APR 5 1924

BRITISH COLUMBIA FEDERATIONIST

INDUSTRIAL UNITY: STRENGTH — OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE FEDERATED LABOR PARTY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA — POLITICAL UNITY: VICTORY

PUBLISHED IN INTERESTS OF ALL WORKERS

SIXTEENTH YEAR. No. 14 FOUR PAGES VANCOUVER, B. C., FRIDAY MORNING, APRIL 4, 1924 5c A COPY

TRADES AND LABOR

York-day Too Long at Mental Hospital Is Claim Made For Nurses

DISCUSS LABOR NEWSPAPER

To Ask That Plebiscite Be Placed Before People for One-ward System

IN the absence of President Neelands, Delegate Macdonald occupied the chair at the regular meeting of Vancouver Trades and Labor council, held in local labor headquarters on Tuesday evening.

Secretary Bengough read the minutes of previous meeting, which were approved.

Credentials were presented on behalf of C. Oxenbury, of the Mental Hospital Attendants; and of W. G. Ribbens, D. Cuthill, Jas. White, J. McRitchie, Geo. Harrison, A. R. Snowball, for the Vancouver Civic Employees union, No. 28.

A letter from Edmonton Trades and Labor council, protesting against the enactment of legislation making oleomargarine an articl eof daily diet among the working classes, and asking that a letter of protest be sent to representatives at Ottawa, was productive of much argument.

One delegate held that it was simply a case where the dairy interests were fighting the manufacture of oleomargarine, so that they could force up the price of butter. The letter was finally filed.

A cablegram to R. H. Gale, re the work on Spiller's elevator, sent by the secretary, was endorsed. The wire said: "Has provision been made for the compulsory payment of standard rate of wages on Spillers elevator?"

A letter from Hon. Ernest Lapointe, minister of justice, Ottawa, was read, acknowledging receipt of a resolution of Trades and Labor council, to the effect that the council protested against any amendments to the Criminal Code making peaceful picketing illegal, or against any additional legislation making any organization of workers illegal. The letter was ordered filed.

Delegate Gibson, for the Mental Hospital Attendants, reported the loss of several members through the claim of the authorities that the institution was overstaffed; for this reason they asked their president, who had to resign in consequence. There was some misunderstanding, he said, as to the hours worked by attendants. The hours of male attendants were satisfactory; it was the female nursing staff who were working abnormally long hours, running to as high as 15 hours a day. An interview had been arranged with David Whiteside, M. P. P., whom they considered the only bare-shooter in the provincial legislature. Mr. Whiteside had taken the matter up with Hon. Dr. MacLean, and the latter had said things would have to stay as they are.

Secretary Bengough said that Delegate Neelands intended to bring this matter before the house as soon as it is in session.

Delegate Thomson, of the Piledrivers' local, spoke as to conditions on work being done by the Vancouver Labor commissioners on some of which jobs the fair-wage clause was not being observed. There were no less than three jobs in which his local was directly interested, coming under the category, and he moved that the secretary wire or otherwise get in touch with the fair-wage officer and acquaint him to give the matter his immediate attention. Carried.

Delegate Pettipiece, urging the merits of the one-ward system in city government, asked the meeting to elect a committee to wait upon the council and ask them to submit a plebiscite to the electorate at the time the bylaws are voted upon. Delegate Pettipiece instanced lack of Labor support in the present civic council, and outlined just what this meant to the workers when there arose any talk of economy—a revision of wages from the ground floor up, instead of beginning with those who are receiving the big salaries.

The appointment of a committee was left in the hands of the president and secretary.

The secretary was instructed to wire Premier King, drawing his attention to the tie-up in grain trade on the local waterfront, whereby many men were forced out of work, and asking his assistance in straightening out the trouble.

There was no response to the call for a report of the committee on the labor paper, although several of the committee were present.

Delegate Jamieson, of the Musicians, started the ball rolling when he asked the chairman for information as to the policy and management of the proposed sheet. Delegate Jamieson, while disclaiming any intention of gumming up the works," wished to know now the policy of the editorial staff and the management, who they were to be, whether any definite arrangement had been made with them, and salaries they were to receive—in fact, he simply wished information as to whether things were being done on a business basis, or otherwise.

The chairman being completely at sea, the secretary came to his rescue

(Continued on page 4)

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Issued to Subscribers of the Crippled Children's Aid Fund, Showing a Balance

Mrs. H. L. Bayley, secretary of the Crippled Children's Aid, has issued a letter by report to the subscribers of the fund. Besides giving the patients the benefits of highly-specialized surgical aid, the committee has been able in several cases to supply the necessary surgical appliances to further add to their comfort and support. Thanks are tendered to the contributors whose generosity alone made the work possible. The greater part of the money has gone to directly benefit the patients. The administrative work has been conducted entirely on a voluntary basis. The details of 20 deserving cases are also given, involving 14 operations. The receipts, as at January 31, were $1303.92, expenditures being $893.70, leaving a balance of $410.22. Mrs. Barber is president, and Mrs. McLachlan, of Victoria, ex-officio president.

MISS MACPHAIL, M.P.

Against Expenditure of $600,000 for Completion of Tower on Parliament Buildings

PEOPLE WANT ECONOMIES

Amount of Money It Takes to Do Government Work Most Atrocious and Silly

UNDER the heading of "Public Works, Chargeable to Capital," $600,000 has recently been voted to be expended almost entirely for the completion of the tower of the parliament buildings, with its memorial chamber. During the discussion, J. S. Woodsworth moved in amendment, that the item be struck out. Miss MacPhail, in seconding this amendment, said: "I want to say one word in support of the motion to strike out the whole item of $600,000. I am against the principle of a memorial chamber. I know that is not a popular attitude to take, nevertheless that is my view. I think we have too many stone memorials throughout this country, and not enough sympathy in the hearts of the people for the wrecked humanity that is the living memorial of the late war. If this money were spent in helping the soldiers and their dependents; if the Pensions board and some others were advised to treat the soldiers sympathetically; if the money were put into a fund that would be used to help desperate cases against which the law seems to be almost too hard, it would be more sensible. The tower, of course, looks as if it were not finished; but there are a lot of things in Canada not finished. I think sometimes it is hard enough on us to have to look at one another's faces without having to look at carved faces on the walls—I am thinking now particularly of the men. Electric lights and fixtures seem to cost more in the parliament buildings than in private houses. What sort of special lighting fixtures will it take $50,000 to pay for? Are there so many people using the library that there is not light enough for them now, or what it the difficulty? I never noticed that the 'gentleman usher of the black rod,' had dinted these doors at the end of the chamber. I know they are only temporary, but they are doing very well. They are used by very many people besides the 'gentleman usher of the black rod' who enters two or three times a session, and I think they will do another year or two. The fact of the matter is that in this chamber we are apt to get too far away from the people, even those of us who pride ourselves on being near to them. The people *not only want economy, they will have* it, and if we do not give it to them, they will send people here who will. The whole thing is atrocious and silly, the amount of money that it takes to do government work. I am against this vote of $600,000."

Nominating Convention

The Federated Labor party of British Columbia will hold a nominating convention on Friday evening, April 11th, at 8 o'clock. The meeting will be held in hall No. 5, 319 Pender street. All members are requested to attend.

Northwest Printers

Oregon, Washington and British Columbia were represented at the Northwestern Typographical union conference which assembled here on Monday and Tuesday in Holden block. President H. C. Haynes of Tacoma was in the chair. The delegates were: Seattle, C. F. Stephens, R. B. Packard, Philo Howard; Tacoma, H. C. Haynes, L. G. Wheeler; Everett, Samuel Allen, Walter Chapman; Bellingham, F. M. Harper; Vancouver, H. C. Corey, H. Neelands. Seattle Mailers' union, A. S. Larkin and E. MacNamara, and the International Typographical union, L. R. Bozan.

The Penticton, B. C., co-operative store shows a net profit of $47 for six months ending February.

The fact that "we all have our faults" doesn't excuse you and me from making fools of ourselves.

OUR OBJECTIVE

IT IS to make The B. C. Federationist an effective agency for the uplift and emancipation of the working classes. Every reader of The Federationist can help in this great cause and very necessary work, by co-operating with us in securing subscribers, advertisers and contributors to our columns on any and all matters of local or international importance pertaining to the Labor movement. Help us, by your literary and news contributions to make The Federationist a live Labor and Socialist Weekly.

DO YOUR BIT. SUBSCRIBE TODAY. GET YOUR NEIGHBORS AND FRIENDS TO SUBSCRIBE.

Boost The B.C. Federationist

Money and the Money Trust

(Continued from last week)

[By J. S. Woodsworth, M. P.]

LAST YEAR when the Bank act was under revision, some of our labor comrades expressed criticism. The conservatives said: "What have we to do with the banks? We have no money to invest." Possibly our previous article may lead some to see how clearly we all are related to the banks and the financial system. The loss of union funds in the Home Bank has brought the lesson home to a good many. The radicals in the movement, on the other hand, said: "We want to abolish the whole capitalist system. Why bother with one manifestation of that system." Well, so long as we are in the system we run *up against it at every turn. The man* who does a day's job or reads a newspaper is helping to "maintain the system." But further when you think of the banks you get very near to the nerve-centre of the capitalist system. The investigation made before the committee on banking and commerce was one of the finest studies in the mechanism and workings of capitalism that has ever been given to the Canadian public.

If we are to fight this thing we call "the system" with intelligence and effectiveness, we must understand something about it, and be able to know the weak spots in its armour. If we are to put an end to our exploitation, we must know how our exploitation is carried on.

The other day I was mystified by a complicated card trick. Then my friend explained it step by step. All was then easy. How do the banks manipulate money and through money control our lives?

Perhaps many of us know of the banks only as we make small deposits, or, on occasion, seek to secure a loan for some special purpose. We imagine that the function of a bank is to take in savings and lend these out again. Even if this were so, we must notice that we receive only some 3 per cent. on our deposits, and on the other hand must pay 8 to 10 per cent. for a loan. Here is a fine margin of profit. Probably 1 to 3 per cent. would cover the service charges. But the bank gives out much more than the amount of the saving deposits. Indeed someone says that it is well for the banks that people see something going in or they might otherwise wonder how so much comes out.

The banks have from the government the very valuable franchise of the issuing of bank notes. The dominion government issues $1 and $2 bills. The private banks issue all the bills of larger denominations—why? There's a reason!

If course the banks are not permitted to issue an unlimited number of bills—except at special times they are not supposed to issue more than the amount of their paid up capital. But in practice, this "paid-up capital" seems to be rather flexible—if not somewhat gaseous in character. But in any case, this privilege of issuing bank notes enables the bank practically to double its capital at one stroke. A bank note is simply a carefully engraved I. O. U. Fancy any other business house issuing I. O. U.'s to the extent of its capital investment—and charging interest on the I. O. U.'s.!

Still further the banks issue credit on securities. Suppose that, as a small business man, I require a loan of $1000. The banker will not give me the loan unless I turn over to him ample security. He may demand property worth perhaps three times the amount of the loan. In fact, the banker is a sort of high-class pawn-broker. I have a watch worth $30, but cannot get a bed and breakfast. The pawn-broker takes my watch and advances me say $10. He puts my credit, or a portion of it, in a form in which I can readily use it. So the banker. *But in both cases I give the* securities; it is my credit. When the banker puts my credit into liquid form he calls it bank credit—yet what has the bank added to it? If the bank is run on sound principles it has admittedly ample security. But I pay 8 to 10 per cent. on my security.

Further from the banks standpoint every loan creates a deposit. I must confess that I used to have a vague idea, shared, I fancy, by many, that when a bank boasted of its "deposits," the reference was entirely to "savings deposits." Not so. When I obtain a $1000 loan, the bank gives me a "line of credit" which enables me to draw to the etxent of $1000. On the other hand, it credits me with having "deposited" $1000. The more a bank loans, the greater its deposits. In one sense the heavier its obligations (presumably well-secured) the better off it is! Is it too fantastic a way to put it, if one should say, that the bank charges interest on its debts?

Still one step further. With my line of credit I issue cheques to pay my grocer and butcher. Before the *bank closes for the day, these trades*men deposit my cheques to their accounts. The bank's deposits are augmented and can be made the basis for fresh loans. Here is where I feel that I've turned two or three summersaults in quick succession and hardly know where I am at." So I shall leave to the mathematically minded the task of following the complicated processes of credit.

But it is clear that in their power of giving or withholding credit, which is the life-blood of modern commerce, the banks have a tremendous power. It may be quite true that the savings deposits represent the sacrifices of the poor. It may be true that the share holders in the banks are not usually wealthy men. But the directors who control these savings and small reserves of capital are able on their basis to issue credit where and for what and to whom they will—not infrequently to the personal advantage of themselves and their friends. Further, through the control of currency and credit they may to no small extent, as shown in our previous article, raise or lower the cost of living, and thus affecting in the most vital way the lives of all of us.

The changing value of government bonds measured in purchasing power, is an outstanding illustration of the effort of inflation and deflation. The government borrowed during a period of artificial inflation. When wheat, for example, was worth over $2 per bushel, $10,000 was worth 5000 bushels of wheat—then the bankers brought about deflation. Wheat now being worth less than $1 a bushel, the $10,000 bond is worth 10,000 bushels of wheat. By this manipulation, bondholders gain automatically while the load on the public is practically doubled.

Not least important of the functions of the bank is the financing of government loans. Why the government cannot do its own financing is not clear or is clear only on the recognition that the government is in the hands of the financiers. A year or more ago, the dominion government borrowed $100,000,000 in New York, at 5 per cent. interest, paying 2½ per cent. commission. That is by pledging the credit of Canada, the financiers were induced to advance some 92½ millions credit. Why could not Canada have issued her own credit and saved that 7½ per cent?

Or why not, indeed, instead of burdening the future with our war debts "pay as we go? Why should a part of our citizens be called upon to sacrifice everything at the front while the other part stayed at home to profiteer? And then—more inexplicable still—why should these selfsame profiteers be given a perpetual mortgage on the rest of the population including those who were fortunate or unfortunate to return from the front?

This is not wild raving on my part. J. A. Hobson, the English economist, in a recent book writes concerning war finance: "The connection between the inflation which the governments and banks conspired to produce and the magnitude of war debts is not obscure. The 'money' which the government got by printing notes, by borrowing from banks, or by inviting banks to give credit to customers in order to increase subscriptions to war loans (all pure inflation) they spent in buying goods and services. Thus prices and profits mounted up the faster, *because this easy way of getting* money made governments more careless in the rates they paid for what they bought. The immense and rapid profits—due to the expanding prices, with a lag of wages and a virtual elimination of competition—the recipients invested in war-loans, the only authorized and available investment." And, he concludes his survey "At the end of the depression virtually the whole of the debt will be held by the well-to-do classes." (Economics of Unemployment).

Supplementary to this statement may I quote the opinion of Viscount Milner on the real significance of the war debt and the heavy taxation necessary to pay interest on it—"As regards that portion (of the national debt) which we owe to ourselves, I do contend that it does not represent a diminuation of our total national wealth but a redistribution of its as between "individuals" and again it (re the national debt) is an almost intolerable embarrassment to the government which has perpetually to extract *money from a greater number of* people in order to put it into the pockets of a much smaller number."

When we consider the wonderful opportunities the banks have of making money perhaps the wonder is that they do not make more. Of course the 12 per cent. which the shareholders generally derive is not a bad return. But that by no means represents the "earnings" of the banks. Large amounts are put away in various reserve funds. Sometimes the reserve is more than the paid up capi-

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CANADIAN APPEAL

For Relief of Children in British Occupied Area of Germany

THEIR STRUGGLE TO EXIST

Soup Kitchens Have Been Opened in All Towns to Keep Starvation at Bay

ON BEHALF of suffering children in the British occupied area of Germany, an appeal is now being made to the people of Great Britain. It is backed by more than 60 prominent public men, including Premier Macdonald, Mr. Lloyd George, Mr. Asquith, many leading churchmen, army and navy officers, members of parliament and others. The appeal, in part, follows:

"Cold, hunger and despair are overwhelming large sections of the German people today, both in the occupied and in the unoccupied territory. The ruin, through the collapse of the mark, of thousands of middle-class families, and especially of the old people living on their savings, is no new story. Their struggle to exist goes on painfully, they are dependent on the precarious charity of friends inside and outside Germany. Large numbers of institutions, hospitals, schools and asylums have had to close for lack of funds, and thousands of professional people—partly on account of the closing of institutions and partly because so few people are able to pay their fees—find themselves without employment, or with so little that they can scarcely exist.

"Trade union funds, sick insurance benefits, and all such resources are used up. Unemployment has been prevalent throughout the year in the Ruhr and Rhineland, and now, to add to this sum of human misery, has come a general industrial collapse. It has resulted in the partial or complete closing down of factories, with consequent general unemployment all over Germany. The workers, as well as the middle classes, are now faced with hopeless poverty. Strenuous efforts for the relief of distress have *been made by the central and local* governments. Soup kitchens have been opened in all the towns to keep starvation at bay. Private institutions and individuals are helping generously. But the need is too vast to be covered by a bankrupt government, and the present help is quite inadequate.

Subscriptions may be sent to, and will be acknowledged by, Mr. G. C. T. Pemberton, hon. treasurer of the Canadian committee, Canadian Bank of Commerce, Yonge and College branch, Toronto.

LABOR IN AUSTRALIA

Result of Elections in West Australia Give Labor Substantial Majority

The results of last week's elections in forty-eight electorates of West Australia give the following state of parties: Labor, 25; ministerialists, 10; ministerial country party, 7; anti-ministerial country party, 6. A member of the cabinet expresses the opinion that if the government wins the two deferred elections it will ask the governor for dissolution, and if it loses one or both, it will resign.

Co-operation in Victoria

Information was received by Vancouver Trades and Labor council that the members of the Amalgamated Carpenters union in Victoria, at a meeting last Thursday evening, went *in a body to the United Brotherhood* of Carpenters and Joiners union.

Get your workmate to subscribe for The Federationist.

EQUALITY OF SEXES

Shall Women of Western Canada Have Justice?—Imperial Act of 1857 Still Law

MR. SHAW'S RESOLUTION

Religious Views Lead Some to Be Entirely Opposed to Principles of Divorce

[By Lucy L. Woodsworth]

SURELY it is time that the one woman member in the Ottawa house had some support. Mr. Shaw brought in a resolution last week to place the wife on equality with the husband, as regards the grounds upon which divorce may be obtained. This equality of status does not exist in the maritime provinces. In Ontario and Quebec there are no divorce courts, but—and this is the crux of the matter so far as Mr. Shaw's resolution is concerned—the four western provinces are still under the "Matrimonial Causes act," passed by the imperial parliament in 1857; although in England for some time now, the sexes have been upon an equality in this matter. According to this act, while a husband may secure a divorce from his wife on the grounds of adultery, much more is required of the wife. She must establish either (a), (b) or (c) of the following:

(a) One of four specified types of adultery.

(b) Adultery coupled with such cruelty as without adultery would justify judicial separation.

(c) Adultery coupled with desertion without reasonable excuse, for two years or upwards.

Thus, Mr. Shaw pointed out, "in addition to adultery, the wife must prove legal cruelty or desertion? Concerning legal cruelty, a statement of Chief Justice Meredith was quoted: "Her life may be a veritable hell upon earth and she is without remedy, if robust enough to suffer it all without impairment of her physical health or her mentality." Concerning desertion, it was suggested that the words "without reasonable excuse" afford a very wide latitude. All that Mr. Shaw's resolution required was a simple bit of legislation which would give the women of the four western provinces justice in the matter of divorce, both as regards wife versus husband and as regards the women of the west versus the women of the maritime provinces.

So much for the resolution as brought in. Those who took part in the debate fell into two groups. The one said, this is justice, but how does it jibe with my personal convictions? My religious and conscientious views lead us to be entirely opposed to the principle of divorce; therefore, I will support no resolution that makes divorce easier in any way. To this Mr. Casgrain threw in for good measure, the argument as naive as hoary—that since creation, women has been and always will be, marked by innate weakness and a pronounced inferiority.

The other group said: This is justice, it is imperative that justice have the right of way. Mr. McMaster put it this way: "I would make no difference between the sexes. I believe that the necessity for even-handed justice is a greater necessity even than the artificial restriction of divorce." This view was upheld by Mr. Yorke, among others. (Query: Are religion and justice ever at variance?)

The only dramatic moment during the debate, was when Miss MacPhail rose—"the mouthpiece of her sex for the whole dominion," one of the members gallantly expressed. This law, which created an injustice towards women, had been man-made, she said. *Indeed, throughout our body of laws,* it was everywhere apparent that in making them, man had forgotten that he was only half of the great human family. She had sat silent waiting for man to undo his handiwork unassisted. During her remarks, one somehow caught a glimpse of the other half of the great human family silently waiting with her. Nor was there lacking a hint that it would not be a helpless, hopeless waiting.

The discussion was adjourned, but the matter will come up again at a later date in the session.

FARMER PROBLEMS

In U. S. 1,200,000 People Gave Up Their Farms and Left for the Cities

IN THE PRESENT SITUATION

Conditions in Western Canada Bad—Fruit-growers Leaving the Okanagan

[By John Ball]

PROBLEMS are something which the farmer has "nothing else but." In fact, most of them have about *given up hope of ever finding* any solution for the numerous difficulties which confront the agricultural producers. A friend of the writer is having an auction sale of his household effects this week, and is leaving the Okanagan. When asked what he intended to do with his fruit ranch, he said that he intended to leave it just where it was, that its future was a matter of complete indifference to him and that from now on someone else could do the worrying about it. This attitude is quite general, and those who can raise railway fare, are getting out to seek work elsewhere, mainly in California.

The situation is the same all over the continent, and in spite of a reputed era of prosperity in the United States, the condition there is for from prosperous for the farmer. In 1922, it was estimated by the agricultural department that 1,200,000 people gave up the farm in disgust, and left for the cities. Four per cent. of the farmers in fifteen of the corn and wheat-growing states have lost their farms *through mortgages, four and half* per per cent. more relinquished them voluntarily, fifteen per cent. more cannot pay their debts and during the past three years one out of every five has gone bankrupt.

Conditions in Western Canada are just as bad, and in the beautiful Okanagan valley, where every prospect pleases and only man is vile, it is not considered polite to mention money at all, and the class struggle will soon be a thing of the past, because all classes in the community are broke.

Bernard Shaw says that the older he becomes, the more convinced he is that the other planets use this one for a lunatic asylum. If a visitor from Mars came to the Okanagan and gazed over the expanse of lake and orchard from the top of one of our mountains, he would likely laugh until his sides ached at the antics of the poor misguided humans. He would see a country unequalled for beauty and climate, rich in natural resources, a fertile land ready to laugh an abundant harvest when tickled with a plow; he would find a thrifty, intelligent (?) population whose boast used to be that they were hand-picked, and to make the irony of the situation complete, he would soon discover that the harder these people worked, and the more wealth they produced, the poorer they were.

For two years the Okanagan fruit-growers received nothing but red ink for their crops. (In case the term may be new to our readers, we may explain that red ink on a fruit statement means a debit balance). The past year witnessed the organization of the Co-opertive Fruit Growers, which succeeded in establishing an f. o. b. market instead of the policy of consignment which almost ruined the industry in 1922. It is stated that the average price realized for a box of apples will be about 50 cents, and as it costs 80 cents to produce, this particular problem is not solved yet. However, the growers were convinced that they were doing quite well, and would yet pull through after the Co-operative had become better organized and established.

Now, just as we are settling back in our seats with a sigh of relief, as the hero, co-operation comes dashing up to pay the mortgage before it is foreclosed, and the white-haired old couple turned out to brave the rigors of an Okanagan summer and to subsist on a meagre diet of sage brush and fir cones, the orchestra strikes a somebre chord, the villain sneaks in and knocks the hero for a row of tombstones. The villain just now is the independent grower, aided and abetted by the fine Italian hand of the independent shippers.

Several large properties producing considerable tonnage, have changed hands lately, and have passed out of the control of the co-operative into the ownership of independents, who are presumably being backed by wealthy shipping concerns. Unless the co-operative can control 85 per cent. of the tonnage, it cannot function satisfactorily, and is now threatening to disband and let the industry go down with a smash, which will ruin co-operative growers and independents as well.

It is difficult to say at present just what is going to happen, but one thing is sure, and that is that Okanagan fruit-grower is doing more hard thinking than he ever did in his life before. We notice that the United Farmers are making overtures to the Trades and Labor council, which is an indication that they are becoming wise at last. The only salvation for the farmer lies in making an alliance, economic and political, with his fellow producers, with the object of

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British Columbia Federationist

Published every Friday by
The British Columbia Federationist

Business and Editorial Office, 1129 Howe St.

The policy of The B. C. Federationist is controlled by the editorial board of the Federated Labor Party of British Columbia.

Subscription Rate: United States and Foreign, $3.00 per year; Canada, $2.50 per year, $1.50 for six months; to Unions subscribing in a body, 10c per member per month.

FRIDAY.....April 4, 1924

SPEAKING EVIL OF OUR NEIGHBORS

THE unfairness and lack of sincerity on the part of the capitalist press when dealing with questions which effect the working class is so common that it usually calls for no comment. Knowing the functions of the press, and who its real owners are, we can understand their attitude on such questions. But the following, taken from the Vancouver Daily Sun, of March 25th, is so glaring an attempt to besmirch the name of a working class organization, that we cannot let it pass without a protest:

For some weeks past there has been an influx of undesirables, vagrants and members of the I. W. W., who have stopped over here for a short time on their route to Vancouver after the failure of the lumbermen's strike in the interior. It is thought possible that the crime may have been committed by some of these men, who are of the most degraded and troublesome type.

We have no desire to needlessly find fault, and we would even like to be charitable, but we cannot see why the name of the I. W. W. need be mentioned in connection with the most atrocious crime, except for the prejudice of the Sun and a desire to "knock" the I. W. W., because of the favor such action would receive in certain quarters.

The Coquitlam murder was an act of such wanton cruelty and atrociousness, that before the name of any individual or group of individuals was mentioned in connection with it, some evidence, circumstantial or otherwise, besides prejudice or spleen should be forthcoming.

We hold no brief for the I. W. W. In fact, we do not agree with their political point of view at all; but we can see no good reason why mention of their name in this connection should have been made, except as we have already stated. There was just as much grounds for saying that perhaps the crime was committed by a member of the board of trade or the manufacturers association.

It is quite true that the I. W. W. were engaged in a strike recently; but a strike in itself is not a crime. We have heard of no acts of lawlessness in connection with the lumber workers' strike—indeed, we are of the opinion that the strike was carried on so orderly that it did not at all suit the "upholders" of "law and order" in some sections.

As to these men being of the "most degraded and troublesome type," we have only the Sun's assertion for that. Neither in this country nor yet in the United States, where this organization has been subjected to so much persecution, have they definitely been connected with any criminal act. At this moment we cannot think of any one more "degraded and troublesome" than the person responsible for the paragraph quoted above. The publication of a statement with so little foundation is so uncalled for that it borders very closely on inciting to mob violence.

As the Sun, in every issue, prints a chapter from the Bible, ostensibly for the moral uplift of its readers, we will venture to quote briefly from the same authority for the benefit of the Sun, even at the risk of "casting our pearls before swine":

"Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal. . . .

"And though I bestow all My goods to feed the poor, and though I give My body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth Me nothing. . .

"And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity.—I Corinthians xiii 1-3-13."

SOCIALISM AND THE MILK TRUST

IT ALMOST goes without saying, that one of the first trades that will be dealt with drastically, but along lines that will be of decided benefit to the public, will be the milk trade, when labor gets in power. It is obvious, to any thinking person, that this is a trade which should receive the most serious consideration. If you go into any one of our towns or cities and see, as we do here in Vancouver, two or three milkmen sent by different retailers following each other day after day along each street, reflect that this is one of the reasons why the working man's wife cannot afford to buy milk enough for her growing family. Reasonably clean milk is recognized as being one of the best foods for young, growing children, yet here in Vancouver hundreds of our young children are not obtaining anything like the amount that is their just due. Only recently it has been brought to our notice again that many of our school children are not obtaining sufficient nourishment, and when it came before our city council, they felt themselves obliged to cut off the amount of milk that was being allowed our schools to give the under-nourished children. It is tragic enough to know that we, here in this land flowing with milk and honey, have children that are under-nourished—we had thought that those conditions only existed in Russia—but when our city fathers are compelled to cut off necessary allowance, we wonder to what extent this capitalist system will go before it will surrender or be forced into oblivion. To think that a few dollars mean more than the health and happiness of our young and innocent children, is appalling! How do they, how can they justify such actions? Will they, in the days that are to come—should the eventuality arise—have the nerve to ask these same young children to go out on to the battle field and fight and die for such a system? No doubt they will. There seems to be no limit to their nerve on such occasions.

The reason of the high price of milk is, in general, not to be found in excessive profits to the farmer. Indeed, it is true here, that in many areas, the contrary is the case. It would seem that the main cause for the expense is the high cost of distribution. In some cases more has been allowed for this than for all other expenses, together with the remuneration to the producer. These facts are notorious. Lord Rhondda—that great individualist business man, who in his old age turned from the successful pursuit of his private profit to the utilization of his great powers in the public interests as food controller in England—was reluctantly driven, in spite of his natural bias against socialism, to the view that the only thing to do was to municipalize or closely control the retail distribution and to nationalize the wholesale trade.

That, indeed, is the socialist policy, and no other is adequate to meet the situation. Private interests cannot be trusted in a matter of such vital importance to the health and general welfare of the community, in which the public interest and the particular interest of the profit-seeking traders often pursue divergent paths. The community should be complete master in its own household. If, in its opinion, it is desirable, the community should be able to take over the retail distribution of milk and either to run it direct as a public service, or to handle it under close supervision through co-operative or other authorized distributors. Undoubtedly combines have been able to effect great economies in distribution, by amalgamating unnecessarily competitive businesses and by better organization of its supplies; but most of these economies have gone to the shareholders, and the public has profited not at all. It is obvious to any who have chosen to give this matter any very serious consideration, that the milk trade must of necessity be one of the first to receive the attention of any labor and socialist government, if in the meantime our anti-socialist governments do not see the error of their way, and endeavor to make amends for their past mismanagement, by instituting this much-needed reform.

SEEING THE ERROR OF THEIR WAY

A RECENT press dispatch brought us the news that Oswald Mosley, son-in-law of Lord Curzon, has joined the Labor party. If we might judge from the nature of his letter to Premier Macdonald, in which he said, "You stand forth as the leader of the forces of progress in their assault upon the powers of reaction. In this grave struggle I ask leave to range myself beneath your standard," he will be truly welcome. The light is dawning. Capitalism is crumbling. The sincere souls who have, through ignorance, been endavoring to bolster up this decadent system are experiencing an awakening. Those who join our forces, feeling that therein lies the greatest opportunity for the giving of honest, earnest and sincere assistance, on their part, to suffering humanity, we bid them welcome. To those who come with any other motive, no matter from party or sect, we bid them stay with their sinking ship.

STRIKES—WHAT DO THEY MEAN?

FOR SOME time past, it would seem as though we are experiencing more strikes than we are as a rule accustomed to experience in a given time. Such events should at least stimulate thought on the part of every one who has the interest of humanity at heart. For every effect there is a cause; then we should make an honest attempt to seek the cause underlying the great unrest that is at the root of the many strikes that we are witnessing today.

The average human being is, as a rule, a very docile creature. Given a reasonable satisfaction for the needs that are pressing upon him, he will tolerate a great deal. Circumstances, it would appear, have now arisen when men and women are not receiving sufficient to provide, with the essentials of life, themselves and dependents. They find that they cannot depend on others to look after or defend their interests, and that it is a duty that has now fallen upon them in all seriousness, that they themselves must look to those interests. So callous have the beneficiaries of the present capitalist system become to the needs of their fellowmen, that no other way is open to the average group of workers, than to stand up as one body to defend their just rights and privileges. As time goes on, it will be evident to any thinking mind that the various groups of workers which are now struggling along as separate entities, will eventually combine into one solid and united force in an effort to protect themselves effectually from the onslaughts of those who are either too callous and inhumane to consider their welfare, or who may be absolutely ignorant as to the pathway that humanity is treading on its onward and upward march towards the goal of human liberty and justice. So long as our social system continues to operate as it is doing today, disregarding the every-day needs of the workers and their dependents, we must expect strikes to continue. They are but a means, it would seem, that will serve to impress upon the minds of those in control, the necessity of developing a more humane social system; one in which the rule of life will be—"From each according to his ability, to each according to his needs."

Money and the Money Trust

(Continued from page 1)

tal. Other large sums go into real estate used more or less for bank premises. Again overhead expenses are very heavy. Large salaries for the higher officials and elaborate equipment even in small branches in out-of-the-way places. Further considering the whole banking system, the duplication of services is most wasteful. Why two or three branch banks in a single hamlet? Why a dozen huge bank buildings within a couple of city blocks? Under modern conditions, competition is a wasteful and extravagant method of doing business. Mergers are inevitable, but they raise their own problems and at best represent a transition stage in economic development.

Again, the bank may have large profits but it often has huge losses—as the revelations in connection with the failure of the Merchants and Home banks testify. Certain speculations may have proved disastrous. The bank suffers. All who do business help to foot the bill. If the bank fails, it involves the depositors and shareholders in the disaster. But what if the speculation should prove successful? The bank secures interest—that is all; the speculator has the profits, and who is the speculator? Sometimes one or more of the bank directors.

Here we come to the more fundamental evil of interlocking directorates. Whether the investment is "legitimate" or speculative may make a great deal of difference from the standpoint of good business, and the effect on depositors and shareholders. But in either case the effect on the public at large may be bad. Mr. A, a bank director, may lend to Mr. B, automobile manufacturer and refuse credit to Mr. C, house-builder, or Mr. D, cattle-raiser. The automobile industry will flourish while the building industry or cattle raising industry may go on the rocks. Mr. A, as automobile manufacturer, may make large profits, even though the public at large suffers and the bank itself feels the adverse effect of the general depression. But why should Mr. A, as bank director, be permitted to use other people's money for his own advantage? In Canada frequently the same group of men are directors in a bank, an insurance company, a trust and loan company, a transportation or power company, and several big industrial concerns such as textile, a flour, or a rubber, or a pulpwood or mining company. Thus they can control the entire industrial commercial and financial situation.

Indeed, their power does still further for they may have their representation in parliament, and in the cabinet itself. This is what we call "the money trust." Its ramifications may be traced in every department of complicated inter-related activities of our modern life. We defy it at our individual peril. We accept its sovereignty at the peril of society.

The danger of the dominance of the money trust seems to me two-fold. It has succeeded in placing a mortgage on us all that can never be paid—a mortgage that, in the meantime, reduces the majority to virtual serfdom. In the old Feudal days a peasant often worked three days of the week for the Lord of the estate, and then was permitted to work three days for himself. The average Canadian is really worse off than this. Federal, provincial and municipal debts, inflated values and watered stocks, middlemen's profits—all lay an overburdening weight upon industry. Nominally you may own your own house; the man who holds the mortgage is the real owner. Canada can never prosper till it gets rid of its mortgages. Burn the mortgage and no wealth is destroyed. Think that out! Read J. A. Hobson's and Viscount Milner's statements again. Then think a bit harder!

This brings us to the other way of looking at the danger of the dominance of the money trust. The man with a mortgage is not free. The nation mortgaged to the money lords is not free. "Work and starve, live on hay." The lash swings over our backs. Economics in public expenditures on health and education, low wages, irregular work, high cost of living, high taxes, all to pay the mortgage. Individuals are bribed or cowed; democracy becomes a sham. So-called "political freedom" or "religious freedom" or "academic freedom" without economic freedom becomes a hollow mockery. The task of our age seems to be to win economic freedom.

S. K. Johnson, Spences Bridge—His communication is crowded out of this issue, but will appear next week.

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"Communism, the Next Stage in Social Evolution"

THE final address of Dr. Curry's course on the "Problems of Life and Labor," was delivered on March 21st, and the above subject was dealt with. A good sized audience was present, many of whom had been attending regularly since the opening lecture in October. According to the speaker, the coming of communism is not a matter of chance. It does not develop from the consciousness of great men, but is the inevitable product of natural law, just as is the coming of day, or the return of spring, for man, and his activities are just as much under the sway of causation as are the movements of tides, or the revolutions of planets.

The speaker briefly reviewed some great landmarks of evolution, which he had dealt with during the winter. The whirling of cosmic dust in the making of worlds, the origin of life in the primordial years of this planet, the innate urge of matter to combine and live, the coming of fish, amphibians, reptiles, mammals and man, were briefly reviewed.

Communism the Earliest, and the Coming Form of Society

For hundreds of generations our ancestors were savages, and yet in many respects were more fraternal than are the Christian civilizations of today, for in tribal society there were no paupers, nor parasites, no millionaires, nor slums, nor palaces. The means of life were owned, and operated in common, the hostile environment compelled these primitive men and women to co-operate in order to meet the common foes, and today the same universal urge to live is compelling the exploited masses to combine and conquer their exploiters. The speaker traced also the various stages of social development, showing how communism merged into slavery, how slavery enabled the master to live off the toil of his subjects, and how feudalism, based on land as the dominant factor in production, was a still more favorable form of exploitation. Then came capitalism, based on the class ownership of machinery; this is the highest, and at the same time the final stage of class rule in human slavery. For as the communist manifesto says: "The stage has now been reached where the exploited classes cannot attain their emancipation from the exploiting or capitalist class, without once and for all time emancipating society at large from all exploitation, oppression, class distinctions and class struggles."

The Seeds of Social Revolution

It is said that the ice age of half a million years ago drove man into primitive communism. Chattel slavery lasted thousands of years, and was the economic basis of Egypt, Greece and Rome, and the ancient civilizations of the past. Feudalism endured for many centuries, and was replaced by capitalism, which evolved with machine production.

"Capitalism contains within itself the seeds of its own destruction." Dr. Curry showed by facts and figures how economic forces are operating for the coming of communism.

Underhand production which prevailed in those ages before capitalism, production and consumption balanced under normal conditions, in all communities and countries. With handicraft methods, with galleys and crude sailing ships, and caravans, commerce as we know it, was undreamed of. In those days all available labor was usually needed to supply the needs of the masters and their slaves.

The speaker, after stating these facts, displayed some colored charts which illustrated the increased exploitation, and unemployment which followed the evolution of the machine and which is evidencing itself today in political and economic chaos. Iron is the basic commodity of modern capitalism. The first chart showed how the increase of productive powers took place in the United States in the supplying of pig iron. These facts and figures were taken from "suppressed information," from the 18th annual labor report compiled under the administration of Roosevelt, and published by the Appeal to Reason.

In 1870, the average producer of pig iron turned out 66 tons, annual wages, $453, profit on each worker, $322.

In 1880, the product was 81 tons, wages $504, profit $560.

In 1890, through improvements in smelting, each sweated slave turned out 200 tons, wages were reduced to $460, profit on each worker, $405.

In 1900, important labor-saving devices were installed, resulting in 390 tons for each man, wages were $560, profits from each worker going to the shareholders, $900. It should be noted that while the purchasing power of $1 was, during this time on the wane, the number of dollars received by the producers remained almost stationary, while profits from 1870-1900 increased nearly 300 per cent.

Our "goose-step" professors of economics dare not mention these facts or draw the obvious deductions, yet this increase of surplus value applies to all lines of manufacture and exchange, wherever machinery is used. Yet what must be the result of this ever-increasing stream of wealth extracted from the brain and brawn of the modern slave?

Wages remain at the point of subsistence, and the consuming power of the masses is represented by wages. What is done with the surplus wealth? For a time it was turned into new capital and new machinery. The great war was a hideous climax of this "hire of the laborer, kept back by fraud."

Another chart showed how increased unemployment kept pace with the development of labor-saving methods. From the year 1890-1903, unemployment in the United States had increased from 15 to 50 per cent., that is this percentage of workers were out of employment part of the time, the chief cause being "works closed."

But our race which survived the ice ages, and successfully conquered the enemies of the past, is not going to perish meekly, because a parasitic class owns the world's means of life.

Dr. Curry also showed how the understanding of and revolt against hunger and misery expressed itself in the growth of the socialist movement. The conclusion, which is obvious, is that as unemployment, poverty, war and all the curses of modern society can be traced back to production for profit, therefore the remedy is production for use. This can be attained only by the working classes capturing power, political and economic, and building up a new social order, based on communism, through which alone peace and plenty can be the lot of all.

The Desire of Nations

The speaker showed how the ideals of universal peace, and brotherhood had been dreamed of, and fought for in all ages.

The Hebrews, through their great prophets, such as Isaiah, Micha, Jesus and John, had struggled and died in battling for this ideal. Even our more modern poets such as Burns, Shelley, Morris, Whitman, Markham and Tennyson expressed the same forces of social passion.

The address was concluded with Ingersoll's "Night and Morning," which ended as follows:

"I see a world of peace, a world where labor reaps its full reward, a world upon which the shadow of the gallows does not fall, a world without the beggar's outstretched palm, the miser's heartless stoney stare, the piteous wail of want, the cruel eyes of scorn. I see a world without disease of flesh or brain, shapely and fair, the married harmony of form, and function, and as I look life lengthens, joy deepens, love intensifies, fear dies, liberty at last secure and heaven is here, this shall be."

Mothers' Pensions

It is said that the nation cannot afford the charge for mothers' pensions. I should put it this way: Can we afford not to give mothers' pensions?—Pethick Lawrence, M.P.

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End of Secret Treaties

A London despatch on Tuesday, stated that Under Secretary Arthur Ponsonby has announced the end of secret treaties for Great Britain. In future the government will present every treaty to parliament for 21 days; then ask for ratification. This will make the negotiation of secret pacts impossible.

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FEDERATED LABOR PARTY, Room 111—319 Pender St. West—Business meetings every Wednesday evening. A. MacInnis, chairman; E. H. Morrison, sec.-treas.; Geo. D. Harrison, 1182 Parker Street, Vancouver, B. C., corresponding secretary.
Any district in British Columbia desiring information re securing speakers or the formation of local branches, kindly communicate with Provincial Secretary J. Lyle Telford, 524 Birks Bldg., Vancouver, B. C. Telephone Seymour 1852, or Fairmont 4028.

BAKERY SALESMEN, LOCAL 571—Meets second Thursday every month in Holden Building. President, J. Brightwell; financial secretary, H. A. Bowron, 629—11th Avenue East.

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF Boilermakers, Iron Shipbuilders and Helpers of America, local 194—Meetings first and third Mondays in each month in Holden Building. President, P. Willis; secretary, A. Fraser. Office hours, 9 to 11 a.m. and 3 to 5 p.m.

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ENGINEERS — INTERNATIONAL UNION of Steam and Operating, Local 882—Meets every Wednesday at 8 p.m., Room 806 Holden Bldg. President, Charles Price; business agent and financial secretary, F. L. Hunt; recording secretary, J. T. Venn.

CITY FIREFIGHTERS UNION NO. 18—President, Neil MacDonald, No. 1 Firehall; secretary, O. A. Watson, No. 3 Firehall.

GENERAL LABORERS UNION—MEETS every first and third Monday in Holden Building. President, J. R. Hawthorne; financial secretary, A. Padgham, Joyce Road P. O., Vancouver, B. C.; recording secretary, G. Tether, 2249—45th Ave. East, Vancouver, B. C.

MUSICIANS MUTUAL PROTECTIVE UNION, Local 145, A. F. of M.—Meets at Moose Hall, Homer Street, second Sunday, at 10 a.m. President, Ernest C. Miller, 991 Nelson Street; secretary, Edward Jamieson, 991 Nelson Street; financial secretary, W. E. Williams, 991 Nelson Street; organizer, F. Fletcher, 991 Nelson Street.

FEDERATED SEAFARERS' UNION OF B. C.—Meeting nights, first Tuesday and 3rd Friday of each month at headquarters, 318 Cordova Street West. President, D. Gillespie; vice-president, John Johnson; secretary-treasurer, Wm. Donaldson, address 318 Cordova Street West. Branch agent's address: George Faulkner, 576 Johnson Street, Victoria, B. C.

STREET AND ELECTRIC RAILWAY EMployees, Pioneer Division, No. 101—Meets K. P. Hall, Eighth and Kingsway, 1st and 3rd Mondays at 10:15 a.m. and 7 p.m. President, F. A. Hoover, 2409 Clarke Drive; recording secretary, F. E. Griffin, 447—6th Ave. East; treasurer, A. F. Andrew; financial secretary and business agent, W. H. Cottrell, 166—17th Ave. W. Office, corner Prior and Main Streets. Phone Fairmont 4504Y.

THE VANCOUVER THEATRICAL FEDERATION—Meets at 991 Nelson Street, at 11 a.m. on the Tuesday preceding the 1st Sunday of the month. President, E. A. Jamieson, 991 Nelson St.; Secretary, C. H. Williams, 991 Nelson St.; Business Agent, F. Fletcher, 991 Nelson St.

TYPOGRAPHICAL UNION, No. 226—President, R. P. Pettipiece; vice-president, J. M. Bryan; secretary-treasurer, R. H. Neelands, P. O. Box 66. Meets last Sunday of each month at 2 p.m. in Holden Building, 16 Hastings Street East.

PRINCE RUPERT TYPOGRAPHICAL UNION, No. 418—President, S. D. Macdonald, secretary-treasurer, J. M. Campbell, P. O. Box 689. Meets last Thursday of each month.

Personality

We have got to find a society that will enable each individual in the community to be able to realize all the expression of his personality, to be able to use his gifts to the best advantage in order to add to the wealth of the community and to make life a much richer and fuller thing, says Mr. Stephen, M.P.

Many Features at Orpheum

True variety is demonstrated this week in the wonderfully diversified new vaudeville bill at the Orpheum. There is offered a bill of varied acts that delights the hearts of kids of all ages between six and sixty. Brekar's bear comedians are absolutely the funniest trained animals seen in Vancouver. There are four cinnamon and two grizzly cubs. Then there is the lavish mystery and illusion act of the Great Leon and company, who carry a carload of effects. In rapid succession there are produced clever near-miracles which make the audience gasp with astonishment. "Fire and water" is an illusion entirely new and unique.

Beautifully staged and lighted and interpreted by a company of seven artists "The China Blue Plate," in three scenes is a worthy heart-reaching story based on an old Chinese legend of a lovers' quarrel and its consequences. Grette Ardine, danseuse, is worth headline honors on any bill. She produces "The French Model," a dancing story, assisted by a capable company. Charles Olcott and Polly Ann in "Charlie's Songs," aided by Eddie Lambert, and their fine song recital is featured by a two-piano duet number immensely pleasing. Bobby Randall, blackface comedian, draws upon a wealth of fun-making material and succeeds for wholesale laughter. He proves himself a better man than Gunga Din. Truly Shattuck and Emma O'Neil, with their "Odd Moments in a Vodvil Way," completely capture the favor of their auditors, with their laughs on life adroitly presented. The usual picture attractions and concert orchestra selections complete this splendid bill. The Orpheum vaudeville season offers only three more bills.

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Organic Evolution

[Keeping in mind that the best is none too good for the readers of The Federationist, it has been our good fortune to obtain from the pen of Prof. Charles Hill-Tout a series of articles on Organic Evolution, and to have them written in a manner that can be readily understood by the layman. It will be realized that the writer of these articles can speak as one with authority, when it is known that the professor is a member of the executive committee of the American School of Research, member of the American Archeological Institute, Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, and of the Royal Anthropological Institute of Great Britain; that he was a special investigator of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, and that he was a special lecturer through a long term of years for the Archæological Institute of America and travelled from ocean to ocean pursuing his studies and presenting their results before scientific bodies.—Editor.]

[By Charles Hill-Tout, F. R. S. C., F. R. A. I., Etc.]

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WHEN rightly considered the history of the progress of human thought is essentially the history of the succession and dominance of ideas.

A very little reflection soon convinces one that the human mind is ruled and controlled entirely by ideas. Nothing is easier to demonstrate than this fundamental truth.

One has only to cast one's thoughts back over the history and development of religious conceptions, and recall the influence they have exercised at all times, over men's minds and actions, to find abundant evidence of the truth of this statement.

The progress of astronomy, physics, chemistry, physiology, medicine, biology, and other sciences, all alike illustrate this succession of dominating ideas.

Every now and again some outstanding genius, some superman, arises who gives to the world some illuminating concept — some great generalization—which pours a flood of light into the dark places of the human understanding and makes intelligible and clear for us things and principles which before were dark and obscure. Such a superman was Newton. His formulation of the law of gravitation brought such light and order into our conceptions of the universe, that it can be justly said of him that before his time, the universe was without form and void; and where before was only darkness, light now shines.

To have perceived a law applicable not only to terrestrial matter, but also to the planets and sun and all the starry hosts of heaven, was assuredly one of man's greatest achievements. Such an accomplishment makes manifest, in part, at least, the marvellous powers which lie dormant in the human mind awaiting unfoldment. And while there has been no lack of geniuses since Newton's time, there is perhaps only one other who ranks with him in the wide influence his conception has exercised in the domain of human thought, and that is that remarkable personality of the last century—Charles Darwin.

Darwin's great generalization—organic evolution—ranks equally with Newton's Law of Gravitation in its illuminating and unifying power. Not a single department of human knowledge is now free from its pervasive influence; and although Darwin applied the evolutionary principle more particularly to the problems of biology, in the hands of others, it has proved a master-key to the solution of a host of other problems, and has brought light and understanding in other departments of human thought where before was only a confused and perplexing mass of seemingly isolated and unrelated facts.

The Doctrine of Evolution, taken in its widest application, is, indeed, even a greater discovery than Newton's; for it is the law of laws—the foundational principle of the universe—gravitation itself being included within the sphere of its activity. Nothing in the universe seems exempt from the operation of the law of evolution, and nothing illumines the dark places of our human understanding so much, or enables us to realize so clearly and fully the power and transcendence of that Intelligent and Creative Principle which lies behind, and is imminent in all existence, as this universal law of evolution, or unfoldment.

Of late we have been witnessing, in certain quarters, and particularly in the Eastern States of the American Union, a curious recrudescence or revival of that blind, unreasoning prejudice against the Doctrine of Evolution which first met Darwin's formulation of his great law. So bitter have been the attacks, and so false and misleading the statements of the leaders of this movement, in respect of the present status in Science of the Doctrine of Evolution, that the executive of the American Association for the Advance of Science—the most learned and the most representative of all the scientific bodies on this continent—thought it desirable, in the interest of scientific truth, to issue at one of their recent meetings a public manifesto, declaring that men of science everywhere regarded the Doctrine of Organic Evolution as one of the most illuminating and firmly-established of truths known to modern science.

These childish and futile attacks—sponsored for the most part by persons without scientific training who have no real knowledge of what the Doctrine of Organic Evolution stands for, and who commonly confound the indisputable fact of evolution with the factors by which it operates—a wholly different problem which science frankly admits is not yet fully solved—have had at least one satisfactory result. They have aroused in the public mind a new and deeper interest in the subject of evolution, which is seen to declare itself in a desire on the part of a number of persons to make themselves acquainted with the nature and character of the evidence upon which the Doctrine of Organic Evolution has been established.

It is this desire so commonly expressed by the choice of subjects taken up in our Open Forums, our debating societies and elsewhere which has prompted the writing of this series of articles; the purpose of which is to enable the readers of The B. C. Federationist who may be interested in the subject, but who have neither the time nor the necessary training to make a first-hand study of the matter for themselves, to become acquainted in some measure, at least, with the character of the evidence upon which science has founded the doctrine of organic evolution, with the least expenditure of time and effort on their own part. And they may rest assured, that nothing will be stated in these articles which is not generally held by our leading authorities or which has not received the sanction of science.

And now let us here at the start, come to a clear understanding of just what is meant by the term "Organic Evolution." This is important, for no term seems to have been more misunderstood than this, and much confusion and needless controversy has arisen as a consequence.

By Organic Evolution, then, we mean the gradual unfolding and branching out into a multitude of divergent forms, of a single, primal life germ, which came into existence on this globe, or which manifested itself here, in the dawn of earth history. In other words, that the stream of life has been continuous and unbroken from the first appearance of organic forms on this planet down to our own times; and further, that every living form that has ever existed in past times or which now exists—man himself included—has arisen from, and is genetically related to, some earlier pre-existing form.

This is the law of life as conceived by Darwin and applied by him to the problems of biology; and this is what we understand and mean by the term "Organic Evolution."

This conception of life and of living things opposes itself directly, as will readily be seen, to the so-called Mosaic story of the creation and first appearance of life-forms on this globe, as related in the two first chapters of the Hebrew Scriptures. It is nonetheless worthy of careful consideration on that account.

Viewed in this way, Organic Evolution is seen to be nothing more than a specific case of the much wider and more general law of evolution, we may perceive in operation throughout the whole universe. And that such a general law exists and is universally applicable has been made abundantly clear, during the past quarter of a century, in relation to the constitution of the heavenly bodies generally, and of our own world in particular.

Modern Astronomy has advanced so rapidly of late years that astronomers are now able to show us worlds in the making; and we may perceive and understand how such bodies as our own sun arise by gradual development or evolution from the diffused and invisible star-dust of space to visible nebulous masses; and from these whirling and condensing bodies again to individual suns and planets. We may now actually watch the process of world-making stage by stage; for in the immensities of space there are unnumbered bodies in every phase of development or evolution, from condensing star-dust to such mighty orbs as Betelgeuse, and from these to declining and darkening suns. We are told there are as many of these latter, which have run their course, as of luminous bodies. We even know the present phase through which our own sun is passing. We are certain that it has long since reached the zenith of its splendour as a luminous body, and is now gradually sinking into the obscurity of old age, and will one day become one of the dark and invisible bodies of space. In a very real sense we may speak of the celestial bodies of space as passing through their periods of birth, youth, maturity, old age, and finally, decay. They do all this in their own way as surely as do the forms of life on our earth. Evolution, the law of endless, unfolding and integrating change, is everywhere the law of existence.

In the same way the science of terrestrial physics illustrates this same general law of evolution. Matter is now no longer regarded as that indestructible substance or entity it was formerly thought to be. We now know that it can vanish out of existence or be transformed into something from which all the known characteristics and properties of matter have disappeared. Instead of being distinct from energy—a something to be influenced and affected by it—in its last analysis it now becomes one with energy itself; the two entities being but different phases of one and the same thing—that invisible and intangible something, the great physicist, Lodge, has called, the Ether of Space; matter being now regarded as the static expression of this unseen substratum of the universe and energy as its dynamic expression.

Out of this primeval womb of nature, the source of both matter and energy, we may thus perceive how our material universe has been called into being, and been built up stage by stage. In other words, how it has been evolved from something relatively simple and primordial to its present complex and multifarious condition. First appear those primal elements of matter we call electrons and protons. These combining in groups make up and constitute, according to their number and configuration, the different substances known to chemistry. These are the "atoms" of matter. Groups and combinations of these make up and constitute the molecules or larger particles of matter, and these combining again make up the molar forms of matter familiar to our senses.

Thus, wherever we look in the universe, we find the law of evolution is being manifested by the operations we perceive going on there.

It is this very character of universality which manifests itself so widely that forms one of the strongest arguments on behalf of the Doctrine of Organic Evolution. It creates in our minds a strong presumption wholly in its favor; for it is quite unreasonable to suppose that what is observed taking place everywhere else in the universe, is inoperative in, and excluded from, that particular portion of it we term the realm of organic matter. Our reason rebels against such a view.

And now, having demonstrated the reasonableness of the Doctrine of Organic Evolution, we will pause here and take up the argument again along another line in the next article.

(To be continued)

RECONSTRUCTION

(Continued from last week)

[By O. L. C.]

THE best example of reconstruction yet seen in Canada is the national debt. On armistice day, it is said to have been $1,382,000. It is now at leatst doubled. According to a recent Toronto dispatch, the federal and provincial debts combined, amount to $500 for every person in Canada. A recent advertisement in the Vancouver press quoted the debts of certain British Columbia municipalities at nearly $250 per head, so we each and every one of us owe about $750. At 5 per cent. it means that the man of the house has to pay interest amounting to $187.50 per year in perpetuity it seems, if he have a wife and three olive branches.

This condition of affairs is a necessary part of the capitalist system. Without it, one great section of the capitalist class would be deprived of its means of life. How sad to think of it.

To suggest therefore that a government, representive of capitalistic interests, should take on the job of rearranging affairs of the country so that the debt would bear no interest, yet would have full value in assets behind it, is to suggest that the capitalistic system commit suicide. One cannot imagine them doing it.

In 1921-22, the Oliver government voted $500,000 as their share (one-third) of the relief money doled out that winter. One significant fact was that it could not be used by the municipalities in any constructive way. It was cheaper for a municipality to give the money away than to carry on relief works. Not a trace of it remains except a memory.

The conclusion is plain. We cannot expect a capitalist government to do it for us. We will have to do it for ourselves. Send reinforcements to Woodsworth and Irvine at Ottawa; to Guthrie and Neelands at Victoria, and send them in such numbers that they can be effective.

Any plan of reconstruction demands first a comprehensive knowledge of the needs of the people on the one hand, and of the natural resources and the means of converting them into useful products on the other hand. Almost all of the data needed is already in the hands of the governments. Enough of the country's resources are also in their hands to enable them to make a start.

The Dominion of Canada, the province of British Columbia, and some of the other provinces own railways and other ways of transportation, and own or control lands, forests minerals, etc., accessible from railway or river. They also have oceans of fish as well as other resources.

They all have idle men. Can they not see their duty to bring the two together? Generally the "back to the land" idea means getting out in the wilderness, grubbing out a bunch of stumps, enough to make room for a few spuds, a few chickens and a very few years of it is enough for most people. What is needed is a back to the land movement so co-ordinated that all the resources may be used to provide material for all the varied capabilities and kinds of skill available in the human element concerned.

The principle has been admitted in part by the creation of such bodies as the harbor commissioners. Even a superficial survey of their activities shows that they directly (and indirectly through creations of theirs) many men of many trades and callings; some skilled and some unskilled. They can be said to be quite successful.

An extension of this principle, conducted on a non-interest bearing plan, as outlined in a previous article, would be a good start on a general scheme of reconstruction of one side of our existence, the industrial. It must, however, be large enough to employ every man or woman who needs employment.

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Labor and the Poets

BLAKE THE ANARCHIST

[Frances Wills]

CERTAINLY William Blake was on the side of us who rebel against the present order—whether we call ourselves socialists, communists or laborites. For he was an anarchist; he was against law and order as we know them. To him, law and order as they exist in the world, were dull and evil and maintained by fear, envy and selfishness. (Surely, we agree). He could trust his instincts; he needed no outside force for the free man is a law unto himself.

Blake's religion is most interesting. Like Shelley, he regarded state and church, king and priest as types of hateful tyranny and repression, yet one can call Blake a Christian, while Shelley was an atheist. Blake, at least, believed in the religion of Jesus, the "religion of continued forgiveness," he called it. The question of what we shall believe would be answered by the poet thus: "We have all the wonders of sense and imagination, and what man could rejoice in an unknown world (heaven) who finds no pleasure in field and sky?" Again, he writes: "He who would do good must do it in minute particulars; general good is the plea of the scoundrel, the hypocrite and flatterer."

Like all the revolutionary poets, he loves freedom; he is, in fact, "the living spirit of freedom, and therefore, rebellion." Unlike most of us, alas—who are drilled and exercised into other people's interpretations who cannot look at life on our own account. He sympathizes with the repression of children when he says: "How can the bird that is born for joy, sit in a cage and sing? How can a child when fears annoy, but droop his tender wing, and forget his youthful spring?" Blake would have to write those words today, were he alive.

The poet gives us another saying which we can apply to our own time. He says: "It is not the Goths nor the monks that desolate Europe with war; it is the classics." We might say this is an exaggeration and blame all three. But our adhesion to old ideas; our Tibetan exclusiveness are undoubtedly the main causes. Conservatism is a fault. Yet remember as someone has remarked: "Your true conservative worships a dead radical." This is almost laughable; it is cheering to know that what is scoffed at as insane radicalism today, will be the accepted opinion of tomorrow. Jesus, Buddha, Wycliffe, Luther were radicals in their day. Just as we understand them better now, so are we learning to understand the poets—Blake among them. We are learning something of his love for all life—life in all its careless and joyous manifestations; something of his appreciation of its beauty and seeing with new eyes its details. Though we may neither appreciate nor understand Blake's mysticism which was largely influenced by Swedenborg, we cannot fail to be delighted with his "Songs of Innocence and Experience," and like him, "see a world in a grain of sand; and a heaven in a wild flower; hold infinity in the palm of your hand, and eternity in an hour."

But Blake, the mystic, the prophet, like all of us, was disillusioned to some extent. Life was not all good, and there was a problem of good and evil. He saw the miseries of his day (and ours):

"Is this a holy thing to see
In a rich and fruitful land,
Babes reduced to misery,
Dead with cold and usurous hand?"

he writes. And he sees the bigotry of religion and the cruelty of the law, and with his boldness and consistency, attacks them all—the "Mind-forged Manacles."

And he saw the workers' plight. Writing in England in honor of Milton, the poet, he says:

"And did those feet in ancient time
Walk upon England's mountains green
. . . On England's pleasant pastures seen?"

And did the countenance divine,
Shine forth upon our clouded hills,
And was Jerusalem builded here
Among these dark Satanic Mills?

I will not cease from mental fight
Nor shall my sword sleep in my hand,
Till we have built Jerusalem
In England's green and pleasant land.

Workers, we who can perceive his meaning and catch a glimpse of his vision (and we must have vision)—here in this last verse is an encouragement for us.

Every reader of The Federationist can render valuable assistance by renewing their subscriptions as soon as they are due, and by inducing another worker to subscribe. It does not take much effort to do this. Try it.

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NONE BETTER MADE
Government Stores in British Columbia always have a goodly supply of BRITANNIA BEER. The rest is up to you. Order "Britannia" Beer, and be sure your order is filled exactly.

Labor

(Continued from page 1)

with the information that only tentative arrangements had been made, but that Delegate Pritchard had been retained as editor and Delegate Watts as business manager. With the handicaps under which they were laboring, he said, it would be impossible to publish before the 18th inst., even should they desire to go ahead. Although given authority to proceed when they had the sum of $500 in sight, the committee had no recommendation to make.

Delegate Watts reported progress, and said that many of the advertisers were holding off until they saw what the paper was to be like.

Delegate from the Molders said his organization were withholding their support because the Federated Labor party had taken over The Federationist, and they felt there was not room for two labor papers.

Delegate Flynn outlined the early stages of negotiations, whereby they were to take over the Longshoremen's Strike Bulletin, and continue this without cessation, following the settlement of the latter's strike. It was the idea to continue the paper along the same lines as the Bulletin, which seemed to fill the bill very nicely, and to retain Delegate Pritchard as editor.

Delegate Jamieson decried the lack of information available from the committee who had the matter in charge.

A lively discussion ensued, the trend of which showed that labor was by no means united on the advisability of issuing a newspaper along the lines of the Longshoremen's Strike Bulletin, fathered by the longshoremen during the conduct of their recent strike.

Despite the failure of the committee to offer any recommendation, a motion that they be authorized to proceed, with Delegate Pritchard as part-time editor, was finally carried.

TUBBY — If Uncle Herb Has The Crust To Try This, He Ought To Get Rich — By WINNER

Farmer Problems

(Continued from page 1)

overthrowing an economic system which has outgrown its usefulness, and which is ready for the discard. The time is rotten ripe for a Farmer-Labor party, and no other can lead us out of the industrial swamp in which we are at present floundering. Without the socialist phisosophy, the farmer will get nowhere, and without the aid of the agricultural population, labor alone has not the strength to win. Each may still preserve its identity, and yet work with the other for a common cause, the overthrow of capitalism. The hammer and sickle are prophetic emblems.

Somebody has said that you cannot tinker with economic laws. Unfortunately you can.—James Maxton, M.P.

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Women Must Organize

A Worker's Letter

Dear Micky,—Thank you for the letter you never sent. I know you think I'm a fathead for leaving Blighty; but a rolling stone gathers no moss, and personally I'd sooner not gather moss—whatever that means. So write.

I managed to get work in a big department store, and "digs" in a small boarding house, but I found after a week that by the time I'd paid for my board, car tickets, face cream and rouge (to say nothing of hairpins) and dutifully given church collection, I'd very little left for—say, my mind, or for pleasure.

So now I've got a room and I look after my own "grub." True, I bark my shins or skin, my elbows or break some thing every time I cook or clean, because my "cube" is so small, but that's nothing. I'm compensated, though; my artistic soul rejoices in the landlady's texts. My favorite is, "Never do today what you can put off until tomorrow." No, I've got it muddled; no matter, though.

I work from 8:30 until 5:30 in a dress department. Part of the time I'm so busy that I get all tied up in a knot; the rest of the time I'm bored stiff. I try to amuse myself by speculating about Jean's false hair, or the boss's home or the holes in the manager's socks. Oh, I'd love to smuggle in a "penny dreadful" to read; but I daren't.

Sometimes the airy, graceful scented creatures who do their shopping in the morning, "get my goat." They're so darned supercilious and inconsiderate. Sometimes, I wonder why their lives are so full of the beautiful things only while ours are so drab, so uninteresting. I'm not envious; I only wonder.

The afternoon people are just as provoking. One woman brought in a brood of youngsters and had me fit them with the Lord knows how many dresses. Then she departed without buying anything. Some women are the giddy limit. Another looked through all the blue dresses she could find; then her sister reminded her she'd already got one. But, you know, Micky, you can't blame them; they've to consider every dollar, but still—

Oh dear, I get so tired; my poor feet nearly on strike; my head aching with the bustle and stuffiness; my mouth opening and shutting in big yawns at my pretence of being busy, and interested sometimes. And the air gets frightfully hot and devitalized in these stores. Now do you see why girls insist on rouge?

Well, a few days' experience has shown me that we girls earn all we get—and more.

That reminds me: I've chummed up with a queer 'osity who has the next room. I thought at first she had a slate loose, but I don't now. She's always harping on the fact that working girls should organize and form unions. I wanted to know why, and she said, "you chump! You'd get your rights then; shorter hours, minimum wage at least, better conditions, less unemployment, and a fund to back you up in the enforcement of these or in case of strikes." That reminds me, we are forbidden to disclose the amount of our salaries. Perhaps that is to evade the minimum wage act; I don't know, though.

I was so tired that I didn't hear all she said. She wanted me to go to a meeting about socialism or labor, but I told her I was fagged out and wanted to forget business for a few hours. She seemed to understand. She said, "No, I guess you can't be expected to work out your own salvation; your education has been wrong; everything is wrong. Someone's got to go ahead for you."

I felt sorry afterwards when I realized she works all the hours God sends, and yet finds time to think and work for us girls. So I'm going with her next time, and I'll tell you all about it.

Now I'm going to roost, good night, sweet chuck, your loving sister,

LIZZIE.

P. S.—Don't get the idea that we're a lazy bunch who want all for nothing. We don't mind work.

P. P. S.—Glad our town beat Liverpool at soccer.

"Loyalty" and "economy" are fashionable and popular words very much misused nowadays by many politicians. Why not use antonyms such as "unalligrant," "rebellious," "prodigality," "waste," "maladministration," etc.? They would explain the whole truth better.

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FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Labor's Policy—Burdens Imposed by Great War Increases As Years Pass

THE SITUATION IN CHINA

Politicians Realize What Honest Diplomacy Means to National Welfare

[By C. Birch Crisp]

MR. WINSTON CHURCHILL'S gibe at labor that it could not govern, will be disproved when labor in office resolves the legacy of errors in foreign policy which it inherited from its predecessors. In some quarters a plea is advanced for continuity in foreign policy, irrespective of which party is in power. Those who speak in that strain are evidently out of touch with popular opinion. Lord Grey is credited with the view that popular interest in foreign affairs and British diplomacy is dwindling. His lordship is mistaken; all intelligent politicians of both sexes realize nowadays the bearing which sound policy and honest diplomacy have upon national welfare.

The burdens imposed by the great war upon all classes of the community press more heavily as each year passes. Consequently the diplomacy which prepared the way for England's participation in the war will be scrutinized more thoroughly with the passage of time.

The majority of the British people may think that England's participation was inevitable, but an increasing number of merchants and bankers ask that in future sufficient warning shall be given them when engagements are made which conflict with the trend of recognized national policy. Up to the end of July, 1914, the doctrine of non-participation in a continental war by England was regarded by most people as axiomatic. Lord Grey gave the public no indication of any change of national policy until too late.

From the labor government candor is expected. Prompt redemption of a pledge has already shown itself in the recognition of Russia. The trading community looks for realistic treatment of outstanding problems connected with other countries.

China complains, with reason, of delay in the settlement of many questions which affect the Chinese at home and their right to control their own destinies. Our relations with China have grown increasingly difficult, because a policy wholly at variance with constitutional usage was adopted by Lord Grey and continued by his successors in the post of foreign secretary.

China set up a republic which disappointed anticipations and produced a succession of weak governments. Advantage of the situation was taken by some international bankers to obtain a monopoly of Chinese financial business, and restrictions were imposed upon the Chinese government's activities in western money markets which produced inevitable default. Under Lord Grey the process was confined to an understanding arrived at between various European chancelleries and the Japanese government. Parliamentary sanction was not asked in England, and outside a very limited circle nothing was known of the arrangements entered into.

Subsequently the late President Wilson approved the making of a banking combination to embrace England, America, France and Japan, which had for its avowed object the grant of loans to China. But China was not consulted, and the people's resentment at an endeavor to exercise tutelage over the Pekin government killed the plan.

The combination of selected financiers and bankers of the other countries named was called a consortium. It has not functioned, but it has retained the support of the foreign office, notwithstanding the loss to British creditors of China and the crippling effect upon trade which default brings in its train.

Pekin will not evolve a strong government until the Chinese enjoy the right to negotiate loans in the open market. Investors the world over may be relied upon to exact security and to protect themselves. The British government cannot protect its nationals by the grant of a monopoly to selected persons and institutions, nor by imposing impediments to normal diplomatic relations.

In the European sphere the labor government can bring order out of chaos by exhibiting to the public the real situation. The old school or diplomats have failed to effect a cure of Europe's ills.

M. Poincare promised what neither he nor any statesman could perform. French eyes are opened now to realities, and the right atmosphere for an all-round settlement exists.

Labor in office is numerically weak, but its endeavors to remove the causes of international enmity should be supported by the liberal party, both inside and outside parliament.

A reconciled Europe with re-started factories and transport freed from arbitrary restrictions at state borders would lead to demand for raw products which would benefit the dominions enormously, and enhance their buying capacity correspondingly.

In short, the solution of the domestic problems—slack trade and unemployment—is dependent upon the measure of success which labor in office can attain in the sphere of foreign affairs.

Empire Emigration

[C. Lorimer]

RECENTLY it was our privilege to read in the Daily Province an S. O. S. call for something to be done to save our empire. Emigration was suggested as the remedy. Now, the English folk are a civilized people. They gain their food by toiling in factories, mills and mines, but for the most part, they suffer from lack of shelter. The greater number of them are vilely housed, do not have sufficient fuel to keep them warm, and are insufficiently clothed. A constant number have no shelter at all, the sky being their only canopy. Many are found shivering in the streets, both winter and summer, in rags. In good times, many do not get enough to eat. In bad times, they die of starvation. They are dying now of starvation, and will continue so to do, for under the present system, they suffer from a chronic state of starvation. There are about 42,000,000 of the English folk, and out of every 1000, over 900 die of poverty, while a constant army of 8,000,000 struggle on the verge of starvation all the while. This is a conservative estimate of the numbers.

The English, or if anyone objects, the Britisher, is worse off than the savages. In this connection, it might be well to quote Huxley. From the knowledge he gained as a medical officer in the east end of London, and as a scientist pursuing investigations among the most elemental savages, he concludes: "Were the alternative presented to me, I would deliberately prefer the life of the savage to that of those people in Christian London."

Now, to suggest that emigration will solve the problems of Great Britain, shows a lack of understanding, not only of what empires are made of, but of the workings of our whole social and economic structure. The system we live under allows a few people to own the natural resources of the earth, and thereby controlling the lives of millions of the common people. That system ultimately allows the nation which can sell its products the cheapest in the world's markets, to develop into the largest empire. But this can only be done by bringing the workers of that nation to a low standard of living.

So now, the facts that the political machine known as the British empnre is running down, and emigration within the empnre will not relieve the condition. Bringing some of these miserable folk to Canada will only hasten the down-grade of the people here already. We are well under way now, if we can judge by our permanent bread lines and of the number of mothers who have to leave their children at public institutions while they hire themselves out to work scrubbing floors, so that they and their children might live. Canada is under the control of those who uphold the profit system.

The remedy lies in the reorganizing of society. It is interesting to note in this connection, that the British people are gradually taking the control from those who have made their homeland a shamble. A labor government sits in the house of commons and, although not in power, it soon will be. Let the workers of Canada get in line and elect their own representatives. Then we can work in conjunction with the British labor party for a real emigration policy, which will really be of benefit to the workers, and not operated solely in the interests of a few capitalist and transportation companies. The Province quoted Carlyle in the article referred to, as having pleaded for a permanent bridge for emigrants, so that they might cross to the colonies. We might also quote Carlyle in this connection, "You will have to admit that the working body of this rich English nation has sunk or is fast sinking into a state, to which, all sides of it considered, there was never any parallel. We must some day pass from political government to industrial administration, from competition in individualism, to individuality in co-operation."

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