THE BRITISH COLUMBIA FEDERATIONIST

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

EIGHTH YEAR. No. 20 — SIX PAGES — VANCOUVER, B. C., FRIDAY, MAY 18, 1917 — (In Vancouver City, $2.00) — $1.50 PER YEAR

LABOR DEPARTMENT PROPOSED BY THE GOVERNMENT

Work Involved Will Add to Duties of One of the Ministers

No Evidence That Labor Organizations Will Be Consulted

AS THE FIRST session of the Brewster government at Victoria is drawing to a close, and the date for at least three bye-elections approaches, the necessity for making a little political medicine is imperative. With inquiries that fail to inquire, cabinet resignations that are not resignations, a workmen's compensation board that fails to compensate in many cases, mining explosion investigations that fail to make decisive findings, a no-patronage system that goes predecessors one better, government supporters that are not government supporters, pre-election campaign contributions that are not contributions, and the insuperable burden of packing "honest" John Oliver, Premier Brewster has at last made what looks like his first move to comply with one of the requests made by the executive committee of the B. C. Federation of Labor, some weeks ago.

A Labor Department.

The local morning dailies of Wednesday report the decision in this way:

Victoria, May 15.—A department of labor, to be a department of the civil service, is the object of a bill introduced in the legislature tonight by Premier Brewster. At its head will be a minister of labor appointed by the lieutenant-governor, to hold office during pleasure. Provision for the appointment of a deputy minister and such clerks, etc., as required will be made by the lieutenant-governor-in-council.

The duties and functions of the department will be to administer laws affecting labor, to improve relations between employers and employees; place labor when a demand for same exists; regulate sanitary and other conditions relating to the health and well-being of the industrial classes; establish and maintain employment bureaus; to encourage establishments of new industries in British Columbia; provide for protection, technical training and welfare of the industrial classes; pass upon changes in law relating to labor and wages as presented by labor organizations.

The department will have full power to secure all necessary information regarding industries.—News-Advertiser.

The Sun's Version.

Victoria, May 15.—A portfolio of labor is to be added to the cabinet, though it may not be filled for some time, but looked after by one of the present ministers, according to a bill, introduced by Hon. H. C. Brewster, the premier, at this afternoon's legislative session. A deputy minister for active duty may be appointed by governor-in-council, and the salary may also be fixed in this manner under the act.

The bill sets out in paragraphs the various duties of the department to be created, and these, briefly, include all matters having to do with labor, statistical benefits, advantages, disadvantages, nationality, the dissemination of knowledge about the labor market of this province, conditions of health and the establishment of employment bureaus.

Under the act, information when requested, must be furnished to the department under penalty of a fine not exceeding a hundred dollars Information given the department is to be privileged.—Sun.

Daily Province Report.

Victoria, May 16.—Hon. William Sloan, minister of mines, in addition to his duties in caring for that department will likely soon become minister of labor as well. While the government has not definitely selected the portfolio to which the new department of labor provided for in a bill introduced yesterday will be attached, Premier Brewster stated to the Province yesterday that he expected that the minister of mines would probably be chosen.

The new bill which the premier introduced yesterday afternoon created a department of labor in the civil service, with a minister of labor, a deputy minister and such other officers, clerks, etc., as may be required. The bill specifically empowers the officers of the proposed department to procure from officials of industrial societies, trades unions, etc., all necessary information.—Daily Province.

In Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

When a similar department was established at the request of organized labor in the provinces of Manitoba and Saskatchewan, the first step made by those governments was to ask organized labor to make a choice of a suitable man for the job. In Manitoba, President McGrath, of the Winnipeg Trades and Labor council, was chosen, and he has since made good. In Saskatchewan the choice fell to Mr. Molloy, at the time an active Typo. member of the central labor body, and he is doing effective work in his department.

In the stae of Washington, and others across the line, the government appointed what is termed a Labor commission, with comprehensive duties and powers to help pilot wage-workers through their trials and difficulties in mastering the modern art of government.

Not So in B. C.

In British Columbia, however, all this information and work has had to be assumed, voluntarily, by the business agents and officials of organized labor, it being the duty of no one in particular to give the workers any information as to their rights under the laws of the country.

Need for Such Department.

There is a real need for such a department in British Columbia, and if the Brewster government will go as far as asked to by the officials of the B. C. Federation of Labor, it will have made a step in the right direction. As, with other departments, its effectiveness and usefulness will largely depend upon proper administration, free from corporation influences, it is imperative that organized labor be consulted and considered when making the necessary appointments. The department could probably be tacked onto another for a start, but the man in charge should be a practical trade unionist, with a knowledge of local conditions and the labor movement in general, one, for instance, who could be recommended by the B. C. Federation of Labor. Experience, however, to date, hardly makes such a course probable, if one is to judge by how organized labor has NOT been consulted in the past, where labor interests were vitally affected.

WHY OPPOSITION TO NATIONALIZATION OF FUND?

Patriotic Officials Disclose Their Attitude at a Public Meeting

Organized Labor, Returned Soldiers and Dependents Must Act

WHY SHOULD T. S. Baxter and C. H. Bonner, president and secretary of the Canadian Patriotic fund in this city, oppose the nationalization of that fund? One would think that propriety at least would suggest itself to these gentlemen. Surely such a discussion could be left to the people who are compelled to "voluntarily" contribute to the fund and those who are its recipients.

The daily press says of a poorly-attended meeting of Burnaby residents on Wednesday evening at Edmonds: " * * * Mr. Baxter spoke at some length trying to encourage the residents to go ahead with the collections, **and decrying any movement towards nationalizing the fund.**"

And as a sort of prelude to the main act, earlier in the afternoon, The World indulged in a column editorial in defense of the present method of doling out charity to the dependents of men who are in the trenches. The World says the fund is made up of voluntary contributions of patriots. The Federationist denies this. Most of the Patriotic Fund comes out of the meagre wages of employees who cannot help themselves, through toll levied by the bosses each month. It does not come from the juicy war profits of the kind of patriotic predominating in Canada.

The Federationist has, up till now, made little complaint of the local administrators of the fund. But it has contended that the whole system is at fault. Since, however, the local officials of the fund have come out openly as opposed to the nationalization of the fund, they need expect no quarter from organized labor.

The Federationist was prepared to overlook the enclosure of furniture dealers' business cards in official communications from the patriotic fund office. It made due allowance for the peculiarities of women. The low cost of administering the funds was conceded, assuming that the charity-system of distribution had to be followed. But when these officials start out on a public campaign in opposition to the movement inaugurated by organized labor to nationalize the fund, then they must expect to be dealt with in future as opponents, rather than as officials and condoners of the present charity-mongering method of securing and paying out the fund.

The soldiers' wives and dependents' organizations, the returned soldiers' clubs and the central labor body are now in a definite position. They know where the opposition is coming from, and what to expect. And they will, The Federationist believes, know what to do.

THE APPROACHING END OF A HUGE LEGISLATIVE JOKE

The Prorogation of the Provincial Legislature to Take Place in Near Future—End of a Most Remarkable Session of Purgative Political Purification Now Well Within Sight—Graft and Corruption Relegated to Oblivion by the Master Strokes of High Class Statesmanship—May the Good Lord Forgive Us If We Err

THE PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT at Victoria has now been in session for upwards of two months, and having attended to nearly everything that the high-class statesmanship of its members is capable of dealing with, is nearing prorogation. The splendid manner in which its members have borne the terrific stress and strain of the Herculean task of political purification that they so unselfishly took upon themselves, entitles them to a period of well-earned rest from their arduous labors. This applies, of course, only to that portion of the house that had previously dedicated itself to the purification of the foul "Augean stables" of British Columbian political life. As to the ragged remnant of that foul and corrupt old political combine that for the last decade has persistently and wickedly befouled the "stables," and with malice aforethought deliberately corrupted the normally pure currents of political life in this province, its misguided and inherently crooked members are entitled to no consideration, unless it might be at the hands of the Prince of Evil, whose nefarious purposes they have eminently and loyally served. But to Premier Brewster and his brilliant and able galaxy of talented warriors in the age-long battle of purity against filth, all honor is due. At least all the honor that is properly coming to them.

Everybody Knew It.

Of course every one knew full well that the old Conservative band of political pirates was rotten and corrupt to the core. Not only did they know it, but there was every reason why they could not help but know it, for those well-known disciples of clean political living, those whole-souled devotees at the shrine of purity in general, and seemly conduct in all things, had so completely, thoroughly and loudly bawled Bowser and his criminal following out, that none could remain blind to their guilt, except those who would not see. At any rate, the Liberals got their goat at the election last fall, and there trailed back into the present house but a sad and sorry remnant of that once proud battalion, led by the Napoleonic Bowser, and which once gathered reckless harvest in defiance of the coming political storm, even as Ajax defied the lightning, though, it must be admitted, not with the same success.

Purification and Construction.

Well, to make a long story short, the era of graft and corruption was thus brought to an end. The murky clouds of Conservative turpitude were swept away. The sunshine of political purity, constructive statesmanship and healthy and assured social and industrial progress, warmed the very "cockles of the heart" of all those weary souls who had so long been wandering in the wilderness, longing for the light and hungering for righteousness. The dawn of a new era had come. The newly-elected government took office. The house went into session, the warriors in fine fettle and their constituents full of hope—not hop. The day of reconstruction was at hand. It came all right, as a review of accomplishments will show. The "plugging" episode is a matter of common knowledge. By some it is not considered as evidence of any pronounced disposition towards political purity upon the part of those who profited by it, either inside the legislature or out. Of course it is easily explained by asserting it to have been a job put up by the wicked Bowser to besmear the immaculate purity of the newly-elected, with some of the unclean varnish with which his own reputation was so plenteously coated. It was no trouble for the purifiers to stir up a powerful stench by making enquiry into the railway policy of the previous administration. But in so doing, they brought out convincing proof of the biblical saying, that "ye cannot handle pitch without becoming defiled." When the self-alleged purity zealots took a peep into the P. G. E. pot of railway corruption, in order to obtain choice bits of filth with which to plaster their Conservative enemies, they evidently saw something in the pot, that prompted them to suddenly clap down the lid and make search in other directions for the damaging evidence they so eagerly sought. Just what they discovered in the pot, is to be left to the imagination. The actual facts have been somewhat censored. But that one of the most eminent of the purity statesmen has been compelled to resign his office in the government, and only now sits in the house under a heavy cloud of suspicion as to his immaculate purity, is in itself a significant fact.

Real Statesmen.

It is but fair to state that the new government is not absolutely devoid of statesmanship. True it has done little else during this session but bawl out the graft, corruption and general political indecency of its Conservative predecessor, but it has reinaugurated the poll tax in the province. That is the nearest approach to a real achievement in statesmanship that the present house can be justly accused of. But what else could one expect. The entire caboodle is made up of small calibre political material of the cheapest sort. There is not a man prominent in the bunch that is above a third-rater, when measured by any standard other than that of mediocrity. The most of them are little better than jokes. But come to think of it, they and their achievements constitute a most faithful mirror of the present political intelligence and morality of the electorate of this province. Otherwise they would not be there. So there you are.

MONTREAL "WIN-WAR" CONFERENCE NEXT WEEK

Expenses of Monster Gathering Indirectly Paid By Government.

THE NEXT ACT on the governmental war programme, federally, is a "Win-the-War" monster conference, to be held at Montreal next week. Just who or what is behind the move is not made visible to the naked eye, but inasmuch as the government is understood to be indirectly footing the bills for expenses and transportation of delegates from all parts of Canada, it is easy to understand why the convention will be all that could be desired, so far as attendance is concerned. It will be remembered that some months ago, a special session of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada executive was called, at the instance of the government, and the expenses of which were borne by the public treasury. Soon after, the National Service scheme was endorsed by the Congress executive. While the aim and purpose of the proposed "conference" next week has not been disclosed, it is worthy of note that the eager patriots and prospective delegates from Vancouver could not wait till they got to Montreal before "resoluting." They insisted on the government enforcing conscription right away, whether or no. Better counsel prevailed, and the motion was ultimately withdrawn. That would have given the whole snap away. Of course, there was not a word about conscripting railways, sugar refineries, munition factories, food supplies and the many other things out of which huge profits are being made by as unscrupulous a lot of scalawag patriots as ever went unhanged. Not a word!

RUSSIAN CRISIS SAFELY PASSED

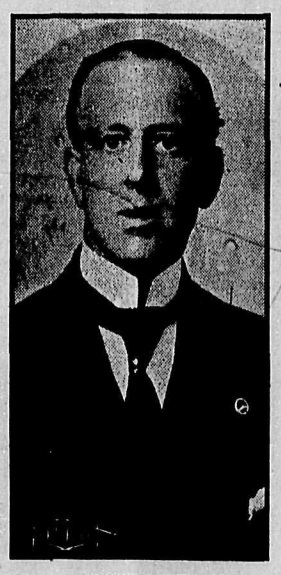
Strong Socialist Representation in New Government a Good Omen for the Future.

Advices from Petrograd indicate that the governmental crisis is over. A new cabinet has been formed and accepted by the representatives of the Council of Workmen's and Soldiers' delegates. Six representatives of the socialist groups are to sit in the cabinet and share in the government. Ooe of them, A. F. Kerensky, is to assume the war portfolio. The reaffirmed policy of the government is declared to be, the defeat of the Teutonic powers, and the establishment of peace with no annexations and no contributions.

A splendid tribute to the advanced intelligence of the Russian working class is found in the heavy representation of the socialist movement in the government. In no other country in the world can a similar representation be found. It is a distinct challenge to the intelligence of the workers in those countries that have long boasted of democracy and freedom, and whose labor movements have professed to constitute the vanguard of human progress. It is now up to the Russian working class to send cablegrams of cheer and wise counsel to the labor movement of Canada, the United States and other backward lands.

"National Service!"

On Monday H. E. Burbridge, stores commissioner of the Hudson's Bay company, accompanied by Mrs. Burbridge and Master Dudley Burbridge, will sail for Japan. From two to three months will be spent in visiting points of interest in Japan, China and the Philippines.



ARTHUR J. BIRD

Nominated by the Victoria branch of Federated Association of Letter Carriers, as Victoria's choice as western delegate to the coming convention of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, to be held at Ottawa in September. It is claimed for Mr. Bird that he holds one of the finest records in the F. A. of L. C. in western Canada, as the following will show: Provincial vice-president for B. C. 1913 to 1916; president of branch No. 11, F. A. of L. C., 1911-12-13-14-15-16; del. to Trades and Labor council, 1910-11; delegate to F. A. of L. C. convention, Winnipeg, 1913; delegate to F. A. of L. C. convention, Vancouver, 1916; member of executive committee, Victoria branch, 1917.

LIVELY CAMPAIGN BEING WAGED BY THE TYPOS.

Election of Officers Next Wednesday Occasion for Increased Interest.

The annual election of officers is the chief topic of interest in local typographical circles. There is competition for nearly every office and committee, and in some instances a very lively campaign is being waged by the candidates. President Benson has for opponent W. S. Armstrong. Vice-president Trotter, F. W. Fowler, W. H. Jordan and R. G. Marshall are contestants for vice-presidency. R. H. Neelands is again unopposed for the office of secretary-treasurer. For an executive committee of five, there are ten names in nomination, and there is equal choice for most of the other committees. Voting takes place on Wednesday next, in the secretary's office, room 206, Labor Temple, the poll being open from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

METAL TRADES COUNCIL MET YESTERDAY EVENING

Reports Indicate 100 Per Cent. Organization in Near Future.

The Metal Trades council held a very successful meeting on Wednesday evening, when all the affiliated unions were well represented. Local industrial conditions were reviewed, indicating progress all along the line. There are still a few firms who have failed to sign the union agreement, and these will receive attention during the coming week. The various business agents feel confident that, with the active support of organized labor and the present condition of the labor market, that they will be successful in making a clean sweep before many weeks.

PAINTERS MOVING

Have Added Many New Members and Elected a Business Agent.

At a mass meeting of painters, called by Organizer Clark and local officials of Painters' union, No. 138, in the Labor Temple, Wednesday evening, more than 25 applications were received for membership. Yesterday another batch were signed up, and when the next regular meeting of the local takes place on the 23rd inst., the entire working force of the city will be pretty well included. To make sure that working conditions will be observed and the membership looked after, a business agent was added to the Labor Temple rostrum, H. Grand being the choice of the local.

NATIONAL WOMEN'S TRADE UNION LEAGUE

Convention to Be Held at Kansas City, Missouri, June 4 to 9

Delegates Are Coming from England, France and Australia

The importance of a working women's convention at this time cannot be over-estimated. In spite of the heavy burdens of a nearly three years' war, the trade unionists of England, France and Australia are planning to send representatives to the sixth biennial convention of the National Women's Trade Union league.

The English trade unionists look upon the convention as of such importance that they are sending as their delegate Miss Mary Macarthur, secretary of the British Women's Trade Union league. Miss Macarthur is one of the women serving in the war councils of England. As a result of the interview granted by the Queen of England in the early days of the war, Miss Macarthur was made chairman of the central committee on women's employment for England and Wales. On this committee of thirteen members, there are six trade union women.

The French trade unionists have chosen as their representative Mme. G. Duchene of Paris, who is expected to attend the convention as a delegate; while Australia is planning to send one of their trade union women to join with America's working women in facing the industrial problems now before the world.

That these delegates are planning to attend this convention in the face of the dangers of travel and the difficulties of the present crisis in the world's history, shows the seriousness and the greatness of the questions to be considered. America's working women will give their best to the working out of the many grave and difficult problems which will come before the convention.

STEREOTYPERS MAKING WAGE INCREASE DEMAND

Local Arbitration Board This Week Hearing the Evidence.

A local arbitration board is holding sessions this week, to hear the claims of the membership of the Stereotypers' union for an increase of wages. F. J. Burd is representing the Vancouver Newspaper Publishers' association, while H. C. Benson, president of Vancouver Typo. union, is counsel for the stereotypers. The board consists of Mr. John Nelson of the Daily World, and Mr. Matt Barr, for the publishers, and Mr. John McKinnon of the Stereotypers' union and Mr. Moses Cotsworth for the union. Prof. Turnbull of the B. C. university, is chairman of the board.

SPLENDID INCREASE IN CARPENTERS' MEMBERSHIP

Forty-eight New Members Initiated at Last Meeting of U B. 617.

Organizer Robinson, of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, reports last Monday night as a red letter night for local 617. The foresight of the executive committee engaging a larger hall for this meeting was fully exemplified, there being a large attendance of members. High water mark was reached in the number of new members, 48 being added to the roll, 40 being initiated and eight by clearance card.

By unanimous vote, handsome cheques were ordered sent to the striking sugar refinery workers, and to the national defence league of San Francisco, for the conduct of the case in defence of the workmen under trial in California.

Organizer Robinson reports that General President Wm. T. Hutcheson is expected to pay Vancouver a visit early next month. A committee of three was appointed to act in conjunction with the other locals in organizing a suitable programme for his entertainment, and a preliminary meeting has been called for Friday night at the Labor Temple.

Alberta Elections June 7.

The Alberta provincial elections are to be held on June 7. It is to be hoped that several labor members will be nominated and elected. The work of Manitoba's two working class representatives shows that results can be got if you put them where they can vote on questions affecting the workers.—The Voice. For the first time in Alberta, women will vote in this election.

" 'Tis not in mortals to command success,
But we'll do more, Sempronius,—we'll deserve it."
—Addison's Cato.

WILL INVESTIGATE PATRIOTIC FUND CHARGES

Special Committee of Seven Named to Go Into the Whole Question

Upon Result Will Depend Future Attitude of the Council

The Canadian Patriotic Fund came in for its full share of criticism at last night's meeting of the Trades and Labor council. After a warm discussion, in which many of the delegates participated, the council decided to name a select committee to go into the charges preferred; give the Patriotic Fund officials an opportunity to defend themselves, and make a report to the council as soon as possible. The committee consists of Dels. Knowles, Dickenson, Gutteridge, Midgley, Crawford, Wight and Hoover. The question was raised last night by Dels. Corey and Trotter of the Typo. union. Upon the report of the special committee will depend the future attitude of the council towards the fund.

Federationist Censure Lifted.

The "vote of censure," moved at last meeting of the council, for the editor of The Federationist, which had been referred to the executive, was disposed of by the following recommendation:

"That the executive, after hearing the evidence, are of the opinion that the action of Editor Pettipiece, in addressing the sugar refinery strikers and in submitting an article to them for their approval, was fair and above board and in no way deserving of the censure of the Trades and Labor council."

The report was concurred in, with one dissenting vote.

Bricklayers' Union Exonerated.

The complaint, made by the Building Trades delegate, at last meeting, against the Bricklayers' union, was inquired into and the organization exonerated.

Donation to Sugar Refinery Workers.

Treasurer Knowles reported the receipt of $267.25 from local unions, since last meeting, in aid of the striking sugar refinery workers.

Sugar Refinery Inquiry.

A series of telegrams were presented by the executive committee, which had passed between the council and H. H. Stevens, M. P., Hon. T. W. Crothers, Premier Brewster and others, covering the delay in making a federal investigation into conditions surrounding the B. C. Sugar refinery, were read and approved. It was clearly shown that the decision was now up to the federal government, but was being sidestepped.

Want Federal Food Board.

A resolution, forwarded from Victoria Trades and Labor council, asking for the naming of a federal board, to regulate food supplies, was endorsed.

Jocularly Received.

A communication from London, (Ontario) Trades and Labor council, urging prohibition in ice cream manufacture, for the duration of the war, was filed, though it seemed to provide momentary amusement for the delegates.

Reports of Unions.

Del. Bruce, Retail Clerks' union, reported progress was being made in adding new members. Union men were urged to ask to be waited upon, when shopping, by union clerks.

Del. Ellsworth, tailors, reported that "Tom, the tailor," was being negotiated with for a union schedule.

New Bylaws Adopted.

The new bylaws were read a second time and approved by the council.

Attendance Roll.

United Brotherhood of Carpenters, Local 617—Jas. Campbell.

Local 280 Amalgamated Sheet Metal Workers—A. J. Crawford.

Typos.—H. L. Corey, W. R. Trotter.

Sailors—W. S. Burns.

Barbers—J. T. Ferris, S. H. Grant.

Bartenders—R. McCaffre.

Pressmen's Union—E. B. Stephenson.

Press Assistants—F. W. Jure.

Bro. Carpenters—D. Lyon, G. C. Thom, H. A. McDonald.

Moving Picture Operators—C. B. Stear.

Boot and Shoe Workers—T. Corey.

Structural Iron Workers—R. Massocar.

Tailors—O. S. Green, A. R. Gatenby, J. T. Ellsworth, H. Gutteridge.

Retail Clerks—A. P. Glen, C. D. Bruce.

Street Railwaymen—F. A. Hoover, W. H. Cottrell, E. G. Kermode, R. E. Rigby, F. Haigh, B. G. Davies, A. McInnes.

Cigar Makers—A. Kochel, H. Kurbitz.

Amal. Carpenters—A. McDonald, R. McCormack.

Pattern Makers—R. McDonald.

Civic Employees—V. R. Midgley, G. Harrison, G. Macfarlan.

Steam Shovel and Dredgemen—A. W. Cochran.

Painters—W. Knight.

Letter Carriers—R. Wight, F. Knowles, J. Cass, N. Barlow, J. Dodd.

Longshoremen—G. Thomas, S. Earp, A. Tree.

Moulders—W. Dickinson, A. Donaldson.

Deep Sea Fishermen—R. Kearley.

Bricklayers—C. F. Smith.

Cooks and Waiters—A. Graham.

Machinists—G. Lyall, W. M. Hawthorn, A. R. Fowler, J. H. McVety.

Garment Workers—J. A. Master.

$3 Wage in South Vancouver.

A resolution passed some time ago, by South Vancouver municipal council, cutting the wages of the road men from $3 to $2.75, was this week rescinded, and the old rate restored. The object in cutting the rate was to make it conform with the wages paid in Vancouver city.

WANT WAGE INCREASES

Telegraph Operators Are Asking for $10 Per Month Raise.

The telegraph operators of the Canadian Pacific railway are preparing to make demands upon the company for increased wages in the lower grades of the service, amounting to $10 monthly. Meetings have been held by the men from all over the west, and a new schedule has been tentatively agreed upon. This will be submitted to the company officials at Winnipeg and forwarded to Montreal for action.

SHALL ANOTHER EFFORT BE MADE TO SAVE VANCOUVER LABOR TEMPLE?

AT AN INFORMAL meeting of Labor Temple business agents in The Federationist office yesterday morning, when the subject of organization was being discussed, it was estimated that more than 1000 recruits for the various local trades unions had been made during the past two months. "If this campaign continues," said one of the metal trades agents, "the Labor Temple officers should be able, later on, to raise enough money to save the magnificent 'home of Labor' to the organized labor movement of Vancouver. Our movement is on the upgrade all round, and the prospects are brighter than they have been since 1911-12. Surely such a virile bunch of trade unionists as we have now will not let go the Labor Temple without a supreme effort to pay off interest arrearages, and put the building in proper shape in the matter of upkeep. We need the building in our business, and I feel sure the boys, when the time comes, will rise to the occasion. While there is a good deal of trouble in the industrial world, it is merely an evidence of life, and 'where there's life there's hope.' I'm one of those hopeful cusses who believe that Labor is on its way to the triumph of many of the ideals and objects it has been fighting for for years."

LABOR TEMPLE MEETINGS DURING THE COMING WEEK

SUNDAY, May 20—Steam Engineers.

MONDAY, May 21—Bridge and Structural Iron Workers; Electrical Workers; Boilermakers; Tailors' Executive; Street Railwaymen's Executive.

TUESDAY, May 22—Barbers; Bro. Locomotive Engineers.

WEDNESDAY, May 23—Press Feeders Com.; Metal Trades Council; Street Railwaymen.

THURSDAY, May 24—Shipwrights and Calukers; Machinists.

FRIDAY, May 25—Pile Drivers & Wooden Bridgebuilders.

SATURDAY, May 26—Bakers.

TEMPORARY SETTLEMENT OF KOOTENAY MINERS' TROUBLE

ACCORDING TO private advices received by The Federationist this morning, the industrial situation in the Southern Kootenay interior mining centres, where strikes and lockouts have been in vogue for some time, is becoming somewhat clarified. The Consolidated Mining Co. has added another 15 cents a day raise to the 25 cents already announced, 40 cents in all, as against the miners' demands for a four-bit increase, with check-off system. The men have voted, it is said, to return to work at Trail, Rossland and other points affected. The details are not to hand, but it appears to be a temporary settlement, with some sort of a sliding scale arrangement, based on the price of metals produced. The agreements entered into are with the various local unions involved, not the district organization. Pending the receipt of official confirmation, wage-workers will be well advised to move cautiously if thinking of going into the Kootenays in search of employment. The new agreement is said to be definite only for the next four months, with possible fluctuations in the metal market as a factor to be reckoned with after that. An official announcement from the unions involved will probably reach The Federationist for next issue.

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"Unity of Labor: the Hope of the World"

FRIDAY.....May 18, 1917

INEFFICIENCY OF CAPITALISM.

ACCORDING TO THE authority of our greatest statesmen, educators, theological experts and other foremost citizens, it is the bounden duty of each and every person in the nation to do all that lies within their power to bring the present war to a speedy and successful conclusion. It is not supposed to be at all commendable for laborers in the capitalist vineyard to refuse to carry on the industrial processes, just merely because they have become deluded with the notion that they are not getting sufficient wages for so doing. In fact it is considered quite reprehensible for them to balk in harness, and refuse to longer pull the load unless their wage allowance is increased. But it does so happen that once in awhile they do balk, and it usually develops that the narrowness of their wages is ample justification for their action. It is an open secret that the cost of living is continually and rapidly increasing, and that the wage of yesterday is not equal to the requirements of today, and that of today will probably not suffice for the morrow. It is not a matter of record that purchasers of labor-power (employers) are prone to insist upon such advances in wages as are requisite to keep pace with the advances that may occur in the price of those things which the wage slave must have in order to be able to continue to serve his master. It is a matter of record, however, that the wage-earners, as a rule, are compelled to force their needs upon the attention of their capitalist employers and oftentimes even have to resort to drastic action before their necessities are recognized and relief afforded.

* * *

The coal miners of Alberta and Eastern British Columbia have been long struggling with the problem of how to meet the actual requirements of their existence, upon the meagre earnings that accrued to them in the service of their overlords and masters, the coal barons. The cost of living continually increased. Their wages remained as before. The problem became harder, the situation more acute. All attempts to effect an increase in the wage scale to keep pace with the increased cost of living failed. The operators stubbornly refused to come through, in spite of the fact that their profits are greater since the outbreak of war than ever before. That the coal industry is especially vital to the successful prosecution of the war, appeared to have no influence upon them, in spite of the fact that they are known to be vehement patriots of the noisiest and most widely heralded type. Mine after mine was tied up because of the miners refusing to longer continue in servitude unless their grievances were remedied. At this moment not a pound of coal is being mined in the entire district. The smelting industry of the interior has been shut down in consequence, and a large number of men made idle as a result. That the stoppage of coal mining must have other and far-reaching consequences goes without saying. And all of this because the coal mines are the property of those useless individuals in human society termed capitalists, and these precious owners do not see fit to allow them to be operated except upon terms satisfactory to themselves, as individuals separate and apart from the war needs of that "empire" to which they so raucously profess loyalty and devotion and so earnestly recommend similar loyalty and devotion to others. It seems that the interests of the "empire" are secondary to the interests of their own capitalist pockets.

* * *

The government of the Dominion, of course, does nothing. This is to be expected, as it is nothing but a capitalist concern at the best. It may in time inaugurate the conscription of man power, if it appears that war needs demand it, but it seems never to occur to the government that if there was ever need for conscription in order that the war might be pressed to a satisfactory conclusion, that it should be applied to the great industries upon the continuous operation of which success depends. And the least of these is by no means the coal industry of Alberta and Eastern British Columbia. It is beyond question that any industry can pay sufficient wages to enable its workers to exist and keep themselves in suitable working condition. If this cannot be done in any other way, it can surely be accomplished by the cutting off of the unearned revenue that now accrues to the parasites whose present status of profit-suckers has been legalized by the state. That which the state can legalize, it can also undo. And when the public interest so demands, it becomes the duty of the state to act in conformity therewith. The common interest of all of the useful persons in the nation demands that this profit-hungry pack of owners be squelched, and their control over industry and the lives of the wealth producers be broken. The successful prosecution and ending of the war demands it most emphatically. There is little now standing in the way of its speedy and satisfactory ending, outside of the deadly profit-hunger and impudent arrogance of capitalist pirates and profit lords. They who do the necessary work of the world must have enough to enable them to live upon, else they cannot do the work. No man or set of men can be allowed the power to draw from that sustenance without contributing in equal measure to it, without endangering the entire structure and safety of human society. That power is now held and exercised by the capitalists and other rulers of the earth, to the undoing and confusion of all the rest of us. This power should be, and must be stripped from them, and as good a place to begin as any will be found in the coal region already mentioned. The inefficiency of capitalism is becoming altogether too glaring. It courts death.

THE RUSSIAN SITUATION.

THE ULTRA-OPTIMISTIC ones, who looked upon the dethronement of the Czar and the relegation of bureaucracy to the limbo of unclean and lost things, as the full realization of liberty to the Russian people and the dawn of an era during which the sunshine of contentment and peace would perpetually shine, are just about now feeling less hopeful about the matter. The sudden overturning of a long-established autocratic regime, even in times of peace, and the subsequent adjustment of affairs to fit the new order, would of necessity entail more or less confusion, and call for high-grade statesmanship if chaos and reaction were not to follow. That such a transformation should occur in the domain of one of the chief belligerents in the midst of war, would of necessity, intensify the situation and render the outcome more uncertain and problemetical. In the Russian case it should not be forgotten that nearly 200,000,000 people are involved, the vast majority of whom are unlettered peasants who have had little if any participation in politieal life and must, therefore, be ill equipped for any such sudden and sweeping change as has occurred. This undoubtedly makes the problem much more difficult and may well stagger the best brains of the country in dealing with it.

* * *

It is a far cry fro ma bureautocratic regime to a commonwealth based upon the right of the wealth producer to the full fruits of his toil. Especially is that true in the case of an absolutism under which the material basis of democracy and freedom had not yet been very far advanced. It appears that the development of capitalist property and production has but little better than just begun in Russia. The vast portion of such industry as exists is still of a primitive and backward type. Especially is this true of agricultural and kindred lines. Communities are scattered and imperfectly linked together by lines of communication and transportation. The factory system is in its infancy, except in comparatively few of the larger centers. The modern proletariat, therefore, has not yet become a sufficiently powerful factor in the state to insure that the new order shall be dominantly impressed with its aspirations and ideals. In fact the field has only been prepared for the acceptance of bourgeois seed. A capitalist regime must ensue before the ground can be properly prepared for the working class revolution. Out of the present and rapidly-increasing confusion, a capitalist constitutional state will probably in time come. That there will be setbacks and periods of reactionary ascendency is almost certain. But that the general trend will be always onward and upward is also sure. Either that or all theories regarding the growth and development of human society go for naught.

* * *

It is about as reasonable to expect that any given people can skip a period in social evolution, as to expect a seed once planted to immediately become the perfect blossom, without bothering to go through the intervening stages of growth and unfoldment. And yet there evidently are those in Russia and elsewhere who really expect that country to skip from the absolutism of Czardom to the beautitudes of the millenium, without the bitter experiences of the intermediate journey. The Russian situation is at present by no means assuring to Entente hopes and aspirations. The confusion and threatening chaos that is painfully in evidence presages the probable total elimination of Russia as a helpful factor in the further prosecution of the war. This will add to the already heavy burden of the Entente Allies. But it will have to be borne, and it might as well be cheerfully as otherwise. A world job is on, and whatever of democracy there is on earth now, and all that may be hoped for in the future, depends upon that job being properly finished. It is to be hoped that the Russian people will rise to the occasion, bring order out of the present confusion, and still further aid in the good work of clearing the European stage of medieval rubbish. May that long unhappy land be equal to the task of henceforth playing its part in the great historical process, without falling into theoretical pitfalls and ideological quicksands. This is scarcely to be expected, however, for presumably in Russia, as elsewhere, theoreticians and ideological experts are far more plentiful than men of sense and sound judgment. It would, indeed, be a strange country if such were not the case. The development of the Russian situation will be watched with absorbing interest. There is no telling what it may lead to.

THE WORKING CLASS AS PROPERTY.

THESE ARE THE days made sacred to the regime of property. Property rules the world. The owner of property has a standing in the life of nations, that is not possessed by he who has no property. The merit, the worth, the virtue, the importance of the individual in human society is determined solely by the magnitude of property under his ownership and control. If this be great, the owner becomes an outstanding figure in the community, even though devoid of all other talents. He may be ignorant, low, mean, coarse, vile, brutal and contemptible in every way imaginable, but his property absolves him from all sin and transforms him into a substantial citizen and foremost man of affairs. He may be a moral leper and a justifiable incitement to an intense and robust disgust to every decent and clean thinking person, but the very fact of his property washes his dirty soul as white as the driven snow to the befuddled vision of the ignorant and servile multitude, that is eternally affrighted at shadows, terrified to its undoing by ghosts and cheated of all the real pleasures of existence by means of the ridiculous flimflams and silly pretensions of the cunning rogues and beneficiaries of property.

* * *

Property spells power. The men of the greatest property are the men who wield the greatest power. The Morgans, Rockefellers and such so-called great men of affairs of today, are the ones who really wield the power that determines the policy of nations. The welfare of the great dominant property interests cannot for a moment be overlooked by governments and alleged statesmen. Even in the time of war, or other great national emergency, the protection of those property interests must be the first consideration. In case of war, though some of those interests may perchance suffer, it will be purely accidental or due to inefficiency or blundering upon the part of government, and not as a result of calculated design. No government yet engaged in the present war has deliberately interfered with or destroyed any vested rights in property, no matter how obstinately such property rights have stood in the way of a successful prosecution of the war. Every encroachment upon property and its prerogative of profit, that has been made necessary, has been carried out with the most scrupulous regard for the sanctity of property and with the most manifest inclination to avoid disturbing its foundations. That the most tender solicitude for the institution of property and its preservation has been continuously manifested by all of the governments involved in this war, is one of the most outstanding facts of our time.

* * *

What is property? Of what does its virtue consist? Why is he who has it a man of great consequence in human affairs, while he who hath it not is rated as a no-good, a bum, a worthless person, one to be shunned by respectable men? These are questions easily answered, if even a cursory examination of the matter be first made. Property, if it is to be a power in the hands of its possessor, must be endowed with the virtue of bringing something to that possessor that he could not otherwise obtain. It must bring to him something of value, something brought into existence outside of himself and the expenditure of his own energy. Property must, therefore, be a creator of value, and its ownership and control be a means whereby the owner can appropriate that value unto himself. Now it so happens that there is but one thing on earth that can create value (as measured in exchange, and that is the only intelligible way of expressing value in relation to property), and that is human labor. That animal, supposed to be human, the worker, is the sole creator of exchange or property value. All property value at any time existing, no matter how great its magnitude as expressed in the statistics of the time, is due solely to the presence and activities of the working class, the wealth producers of that time. Being the sole producers of value, as expressed in terms of wealth or property, it is easily to be seen that the working class constitutes all there is to that sacred and much-revered institution termed property. The workers of the world constitute the property of the world, or rather the property of the ruling class of the world. There isn't anything else to property. Just workers, that's all. There is nothing else on earth worth owning, for there is nothing else that can bring forth value for the owner, for nothing. The ownership of lands, factories, railways, etc., is in reality a clever piece of flimflam, a huge joke. Under the pretense of that ownership, our dearly beloved capitalist brethren get away with the ownership of the only actual property on earth, the working class. Stripped of all hypocrisy and pretense, the workers are slaves, owned body and souls by their precious capitalist and other ruling class overlords and masters. This entire pretended property institution of which we hear so much, and which we are so persistently taught to reverence, and even die to defend, is about the coarsest and clumsiest old joke that was ever perpetrated upon human gullibility. The joke is on us, the workers of the world. And among all living things we are the only workers in the bunch possessed of a gullibility that would make the perpetuation of such a clumsy joke possible. And that is no joke.

An ambassador has been defined as "an honest man who is sent abroad to lie for his country."

To those who have shall be given—those who have nothing shall be pinched for having it and "vagged" for having nothing else.

Agriculturists are urged to increase their acreage and grow larger crops. This will tend to increase the volume of business, by giving the food speculators and other equally deserving ones, more products to handle. By this means the "bit" they can do for their country will be perceptibly enlarged.

A free government with an uncontrolled power of military conscription is a solecism at once the most ridiculous and abominable that ever entered into the head of man.—Daniel Webster. This is especially recommended for the consideration of United States readers, and probable victims of that which Webster so emphatically condemned.

At the outbreak of the war, England and Wales had a population of 640 per square mile, while the German empire had but 318 per square mile. And yet it is often asserted that "Germany was forced to expand or burst." Or, as the kaiser expressed it, "get a place in the sun." It rather looks as though there is still room for much interesting speculation in regard to the reasons lying behind this war.

One hundred New York city policemen have been sent to a machine gun factory to be taught how to handle these delightful little contrivances, presumably against the Germans when they attack the city. If any one is so queer in the head as to fancy that they are to be used against the working people of the city in case of strike or other unseemly happening his head needs fixing.

It is stated that Bethmann-Hollweg, the official mouthpiece of German paranoa (that is what Irvin Cobb terms it), is about to voice another peace offer. He should not tire himself thusly. If he will but exercise due patience, the time will eventually come when he and his crazy autocratic bunch will be almighty glad to take anything they can get. In fact they are taking it now, although they do not seem to like it any too well.

For utterances in the state senate of Wisconsin that touched upon the raw spot of machine made patriotism, a socialist member was recently expelled from that august body. The raw spot is still raw, and all persons are hereby notified to refrain from making any reference to that sort of patriotism that is only aroused and fed by human butchery and the destruction of property, more especially the latter.

Just an indication of the way wages are going up may be found in the case of the St. Paul man who had to pay two men $6000 to kill his wife. Before the war, he could probably have got the job done for less than half the money. Even after hiring the men and paying them the money, they skipped out and left the job undone. This bears out the contention often made that even the best paid laborers will not work properly unless they are carefully watched by the boss.

The Milwaukee Leader editorially declares that the "German working class is united in demanding peace—and peace it will undoubtedly get before the summer is over." We would not go quite that far, however. If the German working class continues in its blind loyalty to Hohenzollern policy and Hindenburg practice, it will get peace all right enough, although its members may not all be pacified "before the summer is over." Let us hope for the best, at any rate.

Senator Cummins, of the United States senate declares that under cover of the war, the big industries are deliberately violating the anti-trust laws of the country. "They are sweeping into their coffers every day profits that are staggering," says Cummins. "Acting in hysteria, filled with concern over imaginary evils, the administration has proposed to congress measures, the like of which never found their way into any legislative body in the world." Cummins says that the proposed increase in freights would yield to the railways a gross revenue of about $400,000,000 in excess of present unparalleled revenues. That's good. Everything is coming on fine.

A Methodist preacher in North Carolina was recently given 60 days at hard labor for enticing Negro laborers to leave the state. It is all right and perfectly proper for a preacher to entice the souls of "niggers" to paradise and eternal glory after death, but any one can readily see that it is an unwarranted and impudent assumption of authority to induce them to shift masters for the purpose of bettering their earthly condition. "Let the shoemaker stick to his last," and the preacher refrain from meddling with the gross material interests of low-down niggers, either black, white, brown or yellow. It is unnecessary to specify working niggers, for there is no other kind.

Good old "Mother Partington" is still busy with her broom. A bill has been introduced in the house of representatives at Washington which provides "a fine of $10,000 or imprisonment for three years on any person or firm which attempts to create fictitious prices on goods, and in addition provides for confiscation of goods on which an attempt has been made to fix fictitious prices." And yet it is not "fictitious" prices that are working our undoing, but actual prices. But come to think of it, any one who would "attempt to fix fictitious prices" upon his goods ought to be pinched, fined, imprisoned and despoiled. If he is not satisfied with real prices as they exist from day to day during these lovely war times, he must be nutty. "Mother Partington" is a dear old soul. She is indeed.

"Present-day inequalities, that make one class rich without the necessity of work and another class poor despite their labors, are due to a lack of comprehension of the spiritual qualities of labor and the physical needs of real spirituality."

Gee whiz! And we were so stupid as to believe it was due to the fact that labor was enslaved and robbed. The above gem, however, dispels the fog that previously clouded our vision, and makes clear to us what was previously obscure and hidden. This gem of lucidity was dropped from the lips of one evidently well qualified to give expression to the essence of slavery and exploitation, in terms calculated to avoid giving shock to the sensitive spiritual souls of modern slave masters and high-binders of great wealth. Which, of course, is far better than to call a spade a spade.

That brilliant economist, George W. Perkins, of the United States senate, and the U. S. Steel corporation, suggests the extermination of thousands of dogs and cats,' 'as an economic measure, thereby saving the cost of their keep. Well, not exactly saving it either, but turning it to the purposes of the war. We beg to suggest that the extermination of "thousands" of profit-sucking leeches like unto the illustrious Perkins and his tribe, would effect a far greater economic saving than the elimination of many times the same number of cats and dogs. We do not mean the elimination of Perkins, et al., by killing them, but by setting them to raising spuds, onions and other delicacies. Just merely the elimination of them from their present mischevious pursuits. We would wish them no sadder fate.

"Let those who decry the attitude of President Samuel Gompers, of the American Federation of Labor, as well as a half dozen other heads of labor unions, in joining with representatives of the Manufacturers' association—a union of capitalists that for years have blacklisted, throttled and bullied the laboring man—and with other civic bodies in what is known as the 'Council of National Defence and Advisory commission,' remember that this is the first time in the history of the country that the government has even considered the labor unions in a conduct of war and government policy of such wide scope."—Ex.

Right you are brother, right you are. It is indeed the first time the United States government ever did anything of the sort. But take it from us that there is a very good reason for its action in the present case. This is the first time in its history that the government ever found it necessary to recognize the trade union movement in order to hamstring and emasculate it. Any one who has been born in that country and for more than a good half-century had the opportunity to become familiar not only with its history, but the history of its trade union movement, should not be led astray in regard to the significance of this recent governmental chummy treatment of labor. Why not even the ultra-autocratic German rulers could have fought the present war without first having established chummy relations with the organized labor movement of that country. No war can be fought by any of the great modern states without permission of the organized labor movement, except by hamstringing and emasculating it.

"It is surprising how much less objectionable an obnoxious thing may be when given a good name. Enforced military service based upon the press gangs was unspeakably bad. Indiscriminate drafting by lot was only a little better. Selective conscription has almost an appealing sound."—The Public.

The highly cultivated hypocrites of our time are past masters in the noble art of word juggling in order to gloss over their damnable trickery, so that their ulterior motives may not be too readily disclosed to the common mob. "Benevolent assimilation" was the happy term invented by the versatile McKinley to render the rape of the Philippines and their inhabitants less obnoxious to the citizens of the country in whose name he did it. To thoughtful men, however, these fine phrases hide nothing. A skunk by any other name would stink the same. "Selective conscription" is only another way of spelling autocratic military rule. Once a people is weak or stupid enough to allow it to be forced upon them, all liberty is as good as lost. Wherever it is foisted upon a people by their elected representatives, who have received no mandate to that effect by those who elected them, it is the duty of the electorate to oust these usurpers of authority at the first legitimate opportunity and replace them by representatives pledged to legally undo the wrong that has thus been illegally done them.

Seattle Typo. Scale.

The newspaper scale at Seattle, Wash., has been increased 25 cents a day. A seven-hour day or night still prevails, as for several years past, and the increase places the wage at $6 for night work and $5.50 for day work. The agreement also provides for local arbitration in settling disputes, recognizes the local priority law, and the right of the union to enforce a five-day law under certain conditions.

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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.—f 575.

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, 2356 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, 75 Seventeenth avenue west; secretary, A. Fraser, 1151 Howe street.

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF STEAM AND OPERATING ENGINEERS — Local No. 620. Meets every Sunday, 3 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 457 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, 4660 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 168R; financial secretary and business agent, Fred A. Hoover, 2409 Clark drive, office corner Prior and Main streets.

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

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

PROVINCIAL UNIONS

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

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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 278, Prince Rupert, B. C.

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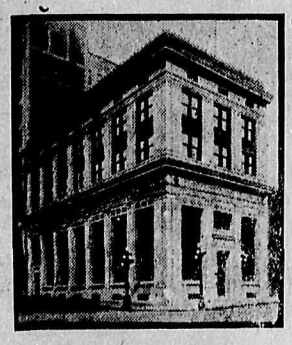

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SOLICITUDE OF COAL BARONS FOR THEIR EMPLOYEES

The Art of Protecting the Interest of Slaves of "Lamp and Pick"

Very Latest in Company "Lead Pipe Cinch" Agreements

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

THE VANCOUVER ISLAND strike is still fresh in the memories of the people of British Columbia. We all know that it ended in a temporary setback to the men who fought so valiantly for two years for the right to organize for the purpose of bettering their conditions, through recognition of their organization. But very few people know of the tyrannical methods used by the coal company officials after the strike was called off. Men were kept out of employment for the purpose of bringing them down to the level of starvation, to make them cringe and crawl and promise never to repeat again the spirit of unionism. We also know how Bowser was forced to deal out beans to these same workers to keep body and soul together. After having helped the operators to beat the men he was later forced to feed, to keep them from dying of starvation. We haven't forgotten the march of the kilties, nor the glistening of bayonets, the muzzle of machine guns, sent to the coal camps on the island by the then attorney-general, Mr. Bowser, to terrorize, intimidate and deprive the miners of the right to organize.

Collective Bargaining.

I am sorry to state that we have individuals amongst us who claim that there is nothing to be gained by collective bargaining, but the following will show any rational person that workers acting as individuals, even if they possess the intelligence that some are reputed to have, when left as individuals they are weak, and in a great number of cases they are down and out altogether.

But, anyway, this is the way things have gone in Cumberland, it having been proven time and again that the Coal Mines Regulation Act was being violated by the operators.

Asiatics Vote for "Competency."

A re-examination of Asiatics holding certificates of competency as miners, was brought about by the provincial authorities, but, by the methods used, it would lead a person to believe that it was for the sole purpose of hoodwinking the people, by having a referendum of all employees.

Now Asiatics are wage slaves, just the same as Germans or Johnny Bulls, and are also employees of the Canadian Collieries. These were given a vote on who should represent the employees on the Examining board, elected by the men, at a pit head ballot. The company, knowing that the Oriental vote would overwhelm the rest of the votes, had a man ready to be nominated as bearer of the Asiatic flag. (I want to say here that I have nothing against these men through race prejudice, but as sellers of that cheap commodity labor-power, and acting as strike-breakers, when the white man tries to better his conidtion, I am bitterly opposed to them, or any other man that acts as a traitor to his class).

The nominees for the position of examiner were Jack Horbury, Thomas Carney and Robert Henderson. The latter was at that time superintendent of No. 4 mine, and was nominated by another official, and through the Orientals having and using their franchise, he was elected by a large majority.

Now, it is plain that had the miners here been working collectively instead of individually, such a thing as this could not have happened.

Still there is worse to come. A few weeks ago the men, on going to work, were told they would have to elect a grievance committee and that the company also had an "agreement" for the men to sign.

One of the miners suggested that the employees hold a mass meeting and discuss the terms of the proposed agreement. One of the mine managers present settled this question by distinctly telling the person who had the temerity to propose such a thing, that there would be no mass meetings; that the company would not tolerate such a thing, and that they had to discuss, accept or reject the agreement in the presence of the officials; refusal to sign meant dismissal, so I am informed.

The election of this committee was the greatest farce ever. Bosses nominating chairmen; contractors nominating committee men, and a whole lot of other stuff too disgusting to waste time on.

That "Agreemnt."

Following is the "agreement" that this "committee" has signed and the company has forced upon the men, without them having the privilege of even reading it:

ARTICLES OF AGREEMENT between the Canadian Collieries and their underground employees, entered into by a pit-head ballot, 2nd day of March, 1917:

Employers and employees enter into mutual promises, agreements, terms and conditions, and hereinafter do mutually, covenant, promise and agree, with each other, as follows: To wit:

1. The company will, during the period of this agreement, give and maintain or continue to and for the employees, such employment as it may from time to time consider that it can conveniently so give, maintain and continue.

2. The employees shall and will accept such employment as and when offered by the company, upon and subject to the limitations, promises, agreements, terms and conditions hereinbefore and hereafter mentioned.

Article 2.

Sec. 1. This agreement shall begin, as of the first day of March, 1917, and shall continue until the first day of October, 1919.

2. The net basis rates, terms and conditions which are now in effect at Comox mines, Numbers 4, 5, 6 and 7, shall continue during the term of this agreement except as hereinafter provided.

3. During the term of this agreement the company will pay to its employees who are engaged in the classes of work named in schedules A and B attached hereto and made a part hereof, a bonus of 10 per cent. on all basis rates and wages named in schedules A and B hereof.

4. The company further agrees that during the term of this agreement it will pay to its employees who are engaged in the classes of work named in schedules A and B attached hereto and a part thereof, an additional bonus of 5 per cent. on the basis rates and wages named, such bonus, however, to be paid only to those employees who work at least 22 days in each calendar month unless prevented by sickness, as evidenced by a doctor's certificate, and unless prevented from working through orders given by the company or its proper officials; this bonus if earned, to be included in the pay check for the last half of each month.

5. Until the conclusion of the present war in Europe, or until the British government shall have declared a cessation of hostilities, the company will pay a war bonus of 5 per cent. on the basis rates named in schedules A and B thereof.

6. The system of dockage inspection as now practiced at Comox mines Numbers 4, 5, 6 and 7 shall be continued with penalties for refuse matter as provided in schedule A hereof, including dismissal for excess refuse after investigation.

7. In the event of dismissal for excess refuse, the party so dismissed may appeal to the company's district superintendent, whose decision shall be final.

8. The company agrees that when it takes a miner from the face and requests him to do any work, he shall receive the miners' day rate, but when the company has no work at the face, and a miner temporarily elects to perform day work then he shall be paid the regular day work wage pertaining to the class of such work in which he engages.

9. The company agrees that beginning with the month of April, 1917, it will pay the employees semi-monthly, and on the first Saturday after the first day of each month, will pay the first half of the preceding month, and on the first Saturday after the 15th day of each month, will pay the last half of the preceding month. Two days before each pay day the company will furnish a statement showing the earnings and deductions of each employee.

10. The employees will elect an agreement company at a duly called pit-head ballot of the underground employees at each mine, such committee to consist of two employees to represent each mine, and in the event of the company opening a new mine, then there shall be two members representing such mines. Any member ceasing to be an employee, ceases to be one of the committee.

Any vacancy on the agreement committee shall be filled within three days after such vacancy exists.

The company and committee shall meet on or about the first Saturday in each month at the company's office at such hour as may be agreed upon, between the management and the chairman of the committee.

Special meetings may be called any time by the company or the chairman of the committee.

14. Any employee having a grievance or dispute shall, before or after working hours, lay the same before the committee at that mine and the committee to lay it before the management, any dispute that may arise between the employees and mine officials, or any just complaints of the employees or any question which may arise as to the interpretation and operation of this agreement, or any modification thereof, and any suggestions tending to improve the working conditions of the employees, or benefit the operattons of the company.

15. It is expressly understood and agreed that pending the hearing and adjustment of any dispute or grievance during the term of this agreement, there shall be no stoppage of work, individually or collectively, by the employees, and the employees will not, during the term of this agreement, collectively abandon or give up work in any way or manner inconsistent with or contrary to the true intent and meaning of these presents; and further, that they will not individually abandon or give up work except for good and valid reasons solely pertaining to such individual and not in any way or manner inconsistent with or contrary to the true intent and meaning of these presents.

18. It is mutually agreed that the operation of any mine shall not be suspended in event of a fatal accident occurring in such mine nor during the day of the funeral of any employee, but any employee desiring to absent himself from work for the purpose of attending the funeral shall have the privilege of doing so upon his own time, unless he obtains consent of the proper officials of the company.

17. Any employee absenting himself without permission, for two or more consecutive days in any month, shall be liable to dismissal without notice. And any employee absenting himself more than four days in any month, shall be liable to suspension or dismissal.

18. The employees agree that, through the chairman and secretary of the agreement committee, they will, in the month of October, 1919, duly call a pithead meeting of the underground employees at Comox mines, represented by the agreement committee, and that at the said pithead meeting, each mine will nominate and elect two employees to be members of the agreement committee, and will authorize said committee to negotiate with the company for a ratification and continuation of the present agreement for a further period to be agreed upon, and if requisite for a modification thereof.

19. After this agreement shall have been signed by the proper officers of the company and by the agreement committee duly appointed and authorised to sign by the employees, it shall become binding on both parties, and thereupon all employees, who are working for the company shall immediately sign a book containing a copy of this agreement before entering the employ of the company.

20. The employees hereby covenant, promise and agree to faithfully obey, observe and carry out all the proper rules and regulations which the company has heretofore made and which are now in force or which the company may hereafter make or provide for the safety and protection of its employees and for the safe and efficient operation and protection of its mines, machinery, works, ways and all other matters and things in connection with the mines, or in any way incidental thereto, and further, that the employees shall and will faithfully and diligently make, do, perform and carry out their work in an orderly, skillful and efficient manner.

Schedule A.

Mining, Yardage and Timbering; Mining Rates; Pick Coal—For all seams now operating a base rate of 58 cents per ton, with a bonus of 10 per cent., making 64 cents, and the war bonus of 5 per cent. for 22 days or over, making a total of 70 cents per ton.

Machine Coal—Rates for cutting to be agreed upon by the company and agreement committee. If any new mines are opened up by the company in the Comox district, the rates shall be agreed upon between the company and this committee.

Dockage—The system of dockage inspection with penalties for refuse matter of each mine will be as follows: Numbers 4 and 7, up to and including 100 lbs. of refuse per car, double dockage. Over 200 lbs. dismissal after investigation. Nos. 5 and 6, up to and including 50 lbs. of refuse per car, double dockage. Over 50 lbs. and including 100 lbs., confiscation of car. Over 100 lbs. refuse, dismissal after investigation.

Yardage—The present system and rates prevailing in the mines shall continue during the period of this agreement, except that at the beginning of each month the management may fix a price to be paid under normal conditions in several working places.

Track Laying—The present system and rates prevailing in the mines shall continue during the period of this agreement.

Timbering—The present system and rates prevailing in the mines shall continue during the period of this agreement.

Lowest basis wage, $1.25; highest, $3.00.

Lowest ,with full percentage, $1.50; highest, $3.60.

The Alterations.

How any person, having read this agreement and who, still persists in being a non-union man, and a believer in individual trading of labor-power, is beyond my ken. If any person is still in doubt I would advise them to get agreements from the organized districts and compare them with the one herein mentioned.

I would also like those conscription howlers to just think a little and they will see why the voluntary system has been a failure. Does any man or woman think that men working under such damnable conditions will make good conscripts; well knowing that if they survive the terrors of war, they have nothing to look forward to, but such working conditions as these.

The only solution for this state of affairs is industrial unionism. As long as capitalism lasts we shall have struggle after struggle, and we will forever march onward and onward, until the workers are educated to that point where they will have the intelligence to keep the things they produce, for use, and eliminate forever that accursed thing—profit.

SLAVE PSYCHOLOGY AND CAPITALIST EDUCATION

The Political and Industrial Lordship Maintained Absolutely

World Ready for Education System Based on Facts of Science

[By W. W. Pannell]

Countless pages have been written concerning the shortcomings and needs of the urban and rural schools. New text books have been written according to precise pedagogic ideas; new seats devised along the lines of the latest ideas on sanitary and physical seating, and teachers educated in the science of pedagogy from every conceivable angle. And yet despite these many changes, some progressive, some retrogressive, that have taken place in the world's educational machinery, we still hear the same complaint: That both the urban and rural schools do not educate the future citizens to be open minded, scientific and progressive artisans and workers, says The Tailor.

On looking at the educational question from the standpoint of a student, we find the fault to lie, not with the individuals laboring so unselfishly to make the path of life easier for those just starting out on the long journey, but we do find that the so-called "faults" are merely conditions that are the logical outcome of the "system" of secular, religious and technical education now in vogue.

Ruling Class Ideas.

Our entire educational machinery, both urban and rural, is based upon the idea of class distinctions, of leader and led. The ideal generally preached and crammed into the minds of the coming citizens is that of those who have amassed wealth through the possession of some of the natural resources of life, thereby creating a dislike for manual labor and a corresponding mental condition of servility. Here it is taught that only those of a social and mental inferiority have to work for a living, that is, by manual labor, and that the most "prominent citizens" and "great men" are "leaders" or "drivers" of the "mob," meaning the common people. The mental condition produced by the instilling of these ideas in the minds of the school population produces what we call "slave psychology." The rural schools are permeated with the slave psychology in the same degree as the urban schools. There is difference only in manner, not in degree.

Producing Obedient Slaves.

By "slave psychology" we mean that stateof mind that is conducive to the production of an obedient slave. The boy that plays with guns, toy cannons, etc., and finds in them his great delight, will have instilled in his mind the military viewpoint—we call that "soldier psychology." The girl that plays with dolls generates the "maternal psychology," the boy with machines the "mechanical psychology," and so on down through a list as long as the activities of the human race.

To Obey Without Demur.

The "slave psychology" in the public schools, rural and urban, is based upon the severe, arbitrary educational codes, discipline and rules, according to which the boy or girl is trained as an obedient slave to the powers that be. Right or wrong, the schoolmaster or schoolmistress is held out to them as the personification of imperial power that must be obeyed without question or demur. This attitude of mind produces a person who, when he comes face to face with the actual work of the world, will obey the powers of political and industrial lordship without question, a slave whose only chains are false ideas, produced by an irrational system of education which placed "credits" and "diplomas" above the natural development of the child's mind.

"Leaders" and "Superior Brains."

A revolutionary working class movement can not be built upon intellectual foundation afforded by orthodox education. The effect of this education on the minds of the workers is easily seen in the labor unions, where at times an official clique, composed of middle class leaders, rules the rank and file with iron hands, bending even the ideas of the rank and file in conformity to the wisdom of "superior brains." Even in the socialist party, the only political party founded upon revolutionary economic ideas in America, are found the effects of capitalistic education. We have recently undergone the humiliation of seeing middle class members of the socialist party try to override the will of the majority, claiming the power as possessors of "superior brains" and as "leaders" to do things that the rank and file had forbidden in words not misunderstandable.

Science and Revolution.

The world awaits the organization of an educational system based on the established facts of science, in which the pupil will be a seeker after truth and not a digester of stale rules. No great libertarian movement of recent years has attained even momentary success without the establishment of schools, study classes, in which the "slave psychology" of the so-called public schools is unlearned and the libertarian idea of the scientist instituted in its place. The working class, having nothing to lose and all to gain, can attain its ideal—the social and industrial emancipation of the workers from the curse of poverty, profits and failure—only by substituting for the "slave psychology" of orthodox education the facts of revolution and science.

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LETTERS TO THE FED.

Lord's Day Alliance.

Editor B. C. Federationist: Your correspondent, Mr. Huestis, alleges that there is considerable ignorance abroad as to the aims of the Lord's Day Alliance; and then proceeds to make a statement which I believe is calculated to increase that ignorance.

He says: "It is not the use of Sunday for pleasure and recreation that the Alliance opposes, but the business of amusement, the exploiting of some people for gain in order that other people may have amusement" (on Sunday, I presume, Mr. Huestis.)

In other words, the Alliance is not opposed to baseball, golf, concerts, theatrical performances, picture shows and other forms of innocent amusement on the Sabbath, provided that there is no element of exploitation connected therewith. Now, if this be so, I publicly make the most object apology for the crass ignorance which has led me from observation of the speeches and methods of these people to form an adverse opinion of their organization. It is not Sunday amusement that they are against; it is exploitation for gain.

Henceforth I will refer the narrow-minded bigots who would prevent the boys going fishing on Sunday to the secretary of the Lord's Day Alliance. I will point out that the boys are not employed by any fishmonger nor do they intend to sell or barter or in any other way bring in the degrading customs of business into their exciting adventure. They just prefer to go and fish on Sunday than to go to Sunday school and hear about Peter going fishing.

Or when exception is taken to a Sunday dance, or merely to the extension of a Saturday dance to twenty-five minutes to one a.m. precisely of the clock, I will say, but there is no exploitation connected with it. The young people dance out of the fulness of their joy, just as David danced before the ark. And just so long as nobody is making any money out of the sandwiches and coffee, it is all o. k.

Now, all this is according to the statement of Mr. Huestis. If he really believes that, we admire him for it, but must say that he is a bigger man than his creeds.

Our experience is that it is the amusement and not the exploitation that all other Sabbatarians that we have met are opposed to. It is their desire to force people to keep the Sabbath holy in their particular way and not the fact that men are overworked by Sunday labor.

Who ever heard of the church or the Alliance giving its support to the endeavor of the workers to prevent that "cumulative fatigue" which is the result of long hours and speeding up.

What church raised its voice in support of the recent strike of the employes of the Canadian Explosives Co. against Sunday labor, among other things? The fact is, the church has become entirely the handmaiden of the state and the masses are left to work out their own salvation as best they can.

Mr. Huestis regrets that the present writer has not read history more diligently. It is because he has read history more diligently than anything else that he is not fooled by pulpit, press and politician regarding the present devils dance in Europe. It is because he has read diligently the history of the church that he has a wholesome contempt for its servility. In the reign of Diocletian, Christians were put to death for refusing military service. One Maximiliames upon being enrolled as a soldier said that he was a Christian and that therefore he could not fight. That was the attitude of the early Christians. It was in line with the teaching of Christ. But so completely has the church sold its birthright for a mess of pottage that today before a man can be a soldier he has to take oath upon a copy of the Gospel of Peace, which denies both the spirit of war and the taking of oaths. And the highest and most coveted honor which the state confers upon the soldier takes the form of a Cross. He that hath ears to hear, let him hear.

Europe is mad; stark, raving mad. And the pulpit has united with the press and the politician to intensify that madness until the nations cease from very exhaustion.

Mr. Huestis has touched on other matters which might call for some comment, but they are further from the subject. Let him, however, publish in The Federationist any statements from the literature of the Lord's Day Alliance in support of his contention that they are not opposed to Sunday amusements if carried on apart from exploitation and we feel sure that many people who are, like the present writer, opposed to his organization, will modify their opinions considerably.

GEO. F. STIRLING.

"Ye have taken away the key of knowledge."

Editor B. C. Federationist: At the centre of our challenged empire, there sits a reconstruction committee for the much-needed and too long delayed work of reviewing British methods in public affairs. The Westminster Reconstruction committee has no more vital problem to consider than the preservation of the English language and the removal of the barriers to the use and enjoyment of English caused by our slovenly and systemless English spelling.

All English-speaking universities have been guilty of neglecting the basis of all learning, the alphabet; those of the mother-country unfortunately most so. Perhaps the frank statement of one gentleman indicates a main cause of university inertia. He said, "If spelling were simplified, one would be unable to distinguish the educated from the uneducated," and added, "I don't want the English language made easy for foreigners; I would rather it were more difficult."

We "have the letters Cadmus gave," but they were not meant for the slaves of prejudice and lethargy, and our alphabet is half in ruins. We have twelve well-recognized vowel-sounds and only five vowel-letters to represent them; and the clumsy 2-letter notation we have resorted to, in a number of Anglo-Saxon words, has been used without method, making confusion worse confounded. Every kind of scholarship is endangered by this barrier at the gateway of knowledge. English pronounciation suffers greatly. In South Africa, our language is commonly becoming "baboo English"; the Dutch schools, having a rational spelling-system, are preferred to the English, and English is not thoroughly learnt even by teachers, one of whom reported that the children were "taughed drawing." In New Zealand and Australia, the careless Essex and Cockney dialect prevails. The words day and die are pronounced alike, paper and piper, height and hate. The tendency to put the diphthong "ai" into as many words as possible is not checked by any rational vowel notation, for this sound is variously denoted as "ay," "eye," and "I"; also by "i," "ie" and "ei," and shares these notations with other sounds.

Sir Isaac Pitman and Dr. A. J. Ellis did their best last century to rescue us from the nightmare of English spelling, but we have not awakened yet. Their phonotype alphabet is the best basis we have to work from, and as such is used by all students of phonetics—though often without acknowledgment. The phonotypes for the long vowels are the familiar letters slightly modified, the usual letters being retained for the much more frequently used short vowels, heard in the words pat, pet, pit, pot and put.

The great need of an alphabet for the 147 languages and 500 dialects of India affords an avenue of hope. We surely cannot long refuse the great duty of our empire to give Romanic letters for optional use in India, and by fulfilling this duty we may ourselves learn what a phonetic alphabet is, and that it is essential to the civilization of a true democracy.

Why are our University magnates content with our disgraceful alphabet? Their contentment, whatever its causes, could be shattered forever if every trained and conscientious teacher would clamor for alphabet restoration and the riddance of what other nations see is "incredibly antiquated spelling." We must have a true alphabet to teach. Where there is a will there is a way—with professors. I do not commend the way which the great revolutionists took with poor Lavosier, who was doing his duty, but it is easy to understand what selfish negligence brought out the saddest words ever spoke in a revolution: "We do not need learned men."

There are several earnest persons in our Province pressing the question of rationalizing English spelling. One of them, at Kelowna, has had the privilege of presenting the subject this Easter in a paper read at the meeting of the Ontario Educational Association of Toronto. The Ontario educationists are in the honorable position of leaders, and are alive to the evil of University negligence; but there are also brave pioneers of reformed spelling in Nova Scotia, and with these also we should join hands across the prairie. As Wordsworth said, "Two voices are there, one is from the sea, the other of the mountains; each a mighty voice."

George Withers truly wrote: "The thing that chiefly requires overhauling is our wretched orthographic system which, from the first entrance of a child in school, puzzles and bewilders its reason, outrages its commonsense, unduly taxes its memory, discourages its endeavor, wastes its most precious time, impedes its progress in other attainments, and virtually cheats it of all education in any degree worthy of the name."

D. F. KERR.

Kelowna, B. C., April 18, 1918.

WARNINGS.

Let him who hates dancing ne'er go to a ball,
Nor him to the ocean who dangers appal;
Nor him to a feast, who already has dined,
Nor him to a Court, who will speak out his mind.

King Hwuy of Leang said: "I wish quietly to receive your instructions. Is there any difference between killing a man with a stick and with a sword?" "There is not," was the answer.—"Sayings of Mencius" (B. C. 300).

A date has been set by the Mexican government for Americans owning mining property in that country to file reasons for failure to operate their mines. That is the most dastardly piece of impertinence on record. Why it is even an impertinence that was never yet attempted in any really civilized state like Britain or the U. S. A. It must have been instigated by the Germans. It will, no doubt, be dealt with in proper fashion when Uncle Sam gets his conscript army in the right kind of shape. It isn't at all likely that he will overlook any bets of value. At least we don't think he will.

The fly is the tie that binds the unhealthy to the healthy!

RETAIL CLERKS BOOST B. C. UNION-MADE GOODS

The following resolution has been adopted unanimously by the Retail Clerks' association:

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

AN EPITAPH.

Here are the Prude severe, and gay Coquette,
The sober Widow, and the young, green Virgin,
Cropped like a rose before 'tis fully blown,
Or half its worth disclosed. Strange medley here!
Here garrulous Old Age winds up his tale;
And Jovial Youth, of lightsome, vacant heart,
Whose every day was made of melody,
Hears not the voice of mirth: the shrill-tongued Shrew,
Meek as a turtle-dove, forgets her chiding.
Here are the Wise, the Generous, and the Brave;
The Just, the Good, the Worthless, the Profane;
The downright Clown, and perfectly Well-bred;
The Fool, the Churl, the Scoundrel, and the Mean.

—Blair.

THE LAWYERS.

Two lawyers, when a knotty case was o'er,
Shook hands and were as good friends as before.
"Zounds!" says the losing client, "how came you
To be such good friends, who were such foes just now?"
"Thou fool," says one, "we lawyers, though so keen,
Like shears, ne'er cut ourselves, but —what's between"

BUSINESS AGENT DIRECTORY

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

Boilermakers—J. H. Carmichael, care Hotel Regent, 140 Hastings street east.
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Electrical Workers—E. H. Morrison, Room 207. Sey. 3510.
Deep Sea Fishermen's Union—Russell Kearley, 437 Gore avenue. Office phone, Seymour 4704; residence, Highland 1344L.
Longshoremen's Association—J. Mahone, 10 Powell street; phone Sey. 6359.
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Bookbinders—W. H. Cowderoy, 1885 Thirty-fourth avenue east.
Boilermakers—A. Fraser, 1151 Howe street.
Boot and Shoe Workers—Tom Cory, 132 Templeton drive.
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Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers—L. T. Solloway, 1157 Harwood street. Seymour 1348R.
Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen—H. G. Savage, 1235 Hornby St.
Brotherhood of Railway Carmen—
Brotherhood of Maintenance-of-Way Employees—E. Corado, 236 Clark drive.
Building Trades Council—Victor R. Midgley, Room 210, Labor Temple.
Cigarmakers—R. Craig, care Van Loo Cigar Factory, Georgia street.
City Firemen's Union—Syd. Jackson, No. 2 Fire Hall, Seymour street.
Civic Employees—G. Harrison, 1423 Kitchener street.
Cooks, Waiters, Waitresses—Andy Graham, Room 304, Labor Temple.
Deep Sea Fishermen's Union—Russell Kearley, 437 Gore avenue.
Electrical Workers—E. H. Morrison, Room 207, Labor Temple.
Engineers—(Steam and Operating)—W. A. Alexander, Labor Temple.
Granite Cutters—Edward Hurry, Columbia Hotel.
Garment Workers—Mrs. Jardine, Labor Temple.
Hod Carriers and Building Laborers—Labor Temple
Lathers—J. Leighton, Holdon Building, Hastings street east.
Letter Carriers—Robt. Wight, 177—17th avenue west.
Longshoremen—F. Chapman, 10 Powell St.
Machinists—J. Brooks, Room 211, Labor Temple.
Milk Drivers—Stanley Tiller, 867 Twentieth avenue east.
Musicians—H. J. Brasfield, Room 305, Labor Temple.
Molders—G. F. Nichols, 121 Sixth avenue west.
Moving Picture Operators—A. A. Hansen, P. O. Box 845.
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Pattern Makers—Vancouver—E. Westmoreland, 1512 Yew street.
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Seamen's Union—W. S. Burns, P. O. Box 1365.
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Stonecutters—
Sheet Metal Workers—J. W. Alexander, 2120 Pender street east.
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United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America

HAMILTON DISTRICT COUNCIL

Hamilton, Ont. Jan 13 1917

To The Manager
Grand Opera House

Dear Sir

The attention of this union has been called to the fact, that you are going to show the motion-film "Intolerance."

I have been instructed to inform you that this film has our sincerest endorsation, and we would urge every wage-earner, union or non-union, to see this production.

Yours sincerely
A J Dickson
Secretary

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B.C. Federationist

B. PARM. PETTIPIECE, Manager.

Labor Temple, Vancouver, B. C.

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The field covered by the edition will be British Columbia in general. Special attention will, however, be given to matters connected with the industrial field in Vancouver, Victoria, New Westminster, Prince Rupert and other great centres of population.

Applications for advertising space in this edition should be listed at an early date, in order to secure publication.

MARCONI WIRELESS OPERATORS WIN THEIR CASE

Unanimous Finding By Industrial Disputes Act Board

Official Report Sets Forth a Summary of Evidence Submitted

As will be noted from the report below, made by the members of the federal board, appointed by the department of labor, to inquire into the dispute between the company and the coastwise operators of the Marconi Wireless system, the employees have won a distinct victory. At least, as the report is a unanimous one, it is more than probable that both parties will agree to the findings of the board The official report reads:

In the matter of the "Industrial Disputes Investigation Act, 1907," and of a distpute between the Marconi Wireless Telegraph Company of Canada (employer), and certain of its employees, being operators on Pacific coast steamship service (employees).

To the Hon. T. W. Crothers, K. C.,
Minister of Labor.
Ottawa.

The board of conciliation and investigation in this matter, and consisting of Mr. Robert R. Maitland, chairman, appointed by the minister of labor on the joint recommendation of the other board members; Mr. Matthew J. Barr, the representative of the employer, and Mr. J. H. McVety, the representative of the employees, begs to report as follows:

The chairman received his appointment, together with the other documents constituting the board, on the 31st day of March, 1917. The two members were then notified by letter to attend a meeting of the board to be held on Monday, April 16th. This meeting was duly held, and each member having subscribed and taken the prescribed oath of office, the board proceeded to discuss the matters in dispute with a view to arranging for conciliation and ascertaining what the possibilities were in regard to a settlement between the partes.

In furtherance of an effort at conciliation, the board met again on the 17th day of April, in the presence of all parties to the dispute.

The representative for the employer before the board were Messrs. S. De Winter and C. C. White. The representatives of the employees were Messrs. J. F. Campbell, A. L. Henri and A. M. Baird.

An informal discussion took place, during which the matters in dispute were fully considered and every effort made to arrive at an amicable settlement. Unfortunately the board was unable to bring the parties to any agreement, their respective views being so divergent as to render the holding of an inquiry absolutely unavoidable.

Before proceeding to take evidence, each party to the reference was requested to state in writing whther they would abide by the findings of the board. Both parties declined to be bound, however, each expressing an inclination to await the board's award. The representatives were also instructed to furnish proper credentials from their respective principals.

The board met for the purpose of taking evidence at the court house, Vancouver, B. C., on the 18th, 23rd and 24th days of April, 1917. An adjournment was then taken to the city of Victoria, where meetings were held in the court house on the 26th and 27th days of April. The board resumed its sittings at the court house, Vancouver, on the 30th day of April, continuing on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd days of May, when the taking of evidence was concluded. Further sessions were held on the 9th and 11th days of May, when the board met to formulate its report.

The employees directly affected number twenty-three, all of whom are operators en vessels out of Canadian Pacific ports, and the majority of whom are employed upon Canadian Pacific Railway steamships engaged in the coastal service. The salaries being paid at the present time tare as follews:

Seven operators are receiving $30 per month
Eight operators are receiving $35 per month
Six operators are receiving $40 per month
One operator is receiving $55 per month
One operator is receiving $60 per month

The majority of the operators receiving $40 per month, and both those whose salaries are $55 and $60 respectively, are employed on the Trans-Pacific service, where the employer has maintained a minimum salary of $40 per month.

The evidence throughout was taken on oath. Eleven witnesses were examined, and a mass of documentary evidence was produced for the consideration of the board.

The complaints of the employees were as follows:

(1) Insufficient salary;
(2) Lack of proper accommodation on cosastwise vessels;
(3) Discontinuance of annual vacation;
(4) Discontinuance of uniform allowance;
(5) Unfair discrimination on the part of the employer's Pacific coast manager.

From the evidence adduced it appears that the minimum salary, formerly $40 per month, was in 1913 reduced to $30, which amount the board considers to be wholly inadequate. Apparently no definite graduated scale of annual increases has been recognized by the employer. This also was a source of considerable discussion, and in the opinion of the board, should be remedied.

With one possible exception the employees' claims were fairly substantiated by the evidence. On the point of undue discrimination, however, the evidence was somewhat conflicting, and the board would prefer to refrain from expressing an opinion as to the merits of the charge. There is no doubt that considerable friction has developed from time to time between certain of the employees and the local representative of the employer. This may or may not have arisen from dissatisfaction with general conditions obtaining in the service.

The companys' general manager, Mr. J. H. Lauer, of Montreal, apepared before the board during the latter portion of the hearing, and presented the employer's case at some considerable length. It was freely admitted that the employees were justly entitled to an increase in salary, and Mr. Lauer suggested a minimum wage of $40 per month, with annual increases up to $60 per month. This he said was the maximum offer the company could afford to make in view of its present financial position. In support of his argument, detailed statements and annual reports were produced and filed with the board, and the subject was exhaustively dealt with. After due consideration, the board is of the opinion that the companys' revenue is satisfactory and its margin of profit a very fair one, and it is therefore unable to agree with this contention.

The board does not deem it advisable to deal further with this aspect of the question, as it is felt that the financial position of the company should not be the controlling or deciding factor in arriving at what should be a fair wage scale as between the company and its employees.

On the other hand, there is no doubt that the claim advanced by the employees for a minimum wage of $60 per month, rising by annual increments to $80 per month, is clearly excessive. The evidence adduced disclosed that a young man of ordinary fair education could, with reasonable application and diligence, qualify as an operator by attending a course at day or night school for a period of from six to eight months. The tuition fee, including books and other incidentals, does not exceed $130. Upon qualifying the candidate becomes eligible for a position at the company's minimum wage, which includes board and lodging, both of which are furnished by the steamship companies at no expense to the employer. For a young man commencing his career, as is the status of the majority of the operators upon graduation, this represents the equivalent of a very fair salary, and compares favorably with the remuneration paid beginners in other vocations.

After careful consideration of the evidence and arguments of both sides, and the exhibits filed by them, the board is pleased to be able to present a unanimous report covering the various points at issue.

The board recommends as follows:

(1) That operators be paid the following scale of wages, the same to come into force and be effective as of the 1st day of May, 1917:

(a) Minimum wage, $45 per month.
(b) After one year's service, $50 per month.
(c) After two years' service, $55 per month.
(d) Afte rthree years' service, $60 per month.

The said scale to be retroactive in so far as length of service of the present employees is concerned.

(2) That the employer forthwith investigate accommodation furnished its employees on boats of the various steamship companies with which it is under contract, and see that the terms of its contracts are being strictly adhered to. Also that complaints of poor accommodation, made by employees to the employer's local office, receive prompt attention. If this is done it is felt that there will not be recurrence of conditions which, in the opinion of the board, give ground for a good deal of dissatisfaction.

(3) That after one year's service each employee be granted two weeks' vacation in each year, with full salary, or, in lieu of vacation, two weeks extra salary.

(4) That each employee be granted an allowance for uniform of $30 annually, payable $15 every six months.

(5) That there be no discrimination shown on the part of the employer against union an dnon-union employees. Also that an employee wishing to register a complaint with the employer be entitled to be represented by whomsoever he may choose to appoint.

The board was materially aided in arriving at its decision by the evidence submitted at its session held at the city of Victoria, and desires to express its appreciation of the valuable assistance rendered by Mr. Edward J. Haughton, district superintendent of the Dominion Radio service, and Mr. William Dee, district superintendent of government telegraphs of that city.

All of whihc is respectfully submitted.

Dated at Vancouver, B. C., this 14th day of May, A. D. 1917.

(Signed) R. R. MAITLAND,
Chairman.
JAS. H. McVETY,
For the employees.
MATT. J. BARR,
For the employer.

ANTI-PATRIOTIC FUND

The so-called Patriotic fund would be much better named were it called the anti-patriotic fund. It certainly has not stimulated a greater love for the institutions of our country in the heart of these mothers and soldiers' wives who have had to deal with it.

Before the soldiers' wife can draw an allowance she must subject herself to a sort of inquisition. A lady appointed for this purpose, on a much higher salary than any soldiers' wife has, calls and takes stock of the applicant's possessions. Hints are usually given that soldiers' wives should not buy a new spring hat, or go to the theatre, or have a piano, or play golf. These privileges are for those who stay at home, and ease their consciences by donating a miserable pittance to the fund. One of these "safety first" patriots has been threatening to hold back his donation from the fund as a means of collecting a debt from a deceased soldiers' wife.

What are we going to do? The great majority of the people of Canada deplore this state of affairs. The tag-day system of attending to our disabled heroes is a disgrace. When are we going to make a move to have this altered?

The wives of munition manufacturers do not have to stand at a street corner selling tags for her husband who is neither blind nor disabled. Why not change this around for a year or so? Let the government attend to the wounded soldiers' dependents without any of this miserable charity business, and sell tags to pay for munitions.

There is no better proof of patriotism than is shown by the manner in which we treat the people of a country. By refusing to conscript wealth, and by guaranteeing munition manufacturers their high profits while our men are left to charity is a clear indication that money and business is of greater value than men in the eyes of our government.—Calgary Nutcracker.

Wan iv the strangest things about life is that th' poor, who need th' money th' most, ar-re th' very wans that niver have it.—Mr. Dooley.

The Petrograd correspondent of the Giornale d'Italia (Rome) says that the old Russian flag has been abolished, and that all regiments have adopted the red flag.

Monopoly speculation in food supplies not only brings unsatisfied hunger to families and to individuals, but it also brings disturbance to the whole country in ways not yet generally considered.—Superior Telegram.

"Every human being should nourish with wholesome food and stimulant his mental organism. Unless he does this he suffers agony and shame until the grave opens to add another to the countless number of silent witnesses that life is a wretched failure."

There is but one way of safety, honesty and reason. We have conscripted men to fight, if need be to die; we now must conscript wealth. And we must begin by conscripting the surplus wealth of the rich and the well-to-do. Having passed the president's army bill, the most important question now before congress is this question of fixing the policy of financing the war.—Madison State Journal.

In an appeal at the Montgomery, England, appeal tribunal recently, the military authorities appealed against a farm worker's exemption, and the employer was asked if he would accept a substitute. "Yes, if I can get him on the same terms," said the non-committal employer. "What are you paying now?" asked the chairman. "A suit of clothes once in three years and food," was the reply, which staggered the tribunal.—"Daily Dispatch," 17.1.17.

The very presence of a fly is a signal and notification that a housekeeper is uncleanly and inefficient.

Boys and Youths School Boots

ASK YOUR DEALER FOR "SKOOKUM, No. L1016"

for boys—sizes 1 to 5½; or "L1116" for Youths—sizes 10 to 13½.

Made of smooth kangaroo, foxed blucher, cotton lined, single sole and slip; a nice medium weight school shoe with good style.

The important thing to remember is to ask for this school boot by its name and number—"SKOOKUM L1016" for boys, and "L1116" for Youths.

THE COMMON PEOPLE SHOULD CONTROL INDUSTRY

A Labor Daily Should be Put Into the Hands of Every Toiler

Need of Political Action of By and for the Wealth Producers

FROM AN ABLE article in the B. of L. F. and E. Magazine, written by P. W. Dudley, the following is gleaned. It has the right ring. In speaking of the statistics and reports furnished by the United States Bureau of Foreign and Domestic commerce, Mr. Dudley says: t

"But can you find in your big daily subsidized newspapers such figures as were compiled recently by this bureau showing that during November, 1916, there was shipped abroad 2,221,033 bushels of corn, 6,274,828 bushels of oats, 14,258,038 bushels of wheat, 1,035,131 barrels of flour, 4,099,847 lbs. of canned beef, 14,480,997 lbs. of pickled beef, 5,866,577 lbs. of fresh beef. Do you wonder at the high cost of living when a few capitalists can hoard the food supply of the nation into private-owned warehouses and contract to export same at war prices, not leaving available for distribution even the normal quantities consumed yearly by our helpless masses? A paper containing such figures should be of interest to all.

"Does your Wall street controlled press tell you the truth regarding the unprecedented increase in the price of coal? Have the miners been given an increase in wages? Do the teamsters' conditions improve? Has the Interstate Commerce commission authorized an increase in freight rates? Wouldn't you like to know the truth the whole truth and nothing but the truth about such matters? If so get your shoulders to the wheel and let us put a big Labor daily into the home of every member of organized labor whether he wants it or not. Every organization has its official publication and a daily paper could be put into every home on the same plan at an insignificant cost to each.

"A brother from 678 in the January 1 Magazine had an article entitled: 'A Remedy for the High Cost of Living,' in which he says, 'let the government have control of the prices of life's necessities.' That would be all right if the common people controlled the government, but so long as we elect to office men who are tools of the monopolies that rob us, what do we gain? First, we must 'stand together,' elect to office men from our ranks who have the welfare of the people at heart, put into operation the initiative, the referendum and the recall so we can secure needed legislation in the face of congressional opposition, repeal laws that work to the detriment of the masses, and take from office any public official who fails to do his sworn duty, then we will be in position to take action on the high cost of living. But, first, we must 'stand together' and banish all discord from our ranks, and with this accomplished the day of our emancipation is nigh."

IN "DEAR OLD ENGLAND."

Observations Made By One Who Has Never Been There Before.

Through private advices comes the information that Leo. T. English, a member of Typo. union No. 226, who recently enlisted for overseas service, is in the Kent and Canterbury hospital, Canterbury, England, undergoing treatment for some eye trouble. At the time of writing he was expecting to be returned to active service at any moment. In speaking of Canterbury, he says:

* * * This is a quaint old burg and no mistake. The chief occupation of its inhabitants seems to be the preservation of old ideas, old buildings, old smells, etc. Frost and weather crumbles their old buildings so that they are continually patched and 'restored,' so that, as a matter of fact, they are not even ancient. But there is no doubt about their ancient ideas—these are truly genuine. At the rear of the hospital is the ruins of the ancient abbey, and the foundation of a church, said to be the first Christian church built by St. Augustine in 590 A. D. Also a wall built of tiles or brick during the Roman occupation. Over here it is quite easy to think of ancient Rome as of a comparatively recent event in history. But the "roast beef of old England" is made conspicuous by its complete absence. * * * Among the people here there seems to be a settled determination to see the war through. Whether this arises more from the confirmed habit of doing what they are told, or from conviction, I am somewhat in doubt. The petty shopkeepers literally groan aloud over the taxation and restrictions imposed upon them. The people seem pleased that the United States has joined in, but food is going to be the chief problem now. * * * The railways here are of the toy variety, but make fairly fast time. These hospitals are some works. I nearly upset the whole system by requesting that my clothes be sent to the laundry. I was assured that such a request had never been made before. No such precedent having been established in English history, it could not be done. They would not laundry them at the hospital, so I had to put them on again dirty. This seemed to be perfectly all right and strictly in accord with long-established custom. But when it comes down to other and more important matters, they have rules and regulations till you cant' rest."

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Headquarters for Labor men. Rates 75c and $1.00 per day.
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Cafe at Reasonable Rates.

June Sale of Women's and Misses' Sport Coats at $7.95

One of the smartest Coats shown this season—easy fitting slip-on coats for cool evenings—light in weight and very effective in style—made up in plaids and checks—velours and blanket cloths—in white with grey check, white with Copenhagen check and white with black check—finished with large convertible collars and patch pockets—some belted—others with plain sacque back. Regular value $10.00. Special $7.95

The Hudson's Bay Company.

Granville and Georgia Streets

United Mine Workers in Session.

Officers of the United Mine Workers of America and those of the state organizations in Washington, Wyoming and Montana, began a conference in Indianapolis last Monday, to outline a scale of wage increases, based on the recent advance given to the miners in the central competitive field.

Marguerite Clark at The Broadway.

It is frequently contended that the motion picture screen fails in its efforts to adapt stage successes as it loses many of the effective points of the stage play. In the case of "Snow White," an adaptation of which has been made by the Famous Players Film company, with Marguerite Clark in the stellar role, the producers believe that they have refuted this contention. "Snow White" will be remembered as the heroine of the beloved fairy tale, by the brothers Grimm. Those who are blessed with good memories will recall that there is much magic wrought in the picture by the witch Hex. Whereas the theatre is restricted in its ability to reproduce these magic spells and incantations, it is very easy for the motion picture producer to depict anything that he wishes through the medium of trick photography. Therefore, Miss Clark, who scored a tremendous success in the stage version of "Snow White" at the Little theatre a few seasons ago, will have an opportunity of demonstrating to filmdom the superiority of the motion picture version over the stage play when this Paramount picture becomes the attraction at the Broadway theatre, Wednesday and Thursday next week. ***

Orpheum Theatre.

The greatest of all modern film spectacles, "Intolerance," is being shown at the Orpheum this week, and will be continued on through next week. The coming of "Intolerance" has been an event which has been looked forward to with the greatest interest in Vancouver. Not since the "Birth of a Nation," another masterpiece by the same creator, D. W. Griffiths, has there been anything to compare with "Intolerance," even in a mild way. The immense success which attained to the production and showing of "Intolerance" has never been equalled by any film, and the way that Vancouver is turning out to view this stupendous spectacle, gives evidence of the high-class in which it is regarded. Vancouver theatre-goers are supercritical, and their attendance is the best verdict. Accompanying "Intolerance" is a symphony orchestra and a choir of metropolitan singers, whose music synchronizes perfectly with the play as it spreads its way through four parallel stories throughout all the ages. The film is a bewildering one, and touches the high water mark of perfection in its own particular line. It is full of thrills, making an instant appeal to the imagination. Its brilliant tableaux are wonders of acting, grouping and accessories, and their picturesque quality touches a high mark in art. The siege of Babylon is wonderfully expressed. It is immense. There are moving towers, elephants, battering rams and something that savors of the first use of the "tank" in warfare, which was developed to such a high degree of efficiency by the British. It would be difficult to imagine anything more pretentious than "Intolerance," and it has enjoyed unprecedented popularity wherever it has been shown.

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Union Men

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

Men's Suits, $15, $18, $20, $25 and $30.

Old values at old prices, regardless of the condition of the wool market. Over 6000 Suits to select from in our Two Big Stores.

Many out-of-town union men will be in Vancouver next week. You are cordially invited to visit DICK'S STORE, where you can be outfitted from one of the largest and best-selected stocks in British Columbia.

Wm. Dick, Ltd.

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The man who makes this his Clothing Store takes no chances. He is safe every trip, and its "Safety First" these days. Men's Suits, made from choicest fabrics, by the best tailors of which this country can boast

PRICES $18 TO $35

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MONDAY AND TUESDAY MAY 21, and 22
Sessue Hayakawa
—IN—
"THE BOTTLE IMP"

WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY MAY 23 and 24
Marguerite Clark
—IN—
"SNOW WHITE"

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY MAY 25 and 26
Billie Burke
—IN—
"Gloria's Romance"

Blanche Sweet
—IN—
"THE EVIL EYE"

Special—$40 in prizes these two days. Just be present at 9 p.m.

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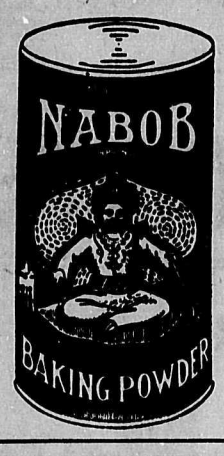

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Ten or more members of any trades union in Canada may have THE FEDERATIONIST mailed to their individual addresses at the rate of $1 per year.

FAME OF VANCOUVER SUGAR LORD SPREADS

Calgary Paper Takes Notice of His Arbitrary Acts Towards Labor

Comment to Bring Comfort to the Soul of a Petty Tyrant

If a contest were to be staged for the most universally-hated man in Western Canada, recent events have made it impossible. There could be no contest. Sugar King Rogers would win so easily that other contestants would lose their deposits. And his ill-fame is not confined to Vancouver, B. C. In The Nutcracker, a live weekly publication issued at Calgary, of last week, appears the following:

Corporations, Profits and Food.

The cry goes forth from all quarters for increased production. Solemn warnings of a world-wide food shortage are being issued by economic experts, yet it would appear that right in our midst is a large corporation manufacturing an important article of food, namely, sugar—which has the power to defy the authorities and close down its plant during one of the most critical periods in the history of this country. The B. C. Sugar Refinery Co. Ltd., located at Vancouver, is the west's only sugar refinery, and consequently carries on a large business with the provinces of Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia. Calgary wholesalers alone handle over one hundred thousands dollars' worth of this company's products per month.

The employees of this sugar company recently organized a union and made certain requests for better wages and more favorable conditions of labor—hence the strike.

The autocrat at the head of this corporation—B. T. Rogers, has ignored a letter from the strikers asking for a conference and recently told a press representative that he "would hold out until the crack of doom." Meanwhile the consuming public will have to pay a higher price for sugar from the east on account of higher freight rates, providing that an adequate supply is procurable, which is doubtful under present conditions.

This situation brings home to us again the fact that we are depending for our supply of food on individual manufacturers whose chief concern is to make large profits and who are prepared to cripple a basic industry of the country when their dividends are threatened.

The strikers have been endorsed by the Vancouver Trades and Labor council, and this body at a recent meeting, passed a resolution calling for an official investigation of the B. C. Sugar Refining Co. Ltd., and urging the government to take over and operate the plant under the War Measures Act. Dare the government do its duty in this matter, or are the interests involved too powerful?

CITY TO PAY UNION RATE OF WAGES ALL ROUND

Engineer's Recommendation Thrown in the Discard and Union Demands Acceded to.

The civic board of works decided on Wednesday afternoon, after considering the report of the recent federal Industrial Disputes Act board report, recommending a restoration of the $3 wage for civic employees, to accept the report, already agreed to by the members of the Civic Employees' union. After hearing officers of the central labor body, it was also decided to recommend the adoption, or rather retention, of the policy of paying civic mechanics the union rate of wages, despite the recommendations of the city engineer to the contrary. The increases over the engineer's suggestions decided upon by the board were as follows: Blacksmith shop foremen, engineer's suggestion, 53⅛c, changed to 56¼c; garage machinists, suggested 53⅛c, decided 56¼c; road-roller engineers, suggested 53⅛c, decided, 55 3-8c; sewer engineers, suggested, 53⅛c, decided, 55 5-8c; incinerator engineer, suggested, 53⅛c, decided, 55 5-8c; waterworks shop foreman, suggested, 56¼c, decided, 57½c; machinists, suggested, 53⅛c, decided, 56¼c; meter repairers, suggested, 53⅛c, decided, 56¼c.

AN "UNORGANIZED" STRIKE

Local C. P. R. Freight-handlers Still Out for More Money.

The C. P. R. freight-handlers, unorganized, who went on strike Tuesday demanding an increase of 5 cents per hour are still holding out, and no settlement is in sight yet. F. W. Peters, general superintendent of the western division of the C. P. R., stated that the men had asked for an increase of 20 per cent. a short time ago, but after investigating the wages paid freight-handlers here and also at Tacoma, Seattle and prairie towns, the company agreed to advance the scale about 12 per cent. But this did not satisfy the men; hence the lockout. Organized or otherwise, wage-workers must have more wages, and employers must meet such conditions, whether they like it or not.

"National Service!"

The Japanese Mail Steamship company, operating lines of steamers between the Orient and Seattle and England, made a profit of $10,000,000 in the six months ending April 30, it was announced at a meeting of the directors in Tokio, according to a cable received by a local Japanese newspaper.

Summer Underwear for Stout Women

We carry a complete stock of Underwear in the outsizes. The various qualities undernoted are of special merit:

Out-size Women's Fine Ribbed Cotton Vests, low necks, short or no sleeves, 40c.

Out-size Women's Fine grade "airywear" Cotton Vests, low neck, short or sleeveless, with fine shell stitch finish, 65c.

Out-size Women's Fine Ribbed Cotton Union Suits, low neck, short sleeves with tight or loose knee, $1.00.

Out-size Women's Envelope style Union Suit, in fine ribbed cotton, low neck, finished with shell stitch edge, $1.25.

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

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TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO
Trades and Labor Council.
May 20, 1892

Thos. Hallam, Shaftesbury Assembly, No. 5506, K. of L., seated as delegate. Victoria Trades and Labor council proposed the raising of $2000 to bend two men to Eastern Canada to expound the Chinese immigration question.

Decided to celebrate Labor day on August 11.

Delegates Franklin, Pollay and Bartley appointed to wait on President Wm. VanHorne of the C. P. R. re violations of trade rules by contractors doing work for the C. P. R. in this city.

President Bartley in the chair, and Geo. Gagen acted as secretary.

MOVING PICTURE MEN WILL TENDER BANQUET

Will Suitably Honor F. H. Richardson Tomorrow Evening.

The members of local 348, of the I. A. T. S. E. of M. P. M. O., with all branches of the miving picture industry in Vancouver represented, will tender a banquet tomorrow evening, at 11 o'clock at Hotel Vancouver, in honor of F. H. Richardson, editor of the projection department of the Moving Picture World, of New York city, who is at present on a lecture tour through Canada and the United States. Mr. Richardson is giving a very impressive lecture, in all phases of the moving picture industry, and has met with instant success wherever he has been.

J. N. Harvey

IS OFFERING

Some very special prices for the holiday trade in

Suits, Hats, Furnishings

Men's Suits, ranging from $15 to $27.50, have been grouped in four special lots at

$12.75 and $14.75
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MEN'S STIFF HATS
Regular up to $3. On sale at.....50c.

See evening papers on Friday for further prices.

TWO RELIABLE STORES FOR MEN

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

NO LETUP IN THE GROWTH OF MACHINISTS' LOCALS

From Every Quarter Comes Reports of Progress Through Organization.

At a meeting of Machinists' local No. 777, held on Tuesday last, twenty new members were enrolled, and applications were received from many more. Favorable reports were received from the schedule and shop committees, and both committees were instructed to go the limit to establish the shorter work day in all shops throughout the city. Messrs. Waseham, Bengough and Harper were appointed as delegates to the Metal Trades council. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 2, when the officers will be installed.

Lodge No. 182, which looks after the interests of the railroad machinists, has been advised that an increase of 5 cents per hour had been granted, to take effect immediately. While this increase does not bring the minimum rate up to the city minimum, it must be remembered that the railroad men have transportation and other privileges, which more than make up for the difference in the rate. This increase also applies to men on the E. & N. railway, Vancouver Island, and the shops on the waterfront, both in Vancouver and Victoria.

At New Westminster, the machinists are practically 100 per cent. organized, and, at a meeting held Wednesday evening, it was decided to make the same demands there, as have been made in Vancouver and Victoria. There was a proposal made and approved to endeavor to get representatives from all coast locals to meet in Vancouver at an early date to discuss plans for the future, and the advisability of forming a district lodge. Although only organized in January, this local has made splendid headway, and is in a flourishing condition.

The machinists on the Great Northern and Northern Pacific have established a minimum rate of 55 cents per hour, and other improved conditions. Those roads have always been behind the Canadian roads in both rates and conditions. The discussing of those conditions will help considerably in future negotiations on Canadian roads.

ENGINEERS TO RECEIVE STANDARD UNION RATE

North Vancouver Municipality Drops Into Line and Pay Union Wages.

Business Agent W. A. Alexander, of the Steam and Operating Engineers' union, has been advised by the city clerk of North Vancouver that, as a result of a recent conference with the members of the council, it has been decided to accede to the request of the engineers for a wage of 56¼ cents per hour, that being the standard union rate and an increase of 6¼ cents.

The nominees of Vancouver Trades and Labor council will be submitted to a vote at a meeting of the engineers to be held in the Labor Temple on Sunday next, May 20. The members are keenly interested in seeing that a Labor candidate is placed in the field at the forthcoming bye-election, and will do everything possible to secure the election of the candidate receiving the endorsation of the collective membership.

Five new members were added to the roll last Sunday, and more than that number will be obligated at next Sunday's meeting.

PAINTERS BECOMING ACTIVE

Fourth Vice-president Clarke Will Open Local Organization Campaign.

Joseph F. Clarke, fourth general vice-president of the Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators and Paperhangers, with headquarters at Tacoma, Wash., is in the city this week, with a view to joining in the general organization campaign now being waged in Greater Vancouver, especially among the building and shipbuilding trades. Quite a number of the old-time delinquents have already been reinstated, and the number of new applicants is increasing daily. The painters have, in common with other building trades, had their own troubles for the past few years, but conditions are rapidly making it possible for a "come-back," and the local officers are not slow in seizing the opportunity thus afforded. So long as the cost of foodstuffs keeps soaring, and the government continues to do absolutely nothing towards preventing the making of fabulous war profits, there is every reason why wage-workers must help themselves. Organization is the first step, and the Painters' union is alive to that fact.

SHIPBUILDING INDUSTRY

International Union Boilermakers, Iron Ship Builders and Helpers.

Conditions in Vancouver shipbuilding yards and contract shops are at present good, nearly all members of the organization being at work, and a class of 37 new members was added at the last regular meeting, with prospects for more as the new work being done proceeds, the local union having signed agreements with the following companies: North Shore Iron Works, B. C Marine Railway, Robertson & Godson, Vlucan Iron Works, John Patterson, and a verbal agreemnt with the British Pacific Construction & Engineering Co., which covers the various crafts employed in that yard. The local unions have been trying to negotiate an agreement with the Coughlin Shipyard, and the Vancouver Engineering Works, but without success so far, and the indications are that trouble will arise over this in the near future.

ANOTHER UNIONIST KILLED

Private Rosie of Street Railwaymen's Union, Killed in Action.

Word has just been received that Pte. Murdock Rosie, a member of Pioneer Division No. 101, Street Railway Employees, who was motorman for the B. C. E. R. Co. before enlisting in the 62nd Battalion in July, 1915, was killed at the front on April 10. His name did not appear in the B. C. casualty list, evidently because Mrs. Rosie now resides in Toronto, having moved there with her two children since the battalion left. Shortly after Mr. Rosie enlisted, the family suffered the bereavement of losing their 4-year-old son. There is now a girl of nine and a baby boy of two. Pte. Rosie leaves a mother in Scotland and several brothers and sisters here and in the old country. He was wounded in the left arm last October.

Civic Employees to Smoke.

With a view to getting the membership of the Civic Employees' union more closely together, and for the purpose of making the acquaintance of employees still outside the organization, the members are putting on a "grand smoker" tomorrow (Saturday) evening, in the Labor Temple.

"'Feed your head' is a rather coarse phrase, but it embodies the idea and expresses the thought."

STREET RAILWAYMEN WOULD LIKE WAR BONUS

Tri-city Committee of Divisions Met Company Yesterday.

The joint committee of the coast tri-city divisions, consisting of President Knoch and Executive Member Nunn of Victoria, President Wray of New Westminster and President Hubble, Business Agent Hoover, Secretary Lofting and Messrs. Hougham and Price of Vancouver, along with Business Agent Morrison of the Electrical Workers, met the management of the B. C. E. R. yesterday morning, for the purpose of discussing the changed conditions surrounding the present wage schedule, signed last September. The committee sought the consideration of the company management of what might be termed a war bonus, to meet the increased cost of foodstuffs. The company officials gave the employees' committee a cordial hearing, and promised to take the matter into consideration. Another conference has been arranged for on Monday morning next.

Allan Smith, conductor, was recently admitted to the Tranquille sanitarium at Kamloops. Advices from him say he is already improving in health, but his doctor thinks it will be necessary for him to remain there for at least six or eight months yet.

Alfred J. May, who suffered a slight concussion of the brain, as the result of a fall from a car about two weeks ago, although improving, is still confined to the General hospital.

Robert T. Wilson, who has been a patient in the General hospital for the past five weeks, expects to be released in a few days.

The claim of Joseph Tofelletto, one of our members, for compensation, as the result of a rupture caused by overlifting, on January 15, has been disallowed by the Workmen's Compensation board. As the division feels that the claimant comes properly under the act, Business Agent Hoover has been instructed to take up the case and spare no effort in seeing that the circumstances are thoroughly investigated and made known to the board.

VICTORIA SHIP JOINERS AND CARPENTERS SECURE A RAISE

General Organizer Watchman Succeeds in Negotiating An Agreement.

On Monday morning last eighteen ship-joiners employed in Yarrows, Ltd., Victoria, came out on strike owing to the failure of the company paying the maximum rate of 56¼ cents per hour, which was agreed to verbally some two months ago. After coming on strike they decided to insist on the rate established in Vancouver, namely, 62½ cents per hour, and after two days' strike, the latter rate was agreed to, and Mr. Watchman, representative of the carpenters, signed agreemnts with Messrs. Yarrow and Cameron Genou Co., establishing very much improved conditions. Vice-admiral Storrie has been notified and requested to enforce the schedule signed for the naval yard.

Kill flies and save lives!

Out-of-town readers of The Federationist can easily help to increase the usefulness of this paper by patronizing its advertisers, when they do any shopping. Every trades unionist should mention The Federationist to its advertisers when dealing with them. Costs little; helps a lot.

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Cartage of all descriptions by the hour, day or week.

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Charges Moderate

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GET YOUR MEALS
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QUICK SERVICE
MODERATE PRICES

GIVE US A TRIAL

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As far as possible, we buy union-made shoes, and we guarantee satisfaction.

We solicit your patronage.

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