THE BRITISH COLUMBIA FEDERATIONIST

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

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ORGANIZED LABOR AND ENFORCED SERVICE

B. C. Federation of Labor Not Opposed to Real National Service

Does Not Approve of More Enslavement of Labor By Conscription

[By Joe Naylor]
(President B. C. Federation of Labor)

IT MAY BE of interest to the workers of the province to have a brief review of the actions of organized labor for the last few years, as far as militarism is concerned. When there were no immediate signs of war, all labor officials were opposed to it, and resoluted and resoluted, and would no doubt have kept at it so long as no more strenuous action was necessary. But at the first signs of having to butt up against something real, everything is changed. The officers of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada came before the Vancouver convention with a clause in their report stating that "organized labor was behind the Allies until they had gained a final and ultimate victory." This was followed with a clause opposing conscription.

Much Heated Discussion.

The first clause mentioned called forth a long and heated discussion. Upon a vote being taken a big majority was given in favor of accepting the officer's report. This brought to the minority the name of the ignoble 28." As far as the B. C. Federation of Labor is concerned it has always taken a stand against conscription. As far as I know, the same holds good today, and, speaking for myself, I am absolutely opposed to it. If those men who are physically fit, and many of whom I see performing no more laborious service to the nation than riding around in automobiles and displaying the Union Jack, would get into khaki and do something really worth while for the country they claim to possess and which they profess to love so intensely, there would be no necessity for still further drawing upon the strength of the useful members of human society. True, the useful members of human society are as a rule opposed to militarism in all of its aspects, and militarism being purely a ruling class institution, existing for the sole purpose of holding the working class in subjection to exploitation and trade, the above suggestion can scarcely be expected to meet with popular approval among idle and useless flag-waving patriots.

What Is Happening.

In the Sunday Chronicle of Nov. 5, 1916, I find an article by Chiozza Money, M. P., dealing with conscription in Great Britain. He points out that the useful workers are being taken from their occupations while there are 10 millions of males in that country who are of military age and have never yet been touched. In his size-up of the situation, he says: "Let us add together the 5 million men assumed to be already in the army and the 2½ million workers (men, women, boys and girls) who are making munitions. This would make 7½ million. Subtract this from the at least 22½ million adults that ought to be doing some useful work, and we find 15 million ought-to-be workers that are neither in the army or navy nor making munitions. What are they doing? Does any one believe that this 15 million male and female band of undoubted patriots is doing anything necessary to the successful prosecution of the war? If any one is so foolish as to believe that let him put use his eyes and he will find ample demonstration of the fact that never before were the trades of extravagance doing so well as now, and never was extravagance more bold and impudent in its expression. One needs but glance through these facts of Mr. Money to find that the people who are carrying the burden and enduring the suffering of this ruling class war are the workers, the useful members of human society, the same who carry the burden and endure the miseries and agonies of ruling class peace. The latter has its sacrifices but little less terrible and crushing than the former, for the corner stone of both is human slavery.

Peace An Illusion.

Peace for the workers is an illusion as long as capitalism holds sway. And now, fellow slaves, if our masters force us to fight let us fight for our own liberty and cast from our limbs the chains of bondage that have held our class in subjection to rule and exploitation since the beginning of written history. Until that is done there can be no peace for the toilers that is any less objectionable and intolerable than actual war.

Signs of the Times.

It is well to note that immediately upon the passing of "selective conscription" in the land of "Uncle Sam," the Chinese authorities became so generous as to offer an almost unlimited supply of cheap labor to replace the men who will be forced into the horrible shambles of that militarism that is well calculated to put the finishing touch to democracy upon this western continent. That the patriotic employers of the United States will most thankfully avail themselves of this splendid offer and opportunity to hamper the movement of the American workers to better their conditions under the glorious rule of capital, goes without saying. No further evidence of their devotion to the sacred cause of democracy and liberty is required than is to be found in the perfect unanimity of their zeal in cracking the labor market while the time is made ripe by war. "democracy and the liberty of small nations," the slaves of the Canadian Colleries, Ltd., are not allowed to organize for the purpose of in any manner bettering their conditions, or safeguarding the future of the young slaves who are destined by the harsh edict of fate to take their places when they have been cast into the scrap heap. We are here told that we must not give in our union cards at Cumberland, but must send them back to where they came from, for the Canadian Collieries, Ltd., will not stand for that foreign organization known as the U. M. W. of A. At any rate conscription will not seriously effect this delectable burg, for less than 3 per cent. of the men here engaged are British subjects. And now, fellow workers, you are the people who are to choose whether you will relish conscription or not. The Ottawa government is doing the choosing as to whether you are to get it or not. But as far as the B. C. Federation of Labor is concerned, it has always taken a stand against it, and I believe it to be a duty to stand by all of its previous resolutions. We should show that what we resolve to do, we mean to do, and let there be no mistake about it.

WELLS BACK FROM HIS NEW YORK TRIP

Sec.-Treas. B. C. Federation of Labor Reports Much Activity

Increase of Membership and a Strong Opposition to Conscription

A. S. Wells, secretary-treasurer of the B. C. Federation of Labor, passed through Vancouver during the week, on his way home from New York, where he has been engaged in the interests of his trade organization. Speaking of conditions in the labor movement to The Federationist, he said that there was an evident revival of the movement. Toronto, Hamilton, Montreal, Winnipeg and other points were experiencing a stimulus that was much needed, and which denoted a revival of interest in the movement which had lain dormant, through industrial depression, and instanced the fact that in Toronto the carpenters had increased their membership by over 500 since August last, and in addition had increased the wages by ten cents per hour. Similar activity was also to be found in other points all through the country.

Giving his impressions of the movement in the state of New York, he stated that the movement was killed by indifference. This condition appeared to be in all walks of life, and was noticeable not only in the trade union movement, but in the attitude of the people generally in matters that affected the community.

The impression gathered as to the attitude of labor to conscription was that general opposition would be offered, and while it had been claimed that the opposition emanated from the West and from socialists, as a rule, or men of enemy countries, this was not founded on fact, as the opposition came from men who had been raised in the old land as well as from natives of the Dominion, Winnipeg being strongly opposed to conscription, and with a well-organized movement to combat the proposed conscription measures of the government.

Engineers, Local 620.

This local has decided to change its meeting day from Sunday to Thursday during the summer months, commencing Thursday, the 31st inst. The local will meet at 7.30 p.m. The membership is continuing to increase. Six new members were initiated last Sunday, and 8 applications were laid over until the applicant put in an appearance at the meeting.

Every member of organized labor ought to make a note of it.

National Service in Canada.

I do not know how many places there are in Canada like Cumberland, B. C. No doubt there are some. Probably there are many. But here we have patriotism's most convincing object lesson and expression. Here we have "national service' 'as she really ought to be, in order to meet with the hearty approval of all lovers of the Empire. Here in Cumberland is to be found the last and most convincing argument why conscription should be welcomed with glad acclaim by every slave that toils, sweats and suffers under the galling yoke of servitude for the glory of that Empire. While we are fighting for "democracy and the liberty of small nations," the slaves of the Canadian Colleries, Ltd., are not allowed to organize for the purpose of in any manner

CANADA AND CONSCRIPTION AS VIEWED BY WORKINGMEN

Unshaken in Their Opposition to the Conversion of the Dominion into a Military Despotism—Resolved to Cling to the Principles of Democracy and Remain True to the Best of Canadian Traditions — The Move for Conscription a Most Sinister One Opinion of Organized Labor

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

THE QUESTION of the day is, "Will Canada have conscription?" The press and pulpit, the politicians and other agencies of the powers that be are loud in their demand for conscription. On the other hand, organized labor, through the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, and provincial Federations of Labor, Trades and Labor councils and local unions, have, in no uncertain voice, proclaimed their opposition to the proposal to conscript the man-power of the country for military or industrial purposes.

The press has said that the protest of the organized Labor movement is the empty vaporings of a few individuals, animated by organizations controlled in the United States, by men of enemy nationality. Whether this statement is true or not we care not. The fact is, that the organized labor movement is opposed to the introduction of any military system in this country, on the lines of Germany or any other country, whose military power rests on compulsory military service.

Meantime mention to those loudest in their demands for the conscription of man-power the necessity of the conscription of wealth, and they immediately commence to condemn the interference of the state with private enterprise, whatever that may be.

Canada, along with other countries engaged in the present war, entered into it without the people being consulted.

DEMOCRACY is the slogan of the Allies in the war, yet democratic methods are the last methods to be used in the regulations of the country during the present time of war.

It is not for us to belittle the men who have volunteered to fight in the interests of the Allies. Neither would we condemn any man who will fight for his convictions.

Our convictions are that CONSCRIPTION is a menace to the liberties of the people, and on that issue the organized labor movement will fight to a finish.

Vilification and slander will not deter us from conducting that fight. Neither will misrepresentation. We are used to those methods, which are usually adopted by the powers-that-be, when their proposals are opposed.

The Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, or part of it, has evidently taken the attitude that the West should not be represented at the coming conference, with representative labor men, which is to take place at Ottawa, on this most important subject.

The executive of the British Columbia Federation of Labor, however, is alive to the situation, and will follow out the mandates of the last convention, which are as follows:

That the Federation will use all its powers to defend any member of the working class arrested for his opposition to registration or conscription;

That the Federation will use all its powers to oppose all efforts to introduce conscription, either military or industrial.

In order to carry out the expressed wishes of the members, as voiced through their representatives at the convention held in Revelstoke, during January last, the executive will, during the coming week, issue a manifesto and outline a policy for the trades unionists in this province to follow in their opposition to conscription.

Time for Cool Judgment.

The above statement of the case by A. S. Wells, secretary of the B. C. Federation of Labor, is sufficiently concise and to the point to remove all doubt as to the stand already definitely taken by the forces of organized labor throughout the Dominion. The matter of forcing military servitude upon the people of this country is one requiring the cool and careful judgment of those who will be compelled to bear the yoke of that servitude, should such an eventuality occur. For it is a yoke and a most damnable and galling one, as the history of every military-cursed people will amply testify. But the exercise of the terror of the threatened infliction of the curse of militarism upon a people essentially democratic through tradition and long training, is not to be accomplished by means of hysterical vaporings and blind and ill-directed "kicking against the pricks." This is an occasion that calls for the exercise of the reasoning faculties of men and their determined and united action along such lines as an intelligent understanding of the problem may dictate. That which is sound and in accord with the demands of human progress and social welfare, does not need to resort to hysterics, hoodlumism, impudent falsehood and vulgar brutality, that which constitutes the sole stock-in-trade and weapons in the armory of tyranny, autocracy and reaction.

The Smashing of Illusions.

If this war is accomplishing nothing else, it certainly is dispelling many of the illusions that have heretofore led humanity to its undoing. Each day's developments of the war more completely uncovers the underlying cause of the terrific struggle and sweeps away the many stereotyped conclusions that were previously entertained as quite sufficient to explain the why and wherefore of such terrible and deadly phenomena. The old idea that war was a natural consequence of trade, and that the present one had its origin solely in conflicting trade rivalries, has long since become so thoroughly shot to pieces, that it is no longer entertained except by the most shallow and superficial thinkers. It is now very widely acknowledged that the terrible spectacle now being staged by a veritable world at war, is but the inevitable and deadly struggle between the despotism and autocracy of the older slavery (chattel and feudal) and the democratic tendency and spirit of the later (the capitalist form). It is a struggle to the death between the political concept of the former, which was of necessity despotic and stationary, and the political concept of the latter, which is democratic and progressive. The political development of France and that of Germany is more than a century apart. The latter has not yet reached the period of the French revolution. Between these differing political concepts there must be eternal enmity and eventually a clash of arms. When that clash came it brought all the balance of the world into the struggle, each particular nation lining up with the side with which it was in the closest political affinity and sympathy. Russia while appearing to be an exception to the rule, has by subsequent developments, shown it to be in appearance only. The opportunity of the war enabled her people to discard the cloak of autocratic tyranny, that they were intellectually equipped to discard long before, but had been denied the opportunity until the war opened the door. It may be well to remark, that if the present war is war for trade and markets, it will cost even the victors far more than they will be able to regain through the next half dozen centuries of peace. They have already caused more wreck and ruin to trade than they will ever be able to recover from, for the the very simple reason that the struggle has forced to the front new issues and conceptions of property and production, that if not checked will undermine and completely destroy the whole fabric of exploitation, world trade and profit. Unless aspiring democracy can somehow be choked off, there is no hope left to the autocrats and profit lords for a long and happy reign of loot and plunder in the future.

That Is the Reason for Conscription.

The rejuvenation of despotism and autocracy in any country of the earth is a victory for the Huns of mid-Europe, no matter if they are completely trounced into submission by those gallant Allies who are battling for "democracy and liberty." The infliction of conscription upon the people of England was a victory for the political concept of the feudal age the chief survival of which exists in Central Europe. The infliction of conscription upon the now democratic people of this Dominion, will be another victory for the same baneful and reactionary political concept. It will be another victory for all of that for which the much-hated Huns are now so fiercely battling. The forcing of conscription upon the democratically traditioned people of the United States, is antoher notable victory of the same kind. The attempt to force the same infamy upon the people of Australia was fortunately defeated and a victory was thus registered for the cause of "democracy and liberty." That victory was due to the effects of the common people, however, and not to "boards of trade," "chambers of commerce," "ministerial associations" and other similar aggregations of loud-mouthed and earnest-souled patriots of the self-advertising variety, and who are as one in the demand that the other fellow be conscripted. And the common people of this Dominion and of all other lands; they who are democrats and warriors in the cause of truth and human progress; they who set their faces against the surrender of hard-earned liberties, even in the face of war and the pestilential hypocrisies of reactionary nuisances and scaremongers, are the only ones upon whom the stigma of pro-Germanism can not be made to stick. Those influences in modern society that are at all times busily at work in taking advantage of the excitement and terror inspired by war, to refasten upon all democratic people the shackles of militarism and autocratic rule, are entitled to the appelation of pro-Germanism. They are doing all they can to bring the triumph of victory to that for which the Huns are waging war. Let those worthy boosters for military autocracy get all the satisfaction possible out of that fact, and the further knowledge that the democracy of this Dominion is getting wise to them and their purpose.

The Line of Action.

The tune has already been called by the forces of organized labor. It is unflinching opposition to conscription, either for military or industrial purposes. At this moment it looks as though the government at Ottawa has its ear to the ground and is not altogether sure that the rumblings heard do not spell danger to certain calculations that have been entertained. Even the noisy demands of boards of trade and other business bodies and men, can not completely drown the ominous note of protest against aiding the "Hun" cause, by Prussianizing Canada, that is rising from all parts of the Dominion. The labor bodies are expected to hold protest meetings and render each day more emphatic the demand that no conscription shall be arbitrarily attempted in Canada. Let the suggestion be shoved up persistently to the Borden government, that if it hankers after a little experience and practice in the art of compulsion, it will find a fertile and hitherto untilled field in the conscription of all of the wealth of Canada, either for the purpose of war or the purpose of peace. It would be, no doubt, interesting to see with what zeal and fervency our precious "boards of trade" and "chambers of commerce" would rally to the support of such a brave policy of conscription as that. And we see no reason why they should not, for are they not among the most zealous and noisy advocates of conscription now? And being real patriots, why should they discriminate between men and wealth?

Intelligent Opposition.

Let our opposition to this and all other schemes intended to diminish the strength of democracy and curtail our liberties, be directed by reason and common sense. It is our immediate business to prevent, if possible, the infliction of this curse upon us, rather than to make boastful threats of what we shall do in case we fail. It is far easier to surrender our liberties than to regain them once they are lost. If conscription be despotically and arbitrarily fastened upon a people, it is not necessary to advocate resistance to its subsequent enforcement. That would be unlawful and might bring on much discomfort and even severe pains and penalties. However, much praise has often been given to he who hath resisted evil, even under the most hopeless circumstances. The gentle Nazarene gained undying fame for being a passive resister, true to his convictions and his faith, even unto the Cross. And there is a lurking suspicion in our breast that He will be remembered and loved, and His name spoken with reverence for a thousand centuries after the last vulgar autocratic slave driver and puling parroting and cringing slave shall have been forgotten. Still we should hardly be justified in advising passive resistance. We rather prefer some other kind. Let us persist in our protest. Let us not overlook the fact that the present government is even now holding the reins of power without mandate from the people of Canada. Let us demand, in no uncertain manner, that an election be called and a government returned that at least will have a legal right to be there. And may the organized labor forces of the whole country awake to the necessity of taking political action strictly upon working class lines to the end that we, the common people, may place our own men in the legislative chambers of the nation to safeguard our "democracy and liberty" against the forces of evil and reaction that never sleep, and will never cease from troubling until completely shorn of governmental power and driven from the council chambers of nations.

What about the conscription of wealth? What! Conscript wealth? Nothing doing. Wealth in Canada is sacred. But man power is not, We, of course, live under the rule of a truly democratic government. — The Voice.

Socialist Party of Canada

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No Conscription!!
No Compromise!

MASS-MEETING AT ORPHEUM THEATRE SUNDAY EVENING

Central Labor Body Will Define and Defend Its Attitude on Conscription

The executive committee of Vancouver Trades and Labor council has made all arrangements for a mass-meeting in the Orpheum theatre on Sunday evening next, save securing the permission of Mayor McBeath, a formality which must be complied with, but one which it is expected will be granted this afternoon. Organized labor's protest against conscription will be the subject. Messrs. E. T. Kingsley and R. P. Pettipiece will be the speakers. President McVety will preside. Special ushers will be provided and perfect order is certain. Doors open at 7.30 p.m.

Late last night Mayor McBeath refused a permit for the above meeting, though he himself addressed a conscription meeting in the same theatre last Sunday. The executive will meet this afternoon to decide on the next move.

PRESIDENT WATTERS STATES POSITION OF CONGRESS

Sets Forth Clearly Attitude of Organized Labor of Canada

Message Met With Chilling Silence by Samuel Gompers

The attitude taken by the Canadian Trades and Labor Congress was well stated by J. C. Watters, president of the congress, in his address to the General Committee of the Council of National Defense at Washington, D. C., recently. He said:

"Our position in Canada is that material wealth must be conscripted before man power is conscripted. That we insist upon. But we have had no such co-operation from the imperial government as is reported here today by the English delegates. I have personally cabled to Premier Lloyd George, and our Canadian premier has cabled him at my request, asking that the British munitions board in Canada require some safeguards for the condition of labor, in its munition contracts. Thus far we have been ignored.

"Time after time the workers of Canada have been almost at the point of causing civil war—to such an extent have our appeals been ignored by the government.

Labor Must Decide Value.

"It is for you to determine the value of the guarantees of conditions which may be made to you here. We in Canada have had to refuse to concede anything to the employers because the government will give us no guaranty for the future. We know that we must fight the same set of employers after the war as before; we know that they will try to get cheap men to do their work. We know that thousands of our men are coming back, maimed and crippled, and that the pensions paid are wholly inadequate. I have been asked what would be a fair rate of pension to keep a man alive in Canada, and my answer is that it should be $100 a month.

"I beg of you, do not let hysteria of the moment cause you to surrender more than you can win back. I appeal to you not to let the spirit of patriotism lead you into hatred and a thirst for vengeance. Soon we must have peace. The workers all look forward to peace in the world, and they know that they must all be brothers again, meeting around the council board to consider how the workers shall earn their living. It is to the time of peace that we must look."

The message of President Watters was received with hearty applause by those present, with perhaps the sole exception of Mr. Samuel Gompers, the distinguished and doughty president of the American Federation of Labor. Washington dispatches assert that Gompers sat in chilling silence during Watters' speech and while the audience was expressing its approval by applause. His previous fulsome introduction to the meeting of John D. Rockefeller, Jr., and one of the likewise notorious Guggenheims was quite enough to cause a chill of disgust to wrench the stomach of any man worthy of speaking in the name of labor. Perhaps it was even the cause of his manifestly half-frozen attitude during Watters' time upon the platform. At any rate, the message was creditably delivered, in spite of Sam's chill. Watters is entitled to commendation for doing it in the face of such a chilly circumstance.

SHEET METAL WORKERS ARE ALL WORKING

Members of Local No. 280 Have Received Substantial Wage Increase

At last regular meeting the members reported that they had received the advance in wages and all members working. A letter was received from the secretary of North-West District council, informing us that Local 16 of Portland had to strike a few shops owing to their employers refusing to grant the increase in wages. A special assessment of 25 cents a day was levied on the membership to help carry on the strike in Portland. A few new members were initiated at our last meeting, and in the future will have our craft thoroughly organized. Next regular meeting will be held in room 204 on Thursday, June 14th. C.

Was it Kelly who defined the working plug who is without socialist knowledge as "a sheep that doesn't know whether he is on his way to the pasture or the slaughter-house?"

LABOR TEMPLE MEETINGS DURING THE COMING WEEK

Sunday, June 3.—Steam Shovel and Dredgemen, Moving Picture Operators, Bartenders.

Monday, June 4.—Bridge and Structural Iron Workers, Boilermakers, Tailors, Electrical Workers.

Tuesday, June 5.—Amalgamated Carpenters, Shoe Workers, Cigarmakers, Railway Firemen, Retail Clerks.

Wednesday, June 6.—Press Feeders, Plasterers, Tile Layers, Brewery Workers, Metal Trades Council, Warehousemen and Freighthandlers.

Thursday, June 7.—Steam Engineers, Garment Workers, Trades and Labor Council.

Friday, June 8.—Pile Drivers and Wooden Bridgebuilders.

Saturday, June 9.—

ORGANIZED WORKERS TAKE DECIDED STAND

Local Trades and Labor Council Opposed to Conscription

All Legitimate Efforts Will Be Put Forth to Defeat the Scheme

"Whereas the government of Canada contemplates passing a conscription law, and

"Whereas such a law, if passed, would not only sacrifice the workers without their consent, but would also annul those protective measures which organized labor has been able to force from the employers, and curtail to a minimum the liberties which we are popularly supposed to possess; therefore be it

Resolved that this Trades and Labor council declares its intention to resist by any means in its power the passage of such a law; and be it

"Resolved that a mass-meeting of all workers in Vancouver be called by the executive committee at the earliest possible date; and be it further

"Resolved that the executive of the B. C. Federation of Labor be instructed to take an immediate referendum, with a view to calling a general strike in this province, as soon as any conscription law is passed."

BY a ninety per cent. majority, the representatives of organized labor, assembled at a special meeting of the Vancouver Trades and Labor council, Wednesday night, passed the above resolution, declaring themselves as a body unequivocally in favor of a general strike in the event of the proposed conscription law being passed, those voting, however, in many instances, explaining that while they were opposed to conscription, they had not the sanction of their unions to vote for the whole membership. Many of these stated, however, that they were convinced that their locals would ratify their action on it being brought before them, while others informed the delegates that their unions were 100 per cent. in favor of the resolution.

At the opening of the meeting Delegate Thomas, Longshoremen, moved that the press, with the exception of the representative of The B. C. Federationist, be excluded during the proceedings, this being seconded by Delegate Tree, Longshoremen, the mover stating that Labor did not get a square deal through the press, and while he did not blame the reporters, but the censors, he felt that they should be excluded.

Delegate Tree believed the passing of the resolution would be a fitting protest against the slimy methods of the press, this speaker also attaching no blame to the gentlemen at the reporters' table.

The reporters were also supported by Delegates Bruce and Benson, the first of whom asked why it was necessary to exclude the press if The Federationist stayed in, as the report would get to the public anyhow, while Delegate Benson remarked that the press had in the main given very fair treatment to the Labor council, and should not be excluded during the discussion of such an important question.

Delegate Midgley also upheld the press, stating that they had been fair to the central labor body, and if they were to give public expression to their views it was necessary that the reporters should be present, while Delegate Laurie decried the star chamber methods embodied in Delegate Thomas' motion, as did Delegate Smith, the latter remarking that Canada was not Russia.

Delegate Kermode believed the reports of the press were garbled, Delegate Kelly bringing the matter to a head by reminding the members that they had a nice fat subject before them and they would be well advised to proceed to real business rather than waste their time over the newspapers.

The motion was then put and lost, the newspapermen remaining seated for the next three hours in consequence.

The resolution above was then put to the meeting.

Delegate Kavanagh opened the discussion with the remark that there could be no sitting on the fence in the present issue. There was no question of the conscription of wealth, for the wealth had all been taken from the workers, but they still had their manhood and liberty, and were resolved not to be forced into the trenches or into industries at the whim of the master class. The representatives of Labor had to declare themselves either on one side or the other. Those who decided for the master classes would declare themselves the enemies of their fellow-workers, and would have to remain on the side they had chosen and be looked upon as enemies of their own class to be dealt with accordingly.

Delegate Laurie, bartenders, said the question was a grave one, but had to be faced. Many members of organized labor had been sent to the front. He understood, on good authority, that there was a scheme for the conscription of wealth. He desired to go on record as in favor of selective conscription. There were a lot of slackers among the labor men who were fit and ought to go to the front.

Delegate Copping, carpenters, expressed sorrow that the government, at a time when it should be cementing together the people of the Dominion, should try to cause dissension. He had personally tried to get overseas, and

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Victoria.....A. S. Wells, Box 1538

"Unity of Labor: the Hope of the World"

FRIDAY.....June 1, 1917

THE LAST RESORT OF A WEAKCAUSE.

SOMEWHERE IN THE good book we read of the relative good fortune of he who hath builded his house upon a rock, against which storm and tempest expend their fury in vain, as compared to that of he whose house hath its foundations in sand and is, therefore, readily undermined by the waters and wrecked by the tide. Presumably the comparison is intended to be figurative and to illustrate the stability of that which is based upon the bedrock of truth, in comparison to that which has its foundations in the unstable quicksands of falsehood and error. It has been said that "truth wears no mask; bows at no human shrine; seeks neither place nor applause; she only asks a hearing." And it has also been noted that truth never attempts to enforce her mandate except by and through the power of reason and understanding, while that which is false and wrong falls back upon the club, the rack, and the torch for its bulwark and its defense. The truth fears no adverse argument. It fears no discussion. It does not need to fear, because it is like unto he "whose house is builded upon a rock." But falsehood and error, on the contrary, are thrown into a cold sweat of fear and trembling at the very approach of discussion and enquiry. Brutal intolerance at once becomes the sole weapon of defence against the advance and assault of truth upon the battlements of falsehood and tyranny, and there is no imaginable depth of human depravity to which the attorneys and disciples of such a losing cause will not cheerfully sink in their attempts to bolster up and prolong its life.

* * *

The attorneys for a weak cause in any and all courts, inevitably resort to perjury, falsehood, deceit, framed-up evidence and every imaginable villiany in order to win the case for their client. This has become so common that it is generally acknowledged to be strictly in accord with the prevailing legal code of ethics. There is no other way to bolster up a case that is based upon falsehood, error and moral turpitude, except by resorting to the utilization of those basic principles for means of so doing. Such a cause cannot be won by the weapons of truth and human reason. The "frame-up" against Billings, Mooney, et al., at San Francisco, is neither an accident nor yet a "flash in the pan." It is merely a resort to the only weapons known to human ignorance and rapacious brutality, for the purpose of killing the truth and prolonging the reign of political and industrial tyranny over the slaves of the earth, whom the truth alone can set free. The ruling class of this, and all other lands can not continue its rule for an hour, without depending not only upon falsehood and deceit, but upon the exercise of that coarse brutality and conscienceless ruffianism, that is made possible only through the ignorance and ox-like stupidity of slaves that are so to the "manner born" that they automatically obey their master's wishes, no matter how low, mean and vile the job may be.

* * *

There is a most pronounced difference of opinion manifest among the people of this part of the earth just now over the matter of military conscription. Some are in favor of it and others are not. It would seem at first glance as though the respective merit or demerit of the proposition might be left to the tender mercies of the reasoning faculties of men. But it appears that such is not to be the case. The powers that be (the ruling class) have decided that conscription shall be inflicted upon the people, no matter whether they like it or not. Such being the case, no adverse discussion or action is to be tolerated. The forces that are insisting upon the necessity of conscription, are so sure of the weakness of their case, that they are taking time by the forelock in resorting to the use of the stock weapons of all weak causes and schemes of doubtful merit. In other words, resort is being made to the methods that are always used to further schemes or measures that are so inherently vile and fraudulent that they can not stand the searchlight of enquiry and the scalpel of investigation. One falsehood after another is peddled to the susceptible multitude in order to convince the doubting of the impelling virtue of the contemplated scheme of enforced patriotism. Every one who dares to have doubts as to the merit of the scheme, and is perchance opposed to its adoption, is at once listed as a "slacker," a "traitor to his country," and is indeed lucky to escape being held up to public opprobrium as a "pro-German." The latter is, of course, the limit beyond which high-class invective has as yet been unable to go. All of this invective hurled at opponents of the move upon the part of our precious rulers to put the immortal cinch of Prussian militarism upon us, under the pretense happily afforded by the present war, might be considered quite startling and even threatening if it were not such a palpable confession of the weakness of the case of conscription itself. If there were any logical reasons for adopting conscription, they could be set forth in quite understandable and convincing language. It would not be necessary to resort to vulgar falsehood and coarse brutality to win support to the conscription cause, if it were really an honest and worthy one. That is so palpably plain that it might be termed axiomatic.

* * *

As a sample of the very convincing argument advanced by the most brilliant among the attorneys retained by the interests demanding that conscription be foisted upon the aspiring democracy of the land, we take extreme pleasure in clipping the following from that veritable tribune of truth, the Vancouver World, of May 29. It appeared in the editorial columns under caption, "Give Them What They Desire."

The socialists, pacifists, shirkers and others in this city who denounced conscription last night, who insulted women who have given their sons to die on the battlefield, and who jeered at returned soldiers when they spoke of the bestialities of the Hun, gave it as their opinion that they preferred German rule to British rule.

Why not take these people at their word? German rule provides for the conscription of every socialist, pacifist and shirker. German rule refuses the German people the right to utter a word of criticism in public meetings as to the desirability of serving or of refraining from serving in the ranks. German rule sends critics of the government to jail or to the front-line trenches. German rule lines up before a firing-party the man who talks treason in war-time.

On their own showing our local socialists, pacifists and shirkers prefer this kind of rule to any other. It would be a pity then to deprive them of what they desire. They propose to hold a meeting tonight and threaten disorder if they are prevented. In Germany they would be prevented.

It is so easy to sit safely ensconced within the sanctum sanctorum of a cheap and nasty publication, either daily or of less frequent malignancy, and hurl cheap and nasty invective at those whose arguments we can not offset in any more convincing and intelligent way, that it is a wonder that more of us do not become editors and make an easy and commendable living in that manner. The ability to put up that sort of argument is all that is required to equip the mental prostitute for service in the literary sewer of the master class. But to the man possessed of even indifferent intelligence it must be patent that there is no great weight in that sort of argument, except it be considered as an open confession that the case at bar is weak and, therefore, has nothing better to offer. Those whose chief mission in life is to offer insult to others are often found to be among the very noisiest in denouncing insults upon the part of others. Sometimes it really seems, that "they do protest too much." One is apt to become suspicious lest their protestations are but a mask for ulterior motives of their own. We heard of no insult being offered to any woman at the meeting referred to, but we have heard of a most flagrant insult being offered to thousands of soldiers' wives by certain governments of the earth in the taking of their husbands for war purposes and leaving these wives so ill provided for that they were compelled to accept the tender and insulting mercies of charity in order to exist. We never yet understood it to be a deliberate insult to disagree even with a soldier's wife over the matter of conscription or any other war measure. The applying of the epithet of "slacker," "shirker" and "pacifist," to those who do not "see eye to eye" with our own feudal relics and their boosters, is an attempt at insult, but it falls far short of the mark for the very simple reason that falsehood can not insult the truth, nor can ignorance insult intelligence. Truth and intelligence are creatures of the sunlight, ignorance and falsehood of the dungeon and the sewer. Fancy a sewer rat insulting a MAN. Or a man feeling insulted by a sewer rat calling him names because he would not think and reason from the sewer rat level.

The more we see of editorial wisdom the more respect we have for downright ignorance, provided it has at least sense enough to recognize itself and keep covered up, out of reverence to the accepted rules of common decency. Some things are quite commendable, though perhaps prompted more by a sense of shame than of lofty morality. Many people, no doubt, wear clothes more for the reason that they do not look well without them than because they are slaves to lofty concepts of morality and decency. The World editorial genius, however, is the limit in going naked without knowing anything about it. It opines that these "socialists, pacifists, shirkers," etc., prefer "German to British rule," so he says, "give them what they desire." "Why not take them at their word," he asks. He then sets forth the many things that German rule generously provides, such as "conscription," the refusal to allow the German people "to utter a word of criticism in public meetings as to the desirability of serving or refraining from serving in the ranks." Critics of the government "sent to jail or to the trenches." The "lining up" before a firing line of those who talk "treason in war time," etc., ad libitum, ad pukem. Treason, of course, is any objecting to conscription. The World man evidently does not see that what the "socialists, slackers, shirkers," etc., are protesting against is the introduction into Canada of the same brutalities and atrocities that are, as he says, the established order in Germany. It is not the aforesaid "slackers," etc., who are the pro-Germans. It is the worthy zealots who are so earnestly boosting for the introduction into Canada of the same brutal and tyrannical militarism that has for so long been the curse of the common people of Germany, that are the real pro-Germans, and their impudent pointing of the finger of scorn at others and their blatant accusations of "treason," "pro-German," "slacker," "shirker," etc., is only equivalent to that old cry of "stop thief." Whoever accuses these protestants against conscription of preferring "German to British rule," simply lies, that's all. They merely resort to the only argument known to human guile that can be offered to uphold a weak cause. There are many who know British rule to be bad enough to satisfy all reasonable requirements, but there is probably no one who has any desire to have any other substituted for it, even if it be no worse. The only thing that anybody is protesting against, as far as we have been able to learn, is the adding of any further infamies to British rule, no matter whether those are German infamies or of any other extraction. We just don't want them, and that is all there is to it. We have all the rule we can stand now, without being completely Prussianized. And we don't have to lie about it, either. The cause of democracy is strong because its weapon is the truth. It appeals only to the reason of man. The cause of Prussian conscription is weak, because its sole weapon is falsehood. It can not stand criticism. It fears the light. It appeals only to the basest passions of the irresponsible and unthinking mob, that can be swayed by the volubility of falsehood, and to the cupidity of rulers and ruling classes who hold their right to rule and rob, by virtue of the brute force of military power alone.

ORGANIZED WORKERS TAKE DECIDED STAND

Continued from Page One.

had been turned down by the medical board, although his own doctor informed him he was in perfect health. If matters were proporely carried through, he believed there would be no need for conscription, to which he was opposed.

Delegate Bruce, retail clerks, came out flatfooted in opposition to the resolution and pooh-poohed the idea of an attack on personal liberty, asking the members where the personal liberty of the closed shop was. When a dam burst five miles away from a home should the man stay at home and wait till the water got to him, or rather was not his place at the hole to stop the flow and save his home, he asked the audience. Three million trades unionists in Great Britain had accepted national service and had strengthened themselves thereby.

Delegate Macdonald, carpenters, said he could not vote for his union, but believed they would ratify his action. They were brave men who would not vote against conscription. He believed a referendum of the workers should be taken on so grave a question, and advised the laying of the motion on the table pending such action.

Delegate Benson, typos., favored the delegates receiving instructions from their unions, although he said he was in favor of the resolution, as he believed that selective conscription was simply separating the sheep from the goats and the workers would be the goats.

Delegate Knowles, letter carriers, did not see the need of getting instructions. The Trades and Labor Congress of Canada had opposed conscription for the past three years, and he felt that the council could not make a mistake in taking the same stand.

Delegate Leer, bartenders, who said he was one of the famous 28 who opposed conscription at the convention of the Trades and Labor Congress two years ago, believed either everybody or nobody should be conscripted.

Delegate Midgley, civic employees, said he would vote in favor of the resolution, and if his local did not like it they could withdraw him as their delegate. The unorganized methods of those in charge of the anti-conscription movement were responsible for him not taking any part in the proceedings. Unorganized men would shout, but when they were needed it was hard to find them. If the present war was one for liberty and democracy, then the fact that the government intended to put conscription into effect would take away all liberty and democracy from the subject. The government, he said, should take possession of all the wealth of the country and use it before taking the men, if democracy was at stake. The real danger was not military conscription, but industrial conscription, which would be placed upon the workers later. He was not in accord with the proposal to declare a general strike, past experience showing him that such was not a good step.

Delegate Kelly, longshoremen, felt that the presence of the officers of the council at the recent meetings would have been beneficial to them. The time, he said, had come when organized and unorganized labor had to fall in line to make an effective stand against conscription.

Delegate Tree said the present war was not one for liberty any more than other wars had been, but the methods of getting the men were not quite so crude. In the old days the pressgang was employed (not the gang at the reporters' table, he explained). The workers were going to fight for their little liberties right in Vancouver, and were going to "buck" the measure to a finish. The thing might be accomplished peaceably; if not there was going to be all kinds of trouble.

Delegate McFarlane, civic employees, remembered the $3-a-day agitation, and said if the government would pay the fighters wages high enough, they would get even Mayor McBeath. He advocated a general strike.

Delegate Edmonds, carpenters, feared the yellow worker would replace the white men taken away by conscription, and that if the masters sat on the selection tribunal, those employees who had been instrumental in obtaining improved conditions for their fellows would be singled out and condemned to the firing line. Labor in England, said the delegate, had regretted its attitude towards national service.

Delegate Walker informed the council that his union, the engineers, was 100 per cent. strong against conscription, and said that while returned soldiers were looking for work in the city, Orientals were holding down the jobs, Hindus being employed as engineers.

Delegate O'Neill of the same organization, followed with the remark that Kaiserism was ten times worse in England at present than in Germany. They could not conscript in Ireland, and surely they could not do it in Canada.

Delegate Hoover, street railwaymen, said Labor should not hesitate to come straight to the point on the issue and declare itself as opposed to conscription. There was no inducement to men to enlist as long as the public were at the mercy of food speculators and stock gamblers, while there was no assurance that dependents and returned soldiers would be looked after, save with a small pension. The government's attempt to force conscription on the people was absolutely undemocratic, and he believed that the strongest opposition should be brought to bear upon the government to cause them to withhold the bill.

Delegate Hubble, street railwaymen, asked why wars were necessary, and then explained that so long as the tools of production were owned by a class which did not operate them, so long would they control the products therefrom, and the disposition of those products would inevitably lead to warfare. The ignorance of the working class he designated as the cause of the present crisis.

Delegate Kermode, street railwaymen, could not see how labor could favor a scheme which was meant to corrall the workers who lived by toil, the underlying intention of which scheme was industrial conscription.

Delegate Corey, boot and shoe workers, opposed the measure because the clergy would not be conscripted.

President McVety took the floor and said he still believed the registration scheme of last year was the prelude to conscription. He had not favored that, and still had his card. Half a million dollars had been wasted by the government in that scheme through Labor not registering and the government had failed to secure the information it desited. Munition workers who had gone to England were in a worse position than the soldiers from a pecuniary standpoint, and organized labor had already paid more than its price and borne more than its share of the burden of the war. He saw no reason why labor should support the project, put forward by a government legally dead, but which he believed was to receive an extension of life in return for putting through the present proposal. He based his belief on the fact that Mr. Doherty had recently said the voluntary system would continue, yet immediately after Premier Borden returned from a conference in England, conscription had been mooted. The question of conscription of wealth could not be properly associated with that of conscription of men. If the question was submitted to a referendum of the public and accepted, little could be said. He professed great respect for the men who expressed contrary opinions, as it needed courage to do so, but he had always been opposed to conscription and would oppose it now. He believed, however, that little could be hoped for from a referendum on a general strike. As to consulting membership of unions, there had been a year and a half in which that should have been done.

Delegate Miss Gutteridge, tailors, felt that possibly she would be thought harsh and unwomanly when she declared herself as opposed to conscription, but she did not believe an argument in favor of it could be found. Many men had gone to the front voluntarily and many had been forced there by economic conditions. Organized labor could never be forgiven if it allowed its previous stand to be shaken by sentimentality. It was a case of all the workers of the world against the capital of the world, and the resolution should have good representative backing in order to carry the required weight with the government.

Delegates Eastman and Macdonald, of the pile drivers and carpenters respectively, said their unions were unanimously opposed to conscription, after which a roll call vote was taken, the result being 45 in favor of the resolution, 3 against and 2 neutral.

At the conclusion of the meeting the floor was given to members of the Anti-conscription League, Messrs. Hardy, Simonds and Dr. Currie speaking briefly. Dr. Currie said Russia was casting off the yoke and that Canada, if she laid down and took conscription, would be placing the same yoke upon her own neck. Mr. Lefeaux, representing the Socialist Party of Canada, assured the delegates that the party was with them in any action they desired to take, as the time for words was past.

Roll Call Vote.

AYES.

Bartenders—J. A. Smith.
Cigarmakers—H. G. Kurbitz.
Carpenters—A. McDonald, D. Lyon, G. Thom, H. Copping, J. Campbell.
Amalgamated Carpenters — R. McCormack, R. W. Jackson, R. Edmonds.
Civic Employees—V. R. Midgley, G. McFarlane, G. Harrison.
Cooks and Waiters—A. Graham.
Engineers—J. P. O'Neill, W. Walker, J. R. Flynn.
Ironworkers—R. Massecar.
Letter Carriers—F. Knowles.
Longshoremen—S. Earp, G. Thomas, G. J. Kelly, A. Tree, B. Hughes.
Machinists—J. H. McVety, W. N Hawthorn, J. Brookes, A. R. Towler.
Painters—D. Lemon.
Pile Drivers—W. Eastman.
Retail Clerks—A. P. Glen.
Street Railwaymen—R. G. Davies, A. McInnis, A. Kermode, R. Rigby, W. Hubble, F. A. Hoover.
Boot and Shoe Workers—T. Corey.
Sailors' Union—W. Burns.
Sugar Workers—S. H. Bellamy.
Tailors—H. Guteridge, A. R. Gatenby, O. S. Gren.
Typos.—C. Leer.

NAYS.

Bartenders—W. Lawrie.
Retail Clerks—C. D. Bruce.
Shipwrights—H. A. McDonald.

NEUTRAL.

Letter Carriers—J. Dodd.
Typos.—H. C. Benson.

STREET RAILWAYMEN TO HOLD ANOTHER MASS MEETING

To Consider Report of Special Committee Negotiating for War Bonus.

The members of the local Street Railway Employees' union, numbering around 800, will hold another mass meeting on Saturday midnight, at the Imperial theatre, Main street. It will be for the purpose of hearing the report of the special coast tri-city committee having in charge the request for a "war bonus," to meet the increased prices of foodstuffs. The committee will be in session with the B. C. E. R. management this morning and should have some definite proposal to place before the membership by tomorrow evening.

At Winnipeg 900 employees of the Winnipeg Street Railway, at a meeting Wednesday, decided to accept the award of the board of arbitrators which dealt with demands of the union for increased pay and better working conditions. The company still has to accept or refuse the award. The employees have been receiving from 25 to 34 cents per hour, the maximum being reached in the fourth year. They demanded a scale of 28 to 37 cents per hour, reaching the maximum in the third year. The award gives them 28 to 36 cents with the maximum in the fourth year as well as certain improvements in working conditions.

BUILDING TRADES ACTIVITY

United Brotherhood of Carpenters Show Marked Increase of Membership

During the month initiation of new members have been almost the regular order of business Local No. 617 made a gain of 66 new members, 5 on clearance; No. 1803, Shipwrights, Caulkers, Ship-joiners and Boat-builders, 20 new members, 1 on clearance; Local No. 1777, 10 new members. All members are working. There is still a number who have signified their intention of becoming members at an early date. Everything points to a condition which is highly desirable in the carpenters' business, when the carpenter not carrying a Brotherhood card will be just as great a rarity as the Great Auk.

Local No. 617 has Business Agent W. Thomas in the field for two weeks. He is doing good work.

Organizer Robinson has returned from Victoria and reports everything in good shape; adding to the membership there.

The Shipwrights are sending Bro. J. O'Brien to the Portland convention.

The local officers are looking forward to a visit from General President Hutchison, who will be on the coast, in attendance at the Portland convention. A reception committee of all the local unions will meet Friday night and outline something worth while.

Local 1803, Shipwrights' and Caulkers' have been feeling like celebrating their success in the recent strike and will no doubt be a strong factor in the reception.

General Organizer Watchman reports that the Coughlan & Sons' strike situation looks good and feels confident that success will crown the effort that is now being put forth.

The Local holds regular meeting in the Labor Temple, and an invitation is extended to the lonesome carpenter to attend. No. 617, second and fourth Mondays; No. 1803, Shipwrights' and Caulkers', first and third Thursdays; No. 1777, first and third Mondays, North Vancouver.

VANCOUVER UNIONS

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

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

BARTENDERS' LOCAL No. 676.—Office, Room 208 Labor Temple. Meets first Sunday of each month. President, James Campbell; financial secretary, J. Smith, 610 Holden Bldg.; Box 424; phone Sey. 2572; recording secretary, Wm. Mottishaw, Globe Hotel, Main street.

JOURNEYMEN BARBERS' INTERNATIONAL Union of America, Local No. 120—Meets 2nd and 4th Tuesdays in the month, Room 205 Labor Temple. President, L. E. Herritt; secretary, S. H. Grant, 1671 Alberni street.

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

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

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

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF STEAM AND OPERATING ENGINEERS — Local No. 620. Meets every Thursday, 7.30 p.m., Labor Temple. President, William Walker; vice-president, J. R. Flynn; secretary-treasurer, W. A. Alexander, Room 216, Labor Temple. Phone Sey. 7495.

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

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

INTERNATIONAL LONGSHOREMEN'S Association, Local 38-52—Office and hall, 804 Pender street east. Meets every Thursday 8 p.m. Secretary-treasurer, F. Chapman; business agent, J. Mahone.

MACHINISTS, NO. 182—MEETS SECOND and fourth Thursdays at 8 p.m. President, Wm. Small; recording secretary, J. Brooks; financial secretary, J. H. McVety, 311 Labor Temple. Seymour 7495.

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

PATTERN MAKERS' LEAGUE OF NORTH America—Vancouver and vicinity.—Branch meets second and fourth Mondays, Room 205, Labor Temple. President, Ray McDougall, 601 Seventh avenue west; financial secretary, J. Campbell, 4369 Argyle street; recording secretary, E. Westmoreland, 1512 Yew street. Phone Bayview 2698L.

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

STREET AND ELECTRIC RAILWAY EMployees, Pioneer Division, No. 101—Meets Labor Temple, second and fourth Wednesdays at 8 p.m. President, J. Hubble; vice-president, E. S. Cleveland; recording secretary, A. V. Lofting, 2561 Trinity street, phone Highland 1658; financial secretary and business agent, Fred A. Hoover, 2409 Clark drive, office corner Prior and Main streets.

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

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

PROVINCIAL UNIONS

B. C. FEDERATION OF LABOR—Meets in annual convention in January. Executive officers, 1917-18: President, J. Naylor, Box 415, Cumberland; vice-presidents—Vancouver: Jas. H. McVety, V. R. Midgley, Labor Temple. Victoria: J. Taylor, Box 1315. Vancouver Island: W. Head, South Wellington. Prince Rupert: W. E. Thompson, Box 694. New Westminster: W. Yates, 906 London street. Kootenay District: A. Goodwin, Box 26, Trail. Crows Nest Valley: W. B. Phillips, 176 McPherson avenue. Secretary-treasurer: A. S. Wells, Box 1538, Victoria, B. C.

VICTORIA, B. C.

VICTORIA TRADES AND LABOR COUNCIL—Meets first and third Wednesday, Labor Hall, 1424 Government street, at 8 p.m. President, E. Christopher, Box 387; vice-president, Christian Siverts, 1278 Denman street; secretary, B. Simmons, Box 302, Victoria, B. C.

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF STEAM AND OPERATING ENGINEERS—Local 446, Victoria, B. C. P. O. address Box 92. Local union meets first and third Sunday, 10 a.m. Place of meeting, Labor Hall, DeCosmos blk. President, J. Johns, 522 Dallas road; secretary, J. M. Amer, 1045 McClure street; business agent, S. Cullum, phone 1101R.

NEW WESTMINSTER, B. C.

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

PRINCE RUPERT, B. C.

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

SOUTH WELLINGTON, V. I.

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

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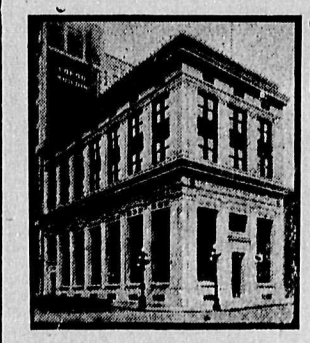
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THE BRITISH COLUMBIA FEDERATIONIST

OFFICIAL PAPER BRITISH COLUMBIA FEDERATION OF LABOR

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FLAG OF TRUCE AGAIN WAVES O'ER COPPER KINGDOM

Friction Between Masters and Men Temporarily Eradicated

Under New Agreement Miners Obtain Much-needed Concession

ROSSLAND, B. C., May 28.—A settlement of the dispute between the miners' unions of the southern interior and the Consolidated has been reached, and below will be found copies of the agreements entered into. The settlement was arrived at by committees from local unions, after several conferences between the company and District Board, also International Board members, the company taking the stand that one committee could not handle all their properties, as conditions were entirely different in each camp. One member, however, of the District Board was on each local committee and each settlement was subject to approval of the District Board.

Real Reason Now Apparent.

It will be observed that Mr. Warren, managing director, denied he closed his mines down owing to a demand for increased wages, and stated it was due to shortage of coke. But he has now resumed work in one mine under the same conditions as prevailed when he closed down, still a shortage of coke. The less said about it the better.

A Substantial Wage Increase.

The result is that almost 3000 men employed by the Consolidated company have received 40 cents per day increase in wages.

In the case of Trail smelter, Kimberley, Ainsworth and Emma mines, the 25-cent increase to continue until the end of the war and the 15 cents guarantee for four months, but will continue if lead is still over price stated in agreement.

In Rossland the settlement is slightly different, based on an old agreement they receive 25 cents war bonus until the end of the war, and the 15 cents good for a period of two years.

The settlements make wages throughout the Consolidated camps $4.40 per day for miners, and $3.90 for muckers.

The Consolidated, so far, has only opened up one mine in Rossland, and has about 70 men employed. Would advise workers to keep away until operations are resumed at the other mines of the company in Rossland, as lots of idle men are walking around.

ROSSLAND SETTLEMENT.
Company's Proposal.

THE CONSOLIDATED MINING AND SMELTING COMPANY OF CANADA, LIMITED.
Trail, B. C., May 10th, 1917.

G. C. Marshall, Esq.,
Secretary, Rossland Miners' Union,
Rossland, B. C.

Dear Sir:
As promised, I write to confirm the arrangement we arrived at last evening in Rossland in conference with the committee of the men.

We explained to you that the reason the Rossland mines were closed was because of the failure of the supply of coke, and that inasmuch as the Crows' Nest miners voted on Saturday last against confirming the agreement under which they were to return to work and resume production of coke, there was really no justification for our opening the mines. However, upon the strong representations of the committee that if at all possible we should provide work for as many as possible of the men who are still remaining in Rossland, we agreed to resume development on a limited scale for at least a month, in the hope that by that time the coke situation would have become straightened out again, and we will do this just as soon as the repairs to the Centre Star shaft are completed.

We discussed the matter of conceding the voluntary check-off and making a further allowance to the men over and above the War bonus made effective the first of April on account of the high cost of necessaries of life.

We stated that we could not concede the check-off.

As to making a further allowance on account of the high cost of living, we said we could not see our way to doing this in addition to taking care of the deferred obligations as to maintaining minimum wage scales under the terms of the agreement of July last. We pointed out that this War bonus allowance of twenty-five cents per man per day was the amount Mr. Harrison, Fair Wage Commissioner of the Department of Labor, found, last February, to be sufficient to cover the increased cost of living for a family of five.

However, we considered the matter of the obligation to maintain the minimum wage scales under the Agreement of last July, and agreed to begin paying under the obligation at the rate of fifteen cents per man per day from the time that an adequate supply of coke was available, and the Rossland Mines were shipping a minimum of 4,500 tons per week.

In detail, we agreed, as full compliance with the terms of the July agreement, to pay, for the number of months from the 1st January, 1916, to the 1st May, 1917, that the price of copper averaged in excess of twenty-six cents per pound, fifteen cents per man per day until the 31st December, 1916—when the present agreement expires and thereafter at the same rate per man per day, until these payments at the rate of fifteen cents per man per day amount to a sum equal to twenty-five cents per man per day for the number of months between the 1st January, 1916, and 1st May, 1917, that the price of copper has averaged over twenty-six cents per pound.

It is understood that until an adequate supply of coke is assured, and the Rossland mines are shipping, on a basis of 4,500 tons per week, the wage scale shall be that prevailing during the month of March, 1917, plus the War bonus effective from 1st April, 1917.

There must not be any misunderstanding, however, as to how long we will continue development work if the coke situation does not clear up. You know that for December, 1916, and January, February and March, 1917, we maintained advance development work for the purpose of keeping the men at work, and in the hope that a satisfactory solution of the coke supply would be found. You all know that doing development work in this limited way costs us considerable more than if done in the ordinary course of the normal operation of the mines.

I understand that you are submitting this letter to the men tonight. I shall be glad to to have a letter from you in due course saying that they are satisfied with the arrangement we came to last night.

Yours truly,
(Signed) JAMES J. WARREN,
Managing Director.

Committee's Report.

ROSSLAND MINERS' UNION NO. 38,
I. U. of M. M. & S. W.
Rossland, B. C., May 10th, 1917.

To the Officers and Members
Rossland Miners' Union No. 38.

Brothers:
We, your committee, delegated by you to negotiate a further increase in wages to compensate us for the increase in price of necessaries, beg leave to report as follows:

Owing to the unsettled state of the Coal Mining industry, which condition has cut off the supply of coke for the smelting of the Rossland ores, it was found that any further work carried on by the Consolidated Mining and Smelting Co. at this time must be development work. Your committee suggested to the officials of the Company that, in our opinion, if at all possible, such work should be undertaken, that the men who had already been five weeks out of employment could again resume work, if only for a month or so. This the officials of the company agreed to do, the understanding being that as soon as the head-frame at the Centre Star was repaired men would be started underground in the Star, Le Roi and White Bear Mines, the Company agreeing to start the work as rapidly as possible, until a maximum of approximately thirty machines were started.

It was pointed out by the officials of the Company, and agreed to by your committee, that the cost of this work would exceed the usual cost of such work carried on under more favorable conditions, i.e., the cost of development work while operating at full capacity. The officials of the Company believe that much can be accomplished toward reducing this extra expense, providing all men co-operate in reducing wastage to a minimum. This suggestion on the part of the Company your committee believes to be fair, and we would suggest that all our members use their influence to make this development work cost as little above the usual cost as possible.

While this work is being carried on the increase will be the War bonus of twenty-five cents per man per day as set forth in the letter of the Company under date of March 12th, 1917.

When the conditions in the Crow's Nest Pass again becomes normal and the Company resumes shipments from the Rossland mines to the extent of 750 tons per day, there will be an increase of fifteen cents per man per day over and above the War bonus, this further increase to extend for a period of approximately two years.

In the opinion of your committee this arrangement is fair, and we would recommend that it be ratified by the members of this Union as a complete settlement of all matters under dispute.

It must be understood that the payment of this fifteen cents per man per day for the period of approximately two years, abrogates the provisions in the agreement of July, 1916, dealing with back pay to be applied to the workers in the Rossland mines when the price of copper fell below 18c or 16c per pound such as the case might be.

Respectfully submitted,
GEORGE DINGWALL,
G. C. MARSHALL,
R. D. MITCHELL,
JAMES ANSEN,
A. G. HARVEY,
Committee for the men.

(COPY).

Kimberly and Ainsworth Settlement.

Nelson, B. C., May 4th, 1917.

To T. B. Roberts, Marcus Martin, Gilbert Omlie, Thos. D. Davidson, and James R. Grue, Committee representing our Employees of the Silver-Lead Properties:

On the urgent solicitation of the representative of the Minister of Labor, and in view of the necessity of lead for munition purposes, we have decided to increase the attached wage scale by buying you five cents per man per shift for each one cent the Montreal price of lead exceeds eight cents per pound. This is in addition to the twenty-five cents per man per shift given as a war bonus.

When the Montreal price of lead is nine cents per pound but under ten cents per pound, the increase per man per shift, including the war bonus, amounts to thirty cents; when the Montreal price is ten cents but under eleven cents, the increase per man per shift including the war bonus amounts to thirty-five cents; when the Montreal price of lead is eleven cents but under twelve cents, the increase per man per shift including the war bonus, amounts to forty cents, and so on as stated, going up five cents per man per shift for each one cent advance in the Montreal price of lead.

The war bonus dates from March 31st, 1917, this additional increase dates from May 1st, 1917, and shall continue for the duration of the war, but we guarantee that the war bonus and the additional increase based on the Montreal price of lead shall amount to forty cents per man per shift during May, June, July and August.

Further, we agree that during the period of this agreement we will not increase the present rate board $1.00 per day charged for boarding-house accommodations, and that we will improve the bunk house accommodations by providing proper sanitary conditions, and re-arranging the sleeping compartments so that no more than four men shall sleep in a room of good size.

Notwithstanding that this agreement is to last during the war either party after the expiration of six months from May 1st, 1917, may ask the Minister of Labor to investigate as to whether or not there has been an abnormal increase in the cost of living or decrease in such, which condition not being covered by the sliding scale above set out. If the representatrve of the Minister of Labor shall find such abnormal increase or decrease, the parties shall be at liberty to negotiate for an allowance to cover such increase or decrease.

(COPY).

Trail, B. C., Settlement.

THE CONSOLIDATED MINING AND SMELTING COMPANY OF CANADA, LIMITED.
Trail, B. C., April 28th, 1917.

J. McKinnon,
President Trail Mill and Smeltermen's Union,
Trail, B. C.

Dear Sir: In line with the interview we had this morning with you and the executive of the Union, we have reconsidered the position of matters, and in view of the requirements of metals for munitions, and upon the special request of the representative of the Minister of Labor, we have decided to supplement the wage scale now paid under the existing contract with the men and also the war bonus effective since March 31st, by the addition to the present wage scale of five cents per man per day for every one cent advance in the Montreal price of lead over eight cents per pound. This will mean that on and after the 1st of May, and so long as the present Montreal price of lead is what it is (11.12 cents per pound) each employee will receive fifteen cents per day in addition to both the wage scale and the war bonus of twenty-five cents per day per man.

The amount to which an employee shall be entitled under this additional arrangement will be determined by the average price of lead during the next preceding calendar month.

In addition to this, we are willing to guarantee that the minimum that an employee will receive under this further concession shall be fifteen cents per man per day for the period of four months from May 1st next.

You are aware that our position is that we now have an agreement with our employees for the duration of the war, and that the concession of the war bonus and this further concession do not effect this position. It should be clearly understood between our employees and ourselves that the present contract is to continue during the war, subject to the addition of the war bonus and the further allowance now made.

Of course, the war bonus of twenty-five cents per man per day will be paid for the month of April—the new arrangement becoming effective May 1st.

Yours truly,
(Signed) J. J. WARREN,
Managing Director.

TYPOGRAPHICAL CONFERENCE

Prairie Provinces Hold Successful Convention at Regina.

On the 24th inst. the Western Canada Conference of Typographical unions met in annual convention in the Trades hall, Regina, with representatives present from every affiliated local in the prairie provinces. The opening formalities, which were not elaborate, were participated in by civic officials and the officers of the Trades and Labor council. The progress of things typographical in the west for the past year were thoroughly analyzed in the reports which were submitted to the convention at its first session.

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BREEZY NOTES FROM AN ISLAND COAL CAMP

Many Women's Names Are Placed on Voters' List for Next Election

Miners Predict Election of "Jim" Hawthornthwaite to Local House

[By Walter Head]

SOUTH WELLINGTON, V. I., B. C., May 29.—Local 812, U. M. W. of A., held its regular meeting here on Sunday. It was not a very large one due, no doubt, to fine weather prevailing and the tendency of the slave to stray far away from the scenes of his slavery, to place himself far from the maddening crowd's ignoble strife; in other words, to plant himself beside a lake or a mountain stream and indulge in the pleasing pastime of trying to entice one of the denizens of sail lake or stream onto a hook. After playing sucker to capitalist masters six days of the week, he tries to entice the fish to play sucker to him on the seventh. Our membership, being scattered throughout a radius of five or six miles, is another factor in preventing a very large attendance. However, the boys are generally satisfied with the business transacted at our meetings.

$127 Voted to Miner's Widow.

A letter of thanks was read from the widow of one of our members, acknowledging the receipt of $102, the proceeds of a collection taken up on her behalf last pay-day. In addition the local donated $25 out of the treasury some two weeks before. The general opinion of the membership being that the function of a treasury is to help the movement along at every opportunity.

Women's Names on oVters' List.

The legislative committee reported progress in placing the names of women on the voters' list. A number of forms, through a mistake in postage, went to the dead letter office and stayed there from May 2 till May 17. The matter was taken up with the registrar of voters and he has signified his willingness to place those names on the list, if possible. I notice in legislative proceedings that in the sities of Victoria and Vancouver men were paid for that purpose and possibly the same procedure was followed in other parts. But presumably, owing to the government's fear of Jim Hawthornthwaite, the taking of applications was left to sweet charity in this burg. However, although the work was voluntarily done here, there is as high a percentage of names on the list as in either of the two cities named. A house-to-house canvass was made and every assistance given to the women in getting out their applications, irrespective of whether their sympathies were with our side or with the capitalist politicians.

Hawthornthwaite Will Win.

We have every hope of electing Jim Hawthornthwaite, and we are advised by our late representative, Parker Williams, who has our confidence, that he doesn't intend to bite at the Liberal bait. And I may say, in passing, that Parker came and consulted the committee which worked for his election before he accepted his present job, and the committee advised him to take it. His tactics may not have pleased some of us, but he was conscientious and did his best, as he saw it, and surely the people who have loyally supported him for years should be allowed to judge. 'Nuff sed. "Let him that is without sin cast the first stone."

Checkweighman's Pay.

A discussion arose over the report of the check-weigh committee as to the method to adopt in making deductions to pay said check-weighman. It was finally decided to make a deduction of 2% off the pay of the miner for this month, to create a fund, and to leace the assessment for the succeeding months to be decided later.

Executive Committee's Report.

Under this heading several grievances were handed over to the grievance committee to take up with the managemnt.

The first was the question of the fortnightly pay. This matter has been under consideration by the management for some time past. The local superintendent reports progress from time to time, but we are no nearer yet to a change in method of payment. And seeing that our beneficent legislators have seen fit to pass an imitation of a fortnightly pay bill, we notice that they are very careful not to step too hard on the toes of down-trodden capital, we thought it would be advisable to try to push the clock ahead about four months by asking the company to inaugurate the change as soon as possible. We think that we should be entitled to the blessing of being broke twice a month, instead of only once, as heretofore. It wouldn't be a bad idea if the workers were to demand a full month's pay twice a month. That would help some. It would help more if they would demand that their hours og labor be cut in half.

Eight-hour Day Violations.

In connection with the shortening of hours, the question arose of men working longer than the eight hours below ground, as prescribed by the law of this province. This is another matter to be taken up with the management. We are to request that they do their part in refusing to encourage men in violating the law. We will do our part, by reporting to the department of mines, if necessary, any man who works more than eight hours in the mine, unless it is work that is absolutely necessary to the safety of the mine and the safeguarding of the lives of the men in the mine.

The workers in the coal mines have a statutory 8-hour day, for which men, in the past, have fought hard, and we are determined to do all in our power to prevent members of the Henry Dubb family violating said law, lest frequent violations cause the employers to bring about its repeal, on the grounds of national necessity or another one of their stereotyped excuses.

The Dockage System.

Another question to be taken up with the company is the dockage system, where the company have the right to confiscate a car if it contains 100 lbs. of rock or over, the minimum being confiscation of car for 3 per cent. rock. Having in mind the dirty condition of the coal, due to its present faulty nature, we are convinced that 3 per cent. rock is too small an amount to warrant confiscation of a car and especially as the proceeds of this measure go back into the jeans of the "widows and orphans to whom God, in His infinite wisdom, has entrusted the mines."

In other camps, where the union has a contract with the companies, the proceeds of the dockage system is placed in a fund to provide miners' sports. We are going to try to inaugurate that system here.

A Plea for Fitzgerald.

An appeal was made by the executive on behalf of H. M. Fitzgerald, who is at present in the sanitorium at Tranquille, suffering with heart disease. The local donated $20 out of the treasury and will take an individual subscription next pay-day, for the purpose of giving Comrade Fitzgerald a trip to the coast. We have decided to appeal, through the columns of The Federationist, to all workers to help us in giving one of the soldiers of the common good a good time before he finally passes along the road along which no traveller returns. May we also appeal to the Western Clarion to give us a boost? If "Fitz." has not seen eye to eye with some of the members of the S. P. of C., I feel sure that they are men enough to forget past differences and assist in making the last days of one of their valiant fighters a little happier than they now are, by helping him to gratify his earnest desire to pay a visit to the coast. "Fitz.'s" condition was first brought to our attention by two of his letters in The World. The first, in which he took part in a debate on Spiritualism, etc. He stated in that letter that he hadn't long to live, and his next letter was an appeal to well-intentioned individuals to cease inundating him with tracts, and asking him where he was going to spend eternity. Since that time I have been in communication with him, and he informed me that he was trying to sell some stories to the papers to provide himself with the necessary funds with which to take a trip to the coast. Hence this appeal. Whq cannot we, as workers, relieve a comrade of the worry and anguish of trying to sell the product of his brain to capitalist papers? Surely we can give a little to one of our comrades who has been wounded on the battlefield of class war. Many of us are giving to the derelicts of the present ruling class war, and anothr slight burden will not break our backs.

In my letter last week I spoke of the traitors who sell themselves out of the working class movement and we cannot altogether blame them, when we look upon the reverse side of the shield and see the other product of the class movement. The martyr is as surely a product of the movement as is the traitor. The more martyrs we have the greater will be the tendency to produce traitors. "Fitz." tells me that some two years ago the boys at Kimberley took up a subscription for him, but owing to the unsettled state of his mind in the past he cannot remember thanking them. No man should expect thanks for doing his duty, and it is our duty to assist those who have fallen by the wayside in carrying on our fight. I am going to write a short note to the Vancouver World and ask those well-intentioned individuals, who were anxious to know where "Fitz." was going to spend eternity, to help him to make the best of life until he reaches the gates of eternity and let eternity look after itself. Donations will be heartily received by the writer at South Wellington.

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For many years STANDARD HEAVY BOOTS AND SHOES have been made by J. Leckie & Co.

Shoe dealers, miners, loggers, farmers, city workmen, all know good heavy boots, have universally acknowledged LECKIE'S BOOTS as the best that can possibly be produced.

AT YOUR DEALERS

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

SYNOPSIS OF COAL MINING REGULATIONS.

COAL mining rights of the Dominion, in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, the Yukon Territory, the North-West Territories and in a portion of the Province of British Columbia, may be leased for a term of twenty-one years renewal for a further term of 21 years at an annual rental of $1 an acre. Not more than 2,560 acres will be leased to one applicant.

Application for a lease must be made by the applicant in person to the Agent or Sub-Agent of the district in which the rights applied for are situated.

In surveyed territory the land must be described by sections, or legal sub-divisions of sections, and in unsurveyed territory the tract applied for shall be staked out by the applicant himself.

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

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

The lease will include the coal mining rights only, rescinded by Chap. 27 of 45 George V. assented to 12th June, 1914.

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

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

N.B.—Unauthorized publication of this advertisement will not be paid for.—[illegible]575.

10 SUB. CARDS $10, PAY FOR WHEN SOL

EL DORO CIGARS

McLEOD, NOLAN & CO.
MAKERS
LONDON, ONT.

Made by the Highest Skilled Union Labor and under the most sanitary conditions

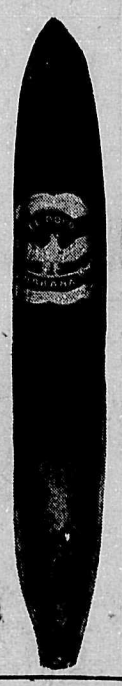
Using only the Highest Grades of Tobacco grown.

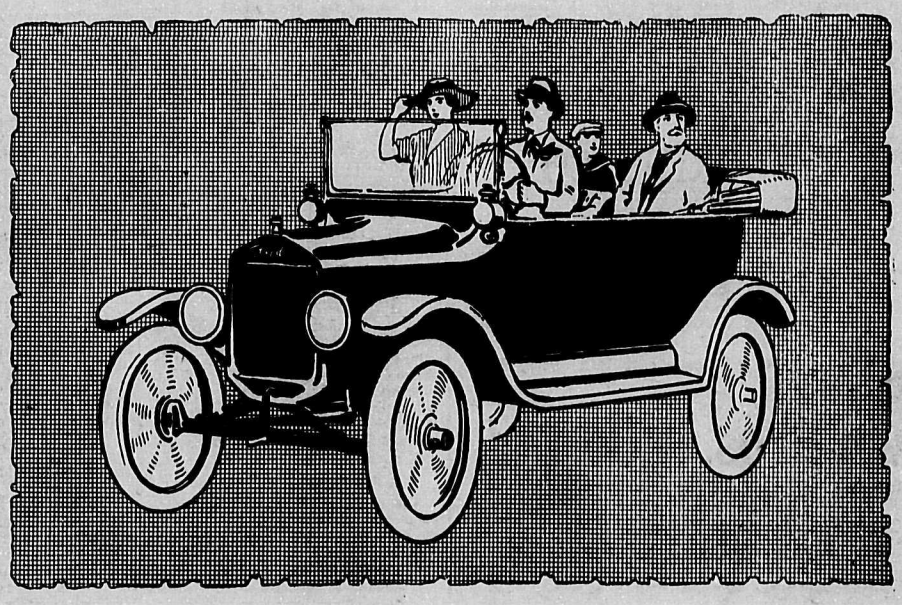
Positively Hand-made.

For Sale Everywhere.

D. J. ELMER
Sales Manager for B. C. and Yukon
3118 Alberta St., Vancouver, B. C.

MAJESTIC 2 for 25c
CONCHAS 3 for 25c
ACTUAL SIZES





The Ford Is Economical

THE average man can easily afford a Ford car. It is the most inexpensive car to drive.

20 to 25 miles on a gallon of gasoline is an every-day occurrence. 33 miles is frequently reported by Ford owners. Yearly repair expenses of less than one dollar are not unusual. The car is light in weight, and tires give more mileage on a Ford than on any other car.

You can always sell a "used" Ford at a good price. You have to accept a big reduction for a "used" larger car.

Go and take a ride in the 1917 model. See how comfortable it is. And stylish, too — stream line effect, tapered hood, crown fenders, beautiful finish. You need one for business. Your wife and children need one for pleasure and health.

If you are contemplating purchasing a car this summer, be sure and investigate our EASY PAYMENT plan, which makes it possible for ANYONE to own a Ford Car.

Ferguson Higman Motor Co.

CANADA WEST GARAGE Seymour 1717

Quality Dentistry

Trade Unionists--

IN COMING TO MY OFFICE workingmen should understand that my charges are based on the very lowest terms which can be quoted for good materials and skilful workmanship.

This fact should be carefully considered by you when you or any member of your family contemplates having dental work done.

I am now prohibited by law from doing what I personally believe is your right—advertising my rates so that you may be informed as to them before coming to my office.

I am, however, conforming strictly to the schedule of rates advertised in previous issues of The Federationist. Particulars will also be given on enquiry at phone Sey. 2715 or application at my office.

Call at my office whenever you desire to know anything in connection with your teeth. You will be given a cordial welcome and your enquiries given every attention.

In all my work I use the most approved methods known to modern dentistry for the alleviation of pain.

Phone Seymour 2715 **DR. GRADY** Open Tuesday and Saturday Evenings

DENTAL NURSE IN ATTENDANCE QUALITY DENTIST Hastings Street Corner Seymour

202 BANK OF OTTAWA BUILDING

CLUBB & STEWART LIMITED

Are showing a beautiful range of Men's and Boys' Suits and Furnishings.

MEN'S AND YOUNG MEN'S

Suits, including Pinch Backs, from **$15.00** per suit up.
WORKING SHIRTS from **$1.25** up.
CARHARTT OVERALLS and other Union makes kept in stock.

IN BOYS' SUITS

Great Values are being offered

Blouses, Sport Shirts, Shirt Waists, Straw and Linen Hats in great variety.

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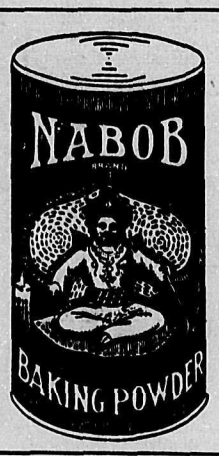


If the Baking Powder you use comes in a can like this, you may be sure that you are getting the best baking powder that you can buy, and the most wholesome.

ASK YOUR GROCER

HERE'S WHAT YOU ARE LETTING SLIP BY...

Saturday is positively our last day here. Saturday will see the end of this Great Removal Sale of ours—Saturday will be the last day you can buy Pianos of the Walter F. Evans quality at these sensationally low prices. The whole thing now rests with you. If you want to secure a good reliable Piano at a greatly reduced figure and on the easiest possible terms, you must hurry up. The last few pianos here now are going to sell—that's a certainty; but if you want one of them you must hurry. Instruments of the very highest standard—all brand new and backed by our full guarantee—are now priced from $288—and these are pianos that sell regularly from $375 to $600. Any terms you like to mention will be arranged on these last few pianos. You may pay as little as $10 down and the balance at the rate of $1.80 per week.

Pianos

$1.80 per week

Remember this, you are taking no risks or chances when you buy a piano from this house. We have been in business in B. C. for 28 years, and it is simply through honest methods and good goods that we have been so highly successful—compelled to secure the larger and more spacious premises to where we are now moving. Do not let this golden opportunity slip through your fingers—act today—NOW.

SPECIAL NOTE TO BUSY PEOPLE—If not convenient to get here during the daytime we will arrange to be here any evening at a time to suit you. Simply phone our Piano Manager and he will arrange to have someone here to show you the last of the pianos. His number is Seymour 739. Of course, we will be here Saturday evening, but there won't be much of a selection here then—if any.

Visit Vancouver's Most Modern Musical House

657-659 GRANVILLE ST.

Walter F. Evans, Ltd.

Saturday Our Last Day in This Store

LAST DAY AT

526 Hastings W.

OUR MUSIC DEPARTMENT AND MUSICAL MERCHAN DISE IS NOW LOCATED AT 657-659 GRANVILLE ST.

CAN CONSCRIPTION BE IMPOSED IN CANADA?

Evidently Borden Returns From Abroad With Instructions

Apparently These Orders to Be Obeyed no Matter What the Cost

Notwithstanding the repeated assurances which have been given in the past right from the executive council in Ottawa, the government intends asking parliament to pass a conscription measure next week. These assurances were given in the most positive way. Take, for instance, the visit of the premier of Manitoba and Dr. Roche, a member of the federal cabinet, to Chicago for the express purpose of announcing the government policy in this regard. Later, says The Voice, at the time of the launching of the registration plan, the premier, while declining to bind himself not to resort to conscription under any circumstances, promised to the officers of the Trades and Labor Congress that they should be consulted as soon as any steps were contemplated.

The premier of Canada now returns from England with what apparently amounts to instructions to adopt conscription in these dominions. This looks very much like the ending of a chapter in secret diplomacy, the evils of which the whole world has recognized in connection with the European conflagration. Aside from those among our own population who have all along clamored for conscription of men, a small, noisy, wealthy group, all considerations are against such a proposal being made. The country has produced men in marvellous numbers. Four hundred thousand have voluntarily enlisted, and had there not been a restraining check it would have gone on as briskly as ever. But some time ago it became necessary to prepare the country for this proposal which is now being made and the check was administered.

At the present time there is certainly no duly constituted power in the country entitled to impose conscription on the population, no elected or democratically constituted power, that is. The federal parliament has long since passed its span of life and cannot in any way claim to be a representative body. The emergency of the war has been used only to extend its life, whereas the first consideration should have been to abolish its partizan character, make it as nearly as possible representative of all interests in the state. This should have been done before ever an arbitrary extension of the life of parliament was considered. The people might have been content to go on with the distribution of spoils and patronage in the hands of such an aggregation, so inured and hopeless have they long been about the excesses of partizan government, but when it comes to proposing conscription that is a very different matter.

The Trades and Labor Congress has never yet given any room for ambiguity as to where it stands on this question of conscription. In so far as it speaks for the industrial workers of this country, it says it will have none of it. In this respect it has been in exact line with the workers of all other countries where enforced military service was not a part of the duty imposed on every male citizen by a militaristic government. No reasonable person will deny that this is proper ground to take, and the cause of liberty and democracy has been well served by it. This will be generally granted in time of peace. But what about the changed conditions of war? And labor answers that under conscription every man is a soldier, and may be sent to the front if he causes trouble. Labor stands to lose everything even the power to be a factor for peace in peace times, under conscription. Labor rejects as visionary the idea that peace can be maintained by force, and it suggests an alternative plan based on the belief that this war, all wars, arise ultimately from the exploitation of labor.

It may well be advanced then that Canada has not got a government with any competent right to introduce conscription, and that in any event the people of the country should demand a direct vote before any such law should be sanctioned. If conscription should carry we should still be up to dealing with the conscientious objector. He is a considerable factor in any British community, and he does not care how you vote or what you propose to do, he refuses to be conscripted under any circumstances. There has been a long chapter written by the conscientious objector in England. In order to allay his fears very definite exceptions were put into the law, but he was delivered into hostile hands. Finally he was dressed in uniform and sent to France. Here he was court-martialled for insubordination and sentenced to be shot. He was then sent back to England to serve ten years in prison, and now he is, without hardly an exception, working on the land preparing crops for the feeding of the inhabitants. This whole procedure might just as well have been avoided and the last act committed first.

To come back to the thought that presses on all who are giving this matter close attention there is no need for and no economy in conscription in Canada under the conditions as they exist.

TYPO. UNION MEETING

President-elect Armstrong Installed at Sunday's Meeting.

President W. S. Armstrong and the officers elected to serve with him during the ensuing year were duly obligated into office by retiring president H. C. Benson at a fairly well-attended regular meeting of Vancouver Typographical union held on Sunday last.

D. Hawking deposited a travelling card from Seattle, and is showing up on the Sun.

Ralph Wilson, foreman of the World composing room, has taken a cottage on Bowen island, where he intends spending the summer months. Mr. Wilson's many friends hope the outing will prove beneficial to him, and that he may soon regain his usual good health.

Running into debt is an experience not altogether devoid of pleasure, but running into your creditors afterwards is often accompanied by uncomfortable and even painful reflections.

International Social Democratic Party
Dominion Executive Committee
MANIFESTO
Re Conscription

In view of the conscription legislation foreshadowed by the Borden administration, we, the members of the Dominion executive committee of the Social - Democratic party of Canada hereby place ourselves on record in relation to the proposed legislation.

RESOLVED:—That the first duty of a democratic state is to refer to the people any proposed legislation which may vitally affect their welfare and civil liberty. In this regard we strongly condemn the suggested action of the government for its announced intention of enacting compulsory military service without any such referendum being taken, thereby undermining the function of democratic government — "Government by the people for the people."

AND WHEREAS:—We believe this is an attempt to coerce the people of this country into sustaining a proposal or policy which is alien to the wishes of the community (and akin to the military junker system of Germany, which is a blight to the workers of that country), and in so far as the Borden administration is openly supporting this principle of militarism which is the greatest enemy of democracy; and has been so remiss in its duty to our people by permitting the profiteers and speculators to press down the said people to the lowest limits of human substance.

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:—That the first duty of the government is to protect our own people from the enemy in our midst, by destroying the principle of profit, patronage and graft, and to forever put an end to the destructive power of vested interests by subordinating all the material resources of Canada to the general welfare of our people, and by granting security and protection to those least able to defend themselves, "the wealth producers," and the extension of this principle to the injured soldiers and the dependents of those who have fallen in the fight.

AND WHEREAS: — We have received no clear declaration of the government's object in prosecuting the war, and so far as we are aware, it has taken no action to bring about a lasting peace; and further, having on record the statement of a British cabinet minister, "Lord Hugh Cecil," that the allies cannot consider terms of peace without territorial compensation and indemnity, we are forced by circumstances to conclude that the men who would come under the provisions of the proposed legislation would be engaged in a war of conquest—to which principle we have a distinct objection; and so far as we are concerned will not acquiesce in the sacrifice of Canadian manhood for such base material purposes.

We further declare our uncompromising hostility to all measures of "Industrial or Military Conscription," as a menace to the liberties and social aspirations of the Canadian people, and strictly adhere to the spirit of the "Basle Socialist Convention of 1913," declaring it to be our duty to bring the war to an end, and with all our energies to use the political and economic power at our disposal to hasten the fall of capitalist dominion (which is the cause of war) by placing society upon a stable economic foundation which will bring as a natural corollary —the blessings of universal peace.

Signed on behalf of the committee,
I. BAINBRIDGE,
Secretary.

Toronto, May 22nd, 1917.

TRADES AND LABOR ACTIVITY UP THE COAST

Financial Aid for the Sugar Refinery Strikers of Vancouver

Labor Candidate May be in the Field at the Next Election

PRINCE RUPERT, B. C., May 26.—The last regular meeting of Prince Rupert Trades and Labor council was held Tuesday evening, President S. D. Macdonald presiding. The attendance was large. Credentials were received from S. V. Cox for the Engineers, and J. Hammond for the Boilermakers' unions.

Victoria's Action Endorsed.

A resolution passed by the Victoria Trades and Labor council was read. This resolution asks for co-operation in having labor represented on a commission to be formed that has for its prime object the elimination of profiteers in the sale of the necessaries of life. This was endorsed.

Help Sugar Refinery Strikers.

Vancouver Trades and Labor council asked that the action of the employees of the B. C. Sugar Refinery, in striking for a living wage, be endorsed, which was done, and the council donated $25 as a preliminary subscription in aid of the cause.

Labor Candidate Possible.

A committee was appointed with the object of a canvas being made of organized labor throughout this northern district with a view of determining whether a labor candidate will take the field in the next general election. This matter will be settled later.

No Discourtesy Intended.

Hon. T. D. Pattullo, who had been asked to explain his attitude to the B.C. Federation delegation recently, wrote that in leaving the meeting early, no discourtesy was intended. He claimed pressure of business made an early departure imperative.

Want Labor's Choice for Deputy.

In view of the recent announcement by the provincial government that a portfolio of Labor is to be created, a resolution was passed requesting the government that permission be granted labor to choose a deputy minister of Labor by referendum vote. Copies of this resolution will be sent to the Trades and Labor councils in Vancouver, Victoria and New Westminster.

Holidays for Nurses.

A communication from W. E. Williams, chairman of the house committee of the General hospital, stated that the recommendation of the Labor body that the nurses be allowed an annual vacation of two weeks, with pay, would be met. The other recommendation that the nurses be put on an eight-hour shift, would be taken up with the provincial secretary.

CAPITAL CITY LETTER CARRIERS IN SESSION

Routine Business Covering Internal Affairs Disposed of.

VICTORIA, B. C., May 29.—The last regular meeting of the Victoria branch of Letter Carriers was taken up with ordinary routine, such as paying hall rent and the quarterly per capita tax to the central body. A letter was received from the general secretary, dealing with a request made by the branch that the Dominion executive forego the collection of the per capita tax on enlisted members. The letter pointed out the general principle of the request, if granted in one case, then all other branches should be similarly treated, which would seriously cripple the revenue of the Federation. The letter also suggested measures of relief which were open to the branch itself to adopt. The communication was filed, and the meeting decided to pay the full amount as usual. A letter from Toronto branch explaining a former letter from that organization demanding the resignation of W. H. Hoop of Winnipeg from the presidency of the Federation was received and filed.

Bro. Bird reported for special committee for revising the by-laws of the branch. The report was considered in committee of the whole and approved, with some amendments, which were referred to the committee. The report will be considered again at the next meeting of the branch.

The death of Bro. Canning was announced by the secretary, having been killed in action several weeks ago. Bro. Canning left this city as a munition worker in Great Britain more than a year ago, and subsequently enlisted from there. His relatives live at Calgary.

PLUMBERS' REINCARNATION

Organizer Clark Breathes the Spirit of Old-times Into Local Organization

Plumbers' and Fitters' Local Union, No. 170, after several years of hard times, are again coming back. With the same old spirit of trade unionism that has always existed in the breasts of upright men, our members, acting in conjunction with all other crafts, through the central labor body, and local Metal Trades Council, are making steady gains in membership and discipline. At the last regular meeting of the union, 28 new members were initiated. Some of these were old members, who are again taking their place in the labor movement. This will give all union men new courage for the work to be done in the future. The local also has as many more applications on file for action at next meeting. The spirit displayed by Local No. 170 is one of conservative action and a policy of sound sense and reason, proposing to give the other fellow the same consideration expected by our membership. C.

Credit Where Credit Is Due.

R. C. Woodbury, who has been contributing a series of splendid articles to The Federationist during recent months, was inadvertently not given credit last week for the one headed "The Working Class and the Great Calamity."

The killing of just one fly NOW means there will be billions and trillions less next summer.

As a Money Saving Proposition This Sale of Men's Suits is a Record Breaker

They are made exclusively of $25.00, $22.50 and $25.00 woollens, and service and satisfaction is guar- $20.00 woollens, and service and tailored by experts, and if Vancouver men knew what we do about woollen prices and woollen prospects, every one of these suits will be sold before closing time tomorrow; 200 Suits in all—in all sizes and wanted shades. Actual values up to $25.00.
Here for..... **$14.75**

The Hudson's Bay Company.

Granville and Georgia Streets

Broadway Theatre

MAIN AT BROADWAY PHONE FAIR. 952

Monday Tuesday Wednesday June 4. 5 and 6
Clara Kimball Young
—IN—
"The Feast of Life"

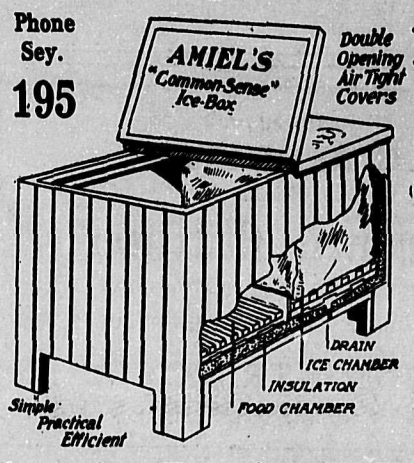
THURSDAY
Lenore Ulrich
—IN—
"The Road to Love"
$15 Cash Prizes, 9 p.m.

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY
BILLIE BURKE in "GLORIA'S ROMANCE"
AND
CHARLIE CHAPLIN in "THE CURE"

ICE Will Reduce the High Cost of Living

Phone Sey. 195

Price



$5.00

A. L. AMIEL

South Wellington Coal

Every Good UNION MAN

SHOULD WEAR THE BEST

CARHARTT'S OVERALLS

ARE THE BEST BY TEST

Patronize our own Union Overall Factory in Vancouver and keep the money at home among our own Union people.

CARHARTT'S are

OVER-ALL

OTHER MAKES

Westminster Iron Works

JOHN REID, Proprietor

GENERAL MACHINISTS AND ENGINEERS

Manufacturers of

STRUCTURAL and ORNAMENTAL IRONWORK

Office and Works: Tenth Street NEW WESTMINSTER, B. C.

Clothing Fakirs

¶ It has come to our attention that several firms in Vancouver are advertising Union Clothes, and otherwise using the name of "union," which would lead the union men to believe that the goods they sell are made by union labor.

¶ If any clothing has the Union Label on it, we would have it, and we are scouring the market continually for union-made goods, but we will not condescend at any time to try and fake the public into buying goods which do not bear the Union Label.

¶ Anyone advertising Union-made Clothing should demand them, and see that they bear the Union Label.

¶ We were the first firm in Vancouver to advocate a 48-hour week, and a minimum wage for store employees.

Wm. Dick
Limited

N. B.—Ask our clerks how they are treated, and the wages they are paid.

33, 47 and 49 HASTINGS St. East

LADIES! OUR
BIG REDUCTIONS
ON ALL
Trimmed Millinery
WILL SAVE YOU LOTS OF MONEY
IT IS OUR PLEASURE TO SHOW GOODS
THE PATRICK CO.
MILLINERY 532 GRANVILLE STREET

'An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure'

Apply this trite saying to your teeth. It sounds a warning which every reader should heed.

It means prompt action when you see that the enamel of your tooth is cracked—that a cavity has developed—or when a sharp twinge or a steady growing pain tells you that something is wrong with your teeth.

By coming to my office at once I can tell you what is wrong and remedy the defect. That "ounce of prevention" will save you hours of pain, as well as both trouble and expense in the future.

See me when anything goes wrong with your teeth. It pays.
Appointments for Examinations made by phone. Sey. 3331
Open Tuesday and Friday evenings.

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

Visit the Beauty Spots Near Vancouver
By The
Pacific Great Eastern Railway

Frequent train service from North Vancouver to the following places of interest:

CYPRESS PARK	Round Trip	35c
CAULFIELDS	" "	35c
EAGLE HARBOR	" "	40c
LARSON'S RANCH	" "	50c
WHYTECLIFF for HORSESHOE BAY	" "	50c

Excellent accommodation for picnic parties. For further particulars phone Sey. 9547.

Passenger Dept.
Pacific Great Eastern Railway

10 Sub. Cards — Good for one year's subscription to The B. C. Federationist, will be mailed to any address in Canada for $10. (Good anywhere outside of Vancouver city.) Order ten today. Remit when sold.

WHERE DOES BORDEN GET HIS MANDATE FROM?

Is the Doom of Democracy to be Sealed in this Great "Canada of Ours?"

Is this Dominion to Become Merely an Appanage of Downing Street?

But first of all, where does Borden get the mandate for conscription — Downing street or from the people of Canada?

Secondly, does the Borden government represent the people of Canada? The great outcry against the cost of living clearly indicates—No!

Thirdly, should the Borden government get another year of life? Decidedly not, for they have forfeited all confidence of the people because of their incapacity to look after the interests of the common people of Canada.

Fourth, should the Borden government railroad conscription on the people of Canada without a referendum. This country will be governed by an autocracy and not by democracy by that action.

The Borden government should appeal to the people for the continued support of the country, but they dare not, for they know that they would be defeated at the polls, hence the cry for another extension. Australia has had a referendum and a general election, and it has not hurt Australia, but of course, Canada would be very much injured if the Borden government was defeated—that is the Borden government, not the people.

The way that the Borden government have allowed the people of Canada to be plundered by "vested interests" and the gambling in the necessities of life and stood idly by and watched the game for the past two years is nothing but a monumental crime which can only be credited to the absolute incapacity of government by the men who hold office.

Think of the injustices done to the families of those men who have made the supreme sacrifice and those who have been maimed and also those who are in the trenches. The $20 allowance in 1914 to the wife or dependent—what value is it today? Who is responsible for the decrease in purchasing power? Who has watched the coffers of the "big interests" fill to overflowing while the people are being squeezed dry and in want of necessities. The answer says the dominion government.

At this late date the government announces it is going to appoint a food controller. Such a pitiful joke. Does the government think for a moment that the people believe that such an appointment would be of benefit to the people in the face of past history? Look at last fall when the government was appealed to to protect the people. What happened? Passed the brick to the municipalities to deal with it, knowing full well that it would come to naught. Now a food controller. Bah! —The Voice.

Special Display of Women's White Summer Hose

Women's Fine White Cotton Hose, made with double toes and heels. Special value, 35c pair, 3 pairs for $1.00.

Women's White Fibre Silk Hose, with 12-in. ankles, double toes and heels, also strong garter top. Remarkable value, 50c pair.

Women's Fine Silk Ankle Hose, has 16-inch silk, double toes and heels; superfine make. Extra value, 75c pair.

Women's Fine Silk Hose, 18-in. silk ankles, double toes and reinforced toes and heels also garter top. Fine value, $1.00 pair.

Women's Fine Pure Silk Hose, has 16 in. of silk and reinforced toes and heels. superior quality, $1.25 a pair.

Women's White Silk Hose in a heavy weave, with 20-in. silk ankles, reinforced at toes and heels, also deep, garter top Very fine value, $1.75 pr.

Women's White Glove Hose, with double toes and heels. This is an extremely fine stocking at $2.00 pair.

Women's Very Fine White Silk Hose, made with wide top, has silk lisle toes and heels, also double soles. A high-grade hose, at $2.50 pair.

Gordon Drysdale LIMITED

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

575 Granville Phone Sey. 3540

EMPLOYING INTERESTS AT CALGARY REVEALING CLAW

Attempt Made to Throttle Free Expression of Working Class Opinions.

CALGARY, Alberta, May 29.—(Special to The Federationist.)—Alex. Ross, a well-known trades unionist of this city, has been nominated by the Labor interests to contest Centre Calgray, his opponent being Tweedie, Conservative. The campaign has been waxing warm because of the attempt of the Tweedites to suppress free speech. At the Conservative nomination meeting last night, Tweedie instigated closure proceedings against the People's Forum on the flimsy pretext that its meeting had been closed without singing the national anthem, as has been the custom for years. And this despite the fact that the Church's Fortnightly club fails to make the same observance without any protest being made. Empress theatre closed doors against forum last Sunday, the notice being given late Saturday night. The Forum, however, is ending a successful season and has moved to the Grand theatre, where it will continue meetings for another month.

Electrical Workers' union membership, employed on government lines, will go out on strike tomorrow, all over the province to enforce new schedule.

Boilermakers and Iron Shipbuilders.

The condition of trade in this line, both in Victoria and Vancouver, is very favorable at present, as all shops and yards are working a full force, we are pleased to say, with the exception of the J. Coughlan & Son's shipyard, where we are at present on strike for the adoption of the same agreement as is already in force in all other yards of B. C. The Wallace shipbuilding yard is still employing a full force of men. British Pacific Construction & Engineering Company and Robinson & Godson also have a large number of men employed. Patterson's Boilershop, the B. C. Marine and the various other companies, including the North Shore Iron Works, are fully occupied with work at present. The trade in all lines being in a very healthy condition.

W. R. OWEN
Malleable Ranges, Shelf and Heavy Hardware; screen doors and windows.
2337 MAIN ST. Phone: Fair. 447

DONT ARGUE!

CON JONES
Sells Fresh Tobacco.

MACHINISTS' REVIVAL THROUGHOUT PROVINCE

Membership Not Slow to Take Advantage of Present Opportunities.

In reviewing the conditions in British Columbia, particularly in Vancouver and Victoria, during the past year, the value of organization cannot be overestimated. Twelve months ago the Machinists had little or no organization in this territory, having only 160 members throughout the whole province. Conditions were bad, hours long, and wages ridiculously low. The work hours ranged from nine to eleven per day, and in many cases overtime allowances were unknown. Wages ranged from 35c to 45c per hour, a greater number getting the 35c rate than were getting the 45c. An organizing campaign was started the end of the year, and in less than six months, what has taken place. They have approximately 500 members, secured the 44-hour week, a minimum rate of wages of 56¼c per hour, double time for all overtime and holidays, and recognition of the union, in all shops in Victoria, and five in Vancouver, and also in Nelson and Prince Rupert. Further, the shops who haven't so far signed the agreement or reduced the hours, have all established the minimum rate of wages quoted above. The above conditions were secured through the efforts of the organization, and it is indeed pleasing to note that the non-union machinists realize it, and are showing their appreciation by flocking into the organization in large numbers. Very soon the machinist who doesn't carry a card wont be required or wanted on the coast. Next month a general conference of representatives of machinists lodges in Victoria, Vancouver and New Westminster will likely meet, to discuss matters pertaining to the organization and prepare plans for the future. A special meeting of Local No. 777 will be held on Saturday afternoon to give the men working nights an opportunity of attending, and giving some of the non-union men an opportunity of making application for membership, and becoming members on the second Tuesday in June, when the officers of the lodge will be installed.

COUGHLAN'S SHIPYARD STRIKE

Situation Altogether in Favor of Men Winning Out

At Coughlans the situation has improved considerably since we issued the special Strike Bulletin. There are fewer men in the plant than there were on that date, and it is gratifying to know that the few workers are doing splendid work, from our viewpoint. Machines of all description are being broken, and material is being spoiled daily, and it is indeed surprising that some serious accidents haven't occurred. The daily meetings are well attended, and enthusiasm and determination is increasing. The pickets are on the job late and early; nobody escapes them, and it is certain the company cannot hold out much longer.

M. C.

AS TO CONSCRIPTION OF WEALTH IT IS DIFFERENT

Mere Man May be Driven to the Shambles but Wealth is More Sacred

Before this War is Over the World Will Have Learned — A Different Lesson

The organ of the federal government in this city, says The Voice, Winnipeg, which has been gloating over the application of conscription as applied to men, goes out of its way to deride those who ask for a conscription of wealth. The organ argues, fatuously, that the only conscription of wealth is taxation and that there will be plenty of taxation in the future.

Well, we are pretty well persuaded that there will be much taxation in the future if the friends of the organ remain in the seats of the mighty. But taxation grinds the poor without noticeably affecting the comforts and luxuries of the rich.

What is meant by conscription of wealth is something much different from general taxation. There are many people who have great hoards of cash or liquid assets, hoards so large that they can never spend them all except by insane prodigality. If the state is in danger these hoards are in danger of being lost. If the danger is so great and so impending as to call for conscription of men's living bodies, in order to save the country, then these hoards of cash and liquid securities should be utilized to pay the cost of the war.

A certain limit of individual possession should be set when matters come to a crisis grave enough to bring about conscription. All over and above that mark should be swept into the coffers of the state to pay the expenses of the struggle.

Of course the government organ will argue against anything which might reduce the lucre-hoard of its millionaire backer, the Hon. Robert Rogers.

But before the war is over, or at least, before the great post-bellum problems are settled, the principle of conscription of superfluous wealth will have been adopted. In the face of the poor, who are losing their dear ones on the field of battle while trying themselves to exist despite high prices, the organ may sneer in a heartless way and argue the cause of the profiteers and the sacredness of property. But the war, if it is doing no other good, is driving people to see and accept the fundamentals. After the war is over the civilized world will not stand for bloated fortunes on one hand and soul-grinding poverty on another. Our volunteer soldiers who suffered and died on the field of battle did not fight for such a country.

METAL TRADES COUNCIL

Place Daily Sun on the Unfair List—Planning Organization Work.

A regular meeting of the council was called to order by Pres. A. H. Donaldson, with 42 delegates in attendance. Application for affiliation from the Pattern Makers' association was received and accepted, and delegates seated. The attention of the delegates was drawn to the strike situation of Coughlan's shipyard and, after a thorough discussion of the situation and a lot of good suggestions that might lead to an early settlement, the following resolution was passed:

"That the Metal Trades council decided to levy an assessment on the entire membership, to assist the workers on strike at Coughlan's shipyard, if necessary."

A motion was passed instructing the delegates to Trades and Labor council to have The Daily Sun newspaper placed on the unfair list, owing to its attitude in refusing to receive a paid advertisement from the Metal Trades council.

Electrical workers reported they were on strike for an increase of 20 per cent. in contract shops.

Under the order of good and welfare, the delegates urged the organizers and business agents to use every possible means to carry on the strike at Coughlan's yard to a successful settlement.

MUNITIONS STRIKE AT CAPITAL CITY SETTLED

Munition Workers, Including Many Women, Decide to Organize.

On Saturday, May 19th, the munition workers employed by the Victoria Machinery Depot held a meeting in the Labor hall, for the purpose of considering the advisability of organizing. It was decided to organize and to try and affiliate with either the A. F. of L. direct or with the Machinists. A committee was appointed to attend to the matter, and on the Monday following one of the committee was called to the office and asked if it was true that he was one of the committee mentioned above, and on admitting that he was, was discharged. The result was that over 100, forty of whom were women workers, quit work until the man discharged was reinstated. After a number of attempts to effect a settlement and a week's strike, the discharged employee was reinstated and a settlement reached. While the reinstatement of the man discharged was the only issue at this time, conditions are such that before long a demand will undoubtedly be made for improved wages and conditions. Women are working for the magnificent sum of 20c to 22½ per hour (8 hours per day), and in many cases doing the work that men previously received from 30 to 35c per hour for. As in instance, in the painting department, two girls are employed, and besides painting the shells, they have to pack them, nail down the boxes, carry them out and load them on to the cars, and all for the magnificent sum of 20c per hour. How is this for true patriotism?

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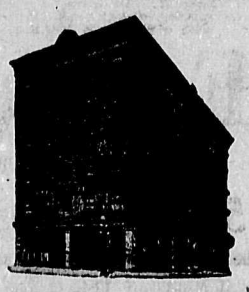

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