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. 38 | FOUR PAGES | VANCOUVER, B. C., FRIDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 19, 1924 | 5c A COPY

AS TO WRONG-DOING

People's Crimes and Those of Their Masters—Reforms of No Avail in Long Run

REPLY TO OFFICIAL'S VIEW

Under Capitalism Conditions Exist Which Produce and Develop Felonies

[By Frances Willis]

A B.C. penitentiary official has solved the mystery of crime. Crime is caused through lack of home disciplin and laziness. It, therefore, behoves the parents of to-day to follow the advice of good old Solomon and use the rod more; and it is up to those responsible for the welfare of the masses to cure the unwilling workers of their laziness.

It will be noticed that the official in question is only concerned with the crime of the working-classes. But then, perhaps, his bread and butter depends on the narrowness of his vision; and, therefore, he makes no mention of the crimes of the rich—of the fraud, bribery, corruption and robbery, which are characteristics of big business. Nor does he mention that idleness is the curse of the parasites who live on the toil of the workers. He limits his remarks to the comparatively nsignificant crimes of the poor, and he designates as laziness that natural wish for leisure. And what if laziness is a characteristic of the masses? Who would be ever anxious to slave for another man's profit. The chief inducements to work are the law of self-preservation and family ties, not love of the work, as should be the case.

The law, which is concerned with the "divine right of property," in most cases, and which was made for the rich against the poor, for those who have, against those who have not, helps to maintain the social tie which we are living. So that our standard of values is all wrong. A working man will be sentenced to a few months hard labor if he dares to defraud the railway companies of a few cents; yet the same railway company is guilty of extortionate robbery all along the line, to say nothing of the vast tracks of land which it has seized from the people.

To return to the speech of our official: he is of the opinion that crime can be eridicatetd from the nature of criminals by education and religious instruction within the prisons. Anyone who knows anything of the effect of prison life and the hardening, embittering process will disagree. Anyone who has studied the educational system of capitalism will disagree. And anyone who realizes the results of supernaturalism and recognizes the individual rather than the social nature of most so-called religious teaching will disagree too. Reforms—even prison reforms—are of no avail in the long run. They may improve the condition of those unfortunate enough to incur the displeasure of the law, but they never eliminate crime. They are merely plasters on the social sores of the times.

Crime is not due to capitalism alone, for there has been crime since the world began or rather since the institution of private property. But under capitalism, conditions exist which produce and develop and increase crime. The deadly monotony of a good deal of modern labor has to react somehow; the miserable uncertainty due to unemployment or sickness or accidents has its moral effect; and the wretched conditions and degradation, in which so many thousands exist, are strong temptation to crime. Indeed, greatt credit is due to the masses that there is not more crime.

According to von Liezt. "It is an established fact that a protracted industrial depression always results in the increase of crime generally, and especially of offences against property." One wonders whether the magistrattes of western Canada ever consider that fact, in the light of the activities of immigration and shipping officials.

Lastly, it should be borne in mind that a good deal of the savagery which etxists to-day; a large proportion of the crime is due to the great war—to the effects on the minds of those engaged therein, and to the effects of those conditions which always follow war, namely, unemployment, unrest, poverty and hardship. Which is another reason why the working-class should be pacifist.

The Problem in the East

Obviously we should not be doing anything for relieving the sweated workers of India by a policy of preference. Indian capitalists desire to keep their home market and some firms are demanding a high tariff. English capitalists are looking abroad to establish their works, which simply means that the work which would be done in England is being done abroad. We are faced with the further fact, that capitalism is still concerned with profit-making, and that all the talk of imperial unity, preference, and all the rest of it, is simply a cloak to cover the moves to secure the monopoly of markets.

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Prices for The B. C. Federationist ordered in bundles: Fifty for $2, 100 for $3.50, 500 for $10. Mailed to any address.

To Friends of The B. C. Federationist

Prov. Library Dec 31

FRIENDS of the B. C. Federationist have from time to time been paying for copies of this paper to be sent to likely members of the Federated Labor party, and prospective subscribers to the Federationist, the F.L.P. official organ. No doubt these prospects have now formed some idea as to the nature of this publication and what it stands for.

It is very necessary that all who are interested in the Labor Movement should take their share of the responsibility in enlarging the scope of this journal, which is one of the few B. C. papers devoted exclusively to the education of the masses for a change of the system. We hope that those who have been sent a free copy will now see their way to become subscribers.

TRADES AND LABOR

Protests Action of Burnaby Council re Case of Frank Browne, M.L.A.

SCAFFOLDING INSPECTION

C.P.R. Employees and Part Time Work—Child Immigration—Other Business

THE regular meeting of the Vancouver Trades and Labor council was held on Tuesday night in the Holden block, President Harry Neelands presiding.

The action of the executive was unanimously endorsed in protesting the action of the Burnaby municipal council by refusing to grant Frank Browne, labor M. L. A., leave of absence to attend the next legislature which opens at Victoria next month. Several delegates spoke to the resolution. "It is not a question of Mr. Browne," said President Neelands, in conclusion, "but it is a question of a principle involved that is being challenged."

It was stated that the C. P. R. shops comencing September 19th, would reduce their staffs. Some time ago the employees were asked to accept part time. The matter was canvassed, and the men decided by a vote in favor of full time for some and the discharge of enough to permit this full time. Under full time, skilled mechanics get $28 a week, semi-skilled mechanics, $18 to $20, and laborers $16. As the result, workers in England will be kept posted regarding labor conditions in Vancouver and British Columbia.

The bringing out of children from the old country for adoption here will be investigated by a committee of the council. As full a report as possible will be prepared for Miss Margaret Bondfield, who is to investigate child emignation conditions in Canada for the British government.

A committee was nominated to request either the city, the province or the Workmen's Compensation board to have a scaffolding inspector appointed.

The city council will be asked to amend the Trades Licensing by-law in connection with the drive-your-own-car automobile liveries. At present there is no recourse against car or owner in case of accident. Bonding is suggested.

Labor representation on the Eight-hour-day board will be asked for.

Full compliance with the law will be requested of the B. C. government in the appointment of a woman factory inspector to succeed the late Mrs. Mahon. The vacancy must be advertised and filled by a person experienced in factory work.

A suggestion was made that legislation be sought setting a minimum wage for men.

The carpenters reported that the fair wage clause, setting $7 a day for carpenters, had been ordered observed on government contract work in the city.

Conventional Lies of our Civilization

The modern day laborer is more wretched than the slave of former times, for he is fed by no master nor any one else, and if his position is one of more liberty than the slave, it is principally the liberty of dying of hunger. He is by no means so well off as the outlaw of the middle ages, for he has none of the gay independence of the free-lance. He seldom rebels against society, and has neither means nor opportunity to take by violence or treachery what is denied him by the existing conditions of life. The rich is thus richer, the poor poorer than ever before since the beginning of history.—Max Mardan.

GET A NEW SUBSCRIBER

The greatest assistance that the readers of The Federationist can render us at this time, is by securing a new subscriber. By doing so you spread the news of the working class movement and assist us.

NANAIMO MINERS

Reject Western Fuel Company's Proposed Reduction in Wages

WELL-ATTENDED MEETING

As Miners Are Not Organized a Strike Is Not Anticipated

[From Our Own Correspondent]

NANAIMO, B. C., Sept. 16.—At a largely attended meeting of mine workers held in St. Johns ambulance hall thismorning, the men refused to take the proffered reduction in wages, amounting, it was stated, in some cases to $2.00 and $2.50 a day—mostly affecting piece-workers. A straight reduction of 25 cents a day was offered all workers in addition to piece-work reduction. The meeting instructed the committee to inform the management of their decision; and the company's attiaude is awaited with considerable interest. As the miners are unorganized a strike is not anticipated.

HOLLANDERS FOR CANADA

Journalists Say Emigrants Will Find Plenty of Opportunities to Make Good Living

Four prominent Dutch journalists are, we are told, taking back the good word to their countrymen, that Canada is the place for any man who is willing to work, though he may have to put up with some hardships for his first two or three years.

Please note: They are travelling as the guests of the C. P. R. under the personal convoy of Arthur B. Calder, special representative of that company. Therein lies a tale.

Our friends from Holand made this startling discovery, however, that should prove enlightening to our own citizens. They say that the emigrants will not find the steets paved with gold, but that they will find plenty of opportunity and may be assured of a good living for themselves and families, and eventually, perhaps a competance. They should have said that eventually, perhaps, by chance, maybe, they might happen to gain a livlihood for themselves, but for their families it is doubtful.

But that is the way the old worra is being run to-day. No one is taking into consideration the stern realities as they actually are. It is all, more or less, make believe, on the part of those who are trying to put over such piffle, for propaganda. Is it to be wondered at that we are in the position that we find ourselves to-day when men and women are going about the country telling such absolute rot.

When they show us how to stop those that we have gotten into this country already, from going elsewhere, after they have been here for a time, w would be very much obliged. Of course, we do not mean that they should resort to force to keep them here. We would like to see how they are going to make things so enticing that people will want to stay here of their own free will. When they have done that, we will be convinced that they are sincere, and not until then.

Mrs. Henderson Lectured

[From Our Own Correspondent]

Vernon, Sept. 17.—Mrs. Rose Henderson gave another lecture a the Alhambra hall, in this city, under the auspices of the Vernon local, Federated Labor Party of B. C. Her subject was "Russia Yesterday, and To-day, Under a Workers' Government." The audience listened very attentively, and I am sure their views on Russia have changed very considerably since hearing Mrs. Henderson's fine lecture. The local here is making nice progress, and I am sure will continue to do so.

If it is in the best interests of the workers, The Federationist is for it. If not, it is against it.

Burnaby Council Refuse Leave of Absence to F. Browne, M.L.A.

THE municipal council of Burnaby again, by a vote of 4 to 2, on Monday evening last, decided against Mr. Frank Browne being allowed the necessary leave of absence to attend to his duties as a member of the legislature at Victoria. Such an action was taken after sufficient time had elapsed for all members of that council to have been able to have given this matter the consideration that it deserved.

Any excuse that the majority of the council might make, must fade into utter insignificance, when one realizes the blow that has been struck at our boasted political and democratic freedom. If that freedom is to be deprived the workers, by taking from them the representation they have gained legitimate methods, then what have they to look forward to. Is not all this boasted freedom nothing but mere mockery? Is it to be wondered at that our communistic friends feel that they have cause to doubt the wisdom of resorting to any other method than that of physical force? One is almost inclined to agree with them.

Reeve McLean, at the present time, draws down a salary of something like $1,000 as reeve. He gets, perhaps, $1,200, owing to his position on the sewerage board. Had he gotten into the legislature, he would have gotten another $2,000. And on top of al this he has his private income. Would he have given up all these, we wonder? We don't think so. Frankly, the whole matter looks as though some one is venting their spleen, because they were beaten by Mr. Browne, and they are now resorting to lowest of all forms—retaliation, that of hitting below the belt. Not even among those who are ardent adherents of the most primitive of all sports—pugilism—are such tactics tolerated for a second.

We wonder now what will be the attitude assumed by our reactionary friends, and all those who are sticklers for British fair-play. Will they be as anxious to see their opponents (political) get fair-play? Will they really stand by those in the labor movement who have adopted the democratic means, which they have always urged us to follow?

Will our ministers of the gospel really stand up in their pulpits and speak out their honest thoughts regarding this affair? If they are sincere, they must do their duty. If they do not, then they can never reproach the labor movement for looking on them askance, and viewing them as a group who "preach but never practice." Whether they are in agreement with the ideals and aspirations of the labor movement has nothing to do with this affair. It is a matter of principle, purely and simply.

To even think of having to go to the courts in such a case as this is too absurd. The people themselves, the highest court in the land, have passed their judgment. Why, then, should this matter have to come before any ordinary judge? No, the workers are gradually awakening to the seriousness of their social conditions. They are beginning to make their influence felt through normal legal channels. Now our enemies have to resort to methods—long ago tabooed among a respectable people, at least in theory, if not in fact—resembling those used by common ordinary thugs. Taking away the means whereby we live and then telling us we are a free people! Such mockery!

Workers, lovers of liberty, friends of the oppressed, the freedom that we have enjoyed is being taken from us. Let us, one and all, rise to the occasion and acquit ourselves like men. Duty never called more urgently than it does to the workers today. Let us do it!

About Russia

Articles about Russia will appear in subsequent issues of The Federationist by Mrs. Rose Henderson. She writes from actual observations of that country. These will be greatly appreciated by our readers. A lecture will be given under auspices of the Federated Labor party, Sunday week. Announcement of place and time will be given later.

Boost for our advertisers. They are helping boost for you.

New Westminster Labor Party Grand Rally

Labor Temple, Royal Avenue and Seventh Street, on **Wednesday, Sept. 24th,** at **8 o'clock p.m.**

MRS. ROSE HENDERSON, who has recently returned from a tour of Europe, including Russia, will be the principal speaker.

Addresses will also be delivered by HARRY NEELANDS, M.L.A., and FRANK BROWNE, M.L.A.

A good programme has been provided, and an enjoyable evening is anticipated.

A special invitation is extended to Vancouver and Burnaby comrades.

CRANBROOK IN LINE

Organize Branch of Federated Labor Party of British Columbia

WM. HENDERSON PRESIDENT

Officers Elected—Membership of Five Hundred Is Assured Within Short Time

[From Our Own Correspondent]

Cranbrook, B. C., Sept. 18.—At a meeting held here recently the Cranbrook branch of the B. C. Federated Labor party was formed. Provisional officers were elected as follows: President, Wm. Henderson; vice-president, H. Gammon; secretary-treasurer, Geo. F. Bond; executive committee, C. F. Maidment, T. H. Bronsdon and R. T. Tiffin. A membership of 500 is assured in a short time. Many electors freely express themselves as being opposed to the old-line parties, and the outlook for a workers' party is very encouraging.

LABOR AND THE EMPIRE

How Big Finance Controls Government—Conservatives Frame Imperial Policy

WRITING in the Socialist Review for August, John Scurr, M.P., says: "If Labor is to control the destinies of this country it will have to face the fact of the British empire, and in so far as it is able to deal with this problem, will depend the future of the world's peace. Liberalism has failed to take notice of the changes in industrial development during the last fifty years. Conservatism does take notice and frames an imperial capitalist policy. After 1870 capital invested in metals became much more important than that invested in textiles. The products of iron and steel are mostly capital goods, such as machinery, steel rails, etc., and they require considerable finance. The textile importer only wanted people to buy his wares. How they were governed, provided they paid their bills, did not matter. When, however, your money is invested in railways and the like in the new countries, it is important that you control the government in order to safeguard your investments. You want a monopoly, and free trade seems to be a foolish idea."

Dear Deer Forests

Some of the Scottish deer forests are of enormous extent and fetch very high rentals. The forests of Mar alone, with its 80,000 acres, is almost as large as two of the counties of Scotland; Blackmount covers nearly as much ground as the county of London; Reay stretches over a hundred square miles; and there are fourteen other forests ranging from 30,000 to 51,000 acres. In all, these Scotch forests, which number over 150, have an area four times as large as Westmorland, and yielded a rental revenue in 1914 of about half a million pounds sterling. For a single forest, Ivercauld, a rent of £5,000 has been asked and paid. Invermark would not be considered dear at £4,000; Glenquoich at £3,000; and Mamore at £2,500. The county of Perth has a yearly shooting value of £150,000, and the shires of Ross, Argyle, Aberdeen, and Inverness have a sporting revenue averaging little short of six figures. apiece. So great has been the growth in rent values that Coignafearn, which was let a couple of generations ago for £30, found a tenant not long ago for £2,000. There are less than two million acres of land growing wheat in Great Britain and therefore those living there must look to Canada for their main supply of the most necessary of food stuffs.

The Federationist is out to help the workers. There is no nobler work. Join us in the fight. Get your friends to subscribe.

BURNABY COUNCIL

Decline to Grant Leave of Absence to Labor M.P.P. to Attend Parliament

FIGHT HAS JUST BEGUN

Labor Men From All Parts of District Refued Permission to Speak

[By our Burnaby Correspondent]

EDMONDS, B.C., Sept. 18.—On Monday night at the meeting of the Burnaby municipal council a letter was read from Mr. Frank Browne, labor M.P.P., asking them to reconsider their decision and grant him leave of absence to attend parliament in October. There was considerable discussion and Mr. Browne endeavored to show the council how the accountant's work could be carried on during his absence at Victoria, and even volunteered to assist his substitute every Saturday and Sunday, if necessary, until his return to work. As the matter stands, there is a verbal promise of the reeve and councillors that should this parliament dissolve during the coming session, and Mr. Browne then desires to step out of the political arena, his position at the hall will be open for him. Both Councillors Neville and Engberg made a strenuous effort to have the council rescind their decision given at the previous meeting and then go on record as granting Mr. Browne leave of absence for this session, leaving the future sessions to be handled by the new council. The reeve persisted in his statement that the work at the hall received his first consideration, and was backed by the councillors with the exception of the abovenamed; and, although there was a large gathering of labor men from all parts of the municipality, they were refused permission to speak. The writer was present and got the impression that "the powers that be" were dead set on Mr. Browne resigning his position at the hall, and that his work was a secondary consideration and an excuse to cover the real issue. After the discussion closed, a letter was read from the Vancouver Trades and Labor council but no action was further taken in the matter.

However, the fight has just begun, and the Burnaby council will find that they have started a snowball down a tremendous long hill, and, should the ball get so large and burst, they must not be surprised to find themselves buried underneath it. A petition is being circulated for signatures by Burnaby voters, and it is up to the people now to get behind the labor men in their struggle for freedom. These petitions are in the hands of the local labor men; and an appeal is made for all those who voted for Mr. Browne, also all our opponents who believe in fair play, to see that their signatures appear on this petition.

Why He Is a Socialist

I will tell you what helped to make me a socialist. I formerly belonged, in my unregenerate days, to the liberal party, and I was as enthusiastic then as I hope I am now, and I went canvassing night after night during the period when you had to put people on the register. I went to a door in one of the worst streets in Bromley-by-Bow. I knocked at it, and a woman dressed in a sack came to that door. This was thirty-five years ago, and the street is just as foul now as it was then. That woman came to the door in a sack in which were holes cut out for her arms to go through, and a hole for her head to go through. She asked me what I wanted. I said, "I want to speak to your husband?" She said, "He is not in. What do you want with him?" I said, "I want to know if he is on the register. I want to get him his vote." She swore and said, "What is the good of the vote to me?" I went home and thought about that, and now I say to you, "What is the good of a vote to the poor of this country, if it is not going to be used to alter the conditions of life?"—Geo. Lansbury, House of Commons, June 26th, 1924.

LIFE OF THE CHILD

Normal Individual Passes Four Stages from Babyhood to Adulthood

PSYCHOLOGY SIMPLIFIED

Work of Education to Implant Ideals by Which One Can Serve the Community

[By Psychologist]

The Boy: The normal individual passes through four stages in developing from babyhood to adulthood. The factor which determines his development into a more or less independent, altruistic and responsible creature is the dominating emotional interest.

In considering the following stages it must be remembered that they represent the average, and that there is a great difference between individuals.

At first, the baby is purely egocentric, i.e., self-centred; he is dependent and irresponsible. Interest, however, soon develops in the mother, and at first she is the only emotional factor in his life. Later, she becomes the dominant emotional factor. Now, unless this relationship discontinues after the age of eight the child cannot grow up. Everyday life affords us many examples of the paralyzing effect that a mother's emotional domination can have. Rebecca West's novel "The Judge," concerns itself with this question, to some extent. Those who have made a study of the development of boys and correlated it with a study of their dreams have found that the "unnatural" youths who have never been in love often owe this state of affairs to their devotion to their mothers, which, from a biological standpoint, is tragic.

The normal child, at the age of seven to nine, transfers his interest to his father and a little latetr to older boys, and somewhere about the age of seventeen or eighteen he begins to take a greater interest in his personal adornment. He is beginning to be aware of biological tendencies, and from this point his interest in a potential mate begins; normally this should lead to courtship, marriage and parenthood.

The Girl: In the girl's development the first phase is exactly the same as the boy's. During the second stage school fellows occupy the dominant position; and, during the third stage, from fifteen to eighteen, usually, the father plays the most crucial part. Throughout the whole development the maternal urge is more or less present.

As to whether the girl makes the necessary adjustment to life in general, and to the idea of parenthood in particular, depends very largely on the influence of school-fellows and parents. With the former, there is a danger of sentimental attachments which often create much perplexity in the minds of parents and teachers. Co-education, under teachers whose attitude to life is natural, should tend to turn interest in other directions. The influence of the father cannot be over-emphasized; his treatment of th mother is a critical factor, though many people do not realize this. Many breakdowns in later life can be traced to the father's failure; and permanent hostility towards the other sex is also a frequently encountered result.

It will thus ben seen that the task of parents and educators is fraught with grave responsibility all along. Perhaps no greater rule can be given than that implied by Bernard Shaw when he wrote: "The greatest abortionist is he who tries to mould the child's character." Freedom to develop that is the great ideal. The child should be allowed to pass through each of his normal stages; his early egoism or selfishness, his imaginative stage, his period of laughable vanity should be allowed full scope. There is little danger then of repressions coming to the surface in later life as neuroses and complexes.

The new psychology lays great stress on the rights of the individualism, and it has been urged, at the expense of the claims of society. But where the individual who has had perfect freedom to develop aright, fails to show the necessary social qualities, it is to be feared that education has failed. For it is the work of education to implant ideals and bring out these qualities by which the individual can serve the community to which he belongs.

"It Ain't Gonna Rain!"

Another authentic despatch has arrived (no signature attached) in Paris from Russia!

There are only two spots from which these authentic reports from Russia can eminate, scil.: Paris and Riga. The latest report says the whole of Russia, except the suburbs of Moscow and Leningrad, are in the grip of famine. The cause: A kind providence, under careful bourgoisie advice and supervision has decreed that "it ain't gonna rain no more" in that benighted country until bolshevism has been overthrown. And the peasants gaze across the borders of Germany and England and envy these well-fed people, in their beautiful homes, and long for their free happy lives, under the "little father" when everybody had plenty to eat.

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, 16c per member per month.

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FRIDAY.....September 19, 1924

RAMSAY MACDONALD AND THE $150,000.

CERTAINLY the conservatives and liberals in England must be in desperate straits for campaign matetrial when they have to resort to such tactics as they have apparently resorted to, in connection with the gift to Premier MacDonald of the $150,000 worth of shares in the great Scottish biscuit company.

These tactics will, in this instance, redound against them. In the old days when they were in control, such occurences usually meant all that they would like this one to mean. On such things, elections were lost and won. It is realized by all who give these matters any serious consideration, that the price capitalism is willing to pay to anyone who will betray the public, is such that it forms a most effective weapon with which to fight, and fight effectively, the enthusiasm of many reformists and idealists.

Such tactics on the part of capitalism has held back the progress of humankind in no small measure. It is not doubted that many of our so-called ardent labor leaders have sold themselves to our enemies for some monetary consideration. Such tactics have been more effective in delaying the progress of the labor movement than capitalism itself. It is one thing that we have more reason to fear than anything else.

In this instance, however, Premier MacDonald is too well known and too favorably known by those with whom he has been associated and for whom he has given the best in his life, in an endeavor to better their conditions in this life, for them to be misled by any such contemptible tactics as those we have just been reading about. When men have worked as long, and as ardently, and with the same amount of very obvious sincerity that Premier MacDonald has displayed in the trying years that have passed, we have no cause to fear his betraying the principles for which he has fought so hard, and willingly sacrificed the many comforts he might have otherwise enjoyed.

MR. BUTTERFIELD AND THE LABOR MOVEMENT..

WE READ, with some interest, a day or so ago, a few remarks from our old friend, Mr. Butterfield, about the Federated Labor party and their summer school at Summerland.

Apart from his little chat with Mr. Logie, we were amused over his apparent concern for the "dignity of the labor movement and the sanity of its progress." We were of the impression that the more undignified and ridiculous he could make it appear, the better he would be satisfied. There are a great number of people just like our friend in this world. They stand on the outside and criticize, but they never think of joining in and allowing the influence of their all-impressive personality to shed its radiant hue over the struggling movement and show to it the way to better things. Perhaps there's a reason. Perhaps they would not be able to enjoy all the good things in life that they now enjoy if they were to be so unwise as to take such a step. There are a lot of people in just such a position. Perhaps Mr. Butterfield is in that position too.

We recognize there are all sorts of things occuring within the labor movement that do not meet with the favor of its most ardent adherents, let alone satisfying those who are on the outside and who are happier finding faults than finding remedies. Nothing will be ever accomplished that is really worth while until right-thinking and sincere people join in this movement with all their heart and soul. Criticism should come from within. Many ardent and enthusiastic souls, who might have otherwise been a great help to such a humanitarian movement had they stayed with it, have been weakened by the criticism from those who are supposed to be high-minded and respectable citizens.

If Mr. Butterfield would get busy and give us some sincere, honest and constructive ideas to help us on the way to further that state towards which all mankind is groping, even though it be in the dark, we cannot help but feel that he would be doing a lot more good than he is by carrying on as he is.

While he is protesting against the idiotic worship of Russia, why does he not protest against the ridiculous propaganda that has been carried on through our daily press for years past regarding that country? The average intelligent human being today feels that he must look elsewhere than to the daily press if he or she would ever get anything like the truth about conditions as they exist there. It is not that we worship Russia. Far be it from us to ever do that. Conditions as they are in Russia will, in our humble judgment, never be satisfactory for this country. Nevertheless, its successes and its real failures—not those given to us by the daily press, necessarily—ought to be known and understood by us to help us on our way, and to aid us in preventing such failures occuring here, when labor is called upon to take hold of the reins of government in this country, as it will undoubtedly have to do in the not distant future.

We believe, Mr. Butterfield, that you have ability, and that you have an insight into the social tragedies that are being enacted everywhere about us, and that were you a free agent—which we are prone to believe that you are not, or you would not be where you are—you could be of a very material assistance to the labor movement in its endeavor to make this world a better place for all mankind to live in. Use your pen to help, not to ridicule. If you have a better way, let us have it. The labor movement adherents realize full well that all is not perfect. They at least enjoy that amount of sanity.

HOW CRIME IS PRODUCED

MANY of us have been wondering for years past, what was the cause of crime. Now we know. We have learned the reason from no less an authority than General St. Piere Hughes, D. S. O., inspector-general of penitentiaries for Canada. He ought to know, one would think, for he sees the results of crime as do few others of us. Let us analyze what he is reported to have said recently.

"In the consideration of plans to diminish crime and reduce the number of criminals there are two important matters to be considered," said General Hughes. "One is the prevention of conditions which tend to create, encourage or develop crime. The other is the proper classification and care and treatment of offenders, including the permanent confinement of those who have been shown to be incurable."

With the above we are in hearty accord; but to our surprise, he has had reported but few words which show, what he considers to be the conditions which tend to create, encourage and develop crime. That is the all-important side of the question, to our way of thinking, and the only aspect that should, at the present moment, engage our minds. The general knows full well that men and women have to live. He knows full well that, if they do not get enough to supply their bodily requirements that they are very prone to do something that is perhaps not permissible according to law, to obtain such necessities. He knows full well, or if he does not, then he is no man to talk to us about the prevention of crime, that there are thousands of men and women today who are only too willing to gain their livlihood by honest toil, but who are deprived of that opportunity. What are these people to do? Live like rats? Many of them are doing that to-day, and all that we give them is our sympathy and advice—the latter, by the way, is usually quite unworkable.

He said there is a lack of home life. Most certainly there is. Who is to blame for that, in many, many instances?

Hundreds of our young men and women are longing for real home life, but they cannot get it. Young men cannot obtain work, then how are they to provide homes for their wives if they married? If the general denies that such a state of affairs exists we will only be too glad to demonstrate the truth of these statements to him. There is no discipline in the homes, he suggests! How can there be in many of them, when the parents are out walking the streets in a vain search for work, while the children are running wild at home, and perhaps hungry? The instinct of self-preservation is a very important factor in this life. The general ought to know that.

Working too few hours and idling too many, is another of his suggested causes of crime. Quite right, perhaps. But why are they working so few hours? We know many who would be only too glad to be at work, and who loath the very thought of having to be idle, yet they are idle, in spit of it. Would he suggest that it makes any difference what the cause of their idleness was, we wonder? Satan, it has been said, always finds work for idle hands to do.

If our friend would only honestly face the actual living conditions that are confronting the average man and woman to-day, he would see all the reason in the world for crime and, instead of worrying too much about the criminal himself, unless he were insane, we would hasten to discover some means whereby every man and woman would be assured of the necessary opportunity to gain a livlihood without having to sell themselves, body and soul, to the highest bidder on the market to-day. It is a most atrocious thing to think that we call ourselves a civilized and a christianized people, while, at the same time, we allow such a state of affairs to exist in our midst, which is at all times driving men and women to the very brink of crime almost every day of their lives, in order that they might simply exist—not live in common decency.

As we have said many times before, we are not honest with our fellows. We accuse them of things for which they are not responsible, we are sure, in the sight of the Almighty. If the general and his kind were sincere, they would set out post haste to remedy the many social evils that are existing everywhere about us and would not be so hasty in passing judgment upon their less fortunate fellowmen. We have all been looking upon these matters from a superficial point of view, and cannot too soon give them the earnest, thoughtful and painstaking consideration that they deserve, and which we must, if we are to justify our existence in the sight of Almighty God.

Even our would-be reformers, of the type of the general, and many of our ministers, so obviously govern their conduct according to their bodily needs, that they have no right whatever to pass judgment upon others who, to fulfil their requirements have gone a step further than have the others, in the methods they have adopted, but who were, perhaps, more justified in taking those steps than were our ministers and reformist friends in taking those they have chosen. Let us not be too harsh in passing judgment. Judge not that ye be not judged. To err is human, to forgive divine. Let us be at least honest in our criticism and whatever intelligence we may have, let us allow it to have full play.

REACHING THE DECISION.

UNDER the heading, "Money from Moscow," there appeared an editorial in one of our evening papers. The closing paragraph of the editorial was as follows: "Whether a general election takes place in Britain in the immediate future, or is deferred to December, it seems fairly clear that there will be an attempt to force to the front as the major issue the question of the acceptance or rejection of the communist idea by the British people. A decision must be reached on this point some day, and probably the sooner it is decided the better."

Having failed to arouse the resentment towards the labor movement that they had hoped to, and feeling that the people of Britain are being convinced more and more as the days go by, that the labor movement is aftetr all the only movement that is trying honestly—and we may add wisely—to bring about a happier state for the common people, the Vancouver Daily Province, like all other daily papers of our land, it would appear, are lending themselves to the task of trying to create wherever and whenever they can, a false impression regarding that labor movement.

They say very little about what labor is trying to accomplish and about the difficulties that are being needlessly put in their way by the old-line politicians, and never have, and who, it would seem, never can rise above that nefarious business of discrediting their opponents, regardless of the good that they are doing, and of the good that they would like to do and could do, were they but allowed to, by these very people who are now condemning them. To further the interests of their respective parties for the time being, that may work out, but certainly the day of reckoning will come when the people will have awakened to the manner in which they have been betrayed by those who were supposed to be their loyal servants.

To try now and raise the question of bolshevism, and make it appear as hideous as they possibly can, would appear to be their appointed task. They have been at it long enough during the past few years to make us believe almost anything about bolshevism. If a lot of reports are true, they have lied about it most emphatically, or so distorted the truth that it could not be possibly be recognized as such. But that seems to be the task of our daily press all over the world. They are fed and cared for by the capitalists' interests, and needless to say, they, knowing which side their bread is buttered on, are going to conduct themselves in such a manner as not to endanger their food supply.

Against the greatest possible odds, the truth for which labor stands is gradually being brought to the attention of the great masses of the people, who, in spite of the active opposition of a paid press, are gradually coming to recognize the great fundamental truths behind this movement. They realize that many of their own numbers have betrayed them, and what is more, many more will likely do the same thing again, owing to the corrupting influences of capitalism, but in spite of that they are, in ever increasing numbers, flocking to the banner of labor, for it is there, in spite of all the lies that have been told and published about them, that we can see any ray of hope for the rising generations, the editor of the Vancouver Daily Province notwithstanding.

ECONOMY IN EDUCATION

ACCORDING to press reports, the B. C. School Trustees' association has determined that expenditures for educational purposes must be curtailed.

The teacher's superannuation did not meet with their approval. They were quite able to look after themselves in this matter as is done by other organizations, it was stated. Even the allowing of a few days sick pay, or pay in case of enforced quarantine was frowned upon.

The teaching profession is one of the most responsible ones to-day in our society. True it is, that many of our teachers do not look upon their profession with the seriousness that they ought, and many, perhaps, but make it serve as a stepping stone to something which they may consider higher; yet, nevertheless, it is a profession that merits the best we can give. The amount paid the average teacher is certainly not sufficient to warrant their making such a profession their life's work. As a result their sojourn in this line of work is short. Just when, through experinece, they are becoming a real asset to our educational system, they move on. This should not be. In any other trade or profession the result would be most deleterious indeed. So it is with teaching.

Economy, yes, but not at the expense of the welfare of our rising generation. If war were declared to-morrow, there would be found abundance of money. Let us find it now, in times of peace, so that it may be used to further the best interests of our rising generations.

Our educational system is in need of more, rather than less money, to enable it to operate as it ought. Surely we, of this and past generations, have stepped beyond the bounds of common decency when we, owing to our own selfishness, and mistakes of the past, deny to the generations, as yet unborn or but in their teens, their just rights.

There is money in this world today, greater in amount by far than in ages past, yet it is so hard to get. It is in the hands of but a few. Their needs, they can fully satisfy. The needs of the mases, mean nothing to them. If no other way presents itself, it may yet be necessary to make that few uncomfortable so that they may realize their rightful place in this world.

LETTERS TO THE FED.

[The opinions and ideas expressed by correspondents are not necessarily endorsed by The Federationist, and no responsibility for the views expressed is accepted by the management.]

Workmen's Compensation Board

Editor B. C. Federationist: I have read the letters in you paper and should like to tell you how I was served by the Workmen's Compensation board. I had an accident, broke my ankle. I was attended to by Dr. Scott, of New Westminster, but the W. C. B. objected, saying I was taking too long. I was made to go to one of their doctors they say is a specialist; but I do not think he is as good as some of the ordinary doctors. He got me to the hospital on the promise that he would straighten my foot and put on a cast Then he changed his mind and told me that he was going to break my foot and do an operation.

I told him I did not think this was necesary and refused, for which I was put out of benefits altogether, and have since had to bear all expenses which should have been paid by the board. They owe me a lot of money for doctor and time. My foot got well without the operation, showing that I was right. Another doctor cured my ankle without an operation. I reported this to the board. They told me this doctor was no damn good, he wasn't a specialist; he was just a common doctor. I did not get any more compensation, just because I would not have the operation which their doctor said I must have and which the common doctor proved was not necessary. I am entitled to more compensation under the law, but under the powers granted to the board I cannot get it.

The working of this board certainly needs looking into, and I join with "Ignorant Foreigner" in demanding an enquiry which I will gladly attend to tell how I was treated, and all I know which is a lot more than I can tell in a letter. I think enough has been brought out in the papers lately to show that the workmen are not treated like human beings by this board. I noticed that a doctor was sued because he said that the board was going to let a specialist operate on a man when he did not need it. That is what they wanted to do to me. We demand an enquiry. Yours truly,

F. E. MIDDLETON
Claim No. 89173

Barnet, B. C., Sept. 17, 1924

Why Let George Do It

If you do not attend your union meetings and the other fellow does, why kick. He is doing the best he can. Why complain because George does it. Why not do it yourself?

If you have an idea that you think will benefit Labor, let us have it. We'll spread it.

HOMELESS CHILDREN

Department of Labor Children's Bureau, Washington, D.C., Issues an Important Report

ONE-THIRD of the homeless children in the United States under the care of public and private charitable agencies have found foster parents who have taken them into their own homes

This is the estimate of the Children's bureau of the U. S. department of labor which has just issued an important report on "Foster Home Care for Dependent Children." This report, compiled under the direction of the social service division of the bureau, includes articles by 11 well-known authorities on child welfare

The growing emphasis during the past decade upon the need of home care for the normal child has resulted, the bureau point out, in the effort, first, to prevent the break-up of the child's own home by giving "mothers' pensions" or public aid to children in their own homes, and second, to find a substitute home for the homeless child. Results are evident in the fact that 42 states give public aid to dependent children in their own homes, that the number of children in foster homes has increased substantially and that the number of children in institutions has proportionately to the child population decreased.

Tentative figures place the number of children aided in their own homes at 127,000, the number in foster homes at 70,000, and the number in institutions at 125,000.

Foster homes care for children who have no homes of their own or whose homes are unfit places for them to live in is not a new experiment, according to the Children's bureau, which points out that this method, under various names, has been used for many centuries. However, modern standards of child care have vastly increased its value in promoting the welfare of dependent children. The best public and private agencies carefully investigate every foster home before they place a child in it, and, after the child is placed, they exercise careful supervision so that the child's health, education, and happiness are safeguarded. Such agencies study the home conditions an the needs of the individual child so that the boy or girl whose own home may be saved through a "mother's pension" or from his family, while the child who needs foster home or institutional care receives it

The articles included in the report and their authors are: "The Development of Child Placing in the United States, by Hastings H. Hart, Director of the Department of Child Helping, Russell Sage Foundation, New York City; "Conserving the Child's Parental Home," by J. Prentice Murphy, executive secretary the Children's Bureau of Philadelphia; 'The Essentials of Placement in Free Family Homes," by Edmond J. Butler, Executive Secretary, Catholic Home Bureau for Dependent Children, New York; "The Child in the Boarding Home," by Mary E Boretz, Head Worker, Home Bureau, Hebrew Sheltering Guardian Society, New York; "Special Problems Involved in Foster Home Care," by Leon W. Frost, Secretary, Children's Aid Society of Detroit; "The Work of a state-wide Child-placing Organization," by Albert H. Stoneman, State Superintendent, Michigan Children's Aid Society; "The Development of Placing-Out Work by Institutions," by K. P. Hewins, General Secretary, The Church Home Society, Boston; "Safeguarding the Dependent Child's Physical and Mental Health, by Horace H Jenks, M.D., Director of Associated Medical Clinic, Philadelphia; "The Relation Between Social Work with Families and Child-Caring Work," by Rev. John O'Grady, Secretary, National Conference of Catholic Charities and Editor Catholic Charities Review, Washington, D.C; Co-operation Between the Children's Agency and Other Community Resources," by C. V. Williams, Superintendent Illinois Children's Home and Aid Society; "State Supervision of Placing-Out Agencies," by Ellen C. Potter, M.D., State Secretary of Welfare, Pennsylvania.

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Anti-War Day, 1924

THIRD SUNDAY IN SEPTEMBER

Sidelights on a Great Industry

ON A SOUND BUSINESS BASIS

BRITISH COLUMBIA PUBLIC SHOULD NOT DEPART FROM EQUITABLE METHODS

A Third of the Province's Annual Revenue in the Balance

IN dealing with its business men the public of British Columbia should be guided by business principles.

The public's equity in the forest wealth of this Province is fully recognized by the lumbermen. This is proved by the fact that during the last 20 years the people have collected $45,000,000 from the timberholders and industry in rents and royalties.

By collecting one-third of their total annual revenue from the lumber industries the British Columbia public are certainly doing a good stroke of business.

There is no more satisfactory type of capitalist to attract to a young country like British Columbia than the man who is prepared to invest money in the development of its natural resources.

The public has again shown its business acumen by pledging its good faith to a group of the most solid and patient timber investors in existence.

The present position is that the lumber industry is taxed to the uttermost, and that **any further impost will undoubtedly force it into bankruptcy.** Also the investors in our timber are becoming very nervous indeed at the prospect of heavier levies.

If the public of British Columbia wish to stick to sound business principles they will avoid overtaxing their basic industry and disillusioning their investors.

A third of the public's income is dependent on the ability of its **representatives to handle satisfactorily the present taxation situation in the lumber industry.**

This series of articles communicated by the Timber Industries Council of British Columbia.

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The Traffic in Arms

"During these five years of violence and confusion forces in Europe have been allowed to grow up rapidly, and to get out of hand. The fact of the matter is that the last five years Europe has given carte blanche to the armament makers, so that she has got herself once again in the grip of the armament rings, whose policy and whose influence on policy is incalculable, and is getting stronger the closer the armament interests are identified with the steel, iron, and coal combine. By far the most influential of these producers of war materials making for modern war, are organized and financed by French interests. It is these French interests which were at the back of the late French government. It is these French interests which are covering Central and Eastern Europe with a network of French loans for the purchase of war material. It is these interests which are grafting upon the unfortunate populations of the new and enlarged states set up by the treaty onerous war expenditure. These interests, and their kind elsewhere, are actively working to-day, and may be trusted to do so, against the pacification of Europe. That is the price which civilization pays for allowing the traffic in arms to continue to be regarded as a legitimate form of commercial activity.

"In reality, what is it, Legally, I suppose it is legitimate. But what is this traffic in arms? It is traffic which exists simply for the purpose of destroying life for profit. It does not matter where the life is or where its origin. Legally and socially it may be legitimae, just as the slave trade was legitimate, until the public conscience awoke under the influence of Denmark and Britain, and smashed it. This traffic in arms is organized and industrialized murder which weighs upon their policy more and more. As a result of these events the preparations for war to-day in Europe and the output of war material have reached an extension never attained since the peace.—E. D. Morel, House of Commons, July 7th, 1924.

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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 1332, or Fairmont 4938.

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AS TO SYNDICALISM

Antagonism Between Industrial Workers of the World and Communists

STATE AS COMPETITOR

Public Opinion Against Banking Interests—Results Where Workers Use Ballot

[By H. Dalziel]

I HAD occasion recently, after a long absence from the city, to come into contact again with the more radical sections of the labor movement and soon found out that there is a lot of antagonism and rivalry between the Industrial Workers of the World and the communists. Some of this, no doubt, is caused by the deflection of W. Z. Foster and Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, to the communists; but the main cause, no doubt, is a basic one. It is the non-political plank in the Industrial Workers of the World preamble; and in consequence the communists are dubbed politicians; this, of course, includes all socialist and labor parties. This plank of course, is entirely the private concern of the industrialists, but it seems to me that the causes that led to inclusion have passed and that its retention is a matter of pyschology. Fifteen or so years ago, the I.W.W. had a considerable membership locally among the mechanics. Now the I. W. W. speakers talk mostly to the loggers, and their ideas are mostly those of the camps, and, being so, have gotten somewhat out of touch with the city workers. Furthermore, a great many of the lumber workers are from countries where the workers never have used the franchise. There is one notable exception (that is, the Scandinavian people) and, not having used it, make no pretence of studying it. Besides many are denaturalized and migratory

When the I. W. W. were organized, conditions in the west were different from what they are to-day. In those days, big business was disproportionally large. The railroad, lumber and mining interests overshadowered all others.

Population was scanty and largely foreign and unfranchised.

The industrial barons ruled by force and imposed their will on the rest of the people in a manner that was really anarchistic. To quote only one case, there was the Cameron Dam tragedy. The lumber trust wanted the lands of Cameron; and, to get them, sent an armed force and seized them, killing the owner and some of his family in so doing. At a much earlier date, a similar thing happened in this city only there were no fatalities. This was a common procedure in those days. This lawlessness, on the part of the employers led to the organization of the Western Federation of Miners and the I. W. W. radical industrial unions; and it was perfectly logical that under those conditions they should be syndicalistic in ideas, and inclose a non-political clause in their constitutions.

But conditions have changed, except in a few states in the south west. Cities and towns have risen and a large farming population has filled the empty places. A multitude of smaller interests have grown up, able in the aggregate, to hold their own fairly well with the industrial barons. Compelled to act according to law, their policy has changed, and now it is to control the law making machinery, which they sometimes manage, because of their wealth, and often because there is no opposition. We see lately that their agents in the United States cabinet were ousted by the demand of the other interests or public opinion.

One of the first attacks on anarchestic capitalism was the "blue sky" laws of Kansas aimed at the "company promoter" and "wild catter." This was a recognition that genuine industry has the first call on a country's cash, and that something approaching value must be given in exchange and the extension elsewhere of the type of legislation is greatly dreaded by the class whom it is aimed at. More recently in North Dakota we see public opinion acting through the state making a stand against the banking interests and establishing the state as a competitor. Quite lately we see the state of South Dakota fixing gasoline prices. This is an interference with, perhaps the strongest corporation, the Standard Oil company. Those moves are not pro-labor, but largely because labor in the United States has made no attempt to mould public opinion.

In other countries where the workers are using the ballot, principles have been established that are heartily condemned by capitalist politicians in the United States. Can it be shown that the use of the ballot on behalf of workers' candidates has weakened unionism? n the United States the American Federation of Labor has lost about 45% of its membership; since in Britain the loss was not over 20%. In France, where the workers use parliamentary tactics, the General Confederation of Labor was able to make great headway. In Australia where the workers have long used the ballot as a class weapon there are strong industrial unions, such as the Australian Workers' union, and unionism generally is in a healthy state and the worker is treated with much respect—both as a worker and as a social unit.

In Australia there is a minimum wage, whether sufficiently large is immaterial. It is anti-capital because it upsets the competitive law of supply and demand; and, as our own employers say, when in a jocular mood, it is an interference with the inalienable right of the citizen to sell his labor as cheaply as he likes.

In Britain, there are various minimum wage scales, in different crafts; also, they have an unemployment payment called the "dole." The latter is very obnoxious to the employing class, not only because they have to contribute to some extent, which, to that degree, makes the idle man the business of the community but upsets the time-worn theory that poverty was caused by some fault or failing in the individual concerned. Only the other day the British trade unions completed arrangements for calling a national general strike if necessary. Two pieces of legislation have been passed by the labor party of Queensland, Australia, which are of interest to workers. The first is, that the state runs quite a string of butcher shops where meat is sold at cost. This is decidedly socialistic, as it is obvious that from the eliminating the profit in meats to doing so with all commodities is a very short step, and is only a question of education and organization.

The second is, the abolition of the senate which is usually a strongly anti-labor body. It is felt that rights or privileges, such as free-speech, free assemblage and collective bargaining have nowhere been so strenuously fought against by the capitalist class as in the United States.

It is a striking circumstance that, in what was probably the greatest stronghold of non-political action, where syndicalism reached its apex of organization, namely, in the Spanish cities of Barcelona and Saragossa, that a fascist dictatorship arose in that district, which swept away all civil liberties, even the municipal franchise. One stock reason for the anti-parliamentarian not voting is that all politicians are crooks and grafters, and that the labor men will be just as crooked when they get the chance. In that connection the fact of the workers in Norwich, England, in defeating W. Roberts, a conservative candidate, is very cheering. This man was a labor member with a 20,000 majority, who during the war went over to the enemy. But labor was not downhearted, as they set to work and successfully swing that huge vote over to another labor candidate which shows what determination can do.

As We See It--- Unemployment

[By Angus MacInnis]

AT this time of the year when the summer's work is about finished: the grain is harvested, threshed and in the granaries or elevators; the root crop is safely put away in cellars or some other place where it will be safe from winter's frosts; the fruit crop has been stored away for future use; canning factories and thrifty housewives have been busy drying, preserving and making jam for the past few months; cattle of all kinds, which have been feeding and fattening on the wild and open spaces, or which have been carefully tended on pastures made more succulent by cultivation, have been turned into meat; even the sea has responded to the toil and ingenuity of man and yielded its harvest of food; all of this, along with the harvest from the forest where the lumberjack moiled and toiled until the employer said, "Enough, the market cannot absorb any more"; nature and work has yielded everything necessary for the material welfare of man.

Yet, in spite of all that bountiful nature and the toil of man could do, a large section of the country's population face the coming winter with dread, and few indeed feel absolutely safe because of the fear of unemployment. The greatest problem of capitalist civilization is unemployment; and note his: it is not a question of producing enough to eat and to wear. The problem is how are the producers of all the world's wealth going to eat when they are not employed.

Unemployment is not a new thing. It is doubtful if the human animal at any stage of its history worked with greater intensity than he does at this particular time; and it is an absolute certainty that never was so much, per person, produced as at the present time. Through all stages of human history the people were more or less unemployed, because it did not require all of their time to produce the things necessary for their existence. It was only under capitalism that unemployment ever became a problem.

The chattel slave did not worry about unemployment as the "free" wage slave of present day society worries. If his master did not have work for him to do he was fed just the same. True, he was fed out of that which he himself had produced, and he did not consider it as being in the nature of a dole or charity either, nor did his master.

It was not until the chattel slaves and the feudal serfs became free men and began to get "paid" for their work that food and shelter which was given to them while unemployed was considered as a "dole" and had the stigma of charity attached to it.

It is always well to remember that the food, clothing and shelter consumed by the chattel slave while unemployed was produced by himself, or some other of the same class at some time previously; so also the food, clothing and shelter which the unemployed of today is enabled to by reason of the "dole," or because of doing some useless work, was produced by themselves or some other members of the working class.

Before human society had the benefit of the efficient means of production which science and invention has brought into vogue, it was customary, among many races, after the harvest was gathered, to celebrate the occasion with feasting and great rejoicing. Even to this day, in this country, some churches celebrate the "harvest home." But in modern society, when the harvest is safely garnered, the owners and heads of the state hold an "unemployed conference" to see how little they will give the out-of-works during the winter. Or to plan work, which could be done better, much more economical, and with much greater ease and comfort by those engaged in it, were it done during any other season of the year. While those actually unemployed go about—seeking work with long faces and heavy hearts—misery, disease, and crime grow apace. Such are the blessings and advancements of modern civilization.

The paragraph given below, quoted from the London Daily Mail, appeared in the Vancouver Morning Sun recently:

"All the doles and expedients which have been tried for the relief of unemployment have only complicated the disease by adding to the taxes on industry. Someone must pay for the dole and the cost of it is added to British goods. There is only one remedy, and the sooner we all get down to it the better. It is for all classes to work harder and to put their backs to the tasks, and for the government to realize that the country is much poorer to-day than before the war, and that taxation must be lightened."

What strikes one most about this editorial is how an editor—who has had the benefit as an object lesson of the unemployed situation in the old land for the last four years—could write such an article and, most of all, how any one could get paid for writing such an infusion.

"All doles and expedients . . . . have only complicated the disease by adding to the taxes on inustry." As the product of industry is produced by the workers; and as they receive on the average, while working, only sufficient for a bare existence, how else are they to be fed except out of that industry.

"There is only one remedy . . . It is for all classes to work harder." In a country that has had well over one million workers unemployed for the last four years, what nonsense it is to say that we must work harder. Had the workers of Great Britain worked twice as hard and produced twice as much the only conclusion that we can come to is that there would be twice as many unemployed.

Why is unemployment a problem? Because production is carried on for profit and not for use. Because the producers do not own that which they produce.

Goods being produced for profit, before a profit is realized, must be sold. The workers engaged in industry produce more than they, by their wages, can buy back. This surplus over and above their wages which the workers produce is known as "surplus value." It is produced in the factory, mine, etc., as the case may be; but it is not finally realized to the owner till the goods are sold on the market.

It is how to dispose of this surplus that is causing sleepless nights to the captains of industry. The more it accumulates the more unemployment.

Capitalist production, therefore, is somewhat as follows: Goods are produced for profit. Before a profit can be made they must be sold. Before they are sold there must be buyers. But there are not enough buyers, because the workers do not receive enough in wages to buy back what they have produced; and the employers, no matter how prodigal their consumption, cannot consume their portion of the total product. Therefore is civilized society sorely distracted.

There is only one way in which the evil of unemployment can be cured. That is, by producing for the use and need of the people and not for the profit of the few. However, that day may be in the far distant future, or it may be near at hand, but until that day does come the working class must use every means within thei power to strengthen their position so that they may demand and get a larger share of that which they have produced.

How to Get Rid of Fear

What a curious thing it is that in this key industry of mining a bucket of coal is, metaphorically speaking, worth a ton of coal fifty years ago. Coal is one of those valuable products which society handles and modern science deals with, and this valuable product becomes more valuable day by day, yet the men who get it cannot obtain a living. When you tell them that your industries do not pay, it leaves them cold. Your profits are nothing to them, and when you place your inability to make profits on one side of the scale and their inability to feed their families and obtain a living on the other side of the scale, it dips down in their favor every time. . . . . You can only get rid of the difficulty that troubles you by means of a fair and square deal with the working people, and only by this means will you be able to rid yourselves of the fear that will continually dog your footsteps.—R. C. Wallhead, House of Commons, June 26th, 1924.

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"FOR CHRIST"

[By "Gunner"]

I REMEMBER one day on the Somme meeting native French troops on their way back from the front. They were exceptionally powerful men, with great physical development, and their blue uniforms seemed unconfortably tight, and bulged here and there. Out of each sleeve hung a hugh black hand which dangled from that sleeve as if it had no business there.

Some of the men wore necklaces of parchment-like objects held together by wire or string on which these objects were threaded. The necklace hung loosely round their necks.

As they slouched past, their faces shining with perspiration, I pointed to a man whose necklace appeared to be a larger one than most, and, turning to a French officer, asked, "What are these necklaces some of the men are wearing?"

The French officer smiled. "They are the ears of the enemy," he replied. "Souvenirs."

"Of the dead?" I inquired.

"O, oui," he replied, "mostly, but not always."

* * *

And the war for Christ went on.

Long streams of ambulances carried the wounded—and out of each ambulance train streamed a crowd of haggard, unkempt and wounded men.

Bishops and parsons appealed to the Almighty for fresh aid, and helped in their way, to prevent peace.

The wounded were collectively named heroes, and men lay in hospitals and homes, maimed, mutilated, blinded and insane.

Day after day the hospital trains came in; train after train emptying their loads of young men with ghastly injuries. The ambulances crawled along the streets to avoid jars to shattered limbs.

The parsons and the press taught hate and showed their patriotism by frightening defenceless women, because, per chance, they had been married to an enemy or born in the land of the enemy. They vented their spite on people already harrassed by misery; they demanded more and more drastic treatment; they stirred up baser passions, and persecuted the parents of men actually fighting in the ranks of the nation's army.

* * *

And the war for Christ went on.

The young man was still counted a hero. But he found it difficult to hate the enemy, and kept that hate to please the old and well-off indispensables.

Those old and well-off indispensables found riches, ever more riches, by the rise in values due to the war. Yet strangely enough they hated the enemy, and explained their hate to be due to the love they bore for the young men whose fortune it was to bleed, suffer, and perhaps die.

* * *

And the war for Christ went on.

Out on the battle areas the shells ploughed up the land, and pieces of metal drove their way into men's faces, into their bodies and limbs, hacking, disembowelling, turning mere children or hardened men into steaming flesh.

Machine guns cackled away, and men died or lay on the mud wounded, perhaps to be picked up, perhaps to lie there and gradually die from starvation and exposure.

* * *

The war for Christ is over.

The parson and the press, the well-o-stay-at home fraternity, the soldier who wore the uniform but little more, have still a strong hate for the enemy. It is a sign of the love they bear for the men who fought and bled.

And the men who have survived.

Many are standing at the street corners, hungry and demoralized. They are no longer wanted; if they die their names will not appear on the casualty list.

If they die, if they all died, by dying they would have removed a problem, have saved the state so much expense.

Everywhere stands the discharged man, handicapped by wounds or by ill-health, struggling for a living. And his enemies are around him, they have no mercy, they hold out no hand to help him, they are out to crush him.

And the old man, and the stay-at-home-well-to-do, and sometimes the soldier who wore the uniform but little more, are the discharged men's enemies. They excuse their action by speaking of hard times, of business necessity.

And the old man, the stay-at-home-well-to-do person, to whom the war has meant greater prosperity, subscribes liberally to large crufixes erected in memory of dead heroes.

"We must never forget their deeds" thy say with pride.

* * *

And the discharged men stand at the corner of the streets or struggle on, handicapped by their wounds.

The war for Christ is over now.

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Memories, by Mrs. Asquith

I have never met a single person who has been improved by this war.

The extravagant are more extravagant; the cranks are crankier, the backbiters more spiteful, the rich more frightened, the poor more restless, the clergy more confused and the government more corrupt.

The clever novels of the day are fatiguingly indecent, and there is more hardness, levity, blasphemy and materialism than I have ever seen before.

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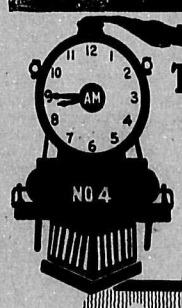

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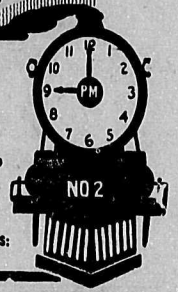

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TIMELY TOPICS

IT IS with some difficulty that the average man today can bring himself to the point where he can definitely decide for himself who governs us. The fire underwriters have certainly made our city fathers look helpless. Money talks, as of yore. Although it would appear that a 3% increase in the premium rate on fire insurance would have been sufficient to have covered the total cost of the extra requirement of the fire department, they, in their usual humble way exacted a 10% toll. All is fair in love and war they say.

* * *

The Oliver government is having no easy task. The Hon. Dr. Macdonald may meet his Waterloo in the North Okanagan riding. Apparently a fairly popular candidate has been choosen to oppose him. It can hardly be said in this case that "another little defeat wouldn't do him any harm." "Honest John" never knows when he is defeated. However, Mr. Woodward gave hi ma little scare on the Capilano deal.

* * *

Fascist shot by Socialist! Poor old Italy is far from enjoying harmony within her domain. When a government is founded on force, injustice and tyranny as is the fascisti form of government, one can hardly expect any other response to its rule. It is to be hoped that we will never have to reach such a state of affairs in this land; but when we consider the apathy and indifference exhibited by those of our land who live in affluence, towards the toiling, suffering masses, who live from day to day on the very verge of starvation, one need not be surprised at anything that might result.

* * *

Lloyds gives odds against labor win in early fight! No doubt that is very good propaganda for the old-line parties. There are few, if any, stunts they wont use to further their cause. We doubt very much, however, if Lloyds is in a very good position to gain exact knowledge as to the intentions of the great mass of the workers. They are used to playing in other games.

Mrs. Rose Henderson is criticized for "attempting to foist upon a civilized people the gropings of a race that is acknowledged to be just emerging from savagery." We are unwilling to admit that a people, capable of turning out writers, artists and musicians such as Russia has produced, is just emerging from savagery.

* * *

If there was any savagery at all more than exists in these other "highly civilized" countries where workers starve amid plenty, we would say it was the savagery of the system which cruelly oppressed the working classes and endeavored to keep them in total ignorance.

* * *

Anyone who is desirous of finding out what Russia was like before the revolution would do well to read the works of Leo Tolstoi and Maxim Gorky. It becomes obvious then that Russia could have developed no other way, and all credit is due to those who have striven during the last century to awaken the masses.

* * *

Bankers in general are opposed to the Russian loan on the grounds that part of it will be used for communist propaganda. Which is only another way of admitting that capitalism is destined to go out of business. If capitalism were such a perfect and righteous system, the capitalists would not fear all the propaganda in the world. But they are afraid of the truth.

* * *

It is almost amusing to read that Germany will be permitted to withdraw her confession of war-guilt. And so well-schooled are the minds of the masses that few will realize with whom the guilt lies. It is rather interesting to note in Morel's book, "Truth and the War," the fact that while peace meetings were more or less suppressed in England and particularly in America, in Germany the imperial minister of the interior did not forbid peace meetings but encouraged the socialists in their pacifist agitation until martial law was declared, when, of course, further action was useless.

Science and Religion

[Nemesis]

THE antagonism in thought, which exists between Science and Religion, should, I think, be disappearing from the world of thought much faster than it appears to be, and shows that the vested interests and the lagging thought are still factors to be reckoned with in this altogether unnecessary and unreasonable division.

It is true, that the marshalled facts of science do not always agree with th dogmatic assertions of religion, hence the antagonism and the controversy. The evolutionist says: "Creation has been a long process occupying many ages, even millions of years." The religionist retorts: "God willed it and created all things in seven days." And each grows angry because of the stupidity of the other.

It reminds one of two little boys in Vancouver discussing the position of their native country, England. One points east and says: "It is over there." The other points west and says: "No, it is over there." Each is so convinced that he is right that they start a quarrel over it, a quarrel arising out of partial ignorance, because each is right. And it seems to me that the logical positions of the evolutionist and the religionist are identically the same as those of the little boys, each is right.

If the boys took the correct line of latitude and one went west and the other east, they would both be convinced that each was right when they actually met in England; and I can fancy a hard boiled, old evolutionist on meeting his opponent, the bigoted religionist, in heaven, exclaiming: "Well, well, we were both right after all; but that bag of flesh, that enveloped us on earth, was not conducive to clear thinking or sane and cool discussion;" and the other replying: "Ay, friend, the upkeep of that greasy handicap and the stupid ambitions and the vested interests that grew out of it, blinded us to the truth of things and in our ignorance we erred indeed."

If these two opposing forces could be induced to change pedestals for a time and each consider seriously the viewpoint of the other, casting aside all preconceived ideas due to training and mental environment, much good might result.

The religionist will discover that without any shadow of doubt, the physical laws of nature are so directed that there is nothing stable in the sensuous things; that they are in a state of flux and slowly shaping towards some definite end, and that man is no exception to the rule: that he is in no way a finished product, but is yet in the making—a long way from perfection: which will, perhaps, make him realize that had man been planned and modelled by the Creator in a few hours, as he now believes, he must of necessity have been perfect at the beginning, morally, physically and mentally perfect.

It is unthinkable that the Creator would have created man, as he was yesterday and is to-day, as a finished product; and he might come to resign his cherished waving of the wand and regard himself and all his kind, as a product still in the making—being moulded by the laws established by his Creator.

On the other hand—the hard-boiled evolutionist, fetichly creating his evolution into a veritable force, and an all-powerful diety might, with Dietzgen and Ingersoll and other reverent minds, come to recognize the intelligence displayed in the whole of nature and, recognizing that, admit the unknowable, omniscient power and mind, to recognize which is to develop worship. He would see that evolution is not a cause, but the effects of eternal laws governed and directed by the eternal creative mind.

Both would recognize the beauty, the greatness and the oneness of all created things, and the smallness of their individual ideas, furnished from environment and limited to their five senses and the traditions transmitted through the mists of antiquity.

I picked up a chrysalis of some butterfly in my garden. On examining it I found that the enclosing shell was filled with a formless pulp or protoplasmic mass of matter which, to the naked eye, was lifeless and meaningless. Yet concealed somewhere in the gray mass was the pulsing soul of the thing, endowed with powers which, in the process of time, will produce the full grown insect resplendent in its iridescent colors and downy markings.

He who craves for the miraculous need search no farther than our chrysalis, but no fairy wand-waving will reward him, only the slow but timed development arising from the operation of divinely interacting laws, typical of the processes and methods displayed in the whole of created things.

But the mystery and the wonder of this development, from the formless protoplasmic mass of the chrysalis to the glowing and complete beauty of the adult insect, fades into insignificance before a greater marvel in a preceding epoch of its existence—a marvel which defies the imagination to follow, as it cannot follow the ordinary changes in its slow process of evolving through the ages.

Back in the life history of our butterfly were two cells, endowed with the life principle yet helpless without each other to develop into the mature life represented in our butterfly. They were created for each other, and each was waiting for the other, and the sex attraction in the parents accomplished the fusion. The male and the female life principles, each in itself sterile, were united; and the complete form of life became possible for from that united cell in the course of time, through the various stages came our butterfly. Think of that united cell a moment. The fusion had accomplished a miracle by establishing therein a complete and living nervous system, invisible but perfect, endowed with powers, acting along the lines prescribed by the Creator, which would impel it to its ultimate fulfilment.

Think again of the two life principles, each useless without the other: of the mysterious sex attraction that was responsible for the fusion: of the minute, invisible being concealed in the speck of protoplasm, potentially perfect to form the finished butterfly, and you are contemplating a mystery before which science is dumb and evolution a mere meaningless expression.

And consider again that each plant that ever grew: each animal that roamed the earth: each insect that hummed through the air or crept among the mosses: each human being that played his foolish part on life's stage: each and every form of life that ever lived owed its existence to a miraculous process similar to that which made our butterfly possible—the two life principles, the sex attraction and the mysteious fusing of the two forms into the complete cell potentially endowed for the development of its own peculiar form of life. And call to mind the thousands of different forms or life developed in the same environment, under similar conditions, each primal completed cell of which was endowed with the inherent power to shape it to its own special form of finished life.

Then imagine the cooling earth and the appearance of the unicellular life in the warm and seething muds: and try and imagine where and at what stage and under what conditions this appearance of sex and sex attraction would make its arrival. Bring your evolution theory to aid you with its natural selection, its adaptability to environment, its tendency to vary, its survival of the fittest and what not: bring all the theories and all the facts of science to your aid: work your imagination to the utmost: reason till your brain reels yet no vision of the truth nor logical deduction will reward your strenuous efforts.

This dual life—two in one—is one of the unsolved and unsolvable mysteries, beyond theory and beyond imagination, probably eternal as life itself and existing in primal union even in the unicellular life.

The religionist, who is never silent before the most impenetrable mystery will triumphantly cry to us: "It is one of the mysteries of God," and the evolutionist must in his heart of hearts admit that lying behind his process of evolution, causing it, inspiring it and directing it, is the great unknown, unknowable, omnipotent creative mind which the religionist calls God.

So why the antagonism between Science and Religion? For after all, the differences are not fundamental, but consist of trivial non-essentials which each might discard with mutual advantage.

DRAMATIC STAR AT ORPHEUM

At the Orpheum next Thursday, Marjorie Rambeau, far-famed beauty of the drama, will open a homecoming three-day engagement at the head of a splendid vaudeville bill. It is not generally known that Miss Rambeau, now internationally famous, made Vancouver her home for a considerable time while appearing here in stock productions early in her career. This will be her first vaudeville apearance following a long string of legitimate successes. She will bring an intensely dramatic tabloid detective play caled "Bracelets," in which she is assisted by a metropolitan cast. This is a notable vaudeville engagement, in line with Orpheum vaudeville policy to bring only the best and biggest stars. Other great acts on the same bill include Claude and Marion who have been "arguing" with clever repartee in vaudeville for years; Fortunelle and Cirillino, the famous Italian clowns who are on Orpheum time by special arrangement with the Greenwich village Follies; Sylvia Loyal and company in their novelty bird and animal act; Grace Hayes, a budding young genius of song whose star is in a rapid ascendent; Babb, Carroll and Syrell, ultra fashionable steppers; Chic Yorke and Rose King, "The Old Family Tin Type" novelty of clever song and patter; and the usual attractive pictures and concert orchestra selections.

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DOUGLAS FAIRBANKS IN "THE THIEF OF BAGDAD"

Douglas Fairbanks' glorious fantasy of the Arabian Nights, teaching that happiness must be earned, "The Thief of Bagdad," will begin its engagement of three days, next Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday at the Orpheum Theatre. This remarkable picture will be presented in this city exactly as it was seen at the Liberty theatre in New York, with all the colorful atmospheric effects, a symphony orchestra, full scenic and stage effects, a band of Arabian musicians, and a Mohammedan prayer man. Nothing in moving pictures ever equalled the sensation of the Magic Carpet of Bagdad when seen for the first time in New York. On this magic carpet, the thief of Bagdad and the princess escape, soar over the housetops and fly off into the sky. Indeed there are so many astonishing happenings in this truly amazing picturization of Arabian Nights tales, that it is actually imposible, in a small space, to describe any of them. But it should not be forgotten after all that "The Thief of Bagdad" is in reality a charming love story, full of romance and suspense. The more important members of the cast are Julanne Johnston, formerly a member of the famous Morgan dancers, who impersonates the princess; So-Jin Kamayama, imported from Japan where he has been the leading Shakespearean actor, who impersonates the Mongol prince. Anna May Wong, a charming little Chinese flapper, is seen in the part of the slave. Snitz Edwards, is the thief's evil associate; Brandon Hurst is the Caliph. "The Thief of Bagdad" will positively not be shown in any other theatre in this city this year.

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