

CONSCRIPTION OF MAN POWER ALONE

Human Values Not to Count Against the Sanctity of Material Wealth

Workers Should Not Be Mover or Swayed by Sophistry

[By James C. Watters.] (President Trades and Labor Congress of Canada.)

THE Conscription measure has been introduced to parliament and its provisions made public. As anticipated by organized labor, it provides for the conscription of man power alone. Without entering into detail, its outstanding feature is the recognition of the sacredness of material wealth and the sanctity of privileged interests on the one hand, with the cheapness of human life and the trivial value of human welfare on the other. It means the conscription of man power and the conservation of wealth. It means that human values are transcended by material wealth; that men must be sacrificed and the owners of wealth left to the undistributed enjoyment of their riches; that men will be under compulsory service for military purposes while the production and transportation of the material essentials necessary to the prosecution of the war will continue on a voluntary basis and profiteering remain the prompting motive. The Bill provides no loophole of escape for the man without means, but the door of escape is left open for the wealthy by the elaborate system of tribunals and appeals from one to the other which clauses 7 to 10 of the Bill establish. The man without money has no appeal; the man with money can run the whole gamut of the supreme court itself, and thereby delay it, even though he cannot entirely escape enforced enlistment.

The Premier's "Duty." Up till the time the prime minister left for London we had repeated assurances that conscription was not contemplated by the government. On the 27th of December last, while discussing with him the registration scheme of the National Service Bill, he stated, in connection with the adoption of conscription, in the hearing of Vice-presidents Simpson and Bigg, Secretary Draper and myself, that he would consider it his duty to consult organized labor before undertaking to act on a matter of such grave importance.

How the "Duty" Was Fulfilled. The first intimation I had was in the daily press and no official of our Congress was consulted. We were not consulted, but the Congress Executive sought an interview with the prime minister after his pronouncement on May 18th last, to learn his reasons for his changed attitude. There was not the shadow of a reason revealed at the interview to warrant a change from voluntary to compulsory service. On the contrary, the statements made by the prime minister, taken in conjunction with the information I gleaned while in Washington the week previous, all went to demonstrate that the need of the hour was not men at the front so much as food for the people in our Motherland, France and Italy; the means of transportation of the same by overcoming the submarine menace and the manufacturing of all war supplies and building of ships.

How to Consecrate. The greatest service that Canada can render the Allies, therefore, is to conscript (not borrow) the wealth of the nation, to take over and operate the mines, railroads, munition works and other establishments necessary to the prosecution of the war (including the banking system) to eliminate the last vestige of profiteering, thus giving the nation the benefit, instead of the profiteer, of the work done. The conscription of 50,000 to 100,000 men to send to the front where they are of comparatively minor importance, looks pathetically inadequate alongside of the tremendous service which could be rendered the empire by setting at naught the established order of things and consecrating the whole power of the nation to win the war.

A Warning. I consider it my duty to sound a note of warning to the organized workers not to permit themselves to be shackled with the chains of conscription. In the event of its being established, any effort on the part of the workers to ameliorate conditions can be frustrated by simply calling them to the colors and placing them under military discipline, when orders must be obeyed on pain of punishment meted out by court-martial. The experience of the railway workers in France should be an object lesson in that regard. The appeal to sentiment and the specious arguments advanced require careful analysis and it is imperative that the

'IF LAWS ARE TO BE CHANGED THEN PEOPLE MUST DO THE CHANGING' -Sir Wilfrid Laurier.



SIR WILFRID LAURIER.

"That the further consideration of this bill be deferred until the principle thereof has, by means of a referendum, been submitted to and approved by the electorate of Canada."

THE FOREGOING amendment was moved in the Commons at Ottawa on Monday, by Sir Wilfrid Laurier, seconded by Hon. Frank Oliver, Edmonton, to the second reading of the Military Service Bill, as moved by Sir Robert Borden. The impression had been created subsequent to the Liberal caucus in the morning that the opposition had not up to that time definitely agreed upon an amendment, but that one would be forthcoming at a later date. The secret was well kept, and it was not until the trend of Sir Wilfrid Laurier's remarks indicated the probability of an amendment being moved, that one was really expected. The opposition leader spoke for an hour and a half in criticism of the government's conscription proposal. He dealt with the question in all its aspects, maintaining that it was unwise to introduce conscription without consulting the people.

MRS. BERTHA MERRILL-BURNS

Death of Noteworthy Woman Who Contributed Much to Labor Movement.

With the demise of Mrs. Bertha Merrill-Burns, wife of Mr. Ernest Burns, 51 years of age, last Friday at Dewdney, one of the most outstanding woman writers and speakers in Canada has passed away. Mrs. Burns came to Vancouver in 1903, from Brantford, Ont., where she held a position on the Brantford Express for a few years previously, to accept a position on The Western Clarion, then published by R. P. Pettiford. She not only distinguished herself as a writer, but was an active personality in the socialist movement. Later, in 1903, she married Mr. Ernest Burns, who was also closely identified with the socialist movement of the province and even yet takes a keen interest in all that makes for progress, though he is now farming in the Dewdney district. Mrs. Burns, just prior to her death, expressed deep regret that she could not live to see the many changes which must take place as the direct outcome of the present world war. Dr. T. P. Hall conducted the funeral services, at the request of the deceased. Many were the old associates who paid her tribute on Tuesday, prior to cremation at Mountain View cemetery.

In addition to a charming personality Mrs. Burns possessed an extremely facile pen, and her contributions to the labor press were many and varied. Of late years, her literary activities have been very much curtailed by ill health. Mrs. Burns also took a very active part in the suffrage movement of this province in its inception and, happily, lived to see success crown the efforts of herself and her associates in this particular. The Federationist hopes, in the near future, to have an opportunity to reprint some of Mrs. Burns' contributions to the labor press of Canada.

Ever since the beginning of the war the organized labor movement has been ignored like a white chip. And this despite the fact that it has contributed more than 35,000 to the fighting line. About time for a change.

future welfare and cherished interests of the members of organized labor be safeguarded by our refusing to be moved by emotion, convinced by sophistry or impressed by unsupported statements; that clear-seeing, calm reasoning and sound judgment be brought to bear in the solution of the problem with which we are confronted. It is imperative also that organized labor should be untouched by the wave of hysteria which is passing over the country if the power to resist is not to be destroyed.

Labor's Warrant. If the government is sincere in its determination to "consecrate the power of the nation" to the cause of the Allies and democracy and not dictated to nor influenced by "Downing Street," or the dominating privileged interests in Canada nor simply actuated by miserable political considerations, the conscription of man power will follow and not precede that of wealth and the nationalization of every industry necessary for the prosecution of the war. Until the government gives proof that conscription is, in the words of the prime minister, "the only effective method to preserve the existence of the State and of the institutions and liberties which we enjoy," organized labor will ever warrant in seeking its defeat by both their economic and political power.

SIGNS AND OMENS THAT OMINOUSLY FLASH ALONG THE SOCIAL HORIZON

Centuries of Human Slavery Culminate in World-wide Butchery - Rulers in Fine Frenzy Would Stem the Tide by Reverting to the Unrestricted Tyranny of the Past-The Dread Spectre of a Working Class That Will Not Submit to Being Reshackled Will Not Down - Hints to Advocates of the "Press Gang"

A WORD TO THE WISE should be sufficient. In many cases, however, it is not. In such cases the school of experience must supply the deficiency. That noisy galaxy of politicians, mayors, officeholders, lawyers, doctors, preachers, boards of trade, chambers of commerce, old men, the lame, the halt, the blind, hysterical women and editorial women of the wrong sex, the most of whom are either exempt from military service because of their physical or mental frailties or expect to be able to dodge it because of their "pull," that are so vociferously demanding that the last crowning infamy of slavery shall again be fastened upon a people already too heavily yoked, might as well be given a tip. They should not, in their hysterical frenzy, allow themselves to be deluded with the idea that the organized workers of this province and Dominion consider them as anything other than a transparent joke. In spite of all the bombast and noisy piffle of these valiant conscriptionists the workers are alive to the fact that factories are not run; mines are not operated; ships are not built; railways and ships are not operated; even street cars are not run, by bombast and piffle. Knowing these facts the organized workers are not being carried off their feet over this question of the resurrection of the "press gang." If the unscrupulous politicians at Ottawa, under the encouragement afforded by the aforesaid noisily boasting element, see fit to arbitrarily repudiate democracy and usurp the authority to force Canadian people to accept the yoke of enforced military servitude that has already thrown the world into the greatest blood debauchery of history, it will be the plain duty not only of organized labor, but of all who believe in democracy and liberty, to express their disapproval of such attempt to reinstate the tyranny and despotism of the past, by all means within their power.

Some Impossibilities.

Industries cannot be run by patriotic noise. Something besides lawyers, politicians, penny-a-liners and other speechifying would-be celebrities, is required to load a ship or saw a log. Mines cannot yet be operated by woman labor, though that may be brought about in time, if all the schemes of capitalist patriots are brought to their full fruition. Shipbuilding would be a slow process if left to the activity of board of trade members, sky pilots, sugar lords and city mayors. Even the addition of real estate peddlers, commission men, bankers and other pawn-brokers, to the working force would not appreciably expedite the process. Not a wheel has turned in the street car service in this city for the past week, but the B. C. Electric Railway Company is still intact. Not a single official or stockholder has attempted to shirk a duty. The owners still own, and no one questions their right to do so. Still the cars refuse to run, or at least, are incapable of so doing. Mr. Kidd is still the superintendent, but even he cannot bid the men into working or the cars into running themselves. The coal mines of eastern British Columbia and Alberta have not turned out a pound of coal for many months, but still the atmosphere of both provinces is kept continually resonant with the concatenations of the patriotic noise-makers and war-boasters. If the energy of all these mouth laborers of capitalism could be turned into productive channels making high explosives for real Christian war use, the "Runs" would soon be blown off the map. But the mines give up no coal, no matter how great the noise.

A Conscription to Be Approved.

No workingman can reasonably be opposed to conscription, if it be intelligently turned in the right direction. For instance, what workingman could have any valid ground for objecting to the conscription of every lawyer, doctor, preacher, banker, broker, real estate peddler, insurance agent, debt collector, all city officials except the street sweepers, and all that gang of loafers that do nothing but eat, drink and wear, out of the profits that are wrung from the unpaid sweat of the slaves of modern industry. This gang includes the big owners and exploiters, the lesser ones and a fine aggregation of spawn and hangers-on all the way down to the common pimp. A large battalion, and no doubt, a valiant one, can easily be conscripted in this city from that class of idlers and otherwise worthless, spawn of the west end, whose sole mission in life appears to be that of wearing pants turned up in English fashion at the bottom, dinky coat of corset cut, and totting contumacious of superlative vacuity appropriately decorated with the cigarette rampant. Along the lines suggested it is impossible to imagine any workingman entertaining serious objection to conscription no matter how drastic.

Becoming Critical.

That the situation of the ruling class all over the world is becoming exceedingly critical is plain. It is up to the workers of all countries to see that it becomes more so. This glorious war of which we hear so much that is not true, is purely a ruling class war, and if it has already assumed such proportions that it has gone beyond the power of rulers to stop it, that is no fault of the workers. If, in the terrific struggle between the modern capitalist states of Europe and the semi-feudal autocracies that still survive in its midst, the entire capitalist regime is washed out in the deluge that it has conjured forth to sweep its constitutional enemy into oblivion, the way will be cleared for the working class of the world to once and forever rid itself of the chains of that slavery that has been the cornerstone of all ruling class civilization, the present capitalist civilization, as well as its predecessors. If capitalism is washed out in this ruling class bath of blood, it will, indeed, be a boon to the working class, and the war will not have been fought in vain. Who shall say that the hour will not strike during the great conflict that is now convulsing the earth, when the workers of all other countries will awaken and seize the opportunity to break their shackles, even as the workers of Russia have already done?

Lay on MacDuff.

And now, you impudent politicians who would usurp the authority to turn the wheels of progress back and reinstate the ancient tyranny and despotism from which our forefathers came to this continent to escape, go to it. But do not forget that we are beginning to realize that we can do nothing without the willing co-operation of the working class. You may hatch up wars and schemes and connive to continue them until they are started, but if the workers but refuse to carry on your industries, your machinations will go for naught. The street railway men of Vancouver have refused to operate the cars, and the cars no long-

STREET CAR STRIKE SETTLED IN RIGHT

Board of Trade Meddlers and Other Mediators all Thrown in Ditch

The Gun Put Squarely Up to the Company and Men Get All They Went After

THE workers of B. C. and elsewhere, who are just now considering what steps to take in order to retain the few rights that are still left them against the infamous onslaught now threatened upon them through conscription, may well draw a valuable lesson from the action of the street railway men in their strike against the B. C. Electric Railway Co. during the last week. The decision to strike was reached at a meeting of the men on Tuesday evening, June 12. From that time up to 2 p.m., June 21, not a wheel was turned upon the lines of the company. The men did not hang around the company's property or in any manner threaten to become a nuisance either to the company or anybody else. They merely went about their own affairs in a manner that was truly commendable. They were quite willing to let time and the general conditions of the labor market settle the matter at issue.

Busbodies As Usual.

Of course the board of trade, manufacturers' association, the mayor, provincial authorities, and all sorts of inter-meddlers, came to the front perfectly willing to sacrifice their time and talents to arrange matters at least to their own satisfaction. But it was no go. The whole meddlesome bunch was ditched by both the men and the company. When it became suspected that strikebreakers were to be introduced into the controversy, action was taken to call the attention of the company officials that such action would tend to cause the strikers to become peeved to a degree approaching downright dissatisfaction with and disapproval of such conduct.

'Teddy' Morrison Makes a Call.

The Electrical Workers' union has jurisdiction over the employees of the light and power department of the company's service. These workmen were not involved in the strike, there being

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LABOR TEMPLE MEETINGS DURING THE COMING WEEK

- Sunday, June 24—Typographical union. Monday, June 25—Electrical Workers; Boilermakers; Patternmakers; Amalgamated Engineers; U. B. Carpenters, No. 617; Streetcarwaymen's Exec. Tuesday, June 26—Barbers, Machinists, No. 777, Bro. Loc. Engineers. Wednesday, June 27—Press Feeders Com.; Streetcarwaymen, Metal Trades Council. Thursday, June 28—Steam Engineers, Painters, Machinists, No. 182, Shipwrights and Caulkers. Friday, June 29—Pile Drivers and Wooden Bridgebuilders, Shippard Laborers. Saturday, June 30—

MR. J. D. McIVIEW

Western Canada representative of the Department of Labor at Ottawa, with headquarters in Vancouver, whose name is freely mentioned in Labor circles as a likely choice for the position of Deputy Minister of Labor in British Columbia. An old-time member of the Typographical Union, with many of the qualifications for the responsibilities of the newly-created department.

WOMEN'S FORUM OF CENTRAL PARK MEETS

Calls Upon Government to Nationalize Country's Resources

Demands Provincial Aid to Working Girls in Shops and Factories

At the meeting of the Women's Forum, held Tuesday at Central Park, a very comprehensive resolution was passed asking that the government of Canada be called upon to nationalize all the Canadian resources to prosecute the war to a successful finish.

Mrs. J. H. MacGill, of Vancouver, addressed the women at some length on "Responsible Government," and charged that everyone who remained indifferent was a party to corrupt politics.

TYPOGRAPHICAL UNION TO MEET ON SUNDAY NEXT

'Chapel' News in Local Printorial Circles of Interest to the Membership.

The names of two members of Vancouver Typographical union appeared in the list of casualties during the past week. Sergt. W. Cruikshank, formerly of the Terminal City Press, and Pvt. F. Mattis, who previous to enlistment, was a two-thirder at the Western Specialty, both being reported wounded in the recent fighting. Sergt. Cruikshank has been awarded the D.C.M. for conspicuous bravery.

Pte. W. G. ('Bill') Laing, who left for overseas with the 158th battalion, and was later invalided home, is now in convalescent hospital at Balfour, B. C.

President W. S. Armstrong has been confined to his home this week as a result of having suffered a severe hemorrhage through the bursting of a blood-vessel in his head. Things are not quite the same around Labor Temple without the genial Typo. president, and his many friends join in hoping he may soon regain his usual good health.

Though sadly handicapped on account of the loss of his sight, Mr. S. Wiloughby is endeavoring to earn a livelihood by selling tea. Mr. Wiloughby still retains his membership in the union, and this is a case where members can assist a fellow-member who is pluckily supporting himself under such adverse circumstances. Secretary Neelys will gladly put any prospective customers in touch with Mr. Wiloughby.

Mr. O. Shoemaker, who, since leaving Vancouver about three years ago, has been working in and around Minneapolis, has returned to the jurisdiction of No. 226.

Roy F. ('Slats') Fleming, who enlisted with the Canadian Mounted Rifles, is now in Venice Street Auxiliary Hospital, Liverpool, suffering from gunshot wounds in the left leg. He received his wound in the Vimy Ridge scrap.

The regular monthly meeting will be held on Sunday next, June 24, at 2 p.m. Several important matters are on the agenda, and a good turnout of members is desired.

ARE READY TO CLOSE MINES IN EVENT OF CONSCRIPTION

Nanaimo Coal Miners Will Stand for Self Government in Canada.

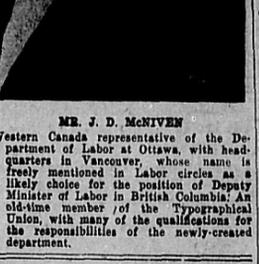
NANAIMO, June 19.—At a mass meeting here Tuesday at which there were fully 600 present, about a hundred formed an anti-conscription league. Speakers were very outspoken against the conscription proposals from Ottawa. The meeting was unanimous in its condemnation of the proposed conscription and it was the consensus of opinion that should the Conscription Bill pass, workmen of the district would lay down their tools. "And, as the daily press says, 'This would mean labor troubles of a considerable magnitude, the effects of which would be widely felt.'"

It doesn't take much of a guesser to name the interests which dominate the every action of the Borden government.

"DOWN TOOLS" VOTE LEFT TO UNIONS TO DECIDE

Reports Show Many Unions Have Voted For Anti-Conscription Strike

Strenuous Meeting of Central Labor Body Last Evening



LAST NIGHT'S meeting of Vancouver Trades and Labor Council was very interesting from start to finish. Considerable interest centred upon the question of endorsing the B. C. F. of L. circular asking for authority to call a general strike in case the Conscription Act was passed at Ottawa. The question was finally referred to the various unions for decision, inasmuch as they must do the striking if it becomes necessary. Various other subjects received attention, resulting in a rather prolonged meeting. Fifty-four delegates were present and of these a good many took part in the discussion of all questions.

Reports of Unions.

Del. Kavanagh, Longshoremen, reported that 83 per cent of their membership had voted in favor of "down tools" in case the conscription act was enacted into law.

Del. Hoover, Streetcarwaymen Employees, briefly reported the result of their strike settlement during the afternoon. Every member in Vancouver, New Westminster and Victoria had responded to the strike call and the tie-up was complete. He thanked the daily press representatives for the fair reports published during the strike and he appreciated the support rendered by the Electrical Workers and many others, all of which had made their success possible. The B. C. E. R. company had conceded their demands in entirety. It was the first real increase in wages received since 1910.

The Streetcarwaymen had also decided for "down tools" when asked by the B. C. Federation of Labor, in case an attempt is made to enforce conscription.

Del. Midgley, Civic Employees, made a report covering the city council repudiation of the arbitration board findings.

The union had voted for "down tools" in response to the B. C. Federation of Labor circular re conscription.

Del. Messacar, Structural Iron Workers, reported that no settlement had yet been secured on the new C. N. R. depot job. The union men are asking for 56 1/2 cents per hour.

President McVey reported that the Pacific Coast Wireless Operators had secured a substantial increase in wages through a conciliation board, and were now becoming members of the Commercial Telegraphers' union.

Del. Edmonds reported plenty of carpenters in town for work available and protested against advertisements appearing in Toronto papers for carpenters. The council will wire this information to the Industrial Bureau.

Sugar Refinery Strike Fund.

Financial Secretary Knowles reported the addition of \$65 to the strike fund of the B. C. Sugar Refinery workers.

Another Anti-Conscription Meeting.

Del. Kavanagh reported that another mass meeting would be held in the Empire theatre next Wednesday evening. The committee in charge will take precautionary measures for the protection of their street advertising.

The 'Sun' Investigation.

Del. Miss Gutteridge reported for the committee appointed by the council to investigate the alleged refusal of the Morning Sun to accept "Strike On" advertising. It was contended by the Sun management that there had been a misunderstanding through the "copy" being tendered to other than the proper members of the staff.

The chief of police had stated to the president that he could find no trace of any such secret anti-conscription meeting in the Labor Temple as the Sun had alleged to have taken place some days ago. The committee was relieved and the secretary instructed to write the Sun, demanding a retraction. The "ban" resolution was therefore laid over till next meeting.

Council and 'Down Tools.'

The B. C. of L. circular asking for authority to call a general strike in B. C. in case the Conscription Act was

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'COMPANY' TOWNS TO BE MADE ACCESSIBLE

Government Will Demand Quarter Interest in Such Holdings Says Patullo.

Hon. T. D. Patullo, minister of lands, addressed a public meeting on Friday at Prince Rupert, which was quite well attended. Mr. Patullo, who reviewed the work of the Borden government, announced that it was the decision of the government to require all closed towns in the north to grant a one-quarter interest in the townsite to the crown. Notice to comply with the necessary formalities had been served.

PRINCE RUPERT TRADE UNIONISTS IN EVIDENCE

Will Join With All British Columbia Workmen in the 'Down Tools' Policy.

PRINCE RUPERT, June 20.—The Trades and Labor Council passed a resolution, last night, that aid to the Allies can best be attained by the conscription of wealth and industry preceding that of manhood. The selective draft principle is opposed.

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"Unity of Labor: the Hope of the World"

FRIDAY June 22, 1917

WHEN THE BLIND lead the blind, they both fall into the ditch. Thus goes the old adage, and it is a good one. And what else could be expected? Could one be reasonably expected to successfully navigate the seas if absolutely devoid of all knowledge of navigation and without either chart or compass? It is indeed a matter of small wonder that the labor movement of the world makes no more rapid progress than it does, once we take into consideration the outstanding fact that it has no definite policy, no objective, no goal and even its leaders and spokesmen no conception or understanding beyond that which is implied and involved in the petty and inconsequential daily pettifogging squawk about wages and work. A horse might be unable to visualize any other condition of existence except that of being under harness and compelled to pull the plow. We say he might be, but we are by no means sure that our equine friend is so utterly devoid of intelligence as it would imply. It might even be possible that the intelligence of a mule would be incapable of rising above the level of a chronically whining contemplation of the meagre proportions of the oat and hay ration doled out to him by his master, but it is but fair to give him the benefit of the doubt by asserting that it is highly improbable.

After a long and more or less careful study of the characteristics and manifest propensities of both the horse and mule, we are forced to the conclusion that they are of too high a standard of intelligence to pin their faith to the gospel of work or to allow their spiritual aspirations to be "cribbed, caged and confined" within the narrow limits of a horizon bounded by hay, oats, a stable and a job.

The status of the workers in present or capitalist society is that of slaves. They are compelled to work for others and have nothing to say as to how hard they shall work or how much or how little they shall receive. It is true that, theoretically at least, they have the right to quit their employment if they so choose, but the fact remains that they are very soon compelled to return to it or suffer actual starvation. There is every indication at present to lead to the conclusion that even this proud privilege is to be taken from them, and when that has been done it will require a very keen discrimination to discover any difference between their condition of servitude and that of the chattel slave of other days. If this move to fasten conscription upon the people of all countries does not mean the wiping out of the last remaining privileges accorded to the slaves of this age, will some capitalist apostle of "democracy and liberty" please explain what it does mean? And the chief beauty of it is that the labor movement of more than half the world, as expressed through the medium of the so-called leaders thereof, is right in line with it and helping to push it through. It is either a case of the blind leading the blind or these alleged labor leaders are laying themselves liable for far more serious accusations. But in either case the wage

slaves of capitalism are headed for the ditch.

And what else can be expected of a movement that is based solely upon a question or matter of merchandising? The wage slave is merely a seller of labor power. To him a job means a customer for his wares. A steady job means a steady customer, and no job no sale. Unless he can sell he can not eat, for he has no other means of obtaining food, etc. As an unorganized worker he acts merely as a retailer of labor power. Organized with his fellows he becomes a member of a jobbing concern that does a wholesale business. This is termed "collective bargaining" and while it accomplishes nothing in the way of any permanent relief from the general conditions of slavery that engulf the workers, it does save them much individual bother and enables them to ward off many petty annoyances and discomforts that might otherwise be inflicted upon them. But like other attempts to beat the capitalist slave game by playing within the rules laid down by the game itself, it brings no relief to those who play it from the wrong side of the table. The conditions surrounding the wage slaves of capitalism grow progressively worse as the capitalist system becomes more highly developed. And this must always hold true in any social order that is based upon slavery. It was true of the chattel slave empires of ancient times; it was true of feudal serfdom and it is equally true in this capitalist age. In that fact alone lies the only hope that human society will ever rid itself of the curse of slavery. If the material condition of slaves could be rendered permanent, it is a foregone conclusion that they would hug their chains forever. A fat slave in revolt is an unimaginable proposition. A nice, sleek, fat and well-groomed horse manifests no rebellious antipathy to a harness. We sometimes wonder if the attitude of great "labor leaders" cannot be accounted for in the same way. A labor movement, however, that has no vision beyond that of renting jobs and haggling over the terms of tenancy, is not equipped for travel along the pathway leading to the freedom of labor from the agony and travail of the ages of slavery. It is a case of "the blind leading the blind" around that vicious circle that leads to nowhere, but sinks the workers ever deeper into the economic misery against which they so noisily but blindly protest.

The proposed Conscription Act is but an attempt of the employing interests of Downing street to harness the workers to their jobs.

It must not be merely "conscription of wealth." But rather, "the conscription of wealth must precede that of man-power. Therein lies the difference.

The federal government hasn't even backbone enough to nationalize the coal mines of the Crow's Nest Pass, let alone "conscrip" the wealth of the nation.

Never mind whining about what "business" men are doing in the name of patriotism. Wage-workers must organize and protect themselves. There is no other way.

After witnessing the antics of some of the soldiers' wives during recent weeks in Vancouver, it is easier to understand why some of the married men chose the firing line.

It is reported that even thousand unregistered men in Minneapolis and St. Paul will begin a fight against Prussianization by surrendering to federal officials in a body. If similar action was taken in all big centres of population, the schemes of Wilson and his martial junkies would soon go a glimmering.

"I am proposing government by the consent of the governed," said President Wilson in his famous address to the U. S. Senate on January 22, 1917. It would be indeed interesting to know just how his subsequent action in usurping the power to force military conscription upon the "governed" without even as much as "by your leave," can be reconciled with the above quoted utterance.

It is a pleasure to record that the International Mercantile Marine Co. has notified its shareholders that the big shipping combine made a clear profit last year of \$26,299,595. This is equivalent to \$51.23 per share. For the preceding year the profit was but \$26.27 per share. This shows how war pays and also accounts for the patriotic zeal of nice fat stockholders and other eminent capitalist personages.

The same government that has the gall to ask for the conscription of man-power without first preceding it by the conscription of wealth is sitting idly by while the big coal operators (railways) insist upon starving miners to death for refusing to work for nothing and board themselves. Some government!

If ever the electorate gets another opportunity of saying so, there will be a sudden change—at least in the personnel of the employers' executive committee at Ottawa.

It seems that 2,750,000 out of the total registration for military purposes in the U. S. indicated no reasons why they should be exempted from service. Even this paltry number has caused the Washington military beast to slaver at the jaws in zesty anticipation of the bloody feat that is to come as soon as the necessary preliminaries can be arranged. To say the least, Prussian "kultur" if off to an excellent start and gore and glory will gladden the heart of the military champions of "democracy" in due course. Mars is in the ascendant; glory be.

One death every three hours is the toll of the industries of Pennsylvania, according to Commissioner of Labor and Industry, Jackson, of that state. And Pennsylvania is not located in the European war zone either. The State has not yet been thoroughly Prussianized, but still the showing made must be acknowledged as a very creditable one. The casualty list may perhaps be somewhat increased later on when Mars gets busy making the "world safe for democracy."

The "wealthy must bear the burdens of the war" declares one of our most valued exchanges. This would indeed be very sad were it not for the comforting fact that inasmuch as the working class bears the "wealthy" upon its back, the "wealthy" can not get very much the worst of the deal. This talk about wealth and the "wealthy" bearing burdens may be classed as quaint humor of the most unconscious kind. That is the author of it is quite unconscious of what a delightfully humorous ass he is. That is what gives his humor such a delightful tang.

The new Russian government has decided to send all monks to the front to serve in the sanitary corps. Lay brothers will be drafted into the fighting line. We beg to call the attention of the Borden government to this eminent and wisely conceived plan of utilizing the talents of spiritual guardians in "national service." Several lusty battalions of garbage removal and fumigation engineers might be created in Canada by drafting out vociferously belligerent persons and hellacious spiritual guardians. We each and all owe the duty of "national service." The Federationist cheerfully contributes this tip.

President Wilson asserts that he has plunged his country into war so as to "make the world safe for democracy." And his valiant boosters and disciples cry, "hear, hear!" The "Prussian Kaiser's" boosters and disciples, actuated by envy no doubt, declare "this apostle of democracy is the most powerful autocrat in the world, far more so than the German Kaiser." They further dub him "the mouthpiece of the enemy alliance against democracy." It does beat all how readily these democrats recognize each other, and how openly they proclaim the purity of their motives and their mutual solicitude for the common democratic faith. It really does. There is no getting around the fact.

Some one asserts that "war can't be waged with chained workers." There never was a war yet fought with any other kind. In fact that is the only kind that is fit for the job, or that could be induced or compelled to take it on. All wars have been fought by slaves. The sole cause of all wars is to be found in the fact of slavery itself. The trouble with altogether too many of those who speak so glibly and with such dogmatic certitude on behalf of labor, is that they have not the slightest conception of the status of the workers under present civilization. If they understood the meaning of slavery and realized that the wealth producers of the entire capitalist world are as completely enslaved now as were the human chattels of the ancient empires, or the Negroes of the Southern states prior to the war of the rebellion, they would know far more how wealth is made and what wars are fought with and for, than is the case at present.

Samuel Landers, editor The Labor News, Hamilton, Ont. The Federationist hereby acknowledges the undoubted merit of your leading editorial in The Labor News of June 1, under caption, "The Working Class as Property." The exceedingly able manner in which you handled the subject meets with our hearty approval, and we hope that its perusal will bring a flood of light to the minds of your readers. In fact we are quite sure that such happy results will follow. May your editorial arm be, by divine providence, so strengthened that you may bring forth many more columns of such undoubted merit. But for the unfortunate fact that the matter in question appeared in The Federationist, under date of May 18, we humbly apologize. Through awkward and unfortunate oversight upon our part we failed to realize that you were going to produce the identical matter, line for line and word for word, on June 1, two weeks later. But for this stupid blunder you may rest assured The Labor News would have received proper credit for what it was so soon to do. We hope that this apology will be accepted in lieu of all possible indemnities, and we hasten to give assurance that we shall be most careful in avoiding similar mistakes in the future. (Editor Federationist.)

It is rather sickening to listen to this drive about the splendid "recognition given to labor in England, France and Russia," ad nauseum. An exchange gleefully remarks that such recognition "has reacted here (United States), and today Mr. Gompers' very enthusiastic acquiescence in the war, offensive as it was to thousands of his own followers, has given organized labor a distinct advantage." The only recognition that we know of that has been "given to labor" in the countries mentioned has been given for the purpose of tricking labor out of the few gained privileges that it had formerly gained through incessant struggle. Of course a few good billets were distributed among the faithful and usable leaders, but that is to be expected, for it would be unreasonable to suppose that the rank and file could be crucified without cost. The advantages gained in the U. S. are of the same kind. Everything that has been gained will be laid down and a few "great labor leaders" will be privileged to ensconce their shins 'neath the council table along with the politically elect custodians of usurped capitalist autocracy, while the rank and file will be crucified in approved and acceptable fashion. The Russian workers were "given" no recognition. They took theirs. That is why it is of an entirely different brand to that of the charity bestowals that have so gladdened the hearts of great labor leaders in other lands. It is of the brand that does not hitch its chariot to the star of a conscript military despotism.

"I have been very much alarmed at one or two things that have happened at the apparent inclination of the legislatures of one or two of our States to set aside even temporarily the laws which have safeguarded standards of labor and of life. I think nothing would be more deplorable than that. We are trying to fight in a cause which means the lifting of the standards of life, and we can fight in that cause best by voluntary co-operation. I do not doubt that any body of men representing labor in this country speaking for their fellows will be willing to make any sacrifice that is necessary in order to carry this contest to a successful issue, and in that confidence I feel that it would be inexcusable if we deprived men and women of such a spirit of any of the existing safeguards of law. Therefore I shall exercise my influence so far as it goes to see that that does not happen, and that the sacrifices we make shall be made voluntarily and not under the compulsion which mistakenly is interpreted to mean a lowering of the standards which we have sought through so many generations to bring to their present level."—Address to 150 representatives of Labor at the

White House, May 15, 1917.

As the above is from the lips of the man who is more responsible than all others for the abrogation of American democracy by the enactment of the "selective draft law," the introduction of the tip end of the wedge of Prussian militarism into the political and economic fabric of his country, the reader is at perfect liberty to draw his own comparisons and arrive at his own conclusions. Just how "the sacrifices we make shall be made voluntarily and not under compulsion" by means of the "selective draft" that has been arbitrarily imposed upon us from above, without even as much as "by your leave," will require something more than professional sophistry to satisfactorily explain. Especially so in view of the fact that "selective draft" is only the "high brow" term for the "press gang" of comparatively recent British history.

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 Will Lose No Opportunities for Improving Conditions of Their Membership.

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The special assessment of the Metal Trades Council was ordered paid.

The next regular meeting will be held on Thursday, June 28, when nominations will be opened for officers for next term.

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"I am here to assist Local No. 280 to build up and strengthen their organization, and while in the city will be accompanied in visits to the several sheet metal concerns by Bro. Arthur Crawford. From observations since my arrival, it appears that the old spirit of organization so prevalent in Vancouver several years ago, is asserting itself, and this city will again take its place as one of the best trade union cities on the coast. All of our organizations in the northwest received an increase in wages this spring, ranging from fifty cents to one dollar per day, in keeping with a policy determined upon at a convention of the Northwest District Council of Sheet Metal Workers held in Victoria last December. Approximately one-half of our affiliated unions throughout our jurisdiction received wage increases this year, ninety-five per cent. of which were agreed upon in conference. In the few cities in which it was necessary to withdraw our men in order that their demands be recognized, all were settled after a strike of short duration. Employment is quite plentiful for our members everywhere, particularly in the northwest, where a scarcity of men is noticeable in some cities."

SUGAR REFINERY STRIKE IS STILL IN FULL SWING
 Strikers Will Hold Mass-meeting in I. L. A. Hall on Sunday Next at 2 p.m.

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While officials of the Returned Soldiers' Association deeply regret the incident, it seems to be true that three returned soldiers are at present employed in the plant as strike-breakers.

The Terminal City Taxi Co. is supplying all the transportation for the scabs, at least one Thiel and city policeman, No. 172, who evidently is alone in accepting such questionable favors. A driver for the taxi company, named Cretchley, is assisting the Thiels by laying information against pickets and making himself generally useful to the Sugar Baron.

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The strike committee desires to thank the unions of the province for the splendid support given them, financially and otherwise. Of the \$926.90 received \$916.75 has been judiciously expended and if the unions will continue to help there is every chance of success.

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Organizers Uhl, of the Painters, and Sullivan, of the Sheet Metal Workers, were present and addressed the meeting.

Two cases of poisoning, from using the red lead sprayer, were reported, and the officers were instructed to get the necessary evidence and lay the matter before the Workmen's Compensation Board.

MACHINISTS' LOCAL
 Membership Keeping Pace With Increase in Local Payroll.

A special meeting of machinists was held on Saturday afternoon, for the purpose of initiating a number of men working nights. Unfortunately, owing to the street car strike, a number of men living at a distance were unable to attend. Nevertheless, thirteen members were initiated, and arrangements made to hold another meeting some afternoon next week for the benefit of the night men. Applications are coming in daily, and conditions are being improved rapidly.

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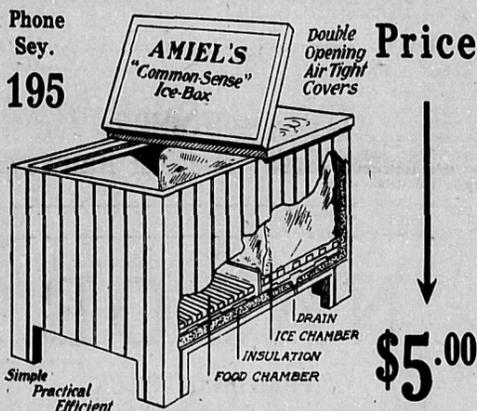
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ACTION OF DELEGATE TO MONTREAL ENDORSED

Capital City Labor Men Are Opposed to Scheme of Conscription

Newspaper Conspiracies and Lying Reports Not Overlooked

VICTORIA, B. C., June 15. — The Capital City Trades and Labor Council at its last regular meeting endorsed the action of its delegate, Mr. J. Taylor, in opposing conscription at Montreal, and asserted that there was no foundation for charges that Prussian money was supporting Mr. Taylor. At the same time the council decided to hold a public meeting in Victoria to make clear to the public the reasons for Labor's opposition to conscription.

"Don't be humbugged by any resolutions passed by that convention," said Mr. Taylor, who explained that he was born in Shakespeare's county in England. "If conscription is put through in this country you will find yourselves in the position that you will have no right to say for whom you will work or under what conditions. Be careful for whom you vote if an election comes, for the men you vote into uniform may not hesitate to hit you over the head with the butt end of a gun later on."

"Conscription is not necessary in Canada from a military point of view. The United States is just as deep in the mud as we are in the mire. This country has sent more than 400,000 men overseas, out of a population of 8,000,000. That gives you one man in twenty. The same ratio from the United States will give you 5,000,000 men. Those men from United States can be drilled and dispatched overseas just as quickly as they can be from this country."

Not Labor's War.

"If you size it all up, whose war is this? Is it Labor's war? Read your daily press. Yesterday they were harping on the fact that the neutrality of Belgium guaranteed by the great powers had been broken and we were set to go to Belgium. Today they say to you we must get the Germans' trade."

"I only trust that the working class of this province will look after its interests just as well as the capitalists look after theirs and there will be no mistake. I believe that if Labor is going to take a strong stand against conscription now, it is going to improve its stand 200 to 300 per cent. If not it will go down as it has in Great Britain."

Mr. Taylor declared that if conscription were forced on this country, men in munition factories even would be branded as slackers by flag-waving politicians to satisfy returned soldiers.

"They tell you that if ever Britain engaged in a just war then by Holy Moses this is it," continued Mr. Taylor. "They tell you that where the British flag flies there is justice and liberty. If the people believe this and if it is true then there will be no objection to free speech. If the British flag stands for all they claim it does, then let us put it to the test by holding a meeting in this city, saying that we have sufficient confidence in our position to place it openly before the man in the street. If they deny us that, then they are placing themselves in the very same position as the autocrats of Russia, and Prussia, whom they are fighting."

"This is no time for grand stand plays or bunk or hokusokus. If ever they do succeed in putting through conscription, then the last vestige of our Labor organization will be swept from us. Do not be swayed by any flag-waving politician or bunk peddler. How much longer are you going to believe them? It is up to you to decide today whether you are going to listen to their bunk or use your reason and common sense."

Convention Party Play.

Mr. Taylor charged that the Montreal convention was really nothing more or less than a political move, called to bolster up the party in power. He said the convention was not a success even in the eyes of the people who engineered it. He said that when he introduced his amendment calling for a referendum on conscription members of the convention did everything in their power to prevent it being put to a vote.

"I stand by the statement that the convention was nothing more than a party move," Mr. Taylor added.

"We had just the amount of lawyers and judges you would expect to have at such a convention," he went on. Mr. Taylor said the resolutions were mostly all general, leading up to one resolution for conscription and for the support of whatever principles the present government deems it advisable to take.

"The French-Canadian takes this position," continued Mr. Taylor. "He says this government has outlived its term of office and has no mandate from the people. The stand I took was that Labor was opposed to conscription industrially and militarily."

He explained that the convention was held in Montreal to line-up the French-Canadians. "For a while," he said, "the convention resolved itself into a mutual admiration society, playing to them for national unity, telling them that if it had not been for the French, Canada would not now be under the British flag."

Mr. Taylor gave impressions of the various delegates to the convention. From St. John were two men, one from the Longshoremen's and Cigar-makers' unions, but not fully accredited by the Trades and Labor Council. There were three Labor men from Montreal who, however, did not attend all the sessions. Out of three men from British Columbia, one each from New Westminster, Vancouver and Victoria, he was the only properly accredited Labor representative.

Means Loss of Labor's Rights.

Secretary Wells, of the B. C. Federation of Labor, asserted that conscription should be opposed, as its introduction would mean that the last vestige of democracy would be taken from the people of Canada. He declared that munition manufacturers and other capitalists were taking advantage of the war and were introducing women into industry and thus beating down wages and working conditions. He said that capitalists were eager for the conscription of men, but ridiculed the idea of conscription of wealth on the grounds that nothing should interfere with private enterprise.

"They are bleeding the country white as far as they can, and wringing exorbitant profits from the people," Mr. Wells continued. "They are replacing men by women, not because they love the women, but because they can get them cheaper."

"The idea behind conscription is that it is not for military purposes chiefly, but for industrial purposes. Under conscription you will be going back to the old style of absolute slavery. Under conscription the trades unions of England have been forced to give up every vestige of rights that have been wrested from the masses class through years of struggle. As things are now in England a man can't quit his job without being subject to arrest."

Out of the twenty-five delegates at the meeting, only one, Delegate Findlay, of the Musicians' Union, did not vote in favor of endorsing the stand of Mr. Taylor at Montreal. Mr. Findlay explained that he had to represent the wishes of his union, which last Sunday passed a resolution in favor of the conscription of man power and wealth under a coalition government.

Newspaper Conspiracy.

Some of the delegates charged that newspapers in Victoria, and Vancouver and even throughout the country were parties to a conspiracy to misrepresent the attitude of Labor to conscription. Mr. Taylor said that his attitude was being persistently misrepresented, and Mr. Wells declared that stories printed in The Colonist about the anti-conscription meeting held by unionists at Vancouver on Monday night were "deliberate lies." He said the meeting was entirely orderly, except when a very large and powerful woman slapped a Labor union man across the face. The Labor union man was diminutive in stature, and he returned the slap, because the chairman of the meeting had announced at the opening that, as women had been granted the franchise, they were to be treated the same as men. Mr. Wells denied that anybody was arrested at the meeting, and in support of this quoted the news stories in the evening newspapers on Tuesday. He said the daily newspapers were unfair in their treatment of all Labor matters and anything that had to do with the betterment of the working people.

"The whole point is," continued Mr. Wells, "that every man who dares to differ from the present government, or the powers that be and the powers behind the government, which is the capitalist class, is branded as an alien enemy." He said that freedom of speech has degenerated in this country to what the condition is supposed to be in Germany.

Mr. Wells declared that labor men should fight now to prevent conditions for the workers becoming worse, so that the returned soldiers will be able to come back to a country where things will not be less advantageous than they are now.

"Who has fought harder for better pensions for soldiers than the labor unions?" asked Mr. Wells. "The returned soldiers will have the support of the labor men long after the flag-waving politicians have forgotten them."

The council received and filed a resolution passed by the Social-Democratic party of this city. This resolution declared that, "in view of the attempt of the Borden government to conscript the already depleted man-power of Canada, after giving assurance to organized labor that such means would not be taken to secure recruits for the army, that we will not submit to military registration."

The resolution asked for a referendum on conscription.

The committee to arrange for the anti-conscription meeting here consists of the members of the executive of the council, and Messrs. Wells, Fox, Campbell and Tripp.

DEVELOP CHEERFULNESS—NOT CUSSINESS

[By the Rev. Charles Stelzle.]

Some men have skins as tough as that of the rhinoceros. They are absolutely indifferent to whatever may be thought or said about them. But most of us are finer bred. We do care. And it is right that we should.

Not that we are swayed from the course which we know to be right because of the adverse opinions of our fellows, but it seems more human to please than not to please. Because this is true—and most men are of this opinion—it is passing strange that so few of us regard it in our dealings with others.

Perhaps the most trying experience in many a workingman's life is the consciousness that a bunch of his fellow workers are ridiculing him. There may be some little peculiarity about him, to which he has become accustomed—something that he eats at lunch hour, something that he wears, the way that he goes about doing a particular job—any one of a dozen things, which bring upon him the ridicule which makes his sensitive soul shrivel. And for the remainder of the day he is unhappy.

One of the most heartless bits of brutality that you and I encounter is when two or three chaps get together, and, with amused glances, riddle with their looks another fellow who is unconscious of the nature of the criticism which they are making of him. It would be easier to bear and more honorable to defend if they should all set upon him with fists or clubs. But the cowardly gossiper in the shop wouldn't dare face the man whom he is holding up to ridicule.

One of the finest evidences of culture and good breeding is the passing over or ignoring of another's mistakes or failings. Let's develop more of it in the shop. It will make life very much brighter to the man whose burdens, if we were carrying them, might drive us to despair. Let's be boosters instead of knockers. It pays all around.

Possibly an armed working class might not be the worst thing that could happen.

A CLEAR AND CONCISE STATEMENT OF THE CASE

No Conscription of Men in Canada Until Wealth is Expropriated

Trades and Labor Congress Executive Does Not Mince the Matter

"Until the government gives proof that conscription, in the words of the Premier, is the only measure to preserve the existence of the state and of the institutions and liberties which we enjoy, organized labor has every warrant in seeking its defeat by both its economic and political power. If the government is sincere in its determination to 'consecrate the power of the nation,' to the cause of the Allies and democracy, the conscription of man-power will follow and not precede that of wealth and the nationalization of every industry necessary for the prosecution of the war."

THIS statement is the outstanding feature of organized labor's somewhat belated reply to the conscription of man-power measure brought down by Sir Robert Borden, issued by J. C. Watters, president of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada and given out exclusively to the daily press last Friday.

Labor Not Consulted.

The statement further says: "Up till the time the Premier left for London we had repeated assurances that conscription was not contemplated by the government. On December 27, last, while discussing with him the registration scheme of the National Service Board, he stated, in connection with the adoption of conscription in the hearing of Vice-presidents Simpson and Riggs, Secretary Draper and myself that he would consider it his duty to consult organized labor before undertaking to act on a matter of such grave importance."

"The first intimation I had was in the daily press, and no official of our union was consulted. We were not consulted, but the congress executive sought an interview with the Premier after his pronouncement on May 18, and sought to learn his reasons for his changed attitude. There was not the shadow of a reason revealed at the interview to warrant a change from voluntary to compulsory service."

Says Money, Not Men, Needed.

"The greatest service that Canada can render the Allies, therefore, is to conscript (not borrow) the wealth of the nation, to take over and operate the mines, railroads and munition works and other establishments necessary to the prosecution of the war (including the banking system), to eliminate the least vestige of profiteering, thus giving the nation the benefit, instead of the profiteer, of the work done."

"The conscription of 50,000 to 100,000 men to send to the front, where they are of comparatively minor importance, looks pathetically inadequate alongside the tremendous service which could be rendered the Empire by setting at naught the established order of things and consecrating the whole power of the nation to win the war."

"I consider it my duty to sound a note of warning to the organized workers not to permit themselves to be shackled with the chains of conscription. In the event of its being established any effort on the part of the workers to ameliorate conditions can be frustrated by simply calling them to the colors and placing them under military discipline, when orders must be obeyed on pain of punishment meted out by court-martial. The experience of the railway workers in France should be an object lesson in that regard."

GERMAN SOCIALIST MANIFESTO.

The following manifesto has been issued by German Socialist women:

"Sisters and Mourners: We thank you for all the labors of the past twelve months to spread the propaganda of enlightenment throughout Bavaria, Saxony, Wurtemberg, Baden and Westphalia. On the eve of a new year we ask you to consider for what purpose the voices of Rosa Luxemburg and Clara Zetkin have been raised in the hope of mitigating your sufferings. It is to save your homes from grief and your sons and brothers from the cruel sacrifice and continued scourge of this needless war. For what purpose have Dr. Liebknecht and Heren Haase and Ledebour dragged the masks from the selfish villains in Berlin, who, manipulating Austria, Turkey, and Bulgaria by corrupt methods, have steeped the Fatherland in blood? It is because the love of truth and honor of a small minority in the Reichstag and their hatred of hypocrisy knows no limit and cannot be bought by gold or material gain. For what purpose are the wage-earners and their children reduced to want in raiment and suffering privation in food? It is because the Kaiser and his ministers, from the first day of the war, have purposely deceived the nation with falsehoods and continue to withhold the documents (already published in the press of neutral states) which stamp the Potsdam conspirators with indelible infamy. Believing that the Allied Powers have no enmity against the German peoples nor desire to violate the territory of our states, we appeal to you, in the name of the brave men who have flung themselves to death at the bidding of miscreants, to redouble your efforts in the coming year to bring about the cessation of this devastating and unnecessary struggle. . . . We are persuaded that when the German armies have evacuated Belgium, Russian, and French territory, it will be possible to terminate the rain and suffering of the present conflict."

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7. That the diverting of paying revenue to the jitney is against the interests of that majority who depend upon the street railway for transportation.
8. That loading the street railway with taxes and encumbrances makes it less able to deliver service to the people.
9. That there is a limit to the street railway's ability to give service—the limit being the revenue it is allowed to use for the purpose.



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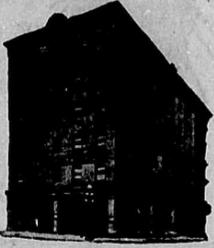
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LETTERS TO THE FED.

"Fitz." Day Dreaming.

Editor B. C. Federationist: Let me tell you a secret: Ssh! I have always longed to be a hero. Long, long ago, in the dear old days, in the dear home land, when I pulled a heavily-loaded truck through the dear old streets of dear old London for sixteen hours a day for the generous salary of one half-crown per week, much of my spare time was spent in the dreaming of dreams. Sometimes I was Deadwood Dick, gaily dressed, debonair, and of dashing appearance, rescuing a lovely maiden from the cruel clutches of the dastardly ruffians who would dare profane the divine beauty. Then again I was the lightning detective, feared by criminals, and loved by young ladies and all law-abiding citizens. Anon I was Buffalo Bill, Jesse James, and last, but not least, a death-defying pirate of the Spanish Main. You can see from this that I am naturally, in fact, almost supernaturally, brave.

I wish to get to the front, and am under the impression that other men equally useless and brave as myself, such as railroad and bank presidents, lawyers, judges, politicians, capitalists of all degree, and their intelligent supporters, ministers of the cult of the peace-loving Nazarene, and even Daughters of the Empire, are filled with the same desire. Our wishes should be gratified.

These be parlous times; and the Empire needs an example. Nevertheless, I will not join a working-class regiment. My soul aspires to something higher than association with "slaves of the wheel of labor." By descent and inclination I am an aristocrat. I therefore propose that the useless people mentioned, along with myself, be enrolled in one battalion and sent to France. I further suggest that we be put through no drill on account of our age or physical weakness, armed with revolvers; and each of us to solemnly swear not to return alive unless the war is over.

We must then be marched to the field of battle and given a most dangerous position, so that by our early destruction, we may set an example to the Empire, and give the lie to that assertion that we love our profits more than our country.

H. M. FITZGERALD.
Tranquille Sanitarium, Kamloops, B.C., June 10, 1917.

"The Time Has Come."

Editor of Federationist: "The time has come," says Mr. Borden, "to invoke authority." The premier is right. The time has come. But whose authority, Mr. Borden? The authority of the conservative party which happens by a political accident to be in the seat of power at the present time; the authority of the military machine; or the authority of the people? The fate of the Borden administration and perhaps many other things depends upon the correct answer to that question.

The time has come to invoke authority. "I am the state," said Louis XIV, but is Premier Borden the state? Is it merely a legend that the people rule? It would seem so.

The only constitutional way in which Mr. Borden can invoke authority on such a revolutionary measure as conscription is by referring the matter to the people.

If he refuses to do this it can only be because he is afraid the people do not want it. We would like very humbly to inform Mr. Borden that if the majority of the people in Canada do not want conscription, they will not have it anyway. Most of us in this country, English, Irish, Scotch, Austrian, Italian, Scandinavian, etc., left Europe precisely because we were disgusted with its feudalism and autocracy and military insanity. We came here to help build up a new world free from the trammels of medieval folly. Mr. Borden is anxious to invoke his authority to whirl us back into the maelstrom from which we have escaped.

It is not that we love the German government which lifted the lid of hell. Oh no! Those gentlemen are our greatest enemies, and we would join with the proletariat of Germany gladly to overthrow them. But—those gentlemen have too much cunning to get into the trenches themselves, so with the aid of that triune hierarchy of diabolism, the pulpit, press and politician, they have endeavored to stir up hate in the breasts of the simple peasantry that they might be cajoled into doing their bloody work for them. We objectors in this country to Prussianism, either German or Canadian, are simple peasantry, too. Put through the baneful influence of literature, we have become educated.

We have read in history of many cases where authority has been invoked, sometimes successfully, sometimes with disaster. Mr. Borden's idea is not a new one. Charles I said to himself, "The time has come to invoke authority," and he led to the block of commons with a few soldiers to arrest Pym and Hampden and others.

Louis XVI invoked authority, but as Carlyle says, "his well charged explosion exploded through the touch hole, covering him with confusion and unseemly soot."

The Romanoffs said to themselves the time has come to invoke authority. Since then they have said nothing else of importance.

If we people in Canada have any liberty whatever, then we must demand a referendum. If we have no liberty, then it is time we quit shedding crocodile tears over the misdeeds of our European neighbors.

Compulsion is the antithesis of democracy. No statesman in either Britain or Canada would have dared to breathe such a word before their brains had become beated with the war frenzy. The very necessity of our present rulers in introducing the idea is a damning proof that they have not made our country worth fighting for. The only safe authority to invoke is constitutional authority. Fools, whether in the saddle of power or at the tail of the mob, try violence, sometimes successfully, sometimes with disaster.

We would not recommend this course



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."

for either Borden or the unknown enthusiast at the end of the tail.

The greatest power in the hands of the workers, however, if Borden should persist, is the power of doing—NOTHING!

GEORGE F. STIRLING.
Salmon Arm, May 30, 1917.

Refused Publication in the "Great" Local Dailies.

Editor B. C. Federationist: I have read with much interest your comments on national service, the tenor of which is that we all should do everything possible to help further the cause. I hope you believe this, for I am going to give you a proposition that will prove just how honest you are in your protestations. I have worked five and a half years for a newspaper here when the population was greater and the city was much more prosperous than it is today, and consequently believe that I know something about what I am proposing. There are four daily newspapers in Vancouver, two morning and two evening, while two would adequately cover the field. By eliminating two, you would release many men (editors, reporters, solicitors, typesetters, etc., etc.) that could devote their energies to something useful or needed. You would relieve many advertisers who now feel compelled to advertise in all, and thus save thousands of dollars that might be used for the better cause. You would use less paper and thus save the labor of the men that are now making this wasted paper, cutting the wood for pulp, etc., etc. Possibly directly and indirectly half a million dollars a year would thus be saved.

It should not be a very hard thing to arrive at as to which two of you should commit industrial hari-kari. It might be done by a plebiscite: on the basis of circulation; prior location; arbitration; casting of lots; poker dice, or possibly the rush to do your duty might make none of these necessary. At a time when men are laying down their lives for the Empire, a useless or not required business is of small consequence. Surely you will not hesitate to do your duty. Politically I am an independent liberal. I would cheerfully give my interest in the most independent or most liberal journal (or both) in Vancouver, to help this great cause.

G. J. CURTIS.
Queen's Ave., Burnaby, June 11, 1917.

"Yellow" or "White."

Editor B. C. Federationist: In your issue of June 8 I see that the Australian peace societies have laid out a programme for the future. Most unfortunately there is one question they have not dealt with, viz: What portion of the world is to be open for colonization by the peoples of Japan, China and India? It seems to me that all talk about world peace is futile until this question is honestly faced.

In your same issue we are told that the Australians want "a white Australia." You want "a white Canada." The New Zealanders want "a white New Zealand." The South Africans and South Americans make similar demands. None of you, however, have yet stated your opinion as to the world should be yellow or brown. There is no time to waste over this question. Unless you get a tremendous move on, there is a bloodier war than this not far ahead, and Vancouver will be as much mentioned in that war as Ypres and Lille are in this one.

Yours truly,
E. B. KERR.
Kelowna, B. C., June 13, 1917.

Used—Then Discarded.

Editor B. C. Federationist: As I see by the papers that there is talk of the government bringing in a bill to enforce conscription on the people here, I should like to say that having been in the army for over a year, and having been injured on duty while on sentry go, I was discharged, disabled, unfit to work, without anything being done for my assistance. Today, one year later, I am still disabled, not having the full use of one leg, and all this time, though attention of the authorities has been frequently called to it, nothing has been done. Joining the army physically fit and serving for nineteen months, I am, when rendered unfit in the service of the country, thrown out to shift for myself without compensation of any kind such as employees in civil life are entitled to under the workmen's compensation and employers' liability acts. I should like to know what authority any government existing has for causing such a state of affairs to exist, and by what mandate, as long as things are as they are and they do not look after those who have enlisted, shall they bring in a law to force others who are now fit to join the army and become disabled and thrown out to compete with others in the labor market without any thanks or recognition. The workingman's physical fitness is all he has to offer against the capitalist's wealth, and I ask the people of this country, will they stand for it, to be shipwrecked in life for others and then have to peddle shoe laces on the streets for a country that has lost its use for them; or will they rise and protest that the government of this country must first attend to those that have already voluntarily enlisted and been disabled before they seek to bring in any law to force others into the same position.

EX-SOLDIER.
Vancouver, B. C., June 15, 1917.

No matter who started the war it's up to the international working class to end it—and end it as it should. The World for the Workers!

ORGANIZED LABOR AND MILITARY ARMAMENTS

Some Pointers Regarding Present World-Wide Conflagration

There Can Be No Peace Until Labor Controls Own Means of Living

[By W. Francis Ahern.]

SYDNEY, N.S.W., May 30.—(Special to The Federationist)—Present day happenings convince us that wars will cease only when the causes of wars are eliminated, but present day happenings should also convince us that Labor is the only factor which counts in the making of wars. If the workers decline to provide the wherewithal of war or armies, there would never be any wars.

Perilous as the position is in Europe at the present time, we should realize that after all, organized labor holds the key of the situation, and while it is ignorant of the fact, it is nevertheless the strongest existing human force. It is true that Capitalism is on top at the present time, but Capitalism after all is controlled by clever and far-seeing individuals, who have the weapons of press, pulpit, and state at their command; yet it depends on the workers for its very existence. Did the workers realize this fact just as much as Capitalism recognizes it, the matter would be solved.

Would Take Political Action.

The position of Australian labor, when compared with the labor position in other countries, proves conclusively that where labor is organized industrially, yet divorced politically, government is in the hands of the capitalists. The United States proves this to a nicety. Thus is capital given the power to break strikes by the importation of workers of another race. If this latter possibility was eliminated it would be possible to control a nation by what is known as "direct action," but even with this the suffering of the workers would be as great as if they underwent an invasion by some barbarous nation. Thus, to direct the policy of a nation in peace as well as in war, the workers must unite their individual organizations with political activities, which would then give them the power to govern.

Following that, it would be necessary to bring the workers to an understanding of what constitutes solidarity of international labor. With men and women organized as workers, and not as national units, their object would be to obtain economic justice for themselves without respect to race, color, language or creed.

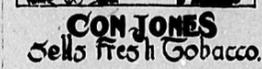
The Curse of Armaments.

Armaments are useless to the workers, since they are the tools which murder them. Their construction draws labor from the work of making useful and beautiful articles of consumption and use—so it is that they starve with their wives and children. When organized labor is strong enough all this hideous nightmare will come to an end. But before this happens there are two objects to be attained. In the first place men and women must control the country in which they live, so as to be independent of private ownership of land and capital. Otherwise they will be forced to do that which they are opposed to doing, in order to exist. In the second place the workers must be strong enough to take the management of the situation out of the hands of the powers-that-be when the war-gongs noise.

It should be stated here that the people who cannot speak for the workers, likewise cannot bind them. And this is illustrated in this manner: Suppose a member of the U. S. Congress were to appeal to the workers of, say Germany, to end the system of armaments, the workers would rightly ask, "In whose name do you speak?" It is only labor members who can speak in reply, "Organized labor in this country." If it were a matter of peace, the questioners could but aver—"the men and women who have voted for us." And that, after all, might not represent anything like a decent vote of the community, and they would have to admit this fact. Then the inevitable answer would come that while the advocates of peace in that country wished it so, there was no guarantee that the people fighting them were also of the same mind. To that the peace advocates could but answer, "It is so."

You see where it lands us if a peace party without the backing of organized labor—industrially, as well as politically—were to begin operations. The people of the other country, would say, and rightly so: "You ask for peace, it is true, but your government is in the hands of the jingo supported by the jingo masses who are not organized. We have to arm because you are too weak to prevent your own country arming, and if you breaks out we have to protect ourselves and those dear to us from the fury of your soldiers." Thus the peace advocates would be powerless.

But if organized labor stands behind the peace move—organized politically and industrially—and can say, "We control the government and can bind it to our will and can prevent capitalists from attacking you," then the matter seems to have been solved. What then is the duty before every one of us? There is something that beckons to us out of the future—something that beseeches us. To do what? Simply this. Elect our own representatives, control the position politically as well as industrially, and see that our representatives gain for us international peace. Is it impossible? Let us hope not.



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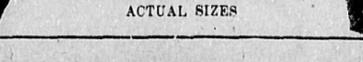
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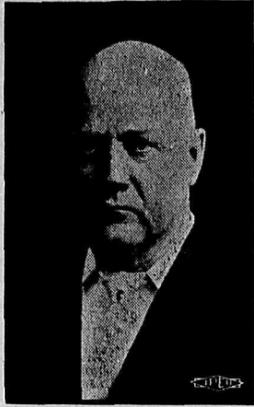
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SOUTH WELLINGTON MINERS STILL ACTIVE

Take Holiday for Purpose of Considering Matter of "Down Tools"

Nanaimo Coal Company's Philanthropy Gets a Severe Jolt

[By Walter Head]

SOUTH WELLINGTON, V. I., June 19.—The aggregation of socialists, anarchists, pro-Germ-huns and general no-goods, locally known as Local 872, U. M. W. of A., met again on Sunday, June 17, at that salubrious health resort known as South Wellington, and transacted business left over from last week. The reason for giving the above high-sounding titles is to save some of our friends of the daily capitalist press from hunting up their dictionaries to find epithets to hurl at us.

Election of Officers.

The first order of business was the election of officers, when the following were elected for the next twelve months: President, Walter Head; recording secretary, James Bateman; financial secretary, Isaac Portrey; treasurer, J. H. Richardson; warden, Joseph Hosko; guard, Ed Carroll; trustees, Geo. Spowart, J. Bateman, J. Watson; finance committee, Jas. Ruckledge, Thos. Campbell, Thos. Westwell. The new officers will take their respective positions on the first meeting in July.

B. C. F. of L. Referendum.

The next order of business was the B. C. F. of L. referendum on the "down tools" proposition, and a great deal of discussion took place dealing with the question; also of the absence from the meeting of so many of the younger members. It is sad to relate, but large numbers of the younger men, who will be first affected by conscription, were conspicuous by their absence. The meeting was well-attended by the older men, many of whom are unlikely to be affected by conscription, and yet they were all, with one exception, opposed to the inauguration of Prussian militarism in Canada.

Mass-Meeting at Nanaimo.

During the discussion, an invitation to attend an anti-conscription meeting in Nanaimo was read. The young bloods came in for a certain amount of condemnation, but we must remember that this is the time when the young man's thoughts lightly turn to love, and other contagious diseases. It would have been better had the men attended the meeting in full force, because if they will not attend to their own interests they will be forced into slavery, and love's young dream will be o'er. In other words, their names will be mud. The meeting was composed mostly of English-speaking men, a number of whom are classified under the classes above the sixth, according to the proposed conscription measure. The spirit of the meeting, which represents the spirit of the whole community, was strongly opposed to conscription. How-

ever, the meeting decided that in order to prevent a false impression being sent out, it would be advisable to take a holiday on Tuesday, June 19, for the purpose of taking the vote on the "down tools" proposition. A small minority was in favor of taking the vote right away, but the majority thought that in view of the fact of there being an anti-conscription meeting on that day in Nanaimo, it would give every man an opportunity to attend that meeting.

May Retain Organizer.

A letter was read from John P. White, in which he promised to look into the case of Joe Naylor, and if the future policy of the organization would allow he would see that Joe was kept on the job.

The Fitzgerald Fund.

The following donations have been received for the Fitzgerald fund since I last wrote: J. Dykes, South Wellington, \$1; W. Hill, Powell River, \$1; also a library from a friend.

Changes at Nanaimo.

Great changes have taken place in Nanaimo. Tommy Stockett has resigned and I have a good notion to make an appeal through the columns of The Fed., to enable us to make him a handsome present. He will no doubt need it, as he has only been pulling down a measly \$1,000 a month for skinning the docile slaves of Nanaimo.

The Nanaimo Co. (the W. F. Co.), out of extreme love for their slaves, have magnanimously consented to slip an extrawad of mazuma in their pay envelopes beginning next pay-day. They have granted an increase of 10 per cent. "voluntarily," and of their own free will! They were influenced by nothing but the fact that their love for their employees was so great that it wrung their hearts to see the way the good pirates were raising the price of mush, etc., so they have provided the Nanaimo men with the wherewithal to take a trip to Palm Beach, buy automobiles, etc.

District 10's New Agreement.

I have just received a copy of the latest agreement made between District No. 10, U. M. W. of A., and the coal operators in the state of Washington. The following rates will prevail from June 1, 1917, until August 31, 1918:

Inside Mine—	
Miners	\$4.49
Timberman	4.49
Timberman Helpers	3.80
Tracklayers	4.49
Tracklayers Helpers	3.80
Motormen	4.00
Drivers	4.00
Parting Boys	\$2.50 and 3.00
Greasers	2.45
Trappers	2.20
Rope Riders	4.00
Locomotive Engineers	4.00
Hoist Men, on development work	3.80
Cagers	4.00
Inside labor, not specified	3.80
Pump Men	3.80
Boys working on hoists, except on main and auxiliary slopes	3.10

Outside Mine—	
Main Hoist Engineers	\$4.25
Power Plant Engineers	4.10
Compressor Engineers	4.05
Development Engineers	3.75
Electricians (first class), in and around mine	4.30
Electricians (second class), in and around mine	4.00
Machinists (first class) in and around mine	4.30
Machinists (second class), in and around mine	4.00
Electricians' and Machinists' Helpers	3.50
Firerun	3.65
Cagers	3.75
Cagers' Helpers	3.25
Teamsters	3.50
Greasers	2.05
Couplers	2.20
Carpenters, first	4.30
Carpenters, second	3.80
Car Repairers	3.50
Screeners (men)	3.00
Screeners (boys)	2.40
Dumper	3.35
Blacksmith, first	4.30
Blacksmith, second	4.00
Blacksmith Helpers	3.50
Choppers	3.50
Moving picking table (men)	3.00
Moving picking table (boys)	2.40
Outside labor	3.25

Reap Where Union Sows.

Now, wouldn't that jar you! After wasting all that effort on eulogizing the Czars of Nanaimo for being so kind-hearted, to find that their hand has been forced by a bunch of union men in the state of Washington! Of course, the mine owners in Washington can afford to lead the way, as their coal sells from \$1.00 to \$1.50 per ton less than the British Columbia coal. The reason that the companies on Vancouver Island are lagging behind the state of Washington, is because there are many men over here from Washington and are likely to go back again. I wonder what the men of Nanaimo are thinking (if they ever do think) when they find that the men in Washington have negotiated an increase of wages for them. It is high time they took a tumble to themselves and got on the band wagon. They are a willing bunch, alright, and as long as anybody is willing to fight for decent conditions they are willing to let them. They are willing to read a labor paper, as long as somebody else pays for it. They would sooner pay good money for a capitalist sheet.

WHY YOU SHOULD JOIN THE UNION

- Because it tends to raise wages. This is proven by all sorts of evidence.
- Because it prevents a reduction in wages; reductions rarely come to well-organized labor.
- Because it aids in getting shorter hours. Ask the union men who are working eight hours, or less; they can prove it.
- Because it places labor where it must be respected. Power wins respect from employers as from all men.
- Because it gives the workingman self-reliance.
- Because it develops fraternity. Craftsmen are all too jealous of and suspicious of one another even at best.
- Because it is a good investment. No other investment gives back so large a return for expenditure of time and money.
- Because it makes thinkers. Men need to rub intellects together in matters of common concern.
- Because it enlarges acquaintance. The world is too restricted for wage-earners.
- Because it teaches co-operation. When laborers co-operate they will own the earth.
- Because it makes the job a better one. The busy foreman can't bully the union card.

WHY ADVERTISING IN THE FED. GETS RESULTS

The Federationist is the only Labor paper now published west of Winnipeg. It is owned by the 16,000 trade unionists of British Columbia. It reaches the highest paid wage-workers—the men who are working and therefore have the most purchasing power. Its readers are among those who are students, who are trying to do their own thinking and who demand freedom of expression. They read The Federationist because it is their own paper, and its columns are always open to them.

Some of the largest unions in the province subscribe for The Federationist in a body, a copy being mailed to the residence of each member.

The Federationist has been established for nine years; it is an integral part of the organized Labor movement of British Columbia, and is one of the most widely quoted Labor papers on this continent.

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ALL-CHROME GLOVES	75c
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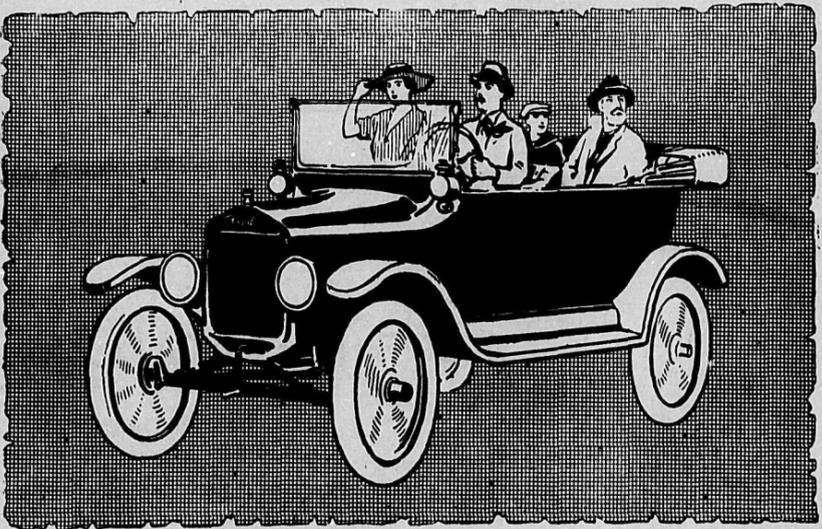
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LETTERS TO THE FED

'Defensive' War.

Editor B. C. Federationist: I admire the spirit of much of the letter in your last issue, headed "What Position Must the Workingman Take With Regard to This World Catastrophe?" and signed "Observer." But, although I have read the letter through more than once, it is still not clear to me at what conclusion the writer does arrive regarding the question which he proposes. It is not clear whether his conclusion is "Be men and exercise the power with which you are gifted—be firm, just and willing to sacrifice for the good of all," or whether his conclusion is "if conscription passes," do your "duty" and go to France. It is not clear whether my "share towards the uplift of humanity," is to consist in refusing to take "the life of a man who, like myself, does not care for killing for the sake of killing, but would rather save life than destroy it," or whether it is to consist in sinking my individual judgment, my human responsibility and dignity, and do my "duty," because the government decrees that further slaughter is necessary in order to save us from German domination.

I gather that the writer's natural instincts incline him to feel that to be a colossal crime against mankind and the conduct of the possessing classes to be scandalous, but that which reconciles him to a continuance of the war is fear of German domination. He believes that we are, directly or indirectly, defending ourselves against German domination. Now let me say that the plea that this war is any particular war is a war of defense is the one plea that calls for more intellectual alertness on the part of the workingman than does any other. It is before this plea that the opposition of workmen to the war breaks down more frequently than before any other. Workmen see how scandalous is private profiteering; they see how little regard the ruling classes have for the workers except in so far as they serve as tools; they know that war is the work of governments and not of peoples; they know that the workingmen of Germany are their comrades and not their enemies; they recognize how the atrocity of the ruling classes as exemplified by their secret diplomacy, one of the chief factors in which was the desire to find fields in "undeveloped" countries for the profitable investment of dividend-greedy "surplus" capital, was largely responsible for the condition of things which resulted in the outbreak of war; they know that the slaughter of millions in a war such as the world is experiencing today is barbarous and revolting to human decency; they feel that, essentially, this slaughter is unnecessary and futile; and yet—they cannot refuse to take part in it, because the war is a war of defense.

Be it known, then, that no war is ever engaged in by any modern nation without its being excused as defending some essential national interest. The plea that a war is a war of defense is always made. Every single nation now at war has proclaimed that its war is one of defense. I don't know exactly how our noble and unselfish allies, Italy (allied with Germany when the war began) and Rumania, justify their part in the war as being for defense, but doubtless they do so justify it. We may hardly agree to their claim in this respect and may even be inclined to look upon their entry into the war as a result of unholly bargaining of their governments. But, then, we are able to look at their case from a more or less detached point of view. It is more difficult to look at our own case from such a point of view.

It may be urged that the practical unanimity with which the war is regarded in England and in Canada as being a war of defense is, to all intents and purposes, itself a proof that the war is a defensive one. But, beware of unanimity in war time! The gregarious instinct is a terrible thing in war time and leads, not only to the loosening and intensification of evil passions (hatred, etc.), but to a falsification of judgment; indeed, with the majority of men, to the total disappearance of all pretense at fair and reasoned judgments, which is perhaps the most deplorable evil of all.

Germany, also, believes that she is fighting in self-defense. American observers who were in Germany in the early days of the war reported that the whole German people firmly believed that it was fighting in self-defense. We, presumably, think that the Germans are wrong in this belief, despite the fact that they are unanimous in it. Then, surely, this very circumstance should make us much more dubious of accepting the unanimity of the British belief, that the war is one of defense, as proof of the truth of that belief.

Does any one here believe that the United States is in any reasonable sense of the terms, fighting a war of self-defense? And yet it is now declared in all American papers that this is a war of self-defense for the United States; and it can be prophesied with perfect confidence that not many months will have to elapse before almost every American will accept it as a dogma, which it would be absurd to question, that his country is fighting in self-defense. It is, of course, a little more difficult for the Americans to come to the point when they can accept it as a dogma that they are fighting in order to protect their land from invasion than it was for the Germans and the French to accept a similar belief. In the case of both, the Germans and the French, they were actually in hostile army on the other side of the frontier. But in the case of America, before war was declared on Germany, there was no question whatever of Germans invading America; and, in point of fact, Germany has to date even refused to recognize that there is any war between America and herself, and, except for the incidental sinking of American ships which attempted to run the German blockade, has not made any hostile movements against America. The argument to which the American rulers and journalists have to resort in order to excuse the war as one of self-defense is that Germany may possibly in the future attack the United States and, therefore, that the latter must take the opportunity of weakening Germany now. This is the principle of the preventive war. We regard a certain nation as a rival; we think that her development may in the future endanger our position; therefore, let us attack her now when we think the conditions favorable, so that we shall not run the risk of having to fight her later under less favorable conditions.

You can, on these lines, if you choose by taking a long view, justify any war as a war of self-defense. You can, in their farseeing wisdom, are looking to the future; they declare that this is that other country intends to attack you when its hour is ripe (following

thereby the principle commended by that idol of the British public, Lord Roberts); therefore, prevent this by fighting them now.

The high-souled diplomats of America and the Allies a few weeks ago conceived the idea that the Russian fighting lines could be strengthened if Japanese troops were sent to Russia. This elegant scheme was hinted at in the papers for several days and then there appeared a message from Washington stating that a large body of Japanese troops (some 300,000) was to be sent to the Russian front and saying with perfect solemnity that this would be quite justifiable as a defensive measure on the part of Japan, since its object would be to prevent Germany from extending her power to the Far East (China) and thus threatening Japan's security; Japan's war of self-defense.

This scheme has since been dropped, I believe. Possibly the price which Japan asked from the allies for undertaking this defensive measure was too high. In an extreme case such as this the scandalous absurdities to which the application of the doctrine of preventive war can lead, are patent to all.

There is no doubt that the present war can, for Great Britain, be justified as a war of defense only by employing the idea of preventive war. Neither Great Britain, nor any part of the British Empire was immediately threatened with invasion. The motive which led the British Government into the war was the desire to prevent Germany from securing a position of sufficient importance in international relations to threaten our supremacy.

"Observer" describes the German state as "the outcome of its scientific business system, the weakest to the wall, until the controlling influence gets into the hands of a few who count it glory to see hundreds of thousands slain in order to add a few acres to their country or a few dollars to their purse." I think that most readers of the B. C. Federationist would think this a pretty fair description of the British state and of the French state, of British Imperialism and of French Imperialism. It was the controlling influence of the few that inspired the secret diplomacy which led to this war. The Germans are, we know, "Hans," "Lebers," "cobras," (the last is Northcliffe's newest term); but, nevertheless, let us make some effort to be fair-minded and rid ourselves of cant. The conduct of the German government at the close of July, 1914, when, with a reckless disregard for European peace which it would be difficult sufficiently to condemn, stood, in shining armor, beside Austria, was not essentially different in principle and spirit from the conduct of the British government at the time of the Agadir crisis in 1911. In 1911 Great Britain ranged herself alongside of France and risked a European war; in 1914 Germany stood beside Austria and risked a European war. In 1911, as it happened, Germany climbed down concerning Morocco and a European war was averted; in 1914, as it happened, Russia did not climb down concerning Serbia and a European war occurred. Certainly the circumstances were such that Germany's conduct in 1914 was perhaps more criminally reckless than England's in 1911, but in principle, it was similar, and we need not trouble to enquire too closely as to the relative degrees of guilty recklessness in risking a European war.

And it should be noted, the Agadir incident, thanks to the resentment and ill-feeling which it raised in Germany and to other of its effects, contributed more than any other single event to producing that inflamed condition of the international relations of Europe which culminated in the war.

If the idea of preventive war is accepted as a principle by which it is held justifiable for a nation to fight now, although not actually attacked, in order to prevent future possibilities, it will, I think, be found that almost any war can be represented as being a war of defense. To divide war into offensive and defensive, and to declare that all citizens are called upon to support at all events the latter, seems at first sight, a very simple principle on which to proceed, but, in fact, as I have tried to indicate, it is a principle, which is entirely lacking in definiteness. The case of the present war should alone be sufficient to make this clear. All the belligerents are firmly convinced that they are fighting in defense of some essential national interest.

On what principle, then, are we to take our stand? We must take it simply on a man's right to follow his individual judgment as to whether he will answer a call to arms. I would like to pursue this theme, but already this letter is very long. I may hope, however, with your permission, to go into it further in your next issue.

G. S. W.

[No more letters of this length will be accepted on any subject.—Editor Federationist.]

CIRCULATION REFLECTIONS

The Deep Sea Fishermen's Union this week increases its subscription list for The Fed. from 10 to 200, going to all points along the Pacific coast.

Victoria Lodge, I. A. of M., 456, sends along \$75 in real money on account of 150 new readers for The Fed., beginning this week.

A net increase of over 700 during the past week is some record, one that is most fully appreciated by "the man who pays the printer."

The circulation of The Fed. has been more than doubled since the Revelstoke convention of the B. C. Federation of Labor, last January. If the unions of B. C. would only make it unanimous, by subscribing at once in a body, paying at the convenience of the union, the web-press would soon be a reality and the cost of production a little less. In fact, a daily paper would be possible if the trade unionists would just make up their minds to first of all establish a big, healthy weekly.

How do you like the old-time eight-page Federationist? Why not make it twelve?

Tell our advertisers about your patronage of your paper. Costs little; helps a lot.

The Metal Trades Council broke a lot of new ground for The Fed. during the recent Coughlan strike, by the thorough distribution of 5000 copies of an "extra" strike bulletin. Good results have followed among the shipbuilding tradesmen.

The miners of South Wellington, V. I., have taken no less than 2250 extra copies for distribution during the past month or two. They find The Fed. a good medicine for increasing their union membership and for tonic for those already in harness. The idea may be worth something.

Ten sub. cards for \$10; pay when sold. Order ten today.

VANCOUVER UNIONS

TRADES AND LABOR COUNCIL—MEETS Thursday, 8 p.m., 217 Labor Temple, Seymour 7495 (unless otherwise stated).

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Brotherhood of Carpenters, No. 612—James Robison, Room 208.

Brotherhood of Carpenters, No. 2647—F. L. Barratt, Room 208.

Civil Employees—V. R. Midgley, Room 210.

Electrical Workers—E. H. Morrison, Room 207.

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

Longshoremen's Association—J. Mahone, 10 Powell street; phone Sey. 6859.

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Pil Drivers and Wooden Bridgemen—W. Ironsiders.

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Street Railway Employees—Fred A. Hoover; cor. Main and Prior, phone exchange, Seymour 5000. Residence, Fairmont 541K. Typographical—H. E. Neelands, Room 204K.

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Brotherhood of Railway Carmen—Brotherhood of Maintenance-of-Way Employees—E. Corado, 236 Clark street.

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THIS is the hat for YOU! The tilt of its aristocratic brim the height and shape of its modish crown, make it a thoroughbred among hats!

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have enthusiastically entered into the spirit of the week, and—determined to show Vancouver and environs that this city can more than compete with any American or Eastern city—have put the following diversified selection of bargains on sale—

Just for

Dollar Day

Japanese Cotton Crepe

In white only, 30 ins. wide; reg. 25c; now \$1.50, 6 yds. \$1

Best quality, white only; reg. 50c and 60c, now at 2 1/2 yds. \$1

Silk Crepe

36 ins. wide, heavy quality, in all shades; usually \$1.25 and \$1.25. Dollar Day, yard \$1

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Finest quality white, plain or figured; regularly 50c yard. Saturday 3 yds. \$1

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SILK ANKLE style, black only; reg. 60c, now 4 pairs \$1 FINE COTTON, black or white, reg. 40c, now 4 pairs \$1

SILK LISLE, fine quality, full fashioned, black or white; regular 75c, go now 2 pairs \$1

SILK BOOT HOSE, all shades, beautiful quality; regular 75c values, go Saturday at 2 pairs \$1

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Lunch Cloths and Japanese 54-inch Towelling Cloth Squares; \$2.25 vals. go on sale Dollar Day at, each \$1

Middy Blouses

In great assortment; \$1.50 and \$1.75 Values go Saturday at \$1

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Nicely embroidered, 20x52 ins.; regularly selling at 75c, we sell Dollar Day at 2 for \$1

Colored Pongee

Pure silk, all shades, 25 in. wide; worth 60c. Special for Dollar Day 2 yds. \$1

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34 inches wide; we sell regularly at 55c, Dollar Day 2 1/2 yds. \$1

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A silk fabric with a cotton mixture. A splendid material for wear and appearance; all shades; 36 inches wide; regular 85c yard; sells Dollar Day at 2 yds. \$1

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Four Doors North of Hudson's Bay Stores.

Where East Meets West and Silks are Best.

SOME OBVIOUS FACTS THAT SHOULD NOT BE IGNORED

A Few Suggestions That May Uncover Real Animus of Conscription

Has the Capitalist World Gone Mad or Simply Become Senile?

IN VIEW of the noisy demand being made by that section of society that has surped to itself the authority to speak for all of the people for the conscription of man-power to be fed to the cannon of Europe, it stands the workers of this Dominion in hand to allow no circumstance to be overlooked that may throw light upon the motives that perchance lie behind that demand, or that may have any bearing upon the justification of conscription to the minds of thinking men and real democrats. It is, by no means, the part of wisdom to be stamped into compliance with doubtful schemes through the noisy mouthings of blatant busybodies whose talents and ambitions are always at the disposal of the interests that can exist only by scheming and deceit. Whenever a cause calls forth the spontaneous support of the capitalist press, pulpit, platform and legal talent, no other evidence is required to prove conclusively to any wealth producer who is possessed of a grain of sense, that such cause is a deadly menace to him and his kind and one that he should set his face against, no matter how appealingly and convincingly it may be set forth by its boosters and promulgators. The very source from whence it comes; the interest in human society that gives it birth, is quite sufficient to establish its virtue or lack of it, to any sane and clear-thinking member of the working class. As to the merit or demerit of this conscription scheme, all that is necessary is to size up the personnel of its advocates and boosters. Boards of trade, chambers of commerce, ministerial associations, bar associations, as well as the individual members of these cults of ruling class chicanery and deceit, and by no means overlooking the capitalists themselves and their well-trained political puppets, afford unimpeachable evidence of the meaning and the merit of any and all of their schemes, to the wealth producers, so much so in fact, that were these wealth producers wise, anything and everything that originated with or was advocated by the aforesaid boosters of the trade and profession of plunder, would be turned down without further parley or inquiry.

The Terrible Danger.

We are told that civilization is in danger of being destroyed unless we "beat the Huns." And the situation is so critical that unless conscription is put upon us in Canada the cause is practically lost. Now it so happens that the total population of Germany, Austria-Hungary, Bulgaria and Turkey amounts to 164,000,000. That is the total strength of the "Hun" alliance. The total population of the 15 countries composing the Entente alliance is approximately 1,000,000,000. In addition to this there are four countries—Brazil, Bolivia, Guatemala and China—containing about 400,000,000 people, which have severed relations with the "Hun" allies, although these countries have not yet declared war. The balance of the world remains neutral, but practically all of it is in sympathy with the Entente allies. Immediately surrounding the "Huns" there is a hostile population of at least 350,000,000. This does not include the British and French colonies, the United States, Japan and India. If the total military strength, that is, that which is available for the actual fighting line, of a nation, be taken as one-tenth of its population, then the comparative strength of the contending combatants is as 16 to 35, not taking into consideration anything outside of Europe—16 for the "Huns," as against 35 for the Entente allies. Now we know that the British have had about 1,000,000 men from the various colonial adjuncts to the Empire, outside of India. We do not know how many from France. France has had troops also from her colonies, and Japan and Portugal have furnished more or less powerful aid. The Entente allies have all the world at their disposal upon which to draw for needed supplies. The "Huns" are left almost entirely upon their own resources. The reader should be able to draw quite sound conclusions as to the probability of the Entente allies being defeated unless conscription is forced upon the Canadian people and their democracy and liberty destroyed.

Some Facts Leaking Out.

Inquiries made in the House of Commons at Ottawa within the last week have brought forth the information that out of some 400,000 men enlisted in Canada for the war only a little over 100,000 are in France. If the total casualties amount to another 100,000, and we do not believe that such is the case, there should be somewhere in the neighborhood of 200,000 still available. If this is the case, why this pronounced squawk about our divisions in France being weakened because of a lack of men to make good their losses. Where are these 200,000 or more men who have already enlisted and the most of them gone across the sea? Only recently we received information that there were in Britain somewhere about 4,000,000 men under arms who have never yet been across the channel. This does not appear at all impossible when we remember that the information was given in the House of Commons that an army of 4,600,000 was raised in Britain before conscription was put in force, and we know that 1,000,000 have already come from the colonies. Of course, we do not know how many have been added to the above figures through conscription in the old country. But after making due allowance for casualties there must still be a reserve force of at least several million men. We note that this very week it was reported that the United States authorities were considering the immediate building of a huge fleet of aeroplanes for use at the front as the most immediate and valuable aid that could be given to the Entente allies because they were short of men, as "there were 7,000,000 men available on the western front." This would tend to strengthen the conviction that conscription is not being forced, either here or in the U. S. on account of any shortage of men in Europe, to finish the job of licking the "Huns." Of course if there is some other job in sight that the ruling class has a mind to have done while the doing is good, that is another matter. But of this we are sure, and that is that if any more men are needed in Europe to finish the "Huns," the number will not be so large that it cannot be gotten by volunteer service. The zeal for conscription cannot be attributed to any danger that the "Huns" will be able to conquer the forces arrayed against them. It springs from some other cause, and more than likely a far less worthy one. That is probably the reason it is not disclosed to us.

A Little Speculation.

Who is there among us that does not know that our capitalist masters, no matter how empathic they may be in their mouth loyalty, have no more use for democracy and liberty than had the most unscrupulous autocrat and brutal tyrant that ever graced the earth. We know how they loathe the idea of labor having anything to say in regard to political and economic conditions. We know full well that no right or privilege that labor has ever gained down through the struggle of the ages will be respected by these capitalist masters for one moment once the opportunity is offered to abrogate it. They know far better than the most of the workers that the introduction of conscription service, either military or industrial, destroys all democracy and liberty, as far as the working class is concerned, and who shall say that the present war is not deliberately prolonged for the express purpose of destroying the last vestige of labor democracy by shackling the workers with a Prussian militarism. And what more logical than that such should be the case? What better opportunity could possibly be afforded than the present one, where the patriotic ardor of the ignorant rabble can be stirred to that enthusiasm of brutal fanaticism and suicidal folly that is possible only under the drunkenness of war psychology and the smell of blood. The average working-man's reasoning faculties are lamentably weak even in times of peace, but when his poor intellect becomes gassed with the fumes of war psychology, then is the time indeed ripe when the cunning tools and hirelings of the master class can hook anything on to him that promises to hamstring him and render him tame and suitably docile. That is about what is happening right now. Thinking the Canadian workers are properly gassed, the governmental lickspoons of capital are attempting to hook something on to them. Will they succeed? Time will tell.

CIVIC FIREMEN WILL TRY FEDERAL BOARD

Many Adverse Circumstances Mitigate Against the City Firemen Getting Favorable Verdict.

The plebiscite vote on the firemen's two-platoon system on Wednesday resulted in the proposal being turned down by 350 votes—1107 ratepayers favoring the proposal and 1457 voting against it.

The vote was hardly in accordance with the expectations of the aldermen when they decided to restrict the vote to property owners, their idea in arranging for such a vote evidently being to have the two-platoon proposal buried so deep at the polls that it would never be heard of again. The result, however, shows that a very respectable number of the voting ratepayers approve of the plan, even in these times when there is a strong aversion to anything which would increase the tax rate. The two-platoon problem is a very lively corpse and will probably be heard of in the very near future.

The firemen were handicapped in their efforts to get out a representative vote by the streetcar strike which prevented hundreds of their supporters getting to the polls. Arrangements were made on Tuesday for autos to carry the firemen's supporters to the polls and the fleet was busy all day. The committee say that some of those they carried evidently double-crossed the fireman as they are certain that more persons were carried than the vote in favor of the measure shows.

The firemen are to be complimented on the clean-cut manner in which they fought their campaign. Handicapped because of only having ten days to do their work and being compelled to appeal to a limited class and that composed of people who naturally are opposed to increasing civic expenditure, they did good work. Their case was put before the public in the advertising columns of the Vancouver dailies and The Federationist, support was given their cause by a number of the city clergy at their respective churches last Sunday, appeals were made to women's organizations for support, slides in the moving picture theatres were employed and banners on rigs, the campaign being closed by a circular appeal to the ratepayers, which was sent out by mail. The excellent showing they made at the polls was undoubtedly due to this well-planned and faithfully carried out programme.

Arrangements are now being made for a meeting of the men at that the question of their appeal to Ottawa for

AN INTERVIEW WITH COMPENSATION BOARD

Union Representatives Discuss Many Questions Affecting Workers

Board Sincerely Trying to Cope With Huge Task of Organizing Work

[By Jas. H. McVety] (Chairman B. C. Federation of Labor Compensation Act Committee)

FIVE MONTHS' OPERATION under the Workmen's Compensation Act during which four thousand five hundred accidents to workmen covered by the act have been reported, has proven the necessity of such legislation in this province. Of this number, two thousand did not disable the workmen at all or for less than three days. After allowing five and one-half months for the Compensation Board to adjust itself and perfect a system whereby the provisions of the act could be carried out, the committee elected by the last convention of the B. C. Federation of Labor, consisting of A. S. Wells, Victoria; Wm. Yates, New Westminster, and the writer, accompanied by G. J. Kelly, president of the Longshoremen's Union, Vancouver, had an interview with the Compensation Board on Tuesday last, during which many questions in connection with the operation of the act were discussed.

Delay in Making Payments.

The delay in making payments was gone into at some length, the board explaining that this was due partly to the neglect of the workmen to make claims, there being some 630 entitled to compensation, according to employer's reports of accidents, who have not yet filed a claim. In other cases, the employers had neglected to fill in and forward reports, the board finding it impossible to pay compensation until the reports from the employers are received. One employer had been pressed so strongly on account of delays that he had discharged his accountant who was responsible for the trouble. Trouble with the medical men was also given as a reason for delay, the doctors taking a hostile attitude because the board had refused to pay accounts that were considered out of proportion to the service rendered. An agreement has, however, just been made with the medical council of the province for more uniform charges and co-operation with the board to secure prompt reports on men injured. The failure of the board to reply to letters from workmen regarding claims, was also spoken to in connection with the question of delay in payments and the board expressed the belief that arrangements had been made so that every letter would hereafter be answered. The committee was invited to submit any complaints as soon as they arose, the chairman, Mr. Winn, remarking that it was much more satisfactory for the board to deal with the workmen through the labor organizations than as individuals.

Medical Aid Schemes.

The board had tentatively approved some five hundred medical aid schemes existing in the province, many of these being the worst kind of robbery of the workmen, deductions of one or two dollars per month being made by the employer without, in many cases, any attempt being made to supply medical aid service. The board, in reply to the objections of the committee to the continuation of these schemes, stated that a considerable number of "approvals" had already been revoked and that but very few of the schemes would survive the investigation of the board as they were not in conformity with the act.

Accident Prevention.

Inquiry was made as to what steps

an arbitration board to take up the question of their working conditions will be discussed. The men believe that the showing they made at the polls on Wednesday is one which, considering the handicaps under which they worked, show that a representative number of citizens strongly disapprove of the 21-hour per day duty system, and they believe that this feeling is so strong as to weigh with any arbitration board which considers the question in closer detail than it was possible to give to the public in the recent campaign. The electors also gave a body blow to Ald. Kirk's pet scheme of using the city's credit to the extent of \$1,000,000 so as to give the alderman a chance to spend the money this year. The verdict was based on the principle that it is better to "pay as you go."

We Progress

Watch for our opening next week—Ground Floor Branch of the ACTINO-OPTICAL INST. LTD., No. 549 Granville St. This is the finest Optical Institution in Canada.

Dr. J. D. Gamble and staff of operators in charge.

Head Offices, Birks Building, where Dr. Jordan can be consulted.



Continuing the Great Sale of Men's Shirts

With Values up to \$1.75 Selling for 79c

New Season's goods—but broken lines and oddments left from previous sales—in a grand clean-up at less than manufacturer's cost. It's a great saving sale—for it offers shirts that are well cut, made of good washing and serviceable fabrics, and guaranteed to fit, for less than half their worth.

Every Man Needs New Shirts for Summer Wear.

This sale offers you choice of many styles, including Neglige—Lounge—Sport—Outing and Work Shirts in practically all sizes, of such desirable materials as self-blue chambray, plain or colored percale, neat colored striped cambrics, plain white linens, and fancy mercerized striped fronted shirts.

EARLY SHOPPING IS BEST

The greatest values sell first—be here tomorrow at 8.30 and pick out a supply of the \$1.75 lines for the small cost of, each 79c.



Granville and Georgia Streets

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

Trades and Labor Council.

Thursday, June 17, 1902.

had been taken to initiate plans for carrying out the intention of the act, the board stating that data in being gathered on the subject and the work will be furthered at the earliest possible moment. In this connection, the opinion of the committee was asked as to the advisability of bringing the factory, mine, boiler and electrical energy inspectors under the Compensation Board in order to better co-ordinate the work of preventing accidents. This the committee conceded would be good policy as it has worked successfully in such states as Wisconsin, Ohio and New York.

Branch Offices.

As the board appears to be committed to maintaining its head office in Victoria, the committee pointed out the necessity of opening branch offices in Vancouver and at one or two points in the interior where the workmen and employers can secure information and assistance in presenting their claims. In the case of Vancouver, the necessity of a branch office was conceded owing to the large industrial population in and around the city, but in the case of the interior, the board feels that the district auditors can very easily take care of the situation.

Fishermen and Ship Employees.

As one of the larger fishing companies had shown a disposition not to include the halibut fishermen under the act and a shipping company maintains that the powers of the board and the province do not permit the act to be applied to "navigation," the committee ascertained the position of the board relative to these men. The decision is that both classes are under the act and that the medical aid provisions apply, except where the shipping companies are paying the tonnage tax under the "sick mariners" provision of the Canada Shipping Act.

Non-resident Alien Dependents.

The board took up with the committee the question of reducing the amount paid to widows of aliens killed in this province. It is pointed out that to pay women in China, Japan and India in particular, and residents of the European countries the same compensation as received by those citizen widows and dependents resident here, is an unfair proposition on account of the vast difference in the cost and standard of living.

It is pointed out that twenty to forty dollars per month places Asiatic and some European women in a vastly better position than before the husband was killed, the reverse being the case where the women are citizens and living in this province. The proposal is to amend the act so as to permit the board to make a lump sum settlement with these non-resident alien dependents and to set aside the difference between the amount paid and the amount set aside as a reserve in special reserve fund from which widows with more than four children could be paid an additional allowance over and above the present maximum of forty dollars per month. The committee agreed to take the matter under consideration and to meet the board again when it had the proposal in more definite form.

Board Members to Explain Act.

With the completion of plans whereby the routine work can be handled by the staff, the board expects to be able to visit the different parts of the province and to explain such matters as the employers and workmen require information on. It is also the intention of members of the board to accept invitations from organizations to address their meetings.

Attitude of the Board.

The general disposition of the board and particularly of the chairman, appears to be one of fairness and a desire to receive the assistance and co-operation of our organizations and such members as have given special consideration to the subject. During the three-hour interview the members did everything they could to explain points raised and while expressing appreciation of the consideration shown by the committee in not taking up their time until they had got on their feet, they extended a cordial invitation to present any complaints that arise from time to time. If the expressed policy of the board is carried out, there should be an immediate improvement in the handling of claims and in such cases as come to the attention of the members where undue delay is shown the committee will be glad to receive the facts in order that an investigation may be had.

Messrs. Franey, Walden and Dickie, of the Bricklayers, and T. Masters, of the Amalgamated Carpenters took seats as delegates.

Mr. Carbound, M.P., wrote, stating that the minister of public works at Ottawa said he was unable to do anything re postoffice building working non-union labor; he was unwilling to interfere with the freedom of contractors.

A letter from the Pioneer Steam Laundry published in the local press. The world in an editorial criticized New Westminster Trades and Labor Council for circulating a circular in the eastern provinces re labor conditions in B. C. Mr. Towler was thanked for replying so ably to same.

Knights of Labor, No. 5506, Brotherhood of Carpenters and Amalgamated Carpenters, endorsed the initiative and referendum.

President Bartley reported for the bathing beach committee.

Chas. Kaine reported for the arbitration committee.

Geo. Polley reported for labor bureau committee.

Engineers' Local, 690.

This local is a very promising infant. Membership is increasing rapidly, and the good work attempted is beginning to bear results. Practically all members are working.

The scale for pile-driving engineers has been increased from 65 cents to 90 cents per hour.

Stationary engineers should note that the proposed amendments to Boiler Inspection Act, for an eight-hour day, has not, as yet, been introduced by the government, but Business Agent W. A. Alexander states he has it on good authority that this matter will be taken up at the earliest opportunity during the next session of the local house.

I.T.U. Referendum Result.

The official canvass of the referendum vote on the arbitration agreement between the International Typographical Union and the closed shop division of the United Typothetae and Franklin Clubs of America has been completed. The agreement has been endorsed by a majority of 12,475. The total vote cast was 41,039, of which 26,757 were in favor of the proposition and 14,282 against it.

"I do not thank a follower who sticks to me when I am right. Anyone would do that. A true friend is one who stays with me even when I'm wrong."—Sir John A. Macdonald.

ONE LITTLE CONSOLATION

OFFERED BY MR. HARVEY

Says Men's Clothing Prices Are Cheaper in B. C. Than Anywhere Else in Canada

In discussing the cost of men's wearing apparel with the Federationist this morning, J. N. Harvey, head of the well-known clothing firm of Vancouver and Victoria, said: "From investigation made recently it is shown that men's wear can be bought cheaper in British Columbia than in any other of the provinces of Canada. One reason for this," he said, "was our being so far away from the markets that it made it necessary for us to buy further in advance than those who are in the large manufacturing centres. For instance, shortly after the beginning of the war I made very extensive and careful investigation of the woolen markets of the world and came to the conclusion that if the war were to last for any length of time that woollens would go very high in price and the cotton would follow. This we did so because of the speculation in these lines. Buying about double what we would ordinarily have done, because the manufacturers told us that we were liable to get only about 50 per cent. of what we were ordering, but because of our orders having been placed so far in advance of the average house in this line, we have secured almost 100 per cent. in many of the lines ordered, and this places us in a position to sell at practically old prices. Whereas, if we had bought them, say, three to six months later than we did, we would have had to pay 20 per cent. to 25 per cent. more than at the prices at which we bought."

"From a money-making standpoint," said Mr. Harvey, "it would pay us to hold these over at the higher prices of today, but that would not be giving the kind of service for which these stores stand, and then again, if we can sell double the amount that we depended on selling we could do so on a very much smaller margin of profit, and we are going to reach out for this record—of doubling our business during the present year—and are going to run big sales, to begin Saturday, and will give prices that will make it pay the people handsomely to buy at our stores. That suits, shirts and underwear will be on sale in many cases at less than it would be possible to buy at the manufacturers' prices."

EMPRESS

STRAWBERRY 'JAM

New Pack Now on the Market

1-lb. glass jars 4-lb. tins

Ask your grocer for it

Quality and purity guaranteed by the Empress pure food regulations. Let us know if he does not carry it. Empress Manufacturing Co. Vancouver, B. C.

Don't lose your natural teeth

Many people allow their teeth to go without attention, think that when they have to be extracted, they can remedy the loss perfectly by the use of a plate.

DON'T DO THAT—

Dental plates are a substitute for the natural teeth but, at the best, they are only an imperfect substitute.

The power of a dental plate in eating is only one-tenth the power of your natural teeth. In other words, your natural teeth are a ten-horse-power engine as compared with a dental plate which represents only a one-horse-power engine.

Don't let your natural teeth "go." See me and I will examine them and tell you, if possible, how they may be saved.

Wm. H. Thompson

DOCTOR OF DENTAL SURGERY
602 GRANVILLE STREET
Cor. Dunsmuir Private entrance

Phone Sey. 3514.
Arrange with dental nurse for an appointment.

SATURDAY

Big Dollar Day Bargains

UNTRIMMED SHAPES
WHITE FELT HATS
SPORT HATS
PANAMA HATS

FOR ONLY ONE DOLLAR

SEE WINDOW FRIDAY NIGHT

THE PATRICK CO.

MILLINERY 532 GRANVILLE STREET

STRAWS and PANAMAS

What's your pleasure—a Straw or Panama Hat? What shape? It matters little to this MEN'S HAT STORE—they are all here.

The PANAMAS are genuine ECUADORIAN—\$5.00 and up. The Straws are Sennit—Split and Fancy Braids—\$2.00 and up.

Note: LADIES' PANAMAS, \$5.00.

RICHARDSON & POTTS Ltd.

THE EXCLUSIVE HATTERS

417 Granville Street, near Corner Hastings

THE NANAIMO

COAL

BEST QUALITY BEST PRICE BEST SERVICE

Evans, Coleman & Evans, Limited

Wharf Office: FOOT COLUMBIA AVENUE Seymour 2988
Uptown Office: 407 GRANVILLE STREET Seymour 226

Dollar Day Bargains for Men At the Red Arrow Stores

EXTRA SPECIAL, 12 ONLY, MEN'S SUITS—Reg. \$15.00 and \$18.00. Sizes 22 to 38. Your choice for **\$7.65**

15 SUITS, Sizes 32 to 44. In good strong dark tweeds—Regular \$15 \$18 and \$20 values on sale at **\$9.85**

52 MEN'S SUITS—Regular \$15.00, \$18.00 and \$20.00—Sizes 36 to 42—one of each kind. On sale for **\$12.75**

200 MEN'S SUITS—Sizes 34 to 44. Regular \$18.00, \$20.00, \$25.00 to \$27.50—
On sale at three special prices

\$14.75, \$18.75, \$21.75

Regular 50c Ties at 29c, or 4 for \$1
Regular 75c Ties, 49c, or 2 for 95c
Regular 20c Silver Collars on sale..... 8 for \$1
20 doz. Cotton Sox, colored 8 for \$1
3 pairs 50c Cashmere Sox for \$1
35c Braces on sale 25c
Boys' Bathing Suits 49c
Men's Bathing Suits 69c

Fine Cashmere Bathing Suits \$1.49
Men's Dollar Shirts for 69c
25 dozen Shirts, reg. \$1.25 and \$1.50 values for 98c
6 dozen Drawers only, size 40 and 42, at 25c
Balbriggan Shirts and Drawers, all sizes, 48c each or, a suit 95c
Balbriggan and Porous Knit Combinations 98c
Men's Straw Boater Hats, \$1

WATCH OUR WINDOWS FOR RARE SNAPS

J. N. Harvey, Ltd.

125-127 HASTINGS STREET WEST

Also Yates Street, Victoria, B. C.

A PATRIOTIC CROWD AT HORSE SHOW BUILDING

"Real Citizens" Hear Nothing Most Eloquent and Ably Promulgated

Mrs. Ralph Smith Drops a Hint to Workers Whose Rights are Threatened

[By J. Kavanagh]

An audience of approximately 4,000 gathered at the Horse Show building to hear our statesmen, past, present, and would-be, tell them why they, the audience, should be sent to the trenches, at least the male portion of them.

The speeches delivered were chiefly noticeable for a lack of logical argument in favor of the resolution submitted, and could have been just as well to oppose the resolution as to support it.

The only points made during the whole of the agony were supplied by Mrs. Ralph Smith and appear below.

The platform was occupied by from 60 to 80 people, many of whom appeared to be fit to fill the trenches to which they are so eager to send others.

Immediately in front of the platform was congregated that small but boisterous element of pro-conscriptionists of both sexes, who made themselves so prominent at previous anti-meetings.

The audience consisted largely of women and men over military age, with a smattering of the younger element scattered throughout.

About 8.10 p.m., a band composed of members of the police force and the 72nd Highlanders entered the building and paraded around the arena, giving the hysterical element an opportunity to manifest their hysteria.

The Hon. William Bower of odiferous memory, mounted the platform at this time and received the backwash of the applause generated by the music.

After a little more music had worked the audience into a sympathetic mood, Mayor McBeath (who appears physically fit and of military age) opened the meeting and after a few remarks, called upon Mr. Bower.

The Hon. Bill spoke for quite a time in his usual fashion without saying anything.

Mr. Chas. McDonald, a would-be representative of the "peepul," next addressed us.

Mr. McDonald brought us a message, at least he said so. He also almost brought us to tears. His generosity was marvelous. He was willing to give all the men in Canada in order to preserve "our" liberty, whether they wanted to go or not.

Mac was long on superlatives, but appeared to be short on breath.

Loud applause greeted his last word. Mayor Gray of New Westminster also said nothing very explicitly. (Applause).

Mrs. Ralph Smith made the only points of the evening. She said, in the course of her remarks: "We should do our duty as we see it, and not as others want us to do it," and again, that should anyone try to break into her house she had a little iron dog with an iron tail and if anyone should try to take from her that which she now had, then that dog would bite.

These are two sayings the workers will do well to remember, and apply to their own specific case.

A returned soldier also spoke. Throughout the whole of the meeting the term liberty was freely used, to such an extent that at one time it seemed as though the audience might get next.

The resolution was put and a show of hands called for, but as a considerable number kept their hands down, a standing vote was called for. The vote was unanimous, owing to his worship neglecting to give the opposition a chance to vote, thus upholding the best traditions of "British justice" and "British fair play."

The meeting adjourned to the strains of patriotic music. (I think that is the way it is phrased).

As an exposition of the instability of the position taken by the representatives of the ruling class upon this as upon all other questions affecting the workers, the meeting was most successful, but as an exposition of reasons why we should surrender what petty liberties we now possess, it was a dismal failure.

The entire series of arguments put forward could have been shattered in five minutes by any working class speaker of my acquaintance.

Shipyards Laborers' Union.

On June 8 the initiation and installation meeting was held, Organizer Duncan McCallum, of the machinists, officiating. Officers elected: President, Bro. C. Soams; vice-president, Bro. E. Oliver; recording and corresponding secretary, Bro. W. Hardy; financial secretary, Bro. M. A. Phelps; treasurer, guide, Bro. W. J. Russell; guardian, Bro. T. Elliott; trustees, Bro. F. Kasel, Bro. J. Bellas, Bro. J. Child. A good start was made, thirty members being initiated. Mr. Crawford of the Sheet Metal Workers kindly helped out with information and sound advice.

The new union will meet every Friday evening this month, and on the first and third Fridays following. Anticipate big addition to membership from Coughlan's at tonight's meeting.

FACTS ABOUT OUR SHOES

We aim to furnish the best shoes that money can buy for the price we ask.

And we believe that we are giving the best shoe values in the city.

UNION MADE as far as possible

CLUFF SHOE CO.

649 HASTINGS STREET WEST

Dainty Summer Undermuslins Attractively Priced

Such assortments, styles and values as are offered here are only possible through our association with the foremost undermuslin houses and our ability to anticipate requirements. Those interested in muslin underwear are asked to view our displays and to allow us to present lines of practical worth.

Muslin Corset Covers at 35c, 45c, 65c, 75c and up.

Muslin Drawers at 25c, 45c, 65c, 85c and up.

Special assortment of Closed Drawers at 85c, \$1 and \$1.25.

Muslin Petticoats at \$1.00, \$1.25, \$1.75, \$2.25 and up.

Muslin Envelope Chemise at \$1.00, \$1.50, \$2.25 and up.

Crepe Envelope Chemise at \$1.25.

Muslin Nightgowns at 65c, \$1.00, \$1.25, \$1.50 and up.

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

575 Granville Phone Sey. 3540

WILL SEE FOOD RIOTS IN CANADA NEXT WINTER

Hon. Rudolph Lemieux Prophesies What Is To Happen

Urges Government to Boldly Deal With the Food Situation

Hansard of June 6th reports a speech made by the Hon. Rudolph Lemieux, which is of more than passing interest to wage-workers throughout Canada at this time. Mr. Lemieux said:

"I have here the index table showing the increase in the cost of living for the average family. According to the statistics gathered by the department of labor in sixty cities in Canada, in April, 1914, the cost for the average family was \$7.51 per week. That is very low. In April of this year the cost had risen to \$10.77 per week and, with the addition of coal, wood, lighting and rent, the total is brought up to \$17.34. I have a list of the prices of various commodities. It is simply appalling and I do not know what the people can do to maintain themselves and to be cheerful under these circumstances. I do not wish to make any appeal that would savor of demagoguery, but I must say that it is a serious situation. The government and parliament are about to consider nationalization of railways, and that is a very important question that demands an early solution, but is it not a fact that the question of food and the nationalization of cold storage is far more important than the nationalization of railways? You will have riots in this country next winter, you will have bread riots, if the government do not take a firm hand now to control food. I was also referring a moment or two ago to rentals and the price of coal. I wish to give this warning. About ten days ago I was in New York attending a meeting as a director of a railway company which has subsidiary lines in Canada. The president of the Delaware and Hudson Railway Company, which takes care of most of the coal transportation from Pennsylvania to Canada, said to me: 'I am amazed, Mr. Lemieux, to find that at this date we have not half of the coal transportation to Canada that we had last year or the year previous. What are you thinking about in Canada? You will suffer next winter if you have not your coal.' But that is aside from the question. I simply wished to refer to that conversation to show that if the government do not take with a firm hand the control and transportation of fuel and the control of food, they will have a very serious situation to contend with in Canada. It is the duty of the government to see to it that such conditions do not arise. I am very sincere. The government should take hold now of the cold storage situation and, if need be, make terms with the companies that are controlling the cold storage establishments; otherwise you will have riots in this country. I hope they will not occur but if the cost of living increases a few notches more, you will remember what I said this evening in the House. I do not wish that to happen, and I hope the government will be patriotic and firm enough to boldly take this question in hand and settle it accordingly to the best interests of the people."

Continued from page 1

Sheet Metal Workers' Organizer. W. L. Sullivan, Portland, Ore., general organizer of the Amalgamated Sheet Metal Workers' international alliance, is in the city this week, in connection with organization work locally. Mr. Sullivan reports trade conditions along the coast much better than for some years past. He expects a considerable increase in membership for the local Sheet Metal Workers during the next few weeks, as there is considerable work looming up in their line. It is not improbable that a business agent will be employed by the union from this date.

"DOWN TOOLS" VOTE LEFT TO UNIONS TO DECIDE

Continued from page 1

enacted at Ottawa, was referred to local unions by a roll-call vote of 27-24.

Brewery Workers' Agreement. After considerable debate it was decided that the executive take up with the executive of the Brewery Workers' union and the brewery employers the question of a wage increase of \$2 per week all round, despite an agreement terminating "six months after the war is concluded."

Attendance Roll

Statistician Cottrell reported 54 members present as follows: Typos—H. L. Corey, W. R. Trotter. Civic Employees—Geo. Harrison, G. W. McFarlan, V. R. Midgley. Boiler Makers and Helpers—Wm. Marshall.

Amalgamated Carpenters — R. Edmonds.

Deep Sea Fishermen—R. Kearley. Steam Shovel and Dredgemen—Stanley Ritchey, A. W. Cochran. Garment Workers—J. A. McMaster. Molders—W. J. Dickinson, A. H. Donaldson.

Bro. of Carpenters and Joiners—G. C. Thom, A. McDonald, Jas. Campbell. Longshoremen—A. Tree, G. Thomas, J. Kavanagh, G. J. Kelly.

Bartenders—J. A. Smith. Painters—D. Lemon.

Sugar Workers—T. H. Bellamy. Street Railwaymen—E. G. Kermode, W. H. Cottrell, F. A. Hoover, F. Haigh, B. G. Davies, R. E. Rigby. Pressmen—J. Scott.

Letter Carriers—R. Wight, J. Dodd, F. Knowles.

Boot and Shoe Workers—A. Colledge.

Cigar Makers—A. Koehel. Tailors—O. S. Gren, A. R. Gatenby, J. S. Ellsworth, H. Gutteridge.

Ironworkers—Roy Masseur. Cigar Makers—A. Koehel. Pattern Makers—W. H. Brown.

CITY COUNCIL DECIDES TO IGNORE BOARD FINDINGS

Civic Employees' Union Will Call a Special Meeting To Consider Next Move.

Despite the recommendations of the recent federal Industrial Disputes Act board, that not less than \$3 per day be paid to civic employees, the city council has decided to ignore the findings and this week decided to adopt instead the following schedule:

"In connection with the recommendations contained in the report of the conciliation board, the board of works be to recommend: That the rate of pay for scavenging and other seamsterns; day street sweepers in the downtown section; night street cleaning; bridge tenders; yard men, and general construction work, be \$3 per day; ward maintenance work, public convenience men and night watchmen, \$2.76 per day; day sweeping in the outside districts, day watchmen and dumpmen, \$2.50 per day; the three old men (six hours, no change), \$1.50 per day."

COMPLAINTS AGAINST DELAYS BY COMPENSATION BOARD

Special Committee of B. C. Federation of Labor Presented Many to Board at Victoria This Week.

The special committee named at the Revelstoke convention of the B. C. Federation of Labor, consisting of Vice-presidents McVety, Vancouver; and Wells, met at Victoria early this week. While in the Capital City they took up with the Workmen's Compensation Board a number of matters pertaining to the administration of the measure since Jan. 1st last, the date the legislation became effective.

At last meeting of Vancouver Trades and Labor Council, Del. Kelly of the longshoremen's union had several complaints to make against delays of the board in making settlements. These and a number of others were thoroughly gone into by the special committee and presented to the Workmen's Compensation Board.

Any others who have complaints to make over adjustment of claims should get into touch with Vice-president McVety at the Labor Temple, so that they can be dealt with by the committee as occasion arises.

THE ONLY UNION MEN'S CLOTHING AND FURNISHING STORE IN VANCOUVER

\$20.00

As a matter of economy or saving

it will be to any Union Man's advantage if he invests in one of the suits which we are selling at this price.

Owing to our large buying power, you are given a better stock to choose from, at this figure, than in any other store in the city.

CLAYMAN'S LIMITED

155 HASTINGS ST. W.

PAINTERS AND DECORATORS

Special Organization Campaign Is Achieving Expected Results.

Local 138, Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators and Paperhangers, has been very successful in adding new members to their membership for the last month through the able assistance of Business Agent Grand and Fourth G.V.P. Jos. Clark and Organizer Gus Uhl.

We have a meeting called with the Master Painters for next Tuesday night, June 26. We are in hopes of having them do business with our local through an agreement.

Sheet Metal Workers' Organizer.

W. L. Sullivan, Portland, Ore., general organizer of the Amalgamated Sheet Metal Workers' international alliance, is in the city this week, in connection with organization work locally. Mr. Sullivan reports trade conditions along the coast much better than for some years past. He expects a considerable increase in membership for the local Sheet Metal Workers during the next few weeks, as there is considerable work looming up in their line. It is not improbable that a business agent will be employed by the union from this date.

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Brewery Workers' Agreement. After considerable debate it was decided that the executive take up with the executive of the Brewery Workers' union and the brewery employers the question of a wage increase of \$2 per week all round, despite an agreement terminating "six months after the war is concluded."

Attendance Roll

Statistician Cottrell reported 54 members present as follows: Typos—H. L. Corey, W. R. Trotter. Civic Employees—Geo. Harrison, G. W. McFarlan, V. R. Midgley. Boiler Makers and Helpers—Wm. Marshall.

Amalgamated Carpenters — R. Edmonds.

Deep Sea Fishermen—R. Kearley. Steam Shovel and Dredgemen—Stanley Ritchey, A. W. Cochran. Garment Workers—J. A. McMaster. Molders—W. J. Dickinson, A. H. Donaldson.

Bro. of Carpenters and Joiners—G. C. Thom, A. McDonald, Jas. Campbell. Longshoremen—A. Tree, G. Thomas, J. Kavanagh, G. J. Kelly.

Bartenders—J. A. Smith. Painters—D. Lemon.

Sugar Workers—T. H. Bellamy. Street Railwaymen—E. G. Kermode, W. H. Cottrell, F. A. Hoover, F. Haigh, B. G. Davies, R. E. Rigby. Pressmen—J. Scott.

Letter Carriers—R. Wight, J. Dodd, F. Knowles.

Boot and Shoe Workers—A. Colledge.

Cigar Makers—A. Koehel. Tailors—O. S. Gren, A. R. Gatenby, J. S. Ellsworth, H. Gutteridge.

Ironworkers—Roy Masseur. Cigar Makers—A. Koehel. Pattern Makers—W. H. Brown.

Brewery Workers—G. Gilbert. Cooks and Waiters—A. Graham. Sailors' Union—W. S. Burns. Machinists—G. Lyle, A. R. Towler. J. Brooks, J. H. McVety. Bartenders—R. McCaffrey. Sheet Metal Workers—A. J. Crawford. Civic Firemen—A. Beita. Plumbers—F. W. Welsh.

STREET CAR STRIKE SETTLED IN RIGHT

Continued from page 1

no question between them and the company in regard to wages or working conditions. In order to prevent the company committing a mistake that might tend to shake the confidence not only of the men, but of the public at large, in the sagacity and good judgment of the company, "Teddy" Morrison, business agent of the Electrical Workers, called at the office of the company and in the course of his visit casually mentioned to Mr. Kidd that the moment the first strikebreaker made his appearance would be the same moment from which there would be no more light and power in the city. Having dropped this gentle and kindly hint "Teddy" modestly took his departure. No strikebreakers made their appearance.

The Company Surrenders.

Yesterday noon the company officials sent for the union officials and within the space of one hour all the demands of the men had been conceded and the strike was off. Not a single individual had been assaulted nor a cent's worth of property either interfered with or in any manner damaged. With the exception, of course, of such interruption of the revenue producing proclivity of capitalist property that had been incidental to the profit makers quitting their employment. That it did not cause any particular suffering upon the part of the strikers is amply attested by the fact that it was noticed that as soon as the strike was on, many of them broke out into song, as they gathered at the Labor Temple, a sort of penn of joy as it were, over their happy release, even for a brief period, from the galling harness of servitude that had been so long worn in the company's service.

Think It Over.

Now you who are pondering over the advisability of "down tools" in case your blind and brutal masters deem it meet and proper to forcibly lasso you and destroy your liberties in order to gorge their cannon with the only food it is calculated to assimilate, be good enough to draw a lesson from the street railwaymen who so successfully pulled off such a splendid manifestation of the power of labor once it becomes imbued with the spirit of solidarity and has the good sense and manly courage to stand squarely for what it wants and go the limit in getting it. If the workers of Canada but make such a stand in defense of their democracy and liberty, limited though they be, all the powers of reaction and tyranny cannot prevail against them. Nothing quite like this street car strike has been previously pulled off in Canada. The Street Railwaymen are to be congratulated upon showing the rest of us how to do it. Now go ye and do likewise. Either stand together or go down to defeat as one.

Broadway Theatre

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