent semi-annual meeting in Detroit, shows the great advance which is possible for workers, when thoroughly organized. During 1916 the union organized and placed in good working order 31 new divisions, the membership of which was about 7000. The advances in wages obtained through the work of the union totalled $5,000,000, which benefitted 70,000 members. The increases obtained ran from one to six cents per hour. At many places, such as New York, where organization is still imperfect, the activities of the union resulted in the obtaining of better pay for street car employees.

Sick Benefit Funds.

The report as to sick benefit funds showed that 90 divisions had established such funds during 1916, while 20 other divisions had made donations covering the field. Of the 173 divisions reporting on sick benefits, a total amount, general and local, of $790,603 was reported as paid.

The report concludes with the statement that the showing of the street railwaymen for the year is such as reflects great credit on the business way in which its affairs were handled, and entitles the organization to a front seat on the band wagon of trades unionism.

Local Street Railway Doings.

The Vancouver street railwaymen have entered a team in the billiard tournament of the Commercial Billiard league, the boys playing their first game on Monday night with the David Spencer team as opponents. Teams of five men were entered on two games of 150 points each. The street railwaymen came off easy winners by 164 points. The first game was closely contested, the street railwaymen winning out by 47 points, but on the second game they had a walkover, winning by 117 points. The street railwaymen's team was composed of Messrs. Hamilton, Chapman and Stouton (each of whom won both their games) and Lofting and Christian. Mr. E. Jackson, who was expected to play on the team, was unavoidably detained at the last moment, and Mr. Christian kindly consented to take his place on short notice.

Business Agent Hoover has received a letter from Mr. J. McClymont, now located "somewhere in France," in which he reports he is still well, alive and fighting. He states that he has met Messrs. Blazier, T. Clinton and A. Andrews of the street railwaymen's overseas contingent, all of whom were well.

Jas. Knowles, who has been confined to the hospital because of a serious operation, has successfully recovered and was taken home on Wedensday.

SEWER WORKMEN WILL GET INCREASED PAY

Board of Works Advance Wages to the Scale Observed By Sewerage Board.

At the meeting of the civic board of works on Tuesday, application was made on behalf of about 50 men employed on sewer construction for an advance of wages. The men have been receiving $2.76 per day for bottom work, and $2.50 for top work. They asked for an advance to $3.20 and $3. The aldermen favored some advance being given, as it was stated that their work was difficult and hazardous. It was finally decided to give the bottom men $3 and top men $2.80, this being said to be the rate which was paid by the Greater Vancouver sewerage board.

An application from the ward foremen for an advance from $83 to $100 per month, was referred to the finance committee. In the discussion, it was said that if there is to be an all-round advance of wages, the question of cutting down the staff would have to be considered.

FISHERMEN'S DEPENDENTS PRESS ACTION FOR DAMAGES

Cases Recall Disappearance of Halibut Fishing Steamer Onward Ho.

The unfortunate end of the 37 members of the crew of the halibut fishing steamer Onward Ho, many of those lost being members of the Deep Sea Fishermen's union, was brought forward in the supreme court this week. The dependents of 15 members of the crew have sued the B. C. Packers' Co., owners of the vessel, for damages in connection with the case, proceedings on the first action being started on Monday. The plaintiff submitted evidence to the effect that the Onward Ho was unseaworthy, and that its boilers were so defective that it was not a proper vessel to be used for halibut fishing in northern waters. The action was dismissed on Tuesday, Mr. Justice Clement saying that any opinion as to the cause of the foundering of the vessel was mere guesswork.

The Onward Ho left the Alaska fishing grounds on Jan. 18 of last year, loaded with 200,000 lbs. of halibut. She was seen the following day by a Seattle steamer, then being so heavily coated with ice as to weight the vessel down forward. Thereafter no trace of the vessel has ever been found, and it is supposed that she went down at sea or was wrecked on some of the rocky islands off the Alaska coast. At the time, the Fishermen's union made vigorous protests to the government as to the ineffective manner in which the search for traces of the vessel was conducted.

AN INTERESTING COMPARISON OF PRICES FOR BREAD

At the meeting of the civic finance committee on Wednesday afternoon, Ramsay & Pinchin offered to supply bread required by the city during the year at the rate of 24 pounds for $1. This works out at 4 1-6 cents per pound loaf.

The Vancouver workingman is compelled by Vancouver bakers to pay at the rate of 8 cents per pound, or about double the price charged the city.

The difference between the price paid by the city and the price to the worker is nearly 4c on the pound.

While it is true that the city order provides for daily deliveries of about 50 loaves each at certain points, it will be hard to prove to the ordinary man that the difference on delivery cost can possibly add 5 5-6 cents on the price of a add 4 cents on the price of pound.

This would appear to be good data for the civic committee on the cost of living to consider.

SHIP JOINERS' LOCAL IS ORGANIZED IN VICTORIA

Org. Robinson Reports Outlook for Its Success Is Promising.

Org. Jas. Robinson of the Carpenters' union, returned from Victoria yesterday, and reports a very successful organization trip. On Wednesday evening he instituted a Ship Joiners' local of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, which starts out with a good membership and excellent prospects. At the organization meeting, there was some discussion as to the union with which affiliation should be made, but the decision as to uniting with the brotherhood was reached because this branch usually covers the wood workers in shipyards.

VICTORIA IS BECOMING A GOOD "UNION" CITY

Encouraging Report By Organizer McCallum As to Outlook on Island.

"Dune" McCallum, the popular organizer of the Machinists' union, arrived in Vancouver yesterday morning after a strenuous week in Victoria, during which he led the machinists of that city to victory in their dispute with their employers and also did effective organization work for his union.

He reports that Victoria is now rapidly becoming a good "union" city. In addition to the rapid growth of the union with which he is connected, good organization work was being done among the shipyard workers and the blacksmiths were also organizing. Things were certainly looking up there from thetrades union standpoint.

Mr. McCallum will be engaged during the present month in looking after the interests of his organization on the mainland, where organization work is now being carried on at many points with excellent results.

BETTER SHOP REGULATIONS REQUESTED BY BAKERS

Deputation Has Been Appointed to Interview Government on Subject.

The journeyman bakers of Vancouver are endeavoring to obtain the amendment of the provincial Bake Shops Act so as to better protect the interests of the men. A petition, signed by 75 members, and which outlined the requests of the men, was recently sent to Premier Brewster, and assurances have been given by the local members of the legislature that a deputation will be given an opportunity of explaining their views to the government.

The suggested regulations provide for a maximum working week of 54 hours, each shop to keep a time book, with a penalty being established for making false entries therein. All manufacture of bread or cake is to be done between 6 a.m. and 6 p.m., and provision is made, except for dough-makers, for two hours off on Fridays or days preceding holidays. No man is to be required to work more than five hours without time for meals.

The regulations cover the field of sanitation by providing that no Orientals shall be employed in bake shops, and that all employees shall pass a medical examination every three months.

Domestic Employees to Organize.

A call has been issued for an open meeting of all Vancouver domestic employees, at which the question of forming an organization for the protection and betterment of those engaged in this work will be considered. A similar organization is now in operation at Calgary, the scope covered being wages, hours of labor and working conditions.

SEATTLE LABOR MEN SCORE A VICTORY AT CIVIC ELECTION

At the Seattle civic election on Tuesday for three members of the city council, the candidates returned were those who had received the endorsement of organized labor, and whose views were in accordance with the policies of labor men. The election is a distinct victory for the Seattle labor organizations.

Of the newly-elected members for the next three years, Robt. B. Hesketh is well-known as a trades unionist, and O. T. Erickson is a strong advocate of municipal ownership and other policies favored by labor. These two men were re-elected. W. D. Lane, the new candidate who received labor's endorsement, ran on a municipal ownership platform, and was elected against C. Allendale, who ran for re-election on a platform opposed to municipal ownership, the advocacy of which principle resulting in his winning the booby prize on the ballot.

HON. R. B. BENNETT HAS SUDDEN LOSS OF MEMORY

Recognition of Rights of Labor Is Absolutely Forgotten

Winnipeg Men Ask Proper Wage for Farm Laborers

Mr. R. B. Bennett, M. P., director of National Service, is now on a "hurrah" trip through the northwest, holding conferences at which the question of providing sufficient labor for agricultural work in the section is discussed. In the preliminary announcement concerning these conferences, it was stated that representatives of labor would have a voice, but, according to press reports of the meetings, this provision has been practically forgotten. Also there appears to have been a lapse of memory as to the meaning of the clause of the registration cards which promised "the same wages as men were receiving" for work in other parts of Canada where their services were deemed necessary.

At the last meeting of the Winnipeg Trades and Labor council, a report on the Manitoba conference was submitted. This stated that Mr. Bennett delivered a patriotic and political oration, which made promises galore as to what the Dominion would do if Manitoba was sincere in its purpose. He said that 7000 advertisements were being inserted in United States publications, and it was expected that each would bring two farm laborers.

No Answer to Labor's Views.

Mr. Veitch, for the labor unions, said what he wanted was an assurance as to fair wages being given for the work suggested. The government should put up the difference between the $40 per month the farmers were willing to pay and the amount the man was now receiving at other employment. Mr. MacDonnell said Labor was sacrificing more than any other class in this war, and was rapidly approaching the point where it had nothing more to sacrifice. Personally he had gone to enlist, but had left the recruiting office when he found that the action would reduce the standard of living of his family to an impossible standpoint.

To all these representations as to the government taking action which would make good the difference between a wage for the maintenance of a proper standard of living and that offered by the farmers, Mr. Bennett had no satisfactory reply. All he did say was that families were living in Belgium on 5 cents per day, and men were enlisting for $1.10 per day, the director having completely forgotten anything printed on the registration cards as to difference in wages being made up somehow. On a definite statement as to the Dominion authorities paying transportation, Mr. Bennett said it was unreasonable to expect eastern provinces to pay taxes for such a purpose.

Edmonton Meeting Was Private.

The efforts of Mr. Bennett at Edmonton appear, according to the press, to have been of a "closed door" nature, his meeting at that place having been a private conference with the members of the provincial legislature, at which press representatives were the only outsiders present.

REORGANIZATION PLANS OF CIVIC EMPLOYEES

Present Charter to Be Cont[illegible] Application Made for a New [illegible]

Steps are now being taken [illegible] organization of the Civic E[illegible] union. The local is now operating under an international charter, which properly covers organizations of building laborers, although only a small percentage of its membership really come under this head. The present plan is to continue the existing charter, and also establish a new local for men who are purely civic employees. An application for the new charter will be made to the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, which has, in the past, granted such charters in the Dominion. Should this course be deemed inadvisable, a charter will be requested from the American Federation of Labor along the same lines as that recently granted to the Firemens' union of the city.

PROSECUTION OF SUGAR REFINERY TO BE PRESSED

Ottawa press despatches stated that Attorney-general Macdonald has consented to the prosecution of the British Columbia Sugar Refinery in the courts of this province, as requested some weeks ago by Mr. W. O'Connor, the Dominion commissioner investigating the question of the high cost of living. It is said that the Ottawa authorities express surprise at the delay in assenting to the request, as the Alberta authorities promptly gave their consent, and the delay of the British Columbia authorities has hindered the progress of the case. Pending the hearing of the case in the courts, the refinery is said to have relieved its customers from the agreements on which the prosecution is to be based.

Early in the week, Mr. A. I. Fisher, member from Fernie, discussed in the provincial house the delay of the government in assenting to the prosecution. He pointed out the facts already noted in the columns of The Federationist as to the B. C. Refinery selling sugar on the prairies at lower prices than prevailed on the coast, and declared that a thorough investigation of the refinery's methods was imperatively demanded.

Department Official Suspended.

Ottawa press despatches report that Hon. Mr. Crothers, minister of labor, has suspended Gerald H. Brown, who has been filling the post of assistant deputy in the Labor department since 1910. Mr. Crothers declines to give any reason for the suspension or to discuss the matter in any way.

THE INCORPORATED 1855

BANK OF TORONTO

Assets $73,000,000
Deposits 54,000,000

Household Banking Accounts

in The Bank of Toronto have been found by many to be a great convenience. The accounts may be opened in the names of husband and wife, and either may deposit or withdraw money. Interest is paid on these accounts twice a year.

Paid-up Capital $5,000,000
Reserve Fund 6,500,000

Corner Hastings and Cambie Sts.

W. R. OWEN

Malleable Ranges, Shelf and Heavy Hardware; screen doors and windows.

2337 MAIN ST. Phone: Fair. 447

MAY TELEPHONE DIRECTORY CLOSES MARCH 15th

Alterations or corrections in listings in the telephone directory should be arranged for during the next two weeks.

If you contemplate putting in a telephone, do it now, and have your name listed in the next issue.

You advertise? There is no better medium in circulation on the Lower Mainland.

B. C. TELEPHONE CO., LTD.

ORDER BY MAIL

Your Fruit Trees, Shrubs, Roses, etc., from

BRITISH COLUMBIA NURSERIES CO. LTD.

1493 Seventh Ave. West, Vancouver. Satisfaction guaranteed. Descriptive catalogue FREE. Handsome premium in plants for list of prospective planters.

Reliable salesmen wanted in B. C. and Middle West provinces. Get our attractive proposition. Write today.

Out-of-town Union Men who visit Vancouver should pay a visit to

Perry & Dolk

The Labor Temple

Union Tailors

Pick out a spring suit and get it properly made, union-made, combined with right treatment.

SOME OF OUR Best Customers are among the trade unionists of Greater Vancouver.

We Will Make Terms to Suit You

Come in and look over the biggest and best stock of furniture in British Columbia.

Hastings Furniture Co. Ltd.

41 HASTINGS ST. WEST

Sou-Van Milk

Should be in the home of every

UNION

man.

IS IT IN YOURS?

Fair. 2624

PRINTING

COWAN & BROOKHOUSE

Labor Temple Press Sey. 4490

CENTER & HANNA, Ltd.

UNDERTAKERS

Refined Service

1049 GEORGIA STREET

One Block west of Court House.

Use of Modern Chapel and Funeral Parlors free to all Patrons.

Telephone Seymour 2425

THE B. C. FEDERATIONIST

Published every Friday morning by the B. C. Federationist, Limited

E. Parm. Pettipiece.....Manager

Office: Room 217, Labor Temple
Tel. Exchange Seymour 7495

Subscription: $1.50 per year; in Vancouver City, $2.00; to unions subscribing in a body, $1.00.

REPRESENTATIVES

New Westminster.....W. Yates, Box 1021
Prince Rupert.....S. D. Macdonald, Box 268
Victoria.....A. S. Wells, Box 1538
Field Circulation Booster.....Geo. F. Stirling

"Unity of Labor: the Hope of the World"

FRIDAY.....March 9, 1917

NEVER SINCE the days of the Haymarket affair at Chicago, and the judicial murder of four leading agitators and workers for the eight-hour movement which was then on, has there been a more desperate and infamous attempt to railroad prominent Labor men to the gallows, than is now being made in San Francisco in the case of Billings, Mooney and the others accused of participation in the preparedness parade outrage of last summer. Billings has already been convicted of murder, in this connection, and is now serving a life sentence in the penitentiary. And now Thomas J. Mooney has been adjudged also guilty and sentenced to be hanged on May 17. The conviction of Billings was secured through the testimony of a dope fiend, a notorious prostitute, a detective and other similar attaches of the underworld, and the verdict was rendered by a "professional jury," that is a bum lot of city hall hangers-on who live by what they can pick up in the way of jury fees. It may be readily seen that these worthies must come through with the goods as per order, or their means of living would be cut off. Under such circumstances of jury and witnesses, it is a foregone conclusion that even the gentle Nazarene would have met the same fate in the Christion city by the Golden Gate in 1917 as He met at Jerusalem 1900 years ago, had ill-fortune so ordered as to cause him to be at the former place and to have incurred the enmity of the San Francisco chamber of commerce, as did Billings, Mooney and their comrades.

A MOST SINISTER FRAME-UP.

* * *

But as infamous and rotten as was the frame-up against Billings, that against Mooney appears to be infinitely worse. He was convicted upon the testimony of an alleged "rich cattle man from Oregon," whose evidence was corroborated by the identical dope field used in the Billings case, but whose evidence had to be so altered in order to fit in with the "cattle man's" weird tale, that it was a palpable contradiction of what he had sworn to in testifying against Billings. Although the evidence of these two worthies was completely upset by twenty-one witnesses and seven photographs showing that Mooney was at his home a mile and a quarter away from the scene of the bomb explosion at the time it occurred, while both of the frame-up witnesses swore they saw him and others bring the "suitcase" and place it at the fateful corner just in time to get in its deadly work, the jury very promptly brought in a verdict of murder in the first degree.

* * *

The Mooney jury was not a jury of "professionals." It was a jury of respectable business men. And it did its work well. Business men, upon general principles, must be against all labor agitators and their nefarious efforts to organize their fellows for the purpose of bettering their conditions in the hard struggle of life. Evidently the business gentlemen who served upon this particular jury were eminently loyal and true to the fundamental principle of business and that is to keep the laboring people where they properly belong, meek and docile in that station in life to which they have been appointed by an all-wise business providence. Whenever any among them so far forget themselves as to cry out too loudly and energetically in protest against their economic flagellation at the hands of their business masters, it stands to reason that they should be hanged by the necks until they are dead, no matter whether they be proven guilty of any other specific offense against sacred "law and order" or not.

* * *

It is now up to the organized forces of labor whether Mooney shall be murdered in cold blood by the ruling class authorities or not. From all we can gather, there never was a more reckless and cold-blooded attempt to take the lives of men whose labor activities have been displeasing to their economic masters, than this San Francisco affair. In spite of a veritable deluge of new evidence that has been brought to light since Mooney's conviction, and which still further controverts the evidence upon which the conviction was obtained, a new trial has been denied and the matter is now left to be appealed to a higher court. This may in turn be denied, and it no doubt will be, unless the forces of organized labor are energetic and active in the matter of frustrating the fiendish scheme to murder Mooney. But to fight these brutal attempts to murder our active and courageous agitators and leaders and thus do violence to the only movement upon earth that makes for human betterment and the uplift of civilization, costs money as well as effort. Even courts of "justice" (God save the mark) cannot be appealed to without heavy cost in real red gold. Hence it is up to the workers themselves to not only come through with energetic protests against the infamies that are being heaped upon those who dare to take active part in the great struggle of our class against its rulers and masters, but to also come through with the cash wherewith to wage the fight in the very courts of the enemy. Either we must do that or lay down our arms and give up the struggle. And that we refuse to do.

A LESSON IN OBEDIENCE AND LOYALTY.

AMONG THE MANY gems that have fallen to the lot of this office the above shines forth with a lustre that is positively dazzling. It came to us from the columns of the Seattle Times, being contributed thereto by a female correspondent, who evidently possesses a conception of the ideal working man that would meet with the approval of the dullest capitalist brain on earth. If there is anything calculated to meet the requirements of the rulers and the mighty of the earth, it is absolute obedience upon the part of their slaves. Obedience to authority, that is the thing, no matter for what purpose that authority is to be used. And come to think of it, that same blind obedience is, even now, the rule rather than the exception among the people of the earth. If this were not so, we are at a loss to account for the splendid spectacle of anywhere from ten to twenty millions of people now busily engaged in the noble art of killing each other off at the mere word of command from their masters and rulers. Were it not for that dog-like obedience upon the part of the common herd, the presentation of such a grand spectacle would be impossible.

* * *

Of course, it is necessary to the rising generation that the lesson of blind obedience be most thoroughly taught. That is, it is vitally necessary to that part of the rising generation that is to succeed our present rulers and masters in the glorious and time-honored practice of ruling and robbing the rest. And our faithful friend the dog affords an excellent example of the ideal slave, and is well worthy of emulation by every aspirant for such an honor. The dog will cravenly lick the hand that wields the lash, and that is just what an ideal human slave ought to do. In fact, he ought to be compelled to do so in case he lacks the innate decency and virtue to acquire the accomplishment on his own hook. Is not obedience to authority one of the chief reasons advanced in favor of military training for the youth of the land? Have we not been entertained with joyful tales about how military training will set up our youth and teach that respect for authority upon which all rule and robbery rests? Why, of course we have, and we all know very well that it will do all of that, and do it easy. Of course we do. And if it were not for the authority part of it, there would be no incentive to prompt the organization of such an establishment anyhow. So there you are.

* * *

But when it comes down to using the dog as an example of loyalty to one's country, it does not seem to work out just right. The dog will fight for his immediate master and his immediate household, but he will not go hence to muss up the premises and households of others, not even at the word of command by his master. If there is to be any fighting, the master must needs lead the way and participate in the dangers incidental to the scrap. The dog may, upon occasion, wage fierce battle in defense of his own kennel, but he rarely goes abroad for the purpose of whaling some other canine out of his. And another peculiar thing about the dog is that all dogs look alike to him, provided they wag their tails in greeting. And no amount of piffle upon the part of their masters can break down dog convention in this respect. But it is not so with human dogs. They can be made to believe anything their masters wish them to believe. They can even be made to believe that other human dogs are deadly enemies and deserve to be killed, just because they happen to have been born upon the other side of a line that does not exist. But you cannot stuff a dog—that is a canine one—with that sort of filling. That is one thing about that sort of a dog that might well be emulated by the human kind.

* * *

One particularly valuable trait about the dog is that he is seldom rebellious, and never revolutionary. If he is rebellious, a good trouncing will bring him to reason and his love for his master will be intensified thereby. What an Elysium this world would be for rulers and masters if slaves would—and they no doubt could if they earnestly set themselves to the task—emulate the dog in obedience and loyalty to those rulers and masters. It would, indeed, be heaven, right here and now. And there you are again.

We solemnly affirm that never during our long and venturesome career did the potato possess the tempting and appetizing flavor that it does now. Can it be possible that it was at one time considered suitable food for the poor?

Among the terrible hardships resulting from the war we note that the London and Southwestern Bank, Ltd., was only able to declare a dividend of 34 per cent. last year. Prior to the war, the usual dividend was from 40 to 50 per cent. Oh, the horror of it.

The mayor of this city, requisitioning the services of a job lot of male and female scalawags dubbed detectives, has unearthed the alarming fact that booze is served in numerous hotels and cafes, often in violation of the sacred law. The Hotel Vancouver is not among the pinched.

It is officially reported that there are 30,000 mental defectives in the state of New York. There must be some mistake in this, for the returns of the late elections shows that several hundred thousand workingmen voted the republican and democratic tickets. It is a crying shame that a great state like New York should issue such misleading statistics.

Just to show that the only menace to liberty and democracy there is in the world lies with the Teuton savages of Europe, New Zealand is filling her prisons with those who dare to criticize the conscription scheme that her tory government forced upon the country last summer. But liberty and democracy will be forever safe once we have licked the Huns. Sure thing, Mike.

According to the San Francisco Bulletin, the onions that are now being sold by the local dealers of that city at $12.50 per hundred pounds, were bought from the growers at $2.00 per hundred. This not only throws a valuable light upon the high cost of living, but incidentally an illuminating sidelight upon the manner in which wealth accrues to the horny-handed agriculturist of the commission house district.

There were 1083 applications made for indemnity under the B. C. Workmen's Compensation Act during the months of January and February, and others are still coming in from victims of industrial mishaps that occurred prior to March 1. The safety engineer of the state accident commission of California, recently stated that there were 300 industrial accidents in that state each day. Peace hath her casualties as well as war.

That political stench known as the Hughes coalition government of Australia has been forced to declare a general election immediately following the dissolution of the present parliament. It will be quite interesting to see just how triumphantly that distinguished political four-flusher will be returned to power. Also how completely the electorate will reverse its anti-conscription vote of last fall. Dollars to doughnuts it will be uncomfortably interesting to the "man of fat."

Capital rests securely upon its throne so long as the highest concept of labor is envisioned in the collective bargain, the strike, the boycott and the picket, for those in no manner threaten slavery and the supremacy of slave masters. They are merely petty annoyances to be dealt with by the paid hirelings and tools of the great slave-holding interests. In the last analysis they are good, for do they not furnish employment to numerous deserving persons who might otherwise march in the ranks of the unemployed, or become recipients of charity?

No, no, Sam, labor is not a commodity but labor power is. Labor is merely the agony that the seller of the commodity labor power experiences in delivering the merchandise he has sold. The commodity labor power is usually measured by the clock and the seller must deliver the goods. The agony of labor does not require to be measured, as it is not sold. It rightfully belongs to the worker, who sells his labor power, and he gets it. By the way, it is about the only thing that he ever does get for nothing. It is all clear profit, and no one, not even the state, has ever yet attempted to deprive him of it.

The "freedom of the seas" is rather a good joke. At least it is under present world circumstances. The only possible freedom of the seas would be under the entire absence from all the waters of the earth of anything and everything in the shape of an armed vessel or other marine appliance. Would those nations which are so desirous of realizing the "freedom of the seas" agree to that? It would certainly be far cheaper than the method now practiced. Furthermore, it would realize that freedom, while the present method brings about exactly the opposite result. Peculiar how wise our great statesmen are, isn't it?

It is common talk among certain self-constituted wise guys that "the workers have for centuries gone hungry because they produced too much to eat?" And yet the veriest tyro in economics knows better than that. They have not gone hungry because they produced too much to eat, but because they were slaves and thus compelled to produce for others to eat and not for themselves. And that is all that ails the producers of wealth today. They are merely slaves buisily engaged in producing wealth for masters and more than often going hungry and ill-clad themselves. What is the use of telling untruths about this matter? The facts are plain enough to be easily grasped by any one possessed of as much sense as God is said to have given geese.

What is the good of all of this fuss over the awful cost of war in money? If kaisers czars, kings and emperors want war, why should they not have it as costly as possible? Does it become such notables to be put off with cheap trash? They do not eat cheap food, nor wear cheap raiment. They neither drink cheap wine, nor indulge in cheap smokes. Then why in the name of decency should any one even intimate that they should be provided with cheap entertainment, like war, for instance? Nay, nay, Pauline. Now is the time for every patriot to jump in and make the war cost as much as possible, in order that it may do credit to—let us say—the kaiser, who is alleged to have pulled it off. And it would be interesting to know just how many Canadian patriots are not jumping in and doing their best while the doing is good. Dashed few, if you ask us.

Have the peoples of the world gone mad? With billions of wealth going into munitions of war, to slaughter and maim; with other billions of wealth in property being destroyed; with all the best in civilization and Christianity thrown to the winds; with thousands or women and children in all countries, neutral as well as belligerent, crying for food, and right beside them munition-makers waxing fat on hellish-gotten gains; with ships loaded with food being sent to the bottom daily, and millions of men being sent against each other to murder and mutilate; each nation calls upon the same God and asks His help and guidance—and each nation believes firmly as the other that He is on its side, and its people go to Him in humble prayer to give thanks for the help they have received at His hands! The god of war has made cowards of us all! We see the destruction; we know the evil and the frightfulness of it all; we know in our own consciousness where it must eventually lead us; and yet, in our false notion of loyalty and patriotism, we cry for more men, more munitions, more ships, more starvation, that we may feed the best we have, and all we can get and are as fodder to the cannon. We are a Christian people. We pray loudly and hate each other as only Christians can hate. —Enderby Press.

PRINCIPLES WHICH PERVADE TRADES UNIONISM

Character of Membership Will Largely Decide Question

Reasons for Harmonious Action of Conflicting Interests

ORGANIZATIONS LIKE everything else in the world, are subject to what is known as the historical process. This, in brief, means that organizations are born, they grow and ever adjust themselves to the changing environment and when they have ceased to serve a purpose, they die, says the Alaska Labor News.

Labor unions are no exception to the rule. Labor organizations come into existence because the workers have learned by experience the value of standing together to protect their interests. The scope and character of any union is determined by the intelligence and viewpoint of the membership composing it. Organization implies first of all a recognition of a common interest, a basis upon which persons may unite for the purpose of accomplishing a certain object. The common ground upon which wage and salary workers may unite is that they must all find a purchaser for their labor-power. They all have the same commodity to sell, and are therefore concerned in getting as big a price as possible for the sale of this commodity. They are also interested in obtaining as good conditions as possible in which to work.

The Real Labor Union.

As a result of this, there will arise the union which has for its aim and object the maintaining of the best possible conditions for the laborers as wage-workers. Such a union does not anticipate the overthrow of the present system of exploitation, it seeks only to alleviate present conditions. Its ideas and concepts of life are in harmony with the interest of the master class.

In contradistinction to this type of a union is the one which is organized for the purpose of helping to end the system of exploitation, and to prepare the worker for that time when his class shall become the possessing class, and as a result of this ownership, become the only class in society.

The union man who has no higher ideal than to secure good conditions for the laborers as wage-workers, whose only concern is that he is always able to get a job, such a union man will seek to conform or adjust himself to the present order. His list of virtues will conform to the interests of the capitalist class. He will be a most obedient servant to law and order as established by the master class.

The Union Man with Visions.

The union man who sees visions of a new order of society, whose ideal state is one in which no man is dependent upon another man for the opportunity to earn his bread, is a very different type from the one who sees no farther than securing good conditions under capitalism. This type of a union man will not be satisfied with anything less than the complete overthrow and abolition of the system of exploitation. He sees in the present wage system the essentials that make for the most vicious kind of slavery. The poverty and crime and much of the misery of the present day society can be traced to the door of capitalism. He knows that the reforms that may be introduced into society will never balance the evils that are inherent in the present system, that the only cure for the social ills is the reorganizing of society on an entirely new basis. Our present mode of production requires that it shall be along co-operative lines, the day of the individual in business is about over. The day of combinations has already arrived, and this principle is destined to be the leading feature of the new social regime.

The Revolutionary Unionist.

The revolutionary industrial unionist will join with his fellow worker of the conservative type of mind in seeking to improve conditions under the wage system, for he knows that the higher the standard of life, the more vitality the worker has to fight the battles of his class. He knows that when men are hungry they are only concerned to find a job. He knows that when they are jobless they become desperate, and desperate men are dangerous. But the conservative unionist, the member who has no vision and hope of a new social order, who is not working for the overthrow of capitalism, will not join with the revolutionary industrial unionist when it comes to this part of the union programme that involves the overthrow of capitalism.

Just to the extent that both these elements are represented in a Labor union will there be more or less antagonism, and the degree of harmony that prevails at any given time will depend on the importance of any specific issue that may unite all elements during such time.

But when the larger problem of establishing the dominancy of the workers in society looms up, there will be an inevitable conflict between the conservative and revolutionary elements, and any efforts to harmonize these antagonistic forces will prove disastrous to the revolutionary movement. At such times, harmony ceases to be a virtue, and the worker who does not give himself to the overthrow of capitalism, and to the establishment of the new social order, is a traitor to his class.

Canadian Northern Terminal.

Now that the Dominion Railway commission has authority over the Canadian Northern in this province, the Vancouver aldermen will ask the board, when it holds a session in Vancouver shortly, to demand that the railway proceed promptly with work on the False Creek seawall, and the hotel, as promised in the agreement with the city. The net result of constant protests by the city to date has been a little desultory work on the seawall.

Open Forum Meeting.

Mr. T. Mathews will speak on "The Abolition of Capital Punishment," at the open forum on Sunday afternoon at 2:30, in O'Brien hall. Mr. C. M. Woodworth will preside.

TRADES UNION DIRECTORY

Allied Printing Trades Council—R. H. Neelands, Box 66.
Barbers—S. H. Grant, 1301 Seventh avenue west.
Bartenders—W. H. Smith, Box 424.
Blacksmiths—H. Cattell, 2206 Fifteenth Ave. west.
Bookbinders—W. H. Cowderoy, 1885 Thirty-fourth avenue east.
Boilermakers—A. Fraser, 1151 Howe street.
Brewery Workers—Frank Graham, 2256 12th avneue west.
Bricklayers—William S. Dagnall, Labor Temple.
Brotherhood of Carpenters District Council—G. H. Page, Room 208, Labor Temple.
Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers—L. T. Solloway, 1157 Harwood street. Seymour 1348R
Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Engineman—H. G. Savage, 1235 Hornby St.
Brotherhood of Railway Carmen—
Brotherhood of Maintenance-of-Way Employees—E. Corado, 236 Clark drive.
Cigarmakers—R. Craig, care Van Loo Cigar Factory, Georgia street.
Cooks, Waiters, Waitresses—Andy Graham, Room 304, Labor Temple.
Deep Sea Fishermen's Union—Russell Kearley, 437 Gore avenue.
Electrical Workers (outside)—E. H. Morrison, Room 207, Labor Temple.
Engineers—(Steam and Operating)—W. A. Alexander, Labor Temple.
Granite Cutters—Edward Hurry, Columbia Hotel.
Garment Workers—Mrs. Jardine, Labor Temple.
Horseshoers—Labor Temple.
Letter Carriers—Robt. Wight, 177—17th avenue west.
Laborers—George Harrison, Room 220, Labor Temple.
Longshoremen—F. Chapman, 10 Powell St.
Machinists—J. Brooks, Room 211, Labor Temple.
Milk Drivers—Stanley Tiller, 312 Eighteenth avenue west.
Musicians—H. J. Brasfield, Room 305, Labor Temple.
Molders—G. F. Nichols, 121 Sixth avenue west.
Moving Picture Operators—A. A. Hansen, P. O. Box 345.
Order of Railroad Conductors—G. Hatch, 761 Beatty street.
Painters—Jas. Wilson, Room 303, Labor Temple.
Plumbers — Room 206½, Labor Temple. Phone Seymour 3611.
Pressmen—E. Waterman, 1167 Georgia St.
Plasterers—Geo. Rush, 2276 Fourteen Ave. west. Bayview 2215L.
Pattern Makers—Vancouver—E. Westmoreland, 1512 Yew street.
Quarry Workers—James Hepburn, care Columbia Hotel.
Seamen's Union—W. S. Burns, P. O. Box 1365.
Structural Iron Workers—Room 208, Labor Temple.
Stonecutters—
Sheet Metal Workers—J. W. Alexander, 2120 Pender street east.
Street Railway Employees—A. V. Lofting, 2561 Trinity street.
Stereotypers—W. Bayley, care Province.
Telegraphers—E. B. Peppin, Box 342.
Tailors—H. Nordland, Box 503.
Theatrical Stage Employees—Geo. W. Allin, Box 711.
Tilelayers and Helpers—A. Jamieson, 540 Twenty-third avenue east.
Trades and Labor Council—Victor R. Midgley, Room 210, Labor Temple.
Typographical—H. Neelands, Box 66.

FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE BODY

TRADES AND LABOR CONGRESS OF CANADA—Meets in convention September of each year. Executive board: Jas. C. Watters, president; vice-presidents: A. Watchman, Victoria, B. C.; James Simpson, Toronto, Ont.; R. A. Rigg, M. P. P., Winnipeg, Man.; secretary-treasurer, P. M. Draper, Drawer 515, Ottawa, Ont.

JOHN A. BARBER

Insurance Fire Automobile Marine, etc.

ESTATES MANAGED, VALUATORS

590 Richards Street Sey. 4434

PANTAGES

Unequalled Vaudeville Means

PANTAGES VAUDEVILLE

THREE SHOWS DAILY

2:45, 7:20, 9:15 Season's Prices: Matinee, 15c; Evenings, 15c, 25c

J. Edward Sears Office: Sey. 4146

SEARS & PATTON

Barristers, Solicitors, Conveyancers, Etc.

Victoria and Vancouver

Vancouver Office: 516-7 Rogers Bldg.

VANCOUVER, B. C.

T. B. CUTHBERTSON & CO.

Men's Hatters and Outfitters

Three Stores

Vancouver Pickle Co.

ask for

B. C. HOME BRAND PICKLES, KETCHUP, SAUCE

Highland 21 Factory 801 Powell

Phone Sey. 5183 1296 Granville

ROOTE Auto Top Co.

SEAT COVERS, AUTO UPHOLSTERING, TOPS RE-COVERED

Jobbing Work a Specialty

E. A. BAILEY

PLUMBING AND STEAMFITTING

Phone Sey. 136 and Res. Bay. 77

1033 GRANVILLE ST., Vancouver

"We Want Your Electrical Work"

The Jarvis Electric Co.

Limited

GENERAL ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS, FIXTURES AND SUPPLIES

570 RICHARDS STREET

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.

DO IT NOW

Get busy and have your old bicycle made like new. We will enamel and make your wheel look like new from $5.50 up. All kinds of repairs at

HASKINS & ELLIOTT

516-518 Howe Hastings 412

ASK YOUR GROCER FOR

Pride of Alberta, and Mothers' Favorite Flour

UNION MILLED

J. PHILLIPS & CO.

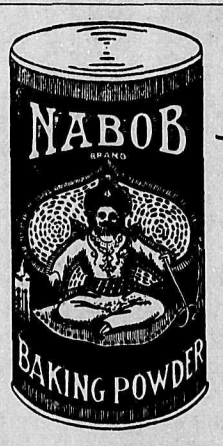
Agents

Phone 5415 1228 Hamilton

SMITH'S BUTTON WORKS

Hemstitching Picot Edging
Buttons Covered Pleating
Scalloping Ruching
Button Holes Embroidery
Pinking Hemming
Sponging and Shrinking Lettering

653 Granville St. 1319 Douglas St.
VANCOUVER, B.C. VICTORIA, B.C.
Phone Sey. 3191 Phone 1160



NABOB BAKING POWDER

Baking is a pleasure when NABOB Baking Powder is used, because it is a pure, healthful baking powder, always certain safe and sure.

YOUR GROCER SELLS IT

LECKIE BOOTS for the Spring

Strong, serviceable, solid leather throughout.

But we don't sacrifice appearance—NO, SIR. Your feet will look neat and stylish in LECKIE BOOTS—and you will get the service and comfort that goes with every pair.

The Quality goes IN before the Name goes ON—that's a LECKIE.

ASK YOUR DEALER

J. LECKIE CO.

Limited

Strain Your Eyes---Waste Your Health!

IF your eyes are defective, they are under constant strain, and this strain of the most important organ of the body (so closely in touch with the great central storehouse of energy) is a constant drain upon the vitality.

Insomnia (sleeplessness), indigestion and stomach trouble, and many other functional disturbances, including headache and extreme nervousness, are often caused by eyes that are defective without the possessor being aware of it. If you suffer from any of these things, you will do well to have your eyes examined at once.

Defective vision, of course, means that the eyes are defective, and that glasses are required. To delay means to court ill-health as well as to suffer continual discomfort. It may be dangerous.

Don't go on straining your eyes. Attend to them at once and avoid danger. Our credit system makes it possible for you to secure your glasses at once, and pay for them while you are wearing them.

ALLEN OPTICAL INSTITUTE

Limited

8th Floor Birks Building

Seymour 4565

IF it's a STEAK or a CHOP —a FISH or a SALAD— the place to get it is at the

Orpheum

Vancouver's Leading Union First Class Cafe

Directly Opposite the Orpheum Theatre, Granville Street

DAVID SPENCER, LTD. DAVID SPENCER, LTD.

The Best Overall Buys in the City

Peabody's at $1.75 and our own special at $1.25, each of them without an equal in the trade. The Spencer overall is made of heavy denim in plain black, plain blue and blue with white stripe; it's built generously, and we have never known it to fail to give satisfaction. The Peabody overall is known right across the continent; its' overall perfection in every sense of the word. You can't buy better at any price.

Men's Moleskin Trousers—The best thing of its kind we know; looks like and will wear as well as the finest worsted trousers you can buy; 5 pockets, belt loops, cuff bottom; all sizes. Sale price.....$2.25

DAVID SPENCER LIMITED

DAVID SPENCER, LTD. DAVID SPENCER, LTD.

ASK FOR **UNION LABEL** CIGARS

EL DORO

Majestic size.....2 for 25c
Concha size..... 3 for 25c

EL SIDELO

Chesterfield size.....2 for 25c
Club House size.....3 for 25c

INCOME

A 5-cent cigar that is guaranteed to give satisfaction

These cigars are strictly union-made, by McLeod, Nolan & Co., of London, Ontario.

Only the highest grade of tobacco obtainable is used in them, and the cigars are made by the best cigarmakers, and under the strictest sanitary conditions.

The price and quality is always the same.

ON SALE EVERYWHERE CALL FOR THEM

D. J. ELMER,
Sales Manager for British Columbia and the Yukon
3118 Alberta St., Vancouver
Phone Fairmont 826

AS GOOD AS GOLD
Is Gold's best recommendation

AS GOOD AS ROYAL CROWN
Is Soap's best recommendation

Accept no substitute for any Royal Crown products

SAVE ALL ROYAL CROWN COUPONS AND WRAPPERS THEY ARE VALUABLE

MADE IN B.C.

THE ROYAL CROWN SOAPS LTD.
Vancouver, B.C.
(We keep British Columbia clean)

TRADES UNIONISTS—IS THE MILK SUPPLIED TO YOUR HOME DELIVERED BY UNION LABOR?

If it is not call up the

Beaconsfield Hygienic Dairy

PHONE FAIRMONT 1697

or drop a card to our office, 905 Twenty-fourth Avenue East.

WE EMPLOY UNION LABOR EXCLUSIVELY

WE GUARANTEE TO GIVE YOU SATISFACTION—GIVE US A CALL

Pure Milk Delivered by **Union Labor**

HILLCREST DAIRY

131 FIFTEENTH AVENUE WEST——PHONE FAIRMONT 1934

The milk supplied by this dairy is pure in every sense of the word.

All the bottles and utensils used by this dairy are thoroughly sterilized.

Our milk supply comes from the Fraser Valley.

Our dairy equipment covers all known appliances for the proper treatment and sanitary handling of milk.

GIVE US A TRIAL

"The Temperate Man's Drink"

PHOENIX BEER

Brewed from the finest Malt and Hops, and, incidentally, furnishes a living to some forty odd brewery workers.

MANUFACTURED BY THE

Victoria Phoenix Brewing Company, Limited

On sale at all Liquor Stores in VANCOUVER AND VICTORIA

COMPENSATION ACT IS PRAISED BY EXPERT

Mr. F. W. Hinsdale Says It Is the Most Modern Legislation

Outline of Address on Act Before the Employers' Association

IN THE COURSE of his recent address on the Workmen's Compensation Act before the B. C. Manufacturers' association, Mr. F. W. Hinsdale, secretary of the compensation commission, said that, in his opinion, the Act was the most modern piece of legislation of its kind, and stated his belief that the measure would meet with growing approval as time proceeded.

With reference to the medical aid clauses of the act, a point on which Labor strongly insisted, Mr. Hinsdale said that this was a wise move, and would work out for the benefit of the employee without expense or trouble to the employer.

As Mr. Hinsdale is an acknowledged expert on workmen's compensation legislation, these words of praise for the British Columbia Act are worthy of special notice, especially as so many clauses of the provincial measure were framed at the instance of the organized labor interests of the province.

Mr. Hinsdale said it was only natural to expect some delay in making rulings on the many points requiring adjustment, seeing that the commissioners had only just been appointed, and had to first acquaint themselves with the underlying principles of the law.

Basic Principle of Act.

The basic principle of the act was explained as a contract between workmen and employer in this wise. Under the old system, a workman could obtain more or less heavy damages against an employer if he could prove that an accident was due to negligence or fault on the part of the employer. On the other hand, an employer could free himself practically of liability by establishing that the accident was due to negligence on the part of the workman.

Thus, when an accident occurred, it generally resolved itself into workman against employer, and the cause of the accident became obscured under a mass of conflicting report and evidence. In the final analysis the workman did not benefit, because his compensation was always in some doubt, and the law costs in any case swallowed up a proportion, and as for the employer, he was always subject to a heavy risk, as it was always open for workmen to bring actions for heavy damages.

Do Away with Litigation.

Under the act, litigation is done away with entirely. Whether the accident results from negligence on the part of the workman or the employer, the workman receives a fixed compensation of *55 per cent. of the wages lost by reason* of the accident. In other words, it is as if there were a bargain between employer and workman as follows: "If you will undertake not to bring action against me for heavy damages in case of accident which may possibly be due to some fault of machinery or other cause over which I have some control, I will undertake to pay you moderate damages for accident arising out of conditions over which I have no control, *and for which you could not recover* under the old system."

Mr. Hinsdale explained that the rate of assessment was not of much importance, the real question being how often it would be collected. He said that if it was found that the first quarter's assessment produced sufficient funds in a class to take care of all disbursements in that class, then no further levy would be made during the year. He expected that the amounts collected so far in respect of most of the classes would be sufficient to last out some time ahead. The first quarterly assessment had produced the sum of $296,000.

Pensions for Widows.

Replying to enquiries, Mr. Hinsdale said that in regard to fatal accidents, the widow would receive a fixed payment of $20 per month, payable until her death or remarriage. The total capitalized value of this pension would be charged to the funds of the year in which the accident occurred. In case of re-marriage, the fund would pay to the widow two years' pension, $480.

It was expected later to introduce a "merit clause," by which an employer who introduced safety appliances and thereby lowered the risk in his factory, will be rewarded by a reduced assessment, as per contra, in cases where a factory owner refuses to instal safety improvement, the assessment may be raised.

Not all trades within a class were assessed at the same rate, the assessment being based upon the actual risk. It might be found necessary to increase or reduce assessments according to the experience of the working of the law.

JITNEY DRIVERS WILL ORGANIZE A UNION

New Organization Will Apply to Central Labor Body for Affiliation.

At a meeting of members of the Jitney league, held in the O'Brien hall on Wednesday afternoon, it was decided to effect a re-organization along trades union lines, and an executive committee was appointed to report on the details of such an organization at a meeting to be called as soon as the report was prepared. The plans of the men include the affiliation of the new union with the Trades and Labor council

No action was taken by the meeting as to the question of wages or hours, these matters being left in the hands of the executive for consideration and report. The discussion on the question of re-organization showed that the men felt strongly that it was necessary to organize along trades union lines if a permanent organization, which would have real weight, was desired.

Civic Firemen's Union.

The city firemen of Philadelphia have organized a union, which now has over 500 members. The organization is affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, and the firemen have as their objective the establishment of a two-platoon system, and the securing of better working conditions.

LETTERS TO THE FED.

Referred to Party, Not Movement.

Editor B. C. Federationist: In the report of the Trades and Labor council meeting contained in The Federationist of March 2, I am reported to have stated that "socialism was dead." That statement is incorrect. What I did say was that "at the Revelstoke convention of the B. C. Federation of Labor, a clause in the president's report, which claimed that the Socialist party of Canada was no longer a factor in the political life of the province, had been adopted, and that none of the delegates had contradicted the statement, although there were some members of that party seated as delegates in th convention. As a socialist, believing that the only solution of Labor's problems is that the working class must ultimately take possession of all the instruments for the production and distribution of wealth, I certainly hope that the socialist movement is not dead, notwithstanding the fact that a number of our former comrades are striving to exterminate each other on the battlefields of Europe.

VICTOR R. MIDGLEY.
Vancouver, B. C., March 3, 1917.

B. C. Federation and Political Action.

Editor B. C. Federationist: The question of political action by workers is by no means a new one, and I think we will all agree the need for some relief is imperative. But, when we attempt to formulate a definite policy to relieve the situation, we must take into consideration the diversity of opinions of *the rank and file of trade unionists* throughout the province.

The resolution adopted by the Revelstoke convention instructed the executive to submit a referendum to the affiliated membership on the question of entering the political arena. The executive, after discussing the question, instructed Secretary Wells to issue a draft for their approval setting forth the necessity of political action and also the various obstacles to be encountered *by entering into such a scheme.* Having received this draft, I wish to state that I believe Secretary Wells has made a very able attempt to carry out the intent of the resolution, as adopted by the convention, and the instruction of the executive. I am heartily in favor of the greater part of the draft as presented.

I believe it to be the duty of the vice-presidents to address the various local unions of their district on this *question, assisting the membership to* discuss and clearly understand it from all angles, and making it perfectly clear that while the formation of the party and its policies and principles will be a matter for later consideration by the executive, nevertheless the membership should consider all policies so far as possible, and their effect upon the industrial organization, before voting on this question.

In the event of the result of the referendum vote *being in favor of* political action by the workers, I venture to express my opinion on a policy of procedure. Various suggestions have been offered from time to time, amongst them are the following: 1. The adoption of the socialist party as our political organization. 2. The formation of a Labor party based upon the principles of socialism.

Owing to the diversity of opinions amongst trade unionists as to political action, the *first suggestion—the adop*tion of the socialist party, would not meet with the support required to accomplish our ends. Even allowing that such an amalgamation could be brought about, it would take years to educate a majority of the workers to support and understand the scientific policy of the party and, again, it would mean the adoption of certain socialistic theory and tactics, to which the trade unionists are strictly opposed.

Workers affiliate with *the trade* union movement because they recognize in it the only form of organization that relieves their immediate oppressions, and the socialist theory, as expressed by prominent leaders of the party, (who, by the way, are usually men who are not compelled to sell their labor power in the industrial field), as to the fundamental principles and accomplishments of the organization, has raised a barrier that will require years to remove.

In addition, the socialist party was at one time a recognized factor in the political field of the province, but the last few years has clearly demonstrated its inability to concentrate the support of the working class along its line of action. The formation of a Labor party, whether independent or based upon the principles of socialism, would undoubtedly develop into a political machine, whose activities and accomplishments would depend upon its available funds. I believe it would take years to build up such an organization, with good hope of success, and then it would undoubtedly develop along the same lines as Labor parties in other countries which, to say the most, have accomplished very little for the working class.

Still, I am in favor of the Federation entering the arena and wish to offer a suggestion for consideration, as follows: Raise the per capita tax on the affiliated unions, the proceeds to be used for legislative purposes only, and draft a platform of principles, embodying the principal legislation we have been asking for years, and send it to the district council or Trades and Labor council of each constituency, requesting them to call a mass meeting of the workers to select a candidate to support this platform. The only qualification asked by the Federation would be that the candidate must be in possession of a paid-up union card and only in districts where no central bodies existed would the Federation be justified in taking the lead in the selection of the candidate. The executive, after conferring with the officers of the central body of the district, and finding there was a reasonable chance for the candidate to succeed at the polls, would grant a fixed amount from our legislative fund, to be handled through the vice-president for the district.

This plan of action, while not scientific, is democratic. The workers of each district could feel they had selected their own candidate and would render greater support, and it would to a certain extent eliminate the machine method, which seems essential to the political party. Machine politics make machine governments, and we have been blessed with that particular brand long enough. Let us at least start with a policy of democracy. Let the workers choose their man. Let the majority rule. Thresh the candidate out in a good old stormy session where we all have a voice. Then the boys will all get behind and boost, and the result will not be derogatory to the industrial organization. W. E. THOMPSON.

Prince Rupert, B. C.,
March 5, 1917.

PUBLIC MEN CALLED TO ACCOUNT BY LABOR

R. B. Bennett and Premier Norris Asked for An Explanation

Either Retract or Support the Remarks Against Labor Unions

At the Revelstoke convention of the B. C. Federation of Labor, the statements of Hon. R. B. Bennett, director-general of the National Service commission, and Hon. T. C. Norris, premier of *Manitoba, which imputed base motives* to Labor officials who dared to question the card registration plan, was discussed.

The convention directed that letters be sent to the parties requesting that they either publicly retract the statements or furnish evidence showing that the remarks were justified.

In accordance with this direction, Secretary A. S. Wells forwarded on Feb. 28, personal letters to Mr. Bennett *and Premier Norris, which read as fol*lows:

"At our last convention held in Revelstoke, B. C., during the present month, the following resolution was passed by an unanimous vote:

Make Good or Apologize.

"'Whereas, Mr. R. B. Bennett, director-general of National Service, and Mr. T. C. Norris, premier of the province of Manitoba, have in public meetings stated that the members of organized labor, who have opposed the registration scheme of the Dominion government, were traitors to their country, and in the pay of Germany or their agents.

"'Therefore be it resolved, That Mr. R. B. Bennett and Mr. T. C. Norris be called upon to make good their charges or retract same.'

"As the officers of the Federation have opposed the registration scheme, we would be glad if you will either produce the evidence that will prove your charges as stated above, or, just as publicly as the charges were made, retract the same and apologies to the men who, because they do not see eye to eye with the government, are condemned by men who hold responsible positions, in an irresponsible manner. I remain, yours, A. S. Wells, Secretary-treasurer."

Work's Greatest Lever.

Editor B. C. Federationist: The only hope for the redemption of the working class from grinding wage slavery lies in education. At the present time the mass of wage-earners is uneducated. They are so through circumstances over which they had, at best, little control. The average wage-worker leaves school at as early an age as possible. Time for study after he has entered the arena of work life is very often limited, and when opportunity offers he is often too tired to sustain any mental effort. The literature he reads is mainly light fiction, pleasant relaxation after daily toil. I speak of the average worker only. Some of the finest brains that ever worked were contained in the brainpans of the sons of toil. Let us assume that the present day wage-worker is uneducated and that the prospects of mental development for him are poor. Where do we land? We must educate the wage-earners of the future. When? Now.

We wage-earners have the mightiest tool within our grasp. We have only to extend our hand. We must have our children educated. What is education? Are our children being educated today? The sum total of education is a sound mind in a sound body. A sound mind. A mind not developed along one particular line, but a mind that has grown apace with the sound body. Do our children get the proper mental food for building up a sound mind today? They do not. They get a smattering of this, a touch of that, and leave school with little real knowledge beyond a heterogenerous agglomeration of useless facts, un-co-ordinated knowledge, mentally biassed, and in place of a thinking, reasoning brain, a dark room stored with a rare assortment of photographic plates, which they may never develop, and which deteriorate and decompose with time.

The privilege of free education is one of the "few" boons society has granted the working class. It is its greatest heritage, if you can so use the term. And what have we done with it? Next to nothing. The citizen delegates a board to look after the interests of the children. The unions never run a man for trusteeship. The average city board is usually composed of professional men, merchants, property owners, many of whom are in to look after certain vested interests. Wage-earners ignore the strongest tool ever offered them. Meddling in scholastic affairs seems outside their realm. A live interest in how the young are to be educated has to be one of the first steps wage-earners must take.

What has made the Scotch the aggressive people they are? The desire on the part of the parents that the family should have the very best education possible, very often at very great inconvenience. What has made the Germans so perfect in organization? They worked through the schools. Commencing away back forty years ago. Why are the workers in Russia today but little removed from serfs? The lack of education. We must get possession of the educating of our children. Our hope lies in them. We must see that they are "educated," mentally developed. We must forbid the inordinate lust for examination results. We will not have our children votive offerings to the fetich of test by written examinations. We must demand that our children's brains be made a well laid-out, well cultivated productive garden, not a cesspool of whirling fragments of useless information. We have brought them into the world, and about the only thing we can give them is an education. It is about time we saw to it that we have to play the parent's part in this respect, and the time is ripe for organized effort on the part of workers to have some say in the education of the coming workers.

Vancouver, Mar. 3. PARENT.

Municipal Laborers Get Increase.

The Matsqui municipal council has recognized the justice of advancing the wages paid for its outside labor, and decided to increase the pay of the teamsters, road foremen and laborers.

BIG BARGAIN IN BOYS HOSE

ALL SIZES - - 39c. a PAIR

Manufacturers' Seconds—Not just perfect enough to pass the trained eye of the expert at the mills, but absolutely nothing the matter with them as far as appearance goes, or that will interfere with their wear. This hose could not be bought at the mill today for the price we are offering it today. Black Ribbed Cashmere Hose, strong, serviceable and fast dye; all sizes from 6½ to 10½. Wonderful value at, per pair..... 39c

The Hudson's Bay Company.
INCORPORATED 1670 HERBERT S. DUNDAS, STORES COMMISSIONER

Granville and Georgia Streets

FREE HOMESTEADS
BRITISH COLUMBIA

Along line of P. G. E. Railway open park line lands. The finest mixed farming lands in the province.

Good water, best of hunting and fishing. The settlers who have gone in there are all boosters, as they are making good.

If you want to go back to the land, write

A. S. WILLIAMSON
LAND CRUISER
PACIFIC GREAT EASTERN RAILWAY
Welton Block, Vancouver

THE NANAIMO

COAL

BEST QUALITY . BEST PRICE . BEST SERVICE

Evans, Coleman & Evans, Limited

Wharf Office: FOOT COLUMBIA AVENUE Seymour 2988

Uptown Office: 407 GRANVILLE STREET Seymour 226

TEETH
---and the Human Machine

NO ONE can gainsay the truth of the statement that teeth are as essential to the health of the body as any other part of the body. This being true, it is most essential that the teeth receive our best care and attention. If your teeth have worn away, have them replaced at once. Crown and Bridge work has been brought to a high pitch of development in my practice.

Per tooth..... **$5**

Examinations are free. Tel. Seymour 3331

Offices open Tuesday and Friday Ev'gs. 7 to 9. Closed Saturday p. m.

Dr. Brett Anderson
Crown and Bridge Specialist
602 HASTINGS STREET
Cor. Seymour.

Modern Painless methods are used in my practice. You will not suffer.

Do You Want Your City to Expand

Then see that the street railway is given proper encouragement by being treated fairly and not subjected to unfair competition.

New cars, new tracks, new equipment will some day be needed if the car service is to keep pace with the growth of the city.

Only by giving the street railway the protection that is due it, will the capital for these extensions and additions be obtained.

Your action towards fair treatment will result in better service to yourself.

B.C. Electric

Carrall and Hastings Phone Seymour 5000

Have you tried

CARHARTT'S

THE OVERALL

that is

OVER ALL

SEE TO IT

THAT YOU GET

THE CARHARTT

Broadway Theatre

Corner Broadway and Main

MONDAY, TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY,
MARCH 12, 13 and 14

EDNA GOODRICH
IN "THE HOUSE OF LIES."
ALSO "THE PURPLE MASK" AND COMEDY

THURSDAY, FRIDAY AND SATURDAY
MARCH 15, 16 and 17

THEDA BARA
ROMEO AND JULIET

Great Northern Transfer Co., Ltd.

FURNITURE MOVING AND PACKING
BY EXPERTS

Baggage and Express Agents
Cartage and Shipping Agents

Phone Day and Night, Sey. 605 and 405

80 Pender Street East VANCOUVER, B. C.

Established 1891

JOHN J. BANFIELD

Fire Insurance, Accident Insurance, Estates Managed.

MONEY TO LOAN

327 Seymour St. Phone Seymour 153

CASCADE BEER

"The Beer Without a Peer"

So popular because it's so good. Cascade is brewed of the highest grade B. C. hops, and selected Canadian barley-malt, and is aged for months in our cellars before being offered to the public.

When You Buy CASCADE—You
Get a Beer that has knowledge and pure material back of it.

TRY A DOZEN PINTS
TO BE CONVINCED

BREWED AND BOTTLED AT THE BREWERY
—FOR SALE EVERYWHERE—

Vancouver Breweries Limited

—IF IT'S—

WOOD

PHONE HANBURY'S

We can make immediate delivery on

Slabs, Edgings, Inside Fir

We have acquired ten additional teams for your service.

J. Hanbury & Co., Ltd.

Fourth and Granville Bay. 1076-1077

SUNDAY SCHEDULE FOR STREET CARS APPROVED

The Street Railwaymen Are Pleased With Proposed Arrangement

Correspondent Urges Better Attendance at Union Meetings

VICTORIA, March 6.—(Special Correspondence to The Federationist.)—At the last meeting of Capital Division No. 109, of the Victoria Street Railwaymen, the executive brought forward an altered schedule for Sunday hours. It was to all appearance an improvement for both night and day men, and there is little doubt that when it comes to a vote, it will carry.

Some discussion arose on a resolution to secede from the B. C. Federation of Labor, it being considered too costly for the benefit obtained. It was finally decided to still maintain our affiliation. This was a wise decision, but the men trust that they will find enough delegates of the right sort to send to these meetings as will be able to help mould the policies of that body so that we shall in future see more for our money spent in taat direction.

The attendance at the meeting indicated that there is an evident feeling among the members of the division that a few men can run the meetings, although all expect to share in any benefits which may come from the actions taken or reserve the right to "knock" if they do not agree with the character of the work done. Only one man in four who should have been present, was on hand, and the excuses given for non-attendance were rather flimsy. The meetings of the night men are rather better attended than those of the day men, and the evident interest taken at these gatherings shows that they may possibly "put one over" on the day men shortly. When trades unionists look around and see the general activity of organized labor in these times, it would seem that the Victoria street railwaymen should remember that their share of labor's activities should not be left for a few to do, but that every man should put his shoulder to the wheel and show an active interest in the work of his organization. "Nuff sed."

News from the Car Barns.

The men are glad to see Bro. Wallace back to work, and to hear that Archie Kerr is leaving the hospital in a day or two, as he is rapidly secovering.

The glad hand is extended to Bro. Fred. Brown, returned from England. It is hoped he will soon get rid of his rheumatism, obtain his discharge and be back amongst his fellow workers again.

Ernie Blake has enlisted for service with the Engineers' corps, making another street railway man who has answered the overseas call.

Every street railway man regrets to hear that Bro. Joe Rich is unwell, and thinks he may not be able to do much more street car work. They trust his health will soon improve and, if he changes his mind as to work, they shall be the better pleased.

Every street railway man should read this month's Motorman and Conductor very carefully, especially International President Mahon's review of the Labor convention, which he attended in England. They will find the article both interesting and educative, and it may cause some of our brightest intellects to arise, put on their fighting armour and go forth into battle for the common cause—justice and equality for the worker and the right to live as self-respecting citizens.

THE CHIEL.

LABOR NOT ADVISED ON COMPENSATION ACT WORKINGS

Expression of Views on Sweeping Statement Recently Made by Official.

The Vancouver Province, March 3, contained the following paragraph in connection with the operation of the new Workmen's Compensation Act:

"Mr. F. P. Bodwell, Vancouver and mainland representative for the Workmen's Compensation board says that to date the board has received notice of 1083 accidents in the industries coming under the act. A great deal of delay is just now being occasioned by reason of the failure of the different parties affected to send in the requisite information, with the result that the information has to be written for. As the time goes on, and those affected become more conversant with the workings of the act, there will be no time lost in payment. All claims ready for adjustment up to the 28th of February, 1917, have been settled."

As far as organized labor in the city is concerned, the above paragraph was the first information as to the appointment of a special representative of the Compensation board for the city or mainland, although it would seem proper that the Labor officials, as representatives of those keenly interested in the Act, be made acquainted with the fact. Neither is it known whether Mr. Bodwell is to open a branch office in Vancouver, or is any information available as to where he may be found. All of which is very unsatisfactory to wage-workers.

The statement credited to Mr. Bodwell as to the prompt settlement of compensation claims is criticized by J. H. McVety, president of the Trades and Labor council, who says there are many cases where claims were made during January, where the claimants are yet waiting for word in connection with the matter. These cases could not be due to lack of information on the part of the claimants, as no request for additional facts has been made.

The aim of labor officials has been to assist in every way in the operation of the new Act. They regard, however, such sweeping statements as are credited to Mr. Bodwell as hardly in order in view of the fact that they are daily explaining to complaining claimants that settlement of their claims is probably delayed because of the Compensation board having been only recently appointed, as well as answering enquiries concerning the Act which would very properly be referred to Mr. Bodwell, if it was known where he could be found.

An Unusual

Display of Fine

Veils for Spring

VAN RAALTE VEILS have much to commend them to those who seek the best. Their unique quality cannot but be appreciated. The latest Van Raalte Veils are on view here in a great variety of designs—new effects that are entirely different and decidedly attractive.

In particular, we direct attention to the beautiful appliqued designs, which are an innovation out of the ordinary. These Veils are fashioned so as to form an effective hat trimming, and by their use a hat shape alone can be made into an exceptionally pleasing creation. The Veils are equally attractive when worn with a tailored hat.

View the showing at the Veiling Section. The prices are from $2.25 to $5.00.

Gordon Drysdale LIMITED

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

575 Granville Phone Sey. 3540

MACHINISTS' WAGES ADVANCED IN VICTORIA

Dispute of Short Duration, Employers Grant Demands

Victory Will Strengthen the Hands of the Trade in Province

During the closing days of last week, about 150 Victoria machinists and boilermakers employed at the Esquimalt navy yard, Victoria Machinery Depot and Yarrows, Ltd., walked out as the result of a refusal to grant an increase of wages and better working conditions as to hours, etc. Their cessation from work was of only short duration, however, as on Friday the employers granted the concessions demanded, and the men returned to work on Saturday.

The new wage scale provides for machinists receiving 56½ cents per hour for work in the city, and 62½ cents per hour for work at outside points, with corresponding increases for other trades. The men will work a 44-hour week, following the rule of an eight-hour day on week days, and four hours on Saturday. Workers on night shifts will receive time and a quarter and there is the usual provision for pay for overtime work. The agreement provides for the settlement of disputes without a strike or lockout being declared, and also protects men sent out of town for work as regards transportation, board, etc.

Naturally, the men are jubilant over their success in obtaining their demands, and it is thought the victory will have a helpful effect in the trades represented obtaining proper recognition in other parts of the province, especially in Vancouver, where the rate paid in some shops is as low as 40 cents.

Having been advised of the conditions existing in Victoria, Organizer McCallum, of the Machinists' union, left for that city immediately upon returning from his recent organization trip upcountry, and was present to assist the men in obtaining the recognition of their trade demands.

RAILWAY CARMEN ENJOY PLEASANT SOCIAL EVENING

Whist Drive and Smoking Concert Given at Labor Temple.

A whist drive and smoking concert was given by Local 58 of the Brotherhood of Railway Carmen in the Labor Temple last Friday night, which was a success in every particular. The arrangements were under the direction of the enteratinment committee, which is composed of Geo. White, chairman, and Messrs. Wood, Robt. Harley and Geo. Somerville. The prizes for the whist drive were won by Messrs. E. Mattock, H. Ward and J. Scott. During the evening an impromptu concert was given, the programme showing that the local has excellent vocal and instrumental talent. Refreshments were served at a late hour, and all departed voting the evening most enjoyably spent.

BASIS OF PAYMENTS TO WAR FUNDS DISCUSSED

Letter Carriers Want Levy to Be on Percentage of Salary

Entertainment Committee Plan Social Evening on March 15

AT THE regular monthly meeting of the Vancouver branch of the Federated Letter Carriers last Friday, there was a fair attendance.

Del. N. Barlow reported on the activities of the Trades and Labor council, and Del. J. Cass asked for instructions re voting on the question of the council's proposed participation in the coming provincial by-election. The council delegates were informed that as government employees were forbidden from taking an active participation in politics they must act accordingly.

Bro. Carl, reported re the post office employees war fund. Among other things he stated that a move was on foot to increase the monthly contributions from $2 to $2.50 per man. Considerable discussion ensued, in the course of which several members voiced their disapproval of the existing flat rate system. At present an employee receiving $63 a month pays the same amount to the patriotic fund as employees receiving much larger sums. A two per cent. monthly contribution, based on the salary received, would be more equitable, and, although this was advocated, no specific instructions were given to the representatives on the war fund committee.

Whist Drive and Dance.

The social committee announced that a military whist drive and dance is to be held on Thursday, March 15, at the Cotillion hall. An admission fee of 25 cents would be charged, proceeds to be devoted to patriotic purposes.

Prizes for the whist drive have been donated by Mr. Wm. Dick, Mr. W. R. Owen, Mrs. E. C. Mahon and Mrs. W. Derrick. Those attending the gathering are asked to remember that it opens sharp at 8 o'clock.

An interesting report of the Federated executive's interview with the government was read by Secretary Wight. Although it did not give any definite news, President Hoop leads the men to believe that the government recognizes the justice of the letter carriers' demands, and that some action may be expected from the government this session.

A notice of motion was presented by Bro. Squires, calling for an increase in the stipend of the secretary. This will be decided next meeting, which is billed for Friday, April 6. Please attend.

SUCCESSFUL LABOR MEN'S SMOKER IN ROYAL CITY

Gathering Is One of Series Designed to Assist in Organization Campaign.

NEW WESTMINSTER, March 6.—The New Westminster Trades and Labor council held last week one of the most successful smoking concerts ever arranged by a labor organization in the city. The large hall of the Labor Temple was crowded to its capacity. The affair was the second of a series which is to be held during the winter and, judging from the attendance and the enjoyment of the visitors, it will be of advantage to the council to continue the entertainments. They bring the workers together better than any other means which could be adopted, and make the task of getting the workers organized much easier than could be done without such entertainments.

A splendid programme was rendered, songs being provided by Messrs. W. Gillespie, Tom Wood, R. Ross, J. Wood, C. Constantineau, W. Ashball, A. Pool and H. Knudsen. Mr. P. Alcock put on a step dance, Mr. R. Morgan, of the civic employees, entertained the audience with several recitations, and Ald. F. J. Lynch told some good stories. An outstanding feature of the programme was a song by Mr. E. Morris, a returned soldier, who has opened a music store on Columbia street. Mr. Morris has a most pleasing baritone voice, which he used to good effect.

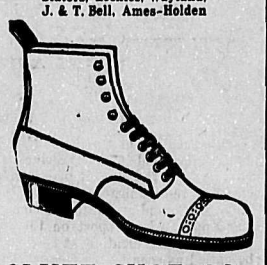
The music was provided by the Musician's union orchestra of eleven pieces, which provided a class of music not often heard at entertainments of this nature.

Refreshments were provided in abundance but, owing to the unexpected size of the crowd, the refreshment committee had to make a mad rush to town to augment the supplies, making the trip in record time.

No wonder truth is stranger than fiction; we spend so much less time getting acquainted with it.—Ellis O. Jones, in Life.

UNION-MADE SHOES The best that money can buy $4.50 to $8.50

Slaters, Leckies, Wayland, J. & T. Bell, Ames-Holden



CLUFF SHOE CO.
649 Hastings Street West

DONT ARGUE!

CON JONES
Sells Fresh Tobacco.

LETTERS TO THE FED.

Federation Referendum Vote.

Editor B. C. Federationist: I did not intend saying anything in connection with the referendum vote of the Federation on the question of its entering the political arena. In last week's issue of The Federationist I saw something, however, in the report of the discussion on the Vancouver Trades and Labor council entering the field, which might have some effect on the referendum vote. Hence I write briefly.

The remark referred to above was that "Socialism was dead in this province." Why, socialism is not even sick, let alone dead, here. It can never die until it has accomplished its object.

The question of the Federation entering the political field is one which has been debated in convention again and again. These debates have always ended in a diversity of opinion, and the Revelstoke convention thought best to put the question to a referendum vote in order to ascertain the views of the rank and file. My advice to the membership is to carefully consider the letter of the secretary, and vote according to his personal views.

I would also like to call the attention of the workers of this province to the need of "boosting" The Federationist. In its columns they will find different and varying opinions and ideas, all of which are of educational value for the worker. Every member of the Federation should do a little "boosting" for the publication.

There is also another Vancouver publication, the Western Clarion, which cannot be surpassed for giving knowledge of the historical development and a sound interpretation of the Maxian system of economics. Yours truly,

JOS. NAYLOR,
President B. C. Federation of Labor.
Cumberland, B. C., March 6.

[The reference to socialism being dead in the province, referred to in the above letter, was an error, the correct wording of the debate being that the socialist party was dead in the province, as was mentioned in other paragraphs reporting the same discussion. —Editor Federationist.]

What a pity that the truth is the most disagreeable thing one can say about the war!

PURE MILK REGULATIONS OBSERVED

The Sou-Van dairy at Fraser street and Twenty-ninth avenue is a living illustration of the value of observing the regulations of the authorities for ensuring the public a pure milk supply. Mr. P. S. Barker, manager of the dairy, understands by experience the value of such regulations and, from the cow to the consumer, provides for his milk conforming in every respect with the rules laid down. The dairy draws its supply from the rich pasture fields of the Fraser Valley, enabling it to be rushed to the dairy without loss of time, an important point. At the dairy it is clarified, pasteurized, cooled and bottled according to the most approved methods, so as to render it absolutely free from dirt or sediment, and to provide for its being kept in good condition for a reasonable time. For this work the latest types of machinery are used, and the operations are carried on according to absolutely sanitary methods. The milk supplied is of a quality which meets the demands of even mothers who are the most anxious with reference to the feeding of delicate infants. Manager Barker is so proud of the Sou-Van dairy that he welcomes visitors to the plant in order that they may personally see the perfect manner in which milk is handled by the concern.

Hotel Canada

518 Richards Street

VANCOUVER
(Near Labor Temple)

Best Service
Lowest Rates
Try Us

Wines and Spirits of the best quality

Orpheum THIS WEEK GRANVILLE ST. PHONE SEY. 318 TWICE DAILY 2.30 8.20

"THE BEST OF VAUDEVILLE"

Matinee Prices: Evenings
10c, 15c, 25c, 50c. 10c, 25c, 35c. 75c.

Advance Forward!!

And take first car to Ray's Market for your week-end shopping of profit and pleasure.

500 Sirloin Steak 20c
500 Round Steak 20c
500 Minced Steak 12½c
500 Sausage 12½c
500 Beef Dripping 12½c
500 Rib Boiling Beef..... 10c
500 Pot Roast 10c

A Service That's Sure

More Meat for the same money.

Two doors west of Rex Theatre. No delivery.

COAL

1000 Tons of

NUT

On hand for

IMMEDIATE DELIVERY

MIDDLESBORO COLLERIES LTD.

Sales Depot—Sey. 1003
Branch—Bay. 2827

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

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
R. PARM. PETTIPIECE, Manager.
Labor Temple, Vancouver, B. C.

BRITISH COLUMBIA'S BEST

COAL

For your kitchen, Wellington nut $6.50
Kitchen, furnace and grate, Wellington lump 7.50

For Your Furnace

Comox Lump $7.50
Comox Nut 6.50
Comox Pea 4.50

(Try our Pea Coal for your underfeed furnace)

MACDONALD-MARPOLE CO. LIMITED

Phone Seymour 210 Phone Seymour 210

The Sign USE

SHAMROCK Brand

Lard Butter
Ham Eggs
Bacon Sausage

BURNS'

P. BURNS & COMPANY, LTD.

Of Quality

Retail Stores in All Sections of the Province