

BELOVED LEADERS FOR LEGISLATION

Impressions of An American Observer of Great Britain's Labor Party

GREAT ALBERT HALL RALLY PRESENTED TO MINISTERS

Few Dreamed That the Anti-war Macdonald Would Become Prime Minister

[By the Man from Illinois]

SUCH demonstrations as that in the Albert hall, London, are not to be hoped for by the workers of the United States in the near future. As I was listening to Mr. Macdonald's speech I was thinking back to the days—only a few years ago—when he fought for a principle which was repugnant to the majority of his countrymen. Few men dreamed that the anti-war Macdonald would be the future Prime Minister of Great Britain.

It has been given to few "to live long enough to reap the reward of their consistency." Especially because I come from a country where tolerance is not considered the greatest of virtues, the coming back of Macdonald to the place of leadership to which he is entitled by his great talents, seemed to me only short of a miracle.

The speech of Mr. Clynes was that of a loyal party member. It was the simple inaudible prayer of a veteran campaigner.

J. H. Thomas talked with the power of a strong man.

Margaret Bondfield was a revelation of feminine intellectuality. For the most part she said things which I heard in America. But what she had to say she said with much charm.

Herbert Morrison impressed me as a man with a good deal of administrative ability. He looked at his audience with the eye the artist looks at his finished work. As he called out the different London districts the men and women in the hall answered as the school children answer the roll-call of their schoolmaster.

The person who put in the forefront the basic issues of capitalism and nationalism was Robert Smillie. To me as a stranger it sounded as if he was counselling labor not to forget the fundamental reforms.

George Lansbury's speech was familiar to me, because I have heard Eugene Debs before. They seemed to have much in common.

It was unmistakable to me that all the speakers were liked and respected, but Smillie, Lansbury and Miss Bondfield are loved.

I was impressed throughout by the fervor of these speakers; the atmosphere was that of a revival meeting.

Arthur Henderson delivered a short but notable address. He talked like the general of a great army who foresees that the battle is not yet won, though the first line of enemy trenches has been carried.

But it was a great privilege for anyone to be present and hear the voice of the people speak.

Chesterton said somewhere in a poem that the people have not spoken yet.

At the Albert hall I have heard the English people speak.

The man who opens his mind to knowledge is in his way to a better job and to a keener enjoyment of life.

FEDERATED LABOR PARTY

Speeches by Messrs. Neelands, M. L. A., and MacInnis—Dr. Telford to Speak

R. H. Neelands, M. L. A., and Angus MacInnis were the speakers at a meeting held by the Federated Labor party at 319 Pender street west, on Saturday evening last. Mr. MacInnis spoke on the need of working class political organization in the dominion of Canada. He referred to the progress made by the British Labor party, and also to the responsibility which they had assumed. He stated that the administrative success of the British Labor party did not depend wholly on the attitude of the other countries of the world to the new government in Great Britain.

R. H. Neelands spoke on what went on at the last session of the legislature at Victoria. The eight-hour day bill was the most important measure brought down, as far as the workers were concerned, but very little opportunity was given for discussion on this bill, as it was introduced only a day and a half before the close of the session. The government, by its Distribution bill, had eliminated the constituency represented by Sam Guthrie in the present house, by combining it with the electoral district of Cowichan, a mining district with a farming district, despite the fact that the Hon. John Oliver stated that in the redistribution, identity of interest would be a consideration.

Sam Guthrie, who was advertised to speak, was unable to be present on account of sickness.

Dr. Lyle Telford will speak at the same place on Sunday, Feb. 3, at 8 p.m., his subject being "Can We Look to Labor to Provide a Way Out of the Present Social and Economic Chaos?"

Programme of Trades and Labor Congress of Canada for 1924

Synopsis of Reasons Advanced for Immediate Action by Federal Government

[Continued from last week]

FOLLOWING is a synopsis of reasons for the adoption of the legislative programme and the requests as incorporated in the memorandum of decisions of the convention of the Trades and Labor congress of Canada:

The requests incorporated in our present programme are the result of studied thought by more than 150,000 affiliated members, and it is with a renewed hope of securing some definite action on the same that we present it at this time.

International Labor Organizations and League of Nations

Eight-hour day, unemployment insurance, one day's rest in seven, prevention of lead poisoning, prevention of anthrax, fixing of minimum age of admission of children for employment on ships, and the guaranteeing of rights of all workers to organize being items, 1, 2, 3, 7, 11, 17 in our legislative programme, are all included in the conventions and recommendations forwarded your government from the annual conference of the International Labor organization.

We earnestly believe that the Canadian government should sincerely endeavor to give effect to these and other decisions of the International Labor organization, so far as they can within the competence of federal jurisdiction, based as they are on the declaration of principles forming part 11 of the treaty of Versailles, to which the Canadian parliament solemnly signified its adherence.

The labor movement of Canada is pledged to support of the league of nations and international labor organization, and urges upon the Canadian government to also support the same, not only by paying its financial contributions and having representation at the annual meetings of these bodies, but by taking such action as will demonstrate to the world its confidence in the power of their organization for international peace and goodwill.

The Eight-hour Day

It should not be necessary to present arguments as to either the practicability or desirability of restricting the hours of labor to eight in the day. The general acceptance of this policy in more than 29 countries, by either legislative enactment, similar decrees or customs proving fully its beneficial results. Amongst the 29 countries limiting the hours of labor to eight in the day are France, Belgium, Italy, Germany, Austria, Denmark, Finland, Netherlands, Poland, Spain, Switzerland, Australia and New Zealand, whilst Great Britain has established the same by agreement and custom for practically all its industrial and a large part of its agricultural workers, and the same obtains to an almost universal degree in many of the larger industries of the United States, the steel industry, under pressure of public opinion, being the latest to institute the same.

In all federal contracts and most state and municipal contracts in the United States, the eight-hour day is compulsory by legislative enactment.

Unemployment

The Mothers' Commission of 1919 on industrial unrest, emphasized particularly that one of the most prolific causes of industrial unrest was unemployment and fear of unemployment. The Employment Service Council of Canada has likewise made recommendations as to the distribution of government contracts, etc., aimed to cope with recurring periods of unemployment. Notwithstanding these and many other recommendations, the unemployment problem still remains acute in Canada, and is often accentuated by an influx of immigrants at periods when Canadian citizens find difficulty in securing employment.

Most industrial countries have recognized the necessity of stabilizing purchasing power and minimizing human suffering by making provision in some form for the payment of subsistence allowances to unemployed persons. We have presented, on numerous occasions, concrete proposals which we believed would lead to greater opportunities of profitable employment, which at all times is preferable to any other method of dealing with this problem. The seasonal nature of many of our industries and the extreme fluctuations between the peaks of employment and the valleys of unemployment still remain acute, and even under most favorable circumstances, a certain number of unemployed would no doubt continue to exist at certain periods of the year.

We have reiterated our belief that industries should be made responsible for the maintenance of the reserve army of labor which they demand. In all organized society the cost of maintaining unemployed and often destitute workers is met by the community in some form or other, and

Canada's Field Crops

The total area under field crops in Canada in 1923 was 56,569,794 acres, as against 57,189,681 acres in 1922—a falling off of 619,887 acres. Farmers leaving the country is the attributable cause.

TO DEPORT IMMIGRANTS

Amendments to Naturalization Act and Criminal Code—"Unlawful Society"

The amendment to the Immigration act, according to Mr. Woodsworth, M. P. for Centre Winnipeg, gives the government the right to deport any person in Canada, but not of Canadian birth, without trial. A motion to amend this to assure British-born subjects to a trial by jury was defeated in the senate last year. An amendment to the Naturalization act gives the secretary of state power to revoke the naturalization papers of a foreign-born person who may be suspected of having made any false statements in securing the papers. In regard to the criminal code, this has been amended to make it a crime punishable by 20 years imprisonment to belong to an unlawful society, with very broad interpretations of what constitutes an unlawful society.

LABOR'S HOUSE CRUSADE

Houses All the Time Until There Are Enough to Put the People In

I want a crusade that will give us houses, houses, houses all the time, until we have enough houses to put the people in.

Whatever guarantees are required in order to enable a maximum production of houses to be made we are prepared to give them.

If we find that trusts, monopolies, corners in any of the essential materials for buildings are standing in our way we shall break them.—Ramsay Macdonald, M. P.

THE RECOGNITION MOVEMENT



He can never reach it by continuing his lonely road

RAIL STRIKE ENDS

Concessions Made to Locomotive Men—Secretary Bromley Issues Statement

MADE A FINE SETTLEMENT

Premier Ramsay Macdonald Telegraphs Congratulations to Trades Congress

A CABLE despatch states that Britain's railway strike ended on Tuesday, after an all-night session, and that the strikers will resume work without further delay. The strike lasted eight days. Details of the settlement show that concessions were made to the locomotive men, and the principle was established that the findings of the National Wage board, which were the chief bone of contention, are not equivalent to compulsory arbitration.

Secretary Bromley of the locomotive men, issued a statement saying: "I feel that under the circumstances surrounding our battle with the forces arrayed against us, we have made a very fine settlement."

Prime Minister Macdonald telegraphed to the secretary of the council of the Trades Union congress, which acted as mediators, his heartiest congratulations and most sincere thanks "for your efforts, combined with those of your colleagues."

LEGISLATIVE MACHINERY

Law-making—Administration—Courts to Interpret—House of Commons and Senate

J. S. Woodsworth, M. P., recently stated at Stellarton, N. S., that when he was elected to the house of commons two years ago in Winnipeg, he resolved to try and represent all the workers in the dominion until they could send reinforcements. He was afraid that the workers were not awake to the real necessity of political representation. Industrial action and political action go together. You have the unity of industrial action embodied in your trade unions, to implement that you must have political action. They should send men to parliament who would take the side of the workers. What was necessary at this time was a general educational campaign. When we look at the old country and see what the workers are doing, it makes one feel ashamed. He reviewed the workings of the legislative machinery of state, dividing it, like Gaul of old, into three parts. The first part—law-making; second—administration; the different departments; third—the courts to interpret, explaining just what is meant when the cabinet or member of the cabinet, replies to a request that they or he are giving it their "serious consideration." The house of commons are supposed to represent the people, but for the senate, they represent no one but themselves. In Canada we have a fixed constitution which must be adhered to in the enactment of laws, where as in England there is no constitution—and laws may be passed by parliament without the restrictive limitations of a constitution. In this connection he pointed out the everlasting conflict over jurisdiction between the provinces and the dominion, which, by the way, is very convenient to politicians when faced with an embarrassing demand such as the eight-hour day and other laws affecting labor legislation.

The man who's afraid to do too much for people he does business with, need not be afraid of having too much business to do.

If you don't 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?

A PIONEER UNION

International Longshoremen's Association, No. 38-52, Decides to Disband

PROPOSE A JOINT MEETING

Effort to Arrange System of Employment More Satisfactory to I. L. A. Men

OFFICIAL notification that the International Longshoremen's association, No. 38-52, the pioneer union of Vancouver, has disbanded, has been received by the Trades and Labor council special committee, which acted as mediator in the settlement of the longshore strike. A committee of Messrs. Mitchell, Moffat, Ratty, McMillan and Shaw, has approached the Shipping Federation with a proposition that all longshoremen be employed through that organization in future, instead of part of them being engaged through the more roundabout use of the government employment agencies.

The old I. L. A. hall, however, will be retained as a recreation club. The committee of the Trades and Labor council is considering a proposal to act with the longshoremen's committee in a joint conference with federation officials, in an effort to arrange a system of employment more satisfactory to the former I. L. A. men.

HE WANTS THE EARTH

Judge Cohalan Says He Can't Live on a Salary of \$350 per Week

Judge Daniel F. Cohalan of the New York Supreme court has resigned because as he says, he can't live on a salary of \$17,500 a year, or \$350 a week. Lawrence industrial workers, according to the latest state reports, average much less than \$24 a week, or \$1200 a year when working full time. If a judge cannot live on \$350 a week, the salary divided amongst them, and they would be getting as good a wage as now, only their work would not begin at 7:15 a.m. Granted that the Hon. Mr. Cohalan may know more about law books than the average Lawrence worker, would the results in the way of justice be any worse if fifteen workers were assigned to his job?

7000 Lithuanians Joins the Federated Party

After an extensive and country-wide discussion in their official press, a referendum of its 230 branches in all the various cities of the United States, the American Lithuanian Workers Literary association has overwhelmingly voted to affiliate to the Federated Farmer-Labor party. This organization has for its purpose the spread of education through the publication of working class literature. It has great prestige with the whole Lithuanian population of the country. With its 7000 members it exerts a major influence on their political thought.

Local Labor Leader Bereaved

Another pioneer of British Columbia has answered the last roll call in the person of Mrs. H. A. Hooper, who passed away last week at the age of 75. She was the mother-in-law of J. H. McVety, provincial superintendent of the Employment Service of Canada, and had been a resident of British Columbia for forty years, living thirty-six years in Vancouver and the remainder of the time in Victoria. Rev. George Falls conducted the funeral services, which were largely attended. Interment took place in the Masonic plot at Mountain View cemetery, and many beautiful floral wreaths testified to the personal esteem in which Mrs. Hooper was held.

LAW OF "SEDITION" NICOLAI LENINE DIES

Its Origin in "Divine Right of Kings," Says J. S. Woodsworth, M. P.

USED IN M'LACHLAN'S CASE LEADER OF REVOLUTION

"Because They Could Not Get Him Any Other Way," Declares Speaker

J. S. WOODSWORTH, Labor M.P. for Centre Winnipeg, recently made a tour of the Maritime provinces on behalf of the Workers defence. While at Stellarton, N.S., he delivered a stirring address to a crowded hall. In regard to sedition, said Mr. Woodsworth, this is interpreted as the criticizing of anyone in authority. It is an old idea having its origin in the "divine right of kings." In mediaeval times criticism of the king was forbidden. By implication, criticism of the king's representatives was criticism of the king, hence the divine right of kings with its corollary "the king can do no wrong." But times have changed. We have the statements of the leading authorities in Great Britain that under modern democratic government there is no such thing as "sedition." The old law of sedition is like an old piece of furniture stored in the attic, covered with dust. It is a law that has not been in use in Great Britain for the past 100 years. When they set out to get J. B. McLachlan this old law was dragged out and McLachlan was the victim. The law of sedition had not been used in Nova Scotia for 90 years, since Joseph Howe was arraigned on the charge of sedition for daring to criticize the "family compact." The next thing we will be having them drag out the law of witchcraft as applied to women.

"Why was this old law used in the case of McLachlan?" asked Mr. Woodsworth. "BECAUSE THEY COULD NOT GET HIM ANY OTHER WAY." Why do they not apply the law to you? Because you are not important enough. He was important—he was secretary of the United Miners.

A friend of his in the government had said to him that the best way to go about securing the abolition of the sedition law was to have the Hon. Arthur Meighen arrested for criticizing Premier King. "I have heard Hon. Mr. Meighen criticize Premier King just as severely as J. B. McLachlan criticized the government of Nova Scotia," said Mr. Woodsworth amid laughter.

As long as this law was on the statute books, he said, it would be used to get the men who are striving on behalf of the workers. Another thing, so far as the law is concerned it does not matter if it is true or not. The greater the truth, the greater the sedition. "Suppose," he said, "that I said: 'The king was beastly drunk.' That would be nasty. But, if I proved that the king was drunk, that would be worse than ever."

"Is what J. B. McLachlan said true?" asked Mr. Woodsworth. If what McLachlan said was true, and I am assured that the evidence confirms it, then it ought to have been said, and I honor McLachlan as a brave man in saying it. I am glad to think, he said, that all down through the ages there have been men who have stood staunchly by their principles. The only instance of the use of the sedition law, prior to the recent recrudescence, was the case of Joseph Howe. The authorities of his day said that he was a malicious and wicked person because he dared to criticize the police and magistrates. What happened? He was acquitted, and subsequently sent to parliament, and I will be much disappointed, said the speaker, if McLachlan is not sent to parliament by the people of Cape Breton.

Plumbers Lose Valued Member

The death occurred at Vancouver last week of John McLaughlin, in his fifty-third year. Deceased, who was a native of Scotland, came to this city over fifteen years ago, and was an old-time member of the local Plumbers' union. He was a widower, and leaves two sons and one daughter to mourn his passing. The funeral, held under the auspices of the union, was largely attended.

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?

Premier of Soviet Russia and Greatest Communist Since Karl Marx

LEADER OF REVOLUTION

Russian by Birth and World-wide Internationalist Since Overthrow of Czarism

[Panegyric by San Francisco Labor Unity]

NICOLAI LENINE is dead! The master mind of the Russian revolution is no more. The greatest working class leader history records has passed away. He will never again speak to the peasants of his homeland nor to the toilers in her cities. Nor will his voice be heard in the councils of the workers of all lands when they are gathered together to deliberate on the national and international problems which face their class in its struggle for freedom and a new social order.

And yet he will forever speak to those peasants and those laborers. His voice will be heard eternally in the councils of the workers wherever and whenever they are gathered together to solve the problems which they must solve if they are to achieve their freedom. His name will always be an inspiration to the forward-looking fighters in the struggle to overthrow wage slavery. The books he wrote will be classics, along with those of Marx and Engels, to be treasured and read and re-read by those who would intelligently participate in the labor struggle.

Nicolai Lenine has achieved the only true immortality. Like a mountain peak in the Himalayas which towers far above its fellows, dominating by sheer strength the whole range, so does the figure of this Russian revolutionist—Russian only by birth, an internationalist in every fibre of his being—stand out from the petty leaders of the capitalist world. How the Woodrow Wilsons, the Clemences, the Lloyd Georges, the Mussolinis, the Hardings, and Coolidges fade into insignificance when placed beside this man!

We are no mere "worshippers" but we have our heroes. They have achieved an imperishable place in our hearts because their lives have been given unstintingly to the cause of labor. They have never been found wanting. When to such devotion there are added the brilliant intellectual gifts of a master theoretician, coupled with an unparalleled ability for the application of abstract principles to a concrete situation and the daring which risks life itself when the times are ripe for the decisive blow—then we know that there has passed away one who will never be replaced.

Civic Federation

Representatives of the Civic Federation elected to the City Employees' Conciliation board for 1924 are: C. Watson, D. Cuthill, Mrs. F. B. Corrin, and H. A. Urquhart and H. A. Black, alternates, the city council was apprised on Tuesday. The council was asked to appoint its representatives so that matters requiring attention can be dealt with without delay.

J. S. WOODSWORTH, M. P.

On the Incongruities of Some of the Laws on the Statute Books

The incongruity of some of the laws on the statute books, as compared by J. S. Woodsworth, M. P., is that (1) the amendment to the criminal code makes the penalty for criticizing the government 20 years. (2) They have an amendment to the act respecting venereal disease which reads that if any person knowingly communicates venereal disease, the penalty is six months or a fine of \$500. That is the light in which they judge a crime which carries ruination to the human body. (3) For killing a person by auto the punishment meted out is one to two years imprisonment. That is the sort of laws that are enacted in Ottawa. "There is not much chance of changing this condition of affairs until you send men to Ottawa who will put human lives far in advance of the rights of vested interests," he said.

Local Labor Leader Bereaved

Another pioneer of British Columbia has answered the last roll call in the person of Mrs. H. A. Hooper, who passed away last week at the age of 75. She was the mother-in-law of J. H. McVety, provincial superintendent of the Employment Service of Canada, and had been a resident of British Columbia for forty years, living thirty-six years in Vancouver and the remainder of the time in Victoria. Rev. George Falls conducted the funeral services, which were largely attended. Interment took place in the Masonic plot at Mountain View cemetery, and many beautiful floral wreaths testified to the personal esteem in which Mrs. Hooper was held.

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FRIDAY, February 1, 1924

IMMIGRANT BOY SUICIDES

IN ANOTHER column appears the report of a boy immigrant who committed suicide to escape the brutal treatment of an Ontario farmer. He was one of thousands of orphans sent out from the old country to better their condition. The merciless farmer, to whom the poor little fellow was bound for \$75 a year, if guilty, should be made to suffer dearly for his dastardly crime.

POWER OF A MEMBER

J. S. WOODSWORTH, M. P. for Centre Winnipeg, has been lately touring the maritime provinces, where he has delivered several important speeches regarding the Canadian labor situation and his activities in the federal parliament to secure laws for the workers.

If the government is defeated, it goes out of power. The opposition members will say, observes Mr. Woodsworth, that "We like your measure, but the government has decided that it is not a good thing."

NEED OF ORGANIZATION

THE great majority of the workers of this country are not organized; solidarity to them is a meaningless phrase, and their selfishness lacks common sense to see in common efforts the only rational means to advance its interests.

organized capital single-handed; you cannot by your individual efforts change economic and social conditions that are the products of collective action, are representing collective interests, and are backed up and defended by hosts of interested men.

Labor Legislation

(Continued from page 1)

our suggestion for the creation of an unemployment insurance fund would not add to this cost, but would merely transfer the same form haphazard and often demoralizing charity to a properly organized and controllable method.

Old Age Pensions

Canada being amongst the few industrial countries that have not yet made provision for the protection of its aged workers.

SOCIAL EVOLUTION

When Our Ancestors Were Communists

WE HAVE frequently heard it said that socialism or communism "can never be, as it is against human nature." This ridiculous assertion met rather a shattering reception last Friday night in the Workers Party hall.

From well-known facts, it looks as if the private ownership of the means of life would be "against human nature," rather than would co-operation, which began so long ago, and which among the savage tribes of today, as well as with civilized people, still exists in various forms and degrees.

Dr. Curry quoted from Lewis Morgan's "Ancient Society," and Frederick Engels' works, to substantiate his claim, that mutual aid has been more universal among men, and also among animals than has war.

This statement is made by Frederick Engels in his "Origin of the Family." Morgan lived with the Iroquois Indians for many years in New York state, being adopted by the tribe. He did this in order to study the customs of ancient society represented by these people.

CHARLES BULPITT

Boy Immigrant Driven by Brutal Ontario Farmer to Commit Suicide

BRITISH LABOR IS AROUSED

The Frail Lad Was Whipped Almost Daily and Attempted to Escape

LONDON, Jan. 31.—The colonial office will ask Canada to investigate the details of death by suicide of Charles Bulpitt, which occurred on December 24. The lad was an immigrant employed on a farm near Goderich, Ont., and was maltreated by one Benson Cox, a farmer.

earnings the imperative need of such protection is increasingly apparent. Canada is a young man's country, and with a reservoir of young, vigorous immigrants to supply the requirements of industry, the aged worker finds an ever greater difficulty in securing employment.

(Concluded next week)

AT WOMAN'S WINDOW

[By W. L. GEORGE] (Copyright 1923 by United Feature Syndicate.)

SEX ATTRACTION

ALMOST every woman, some time or other, is puzzled by the woman whom her male friend or her brother marries. She says to herself that the creature is not very pretty, has little personality, no particular intelligence that John James, with his good looks and his position, could have had the pick of the most charming girls of the town.

TO CHRISTIAN NATIONS

[By Ronald Knott, Local No. 822, International Steam Engineers]

Suggested by the recent "Peace" competition, which apparently ignored the "Prince of Peace."

Ponder your Lord's commandment, today and forever the same: "Search ye the highways and hedges, bring in the halt and the lame."

He spoke to the harlot Magdalen till her purer nature flamed; Weeping she bathed His feet with tears, and her God was not ashamed.

Ye are writing the endless volumes that prophesy foreshows, Of the mysteries known in heaven, and the God whom no man knows,

Myriad signs to your battle lines have lured the drifting herds, But never ye strive to marshal them to serve the Lord of Lords.

Creed by creed have ye moulded Him, each to His own design, Claiming the shepherd flock by flock and forgetting "Ye are Mine."

Lo! He is with you always and in Him shall ye all abide, And whosoever cometh shall He in no wise cast aside.

All members of the tribes representing this stage have equal rights to their share of food, shelter and property in general.

A Union is What You Make It Some men imagine that a union comes out of the sky, and that it is made to order.

Anti-War Day, 1924

THIRD SUNDAY IN SEPTEMBER

Better Beer for YOU Cascade PALE The Beer without a Peer VANCOUVER BREWERIES LIMITED

Gordon Drysdale Ltd. Store Opens at 9 a.m. and Closes at 6 p.m. Odd Lines of Lily of France and Bien Jolie Corsets At Half Price

Ring up Phone Seymour 2324 for appointment Dr. W. J. Curry DENTIST

Very Low Prices Now on All Ladies' Garments

Famous CLOAK and SUIT CO. LTD. 623 HASTINGS STREET WEST

Mainland Cigar Store 310 CARRALL STREET THE PLACE FOR PIPES

HAVE you ever had a real drink of Pure Apple Cider during the last few years? VAN BEOS LTD. Cider Manufacturers

Bird, Macdonald & Co. BARRISTERS, SOLICITORS, ETC. 401-403 Metropolitan Building

Union Bank of Canada CAPITAL \$ 8,000,000 RESERVE AND UNDIVIDED PROFITS 2,067,074 TOTAL ASSETS 128,299,679

The Bank's Annual Statement has just been issued and copies thereof are available for anyone, on application, at any branch of the bank.

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I Charge Only 1/2 Usual Prices for my top-grade Dental Service. I give you my usual 15-year written guarantee on all work. My low-price estimate will be a revelation—make a date today. Dr. Brett Anderson. Formerly member of the faculty of the College of Dentistry, University of Southern California; lecturer on crown and bridge work; demonstrator in plate work and operative dentistry, local and general anaesthesia. 602 Hastings Street West. Phone, Seymour 3331 (Cor. Seymour—Bank of Nova Scotia Building) Open Tuesday and Friday Evenings.

Vancouver Unions. ANCOUVER TRADES AND LABOR Council—President, R. H. Neelands, M. A.; general secretary, Percy R. Bengough. Office: 803 Holden Building. Phone Sey. 496. Meets in Labor Hall at 2 p.m. on the first and third Tuesdays in month. ALLIED PRINTING TRADES COUNCIL—Meets second Monday in month. President, J. R. White; secretary, R. E. Neelands, P. O. Box 66. FEDERATED LABOR PARTY, Room 111—219 Pender St. West—Business meetings every Wednesday evening. A. Macfarlane, secretary; E. H. Morrison, treasurer; Geo. Harrison, 1182 Parker Street, Vancouver, recording secretary. Any district in British Columbia desiring to form local branches, kindly communicate with the Provincial Secretary, J. Lytle Telford, 14 Bika Bldg., Vancouver, B. C. Telephone Seymour 1332, or Fairmont 4933. BAKERY SALESMEN, LOCAL 371—Meets second Thursday every month in Holden Building. President, J. Brightwell; financial secretary, H. A. Bowron, 923—11th Avenue East. JOURNEMEN BARBERS' INTERNATIONAL Union of America—Local 120, Vancouver, B. C., meets every second and fourth Tuesdays in Holden Building. President, C. E. Herrett, 71 Hastings St. East; secretary, A. R. Jani, 320 Dundas Street; treasurer, H. A. Bowron, 923—11th Avenue East. INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD of Hairdressers, Iron Shipbuilders and Holymakers of America, Local 194—Meets first and third Mondays in Holden Building. President, J. W. Willis; secretary, A. Fraser. Office hours, 9 to 11 a.m. and 3 to 5 p.m. BRICKLAYERS AND MASONS'—If you need bricklayers or masons for building, or marble setting, call Bricklayers' Union, 811 Holliday Building. IYVO EMPLOYERS' UNION—Meets first and third Fridays in each month, at 445 Richmond Street. President, David Cuthill, 252 Albert Street; secretary-treasurer, Geo. Harrison, 1182 Parker Street. ENGINEERS—INTERNATIONAL UNION of Steam and Operating Engineers, Local 844—Meets every Thursday at 8 p.m., Room 804—Holden Bldg. President, J. Flynn; business agent and financial secretary, F. S. Hunt; recording secretary, D. Hodges. CITY FIREFIGHTERS UNION NO. 1—Firehall; President, Nell Macdonald, No. 3 Firehall; secretary, C. A. Watson, No. 3 Firehall. GENERAL LABORERS UNION—MEETS every first and third Monday in Holden Building. President, J. R. Hawthorne; financial secretary, A. Padgham, Joyce Road, P. O. Vancouver, B. C.; recording secretary, G. Bell, 2240—45th Ave. East, Vancouver; secretary, 921 Nelson Street. BOCHINISTS LOCAL 692—President, Thor Silla; secretary, W. W. Graham; business agent, P. R. Bengough. Office: 807 Holden Bldg. Meets on second and fourth Tuesdays in month. MUSICIANS' MUTUAL PROTECTIVE UNION Local 145, A. F. of M.—Meets at 1025 Hall, Homer Street, second Sunday, 10 a.m. President, Ernest C. Miller, 991 Nelson Street; secretary, Edward Jamieson, 180—182th Street; financial secretary, W. E. Williams, 991 Nelson Street; organizer, F. Fletcher, 991 Nelson Street. BROTHERHOOD OF PAINTERS, DECORATORS and Paperhangers of America, Local 8, Vancouver—Meets 2nd and 4th Thursdays at 148 Cordova Street West. Phone, 5510. Business Agent, H. D. Collard. LE DRIVERS, BRIDGE, WHARF AND DOCK BUILDERS, Local No. 2404—Meets at 2 Hastings Street West every Friday, 8 p.m. Jas. Thompson, financial secretary. ALORS' UNION OF THE PACIFIC, Room 108, 105 Cambie Street, P. O. Box 571. Meets every Monday at 8 p.m. Meetings every Monday at 8 p.m. G. Campbell, business agent. FEDERATED SEAFARERS' UNION OF B. C.—Meets nights, first Tuesday of each month at headquarters, 318 Cordova Street West. President, D. Gillespie; vice-president, John Johnson; secretary, Wm. Donaldson, address: 18 Cordova Street West. Branch agent's address: 75 Johnson Street, Victoria. B. C. STREET AND ELECTRIC RAILWAY EMPLOYEES, Pioneer Division, No. 101—Meets P. Hall, Eighth and Kingsway, 1st and 3rd Mondays at 10:15 a.m. and 7 p.m. President, A. Hoover, 2409 Clarke Drive; recording secretary, F. 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Business meetings every 1st and 3rd Wednesday every month. Corresponding secretary, G. Pendle, 16 Hastings Street East; financial secretary, J. Halliday, each organizer.

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Ephemeral Nature of Capitalism

[F. W. Moore] SCIENTISTS tell us that the past history of our race is expressed in the developing organization of the individual. This fact in connection with fossil remains and other evidences, not only helps us to imagine the marvellous dramatic experiences of our prehistoric past, but suggests the idea that from the experiences of our racial development during historical times, we may form a fairly accurate estimate of what is going to happen in the future. In order to do so, it might be excusable to visualize mentally an everlasting moving picture show which had been in operation throughout the ages, and whose reel of films had been marked into sections depicting particular stages of human development. If we then noticed that each stage had its limits, and that each particular form of society, not excepting that of the present day, had in its germs of self-destruction, we could no more help being impressed with the conviction that the section devoted to our own times was a mere passing show like the others, than we could doubt that a healthy boy of fifteen, like most other healthy boys, will, barring accidents and disease, some day become a man, grow old, die, and leave his life-work to be carried on by others. Ample proof of this statement may be had by mentally reversing the motion of the reel, on which we could then observe pictures relating to obsolete forms of society—forms which had their day and lapsed into desuetude, or were overturned by rebellion, as soon as their industrial or political organizations could no longer perform their historic functions. Such schemes might be regarded as the reflection of events incidental to the inexorable revolution of what we might call the wheel of a treadmill, but of circumstances in which man climbs laboriously and is forced to take the next step higher, or suffer in consequence. The reflections of events now transpiring, succeed each other with such rapidity that the wheel must necessarily revolve with a constantly accelerated motion, in order that sufficient film surface may be presented for the recording of them. We may take it for granted that this acceleration began shortly after the first of this class of pictures appeared—about the time of the industrial revolution in the early years of the nineteenth century, and so fast is the film moving today that we can hardly tell whether her reflections are premonitions of impending world-wide disaster, or merely of a metamorphosis involving the accretion of wealth and brotherhood incidental to a reorganization of the colossal resources and assets that are now at the disposal of a wide-awake humanity. If one doubts these statements, he may resort to the experiment mentioned above, of reproducing on a mental screen the past records of the film. He can deduce causes and effects from the portrayals and compare the whole with the analogous processes in vogue at the present day. Take, for instance, those relating to the reign of Charles I. of England. At that time there were not so many factors reflected, but the importance of those that existed were in nowise depreciated by the paucity of their numbers, since they, equally with the events of today, indicate the trend of human evolution. One can imagine the contemptuous awe with which the landed aristocracy of those days beheld the reflection of the vulgar manufacturer daring to claim for trade a share in the privileges of monopoly. The divine right of kings and landlords was at stake, while the vulgar clowns of commerce dared to suggest to the imperial stewards that the game of royalty had been played to a finish, and that from thence onward the kings must take their stand as ordinary human beings, whose sustenance was provided by contributions in taxes, given with their own consent, by the proverbial "butchers, bakers and candle-stick makers."

It was in the interest of the bourgeoisie in general that Cromwell's Ironsides fought for the control of the political machinery of the country, so as to make it compatible with the expanding interests of trade and commerce, while the Royalists struggled for the retention of political forms constructed for the protection of their particular kind of land monopoly. The result was wholly in line with Splendid Bill at Orpheum. This week Miss Frances White, dainty and fascinating musical comedy star, and Captain Bruce Bairnsfather, world-renowned soldier artist, have delighted Orpheum vaudeville patrons. In separate acts, they are headliner attractions, supported by five other acts of excellent vaudeville. Their local engagement closes with the Saturday night performance. Charles "Chic" Sale, known to everybody as the peer or rube character impersonator, is the big headline feature of the new bill which opens next Wednesday night. His new act is made up of rural character studies taken from life, and the turn is highly entertaining. Musical tidbits are provided by George MacFarlane and company, which includes Herbert Lowe and Margaret Walker, Janet of France, Wood and Wyde, Lewis and Dody, the Five Avalons and Jackie and Billie, all have their important place on the bill, contributing as a whole a splendid ensemble of real wholesome and clever entertainment. The usual picture attractions and concert orchestra selections complete the week's offering.

historical evolutionary development; to such an extent was this the case that the record of it in one of the school histories reads as follows: "In the previous thousand years England had not changed so much as in fifty years she was changed by these methods, from a thinly-peopled land of moor and corn-fields and pastures, she was transformed into a thickly-peopled manufacturing country—the modern England, with its huge smoky towns, its mines, factories, foundries, and its net-work of railroads and canals." A political system based on monopoly in land had been in existence for hundreds of years and was thought during all that time indispensable, invulnerable and everlasting, but was practically destroyed to make room for one fitter still—one that had wider bounds of freedom—freedom to exploit, no doubt, but nevertheless a greater measure of freedom than had obtained under the tradition of feudalism. Such was the import of those pictures on the reel that appeared in historic time immediately prior to the industrial revolution. At that time the landed aristocracy lost their economic supremacy and with it their former prestige. It would be interesting to turn the wheel back still further and note the circumstances that were responsible for the elevation of this class above the crowd. We must go back to a time in Europe when dukes existed, but were as yet simple farmers. At that time men were barbarians, who lived on the produce of the farm, supplemented by those of the chase; but to protect themselves from raiders, it was customary for neighbors to combine in fortifying the house of one of their number, the duke (ducere to lead) referred to above. They agreed to give specified time to the work of fortifications in return for protection in time of danger when they betook themselves in a body with their goods and chattels to this prototypical castle with its crude draw-bridges, turrets and ditches. The ordinary husbandman, however, disliked these military interruptions to his regular occupation, and eventually agreed to pay a tax to the duke, which enabled him to entail mercenaries, and become a professional soldier in possession of a castle. [See "Mills' Struggles for Existence."] His importance to the community was soon apparent; his evolution to a robber baron was only a matter of time, while his emoluments were sufficient to keep him in affluence. These, with his importance as a military hero, and corresponding prestige in the rural districts, gave him access to the court of that superbaron, the king, whom he occasionally tried to supplant, and with whom he eventually shared the reputation of functioning in society by virtue of "divine right." So many hundreds years did this state of affairs continue that men regarded it as an immutable order of society. But alas, the invention of cannon rudely reminded them that the strength of castle walls was useless, and that for all future time, the buildings were fit only to be used as country seats for the nobility, whose bell-cote members henceforth joined the army of the king, made supreme by the new weapon. From this time onwards the dukes who had now become various kinds of land barons, collected their rents, visited foreign countries, and in many other ways were enabled as a class to acquire that culture which the slender means at their disposal denied to the workers. We might, by turning back the wheel, once more decide from pictures incidental to public grievances, the cause of the changes from communal to individual ownership of the land, which any tribesman could have for a season. A season, however, was not of sufficient duration to allow the cultivator to recoup himself for his work, such as fences, ditches, etc. This led to a demand for an extension of time which later on, for the same reason, had to be extended further, until eventually ownership in severity was the result; and so it happens that society has changed its form many times, and is now at that period of historic time when she must soon do so again, compelled by exigencies incidental to the lack of markets and consequent unemployment with which the forms of our political institutions are not fitted to cope. They are constructed to defend our present system of production and distribution, which everybody can see is not only a cause of international manslaughter by the million, but also calls for a permanent reserve army of the unemployed, the number of which is appalling. The conclusion, therefore, is certain that capitalism is merely one of the temporary historic forms of society, and must give way sooner or later to a system under which the revolution of the wheels of industry will not be retarded nor the onward march of evolution obstructed. Concerning the latter, we might say with the Hindoo poet:

"Slow grows the splendid pattern that she plans, her wistful hands between. This is the work upon the things you see; the unseen things are more Men's hearts and minds; the thoughts of people and their ways and wills. These, too, the great law binds." Much the Same Maid—Please, sir, there's someone to see you up at the house. Jones—A gentleman? Maid—Well, I don't exactly know, sir—much about the same as yourself. When through with this paper, pass it on.

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.] Progress Editor B. C. Federationist: For over twenty years I have been an advocate of the socialist form of government. The organization of the labor government in England, with the good socialist, Rt. Hon. Ramsay MacDonald at its head, therefore affords me pleasure and satisfaction. This is the beginning of the end. I think it was Macaulay who said that, a new doctrine passed through three stages, that of "ridicule, argument and acceptance." This can be truly said of the socialist movement. In a former article, I stressed the importance of peace without bloodshed. The quiet acceptance by the British people of the labor form of government gives us ground to hope that a peaceful revolution will accomplish the desired result of permanent peace and universal brotherhood. Was the great war an unmitigated evil in its conception, and its results? I have often said so. But in view of the present transformation in Britain, I must modify, to some extent, past conclusions. The great war and its after effects changed British sentiment more in four years than could have been brought about by a thousand years of peaceful propaganda. No credit, however, is due to the war-makers. A collapse of the profit system was the last thing they expected. In the law of evolution, evil and retrogression have their place. Humanity marches on to a higher goal; nothing can stay for long the wheels of progress. Russell Wallace points out in his popular book, "The Wonderful Century," that the latter half of the nineteenth century witnessed a greater advance of man's power over nature than the fifteen hundred years preceding it." The great writer goes on to show, too, that civilization has advanced intellectually and morally. So at the present time all the eyes of the world are on England. May she not disappoint our expectations. The nationalization of railways, mines and factories should be the first step to freedom. We must not, however, expect too much as the present government is sorely handicapped by its heritage. With a huge railway strike on, and a bankrupt nation on her back. One is reminded of Bunyan's pilgrim on his way to the Celestial City. Let all the world give three cheers for the sturdy Scotchman who has undertaken to change failure to success, and national bankruptcy into prosperity. L. L. DICKINSON, North Vancouver, B. C., Jan. 30th, 1924.

Class Legislation for Beer Clubs Editor B. C. Federationist: In the Vancouver Daily Province of Friday, Jan. 25, there appeared a news item which, to say the least, should be instructive to the workers. The press item referred to, was in connection with the new government regulations with respect to beer clubs, in which it was stated "only bona fide clubs, like some of the leading business men's clubs in Vancouver will be allowed to operate." This is class legislation without any trimmings, and shows the class viewpoint of the attorney-general of this province, and I presume of the government. It is a well-known fact, that the people who support the few clubs, which will be allowed to operate in Vancouver, are of the class which secure their wealth by exploiting the workers, and that the wealth producers have not the means to provide the clubs which would meet with the approval of the B. C. Liquor board, which means protection from police supervision. But the worker seeking to secure a glass of beer in a club which is subject to police entry, must be subject to searching enquiry by the police at any time. And yet the government of this province denies that it legislates in the interest of any one class? Surely the facts contradict this assertion. When the British Labor party was about to assume power in Great Britain, the ruling class press was filled with screams about the danger of "class legislation," which a labor government would enact. But it could not go further than the government of this province has done, on these lines, when it took away the working man's clubs and providing protection for the clubs, few in number, but patronized by the employing class. The moral should be obvious to any worker who has the ability or energy to think, and that is to follow British labor's example and support only working class candidates for political offices. BRITISHER, Vancouver, B. C., Jan. 28, 1924.

Wigan Collieries Limited N. P. L. Capitalized, \$300,000. Folder now ready for mailing which gives full information regarding this splendid investment. A LIFETIME OF DIVIDENDS. —CALL, PHONE OR WRITE— Arthur Frith & Co. Men's and Boys' Furnishings Hats, Boots and Shoes 2313 MAIN STREET Between 7th and 8th avenues Phone, Fairmont 4859 Pacific Securities Exchange 305 Pender Street West Office Phone, Seymour 7992 Night, Fair. 898X or 1345L Mention Federationist

Look for This Label. It Is a Guarantee of Purity. BRITANNIA BEER IS A FEEL IN ITSELF. ORDER FROM ANY GOVERNMENT VENDOR. 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.] Progress Editor B. C. Federationist: For over twenty years I have been an advocate of the socialist form of government. The organization of the labor government in England, with the good socialist, Rt. Hon. Ramsay MacDonald at its head, therefore affords me pleasure and satisfaction. This is the beginning of the end. I think it was Macaulay who said that, a new doctrine passed through three stages, that of "ridicule, argument and acceptance." This can be truly said of the socialist movement. In a former article, I stressed the importance of peace without bloodshed. The quiet acceptance by the British people of the labor form of government gives us ground to hope that a peaceful revolution will accomplish the desired result of permanent peace and universal brotherhood. Was the great war an unmitigated evil in its conception, and its results? I have often said so. But in view of the present transformation in Britain, I must modify, to some extent, past conclusions. The great war and its after effects changed British sentiment more in four years than could have been brought about by a thousand years of peaceful propaganda. No credit, however, is due to the war-makers. A collapse of the profit system was the last thing they expected. In the law of evolution, evil and retrogression have their place. Humanity marches on to a higher goal; nothing can stay for long the wheels of progress. Russell Wallace points out in his popular book, "The Wonderful Century," that the latter half of the nineteenth century witnessed a greater advance of man's power over nature than the fifteen hundred years preceding it." The great writer goes on to show, too, that civilization has advanced intellectually and morally. So at the present time all the eyes of the world are on England. May she not disappoint our expectations. The nationalization of railways, mines and factories should be the first step to freedom. We must not, however, expect too much as the present government is sorely handicapped by its heritage. With a huge railway strike on, and a bankrupt nation on her back. One is reminded of Bunyan's pilgrim on his way to the Celestial City. Let all the world give three cheers for the sturdy Scotchman who has undertaken to change failure to success, and national bankruptcy into prosperity. L. L. DICKINSON, North Vancouver, B. C., Jan. 30th, 1924.

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ject to police entry, must be subject to searching enquiry by the police at any time. And yet the government of this province denies that it legislates in the interest of any one class? Surely the facts contradict this assertion. When the British Labor party was about to assume power in Great Britain, the ruling class press was filled with screams about the danger of "class legislation," which a labor government would enact. But it could not go further than the government of this province has done, on these lines, when it took away the working man's clubs and providing protection for the clubs, few in number, but patronized by the employing class. The moral should be obvious to any worker who has the ability or energy to think, and that is to follow British labor's example and support only working class candidates for political offices. BRITISHER, Vancouver, B. C., Jan. 28, 1924. Critics of Boston, New York, Chicago and Los Angeles newspapers are unanimous in their praise of "The Covered Wagon," which comes to the Orpheum theatre for two days, Monday and Tuesday, Feb. 4 and 5. It is not just a historical picture. Its characters live. As you watch it, their perils—and they run all the way from death at the hand of savages to starvation in bleak lands—become yours. You can struggle with these brave women and brave men in their fight to carry forward that out-rider of civilization—the plow; but the play is more than merely absorbing—it is instructive. It unfolds history as no textbook could. No wonder then, that this mighty screen spectacle has jumped into universal popularity, and that its praise is being heralded wherever men and women gather in conference. No need to tell readers of Emerson Hough's novel that the story of "The Covered Wagon" is great. In keeping with the dignity of the attraction, there will be a symphony orchestra of twenty, and a gigantic equipment unlike anything seen upon the local stage. You may wish to help The Federationist. You can do so by renewing your subscription promptly and sending in the subscription of your friend or neighbor.

Look for This Label. It Is a Guarantee of Purity. BRITANNIA BEER IS A FEEL IN ITSELF. ORDER FROM ANY GOVERNMENT VENDOR. BRITANNIA BEER IS A FEEL IN ITSELF. 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.] Progress Editor B. C. Federationist: For over twenty years I have been an advocate of the socialist form of government. The organization of the labor government in England, with the good socialist, Rt. Hon. Ramsay MacDonald at its head, therefore affords me pleasure and satisfaction. This is the beginning of the end. I think it was Macaulay who said that, a new doctrine passed through three stages, that of "ridicule, argument and acceptance." This can be truly said of the socialist movement. In a former article, I stressed the importance of peace without bloodshed. The quiet acceptance by the British people of the labor form of government gives us ground to hope that a peaceful revolution will accomplish the desired result of permanent peace and universal brotherhood. Was the great war an unmitigated evil in its conception, and its results? I have often said so. But in view of the present transformation in Britain, I must modify, to some extent, past conclusions. The great war and its after effects changed British sentiment more in four years than could have been brought about by a thousand years of peaceful propaganda. No credit, however, is due to the war-makers. A collapse of the profit system was the last thing they expected. In the law of evolution, evil and retrogression have their place. Humanity marches on to a higher goal; nothing can stay for long the wheels of progress. Russell Wallace points out in his popular book, "The Wonderful Century," that the latter half of the nineteenth century witnessed a greater advance of man's power over nature than the fifteen hundred years preceding it." The great writer goes on to show, too, that civilization has advanced intellectually and morally. So at the present time all the eyes of the world are on England. May she not disappoint our expectations. The nationalization of railways, mines and factories should be the first step to freedom. We must not, however, expect too much as the present government is sorely handicapped by its heritage. With a huge railway strike on, and a bankrupt nation on her back. One is reminded of Bunyan's pilgrim on his way to the Celestial City. Let all the world give three cheers for the sturdy Scotchman who has undertaken to change failure to success, and national bankruptcy into prosperity. L. L. DICKINSON, North Vancouver, B. C., Jan. 30th, 1924.

LABOR MEN'S WIVES

Have Social Labor Society Named Half Circle Club—Informal Hospitalities

PLAY A PROMINENT ROLE

Movement to Develop with Experience of Practical Value to New Party

A RECENT London dispatch says that the wives of British ministers of state have always played a prominent role in party politics in Great Britain.

Those of the members of the labor government are not to be behind their predecessors in Downing street and Whitehall, though their entertainments may be of a less pretentious nature. A social labor society, which calls itself the Half Circle club, in recognition of the informal nature of its hospitalities, has long met periodically at the houses of some of its principal supporters, who include Mrs. Sidney Webb, Mrs. J. R. Clynes, Mrs. Arthur Henderson and Mrs. Frank Hodges. The first of its larger gatherings to which members of the Labor party were invited took place at the University of London the day after the formal commencement of the parliamentary session. The movement will no doubt develop with experience of the practical value to the new labor party of these social gatherings in which the families of men who are making history are able to take part.

Hand your neighbor this copy of The Federationist, and then call around next day for a subscription.

FREDDIE THE FINANCIER--They Set Christmas by His Calendar

---By CHAS. McMANUS



Women to Debate

A series of debates is being arranged in certain large cities of the United States between Frau Adele Schrieber, social democrat member of the German reichstag, who arrived in New York recently, and Helen Fraser, liberal candidate for the British parliament at the 1922 and 1923 elections. Miss Fraser was defeated on both occasions by a laborite after making a fight against great odds in the strongholds of the British labor party in Glasgow and Hamilton, Scotland. The debates will be on the following proposition made by Frau Schrieber: "Resolved, that the hope of civilization depends upon the continued growth of labor parties throughout the world."

"Here, waitress! This doughnut has a tack in it."
"Well, I declare! I'll bet the ambitious little thing thinks it is a flivver tire."

New Departure in B. C. Politics

[Contributed]

SOME 322 men and women, diverse in calling, service and former political tendencies, foregathered in convention at Vancouver in December, after some ten months preliminary negotiations, coming from Atlin in the Alaskan northwest, to Crow's Nest at the southeast extremity of British Columbia, and from Peace River, the northeasterly outpost, to Esquimalt's southwesterly entrance to the Gulf of Georgia, from the Pacific's broad expanse.

Earnestness and sincerity were the outstanding characteristics of those assembled. Remarkable was the way in which former extremely thinking conservatism and radicalism mutually gave and took, constantly keeping in mind the main necessity of re-establishing some semblance of political morality and business readjustment in British Columbia.

Resolutions covering every phase of activity were adopted, as reported in full in Searchlight No. 8. Noticeable was the number of these resolutions which were, so to speak, bona fides of the prime motives of the people of the province thus re-oriented. The resolutions may be conveniently taken up in groups under the following headings, namely:

- (1) General features, and administrative.
- (2) Those in which labor is particularly interested.
- (3) Health and education.
- (4) Financial and taxation.
- (5) Those dealing with our resources.
- (6) Public utilities.
- (7) Public works, including railways.
- (8) Agriculture.
- (9) Soldier questions.
- (10) Orientals.
- (11) Liquor question.
- (12) Civil service.

This article would call particular attention to No. 1, namely:

General Features and Administrative

Resolution No. 12: One of the outstanding abuses evolved in modern party rule, has been the substitution of the legislature by the caucus as the real place where legislation is settled. Though having its disadvantages, a legislative body, where there are several distinct groups with none comprising over half of the house, has one distinct advantage, namely, that the government must trust to the merits of each measure brought down to the house, to carry the support of more than one group or party to make it law. It must appeal to a majority on the merits of the bill itself. With the two party system, and the secret caucus in control, a majority of the government supporters only, as ascertained in caucus, which may be a minority of the house, governs. This puts more power in the hands of the executive, in its control over its followers, and the latter's consequent loss of independence and freedom of action. It ensures the support of all the government's supporters, relative to any measure, whether against their principles and judgment or not, and before they have heard the arguments which may be presented by its other opponents on the floor of the house. The government thus threatens its supporters, that if the bill is defeated in the house, the government is defeated, and they will have to appeal to the country for re-election. Its success having been assured in caucus, the debate in the house may take on a greater or lesser degree of camouflage, smoke-screen and hypocrisy, by the silence and voting support of the opponents to the measure on the government side.

The Provincial party says in resolution 12, Free us from this incubus by requiring a vote of want of confidence in the house, in order to defeat the government. A measure must pass on its own merits. This retains the caucus or committee of the government supporters, but enables every member to be true to his principles in the house as well, enabling the public to understand where he stands on principle, relative to every measure. One of the evils of recent party government will be thereby removed, and a sinister power of the executive curtailed. Precedents of individual incidents for this procedure have been established in the house of commons in London, and in Ontario.

Resolution No. 8: Calls for the abolition of the party patronage system. Another great abuse of the present party system, is the election slogan: "To the victors belong the spoils," otherwise known as the party patronage system. When the people delegated a certain party to rule, it should be in service, not to proceed

to hand out the people's property and positions of trust to party friends, in every conceivable way.

To abolish this evil may be difficult, but when one group of citizens go on record, pledging themselves to do all possible to destroy it, the issue is clear as between them and those who not only have practiced it, but who preach it as a means of receiving support from those whom they promise to enrich with a gift of what belongs to the people.

Deliberately defeating every party which upholds party patronage, at every opportunity, will give the people the necessary weapon with which to destroy this beast.

Resolution No. 9 to Publish Lists of Campaign Contributions: Till the people at large are prepared to assume the necessary and legitimate cost of election campaigns, it is right and wise that they should know who puts up the money for that purpose, and how much. A party which pledges itself to reveal campaign fund contributions should be encouraged. In fulfillment of its pledge, the Provincial party has already made known the source of the necessary assistance which it has to date received.

No. 42, Municipal Conference

As the well-being of a healthy body at large, requires uninterrupted inter-communication of the most intimate nature amongst its various parts, so also with the province at large. The Provincial party pledges itself to advocate, and if in power to call a conference of representatives of all municipalities to consider all questions of mutual interest or dispute, with a view to equitable adjustment thereof.

Resolutions Nos. 52 and 53: In answer to insinuations by the old parties the Provincial party pledges in No. 52 that it will not coalesce with either, but will bend every energy as stated in No. 53 to make all convention resolutions and policies subsidiary to the all-embracing effort to secure, honest, economical and efficient gov-

ernment in the interests of the general public.

Nos. 4 and 5, Economy in Legislative Expense: To reduce unnecessary cost of legislation without decreasing efficiency, the party, first in resolution 4, would reduce the number of members in the house, and second, in No. 5, reduce the pay of members and ministers, to the basis obtaining before its unblushing increase by themselves, at the same time that a reduction was made of wages of labor in the employ of the government.

Resolution 13: Having in mind the theft by the government of representation in the house for over two years of one-sixth of the electors of Vancouver, the Provincial party proposes, if elected, to enact legislation calling for the filling of all vacancies in the house, within three months.

No. 14, Dismiss Twice-paid Ministers of the Crown: Recognizing that no man can serve two masters whose interests are divergent, the Provincial party proposes to make it impossible for a member of the government, paid by the people to look after their interest, to have any monetary consideration in any firm dealing with the government. This will render impossible a recurrence of the recent scandals wherein Messrs. Bowser and Hart, while ministers of the crown, and at the same time members of professional or business firms, dealing with themselves as ministers, and receiving thousands of dollars to look after the interests of their clients.

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

Benjamin's Franklin's Warning

Scarcely a hundred and fifty years ago, in a letter to Dr. Priestley, in which he waxed enthusiastic about the wonderful inventions and discoveries of his time, Benjamin Franklin penned these words: "The rapid progress true science now makes occasions my regretting sometimes that I was born so soon. It is impossible to imagine the height to which may be carried in a thousand years the power of man over matter. Oh! that the moral science were in as fair a way of improvement, that men would cease to be wolves to one

another and that human beings would at length learn what they now properly call humanity." Franklin's doubts have been abundantly justified. After a century of so-called progress unparalleled in history, men convert every atom of their new knowledge to the fell purpose of killing another in the Great War.—Christ Science Monitor.

Mistress—"Oh, cook, be sure a put plenty of nuts in the cake."
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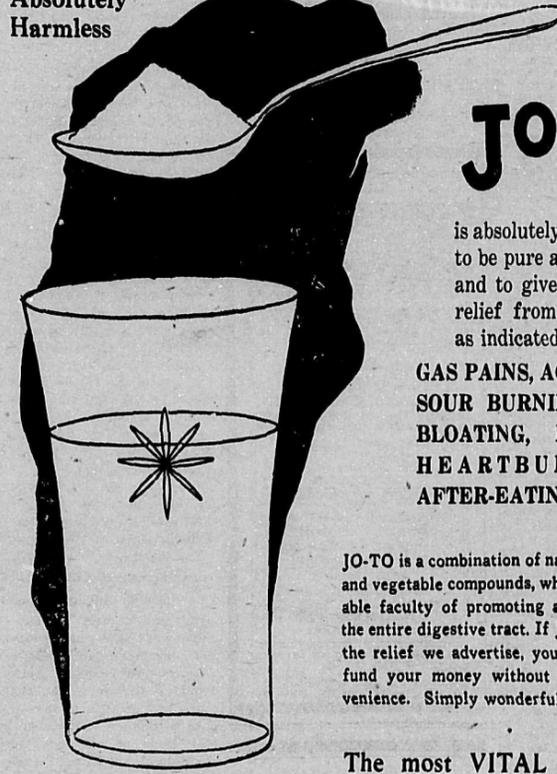
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