THE BRITISH COLUMBIA FEDERATIONIST

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

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The Crowning Achievement

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In Canadian Political Infamy

Ottawa Experts at Intrigue Arrange Sure Thing Election Game

Franchise to Be Limited to Assured Supporters of Conscription

Political Vulgarity and Impudent Chicanery As a Fine Art

CANADIAN politicians have long since attained a well-earned fame for unscrupulous chicanery and coarse intrigue, that has extended to the uttermost parts of the earth. Not even the political history of the United States discloses anything more vulgar, coarse and unclean, than the political life of Canada during the last half century. No greater contempt has ever been manifested for all principles of honor, decency and seemly conduct, than has been openly shown as the normal expression of so-called Canadian statesmanship, during that time. The most flagrant jobbery, the most stupendous schemes of public loot and plunder, have been pushed through to their conclusion with the utmost indifference to all codes of moral and ethical rectitude, and without bringing the slightest indication of the blush of shame to the calloused cheeks of the instigators and perpetrators thereof. It has long since become generally acknowledged that moral turpitude is the sole qualification requisite to a successful career in Canadian political life.

But, however coarse, low, mean and vile the standard of political conduct may have been in the past, it has been left to the gang of political intriguers and crooks now in command of the ship of stae, at Ottawa, to develop such a super-excellent efficiency in the art of political roguery as to place them in a class by themselves and stamp tehir achievements as the ultimate of possibility in the noble science of political skullduggery.

The forcing of the conscription act upon the people of the Dominion, without other mandate or authority than that which had been impudently assumed, no one really knows for what damnable purpose, unless it be the perpetrators of the infamy themselves, was bad enough, one would think, to satisfy the most cultivated and fastidious taste for things morally rotten and ethically disgusting. But as if that were not enough; as if there was yet a degree of low appetite for things unclean and vile, that it was the duty of the purveyors of political atrociousness and past masters of political depravity to feed with choice crumbs of satisfying and appropriate succulence, the Ottawa high priests of political depravity have nobly risen to the occasion by incubating a "War Times Election Act," that has anything in the line of impudent chicanery and clumsy cunning that was ever perpetrated, beaten to a standstill. It is impossible to conceive of any manner in which this precious device to secure the certain return of the intriguers to power could be improved upon. Stripped of all unnecessary verbiage it resolves itself into a fairly simple proposition of allowing the franchise to any one who can clearly establish his or her intention to support the candidates and policy of the delectable schemers who are now in office, and who incubated the precious "Act." If you are unquestionably for Borden and his unconscionable and impudent allied rogues and their vicious policies, you will be allowed to register your convictions to that effect. If not, you will clearly have no chance to register your pro-German and disloyal sentiments. Some of the provisions contemplated in this precious "Act" are as follows:

Disfranchisement of citizens of enemy alien birth naturalized since March 31, 1902. Disfranchisement not to apply to those with son, grandson or brother on active service, or to Armenians or Syrians.

Disfranchisement of Doukhobors, Mennonites and all others exempted from combatant military service for conscientious reasons; exercise of franchise by any individual a bar to any later claim for exemption on conscientious grounds.

Enfranchisement of mothers, wives, widows, daughters or sisters of soldiers who have gone overseas from Canada since the beginning of the war.

That the patriotic Tory women are also busily engaged in aiding the noble purpose of the Borden band of most eminent statesmen in winning the election, and incidentally the war, is shown by the following telegram alleged to have been sent out from Toronto recently to faithful female workers in the noble cause throughout the western provinces. The signatures are those of the president of the National Council of Women, the president of the National Equal Franchise league and the regent of the Imperial Order of Daughters of the Empire. The purpose is clearly that of ascertaining if it would be safe for the conspirators to include all of the women among those who were to be allowed to vote for Borden under the "Act." Here is the telegram:

Toronto, Aug. 2, 1917.

Can you ascertain opinion of outstanding reliable women in your district with regard to the following question:

Would the granting of the federal franchise to women make conscription assured at the general election, if such is inevitable, taking carefully into consideration the vote of the foreign women?

Highly important that we should have this information or at least some idea of the trend of women's opinion on this question.

PLEASE GLEAN YOUR INFORMATION AS QUIETLY AS POSSIBLE.

Telegraph results not later than Monday, 6th, to 205 Yonge street, room 15.

MRS. TORRINGTON,
MRS. A. L. HAMILTON,
MRS. ALBERT GOODERHAM.

We shall have something more to say about the purity of Canadian politics next week, or rather the impurity. If the people will stand for this latest attempt to nullify democracy and repudiate their participation in government, they will stand for anything. And they will right well deserve it, too.

SMELTERMEN NOW HAVE 8-HOUR DAY

Granby Co. Makes "Voluntary" Concessions, But Union Has Say

It will be remembered that District 6 of the Miners' union (metalliferous), some weeks ago submitted a new schedule to the employers of British Columbia. Negotiations were carried on in several camps and quite a number of agreements were entered into. Whether "voluntary" or not, as suggested, the Granby Co., operating at various points throughout the province, mostly in the Boundary district and away up north in the Anyox camp, has announced a "sliding" wage increase covering the smelter at Grand Forks and the mines at Phoenix. For every two cents raise in the market price of copper above 14c a pound, the wages of the men are increased by 25c a day, thus with copper at 24c the men receive a bonus of $1.25 per day, while if copper reaches 30c the bonus will amount to $2.

In addition to this all men who have in the past been working nine hours a day will now only be required to work eight hours.

ADVISES TEAMSTERS NOT TO JOIN UNION

Pacific Transfer Co. Oppose New Union of Drivers in This City

The Pacific Transfer company is now in a class with the Turner's dairy in its treatment of organized labor. It refused to permit its teamsters to join the newly-organized Teamsters' and Drivers' union. The manager of the company says he has advised, and would continue to advise his teamsters not to join the union. He says he prefers to deal with his employees individually and not collectively. The manager is very frank about it, and organized labor no doubt will be just as frank in demanding that deliveries to their homes be by drivers or teamsters belonging to the new union. A committee which was appointed by the new organization has been busy among other unions circulating word that all members of organized labor should insist that goods delivered to their homes be by union men. If this course is insisted upon, organized labor will greatly assist the new union. As a matter of fact, this will assure to a still greater degree the success of the new union.

It is understood the Pacific Transfer man has a grouch of some years' standing against organized labor, dating to the time an attempt was made before by the teamsters to organize for their own protection and benefit. Unquestionably the Pacific Transfer Co. has been doing considerable business with members of organized labor. His "advice" to his teamsters, however, would indicate that he does not give a snap of his fingers for members of unions.

Such being the case, the manager of the Pacific Transfer company may scarcely expect as patrons the brother union men of the teamsters. However, the Pacific Transfer company is not the only transfer company in the city, and, so far as known, this company is the only one which has expressed any objection to its men joining the union.

Out of Hospital.

President J. R. Foster, of the Moving Picture Operators, his friends will be very pleased to learn, after two weeks in hospital, is now out and around again, fully recovered.

TEAMSTERS' UNION MAKES BIG GROWTH

Large Increase in Membership at the Last Meeting

Seventy-five new members were added by the newly-organized union of Teamsters' and Drivers, at the meeting on Wednesday night. The membership is now over 500. The union voted a contribution of $25 to the funds for anti-conscription candidates in the federal elections. H. J. Petrie, business agent, resigned and was highly complimented for his work on behalf of the organization. J. F. Pool was elected by acclamation to succeed him. B. S. Showler was elected secretary-treasurer. A notice of motion was given that the union should subscribe in a body to The Federationist.

CANNERY COMPELS GIRLS TO WORK ON SUNDAY

Manager of a Victoria Cannery Makes Surprising Admission

Women's Labor Exploited At Miserable Wage of of 15c an Hour

Thirty or forty women are employed at the cannery of the Vantoria Canning company, in this city, at the small wages of 15 cents an hour. Some of the workers are mere children, not more than 14 or 15. Last Sunday a part of the force was compelled to work under protest, making seven days a week. The manager, Sorenson, is reported to have told the women that if he could not get them to work the week through, and when he wanted them to, he would engage Chinese in their places. Furthermore, the women are compelled to work nine hours a day and over. Sorenson could not get Chinese laborers to do the work he has the women do for 15 cents an hour. Orientals could have been engaged at one time for this money, but since the war took so many men out of British Columbia, they are finding jobs now which pay much better than under the old conditions. They are filling white men's jobs in the mills and other places, and, though getting less pay than white labor, it is a whole lot more than they used to earn.

So Sorenson's threat to the women at his cannery was all bluff, and he knew it. Furthermore, employment of Chinks by the cannery would 'nt be very good advertising for Vantoria goods.

Complaint of the conditions at the Vantoria cannery was made to The Federationist. The burden of the complaint was substantially borne out by the cannery manager himself, though he attempted to be misleading as to the wages paid. He said he paid from $3.50 to $6 a day. When pinned down, he said his engineer got $6 a day. It is a safe bet that the only reason the engineer gets that amount of money is because the engineers of this city are organized, otherwise they might have to subsist on wages far too low, as in the case of the women employed at this cannery.

When Sorenson said he was paying from $3.50 to $6 a day, he implied $3.50 was the wages being paid to his ordinary help, which, of course, was a mistake, for at 15 cents an hour, it would be impossible for the women to make such a sum, unless he worked them all day long.

Sorenson's excuse for working the women on Sundays was that when goods had to be canned, they had to be canned. Otherwise they would spoil. That is quite evident. Were this establishment a little more considerate of its employees, there could be an arrangement whereby some of the employees who were needed on Sunday work could have a day off.

However, when a woman is making only 15 cents an hour, and probably trying to support some dependents upon it she would welcome the extended time. If the cannery management employed men instead, it would never get away with the 15-cents-an-hour scale. Like some other business enterprises, the Vantoria cannery is exploiting female labor because it is possible to get it cheap.

GENERAL ORGANIZER IS VERY OPTIMISTIC

Sheet Metal Workers in the Northwest Are in Very Prosperous Shape

"Sheet Metal Workers' organizations throughout the Pacific northwest are in excellent condition, especially in Vancouver," yesterday, said W. L. Sullivan, general organizer, who is here from Kansas City, his headquarters. Mr. Sullivan has been travelling in the northwest for the past three months, and departs soon for Utah, Colorado, Wyoming and other states in connection with his work of organization. Speaking of improved conditions generally, Mr. Sullivan said:

"The local here on September 1 got a raise of 50 cents a day, being the second increase lately. The membership in the union has doubled and more members are in sight. The organization nearly covers all the sheet metal workers here.

"I was recently in Victoria, but business is not so good there, but still our organization is being maintained.

"In Calgary and Edmonton business has improved greatly and both locals are growing. As a matter of fact, business is very good all along the coast.

"On Puget Sound and in Vancouver sheet metal workers and in fact, all engaged in the shipbuilding industry, are very much interested in the conference in Washington, D. C. Whatever is the outcome of the conference between shipbuilders and workers on Puget Sound, undoubtedly will decide the scale of wages to be paid in this industry in Vancouver."

It has been three years since the general organizer was in Vancouver before, and he told The Federationist that he finds a very decided increase for the better in business generally and organized labor.

Vancouver Delegates at Ottawa.

Messrs. Towler, Machinists; Knowles, Letter Carriers; Cottrell, Street Railway Employees; Hardy, Carpenters, and Trotter, Typos., are among the Vancouver delegates who will be in Ottawa next week to attend the big national convention of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada.

POLITICAL POT

It will almost seem like old times with "Billy" McInnes' hat in the ring again. Judge McInnes subsided for a long time, and he must be all pent up fit for a terrific political explosion now. He has accepted the nomination of the Liberals of Comox constituency to be their champion in the coming battle of the Liberals against the Tory powers at Ottawa, who, heaven knows, have done enough to give the judge, or anybody else, sufficient campaign material. The Tories ought to be put out on general principles. Many ask the question if the Grits in would change things very materially. Well, as between two evils, etc., some are inclined to say, the people should choose the lesser, if it is the lesser. There is one thing about it, however, and that is this: The people know the Borden government to be rotten. It is strongly suspected some of them ought to be in jail. Whether that is true or not, does not alter the fact that they have pulled off some deals which look like porch-climbing and second storey work. That C.N.R. st—deal is one of them. And the way they have monkeyed with the military service business, let war profiteers remain out of jail and combinations to exist in restraint of trade, are some things which the general public will never forgive.

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The only way the Tories can win again is to steal the election. They are preparing the way for a suffrage steal which is indescribably despicable. It is a pity that those responsible for laws inimical to the welfare of the public cannot be suitably punished. In which event some of that eastern crowd of profit pirates would get worse than jail.

* * *

Electors must not overlook the decision of the B. C. Federation of Labor to leave in the hands of the executive committee the right to place Labor candidates in the field. Some say this would prove of decided advantage to the Tory nest back east. They reason Labor candidates would divide the opposition with the Liberals. This may be true, but the executive committee may be trusted to consider all these things. Unquestionably the Labor candidates will have the best chance in the history of Labor in this province, generally speaking.

* * *

Organized labor, and unorganized as well, which realizes how far the profiteers of Canada will go to exploit them, are unalterably opposed to the principle of conscription. That is the reason for the proposal to place Labor candidates in the field. These candidates will leave no doubt as to where they stand on the conscription subject. The Liberals, oppose conscription more because it is a Borden scheme than because it is the poor man who chances to get the worst of it. However, they say they are in favor of the "conscription" of wealth, but do not define just what that means. If it means a tax on profits, it is scarcely enough. Conscription of manhood means taking away every last penny of profits accumulated through the unfortunate circumstances of the war?

* * *

Won't there be a fine, upstanding lot of budding politicians of both Grit and Tory stripe trying for exemption, should the Borden bunch have the nerve to force conscription upon the people of Canada? How many of those ardent young "Win the War" stalwarts will have excuse sufficient to escape the dragnet? Of course, they all claim excuses now, but will they be able to get away with it always? Of course, some of them will, for conscription is a purely political measure. However, the writer can name a whole lot of young huskies whose only physical ailment is they are too darn fat to fight just now. But a six weeks' course of military drill would put them in as good shape to fight Germans, or anybody else, as the working class is looked upon as being.

* * *

Those political fighters might at least get in training for "home defence." The only portion of their anatomy fit appears to be their lungs, and their vocal cords.

* * *

Up in Comox, Judge McInnes is going to run up against Herb. Clements, a conscription politician. Clements is given credit for being a finished campaigner. He depends upon his handshake, for he can't speak in a class with the judge. It will be a battle between oratory and handshaking. Herb. has considerably the best of it thus far, for the judge is only just entering the lists, and Herb. has been quietly sneaking around for months, for he needs his position pretty bad. Clements hasn't done anything for years but represent some constituency or other. He makes a living out of it.

* * *

And, by the way, talking about party politicians, there is some good material going to waste in this country. There's King Kelly. One of the most successful accomplishments in a party campaign is the collection end. Not many men can step out and get the money like Kelly can.

SOLDIERS' WIVES HOLD HECTIC MEETING

Roundly Criticize Borden and Work of "Patriotic" Fund

President Refuses to Resign and When She Faints Meeting Disperses

"We, the Canadian Association of Mothers and Wives of Soldiers and Sailors of the British army and navy demand that the government give a substantial increase in our separation allowance, as the Patriotic fund allowance is insufficient to make ends meet, owing to the high cost of living. A reply will be appreciated. If not, we shall continue demanding an increase until we get it."

THE FOREGOING resolution was adopted Wednesday night at a meeting of the Canadian Association of the Mothers and Wives of Soldiers and Sailors. The meeting also expressed its resentment at the manner in which the Patriotic fund is administered, various speakers saying they felt like the recipients of charity.

Many pathetic instances were disclosed showing how dependents of the men who have gone to the front are compelled to exist by stinting themselves on the inadequate allowances.

One vigorous speaker declared the women dependent on the men who had gone away to fight, had been sitting for three years "letting politicians and slackers play chess with men's blood on the fields of Flanders, where they have been tools of the government."

Another speaker declared the Borden government had no respect for the soldiers' or the sailors' wives. The exemption provisions in the Military Service Act was declared to be for the purpose of allowing favorites to get out of service.

The sentiment of the meeting was in favor of equalization of pensions.

The association has had six months of existence, and some of the officers and their methods do not appeal to the rank and file, so all officers with the exception of the president, Mrs. Janet Kemp, of fruit-picking fame, resigned. Mrs. Kemp refused, claiming she had been elected for five years or something like that. Some of the remarks directed at Mrs. Kemp for her exploitation of women's labor in the fruit fields were anything but complimentary. Several criticisms of Mrs. Kemp, which have appeared in the local press, were read and referred to for her benefit. Finally, still refusing to step down from the presidency, she fainted, which broke up the meeting. Another meeting is to be held in two weeks.

Government Makes Workingman Ante

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The Tax Collector Hales Man To Court

THE INIQUITY of the poll tax, and the possibilities which it presents in the way of discomforts, even arrest, not to mention the hardship it works on the general public, was clearly shown the other day when one Andrew Blygh, a noisy politician, who was rewarded for his work for the Brewster government in the late campaign by an appointment of poll tax collector, had a man haled before Magistrate Shaw.

This is one of the taxes put in force by Premier Brewster as finance minister, who had been loudly proclaiming that his government would adopt a course of "scientific" taxation, by which he was figured to mean something new and extraordinary. The poll tax is a relic of dark ages of government. Most up-to-date governments do not put their hand into the ordinary workingman's pocket in this manner any more. They have a "scientific" way of going about it, and, though the workingman, who is the producer of all wealth, pays eventually as he pays everything, even though he does not participate in the fruits of his labor, he is not absolutely bludgeoned out of it.

However, the brilliant Brewster government, which bragged on the hustings what it was going to do for the benefit of the workers, is playing directly into the hands of employers, as did the old government, and instead of increasing the income tax sufficiently, it based its income calculations on what could be extracted from the actual originators and producers of wealth. The poll tax of $5 a head on workingmen wha haven't been able to get sufficient money ahead to buy their own homes, a surtax, which doubles the amount of taxes of the farmer, a tax on theatre tickets, were some of the "scientific" taxation figured out by the brilliant Brewster government.

On Vancouver island the farmers have banded together to refuse to come across with the additional taxes on their farms. They reason the government will not dare foreclose on their property to make good this feature of its "scientific" taxation.

However, about the iniquitous poll tax, at the rate it is being gathered in by a young army of political collectors, the administration of this taxation will come pretty high. For information of electors who may be curious to see the outcome of the Brewster "scientific" taxation, the government should keep a record of how much this sort of taxation costs to garner. Several poll tax collectors are running about this town, and other towns too, at a salary of $125 a month. It is a safe bet that some of them do not collect that much in poll taxes in a month. At least after the novelty has worn off they won't.

Meanwhile, the employers of labor are getting all the best of it. While there have been some small increases, and taxes in spots have been doubled, it would have been an easier and more "scientific" way if Brewster had spread the amount he expected to get by a poll assessment over the banks, the automobiles, the various ilnes of business enterprises, the big mining companies, the owners of theatres, the land speculators, and, finally, by reduction of the princely salaries the cabinet ministers and their over-lapping office staffs draw. Finally, the addition of salary appropriated by Premier Brewster would have paid several hundred poll taxes.

While this government before it was elected, made great protestations of being the workingman's friend, it may have started out that way, but it has fallen like other governments, and is at the beck and call of corporation interests.

Trades and Labor Congress To Convene at Ottawa on Monday

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VICTORIA LETTER CARRIERS' PROTEST

Join With All the Western Cities in Demand for $20 Increase

Victoria Letter Carriers have joined with Vancouver and other western cities in a protest against governmental delay in increasing wages commensurate with the prices of foodstuffs. At a meeting on Tuesday evening in the Capital City, the membership adopted the following resolution:

"That this meeting request that the government grant an immediate general increase of $20 per month to the aforementioned employees, and that all temporary employees receive a similar increase in pay; and be it further resolved that the said increase be granted as and from October 1, 1916, and to be received not later than September 30, 1917."

Copies of the resolution were sent to Sir Robert Borden, the postmaster-general and the secretary of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada.

All the Letter Carriers in the cities between Winnipeg and the coast are cooperating in this request.

THINKS SECRETARY DON'T UNDERSTAND

Sad Situation With Which the Government Has to Deal

In reply to his telegram of protest upon the part of the Vancouver Trades and Labor council against the government's "War Time Election Act," Secretary Midgley received the following in reply:

"Ottawa, Ont., Sept. 12, 1917.

"Victor R. Midgley, secretary Trades and Labor Council,
Vancouver, B. C.

"Telegram received. It is evident you do not fully appreciate the situation with which the government has to deal. Am writing you fully by this mail.

"R. L. BORDEN."

Mr. Midgley assures The Federationist that he full well "appreciates the situation with which the government has to deal." He fully understands the indisputable need of winning elections, and realizes that when a government has conducted its affairs so as to bring down upon its head the well-merited execrations of every clean-thinking and well-intentioned person in the community, that the sledding will have been made so rough for the return journey to power, that no inconsiderable amount of unscrupulous road work may be necessary to ensure a safe return. Oh, yes, Mr. Midgley appreciates the situation, and no doubt has complete confidence in the ability of the present government to satisfactory "deal" with it. But it may be a raw deal for all of that.

MINERS' UNION IN ANNUAL SESSION

Delegates at Nelson Discuss Questions Affecting Membership

District 6 of the Mine, Mill and Smeltermen's International union (old W. F. of M.), convened in annual convention at Nelson on Monday. Consideration was given to the question of furthering the movement for a "bank to bank" provision in the Provincial Metalliferous Mines Act; the prevention of dust and danger to employees from contact with trolley lines; improved mine inspection; an eight-hour law for smelter workers, and improved sanitary conditions in bunkhouses and other buildings at the mines.

Opposition was expressed by President Roberts to the proposal of the provincial Workmen's Compensation board that the scale of compensation to dependents or Orientals should be reduced. He quoted the famous Krutz case, in which the right to compensation of non-resident alien dependents was established, and mentioned the fact that if discrimination against Orientals were made, it might be extended to other classes of labor.

President Roberts, Silverton, defended the miners against charges of lack of democracy broached by the Butte insurgents, and declared: "It behooves us to resent in no uncertain manner this campaign of slander carried on by the so-called Industrial Worwers of the World."

Drug Clerks Organize.

At a meeting of drug clerks last Sunday, eighteen joined the Retail Clerks' union. The drug clerks, because Sundays are their only days off, will meet on that day. As many of them as may get off on week days will attend the Retail Clerks' union.

Reciprocity.

¶ A simple and effective method of assisting in the publication and usefulness of The Federationist is to patronize its advertisers and tell them why.

¶ Ask to be served by a union clerk and insist upon union-labelled goods.

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33rd Annual Convention of Organized Labor Meets Next Monday

Many Grave Problems That Confront the Workers to Be Considered

Toilers of the Dominion Expect Vigorous and Militant Action

THE THIRTY-THIRD annual convention of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada will meet in the city of Ottawa on Monday, Sept. 17. The eyes of the workers will be hopefully directed to the deliberations of the convention, with the expectation that the attitude already taken by organized labor throughout the Dominion in regard to all questions growing out of the war, will be reaffirmed and such further recommendations offered as the highest and best interest of a progressive and militant labor movement demands.

It is but fair to say that the Canadian Labor movement has not willingly surrendered any of Labor's privileges to the forces of reaction, on account of the specious sophistries of politicians and war boosters.

The attitude assumed by the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada has been an eminently sane one, from the standpoint of Labor and democracy, ever since the war broke out.

It has not temporized with conscript slavery, but through its officials has openly and emphatically condemned it.

Its attitude in regard to wealth conscription for war purposes has been unequivocally stated as that of being emphatically in favor of it down to the last fathing, if necessary.

Taken all round, and upon all questions of consequence to the workers, the attitude of Canadian organized labor has been in striking contradistinction to that of the United States.

It has been marked with no spirit of truckling to reactionary governmental tendencies.

It has not been swerved from progressive and militant lines by the patronizing sophistries of wily politicians.

It has not been carried off its feet by the intoxication of machine made patriotism.

It has remained eminently sane in the face of this world fury of blood and slaughter, quite willing to do its part in making the world safe for capitalism against feudalism, but steadily refusing to voluntarily surrender any of the hard-won privileges that the workers have wrung from the past.

The Federationist expects that the convention will mark time for the Labor movement of this western continent, by the re-affirmation of a vigorous, militant, and progressive policy of warfare against the political and economic regime of feudal and capitalist autocrats, that has thrown the world into the present holocaust.

Discussing the probable deliberations of the convention, the Northwest Worker says:

"All eyes of the workers of the United States should be directed to the forthcoming convention of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, which will be held in Ottawa on September 17. Canada has defeated conscription temporarily mainly through the courageous defiance of the labor leaders, who represented the rank and file in their opposition to compulsory service.

"The campaign for the conscription of wealth really means something in Canada, because the labor leaders are, indeed, working to bring it about. Other important matters will be discussed at the convention.

"Ottawa has been the storm centre of the most momentous period in the history of Canada in which a significant part was taken by the labor movement, to its eternal credit.

"It is believed that the session will be fruitful of beneficial results, not only to the labor movement of Canada, but to that of the United States, which will meet in convention two months later."

SHEET METAL MEN MIGHT MEET HERE

Northwest Council of Organizations May Accept Vancouver Men's Invitation.

The local Sheet Metal Workers' have invited the Northwest District council to hold its convention on September 30 in this city, and there is a good prospect that the invitation will be accepted, though Seattle was named as the meeting place. It is believed the holding of the convention here will have a good effect. There will be about 20 to 25 delegates in attendance, representing the organizations of Portland, Tacoma, Seattle, Everett, Victoria and Vancouver.

"Jimmie" Robison in California.

"Jimmie" Robison, an old-time official of the Brotherhood of Carpenters, is now snugly located at Pacoima, Los Angeles, Cal., in search of health. In an itneresting letter to The Federationist, "Jimmie" has much to say covering working and other conditions in the alleged "land of the free." "Jimmie's" friends, and they are legion in Vancouver, are invited to come in and read the message. It is good, too live for publication, even in this great family journal.

"Whether labor is holy or a holy terror there remains the fact that under the present industrial system the idlers are the socially elect, admired, fawned upon and envied while the workers are social outcasts, the recipients of the crumbs from the table of the idlers."

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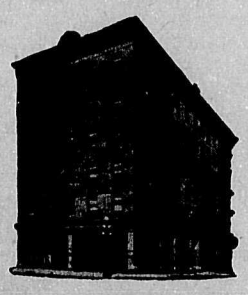

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FULL DETAILS OF CONSCRIPTION SCHEMES

Workingmen Will Bear the Burden and Profiteers Run Canada

A Long List of Exemption Excuses Gives Chance for Favoritism

The conscription details furnish much food for thought among laboring men, who under the plans of the Borden government to conscript manhood only, and let the profiteers continue their reckless disregard of the individual, will bear the burden if the Borden crowd gets away with it.

The men who are liable to be called out will consist of six classes, as follows:

Class 1. Those who have attained the age of twenty years and were born not earlier than the year 1883, and are unmarried, or are widowers but have no child.

Class 2. Those who have attained the age of twenty years and were born not earlier than the year 1883 and are married, or are widowers who have a child or children.

Class 3. Those who were born in the years 1876 to 1882, both inclusive, and are unmarried, or are widowers who have no child.

Class 4. Those who were born in the years 1876 to 1882, both inclusive, and are married or are widowers who have a child or children.

Class 5. Those who were born in the years 1872 to 1875, both inclusive, and are unmarried, or are widowers who have no child.

Class 6. Those who were born in the years 1872 to 1875, both inclusive, and who are married, or are widowers who have a child or children.

(2) For the purpose of this section, any man married after the sixth day of July, 1917, shall be deemed to be unmarried.

(3) Any class, except class 1, shall include men who are transferred thereto from another class, and men who have come within class 1 since the previous class was called out.

Order of Calling Out.

(4) The order in which the classes are described in this section shall be the order in which they may be called out on active service, provided the governor-in-council may divide any class into subsclasses, in which case the subclasses shall be called out in order of age beginning with the youngest.

The Act stipulates that any man who is called out and who, without reasonable excuse, fails to report when called upon, shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on summary conviction to imprisonment for any term not exceeding five years, with hard labor.

Exemptions.

Men called on by the draft may secure exemption from service on the following grounds:

(2) That it is expedient in the national interest that the man should, instead of being employed in military service, be engaged in other work in which he is habitually engaged.

(2) That it is expedient in the national interest that the man should, instead of being employed in military service, be engaged in other work in which he wishes to be engaged and for which he has special qualifications.

(3) That it is expedient in the national interest that, instead of being employed in military service, he should continue to be educated or trained for any work for which he is then being educated or trained.

(4) That serious hardship would ensue if the man were placed on active service, owing to his exceptional financial or business obligations or domestic position.

(5) Ill-health or infirmity.

Conscientious Objectors.

(6) That he conscientiously objects to the undertaking of combatant service and is prohibited from so doing by the tenets and articles of faith, in effect on July 6 1917, of any organized religious denomination existing and well recognized in Canada at such date, and to which he in good faith belongs.

A certificate of exemption, the Act specifies, may be conditional as to time or otherwise and, if granted solely on conscientious grounds, shall state that such exemption is from combatant service only. If granted on the ground of continuance of education or training, or on the ground of exceptional financial or business obligations, or domestic position, it shall be conditional only. A certificate may transfer a man to the class next in numerical order. No certificate will be conditional upon a person to whom it is granted continuing in or entering into employment under any specified employer, or in any specified place or establishment. The certificate must be produced whenever asked for by persons in authority, and anyone who fails to comply with this will be liable to a fine not exceeding $100 or to imuprisonment for not more than a year.

Suppression of Papers.

Newspapers, books, periodicals, pamphlets or printed publication who oppose the Act are liable to immediate suppression and those responsible are liable to fine or imprisonment.

The exceptions are enumerated as follows: Men who hold a certificate under this Act and in force, other than a certificate of exemption from combatant service only; members of the regular, reserve or auxiliary forces, and other military forces; members of the royal navy or the royal marines, or the naval service of Canada, and members of the C. E. F.; men who have since August 4, 1914, served in the military or naval forces of Great Britain or her Allies in any theatre of actual war and have been honorably discharged therefrom.

The clergy, including members of any recognized order of an exclusively religious character, and ministers of all religious denominations existing in Canada at the date of the passing of the Act, are also excepted from the operation of the Act, as well as those persons excepted from military service by order-in-council of August 13, 1873, and December 6, 1898.

LETTERS TO THE FED.

New S. D. P. Organizer Named.

Editor B. C. Federationist: I have just been apopinted Dominion organizer for the Social Democratic Party and as soon as arrangements are completed, will begin a tour. All secretaries of locals, and independent socialists in unorganized districts who are anxious to see the organization and direction of their forces, are invited to write Geo. F. Stirling, imediately in order to arrange for meetings throughout the province. Every day as the capitalist governments squirm and writhe under the destruction which they have pulled upon themselves; every day as their unnegotiable negotiations proceed with unerring steps towards chaos, it becomes more and more apparent that the social revolution is upon us.

Our comrades in Russia have made a stand against imperialism; against the machinations of politicians; against the greed of ambitious potentates; and the heartless profiteering of capitalists. In Italy and France and Great Britain, the power of the Social Democracy is growing so rapidly that its bitterest foes are now mouthing phrases about Liberty and Democracy.

In Canada our forces have been disorganized since the outbreak of the war, with the result that our rulers have passed the iniquitous conscription measure in flagrant contempt of the wishes of the majority, fastening upon us that very tyranny against which we are said to be at war! And now they are about to venture one step further with their perfidious legislation by introducing the military voting bill. In this bill it is intended all soldiers in the Canadian forces shall vote and shall tell us how we shall be ruled. These soldiers include adventurous Americans who came over to join up for the fun of the thing, Britishers who came over to Canada to enlist in order to get the higher pay, and tens of thousands of others who have only resided a few weeks in this country and know nothing of our affairs.

Organization is imperative. Talk it over with the other fellow at once. Decide that it is practicable and desirable and write without delay to

GEORGE F. STIRLING,
Rural Route No. 2,
Salmon Arm, B. C.

Sept. 10, 1917.

Our Duty in Canada and the Whole North American Continent.

Editor B. C. Federationist: I speak from pure motives as taught from observation of conditions as we see plainly that taking advantage of the terrible war, by profits made out of every branch of labor, the most excessive cost of living ever known in the history of the world. We are classed as a democratic or representative government, directed by the sentiment of the majority of the people. We hear a great deal about loyalty, patriotism, liberty. Three words with great meaning, if truly defined. Are we loyal to our own homes, or to class legislators, with liberty to make the working man with a family a slave. Our government or the party holding poyer by an extension passed by themselves: When their lease of office expired September, 1916, as per the standard law of Canada, with their self lease of power, have passed a conscription militia act, compulsion of man-power, without any voice from the people. They claim the right to enforce. We will not dispute here. My own opinion is that it has a German smell. If they demand control of our man-power, we surely have some say about the price, and have the right to demand some of the profits made out of man's labor, now controlled by the corporations, especially our present banking, money controllers (which is the regulator), and have the liberty to charge us whatever they choose for our food and living. It seems to me this gigantic monopoly is one and the same party. The stockholders in our practical chartered banks, they are very much the same parties in all our large profit-making companies, who make the rate of interest, banking laws and, I think, the price of food. The farmers' price is nothing compared with the gamblers' profit. Now comes the question. Surely, if they are half sports, they won't find fault if we play some of the tricks in the game that they have engaged in, by conscripting a part of the profits made out of the market we make ourselves by having to eat food and wear clothes, both we and the families of boys and girls we have raised, to win the war and liberty and rights for the Allies, and also to the French-Canadian who is faithful and loyal, which they will show in the near future, as true, loyal and willing to help as anyone. You will find fewer idle men around pool rooms and lounging places in the province of Quebec, than in any other province in our Dominion. They are a working people in working hours. If conscription comes to demand ten cents per hour advance on every department of labor omitting the farming only) for man and woman in both the United States and Canada, and make it general from stem to stern; do not blame the people for acting without permission; it is the example you have taught us. You did not consider us, even ask us for an opinion, but acted the same as the kaiser does—to gratify his own selfish ends. I like the man who sticks to the law himself before he tries to enforce it on others; and because we ask for the law to be administered rightly to all parties, we are challenged as oppossed to conscription, called traitors, rebels, and slackers. Those are not found in the real working class, but are found to be quite numerous among many of those who are drawing good salaries in our government employ. I say, without hesitation, that as far as our information comes from the press and records ever since the war started, our one man at the head, and leader of the Liberal party, has stood firm to the law, as directed by the British North American Act, joined with the Confederation Act, which the party government at present are dissenting from to destroy the harmony that the united people of Canada, in 1867, decided as the standard law of our Dominion, and has never been amended. Coercion can work both ways. The smallest animal when cornered will fight back. So we are similarly placed. We will win the war and do our bit as we have in the past, but not to win to give our country and homes into conspired money-brokers in Canada.

A. N. C.

Vancouver, B. C., Aug. 30, 1917.

Our Ideals.

Editor B. C. Federationist: To place before you the ideals of that great multitude of people who belong to the working class (and in my opinion the honor of belonging to the working class is equal to the highest rank that can be attained in this life), is a task far beyond the ability of any individual to do with anything approaching justice. When we talk of those people who are dependent on their labor to provide them with the necessities, we do not mean just those who belong to the Entente Alliance, but in the broad sweep of our vision we include those who belong to the nations with whom we are at war. We draw aside the curtain which a political press places over the doings of our fellowworkman. We can see them struggling from dawn till dark and through the night under circumstances that are pitiable in the extreme for our destruction, just as we on this side are working for theirs. What is going to be the result of this awful carnage? One of our ideals is to find if possible a means wherby it can be stopped. Politicians say more reinforcements will do it, but in this case it is questionable. Wars that have raged the world over in ages gone by, lasted as a rule until one side or the other became exhausted, but in this case there are many millions in the field and from what we workingmen can see, the resources of each side are so great, that they can supply the necessary fuel or human bodies to keep the fires of battle raging until both sides become exhausted. We know the Russian peasants are being driven to the battle field, the Austrians are anxious for peace, and from the gleanings we are allowed to read from the German press, there is a strong element for peace in that country. If one side were to win over the other, as far as we workingmen are concerned, it would only stimulate oppression. Why not find a basis of settlement, instead of when peace is mentioned between the belligerents adopting a position where it is impossible to approach one another within reason. We want our share of the joys and benefits of life. It is ours to work for in the majority of cases nothing more than will just keep us from day to day, and through the profits on our labor not being equally divided, ours is just an existence. When sickness overtakes members of our family, we have often to see them fade from our sight because of lack of attention, which can only be bought by money. Out of our meagre earnings we try to give our children an education, which will fit them for their future life. Through coming into contact at school with those who are in more comfortable circumstances and able to have the luxuries of life they come home discontented and complaining. When a little older we suddenly miss them from our homes, they have gone forth in search of what we could not give them, and they come back in thousands of cases broken for life. Do you wonder if one of our ideals is to remedy this situation? Labor has been in the past and now is an article of merchandise, something to be bought and sold in the cheapest market. In the mad rush of capitalists to control labor for their own personal benefit, thousands of lives have been sacrificed. Present conditions all over the world point to this fact, that labor, which has been so badly abused, is beginning to realize some little of its mighty strength. The giant which has allowed others to bulldoze him at will, is putting on the armor of organized might, and when the real shock of battle comes, there is no other earthly force which will be able to withstand his onslaught. Some of us are familiar with the thought that deeds will be committed which will not bring honor to the cause of labor. We cannot wholly blame the men who commit them, for we know how this so-called system of civilization has beaten and torn them until all thoughts except revenge has been taken away from them. We want to surround these men with those things that will broaden their outlook upon life. So alter the laws of the land that they will have equal opportunity. Show them that they can be men equal to the best and help them to feel that the world is not altogether the hard, cruel outfit which it so often appears to be. We are going to enter the political arena. In the past, our province has been sold and bartered for, as the old book puts it, "A mess of pottage." Those who should have been guiding the ship of state for the benefit of the people, have allowed it to drift until it is in danger of being wrecked. The public have lost confidence in the two different crews who have come before them with the best of characters as to ability, but when they have been placed in the position where it has been necessary to practice what they preached, have failed miserably. There is only one remedy, and that is to fire the bunch of them, and take on a new crew. Give those that produce the wealth an opportunity to distribute it. We want government control of markets, and prices so fixed, that the commodities we need for our existence can be purchased, without carrying one-third of the province on stolen profits. We could mention a host of reforms that are necessary, but we would have you bear this in mind, that our political aim will not be personal gain, but rather that the other fellow will have his just reward for labor done, and all the financial transactions connected with civil government to be open to the public gaze. When talking of ideals, the mind naturally turns to things spiritual. The churches of the present age are sadly put about because of the large number of workingmen who never darken their doors. I am sorry to note that as a result of not complying with their regulations, we have been consigned to various degrees of punishment. There is one thing we workingmen value and that is freedom of thought and action. We live in an age that calls for deeds not words, and the present system of church life consists of words. Our ideals along this line is to so live that we may be the best our manhood will allow. Never forgetting our neighbor has just as much right to the benefits of life as we have. Some of us may deny the existence of a Supreme Power, but we recognize this fact that we are wonderfully made, and the bountiful provision that nature has made for us points to a perfection somewhere of which we know very little about. We can only do our best as men and women of limited possibilities, taking upon our shoulders the rsponsibility of our actions.

ONE OF THE BUNCH.

Victoria, Aug. 30, 1917.

And, by the way, have you noticed Canada's nobility? What strong conscriptionists they have become! Is there a reason?

The Dentist and the Public

By W. J. CURRY, 301 Dominion Building

[SERIES III.]

¶ Last week I cited a case of which a working man with cash and confidence became the victim of a "guaranteed" set of gold teeth, and it is true that nine-tenths of the glittering adornments which glare at you from mouths of every walk of life are the result of the conflict of interests today existing between the dentist and the public. But there is another side to human nature.

¶ This week I met a young man so lacking in business principles that he had spent several hours that day in working for a family of children too poor to pay for his services as a dental surgeon. He did this in order to save them suffering.

¶ These two cases represent two sides of human nature, and the two great conflicting forces operating in human society. One ends in discord and degradation; the other stands for social harmony and progress. The first represents the "rule of gold"; the second, the golden rule.

¶ Walt Whitman, the poet of the larger self, says something like this: "By God, I will take advantage of no man's ignorance or misfortune. I will accept nothing. I will not give to every other man, on equal terms."

¶ Whitman was a "failure." He died poor. So did Jesus and others.

¶ David Harum expressed the "practical," hard-headed business ability, such as is today managing world policies. He said:

¶ "Do the other feller as he would do you, only do him first."

¶ The high cost of living, the struggle in the field of labor and sweat shop are based on David's policy. Human life and happiness are cheap today. Ten thousand men and boys are being daily flung to machine guns and shrapnel to be mangled into carrion, in a fight over territory and trade. This price is low in the opinion of the "patriots," the profiteers, and their political puppets who control and applaud the game from a safe distance.

¶ This conflict of interest is seen everywhere. Did you ever know a lawyer but who would encourage litigation even when he knew the case was hopeless, providing you had the price?

¶ A few years ago I talked to the Medical Superintendent of a Public Hospital. This gentleman deplored the hypocrisy and imposition exercised in his profession, and the financial nexus between the doctor and the public. He related a case in which a young surgeon operated for appendicitis for a fee of $400 on a boy who was simply suffering from a common stomach ache, but the surgeon made the boy's mother believe the case was desperate, because she had the price, whereas it was only the doctor's financial condition that was serious. The doctor is more dangerous than the dentist.

¶ What does the average man or woman know of their conditions and requirements when they consult a medical man or a dental surgeon? Economic pressure often makes men and women into crooks and intersex and mental prostitutes. Henry George understood this when he said:

¶ "Poverty is the open-mouthed, relentless hell, which yawns in front of modern society, and men to escape that hell and protect their loved ones often do mean, contemptible, and dishonest things."

¶ But economic pressure affects the millionaire also, as well as the pauper, or professional classes, and the millionaire has more power to crab and rob the public, in fact, that is how millionaires are made.

¶ Some years ago I read a book entitled "Who Lies?" showing that strict honesty is today incompatible with financial success or "respectability."

¶ A doctor, lawyer, clergyman, professor and editor met at lunch and to settle a dispute and social problem each agreed to be strictly open and honest in all their business and social relations for the next thirty days. They agreed at the end of that period to meet and report. At the appointed time they met, wiser and sadder men.

¶ The lawyer had lost his job; the preacher had been fired by the "money-changers" and "elderly ladies" who controlled his church—and was on trial for heresy. The doctor had grievously offended some of his best-paying patients by telling them the truth regarding the cost of "high living." The editor had retired from politics and had lost some of his best-paying advertising because of his editorials; while the professor of sociology had been expelled by the financial pillars who supported his college and was looking for another job.

¶ Now, it is not that we do not prefer truth to deceit. It is not that we prefer to see men and women and children ill-clad and miserable; it is entirely because of the individualistic and competitive system under which we make our living, because our material interests today conflict with the interests of others and because self-preservation is the first law of nature.

¶ In dentistry this may lead to gold caps on sound teeth; in surgery to the operating table and on to the undertaker. In law it may lead to the penitentiary, sometimes to judgeship and knighthood; and in high finance it has led to bloody warfare and revolution. History shows us that in the past it has resulted in the decay and death of empires and races. Which way are we going today?

¶ Next week I will suggest changes necessary in order that medicine and dentistry may be placed on a truly ethical basis.

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THE CONVENTION AS IT APPEARED TO A COAL MINER

Evidence That the Working Class Jinx Has Not Been Idle

Opportune Time to Wield the Political Weapon Effectively

[By Walter Head]

SOUTH WELLINGTON, V. I., B. C., Sept. 10.—The memorable convention of the B. C. Federation of Labor has come and gone, and the representatives of the Canadian Junkers are still guessing. The thoughts of a general cessation of profit-making certainly gives the plute palpitation of the heart. The convention was opened on Monday morning by J. Kavanagh, president of Vancouver Trades and Labor council, and, in his remarks, he mentioned the fact of past conventions being addressed by civic officials, etc., and the "freedom of the city" being given to the delegates. He drew attention to the absence of civic "addresses of welcome," due, as he said, to the purpose for which the convention was called. (Possibly the only free institution left to the worker being the jail.) He dwelt upon the conditions of slavery under capitalism and said that conscription would give birth to a more degraded system of slavery, and, in his opinion, the best way to fight conscription was to do nothing, effectively.

He then turned over the gavel to "Joe" Naylor, the president of the federation, who gave a short address and made a special plea for freedom to be given to any delegate who happened to express ideas that were opposed by a majority.

The executive then presented its report, which had taken several hours of deliberation on Sunday and the morning of the convention.

Efficient methods were provided to deal with hoodlums who take a pleasure in trying to break up some meetings.

The clauses of the executive's report, dealing with the admission of the press, and bona fide members of the working class movement, were adopted without comment.

The main items of the executive's report caused quite a lot of discussion. Several motions were made dealing with the general strike and an alternative proposition was put up by the executive to run candidates for the Dominion election on the anti-conscription issue. It was finally decided to discuss the two propositions separately.

The discussion which followed brought out the ideas of the delegates on the subject, and showed very plainly that either no one favored conscription, or, if they did, they hadn't the courage of their convictions.

A delegate from the Shipwrights' made the open confession that his organization was not interested enough in the general strike to vote against it. He thought the movement was so permeated with patriotism that the general strike could not be made effective.

The figures on the vote were given and showed very plainly that the working class jinx—apathy—has been working overtime.

The fact was brought out that a general strike at this time would have a tendency to remove some of the most active members of the movement, and a live coward (?) beats a dead hero.

It was thought in a great many directions that in view of the close proximity of a Dominion election that for the time being a fight on the political field would be productive of better results, while others thought that the general strike was the most efficient method, but the workers weren't quite ready to use it.

Facts were brought out to show that conscription was not necessary for the purpose of providing reinforcements, (and they are not hard to find) but rather for the purpose of providing cheap labor for the real enemies of the working class, the profiteers.

Vice-president McVety said that he liked the general strike as a weapon, using as his reason a very logical one, i.e., the thought of it alone bred consternation in the ranks of the house of have. He quoted statements of several prominent conscriptionists showing very plainly that the goal of the conscription howlers is industrial conscription, so that they can tell the worker to either accept the wages they (the masters) determine, or go to France, all same the Raasay workers in Scotland. James H. would still leave the power to call the general strike in the hands of the executive, so that it could hang, like the sword of Damocles, over the heads of the hungry profiteers, and perhaps prevent them from getting too gay.

Secretary Wells was of the opinion that the general strike was a national problem and should emanate from the Trades and Labor Congress. He depicted some of the horrors of industrial conscription, as practiced in other countries. Those of us who are fortunate enough to obtain one of the verbatim English papers occasionally fully realize that those horrors are no pipe-dream.

Vice-president Goodwin declared himself, in unmistakable terms, as a member of a dispossessed class, having nothing in common with a robber class, who engaged in wars without consulting the worker. He warned the robber class through their mouthpieces, the capitalist press, that Quebec was not the only province opposing conscription, but that there is a force lying dormant throughout the length and breadth of Canada.

Delegate Simmonds emphasized the necessity of lining up the workers of the basic industries to fight the menace of industrial conscription.

The opening of the afternoon session was marked by the moving of a resolution, having for its object the taking of another referendum on the general strike. This was moved by a delegate from the organization that would not vote on the previous resolution. Needless to say, this resolution met with the same fate from the convention that the local that moved it accorded to the general strike referendum. It was ditched.

President Naylor took the floor and stated that he was in favor of the general strike being called when the returns of the referendum were received and was in favor of the executive retaining the power to call a strike whenever conditions arose to make it imperative. He thought that at some future date conditions might arise that would cause present opponents to change their minds and advocate the use of the strike as a weapon. He hoped that a basis of agreement could be arrived at between the industrial and political movements, so that there would be no clashes on the political field between the two movements. He expressed his determination to try to bring about harmonious relations.

Upon the vote being taken the executive recommendation to enter the political arena was sustained by a vote of 56 to 8, with three delegates not voting.

In connection with the debate upon the question of rival working class parties, the convention was asked, and granted the floor to Comrade Pritchard of the S. P. of C., to give his views on the co-operation of his party on the anti-conscription issue. It being found that Pritchard was absent, the convention "carried on."

A motion was moved asking for a definition of what should constitute a working class candidate. The convention decided to leave the question open.

A motion favoring peace without indemnity or annexation was tabled till the next convention.

On motion of Del. Cottrell, who considered that the working man had no country to annex, Miss Gutteridge addressed the convention briefly on the necessity of organization work amongst the women, and showed how the junkers were getting hold of the women and poisoning their minds, with the object of procuring a source of cheap labor. She dwelt on the fact of Borden refusing women the vote, on the grounds of his being afraid of an adverse vote on conscription. This was in line with the policy of attempting to disfranchise conscientious objectors et al. Wouldn't the Conservatives have a picnic if they could disfranchise the Liberals and vice versa.

Thus ended the most memorable convention of the B. C. F. of L., and thanks to the action of the executive in preventing hoodlumism, there were no "overt acts." However, the proof of the pudding is in the eating, and it is to be hoped that in this, the hour of its need, Labor will arouse from its age-long slumber, and help carry on the policies laid down by this Labor Day convention, this policy being easier to carry out than a general strike. If necessary, instead of going on strike for several days, let each give a portion of one day's pay toward financing the election campaigns of anti-conscription candidates.

FRED. KNOWLES

Financial secretary and statistician of Vancouver Trades and Labor council, a delegate from the Letter Carriers' association, who left last Monday evening to attend the Ottawa convention of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, which opens in the federal Capital City on Monday morning next, as representative for Western Canada of the Federated Association of Letter Carriers.

LETTER CARRIERS IN LIVE SESSION

Delegate Knowles Away to Ottawa Convention of T. and L. C. of C.

The regular monthly meeting of the Letter Carriers' Association was held in Labor Temple, Friday, Sept. 7, a fair number of members being present. Four new temporary members were initiated by President Cook.

A resolution from the Calgary branch, asking for support in advocating the placing of a levy on the entire membership, for the purpose of assisting the imprisoned members of the United Association of Plumbers and Steamfitters, and further asking, that the western representatives to Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, be instructed to support a resolution advocating the placing of a similar levy on all organizations affiliated with the congress. Delegate was instructed to use his own discretion.

Considerable discussion ensued over the attitude adopted by the local branch of the Postal Clerks' Association, prior to, and during the negotiations which culminated in the holding of the recently-held mass-meeting.

A resolution was adopted, prohibiting the executive of the local Letter Carriers' Association from negotiating with the local Postal Clerks' Association on any matter, unless given permission to do so, by the Carriers' in meeting assembled.

Del. Knowles reported on the activities of the Trades and Labor council. The executive instructed to interview the postmaster re the holidays granted to temporary employees.

The delegate to the Trades and Labor Congress was instructed to get into touch with H. H. Stevens, M.P., and make a further attempt to get the problem of the street car transportation trouble solved.

Next meeting, Friday, Oct. 5, when it is expected the delegate to Trades and Labor Congress convention at Ottawa, will report on the activities of that body.

F. K.

WHO PAYS THE BILL FOR FISHERIES INQUIRY?

Salmon Commission Spent Weeks in Inquiry at Big Expense

Will Public Have to Stand for More Money Thrown Away by Politicians

What has become of the fisheries commission? Have they gone, or are they still hanging around? This commission came here several weeks ago, took a lot of "evidence" in the board of trade rooms, took a long jaunt along the coast up as far as Prince Rupert, took more evidence there, returned to Vancouver and took some more, and then hung around for a considerable time.

At whose expense?

The cannerymen who will profit by the commission's decision?

Certainly not.

Whose expense, then?

Why, who should be expected to pay for a so-called investigation on behalf of the cannerymen but the great Canadian public. A very foolish question in these days of commissions. The government would never rely upon its horde of inspectors, patrolmen, etc., to make reports upon the same subjects under "investigation." That would never do for several reasons. The first reason is that the men holding such jobs are political appointees and the government has acted as if Ottawa did not put much faith in these men. Another reason is that the system of "royal" commissions is fine for placing politicians and paying off debts for political service.

Anyway, be that as it may, this commission, headed by W. Sanford Evans, a fish expert of Winnipeg who got his experience with fish and fishing in newspaper work, was the chairman. Another of the commissioners was Jones, a wholesale fish dealer of Toronto. (It was interesting to see Jones' eager ears wag when price probabilities, and such, were mentioned.) The third member of the commission was H. B. Thomson, former M.L.A. for Victoria, whip in the Bowser government, and all round sort of politician.

It will be interesting to note how much this commission is costing. It would also be deeply interesting to taxpayers to know how long it is going to last. The public of Vancouver well remembers the "Indian" commission which lasted some years and cost the province and Dominion who went fifty-fifty on it, a half-million dollars or so. The commissioners weren't Indians, but some of them acted like it occasionally. It is hoped the fisheries commission will wind up soon, at little cost to the people, for what with the numerous taxes, and general increases of everything all round, it is about time the governments let up.

And after the commission has reported its long, tedious record, it will be shown that the whole fault with the fisheries business on this coast lies with the cannerymen themselves, though the commission won't say so. It was noticed that every last canneryman giving evidence before the commission was jealous of the other one. They are evidently after every last salmon in the ocean. And they all told a different story. It was the most remarkable exhibition of disorganization ever seen for a lot of men who it is strongly suspected have decided on a certain price to be paid to the fishermen. They seemed all agreed upon the price that ought to be paid for fish, but as to whether there should be trap licenses or not, or seine licenses, etc., they were running wild, so to speak, for each desires, evidently, the best of the other. Some were so bold as to say politics interfered with the business. Surprising! Is there a public resource business politics does not interfere in? The surprise was in a canneryman making the accusation. However, it turned out that his particular toes had been stepped on, while the cannerymen who smiled at the assertion, no doubt were the ones who benefitted when the other's toes were hurt.

And so it goes.

While these cannerymen were making their complaints, guardedly aimed at one another, the commission was sitting at public expense, and the public was paying for the fiddling.

The Federationist would suggest that the expense of royal commissions be charged against the particular lines of endeavor "royal commissioned." For instance, charge the cost of this canned commission up to the cannerymen. There wouldn't be quite so many commissions running about then.

Canada's Official Peace Casualties.

According to the industrial accident record of the federal Department of Labor, for the month of July, there were 132 fatal accidents, an increase of 73 as compared with June, and an increase of 58 as compared with July, 1916. On July 25, a mining disaster at No. 12 colliery of the Dominion Coal company, at New Waterford, N. S., caused the deaths of 65 coal mine employees. On July 21 seven loggers lost their lives in a bush fire in the Crow's Nest Pass district of British Columbia.

If freedom is the portion of those who are compelled to work for others and accept what those who employ them see fit to allow them for their services, what would constitute real slavery?

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B.C. Electric

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"Unity of Labor: the Hope of the World"

FRIDAY.....September 14, 1917

ORGANIZED LABOR throughout Canada has expressed itself most emphatically opposed to conscription. It has looked upon the infliction of this infamy upon Canada as a most sinister and deadly attack upon the rights and privileges of the people of this alleged democratic country, an attack that has been instigated and is being ruthlessly pushed to a conclusion by those baneful and greedy interests in human society that always rise to the opportunity offered in times of war to strangle popular liberties and regain for tyranny and reaction that which may have been previously lost through the struggles of the common people against their rulers and oppressors. Enforced service, either military or industrial, is looked upon by the workers, and rightly so, as the complete abnegation of all democracy and liberty, and cannot be submitted to except under most emphatic protest. And all there ever was or that may be possible in democracy, can be realized and attained only by the repudiation and complete abolition of all that is involved in conscript service, no matter whether it be for purposes of production or for purposes of slaughter and devastation. Conscription is deadly and repugnant to every worthy aspiration of labor for better conditions of existence and a greater participation in the joys of life.

NO PLACE FOR A LABOR MAN.

* * *

The present reactionary government of Canada has pushed its infamous conscription through in open and impudent defiance of the ordinarily accepted rules of common decency. Knowing full well that it could not possibly fall short of being a most obnoxious and unpopular measure to the vast majority of the people of any country at all permeated with democratic ideas or nurtured upon democratic traditions, this precious aggregation of political talent at Ottawa, supinely obedient to the sordid reactionary interests that skulk in the background, has thrown all caution to the winds and brazenly proclaimed to the world that its professed love for and loyalty to democracy is a lie, and its vapid mouthings against the terrifying threat of mid-European autocracy nothing but the puling whine of a deceitful hypocrisy. And now in order to put the immortal cinch upon a return to power, and with at least a legal justification for the infamy it has inflicted upon the Canadian people, this aggregation of unscrupulous and generally execrated political talent is busily engaged in concocting an election law that will be sufficiently vile to meet with the very pressing requirements of the occasion, by making it impossible for the clean thinking and progressive element of the population to pass judgment upon the moral turpitude that has been responsible for the conscription infamy. It looks at the present moment as though the sole qualification of the voter will be the ability to give reasonable assurance of unqualified approval of the infliction of the conscription infamy upon the country. With that assurance any one will be entitled to vote, no matter whether he, she or it be classed as citizen, subject, alien or enemy.

* * *

So much for that. But the Conservatives are not the only politicians in the menagerie of ruling class monkey business, who are not above doing politics whenever the doing seems to be necessary and, therefore, called for. In the matter of the appointing of the delightful tribunals that are to sit in judgment upon the sorry wight, who having been duly seized upon as fit food for his master's cannon, and worthy of either being decorated with a duly designed tag made from a melted stove leg or other suitable material, or of having his name imaginatively enscribed upon some evanescent roll of honor, a modicum of appointments have been vouchsafed to the Liberal "opposition." And with a delicacy and tact that is nothing short of artistic, this precious Liberal opposition, it seems, is judiciously distributing these honorable appointments in the manner best calculated to bring wind to the Liberal sails at the forthcoming elections. We speak of these appointments as honorable ones for the simple reason that they are in no manner contaminated by any financial emoluments attached thereto. The service upon these tribunals will be gratuitously rendered to a grateful country by the recipient of the honor of being selectively conscripted, as it were, for the lofty purpose of dealing out "British justice" to trembling "slackers," who have the audacity to beg to be excused from the manly art of besmearing the landscape with the odds and ends of their fellow men.

* * *

The Federationist is informed that some of these appointments to "tribunals" have been tendered to members of organized labor. As organized labor has gone on record as emphatically opposed to conscription, and at least as far as organized labor of this province is concerned, as pledged to take active part in the effort to have it legally repealed and done away with in Canada, it is to be hoped that no member of organized labor, or any other member of the working class, will so far forget the attitude of labor in regard to the conscription law as to be used as a tool in the carrying out of this supreme infamy against all boasted democracy and freedom. To sit upon a tribunal is to make open acknowledgment of approval of the principle lying behind the act. It is in the nature of voluntary participation in that which makes such assaults upon the people's liberties possible. It is not the province of any working man or other person to openly defy the law and refuse to obey it, but it is within the province of every one who does not approve of any law that may be upon the statute books, to do all that lies in their power in a legal way, to bring about the repeal or alteration of such law as may in his judgment be advisable. It may be that there are to be found among the workers those who are possessed of ample legal qualifications in every sense of the word to enable them to deal out ponderous judgment upon their fellows. They may even be by nature equipped with those peculiar capabilities requisite to the compounding of the compelling judicial frown at the peculiarly psychological moment to confound the guilty, but it is to be hoped their virtues may be directed into channels more consonant with the welfare of labor and the progress of the labor movement than that of sitting as the agents of master class tyranny in judgment on the peccadillos or weaknesses of its victims. If there are any members of organized labor either weak enough or thoughtless enough to fall for that sort of thing, it would appear to be the duty of their organizations to call them down and out. It should not be much of a consolation to them to reflect upon the probability of their being called to serve had there been a legal tender emolument attached to such service. As it is it seems to be about the cheapest attempt to gain a little political support by patronizing labor men that ever came to our notice. The Federationist hopes it will hear no more about it.

JUST AS WE HAVE become almost convinced of the truth of Mr. Samuel Gompers' contention that "labor is not a commodity," we suddenly fall foul of an equally eminent and presumably reliable economic authority who asserts the contrary with much emphasis. It will perhaps be remembered that Mr. Gompers' famous dictum in regard to the non-commodity nature of labor has also been affirmed in that product of legislative wisdom known as the Clayton Act, passed by the United States congress. We believe the same opinion has also been held upon numerous occasions by courts that have been called upon to pass judgment upon the legal status of the peddler of labor power and the nature of the disease, infirmity, idiosyncracy, obsession, peculiarity, propensity, proclivity or predilection that constitutes that labor power. So overwhelming appeared the evidence in substantiation of Mr. Gompers' dogmatic affirmation of the non-commodity nature of labor, that it comes with something akin to shock to find that learned economist most emphatically controverted by other equally as dependable authority.

IS BOUGHT AND SOLD IN A MARKET.

* * *

In the Bulletin of the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics for July of the current year, will be found a complete report of the proceedings of the fourth annual meeting of the American Association of Public Employment Offices, which was held at Buffalo, N. Y., in July, 1916. Among the many other profound utterances of speakers upon that auspicious occasion, the following from William M. Leiserson, professor of political and social science, Toledo university, is well worth quoting:

> "Labor may be essentially different from capital, but it is bought and sold in the market, and while a labor reserve board may have to do quite different things from those which the money reserve board does, the administrative organization for dealing with irregular and fluctuating demands in the labor market will have to be similar to the organizations that deal with fluctuations in any other market."

* * *

The professor was arguing for the establishment of a federal labor reserve board to deal with the matter of handling the human merchandise (labor-power, which he refers to as labor), in the same manner that the federal money reserve board handles the matter of finance, and deals with the fluctuating demands therefor. Just as it is necessary at times to mobolize money (which is a term less suggestive of uncertainty and bankruptcy than that of credit), at certain points in order to admit of the profitable getting away with the proceeds of the plundering of the wealth producers and turning them to the best possible advantage of the plunderers (capitalists), it is also necessary to often swiftly mobolize and shift large bodies of laborers to convenient strategic points where their services may be for the moment required, and where they can be assimilated in the gallant process of contributing their own hides to the glorification of capital under the wage process. In spite of the asseverations of Mr. Gompers to the contrary notwithstanding, there is something strangely suggestive of merchandising in this matter of buying and selling labor in a market; in the shipping and shifting of it to various points of distribution and use, very much the same as might be the case with coal, steel, beef, bacon or coon skins. Now that there are prospects of the establishment of a federal reserve labor bank, as it were, the matter of the commodity character of labor power may in time become so plain that even Mr. Gompers will be able to recognize it.

* * *

Cheques and drafts upon these federal reserve banks where labor is on deposit, will admit of the speedy transfer of such quantities of the precious substance from which all capitalist blessings flow (labor-power), to those points where it may be for the moment required in order to fertilize capital, and cause it to bear luscious fruit unto its heaven-ordained possessors. These reserve banks of labor-power need not necessarily be supplied with burglar-proof vaults, for although labor-power is the most precious of all precious things, because it brings forth without cost all of the other precious and much desired things that go to glorify worms of the dust, and magnify their grandeur at least in their own estimation, it is so infernally cheap that it is not coveted by the ordinary type of burglars and housebreakers. The fact that it can be gotten in any quantity for nothing, and can only be turned into realizable currency by the magic hocus pocus of the high priests of capital, makes it far more safe from sequestration by ordinary thieves, even though stored in a hovel without lock or key, or in an open shed without windows or doors, than would be any other sort of gems and precious things though hidden in vaults of steel with unpickable locks and walls of compelling thickness. The parent of all wealth that is measured in terms of exchange, and yet so poor in value as to be an outlaw among the commodities that it brings forth, the essence of all property, because it is the creator of all wealth that makes for the satisfaction of human needs, this commodity, labor-power, is the meanest, because the cheapest, thing on earth. Its owner and peddler is a pariah, an outcast, in short a slave, and there are none so poor on earth as to do him reverence, but yet the entire world lives by his sweat and his slavery. His labor-power is a commodity that he must either sell or starve. Labor is the agony he experiences in delivering the goods. He is an ass and he carries upon his back the burden of the world. That is the reason he is an ass.

LABOR TEMPLE MEETINGS FOR COMING WEEK

SUNDAY, Sept. 9—Stage Employees; Musicians.

MONDAY, Sept. 10—Amalgamated Engineers; Iron Workers; Pattern Makers; Boilermakers; Steam Engineers; Carpenters; Electrical Workers.

TUESDAY, Sept 11—Stone Cutters; Pressmen; Barbers; Machinists, No. 777.

WEDNESDAY, Sept. 12—Metal Trades Council; Stereotypers; Teamsters; Street Railwaymen.

THURSDAY, Sept 13—Sheet Metal Workers; Painters; Shipwrights and Caulkers; Machinists, No. 182; Barbers.

FRIDAY, Sept. 14—Pile Drivers and Bridgemen; Plumbers; Shipyard Laborers; Timber Workers.

SATURDAY, Sept. 15—Blacksmiths; Bakers.

CREDIT SHOULD always be given where credit is due. The study of political economy is one to which every person might well devote a little time and earnest consideration in order to know all about wealth and its preper distribution, so as to best conserve the healthful requirements of both the nation and the individual. It is usually looked upon as a rather dismal science, but this may not be the case once its intricacies are set forth by some authority duly qualified by thorough familiarity with the subject, and equipped with a suitable simplicity of language to permit of clear and understandable elucidation. We are prompted to acknowledge receipt of the most profound, though at the same time, simple and easily understandable expose of capitalist political economy, from Washington, D. C. It comes to us in the shape of an editorial in the United States Official Bulletin of Aug. 28. It is in very truth "some political economy." Yes, indeed, and then some. And it must be sound political economy, for look where it comes from. It is absolutely official and presumably it may be considered a simplified elucidation of ruling class political economy. It may be safely taken as an epitome of that ponderous science. It is so simple and clear that it is quite easily followed, and from now on it should not be necessary for aspiring youth in quest of knowledge of the intricate and the abstruse, to waste any appreciable length of time in mastering the intricacies of the dismal science of political economy, a la the capitalist kind. Here it is:

SOME POLITICAL ECONOMY.

Some Political Economy.

The argument has been advanced that the wealth and resources of the United States are impaired to the extent of all the money spent by the government for war purposes. The argument is very unsound. There is a sharp contrast between cost to the government and cost to the people of the country.

The United States has sold $2,000,000,000 worth of liberty loan bonds to the people of the United States and therefore owes $2,000,000,000 more than it did a few months ago. When the money for the bonds has been collected in full and been expended in full the matter will stand in this shape:

The people of the United States will have loaned to their government $2,000,000,000, in return for which they will have received $2,000,000,000 worth of liberty loan bonds, which is as valuable security as the world affords. Moreover, they will have in their pockets or their banks the $2,000,000,000 which they loaned their government. The government will have expended part of this money itself, and those European nations engaged in war with Germany, whose obligations our government has purchased with part of the money realized from the sale of liberty loan bonds, will have expended the other part, and all of it will have been spent in America for American products and in payment of American wages

The resources of the nation, its capital stock, so to speak, will not have been impaired at all. Our farms, our mines, our factories, in fact all of our fixed property and industries, will remain intact. Our people will simply have sold some of the annual products of the country, the products of its mines, and products of its factories.

Thus, the government will have value received for the money it borrowed from the people and the people will have value received for the money they loaned the government and the products they sold their government and the European nations engaged in war with Germany.

Of course, the United States is going to pay these bonds at maturity and is going to pay interest on them in the meanwhile. It is going to pay part with the money it will later collect from our debtor European governments engaged in war with Germany; it is going to pay part with money raised by taxation. It is not going to pay them out of the capital of the United States or out of the capital of the people of the United States. The money is to come from the annual income and production of the country, which now amounts to $50,000,000,000. The yearly agricultural production of the United States is more than $10,000,000,000, and the mineral production $3,000,000,000. The profits of converting raw material into finished products amount annually to $10,000,000,000. These are just some of our main sources of annual income.

* * *

After the people of the United States shall have loaned "their" government the trifling sum of $2,000,000,000, and have received an equivalent sum in the shape of "liberty bonds," and the government has used the borrowings for the purchase, from the selfsame people presumably, of things requisite to the prosecution of the war, the "people" will have in their possession, not only the "bonds" in question, but that which they loaned to the government, and in acknowledgment of which the "bonds" were issued. In other words, in addition to the credit tokens (sometimes called cash), or bank credit, which they turned over to government account, they ("the people") will have new credit tokens or promises to pay, to the amount of the "bonds" they have purchased. There will be just twice as much owing to them as before. They will have double the drag upon the future that they formerly possessed. If the future pays (which is such a manifest impossibility that it is a wonder that even a ten-year-old school kid should fail to see it) they ("the people") will be lots to the good. If the future fails to pay they are no worse off anyhow.

* * *

"Thus the government will have value received for the money it borrowed from the people, and the people will have value received for the money they loaned the government, and the products they sold their government and the European nations engaged in the war with Germany." By this happy arrangement, it may easily be seen that "everything is lovely and the goose hangs high." Everybody has been paid, and there has been no loss, in spite of the fact that $2,000,000,000 worth of the products of labor have been shot away or otherwise destroyed, without conserving any other purpose than possibly that of killing a few Germans, tearing up some square rods of earth and creating a general nuisance both stinking and otherwise disgusting. $2,000,000,000 worth of the products of labor worse than wasted, and yet this "some political economy" authority asserts that "the resources of the nation, its capital stock, so to speak, will not have been impaired. Our farms, our mines, our factories, in fact all our fixed property and industries, will remain intact. Our people will simply have sold some of the annual products of the country, the products of its farms, the products of its mines, and products of its factories."

* * *

Now is that not plain? With $2,000,000,000 of labor's products expended, not in useful purposes, but for that of killing, maiming, brutalizing and destroying; for the purpose of making of the earth a desert and a carnel house and polluting the landscape with blood, guts and gore, the "nation's capital stock," so to speak, remains intact. Of course it does, for that "capital stock, so to speak," consists solely of a docile and prolific working class. All that was shot away and otherwise wasted in the disposition of the $2,000,000,000 of borrowed wind (for that is all it was) came forth from the unpaid toil of the enslaved workers. As it cost "the people" (the capitalist class) nothing, and they got "liberty bonds" to the tune of $2,000,000,000 in exchange for it, it is as plain as a pike-staff, that although the money thus accumulated is strangely akin to stage money, it has come to the present holders fully as easily as money from home comes to the remittance man. In neither case is a single hair ever turned in sweat in the getting of it. It is like "manna falling down upon the wandering Jews in the wilderness."

* * *

It is not worth while to bother over the matter of whether "liberty bonds" or any other ever will or will not be paid. Even if the governments do squeeze from their victims the wherewith to redeem their obligations, that only means that there will be another transfer of credit obligations, this time from the government to the individual holder of bonds, while in the first instance it was from the individual to the government. And nobody short of a dope fiend could see anything in the nature of payment in that. The original producers of the wealth thus thrown away in the ruling class scrimmage will still remain unpaid for the energy they expended in its production. And it is at this point that payment must be made if it is ever to be made at all. As it is a matter of taking at the point of production wealth without payment, it ought to be easily understandable that any and all payment thereafter is an absolute impossibility. All that does result to the masters and manipulators of the delectable game is that they are enabled to live upon the present generation of slaves without cost and at the same time accumulate paper assurances (credits, investments, etc., in the shape of stocks, bonds, deeds, mortgages, debentures, which are all orders upon the future) that their spawn that lives after them will be enabled to sap their sustenance in the same manner from the exploitation and torture of the slaves of the future.

* * *

Our naive economist says: "The profits of converting raw material into finished products amount annually to $10,000,000,000." And this is among the numerous items that make up the annual income. If we know anything of mathematics, $10,000,000,000 profit taken from a population of 100,000,000, would mean an average of $100 per person, or $500 per family. But as we well know that a very considerable number of persons take no part whatsoever in the processes of production, we must allow that the rate of exploitation is much greater per head than as given above. But be that as it may, our political economist throws an interesting light upon the matter of how wars can be fought at enormous expense without costing anybody a cent, or in any manner impairing the capital of a nation. And not only that, but the fact should not be lost sight of that the money borrowed for the purpose of financing the war is not only to be returned in full, but with interest added. By this it may be seen how simple it is to not only expend billions for war without a penny of cost, but how everybody interested will be well paid for all their trouble and some of them will be able to get a little interest for nothing, besides.

* * *

And after reading the illuminating editorial above quoted, a great load was lifted from our mind. Many things hitherto obscure to us were made clear as day. Erstwhile knotty economic problems became so easy of solution that to wrestle with them became as pleasurable as indulging in a pipe-dream. We became so intoxicated with our new found economic knowledge that things impossible were no longer difficult of solution. We even now lift ourself over the fence by our bootstraps several times before breakfast, for mental exercise. "Some political economy?" It is all of that, and then some more. May each reader of The Federationist "read, ponder and inwardly digest," to the end that he may become as profound in the science of now you see it and now you don't, as the Simple Simon who presides over the editorial columns of the United States Official Bulletin. Capitalist political economy is easy once it is made plain to you. And this is not intended as a joke.

In speaking on the proposed bill to heavily tax the war revenues of the rich, Senator Borah said: "If the country's men of great wealth were called on to settle this question, I believe they would settle it more patriotically than the senate is disposed to do. Their patriotism is of a high order, and they are willing to have what they've made out of the war conscripted." If this be so, what is to hinder them from handing it over without may more fuss about it? Why is it necessary to pass a tax bill under such circumstances? What is Borah and the rest of these august senators blithering about, anyway? In the light of his disclosures about the patriotic proclivities of the war profiteers, measured from a financial standpoint, it seems a sad waste of time to be bothering to pass compulsory tax laws in order to gather that which patriots are so "willing" to pay.

Another I. W. W. infamy has been uncovered down in Iowa. It has undoubtedly been financed with German money. The grasshoppers have been eating the binding twine, thus allowing the sheaves to fall apart and causing the farmers much trouble and loss. It is reported that federal agents are making a thorough investigation of the matter, and startling disclosures are expected.

BRITISH COLUMBIA FEDERATION OF LABOR

Victoria, B. C., Sept. 10, 1917.

To the officers and members of the Labor movement.

Greeting: The following synopsis of the proceedings of the special convention, held in Vancouver, Labor Day, is sent to all organized labor in order that they may be informed as to the results of that convention.

President Kavanagh, of the Vancouver Trades and Labor council, opened the convention at 10 a.m. by calling the convention to order, and pointing out the serious nature of the business that would be dealt with.

President Naylor, in taking over the gavel, urged the fullest freedom of speech, and toleration with views that may not be acceptable to all.

Secretary Wells then read the report of the executive committee, which gave a resume of the different happenings since the introduction of the National Registration scheme, to the time of the passing of the Military Service Act.

The most important part of the executive's report was the recommendations contained therein, which are as follows:

We recommend that seeing that the political situation is the most prominent, the leaving of the general strike proposal in the hands of the executive, and that our attention be directed to the political field.

That working class candidates be placed in the field in the industrial constituencies throughout the province, and as the question is a national question, that other Labor bodies throughout the country be requested to adopt the same methods.

That the executive committee be authorized to call nominating conventions in such constituencies as they may deem desirable, on the same basis of represenetation as is in effect at the annual conventions of the B. C. Federation of Labor, and that they be authorized to establish a fund for the purpose of carrying on the campaign, same to be distributed at the discretion of the executive.

The recommendations were adopted by a roll call vote of 56 in favor, eight against and three delegates not voting, or were absent.

The question was asked if referring the matter of the general strike to the executive, would give that body a mandate to call a strike. Secretary Wells replied that it would.

In the discussion, it was pointed out by many delegates, that the introduction of military conscription would be followed by industrial conscription, the experience of other countries being cited as evidence as well as statements that were made in the house of commons during the passing of the Military Service Act, which showed that several of the members of the house had that form of conscription in view.

In the report of the executive, the following passage is worthy of consideration:

> "Your executive can see at this time a change in the situation. It is now a political question, and conscription has become a political football; and to hide the record of the present incompetent government, this measure is brought forward. And if they can get any political advantage out of it, then they are itnending to do so."

In conclusion, while deprecating the brevity of this report, yet the fact that delegates were present from Prince Rupert in the north, to Trail in the interior, and from island points as well as from the larger cities, will result in the workers of the province being in possession of fuller details, and this report will give to labor the official notification as to the action adopted at the convention, which will be put into effect by the executive in the near future.

Trusting that labor will give the fullest support to the executive in fulfilling the duties resting upon them.

I remain, fraternally yours,
A. S. WELLS,
Secretary-treasurer.

SITUATION OMINOUS AND SIGNIFICANT

Labor Objects to Coercion While Wealthy Patriots Grab the Loot

Decision to "down tools," in case conscription is enforced, was arrived at by a majority of the delegates to the provincial Labor convention on Monday. By 56 to 8 it was agreed to leave final action in the hands of the executive, which means the calling out of 10,000 to 15,000 workers in this province alone.

The situation is ominous and significant, observes The Chronicle, judging from the very temperate speeches delivered by the most prominent representatives of the labor unions. The general trend of opinion was patriotic and loyal but pervading the whole of the proceedings was the distinctive British objection to coercion in any form, and a straight demand that the will of the people shall be consulted before the Act is applied.

Conscription of wealth, taxation of profits and a general distribution of war burdens must go hand in hand with any attempt to force Canadians to take further part in this war.

Politicians, of all complexions, have taken so little heed to the outcry against graft and dishonest profiteering that the body of the people, who have given their best and dearest, are beginning to recognize the futility of their sacrifices, and to demand similar sacrifices from those who are shouting from the housetops for more victims.

The lust for office, power and wealth is evident, in the frantic efforts of politicians to form coalitions that will obviate any appeal to the people.

It is very questionable if patriotism enters largely into their desire to assist the empire in her need. Proof of their selfish interests lies in the fact that they have failed to follow the lead of the majority of the nations, who have not hesitated to extract ill-gotten or bloated profits from those whose maximum of patriotism is reached in the maximum of wealth they amass through the war.

Labor has proved its patriotism in this province to a greater extent than any other portion of the Dominion.

It will be well for the "higher ups" to demonstrate their dininterested loyalty, of which there are very grave doubts.

LOCAL TYPOS. WILL VOTE OCTOBER 17

Proposed Amendments to General Laws to Be Considered

Wednesday, October 17, has been set as the date on which several proposed amendments to the general laws of the International Typographical union, adopted at the last convention of that body held at Colorado Springs, August 13-18 last, shall be voted on by referendum of the various subordinate unions. There is a proposition to increate the amount collected for pension assessment and mortuary assesment from one-half of one per cent. to one per cent. in each case; one to gradually increase the salaries of president and secretary-treasurer to $5000 per year; another to provide that proposed amendments to laws shall be properly drawn up and endorsed by 150 unions for submission to the referendum, and another to protect the membership of members in war service by one of two plans submitted—the matter to be left to local unions or an assessment of ten cents per member per month to provide a fund from which subordinate unions shall be reimbursed the amounts paid for members in war service. Ballots are being supplied from headquarters and will be distributed amongst the local membership prior to the voting day.

Thursday morning's issue of the Sun was produced from the premises lately occupied by the News-Advertiser. Although taking possession of the News-Advertiser plant on September 1, the Sun continued publishing from its original offices as usual, while preparations were under way for transferring the equipment to its new location in the former News-Advertiser building.

"Much Ado About Nothing."

The Sun has made the first venture in Vancouver of printing a seven-issue per week paper. According to daily press reports the idea does not meet with favor in the minds of certain public welfare organizations, and has received the attention of the Vancouver Ministerial association, which body considers such a step to be in contravention of the provisions of the Dominion Lord's Day Act. In view of the fact that no paper is issued Sunday morning—the seven editions being produced between Monday morning and late Saturday night—and also that the various printing trades organizations employed all demand a working week of not more than forty-eight hours for its members, we cannot see that an infraction of the Act is being committed.

W. R. Trotter left on Wednesday morning with credentials only from No. 226, to attend the convention of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, which meets in Ottawa on Monday, September 17.

Travelling cards have been received from W. J. Ozard, Victoria; Fred H. Ross, Regina, and Mrs. J. Taylor, Chicago. G. Wood was issued a traveller, and has gone to Victoria.

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Union-made Overalls (Carhartt's), Work Shirts, Work Gloves, Underwear of all kinds, Heavy Socks, Oilskins.

And everything in Men's wear (excepting shoes).

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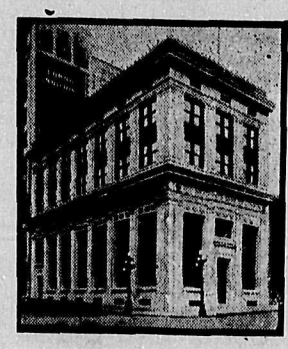

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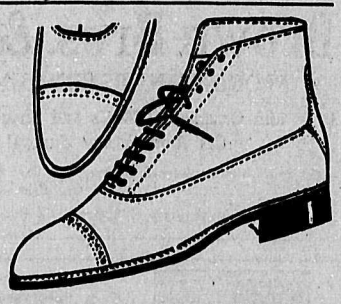

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THE eye that is crossed is sure to go blind. There is a scientific reason why blindness will ensue. Malformation of its shape will give the answer. Parents who allow their children to suffer from crossed eyes, even for one year after the condition has become manifest, are guilty of negligence, and surely contribute to a serious loss of mental and physical development. This is not all either, for they expose that child to dangers seldom attributed to such a cause, namely, stomach troubles of a reflex character, rheumatic pains, cerebro-spinal meningitis, poliomyelitis, sunstroke and last, but not least, the great white plague.

These statements may seem incredible to the reader, but they can be, and are substantiated almost every day in this office by cases which present themselves. Time and space will not permit the explanation of the reason why, but if those having children suffering from the foregoing troubles desire the proof of these statements in the interest of their offspring, that proof will be gladly given if they take the trouble to pay a visit to this office, or send a communication on the subject.

The foregoing is addressed to those who have no knowledge of our methods of straightening cross-eyes without the use of the knife. Light controlled by the use of lenses relieved the sufferings of hundreds in this province, thus obviating an expensive operation and the danger of a repetition of the cross where scientifically-fitted glasses were not used.

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MONDAY AND TUESDAY

ANITA STEWART

—IN—

"The Girl Phillipa"

From the story by Robert W. C. Chambers.

Has Voluntary Enlistment Failed?

******* ******* *******

Returned Officer Says It Has Not

[From Hansard report of speech by W. F. Carroll, M.P. for South Cape Breton, delivered June 20th, 1917.]

Since August, 1914, Canada has been participating in the greatest war with which this earth has been stricken. Personally, I do not care whether Canada's participation in this war has been for England or with England, whether our participation has been as one of the Allies or as part of one of the Allies. As a matter of fact, Canada has been fighting for human justice, human liberty, and for democracy and the free peoples of the world. In the session of August, 1914, no voice was raised against Canada's participation in this war. We met in the house of commons as a united parliament and we voted all the money that was required for Canada's participation in this war. Throughout the length and breadth of this land we were a united people. From north to south and east to west not a voice was raised against Canada's participation in the war, with perhaps the exception of a small section of the people of the province of Quebec, and I do not wish to say anything about the Nationalists, because they are entitled to their opinion and must answer to their own conscience.

It is for that reason that, since the war began, I have done my humble bit to assist Canada in her participation in this struggle. Canada has done nobly under the voluntary system of recruiting and Canada's public men have done nobly in voting supplies to carry these men along. The time has now come when the people are told that voluntary enlistment has proved a failure. I do not think that is a fair way of putting it. When Canada, with a population of a little over 7,000,000 has contributed over 425,000 of her best to the cause of war I do not think that it can be truly said that voluntary enlistment has been a failure. I am not arguing for voluntary enlistment. It it true that voluntary enlistment at the present time is not as great as it was at the beginning of the war. It is but natural that having contributed over 425,000 men to this war, voluntary enlistment should be a little on the wane. It is not quite fair to the people of Canada to say that this sort of enlistment has proved a failure.

* * *

But the question further arises as to whether or not there is sufficient before the house to inform us as to whether we must resort to conscription or not. I am not speaking for Canada; I do not know what has transpired in any of the other provinces, in the west, Ontario, or Quebec, beyond the fact that we have a general knowledge as to the number of men who have been enlisted in those provinces. But I have a fairly accurate idea of what did transpire in the province of Nova Scotia in regard to enlistment. We have raised a considerable number of men in Nova Scotia, and every regiment, battalion and draft authorized by this government to be raised in Nova Scotia was raised and its ranks filled to overflowing by voluntary enlistment. We have raised the 64th, 25th, 107th, 112th, 85th, 185th, 193rd and 219th battalions, and we have also provided the 17th and 36th Field batteries. We have also contributed battalions which were raised in other parts of the province and with which I am not so familiar. We have also contributed, perhaps more than any other province, corps of tunnellers because in Nova Scotia we had an immense number of miners who were anxious to enlist and they enlisted as tunnellers. We have also recruited a forestry battalion. I am not saying that Nova Scotia has done its full share but the point I am making with respect to Nova Scotia is that no battalion, battery or draft was authorized but whose ranks were filled to overflowing under voluntary enlistment. I do not know what has happened in the other provinces.

* * *

Within the year drafts were asked for to reinforce the Highland brigade, the 146th battalion and the 36th Battery, the last of which went from the constituency which I represent. Drafts were asked for the 17th Battery whose headquarters is also in the constituency which I represent. These drafts that were asked were not only supplied but the ranks were filled to overflowing and hundreds of young men were sent away. You may ask me for some testimony along that line. I picked up a paper from my riding a few days ago, the Sydney Post of June 26, and this is what it says regarding one of these artillery drafts:

> The draft depot at Sydney now has about forty men and about ten more are wanted to make up the complement. Lieut. Yetman told the reporter this morning that he was turning men down practically every day who were approaching him with a view to enlistment. Twelve young men from Glace Bay offered themselves for the battery yesterday, but owing to the fact that recruiting for the battery has been officially stopped they were not accepted.

* * *

As a matter of fact, recruiting was stopped in some portions of this country—and I am not finding fault with the government for having taken that course. Public recruiting meetings were forbidden in my native town and in the mining districts over a year ago. When recruiting for the 185th battalion, we were never allowed to hold recruiting meetings in the mining districts; I daresay for good and sufficient reasons.

Sir George Foster: Hear, hear.

Mr. Carroll: But nevertheless, we had no difficulty in filling up the ranks and when we hear hon. gentlemen speaking about slackers walking our streets, let me say that the recruiting for the 185th battalion was done principally by personal canvas, and I had something to do with it; and I never approached a man with the object of having him enlist in that battalion or any other battalion being formed down there, whom I thought should go, who refused to go. That is, I have never met a slacker in the country of Cape Breton.

How am I to come to the conclusion that voluntary enlistment has been a failure in this country? I do not know. It has not been a failure in Nova Scotia, and I am willing to say that that province will supply by voluntary enlistment every man necessary for reinforcements for the battalions which it now has at the front. I have no doubt about that in the world. Many of these battalions went to reinforce battalions from other provinces. About that I have nothing to say; it was necessary and proper, and had to be done. So far as Nova Scotia is concerned, I do not think we shall have the least trouble in replenishing the broken ranks of our battalions at the front by voluntary enlistment. We have proved that in the past. The conditions may be different in other parts of Canada, but I have no doubt in the world of the truth of my statement. If I have a suggestion to make it is that I believe that if the proposition is placed before the provinces today to supply reinforcements by voluntary enlistment, it will be done without the assistance of this bill. My friends will say: Well, Quebec will not do her share. Well, leave Quebec out in the cold. I understand that she only has two battalions at the front. Surely the people of Quebec are proud enough and noble enough and true enough to their traditions and to the traditions of the British people to replenish the two battalions which they have at the front. I am sure that the people of the other provinces are. I think that this suggestion, even coming from a humble member of this house, is worthy of consideration, whether this bill goes through or not.

* * *

Editor's Note—Mr. Carroll is a Liberal and is a lieutenant in the overseas forces. He enlisted as a private, but was promoted. He, with other military members of parliament, was recalled from overseas to attend the session of parliament. While overseas he saw service in France.

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Musical Fantasy
NEIL McKINLEY, the Colonel of the Tribe
Other features
Matinees 10c and 20c. Nights 15c and 25c.

B.C.F. OF LABOR WIRES PROTESTS TO OTTAWA

Sec.-treas. Wells Loses No Time Getting the Executive Body's Pronouncement.

After telegraphic consultation with members of the executive board of the B. C. F. of L., Secretary-treasurer A. S. Wells, Victoria, on Tuesday, forwarded the following telegrams:

"Victoria, B. C., Sept. 11, 1917.

"Hon. Sir R. L. Borden,
"Premier of the Dominion of Canada. Ottawa, Canada:

"Organized labor, as represented by the British Columbia Federation of Labor, protests against the provisions of the war times election bill, and demands equal adult suffrage to all citizens of both sexes.

A. S. WELLS,
"Sec.-treas. B. C. Federation of Labor."

A copy of the above wire was also sent to Sir Wilfrid Laurier.

Wired President Watters.

"Victoria, B. C., Sept. 11, 1917.

"J. C. Watters,
"President Trades and Labor Congress of Canada.
"Ottawa, Canada:

"B. C. Federation of Labor executive endorse your opposition to war times election bill, and have wired Borden and Laurier demanding equal suffrage to all adult citizens regardless of sex."

"A. S. WELLS,
"Sec.-treas. B. C. Federation of Labor."

Correction.

In the "down tools" vote by unions, as published in The Federationist last week, the official record taken at the convention was that the Vancouver Motion Picture Operators were in favor, but this is stated to have been an error, and the union voted against the policy.

SYNOPSIS OF COAL MINING REGULATIONS.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

W. W. CORY,
Deputy Minister of Interior.

N. B.—Unauthorized publication of this advertisement will not be paid for.—33575.

PACIFIC MINING AND MANUFACTURING COMPANY, LIMITED

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that under the First Part of Chapter 79 of the Revised Statutes of Canada, 1906, known as "The Companies Act," letters patent have been issued under the seal of the Secretary of State of Canada, bearing date the 7th day of August, 1917, incorporating Angus Alexander Crowston, Financial Agent; William Samuel McClure, farmer; Reuben Tiffin, farmer; Joseph John Tiffin, miner, and Charles William St. John, solicitor, all of the city of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, as Pacific Mining and Manufacturing Company, Limited, for the following purposes, viz.:—

(a) To obtain by purchase, lease, hire, discovery, location, or otherwise, and hold, mines, mineral claims, mineral leases, prospects, mining lands, and mining rights of every description, and to work, develop, operate, and turn the same to account, and to sell or otherwise dispose of the same or any of them, or any interest therein.

(b) To dig for, raise, crush, wash, smelt, assay, analyze, reduce, amalgamate and otherwise treat gold, silver, coal, copper, lead ores or deposits, and other minerals and metallic substances and compounds of all kinds, whether belonging to the company or not, and to render the same merchantable, and to buy, sell and deal in the same or any of them.

(c) To carry on the business of a mining, smelting, milling and refining company in all or any of its branches.

(d) To acquire by purchase, lease, hire, exchange, or otherwise such timber lands or leases, timber claims, licences to cut timber, surface rights and rights-of-way, water rights and privileges, mills, factories, furnaces for smelting and treating ores and refining metals, buildings, machinery, plant, or other real or personal property as may be necessary for or conducive to the proper carrying-out of any of the objects of the company.

(e) To construct, maintain, alter, make, work, and operate on the property of the company, or on property controlled by the company, any canals, trails, roads, ways, tramways, bridges and reservoirs, dams, flumes, race and other ways, water-courses, aqueducts, wells, wharves, piers, furnaces, sawmills, crushing works, smelting works, concentrating works, hydraulic works, coke-ovens, electrical works and appliances, warehouses, buildings, machinery, plant, stores, and other works and conveniences which may seem conducive to any of the objects of the company, and, with the consent of the shareholders in general meeting, to contribute to, subsidise, or otherwise aid or take part in any such operation, though constructed and maintained by any other company or persons outside of the property of the company; and to buy, sell, manufacture, and deal in all kinds of goods, stores, implements, provisions, chattels and effects required by the company or its workmen and servants.

(f) To build, acquire, own, charter, navigate, and use steam and other vessels for the purpose of the company.

(g) To carry on business as quarrymasters and stone merchants, and to sell, buy, get, work, shape, hew, carve, polish, crush and prepare for market or use, stone of all kinds.

(h) To carry on business as road and pavement makers and repairers, and manufacturers of, and dealers in lime, cement, mortar, concrete and building materials of all kinds, and as builders and contractors for the execution of works and buildings of all kinds in the construction of which stone is required.

(i) To carry on all or any of the business of manufacturers of and wholesale and retail dealers in bricks, tiles, pipes, pottery, earthenware, china, glassware, terra cotta and ceramicware of all kinds.

(j) To carry on business as manufacturing chemists.

(k) To carry on business as manufacturers of, and wholesale and retail dealers in soil fertilisers.

(l) To carry on any other business whether manufacturing or otherwise which may seem to the company capable of being conveniently carried on in connection with the above or calculated directly or indirectly to enhance the value of or render profitable, any of the company's property or rights.

(m) To acquire, and undertake the whole or any part of the business, property, and liabilities of any person or company carrying on any business which the company is authorised to carry on, or possessed of property suitable for the purposes of the company.

(n) To take, or otherwise acquire, and hold shares in any other company having objects altogether or in part similar to those of this company, or carrying on any business capable of being conducted so as directly or indirectly to benefit this company.

(o) To enter into any arrangement with any authorities, municipal, local, or otherwise that may seem conducive to the company's objects, or any of them, and to obtain from any such authority, any rights, privileges, and concessions which the company may think it desirable to obtain, and to carry out, exercise, and comply with any such arrangements, rights, privileges and concessions.

(p) Generally to purchase, take on lease or in exchange, hire, or otherwise acquire, any personal property, and any rights or privileges which the company may think necessary or convenient for the purposes of its business.

(q) To construct, maintain, and alter any buildings or works necessary or convenient for the purposes of the Company.

(r) To invest and deal with the moneys of the Company not immediately required in such manner as may from time to time be determined.

(s) To remunerate any person or company for services rendered, or to be rendered, in placing or assisting to place or guaranteeing the placing of any of the shares in the Company's capital, or any debentures, debenture stock or other securities of the Company, or in or about the formation or promotion of the Company or the conduct of its business.

(t) To draw, make, accept, indorse, discount, execute and issue promissory notes, bills of exchange, bills of lading, warrants, debentures, and other negotiable or transferable instruments.

(u) To sell or dispose of the undertaking of the Company or any part thereof for such consideration as the Company may think fit, and in particular for shares, debentures, or securities of any other company having objects altogether or in part similar to those of this Company.

(v) To adopt such means of making known the products of the company as may seem expedient, and in particular by advertising in the press, by circulars, by purchase and exhibition of works of art or interest, by publication of books and periodicals, and by granting prizes, rewards and donations.

(w) To sell, improve, manage, develop, exchange, lease, mortgage, enfranchise, dispose of, turn to account, or otherwise deal with, all or any part of the property and rights of the company.

(x) To carry on business as aforesaid throughout the Dominion of Canada.

(y) To do all such other things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above objects.

(z) And it is hereby declared that the word "Company" in this clause shall be deemed to include any partnership or other body of persons, whether incorporated or not incorporated, and whether domiciled in the Dominion of Canada or elsewhere, and the intention is that the objects specified in each paragraph of this clause shall, except where otherwise expressed in such paragraph, be in no wise limited or restricted by reference to or inference from the terms of any other paragraph or the name of the company.

The operation of the Company to be carried on throughout the Dominion of Canada and elsewhere by the name of "Pacific Mining and Manufacturing Company, Limited," with a capital stock of one million dollars divided into ten thousand shares of one hundred dollars each, and the chief place of business of the said company (registered office) to be at 569 Hornby street, in the city of Vancouver in the Province of British Columbia.

DATED at the office of the Secretary of State of Canada, this 7th day of August, 1917.

THOMAS MULVEY.
Under-Secretary of State.

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Because

If you persist in neglecting that hole in your tooth you immediately court all kinds of serious results, such as described for your benefit on page six in last week's Federationist by that eminent physician, Dr. Edwin V. Powers, one of America's foremost medical practitioners. Possibly no other man in the medical profession has given so much time and scientific research as Dr. Powers, and therefore when he tells you that neglect of your teeth means the "development of stomatitis, catarrh, tonsolitis, sinus abscesses, gumboils; goter and glandular conditions; tuberculosis, dyphtheria, smallpox, whooping cough, measles and chickenpox; chronic rheumatism," etc., you will appreciate the necessity of immediately telephoning Dr. Lowe at Seymour 5444, and arranging an appointment with him in order to have the possibility of these awful diseases checked before they become chronic.

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This is a fact realized by every man, woman and child in British Columbia. But it is a fact that is realized to no greater degree than the fact that if you come to Dr. Lowe in the early stages of decaying teeth, meet the condition of your trouble in the most careful manner. It is an accepted fact, acknowledged by all medical and professional men, that Dr. Lowe has at all times practiced dentistry in the most scientific manner—by the installation in his operating room of the most up-to-date equipment obtainable; by the use of only the best materials that enter into modern bridge work, crowning or filling of the diseased member; by adopting every art and method that has been proven to relieve the pain that was for years dreaded by those who did not realize what science had accomplished toward the alleviation of pain.

Modern dentistry, as above described, and as practiced by Dr. Lowe, has been the foundation on which the immense practice by Dr. Lowe has been built.

Each and every patient that has, during past years been fortunate enough to choose Dr. Lowe as his, or her, dentist, has become a real advertisement for the doctor—the highest class of advertising known—the publicity that money cannot buy—the result of absolutely satisfied patients.

Ask your friends if they have had the satisfactory experience of having dental work performed by Dr. Lowe. You won't have to go far to locate many within the circle of your personal friends before locating those who have been Dr. Lowe's patients—the people whose teeth you have envied for years—those who tell you they have not found it necessary to visit the doctor for a long time, because in the early stages of tooth trouble, Dr. Lowe had done the work permanently; used materials that are recognized for their lasting qualities and thus placed your friends in the position of never thinking of dental work except with the satisfaction so generally enjoyed by patients of

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The Conscription of Wealth

War Should Be Paid For As It Is Fought

By G. STAFFORD WHITBY

THE COST of Canada's part in the war will have to be paid for in some way and at some time.

That is a primary fact of which it cannot be said that the people of Canada are showing serious appreciation. It is a fact that, in the interest of the future prosperity of the Dominion, and, as I shall suggest, in its important bearing on the ethics of war-making, should be faced squarely. My purpose in this paper is to consider the financial policy which the government has pursued in regard to the war and to advance reasons in support of the contention that the main cost of the war should be met during its course by the conscription of wealth.

The War Taxes.

What has been done towards paying for the war? Extra customs duties and a business profits war tax have been imposed. Other taxes, yielding smaller sums, such as the stamp tax, taxes on bank notes, loans and insurance companies, have also been imposed; but the chief war taxes have been the two first mentioned. The customs war tax consists of a level duty of 7 1-3 per cent. on all articles (with very few exceptions), including all articles formerly on the free list. During the first year of its operation (1915-6), it yielded $21,814,000, about $19,000,000 of this sum being from the free list. During 1916-7 it yielded some $38,000,000.

It yielded far more than any of the other war taxes. And the point which should be particularly observed in relation to it is that it does not fall in any special sense upon the rich. It is spread over the people in general, as indirect taxation, and serves to increase the cost of living. It may be noted that about 60 per cent. of the Dominion's revenue, even during war time, is being raised by customs duties. This fact itself indicates that the rich are not being called upon for such sacrifice of their riches as might reasonably be demanded at a time when the Dominion's expenditure has become so tremendously swollen.

The business profits war tax was not imposed until a year later than the extra customs duties. It provided for a tax of 25 per cent. on all profits over 7 per cent. in the case of companies with capital in excess of $50,000. During the first year of its operation (1916-7) it yielded $14,552,883. In the last budget the tax was raised. In the debate on that budget, Mr. Middleboro quoted a list of 22 companies whose profits indicated a war tax contribution during 1916-7 of $5,296,201. If these companies had been paying the tax on the basis to which it has now been raised, their contribution would have been $11,127,329—a difference of $5,831,191. And even on its present basis, the tax is held by many to be inadequate.

I quote these figures of Mr. Middleboro's as an example which serves to indicate the diliatoriness of the government in taking or their reluctance to take any substantial contributions from profits.

It is interesting to observe that, on the plea that they cannot reveal business secrets, the government has recently refused to give any details concerning payments under the profits tax.

The Trade in Munitions.

The sum of 14 millions odd, which has been contributed to the cost of the war by the business profits tax up to 31st March this year, and which was only 6.58 per cent. of the revenue for the year 1916-7, looks meagre enough when contrasted with the following facts.

(1) The total volume of Canada's trade, as shown by the aggregate of exports and imports, experienced a tremendous increase in 1816-7, being $2,043,000,000, or almost twice as large as in any year previous to the war. I will refer to this later.

(2) The volume of trade in munitions has been such as to make the sum of 14 millions contributed by the profits of war tax look insignificant. There is some uncertainty as to the total value of the orders which the munition manufacturers have received. It has been stated by one member of parliament to be $1,500,000,000, but this is probably an overestimate. Up to October, 1916, the orders placed by the old shell committee and the present Imperial Munitions board totalled $550,000,000. In the House of Commons it was stated on 2nd February this year, on the authority of the ex-minister of militia, that $700,000,000 had been expended in Canada by the British government in the manufacture of munitions during the previous two years. On April 27, this year, Mr. Pugsley, speaking in the house, put the value of the munition orders at $850,000,000.

It would thus appear that we shall be safe in considering the amount spent with the munition manufacturers up to the end of the financial year, March 31, to have been not less than $750,000,000. The percentage of profit on munition orders is admittedly very high. It has been stated in the House of Commons to be one-third. At this fraction, the profits which have been made by the munition manufacturers in Canada since the war began have been about $250,000,000. And even if it is thought that this figure is an over-estimate, it will be agreed that the figure has been a very large one and of this order.

Contrast with such a figure the amount contributed to the cost of the war by the profit war tax to the same date, viz., $14,552,883. And observe that, even of this comparatively small sum, by no means all came from the munition manufacturers. What percentage of it came from firms engaged in the manufacture of munitions I cannot say, but, obviously, only a fraction of it can have come from them, for the profits war tax applies to all companies, and not to munition firms alone.

Throwing the Burned on the Future.

For the present year the cost of the war was estimated in the budget as $433,274,000. It will be clear at once that the money which is being raised by war taxes is not covering the cost of the war. How, then is the war being paid for? Substantially, by loans. Roughly speaking, taxes are covering only interest on the war loans and the cost of pensions; the capital cost of the war is not being cancelled, but is being thrown on to the future. This is brought about by considering the three war years, 1914-7, together. It is true that last year, when the total of Canadian trade, thanks largely to the export of munitions and the high price of cereals, was abnormally large, there was a considerable surplus revenue; but, in viewing the three years together, it will be seen to be mostly neutralized by the deficit which occurred during the first year of the war.

	Revenue.	Expenditure
1914-5	$133,000,000	$182,000,000
1915-6	172,000,000	170,000,000
1916-7	230,000,000	173,000,000
	$535,000,000	$525,000,000

(In this table, in which amounts are given only in round figures, expenditures on ordinary account and expenditure on special and capital account have been put together. It was freely admitted by Sir G. Foster in the house on Feb. 17, 1916, that they should be merged.)

Thus, viewing the three years together, the net contribution of revenue to the capital cost of the war has been only the trifling sum of $10,000,000. The expenditure tabulated above includes the payments which have been made as interest on the war debt and also the cost of war pensions, but, of course, it does not include the loans which have been raised for the war.

This table reveals the most important point which must be kept in mind in considering the war finance of Canada, particularly in relation to the future: The war is being paid for by loans. The Liberals are in substantial agreement with the Tories in this policy.

Rich Escaping the Burden.

It is now patent, even to the most casual observer, that in Canada the rich are coming off absurdly lightly in the matter of paying for the war. This in addition to the fact that the fortunes of many of them must be increasing rather than decreasing. I have pointed out that the chief war tax, the extra customs duties, falls upon all and in no special sense upon the rich. I have drawn attention to the inadequacy of profits war tax. And the government has until just recently resolutely refused to enact an income tax. This matter of an income tax is worth examining a little. It may not have been one of the prime motives of the government's war-time financial policy to safeguard the pockets of the rich, but such safeguarding has certainly been one of the effects of the policy. The government has professed, not perhaps without disingenuousness, that its first concern in regard to taxation has been the interests of the small men.

Income Tax.

Sir T. White referred to the question of an income tax in his budget speech in 1915, and again in his budget speech of 1917. He assumed that the tax would start on incomes as low as $1000 or $2000 per annum, and indicated that, since most incomes in Canada are not from investments, but are earnings, the tax would bear hardly on the generality of people, who are already feeling the inroads which the increased cost of living makes into their incomes. Sir G. Foster suggested that the presence of an income tax in Canada would act as a deterrent to immigration.

But why assume that an income tax must start at a low level? Why not direct it specially to securing a larger contribution to the cost of the war from those with larger incomes, such that, even after paying a heavy income tax, sufficient for a very comfortable living would remain?

Sir T. White stated in the House of Commons on Feb. 11, 1915, that an income tax, on the same basis as that in force in the United States, would realize no more than $2,000,000, and would hardly be worth collecting. But Canada was then at war, and had to meet vast war expenses; the United States was not at war and, as is well-known, had had a long fight over the principle of the income tax, and had applied the principle only in a very moderate degree—perhaps partly as the thin end of the wedge. On May 22 of this year, the minister of finance again urged reasons for refusing to employ an income tax in Canada. He had come to the conclusion, he said, that an income tax similar to that in force in the United States would realize only $5,000,000 or $6,000,000.

The minister of finance has stood out against an income tax for Canada; and it can be judged that the scale which he had in mind when discussing the question on earlier occasions was very moderate indeed. Contrast the 5 or 6 million dollars for which the minister looked with the product of the income tax in Great Britain.

The British Income Tax.

Tax starts at income of $650. This amount is tax free.

Income of $1000 pays 6 per cent.

Income of $2000 pays 8 pr cent, if earned; 12 per cent. if unearned.

Income of $5000 pays 12½ per cent. if earned; 20 per cent. if unearned.

Income of $12,500 pays 25 per cent. whether earned or unearned.

Supertax begins at $15,000.

Income of $50,000 pays 33 per cent.

Income of $500,000 pays 41½ per cent.

Estimated yield, 191617, $885,000,000.

There are no sufficient data available to allow any accurate calculations being made as to the yield of an income tax in Canada. But the figures relative to the war-time income tax in Great Britain suggest that an income tax could be made to yield very much more in Canada than the 5 or 6 million dollars to which the members of the government confined their imagination. The population of Canada may be assumed to be 1-6th the population of Great Britain. One-sixth of $885,000,000, the estimated product of the British income tax, is roughly $147,000,000. So large a sum as this need not be expetced in Canada, however; for the tax should not start at so low a point, even proportionately, as in Britain; rather, as has already been suggested, the tax should be directed to securing from the larger incomes a reasonable contribution to the Dominion revenue during war-time. And there are other considerations which may be advanced as further discounting the figure $147,000,000. For example, the proportion of unearned income is probably smaller in Canada than in Great Britain. But, even after making liberal allowance for all such considerations, and after allowing for the exemption of all small incomes, an income tax that made any pretence to being adequate to war-time coulli produce a large revenue, probably $75,000,000; certainly not less than $50,000,000.

Canadian Income Tax.

Since the above was written, the government, at last, after three years of colossal war expenditure, during which they have shown themselves strongly opposed to the imposition of an income tax or any other severe taxation of the rich, such as might have reasonably been expected, have announced that they will bring in income tax legislation. They hope to obtain a revenue of 15 or 20 million dollars from the tax. On the scale which they propose an unmarried man with an income of $10,000 per annum would pay a tax of $400, and would still retain $9600; a man with an income of $50,000 would still be left with $44,540, after paying his tax of $5460. The government's plan, further, is to abolish the profits war tax when the income tax is brought into operation.

Canada's Increased Trade.

Practically speaking, capital cost of the war is being met by loans. I have already pointed out how comparatively meagre has been the amount raised by taxation for the war. This state of affairs may be contrasted, not only with the value of the munition orders which have been filled in the country, but also with the exceptionally prosperous condition which, following the drop which immediately succeeded the outbreak of war, has characterized Canadian trade in general, as judged by monetary values. In the year 1915-6, the balance of trade, as it is called, was for the first time in history, in Canada's favor. In the year 1916-7, the total volume of external trade was very remarkable, being by far the largest ever experienced and almost twice as large as it was in any year prior to the war. This is shown by the following table, in which the sums represent millions of dollars.

Aggregate of exports and imports (coin and bullion excluded): 1911-2, 841; 1912-3, 1063; 1913-4, 1090; 1914-5, 958; 1915-6, 1309; 1916-7, 2043.

Balance of trade (i. e., difference between exports and imports): 1911-2, against Canada, 125; 1912-3, against Canada, 309; 1913-4, against Canada, 180; 1914-5, against Canada, 36; 1915-6, in favor of Canada, 249; 1916-7, in favor of Canada, 314.

What of the Future?

Truly are the people long-suffering. Did we not know how content the people are to be ruled instead of ruling, even in "free democracies," we should regard as strange the unmurmurring way in which they are allowing the cost of the war to be met by loans, which will not only handicap the future, but involve the payment of tribute, by way of interest, for years to come, to the rich men, by whom for the most part, the loans are held, and who, instead of providing that help to the community in its hour of emergency, the ability to provide which has always been pleaded as one of the justifications for their existence, rather take advantage of the country's necessity to increase the etxent of their claims on the country's labor. I do not wish to rail at the rich. They are perhaps hardly conscious of what they are doing, for they are afflicted, if anything more completely than the generality of people, with commercial ideas, which look upon money as the final good. They are not able, even when most sincerely patriotic, to forget "the business side of a proposition."

But, whatever may be the psychological side of the case as it relates to the rich, it remains a fact that a tremendous financial burden is being placed on the future and that the rich are putting themselves in a position to command still more effectively than before the products of the country's toil.

The Burden.

The magnitude of the burden which the financial policy of the government is piling up should be clearly appreciated. At the close of the financial year preceding the war, the national debt of Canada stood at $335,000,000. By the close of the last financial year, (31st March, 1917), it had increased by about $600,000,000. Up to the same date, as already stated, the net contribution of the revenue towards paying off the war debt had been the comparatively trifling sum of $10,000,000. The war debt is now growing at a faster rate than was the case during the earlier days of the war; and Sir Thomas White, in his budget speech this year, looked forward to the national debt's being $1,200,000,000 at the close of the present fiscal year. It is almost certainly safe to say that, even if a definite move towards peace were to be made shortly, the national debt will have reached $1,500,000,000 before demobilization is complete.

The War Charges.

Consider what this figure means. The interest charges on the national debt in the year prior to the war amounted to $12,893,000. An estimate placed them in 1916-7 at $39,649,000. At the close of the present year they are likely to be about $68,000,000. And if, for the purpose of gauging the future charges which war finance on the present lines is involving, we assume that the debt will be $1,500,000,000 when the war ends (and, alas! who knows whether the war will be ended during next year, as this figure assumes?), then the national debt will involve interest charges totalling some $77,000,000. If we allow a sum of one per cent. for a sinking fund, we shall see that the annual charges for the national debt will be $92,000,000. If we make allowance for the portion of the debt already in existence before the war, we shall see that the annual charges on the war debt will be about $76,000,000.

In addition there has to be taken into account the charges which pensions will make on the national revenue. As the war continues, the cost of pensions on account of it mounts rapidly. In 1915-6 the payment for war pensions was about two million dollars; in 1916-7, it was about 14½ millions. If we assume that, even should peace be brought about comparatively shortly, the annual charge for pensions will, for a considerable number of years after the war, be in the neighborhood of $25,000,000, we shall probably not be going far wrong. It is possible, indeed, that the charges for pensions will be even greater than this, not only on account

(Continued on page 7)

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

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

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

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

BREWERY WORKERS, L. U. No. 281, I. U. U. B. W. of A.—Meets first and third Wednesday of each month, Room 302, Labor Temple, 8 p.m. President, F. Graham; secretary, A. E. Ashcroft, Suite 1, 1738 Fourth avenue west.

BROTHERHOOD OF BOILER MAKERS and Iron Ship Builders and Helpers of America, Vancouver Lodge No. 194—Meets every Monday, 8 p.m. President, A. Campbell, 220—2nd Street business agent, J. H. Carmichael, room 212, Labor Temple.

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF STEAM AND OPERATING ENGINEERS — Local No. 620. Meets every Monday, 7:30 p.m., Labor Temple. President, D. Hodges; vice-president, P. Chapman; secretary-treasurer, W. A. Alexander, Room 216, Labor Temple. Phone Sey. 7495.

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

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

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

I. L. A., LOCAL 38-52 AUXILIARY—(Marine Warehousemen and Freight Handlers) headquarters, 436 Howe street. Meets first and third Wednesday, 8 p.m. Secretary and business agent, E. Winch.

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

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

PATTERN MAKERS' LEAGUE OF NORTH America—Vancouver and vicinity.—Branch meets second and fourth Mondays, Room 204, Labor Temple. President, Ray McDougall, 1928 Grant street; financial secretary, J. Lyons, 1548 Venables street; recording secretary, E. Westmoreland, 3247 Pt. Grey road. Phone Bayview 2979L.

BROTHERHOOD OF PAINTERS—Local No. 138—Meets second and fourth Thursdays of each month, room 303, Labor Temple. President, H. Pink; vice-president, R. Spring; financial secretary, G. H. Weston; recording secretary, D. Lemon, room 303, Labor Temple.

RETAIL CLERKS' UNION—LOCAL 279—Meets in Labor Temple every first and third Tuesdays, 8:15 p.m. President, Chas. D. Bruce, 1022 McLean drive; secretary-treasurer, Archibald P. Glen, 1073 Melville street, phone Sey. 5846R.

SHIPYARD LABORERS' UNION, No. 1565—Meets second and fourth Fridays of each month, 8 p.m., Labor Temple. President, C. Soams; recording secretary, W. Hardy, 445 23rd street west, North Vancouver; financial secretary, S. Phelps.

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

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

PROVINCIAL UNIONS

B. C. FEDERATION OF LABOR—Meets in annual convention in January. Executive officers, 1917-18: President, J. Naylor, Box 415, Cumberland; vice-presidents—Vancouver: Jas. H. McVety, V. R. Midgley, Labor Temple. Victoria: J. Taylor, Box 1215. Vancouver Island: W. Head, South Wellington. Prince Rupert: W. E. Thompson, Box 694. New Westminster: W. Yates, 906 London street. Kootenay District: A. Goodwin, Box 26, Trail. Crows Nest Valley: W. B. Phillips, 176 McPherson avenue. Secretary-treasurer: A. S. Wells, Box 1538, Victoria, B. C.

VICTORIA, B. C.

VICTORIA TRADES AND LABOR COUNCIL—Meets first and third Wednesday, Labor Hall, 1424 Government street, at 8 p.m. President, E. Christopher, Box 387; vice-president, Christian Sivertz, 1278 Denman street; secretary, B. Simmons, Box 303, Victoria, B. C.

NEW WESTMINSTER, B. C.

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

PRINCE RUPERT, B. C.

PRINCE RUPERT TRADES AND LABOR Council—Meets second and fourth Tuesdays of each month, in Carpenters' hall. President, S. D. Macdonald; secretary, J. J. Anderson, Box 278, Prince Rupert, B. C.

SOUTH WELLINGTON, V. I.

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

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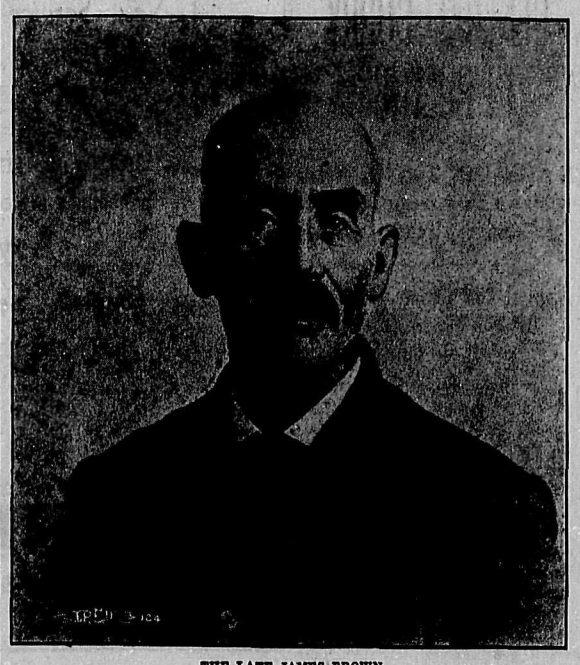

THE LATE JAMES BROWN

With the passing of "Jimmy" Brown, last Saturday, Vancouver loses one of its really old-time trade unionists. The late Mr. Brown, internationl deputy of No. 1, B. C., for the past 20 years, died at the General Hospital from a complication of diseases. He had been ailing for two or three weeks but his friends seemed to realize how seriously only a few days before he died. About a year ago his only son died and since that time the deceased seemed to be very despondent. "Jimmy" was a familiar figure around the Labor Temple, and was ex-president of Vancouver Labor Temple Co., being succeeded only last year by R. P. Pettipiece. He had resided in the city for about 30 years. The Bricklayers' union took charge of the remains and deceased was interred in Mountain View cemetery on Tuesday, September 11. The union sent a large floral wreath and Mrs. "Jimmie" Haslett came in from Central Park to bring a choice bunch of flowers. President C. T. Smith, F. Dickie, E. Macey, A. Grist, J. Milholm and J. R. Duncan acted as pall-bearers. "Jimmy" will be missed by many, as he was one of the staunchest union men in Vancouver.

THE CONSCRIPTION OF WEALTH

(Continued from page 6)

of the fact that, the greater the prolongation of the war, the higher will be the number of disabled men, but also on account of the fact that a higher rate of pensions may be demanded by public opinion or may be forced by returned soldiers' organizations.

$100,000,000.

The sums mentioned above as likely annual charges for the national debt, and for pensions are together roughly $100,000,000 per annum. This represents the burden of taxation which will be left, even apart from any considerable prolongation of the war. This charge of $100,000,000 is greater than the total revenue of the country ten years ago. Mr. Turriff, I notice, has just said that after the war $300,000,000 per annum will have to be raised. This compares with about $170,000,000 before the war. The present financial policy is indeed likely to involve, not a reduction, but actually an increase of taxation after the war. In fact, if the war should be seriously protracted—say for two years longer—it is quite possible, unless in the meantime the country revolutionises its financial policy and wipes out, by the conscription of wealth, a large part of the capital cost of the war, that the war charges with which the future is burdened will represent a sum larger than the total ordinary expenditure and involving a very serious increase of taxation in time of peace over that which the country has been bearing in time of war.

Truly did the minister of finance, Sir Thomas White say, when introducing the budget in 1916-7: "It cannot be too frequently or too earnestly impressed upon our people that the heaviest burdens of the conflict still lie before us."

Pay Now.

I remarked at the outset that a primary fact which those who have regard for the future welfare of the country should not allow to retreat from the foreground of their considerations is that the colossal monetary cost of the war will have to be met at some time or other, and in some way or other. I will now ask when should the cost of the war be met? And I shall contend, by way of answer, Now. I shall contend that, both from the point of view of the present and from the point of view of the future, such would be the soundest and most moral course.

Note first, then, that to pay for the war now would leave the country with an unburdened future, enable it to achieve a rate of progress and degree of prosperity after the war that would otherwise be impossible and, in regard to its external trade, would put it in a very advantageous position in comparison with other countries that have chosen to handicap themselves with vast annual war charges.

Sir T. White was fearful that an income tax amounting to only $5,000,000 would discourage immigration and thus retard the development of the country. How much more fearful, then, should he not be that the very much greater war charges which the government's war policy is laying on the future will retard development!

Paying Over and Over Again.

Note, further, that, by meeting the cost of a war by heavy loans, you pay the sum involved over and over again. Take the Napoleonice wars as an example. As a result of these the funded debt of Great Britain after Waterloo was £816,000,000. During the succeeding forty years of peace before the Crimean war occurred, hardly £75,000,000 was paid off; and it has been calculated that the people of Great Britain have paid a sum of about £3,000,000,000 on account of this debt—nearly four times its amount—and have still failed to wipe it off. And such is likely to be the history of the debt which is now being contracted by Canada, so long as the control of the country is in the hands of men who have a tender solicitude for the "rights" and privileges of the rich, men to whom any real conscription of wealth would forebode "the end of all things," men who positively plume themselves on pursuing a "safe" and "conservative" financial policy.

Mortgaging Future Labor-power.

A heavy national debt—"a first mortgage on the country," as it is attractively termed—represents essentially a means whereby the rich are enabled parasitically to drain the country's wealth. It is true that a small proportion of the debt is held by poorer people, but when, after the war, these small holders realize how seriously they too are being taxed for the benefit of the rich, they will not, it may be hoped, be any more content than the general mass of working people that the burden shall continue to be borne dumbly by the country, and will not lend their aid to the rich for the defence of the parasitic position of the latter. The real nature of loans may be indicated by a quotation from a recent press dispatch in which Professor Gide, an economist of the University of Paris, tells of the unshaken condition of French finance, despite a colossal war debt. This economist explains that the greater part of the war expenditure "is what might be called fictitious, that is, the transfer of money from the pocket of one citizen to the pocket of another, a transfer in which a great many new fortunes have been built up but in which the real riches of the country have been left untouched." The real riches of a country are the laboring capacity of its population; and government war bonds represent, essentially, a device by which those to whom, under the present peculiar constitution of human society, these bonds are issued to secure a mortgage on the labor of the population in the future.

The Moral Check.

Serious as are considerations such as those which I have already advanced for contending that the cost of war should be met during its course, and should not be thrown on succeeding generations, I regard the moral aspect of the matter(as it relates to the ethics of mar-making, as more important. When people have given themselves over to war-making, one of the few checks that can operate to halt the passions which are inevitably associated with the occasion and compel them to attempt to justify themselves to reason, is the cost of their continued indulgence. This drag on the wheel of national passion is particularly important when a war reaches a stage, such as that at which the present war has arrived, when there is a danger of both sides settling down into mere doggedness, desirous merely of the feeling of victory—the gesture of victory, without troubling to tell themselves specifically what, in a reasonable view, "victory" is, and without weighing the cost.

This has been enunciated in words that must now be considered classical, but that are well worth quoting again, by Mr. Gladstone—and old-fashioned, but well-intentioned staesman: "The expenses of a war are the moral check which it has pleased the Almighty to impose upon the ambition and the lust of conquest that are inherent in so many nations. There is pomp and circumstance, there is glory and excitement about war, which, notwithstanding the miseries it entails, invests it with charms in the eyes of the community and tends to blind men to those evils to a fearful degree. The necessity of meeting from year to year the expenditure which it entails is a salutary and wholesome check, making them feel what they are about, and making them measure the cost of the benefit upon which they may calculate."

Mr. Gladstone proceeded: "The system of raising funds, necessary for wars, by loans, practises wholesale, systematic and continual deception upon the people. The people do not really know what they are doing. The consequences are adjourned into a far future."

It can confidently be proclaimed that the best moral sense of modern societies would lead to the view that wars should be paid for and the entire burden of them so borne (except insofar as their burden inevitably falls as a handicap on the children whose upbringing is prejudiced by them), by those who wage them, at the time that they wage them. Deliberately to throw he financial burden of war upon the future, no matter how specious the plea upon which such action is taken may appear at the time, is, I believe, felt by many persons to be essentially immoral. Some of the more general aspects of this important matter, including the light which history throws upon it, I shall notice later, when considering the doctrine in regard to it laid down by the minister of finance. At present I am concerned with it as it relates to the provision of a check on reckless war-making and, particularly, when once war has been engaged upon, on the undue continuance of war and the danger of a belated peace.

(To be concluded next week)

Movie Men Move.

The Vancouver Theatrical Federation, which is composed of the operators, stage employees and musicians, have moved their headquarters to new offices on the third floor of the Labor Temple.

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Big range of Superb Quality Suits in the most advanced models for men and young men. Regular to $27.50. Our Price ... $14.98

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904 ROBSON — Opp. Court House

Do your teeth need attention?

AN honest reply to this enquiry from the great majority of readers would be "Yes."

There are but few things that people are so careless about as their teeth. First, they neglect giving them ordinary care and, when defects appear, they constantly put off giving them attention.

Delay in attending to your teeth is dangerous,

—to the tooth itself for neglect means its absolute loss,

—to adjoining teeth for decay, once started, spreads rapidly,

—to your health, for there is no such thing as perfect health and defective teeth,

—to your appearance, for bad teeth are a blot on any countenance.

Come to my office and let me examine your teeth. I will then give you honest advice as to their condition, and, should you desire me to give them necessary attention, will do the work skilfully and thoroughly, the permanency of the work being covered by my ten year written guarantee.

My charges are reasonable. Special provision made for prompt treatment of out-of-town patients.

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Examinations made by phone appointment

Dr. Brett Anderson
Crown and Bridge Specialist
602 Hastings Street West, Cor. Seymour

THE WAR ELECTION ACT A FITTING CLIMAX

Some Trite Comment Upon Doings of a Moribund Government

The Capsheaf of Political Impudence and Low-Grade Intrigue

[From The Voice]

Intolerance. There is more intolerance in certain sections of Canada in a square yard than in a square mile in Great Britain. The more repression of the public mind the greater is the instinct for resistance aroused, and you can hear it on all sides by quietly talking to the people and getting at their private opinions. The attitude assumed by the "capitalistic big business" newspapers of this city has its reflex in the minds of the people that freedom of the individual is an alienable right. If they continue their course it will mean defeat of the objects for which they are striving. * * * Win-the-war party—win-the-war government—has fallen on barren ground. What the people want is a government for Canadian people and not a game of bluff put over. The people want candidates who will deal with domestic affairs and set our house in order. Big business rule will cease after the next election, and the people will have some say—which is not the case under the present regime. * * * The War Election Act has been introduced in the house. It is a fitting climax to the high-handed proceedings that have been carried on by the Borden government at Ottawa this session. Of all Prussianized methods this bill in plain English states you must be for Prussian methods otherwise you are disfranchised. If you are a believer against the shedding of blood, you are disfranchised. (How about that, ministers of the gospel, and brotherly love?) The bill is one that out-Prussians the Huns, and is in itself a blow at democracy and a disgrace to the Canadian people, not to say anything from a constitutional point. * * * The proposition of giving votes only to the women who have relatives at the front and not to all women is simply nonsense—absolutely undemocratic from every point of view and should not be tolerated for a moment by the people. Either give every Canadian woman the right of franchise or else none. It is just another evidence of the Borden outfit gone military mad and ought to come out plainly and state military service is the qualification for the ballot. What a spectacle for a moribund, last gasp, group of incompetents to dare to legislate away the ballot of Canadian citizens. "Whither are we rushing?" * * * In the United States they have adopted similar tactics as have been adopted in certain sections of Canada, and have gone even further by the action of that governor in seizing the socialists' headquarters in Chicago. Such actions can only lead to greater resistance by people of independent thought. And while certain states have refused the right of assemblage to a peace meeting, it is not in keeping with the boasted democracy that we hear so much about from our friends to the south. * * * It is a terrible blow to the loyalty of big business when the British government placed the embargo against Canadian foodstuffs in certain lines because the prices were too high. They have also ceased to order munitions. Is it for the same reason? Our newspapers do not explain. There's a reason. * * * A newspaper report states that the pensions of the soldiers will be increased by 60 per cent. by an order-in-council in the next few weeks. Is this another election dodge? If the government means business, why do they not bring in a bill to that effect and make it an act of parliament and not an order-in-council? There is a big difference between the two. If parliament passes it it takes an act of parliament to repeal—if the government-in-council passes it it can be repealed in council.

MINE RESCUE WORKERS WILL HOLD FIELD DAY

Met in Nanaimo Last Sunday and Decided to Hold Competitions at Ladysmith.

A meeting of the Vancouver Island Mine Safety association was held in the Nanaimo Rescue station last Sunday, the following delegates being in attendance:

Bevan—G. O'Brian and Mr. Brown.
Cumberland—Chas. Graham and D. Stewart.
South Wellington—J. Neen.
East Wellington—C. Dickinson.
Ladysmith—D. Martin.

The officers of the association were also in attendance, viz.: H. N. Freeman, Nanaimo, president; T. A. Spruston, Ladysmith, vice-president, and W. H. Moore, Nanaimo, secretary.

The meeting decided to hold their second annual field day in first aid at Ladysmith on Saturday, Sept. 29, the programme of events comprising first aid contests for the B. C. Mines cup, five men a side, prizes, gold and silver medals for first and second prizes; contest in first aid for the Coulson cup, five men teams, prizes, gold and silver medals, presented by the St. John Ambulance association.

There will also be contests in first aid by two-men teams and individuals, and demonstrations of the Draeger apparatus for five-men teams, for which gold and silver medals will be awarded as first and second prizes. In connection with the Draeger contests an effort is being made to have the several coal companies on the island jointly donate a shield for competition annually, the winners to have their names inscribed on the shield year by year.

Engineer to Be Married.

Mr. and Mrs. P. J. Beasley of Mount Pleasant announces the engagement of their daughter, Winifred, to Fred McGraw of Victoria. The marriage will be solemnized in Christ church, Vancouver, September 22. Mr. McGraw is th second engineer of the C. P. R. passenger steamer Princess Charlotte, and a well-known union man. His host of friends among organized labor will wish him every possible happiness on the "sea of matrimony."

New Fall Suits to Sell at

$27.50

THE WOMAN who anticipates purchasing a suit now will find it to her advantage to investigate the models referred to here.

These are developed in good quality gabardine in green, brown, navy and also black. The coat is made with deep collar, box pleated back, full belt and breast pockets, while the model buttons close up to the throat and is lined with white satin. Skirt is plain tailored, is gathered and has half-belt at the back. All sizes from 16 to 42 are available at the one price—

$27.50

The Art Needlework Classes Meet Every Day from 9 a.m. Until 5 p.m.

FREE instructions with all goods purchased at our Art Needlework Section. Special classes for school children on Saturdays.

Pay a visit to the Art Needlework Section now. It is situated on the Third Floor.

Gordon Drysdale LIMITED

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REEVE RUSSELL HAS KICK COMING

Ineffectual Attempt to Get a Shipbuilding Contract for South Vancouver

No wonder Reeve Russell, the big noise of South Vancouver, is figuring on becoming a candidate for honors at the forthcoming federal election. Russell has a reason. He has made no bones about being angry because South Vancouver didn't get a regular ship to build, instead of a vestpocket proposition such as Harrison & Lamond were trying to float for awhile. Russell roars like a lion when things don't suit him, so he is proceeding to roar like several lions now, and the council is roaring behind him.

And it is little wonder, as said before. Russell and his council did everything they could to get a contract. They boosted for one, worked for one, and probably prayed for one. If they didn't pray they did everything else. Just imagine, they even went to the Conservatives as a party, and wanted the party to use its influences with Harry Stevens, federal member, to get South Vancouver a ship to build. Down on their marrow-bones, as it were. . .

If that wasn't bemeaning enough, what was? Truly, Russell did about all he could.

And now he's hot. All South Vancouver got in the way of a ship to build, was that contract which Harrison & Lamond had and tried unsuccessfully to raise money to carry out.

It is said that Russell's hectic decision to enter the Dominion political game came after a meeting in the office of Leon Ladner, also an aspirant for federal honors in South Vancouver, and a close-up Conservative. On this occasion, Russell and his band of councillors met the Conservative executive, or a piece of it, rather, in Ladner's office in the Rogers building. It was about June 19.

In the South Vancouver party were Reeve Russell, and Councillors Pollock, Grimmett, Connocher and Bennett. Stewart Campbell was also there. That ought to have been imposing enough to get a whole fleet of ships. But it wasn't, strangely.

Which reminds one that there's always a reason, even reason for Reeve Russell.

ISSUES NOTICES TO GET ON VOTERS' LIST

Books Close at the End of This Month and All Should Get Busy At Once.

Joseph Hubble, president and acting business agent of the Street Railwaymen's union, wishes to draw to the attention of every member of the union the fact that the civic voters' lists close at the end of this month, and impress upon them the necessity of getting on the list whether tenants or owners, befoer the time expires.

It is expected that by the 27th of the month a new running sheet will be posted. So far as known, there is to be very litlte change in the schedule.

"As a measure for self defense the government is at the present time trying to minimize the robbery of the people. The workers are organizing, not with the purpose of minimizing robbery, but to destroy it."

TORIES TRY TO USE GENERAL CURRY IN POLITICS

No Head Is Too High for Ottawa Politicians to Use to Save Their Own

Appeal for More Men Said to Be Made Out of Whole Cloth

Some time ago there appeared a pitiful appeal credited to General Curry, head of the Canadian forces in France, for more men. This unquestionably was another piece of flimflam such as the Ottawa government is using to force the people to put it back into power where its friends can continue to squeeze more profit out of the war. General Curry is reported to never have mentioned anything of the sort. It was made up for a purpose.

In fact, there is a well-authenticated report going around that Gen. Curry privately denied the story, and seemed rather upset that he should have been made to appear as going over the head of the commanding officer of British arms in France, and that he was being made a political general, which he was not.

It is said, to Sir Arthur's credit, that he has kept out of politics. That is, he has been engaged on war since going across, and left his politics back in Victoria with his other peaceful pastimes. But he is not in a position to publicly deny that he originated the appeal for men. Perhaps, were he free to say what he thinks, he would say that a big gap in the ranks would be nicely filled by sending across to France the crowd of Canadian political officers strutting round dear old Lunnon. And strutting around home, too.

How about it?

OFFICIAL LIST OF DELEGATES AT LAST COUNCIL MEETING

Attendance Roll Prepared by Statistician Fred. Knowles of Central Labor Body.

I. L. A. Auxiliary—E. Winch, W. J. Gillespie, E. Sollis, W. Steen.
Bricklayers—W. Pipes.
Barbers'—C. E. Herrit, S. H. Grant.
Bartenders'—O. Weir.
Bookbinders'—No delegates.
Brewery Workers'—J. Pike.
Boiler Makers'—J. McAninch, W. Marshal, Young.
Iron Workers'—R. Massecar.
Cigar Makers'—No delegates.
Civic Employees'—V. R. Midgley, G. Harrison, J. McFarlane.
Cooks' and Waiters'—A. Graham, J. Ricard, Miss Glashoff, J. Garner.
U. B. of C. and J.—G. C. Thom, J. R. Campbell, W. Thomas, A. McDonald, G. H. Hardy, J. H. Copping.
Amalg. Carpenters'—R. Jackson.
Deep Sea Fishermen—No delegates.
Electrical Workers'—H. Woodside, E. H. Morrison.
Garment Workers'—Miss Bennett, Miss L. Haigh.
Firemen—H. Steen, S. Jackson, W. Fox, M. McDonald.
Hod Carriers'—No delegates.
Machinists', No. 777—F. E. Edney.
Letter Carriers'—F. Knowles, J. Cass, J. Dodd, R. Wight, N. Barlow.
Longshoremen—G. Kelly, A. Tree, J. Kavanaugh.
Lathers'—No delegates.
Machinists', No. 182—J. H. McVety, A. R. Towler, G. Lyle, J. Brookes, W. M. Hawthorne.
Moving Picture Operators'—E. T. Holdsworth.
Molders'—J. Dickenson.
Musicians'—No delegates.
Pressmen—No delegates.
Plumbers'—A. Cowling, J. Rose.
Pattern Makers'—No delegates.
Painters'—H. Grand.
Press Assistants'—No delegates.
Pile Drivers'—W. F. Ironsides, M. Nash.
Plasterers'—G. Rush.
Retail Clerks'—C. D. Bruce.
Rly. Mail Clerks'—No delegates.
St. Rly. Employees—J. Hubble, F. Haigh, J. Rigby, A. V. Lofting.
Sheet Metal Workers'—A. J. Crawford, J. W. Friend.
Sailors'— P. Peel.
Shoe Workers'—T. Corey.
Stage Employees'—A. Harrington.
Shipyard Laborers'—M. Phelps, F. Talk.
Steam Engineers'—W. Alexander, J. R. Flynn, D. Hodges.
Shipwrights'—No delegates.
Steam Shovel and Dredgemen—W. Cochran.
Tailors'—Helen Gutteridge.
Typos.—C. Benson.
Tilelayers'—No delegates.
Telegraphers'—E. F. Bailey.
Teamsters'—J. Poole, Sampson, B. Showlers, A. H. Kempton.
North Shore Civic Employees'—F. H. Leon, G. H. Rathbone.
Visitor—R. T. Freeman, Victoria.
Total, 83.

F. KNOWLES, Statistician.

Pantages Theatre Back to Form.

If the management of Pantages theatre had been able to place almost any one of the acts on this week's bill before the patrons last week, The Federationist might have felt inclined to modify its criticism of the show. The fact is that this week's performance was as good as last week's was bad. There is not a poor number on the bill, and right from the rise of the opening curtain the audience is kept in the best of humor by clever and novel acts that are seldom equalled on the coast. The entire bill is a credit to the management of the theatre, and is receiving the patronage of organized labor.

Good Show at Empress.

"The Old Homestead," this week at the Empress is packing the house. It is a good show, well acted. The Empress stock company deserves much praise for the offering this week. "The White Sister," is the title of next week's offering. The management says much for it.

Broadway.

"The Girl Phillipa," which is one of the most interesting stories ever filmed, is the title of the play at the Broadway. It is a splendid picture.

A New Service and a New Department

Claman's Limited

announce the opening of their

Boys' Department

Saturday, September 29th

Discriminating mothers and fathers will await this opening before purchasing their Boys' Fall Clothing

"HOME OF HART, SCHAFFNER & MARX CLOTHES"
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155 HASTINGS ST. W.

Now Is Pickling Time; Here Is Useful Advice

SALTED CORN

Water-tight kegs or tubs, or crocks, may be used for salting corn.

Do not use any containers made of yellow or pitch pine.

Wash thoroughly and steam kegs, crocks or other containers to be used.

* * *

Husk the ears of corn and remove the silk.

Cook in boiling water for ten minutes.

Cut corn from cob with a sharp knife.

Weight the corn.

Use a quantity of salt equal to one fourth weight of corn.

Spread a layer of corn 1 inch thick in the receptacle to be used.

Sprinkle heavily with salt.

Continue adding layers of corn and salt until the receptacle is nearly full.

Cover wth cheesecloth and clean board cover.

Place a clean stone for a weight on the board cover.

Set the receptacle in a cool place.

If a brine to cover has not formed in 24 hours pour enough strong brine over the corn to come up to the wooden cover.

As soon as bubbling, which will be slight, has stopped, cover the surface of the brine with hot paraffin to form an air-tight cover.

To Make Strong Brine.

One pound salt.
Two quarts water.
Stir until salt is entirely dissolved.

At the Orpheum

That Vancouver will be privileged to witness the best of vaudeville this winter is contained in an announcement made by Mr. James Pilling, resident manager of the Orpheum that the stage is all set for the season 1917-1918 and next Monday will usher in the season with a remarkably good and well-balanced bill. There are seven high-class acts starting with eGorges Mark's Jungle Players. Mang & Snyder are up-to-the-minute songsters. "The Night Boat" is the sketch of the week. Norwood & Hall are fashion plates, singers and dancers. Col. Diamond and His Granddaughter will be the first on the bill in a sketchette of terpsichore called "Age and Youth." Charlie Howard is a scream on Orpheum time and will present "Cured," a prohibition playlet. Franki Heath is a charming singer. All her songs are new and original. There will be the usual pictures and musical numbers from the Orpheum Peerless Orchestra.

CONSCRIPTION AS VIEWED WHERE PEOPLE HAVE SAY

"Conscription has robbed the British er of his right to a conscience, and established a military dictatorship al over the country." No, it's not from one of Brookfield's speeches, but statement by the Age's London correspondent. The following is also from his pen: "People of means are implored by the food controller to subsist on luxuries, and to leave the low priced necessities to the poor. The poor cannot afford to pay 1/9 per lb. for new potatoes grown under cover in Jersey, or 26/- per lb. for strawberries grown in English hot houses." Why can't they? We have been assured that the English worker never made such enormous wages or enjoyed such luxuries as they do now. Anyhow, if the war is serious why grow strawberries when Lord Hobnob's 26 bob would pay a week's wages for 3¾ "Tommies?"—Labor Call.

The Long-Distance Telephone becomes more popular every day.

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What better service would you desire?

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KING OF BICYCLES

They are the finest bit of workmanship in the bicycle world; 8 different models in variety of colors.

Prices from $42.50 to $55.00, on easy payments if desired.

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Milk

Is the Natural Food

Dr. John Harvey Kellogg, famous food expert, says:

"Milk differs from every other food substance known in the fact that it is a complete food."

When you drink a glass of milk, costing 2½c, you fortify your body with as much energy and nutriment as you would obtain from a can of tomatoes or a half-pound of chicken.

Eat less heavy food and use more Milk, Butter, Cheese and Ice Cream. Be Healthier, Spend Less.

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ODD PANTS—Corduroy, Tweed, Serge, Velveteen, White Drill and Serge, in 17 sizes, from 2 years up.

HATS AND CAPS—Up-to-date in many styles.

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