BRITISH COLUMBIA FEDERATIONIST

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

PUBLISHED IN INTERESTS OF ALL WORKERS

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BIRTH CONTROL

Its Economic Side—Grand Objective the Betterment of Conditions of Life.

THE POOR ARE PENALIZED

English Labor Movement Recognizes Claim for Support Made By Birth Control.

TODAY birth control is engaging the attention of the world's greatest minds. The grand objective of its advocates is the betterment of conditionis of life for the race and more especially for that great portion consisting of the unskilled and semi-skilled workers. The English labor movement has clearly recognized the claim for support made by birth control. No more effective weapon in the struggle for the freedom of the laborer exists. To unionize all workers, to limit the number of competitors in the labor market, to restrict immigration of cheap labor will be utterly futile and useless unless "the immigration from heaven" is checked. Therefore, as the champion of the poor and oppressed, the labor party has no other course than to study the question of birth control along with other economic problems and to use all of its gathering force to forward the spread of contraceptive methods among the disinherited of the earth.

We have pointed to the fact, in a previous article, that of all nations the U. S. A. and Canada alone legally prevent the giving of such information to the people through the regular channel of the medical profession. Contraceptive information, in the antiquated code of our dominion, is classed as obsceue and indecent. Yet, be it observed, that in spite of this legislation, the educated and intelligent classes are practising birth control. Through knowledge, and through the power of money, they get what they want—both materials and information. The low birth rate among the professional and wealthy classes proves the existence of the knowledge among them of how to limit their families. The high birth-rate among the wives of working men shows clearly their lack of information upon this all-important question. The poor are penalized for their poverty. So that we face the paradox, namely, those most able to rear families properly have few; those unable to rear a large number of children decently are in possession of many.

It is the swarming proletariat of the unskilled classes—the low-wage groups—who are the delight of the exploiting class. It is they who furnish the children to break the anti-child labor laws. They furnish a pitiful harvest for the war lords and the conscienceless employers. They, before all classes, need this knowledge which is at present in the hands of the few.

In our own province we are confronted with the spectacle of thousands of dollars being wasted annually upon institutions for the mentally defective, the deaf, the dumb, the blind, the cripples, drink and drug addicts, the delinquent, all of which waste might be eliminated if the axe was laid at the root of the problem. To maintain these asylums for the unfit and the diseased the pockets of the many are being picked. Yet when sound economics, in the form of birth control are mentioned as a cure for these evils, we are confronted with the apathy and ignorance of the middle ages as embodied in our legislators and professional classes. They are indifferent because of the ease with which they can obtain contraceptive information themselves.

No short article can do justice to the economic necessity for birth control. We have merely scratched the surface of the problem that has to be faced. And, it is to labor that we must look for the solution of the problem. It is their most immediate interest.

Dr. Curry's Lectures

"Proofs of Evolution, Through Discovered Links and Comparative Anatomy," will be the subject this (Friday) evening in the C. P. hall, 666 Homer street. Community singing at 7.30 p.m.

Barbers' Board of Examiners

The following have been appointed by the provincial government as the first members of the board of examiners in barbering: Albert E. Gilbert, Vancouver, master barber, for one year; Marshall Portice, New Westminster, journeyman, for two years, and John McCurdy Cooper, Victoria, journeyman, for three years.

The New Zealand Labor Party favors nationalization of the medical services, with free medical, dental and maternity attention; a state housing department; baby clinics for all infants throughout New Zealand.

If you are really in sympathy with labor, be a booster. The Federationist is out to do its bit. Help it.

Earn Some Money!

A GOOD OPPORTUNITY is open to some real live, classcious workers to earn some ready money, and, at the same time, help the cause of labor, by selling **The Federationist** on the streets, and getting **new subscribers.**

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1129 HOWE STREET VANCOUVER, B. C.
Official Organ of the Federated Labor Party

Friends and supporters of The Federationist and the labor movement in general residing in the various outside districts of British Columbia are cordially invited to write us regarding subscriptions, news items, etc.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

R. H. Neelands, M.L.A., Is Re-Elected President of Trades and Labor Council.

The Trades and Labor Council at its regular meeting, held in its hall, Holden block, on Tuesday evening, elected officers for six months as follows: President, R. H. Neelands, M. L. A.; vice-president, W. Dunn; secretary, P. Bengough; statistician, F. J. Hunt; sergeant-at-arms, Mrs. Dolk; trustees, W. J. Scribbins and F. J. Flynn.

Committees were appointed to attend the city council meetings and a meeting of the unemployed Friday evening. Those appointed were: City hall committee, P. Bengough, W. Dunn and B. Showler; unemployed committee, C. Cottrell, V. Midgley and W. Floyd.

At a previous meeting of the council it was decided to write the provincial government labor department and point out that some department stores did not have seats for clerks as provided by the Factory act. The reply from the deputy minister of labor stated that the Factory act enforcement did not apply to municipalities, as the civic authorities had the power to appoint officers to enforce those laws.

As Vancouver has no officer for this purpose, the matter is now being taken up with the city council.

Declaration of Geneva

The Declaration of Geneva, which is intended to form a Magna Charta for children, has been endorsed by the Hungarian government. The ceremony of signing the document took place in the main hall of the parliament building at Budapest in the presence of prominent government officials and delegates of the International Conference of the Save the Children Fund, then in session at Vienna.

Child Labor in Algeria

Little girls in Algeria will, in the future, be permitted to work in carpet factories at the age of ten years, according to a recent decision by the advisory committee on labor of the government of Algeria. This committee recently approved the lowering of the minimum age for such work from twelve to ten years.

The general railway strike in Austria, which resulted in forcing the cabinet to resign, has been settled on a compromise basis. The workers obtained considerable improvement in wages and conditions of employment.

Say, young fellow, what are you doing to strengthen organized labor and improve your conditions? Read up!

ONE-MAN CAR HAZARDS

Disregard of Rules of Safety Makes Bad Man of Old West Look Like a Piker.

That the bad man of the old west was a piker when it comes to killing people is demonstrated by the statistics compiled by the local safety department. In 1921, when there were but a few one-man cars in operation in Dayton, Ohio, three pedestrians were struck by cars, and one was killed. But in 1922, with a flock of one-man cars in operation, 26 citizens were struck and five were killed, an increase of 100 per cent in the number of accidents and 400 per cent in the number of fatalities. During the year just closed there were 12 collisions between cars, 144 automobiles and three wagons were struck, but there is no record of the amount of monetary loss entailed. That only five persons were killed during the year is considered remarkable by the patrons of the one-man cars. Sooner or later there will be an accident in which a dozen or more are killed. Then quick and decisive action will be taken to rid the city of the things. —Dayton, Ohio, Labor Review.

LABOR CONDITIONS POOR

Government Opens Road Near Hope Camp to Widen and Grade Yale Road.

[By Our Own Correspondent.]

Hope, B. C.—To alleviate the unemployment situation as the government says, or as anyone else might say, to get the unemployed out of town, the government has opened a road camp two miles west of Hope. The men are to widen and grade what is known as the old Yale road. To go to this job 20 men left Vancouver on the 15th of the present month. On their arrival they found that the bunkhouse in which they were to domicile had just been completed that day, and the lumber was damp as a consequence. The men had brought their own blankets, the government providing the rest of the equipment. The mattresses that were provided for them was the same kind of bedding that John Oliver provided for his cattle when he was farming in the Delta—just plain hay. The bunkhouse is about 50x20 feet in area, and there are bunks built on the double deck plan to accommodate 48 men. It was their intention to build another bunkhouse of the dimension and accommodation. The ventilation is none too good, and when the bunkhouse is filled to capacity, the 48 men breathing each other's exhalation, the edifice might be well regarded as a health resort and a monument to the enforcement of the health regulations by the present government. Apparently John Oliver thinks that which is good accommodation for cattle is also good for the unemployed.

The cinema is the night school of the working classes.—Miss Ellen Wilkinson, M. P.

Balloon tires are easier on pedestrians.

NEW ORGANIZATION

Modern Arts and Letters Club Is Formed—Pleasant Evening's Entertainment.

TENTATIVE PROGRAMME

A. M. Stephen and Miss D. Halliwell, Respectively, Elected President and Secretary

ON the evening of Wednesday, the 14th inst., a meeting was held at 337 Hastings street, at which there was initiated a most interesting movement affecting the present outlook upon art and literature in Vancouver. Realizing that we are living in a transitional period when all forms, social, religious and artistic, are changing to make way for a "new civilization," the Modern Arts and Letters Club was formed with the following tentative programme:

1. The study of the works of writers and artists, especially those of the twentieth century, which express the life and ideals of the "new age."

2. To promote public interest in the work of such writers and artists.

3. To apply the standards of twentieth century criticism to all works of art.

4. To unite those who believe in art for life's sake as opposed to art for art's sake.

During the evening A. M. Stephen delivered a brief address upon "The Western Movement in Canadian Poetry," which was illustrated by interpretative readings. Mrs. Lyle Telford delighted those present with two songs, charmingly rendered. Madame Edith Stuart. Miss Jessie Belden and Mrs. Boak, in an instrumental trio of piano, 'cello and violin, effectively interpreted the work of several modern composers.

The next meeting of the club will be held Friday evening, the 23rd inst., in the Women's building, 752 Thurlow street, at 8 p.m. An address by Mrs. Edith Fielding on "Walt Whitman—Prophet of the New Democracy," and pianoforte selections from modern composers by Miss Nellie Harrison will be features of the programme. All interested in the objects of the club are invited to attend.

Officers of the Modern Arts and Letters Club were elected as follows: President, Mr. A. M. Stephen; secretary, Miss D. Halliwell; treasurer, Miss Mildred Teeple; executive, Mrs. Lyle Telford, Mr. Teeple, Dr. Lyle Telford.

According to the daily press the cross-words craze is causing much conjugal unrest in U. S. One cross-word, it appears, leads to another.

EVERY READER CAN HELP

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.

ELECTION RESULTS

Successful Labor Candidates in Burnaby

Councillors:
C. B. GIBBS
H. ENBERG

School Trustee:
ALFRED SMITH

Police Commissioner:
H. S. BATE

For South Vancouver

Councillors:
ALEC MACDONALD
J. G. SMITH

School Trustee:
R. E. RIGBY

Police Commissioner:
W. FORD

DEMAND UNION WAGES

Businesslike Mass Meeting of Unemployed—Committees Appointed.

Some 500 unemployed men held a mass meeting on the Cambie street grounds on Tuesday afternoon.

Speakers exhorted the unemployed to organize and not to work for less than union wages. They declared that any person who worked for less was "'scabbing' on his wages for next summer," as it would be impossible to bring up the scale again if men worked at $1 and $2 a day now.

A resolution demanding the current union rate of wages was presented and carried unanimously.

In addition to this a committee was appointed of three to wait on the Trades and Labor council in an effort to gain the co-operation of that body and also to wait upon the relief committee of the city council on Monday to present their demands.

The meeting was conducted in business-like manner, and a committee of two was appointed to represent the Vancouver unemployed on the committee of the South Vancouver unemployed. Having obtained permission from the military authorities, meetings will be held every Tuesday and Friday morning in the drill hall.

Cross-word puzzle: A three-letter word meaning 50 cents worth of material made up into a $25 feminine head-covering. — Associated Editors, Chicago.

The younger generation, the great hope of the labor party, can only be secured by a combination of cold practical logic and high moral appeal. —Dr. Hugh Dalton, M.P.

Four ages of man: Bossed by mother; bossed by sister; bossed by wife; bossed by daughter.—Wooster (Ohio) Daily Record.

W. N. FITCH PRESENTED

With Handsome Gold Chain As An Appreciation for His Valued Work.

Amongst the members of the local Typographical Union are several to whom the following item will be interesting, especially to those who in the past came into contact with W. H. Fitch, of the Typographical Association in Redhill (London), England. His record and success since entering the typographical association is indeed a worthy record, and on Saturday, November 15, 1924, Mr. H. Skinner, secretary of the Typographical Association of England presented him with a handsome solid gold chain, as a mark of appreciation for his valuable services rendered during the last 24 years. During that time he has served on the city council as alderman and is now a justice of the peace. He joined the local (Redhill) branch of the Typographical Association, coming from Hailsham, Sussex, in 1900; elected auditor in 1900; elected branch committee in 1901; elected vice-president in 1904; elected trustee in 1907; elected president, 1907-16; elected branch secretary, 1916-24; elected delegate to group, 1908; elected group committee, 1909-24; elected group president, 1915 and 1916. Indeed a worthy record.

The presentation took place at a smoking concert given in his honor on Saturday, November 15th, at the Greyhound hotel, Redhill, Surrey. Mr. Arthur Walker, branch president, being chairman, supported by Mr. H. Skinner, general secretary of the Typographical Association of England, and Mr. E. G. Yates, J. P., group secretary.

Pennsylvania Cares for its Dependent Children

The Pennsylvania State Department of Welfare has recently issued a bulletin showing the number of dependent and delinquent children coming under the supervision of public and private agencies and institutions. These include approximately 21,000 children in institutions, 8,000 children in foster homes, 16,000 children in families having mothers' assistance, and 32,000 children in families aided by directors of the poor.

In the next war, if war be declared in the morning, attacking planes will be over the enemy's capital in the afternoon.—Lord Thomson.

Capitalism is committing suicide, and the present generation must save itself from the results thereof.—Mr. Wheatley, M.P.

Anyway, there is some consolation in knowing that it is almost impossible to transmit a crossword puzzle by radio.—Hudson Dispatch.

JUNIOR LABOR LEAGUE

Debate on Unemployment This Evening—Organization Is Making Progress.

Judging from the numbers of enquiries received regarding the progress of the J. L. L., this organization has aroused considerable interest. This (Friday) evening the league members will hold a debate on the subject of "Unemployment."

Until further notice all meetings of the league will be held at 883 Twentieth Avenue, East.

On Friday, January 30, the meeting will be devoted to business.

The league has arranged for its initial dance for Saturday, February 7, at the Elks' hall, Fraser and Forty-ninth Avenue.

All young people interested in the labor movement should bear these dates in mind.

Secretary, George Mitchell; phone Fair. 3320X.

Help the press that's helping you. The daily, capitalist press is no friend of yours, comrade! Why help it?

Workers! Support Your Own Press!

START THE YEAR RIGHT

SO FREQUENTLY we hear workers complaining about the injustice of the "daily" or "capitalist" press, and about how unfair it is toward the cause of labor—and yet they continue to give their hard-earned money to perpetuate that institution.

YOUR OWN OPPRESSORS

The capitalist press today is thriving on the one and five-cent pieces of thoughtless—or ignorant—workers, while their own press has to struggle against long odds in its efforts to serve them. Why be your own oppressors? Why serve in the ranks of the enemy?

THE REMEDY IS SIMPLE

If you are desirous of improving your own condition, and that of your fellowmen, then support the press that is honestly endeavoring to fight your battle for you. That is the very least you can do for **your own cause.**

BE A "REAL" BOOSTER FOR LABOR

Show your own sincerity of purpose and willingness to serve by subscribing for The Federationist—**the workers' friend.** Pass your copy on to some fellow-worker after you have read it. **Urge him to subscribe.**

Help **The Federationist** in its fight for the emancipation of mankind.

The greater our circulation, the more effectual will our efforts be. **Apathy and indifference on the part of the workers is more to be feared than the antagonism of the forces of reaction.**

Be true to your cause! Help boost your own press.

B. C. FEDERATIONIST

Official Organ of the Federated Labor Party

FARMING SITUATION

Comprehensive Review of Agricultural Conditions Existing in Canada

COMPETITIVE SOCIETY

Illimitable Acres of Fertile Soils Able to Produce All Our Needs

[Note—Following is the fifth of a series of six articles which will appear from time to time in The Federationist on the farming situation existing in Canada.—Ed.]

ARTICLE V.

[By G. F. Stirling.]

IN the last article we have stated that the economic troubles of the country are due to our system of distribution. The remedy therefore must lie here.

We shall take a common product like apples and trace their movement from the producer to the consumer.

We shall take an average retail price to the consumer for an average box of apples at $2.40 per box, and show just how this is made up.

The cost of putting the apples on the car figures out at about 60 cents per box. This includes the cost of the box, packing, packing paper, inspection, overhead charges, loading on car. It does not include the cost of production. We shall ignore that for the present. After they are produced therefore it costs 60 cents per box to put the apples on the car at point of shipping. Now 60 cents is one-quarter of $2.40, so one-quarter of each apple is swallowed up in placing it on the car.

The second charge to consider is the freight rate. The freight on apples by the carload from Okanagan points to Calgary is 60 cents per box. Again this is one-quarter of $2.40. So we must give another quarter of the apple to the C. P. R.

The retailer on the prairie gets anything from 40 to 75 cents per box, according to the supply and demand and location. If we take an average of, say, 60 cents, we must lay aside another quarter of the apple for the retailer.

The wholesaler before the formation of the Associated Growers, was receiving 40 cents per box handling the apples by the carload. Forty cents is one-sixth of $2.40, so we must set aside one-sixth of each apple for the wholesaler. That is to say, eleven twelfths of each apple is swallowed up on its way to the consumer, and only one-twelfth is left.

This twelfth represents not only what the consumer receives, but it also represents what the producer is paid for.

This means that the portion of the product which the producer receives value for is so small that his purchasing power is very much limited. His demand for furniture, and implements, and clothing, and shoes, and pianos, and books, and every other commodity is limited by this limited return, so that those who are engaged in these different industries are affected indirectly by this lack of purchasing power. They curtail production, men are put out of work and the whole social fabric is disorganized.

What takes place with apples takes place with all other commodities of the farm in a lesser or greater degree.

The wheat farmer takes his wheat to the elevator and he is docked so much for each load to allow for broken grains, weed seeds, etc. He receives no payment for this dockage, although the elevator companies make tens of thousands of dollars each year by selling this stuff for feed. The wheat grower is therefore robbed on dockage.

Again, he very seldom receives the grade of No. 1 for his wheat. He is docked a few cents per bushel on grading, and thousands of bushels of wheat which is bought as No. 2 or No. 3 goes out of the elevators at the head of the Great Lakes as No. 1.

Again, he does not receive the Winnipeg market price less the freight rate from his local point. He is also docked another 9 to 13 cents. This is explained to him as covering a possible fall in the market before his wheat gets to Winnipeg. But if there should be a possible rise in the market during that interval he does not benefit by it.

Again, if he ships by the wagon load he gets a few cents less than if he shipped by the carload. And in similar fashion to the applegrower, his product is whittled down until his purchasing power is very much limited.

The same thing applies in varying degrees all through industry. The men working in shoe factories or clothing factories create a certain value by their daily labor, and the portion which they receive as wages does not give them a great enough purchasing power. The greater part of their created product is whittled away by the circuitous and expensive system of distribution.

It does not matter whether the commodity be a book, or clothing, or furniture, or autos, or tobacco, or soap, by far the greater part of the

(Continued on page 3)

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FRIDAY.....JANUARY 23, 1925

ELECTION RESULTS

ONCE again the labor movement has made itself felt. True, the results are not what we would have them to be. They rarely are. We must not lay all the blame upon the electors either. We must, at these times, learn to take stock of ourselves. We must confess, and it is with no small degree of reluctance that we do it, that some of our candidates wandered far afield during the campaign. Some of them, it would appear, seem to think that they can operate the present economic system to advantage. Perhaps they can, but we are certain that they cannot do it to the advantage of the masses, and it is with the best interests of the masses that we should concern ourselves—nothing less.

We felt it our duty to draw to the attention of our readers where some of the labor candidates were falling down in Vancouver during the recent civic elections. We feel that we must say that some of our own F.L.P. candidates erred in a somewhat similar manner. Surely they do not think that they can ever hope to operate this present competitive economic system, and make any more success of it than have those who have been in charge for ages past. It can't be done. The system must be changed. It is the duty of all labor candidates to bring about that change as soon as it is humanly possible to do it. That should be their avowed purpose in politics. To think of doing otherwise is simply wasting their own time and that of their followers. To think that the solution lies in more efficient water works, decreased taxation and a myriad of other lines is utter piffle. We hope that a lesson may have been learnt in this election that will prevent a repitition of similar spectacle when another election comes about. Candidates should be, and must be, if the labor movement is to be worth while, chosen on their merits and their knowledge of what labor stands for. Mistakes are to be pardoned, but their repetition is inexcusable.

THE EMANCIPATION OF WOMAN

WE hope Mrs. Helena Normanton's sayings are misreports. Otherwise we shall be forced to lament one more mind gone to the dogs; more good brains run to seed.

She is reported to have said (or was she just laughing at American worship of the dollar) that a woman Rockefeller or Ford will do more to emancipate women than a woman president or a woman prime minister. But what have Rockefeller and Ford done but help to scrape into the hands of a little clique that which belongs to the many. If they have had "principles" they have had them because they paid in the long run—paid better dividends: because they were profitable to J. D. Rockfeller and Henry Ford, and only incidentally so to the wage-slaves.

Mrs. Normanton is accused of thinking that such men as these multi-millionaires—these industrial barons—help to bring about equal distribution of wealth. But this is impossible when their business is primarily to make fortunes—for themselves. Perhaps when Mrs. Normanton has spent some time studying conditions in America she will change her mind. Unless she considers conditions from the window of a fashionable hotel. In that case she will hardly realize just what the lot of the machine slaves is.

But after all the greatest slaves are the women, whether their menfolk call themselves good liberals, plain conservatives or radical socialists; whether they think in terms of race history or of the bread and butter question. At least it is so in the majority of cases. Hence we fail to see just how money can emancipate woman. And if she is going to wait until the day of equality of wealth, she will wait a long time.

No, woman's freedom doesn't depend on pounds, shillings and pence, or even dollars and cents. It depends on her own attitude and her own knowledge. And so for that reason we would suggest as the solution of the problem—not the creation of women millionaires or multi-millionaires. For we fear these latter would be, if anything, even more efficient than the other species. But rather the right sort of education—an education freed from the bigotries and superstitions and wilful ignorances that characterize education today. And in their place as far as the adults are concerned, a knowledge of sane sex-hygiene and birth control. And instead of setting before them the road to heaven as per Henry Ford, we would introduce them to the thoughts, the very simple and everyday thoughts of some of our scientists, that is those who haven't their heads in the clouds (studying Mars) but those who can tell us something useful. But even scientists are scarce and their work is carefully censored when they give us scientific science about the things that matter.

On Monday evening last there was held in the Native Sons of Canada hall a rather representative gathering of men and women for the purpose of dealing with, what many chose to call, "the Oriental menace." There were many and varied suggestions made as to how to deal with the problem, but few there were who faced the real facts of the situation. Time and space will not permit our going into details, which we feel that our readers should know. However, in next week's issue we hope to give some of these interesting details to the public. Certainly they will not be given by the daily press.

We hope too, to be able to give our readers some interesting data on, what appears to us to be, another huge swindle about to be foisted upon the public. We have gathered what we feel is some rather interesting data regarding this little game. This too, we will deal with in next week's issue.

QUESTION BOX

(Note—As many enquiries reach this office from time to time, the editor will reserve space to deal with such matters, under the above heading. Communications addressed to "Notes and Queries Editor" will be handled as quickly as space permits. —Ed.)

W. R. ROSS—(a) The funded debt of the province of British Columbia is given as $65,851,436.00, and the municipal debt as $98,761,629.00. These figures are for the year ended 1922, the latest available; those for 1923 are now in course of preparation.

(b) The official census of 1921 gives population figures of 8,788,483. Further particulars you ask for will be embodied in an article in a future issue.

J. BAILEY.—A writer in one of the Socialist papers says recently: "We shall not get Socialism by a trick, nor by a political accident, nor by brute force. We shall only get Socialism by convincing the majority of the people that Socialism is right, and that the way to get it is through legislative majorities and administrative majorities." To do this is our work. Let us get on with the work by every means in our power—organize, educate, make free use of propaganda and strive for a powerful press all through the Dominion.

T. S. SCOTT.—The labour situation in Japan is bad, in fact conditions, which we have recently had described and which we have every reason to believe to be reliable, picture sad and revolting surroundings for the workers. We shall have more to say on this matter.

F. CLARKE.—The action of the French government against Ibanez, the Spanish author and socialist, is inexplicable; we await European papers to hear more fully on this. We only hope that no accident (!) may give him over to the tender mercies of the Spanish government.

MRS. FERGUSON.—The unfortunate British people have one combine—among very many—which costs them dear enough—meat. Details of the iniquitous workings of the various interests controlled by this combine are staggering. No wonder Socialists in Canada are watching events here in these directions.

A. E. PARKER, P. J. BELL and others.—Replies next issue.

Be sure to notify the post office as soon as you change your address.

THE FULFILLMENT OF THE LAW

[Nemesis]

IN THE history of our solar system, as presented to us by our scientific men and philosophers, we find a story of absorbing interest, one which inspires the imagination and supplies the material for endless speculative thought. That story carries us back to the time when our system was a formless, attenuated mist of protyle, suspended in the boundless depths of space, apparently in a state of meaningless chaos, but in reality possessing force, energy and eternal law, potential causes, which were destined to shape it into its present forms and establish the final mystery and ultimate meaning, conscious life; for all the solar systems of the universe that imagination stretched to its utmost can call into being, would be dark and meaningless chaos without that final expression of the eternal Mind.

The story of that slow growth through the passing ages, from the simple to the complex, from seeming chaos to perfect order, we must accept, on the whole, as presenting a true picture of past happenings, in spite of many gaps and many missing links in the chain, for it is a story which accords with the imagination and with reason, which properly applied, are our surest guides in our search into the mysteries. Our senses present but faint and feeble conceptions of the things around us, and are reliable only as they act as servants to those surer guides.

The marvellous story of the history of our earth, which the genius of our race has produced, has proved of immense value to all of us, inasmuch as it has shown beyond any shadow of doubt that creation has been a process of the working of natural law guided by the Supreme Intelligence, and has enabled man to think in precise and logical terms of himself and of the things which exist around him with the ambition to hold on to the realities in the molding of his future destiny and to cast aside as wasted effort the present chaotic and selfish struggle for a mere existence.

Turning from this enthralling picture of organic and inorganic evolution with its slow shaping ever to more complex forms and orderly arrangement, to the chaotic conditions produced by man on earth in his economic activities, at first sight, we begin to wonder if there be not a break here in the working of the everlasting laws; but a little consideration will show that such is not the case.

The science of embryology suggests to us that many forms of adult life were required ere the production of man in his present form; and, therefore, that an incalculably long period of time was necessary before the final result was obtained.

Though undoubtedly the germs of the moral and mental man were implanted in the primal speck of pulsating life, their final development had necessarily to lie dormant through those long unrecorded ages till the animal man was completed; so that those comparatively newer qualities have not yet reached their maturity, and man stands today physically grown up and mentally and morally in his infancy. While recognizing, to a greater extent, the existence of the physical laws and the necessity of obeying them for his physical advantage, because of his longer physical existence and experience, he has not yet arrived at a stage of clean recognition of the equally eternal moral and mental laws, to which he will one day conform in his search for the true meaning of his existence.

Just as the science of embryology shows the stages of development of physical man through the ages, so the science of child psychology, from birth to adolescence, reveals his slow development from the mere physical to the yet immature moral and mental state in which he now stands.

In this we find the explanation of the chaotic state of world conditions today.

As physical disease is an abnormality, caused by the breaking of the physical laws, so the mental unrest and misery, which prevails the world over, are caused by the ignoring through greed and ignorance of the equally eternal and equally unbreakable mental and moral laws.

Hauuily, nature herself contains and offers to mankind the panacea for all its miseries, physical and mental, but this panacea is only to be gained by a recognition and obeying of her eternal and immutable laws.

Even a cursory glance thrown over the past history of man reveals the fact, that a blind, unreasoning struggle for material things has always existed and seems at the present time to be intensifying in its savagery, and bringing nearer the inevitable climax. There is no plan, no law, in this chaotic and unnecessarily severe struggle for existence; because it began when man was a mere savage, with little reason, and quite immoral and, therefcre, is purely and simply a production of savagery; and without any mincing of the truth in this matter, it is quite true to assert that those who have won in this chaotic struggle, the earth-owners and earth-rulers, are, in spite of their skin-deep veneer, their trumpery trappings and their moral frothiness, mere primeval and undeveloped savages, who recognize no moral law, and whose thoughts and ambitions have no wider range than the space confined to their own skins.

As a result of this disregard of law, what do we find? The inevitable reaction intensifying with every decade and now fast approaching its climax.

If we look around us we see a prolific earth; rich soils, fertilizing waters, life-giving sunshine; mountains and valleys with their inexhaustible treasure troves; greenery prevailing; law and order ruling over all; a state of things suggesting, surely, comfort, happiness and peace.

But in man's activities we see no law nor order, no plan of operations, no moral perception; merely a chaotic and selfish struggle to despoil the earth and possess its treasures and, as a result, the repulsive spectacle of riches and poverty, gluttony and abject want; disease ever tightening its hold upon the masses; greed and savagery daily strengthening their strongholds; frequent wars gaining in ferocity and destructiveness, and chaos approaching with accelerating speed.

Casually considered, all seems hopeless, yet down the centuries a beacon light has twinkled through the gloom, and suggested a message of hope to the distracted nations.

A genius is a man who sees and expresses the eternal truths, and from Christ, the greatest of all geniuses, down through the whole bright list, that message of hope is presented in one form or another in all their works.

They have caught the message from the eternal, and flashed it over the hitherto disregarding earth time after time; and now there are many who in silence are pondering its meaning and recognizing that in that genius-flashed message lies the only remedy that can cure the ills of the flesh and the distresses of man's mental and moral being.

In those silent, pondering many lies the hope for our poor, suffering, nerve-wracked world, for action must spring from their pondering as inevitably as day follows the dawn.

All will have noticed in the works of those men of genius that, while some have written down merely in abstract the cause of our failure as a race to find peace and happiness, others, like Sir Thomas More, have outlined plans, by which we could find surcease from our unnecessary, sordid struggle, and take up our development to the higher plane in real earnest. All their ideas have been sneered at as Utopian impossibilities New ideas have always been sneered at, and truths obscured in the interests of greed and selfishness. Those concrete plans were only outlined as examples, containing the necessary principle to ensure success, and not intended as hard and fast methods, which only experience and practice can formulate.

Up to the present, Justice has remained as a dream in the affairs of men, like the heaven of the churches, something to be obtained elsewhere, but not on earth.

Yet, if ever peace and contentment are to be experienced here on earth, that same dream of Justice materialized into deeds, must rule in all its glory here on earth.

This rule of Justice is imperative if peace is ever to reign; for Justice, Love and Altruism are synonymous terms, inseparable, as one cannot operate in its completeness without the others, and these three-in-one constitute the great moral law of the universe, and that must be our guide in formulating the orderly social system which must soon replace our present chaos.

As law governs the orderly processes of the countless solar systems in our Cosmos, from their movements as a whole through the limitless space to the pulsing of the electrons in the smallest atom, so this great fundamental moral law must control the affairs of men, or peace and contentment can never replace our present deplorable and immoral conditions.

There is no other alternative. This is final truth, unalterable as are all the eternal realities. We must conform to the laws of nature, physical, mental and moral or ultimately perish in our ignorance and sorrow.

The Labor party of Britain formulated a system in the autumn of 1923 called the "socialist programme," which I presume was meant to be a preparation, with the materials at hand, for the true socialist kingdom.

It dealt with such matters as unemployment, education, agriculture, housing, management of industry, banking and credit, taxation, international affairs and municipal policy.

As a first step in the right direction, we can congratulate the workers of Great Britain upon it; but how far the institutions of capitalism may be carried advantageously into the new world of thought and endeavor remains to be seen. Some undoubtedly will have to be absolutely discarded, and all others considerably modified, till such time as new institutions grow naturally out of new conditions. We can only think of the unknown in terms of the known; hence our God is an anthropomorphic being, our heaven a glorified "golden" earth.

The duty which lies before us is to establish the altruistic law, and in accordance with that law all its institutions will naturally and vigorously spring from the new soil.

To-day the world of men is humming with a new-born hope, for they are beginning to recognize the existence of law, and that they must anchor their hopes and operations upon its sure foundation in the certain knowledge that the house they build will stand safe and unshakeable through the ages.

The earth rulers are filled with fear and bewilderment and cast about blindly for remedies for the evils to which they can no longer shut their eyes, but they can find no remedies.

Many labor fakirs are running with the hounds and siding with the hare, pocketing meanwhile their ill-gotten fees, posing and preaching but doing nothing to hasten forward the better day.

In the near future, all labor leaders must be closely watched as attempts may be made to establish another pseudo-civilization in the interests of a few as false and as cruel as our own.

True leaders there must be, and will be, men of genius with vision to discern the realities, and to discard the surplus; and these will preach a true kingdom of altruism to be founded on the eternal law of the universe.

When they succeed, as they ultimately will, they will have found a kingdom whose foundations will be laid on the abiding rock that shall not as all former earthly kingdoms, rise and fall and leave man where they found him, in the mud: a kingdom that shall reverse the order of things as we know them; in which the material shall be subject to the spiritual: good will predominate over evil and Justice, Liberty and Love will hold undisputed sway, as they were pre-destined to do, ere yet the primal, formless mist of our universe began to pulse in unison with the eternal Will.

This will be the fulfillment of the Law.

- "ETHEL" -

IT is of more than passing interest to the Labor movement to note with what gallantry the editor of a local daily comes to the defense of Mrs. Snowden because Miss Ellen Wilkinson, M.P., has presumed to call her by her first name, "Ethel," a thing she has done a thousand times before (without raising the wind) and he goes on to assert this as evidence of "dirty work afoot in the British labor party."

The moral of the British labor party in other words is declining because Mrs. Snowden was called by her name instead of "the right honorable" or wife of the right honorable.

The British labor party is now so old and so powerful that one would have thought ere this, that even editors of the capitalist press would have gained a little intelligence on the subject, or would have had sufficient self-respect not to have laid himself and his master's press open to the contempt and ridicule which his editorial merits.

The British labor party would indeed be a ridiculous organization if its strength rested upon the absurd conventionalities of a dying system. If the prefix Mrs., Miss, Mr. or The Right Honorable when referring to certain individuals was a proof of its morality and idealism or the leaving off of the prefix a sign of its decadence, and "dirty work afoot."

When during the war Mrs. Snowden took her stand against it, was hooted, jeered, and almost mobbed. This same capitalist press which now flatters and uses her because it suits its purposes, referred to her in names and terms much less dignified than "Ethel," and made it very plain what punishment her kind of patriot deserved.

We wonder where the Editor in question was during these troublesome times and if he would have flown to her defense. We venture to suggest he would most likely have been heaping coals of fire on the dear lady's head, and probing out the pro-Hun dirty work she was supposed to be engaged in; the job would be safe and the pay good. This is one reason why those within the labor movement, not only in England but elsewhere, find the employment of Mrs. Snowdon by organizations financed by capitalists and her laudation by their press to say the least, highly significant. Miss Wilkinson is correct when she states that Mrs. Snowdon has little standing within the labor party and from now on will have less.

We doubt if even the Bourgeois organizations would use her if it was not for the fact of her husband's position with Labor, and this fact is not, as the indignant editor suggests, because Mrs. Snowdon has "shaken hands with the king" but because she shakes hands too often with the "Mammon King" whom her husband is pledged to dethrone. Mrs. Snowdon is known all over England as "Ethel Snowdon." The name was given to her when, like most of us, her opinion wasn't sought and apparently the lady herself is satisfied with it or she would have petitioned the king to have it changed, but when her name is mentioned inside the labor or co-operative movements it is spoken of, not with the tone of confidence, gratitude and affection as is the case when the names of Maggie Bondfield, Mary McArthur, Susan Lawrence, or even Ellen Wilkinson, are mentioned. Therein lies the difference, and no one knows it better than Mrs. Snowdon herself.

We would also humbly suggest to the editor to pay a little more attention to Miss Wilkinson's warning, not that there is a great mass of women in the country who are determined that the labor party shall stand for the ending of all the show and theatrical glitter which I saw at the opening of parliaments.

The Britishers, men and women in all ranks are neither afraid nor ashamed to discuss this question inside or outside of parliament, nor to air their opinions and beliefs from press or platform.

When Mr. MacDonald became opposition leader he drew a lurid picture of the pageantry, extravagance, pomp and ceremony on the one side, and of the squalor, filth, rags, rotteness and besottedness on the other almost touching shoulders, and stated this was one of the things that labor was out to end, and make no mistake about it, the feeling that such show and pageantry is out of place in face of such abject messing on all sides is growing and some day when least expected may bring forth a different state of society. But we would assure the editor lest he take fright and run to a mad house for security, that it will not be a "march of misguided men under the red rag decorated with the golden sickle and hammer to the destruction of civilization" but the march of intelligent men and women determined to take over and run society for the good of all ere civilization destroys them.

We would also remind him that there has been no march of misguided men carrying the red rag decorated with sickle and shield through Europe—London, Birmingham, Glasgow, or Liverpool—yet Europe dies almost prostrate and millions are at the point of starvation in the industrial centres in Great Britain, and are forced to emigrate or live a life of semi-starvation as paupers and part-timers. Who are the destroyers?

Who Is Responsible?

TEN YEARS AGO, when hell broke loose in Western Europe, the people of this country were substantially agreed as to who had caused it. It was the kaiser, der schevcliorhund! The bloody German Kaiser! Had not he and his devil's brood of misbegotten simian Huns violated Belgium gallant little Belgium that had carried Christ's cross to the Congo for the grand old Catholic idea of Universal Brotherhood. The world was guiltless. The world had been unprepared for war. The storm had burst with cataclysmic fury on a world innocent of evil as a Paschal lamb, a pious, otherworldly world that drowsed over the Sermon on the Mount and sang sleepy hosannas to the Prince of Peace.

There was a gnat in the thunderstorm, it is true. If one listened intently a still, small voice could be heard breathing pianissimo that the war was a Capitalistic war and that the blood-guilt of the Kaiser was no deeper than that of any other shining egotism in Europe.

When the war had been won, when Civilization had been saved and Democracy pickled, that is to say preserved, there were some rare monkey-shines on earth. In Heaven the Angel throng burst into song and struck their harps of gold. And then, quite suddenly, the Apostle of glorified uselessness had a culture spasm. They began to glorify knowledge of colour. Books were printed. Many books. Black books, blue books, yellow, grey and green books. Books of every hue and shade from infra-red to ultra-violet. The purpose of each particular book was, of course, to acquit somebody of blood-guilt and to incriminate somebody else. The scheme worked well. Let us admit it. The apostles of uselessness demonstrated to their own satisfaction and to the satisfaction of their dupes that nobody was to blame. Nobody at all. The war was one of those happenings that are too tremendously catastrophic to be blamed onto mere motes dancing in the sunbeam. It was the good God Himself who had been at fault. The war was simply a regrettable aberration on the part of an otherwise all-loving Heavenly Father.

In the meantime, however, the still, small voice had been increasing in volume. Today in all lands millions of workers who do not take their opinions ready-made from their masters are declaring that the war was a capitalists' war, that the peace is a capitalists' peace, and that for each one of the evils which at present afflict sad, civilized humanity, the capitalist class is directly responsible. The capitalists own and control all governments, those workers point out. They make, interpret and administer all laws. They own and control all the schools, universities and churches, and almost all the newspapers. In fact, everything on earth reeks of their rule. Everything, from the Liquor Board to the Blind Pig, from the Hotel Vancouver to the Garbage Wagon. Having made it abundantly plain that he is not to blame for anything, the class-conscious worker brings a sigh of relief up out of deep soundings and goes to a baseball match.

It is the opinion of the writer, however, that no matter how heretical it may sound, the full responsibility for war, poverty, unemployment and all those other evils of modern society rests with the working class, and nowhere else.

Let us reason it out together. Responsibility means literally a responding to. In our efforts to procure what we like and to prevent what we dislike, our first step must ever be one of fixing responsibility. We must find the man who will "respond." In declaring that the capitalistic class is responsible for war, unemployment, etc., the worker makes two postulates. In the first place, he postulates that the capitalistic class has the power to prevent such things; in the second, that the capitalistic class may be induced to prevent such things. Now, war, unemployment, etc., are phenomena inseparable from modern capitalism. In order to do away with such phenomena we must first do away with capitalism. But the capitalistic class cannot do away with capitalism, and, such being the case, the capitalistic class is not responsible for the evils of capitalism. Those responsible for war, unemployment, etc., are, of course, the workers. They have the power to sweep capitalism from off the face of this earth forever, and such, indeed, is the reason for which the working class has been evolved. Let us, therefore, get the idea firm into our minds, not that the capitalists are responsible for this, that and the other thing, but they are purely and simply a group of irresponsible social parasites.

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Workers' Condition Challenge to Society

Problem of Unemployment and the Machine Is More Than One of Mathematics

[By J. A. MacDonald.]

ARTICLE III.

The Industrial Revolution of the Last Hundred Years

"The rapid and continuous growth of the machine is at once the outward visible sign and the material agent of the great revolution which has changed the whole face of the industrial world during the last century."—John A. Hobson.

WRITERS call the last hundred years the century of [illegible] revolution. While it is true that some of the changes of the last hundred years were in embryo in the latter end of the century that preceded, and looking backwards can be clearly noticed as early as 1760, yet those developments which dwarf the previous industrial evolution of mankind are considered to have their beginning between the years of 1820 and 1830, when the industrial importance of science and invention was first fully recognized, and the use of the machine had left the realm of thought for that of applictaion.

During the half million years that man had been on this planet prior to the last hundred years, the development of man had been in the change, improvement and extension of the tools used by the barbarians. But since the second decade of the last century the revolution from the tool to the machine has been going on with accelerated pace, and is more manifest now than ever before. This revolution represents a change greater than anything that has occurred since man came down from the trees and began his struggle against a hostile nature for food, for clothing and for shelter.

There was less change from the stone axe of the barbarian to the tools of one hundred years ago, than there is between these and the gigantic machines of the present time. There was less change from the crooked stick of the primitive halfman in the jungle and the sickle, cradle and fanning mill than there was from these to the gasoline tractor, the threshing machine and the combined harvester, although agriculture, from its very nature, is the least developed of all the means of life. There was less change from the savage with his stone axe and live coals from his fire burning down a tree to the hand logging, the cutting of these logs into boards with the pit saw or the wheezy water-mill, than there is between these and the "flying machine" carrying the logs under the impulse of steam on overhead wires to the landing, or the steam loader lifting these logs as if they were toothpicks onto the cars, and the modern sawmill with a capacity of a million feet a day, with its gang saws travelling at railway speed through the logs, turning them with steam niggers, and automatically throwing boards in a continual stream on live rollers to carry them to planers, edgers and other machinery which now does with a whiz the work that took long hours of the time of the skilled craftsman with the hand tool.

During the past one hundred years man has increased his powers and multiplied his possibilities many fold. The hand of man, with the mechanical development of the last century has extended itself until it reaches across the continents. It has been supplemented with machines that multiplie its powers sometimes a millionfold. The human hand, the most wonderful instrument in all nature, has been developed into cranes that lift a hundred tons as a child might lift a pebble; into shovels that lift two yards of rock or earth faster than the man of one hundred years ago could lift a shovelful; into hammers that hit with a force of fifty tons faster than the man of one hundred years ago could swing a sledge.

Man came out of the trees with but one means of locomotion—his legs—which were weak in comparison with those of many of the other animals. During his half million years, previous to the last one hundred, he had improved on this by the domestication of the ox and the horse, by the stage coach and the building of roads. This was progress, but how small it was in comparison with the seven-leagued boots of steam, electricity and the internal explosion engine!

The hand, man's primitive implement of labor, and the feet, man's primitive means of locomotion, have extended themselves into the locomotive, which F. Paul Goode has computed is able to do in a day an amount of work that is equivalent to the combined efforts of one million workers—a computation which must now be further extended due to the substitution of electricity for steam in this realm of transportation. Man's hands and feet have grown into the airship, on pinions of gasoline defying the elements as its races the sun across the heavens. They have become, through the magic of the machine, a world force that reclaims the deserts; that burrows under mountains, rivers and cities with new arteries of trade; bridges great streams with airy fabrications of steel; goes down into the vitals of the earth, there pressing water and air to do its bidding, to bring its riches to the surface; harnesses the fume and fury of Niagaras into lighting cities and turning the wheels of industries hundreds of miles away.

The voice of man, once lost in the dimness of the jungles, its gibbering echoes awed into silence in the caves, through the magic of the radio, the telephone, the telegraph and the printing press, conquers time and annihilates space. That evanescent voice, once the emblem of all that was transitory, is now made permanent, as permanent as any of the creations of man. It is embalmed on a disc for all the future, with not an accent changed, not an inflection lost.

And all of these, with the exception of the printing press, are the products of the last one hundred years. And can not the printing press as we know it today also be considered the product of the wonder century? Is it not true that the steps from the first articulation of words by the ape-men in the jungles to the hand setting with the crude type of one hundred years ago, when the best printing press in the world, that owned by the "London Times," was able to turn out 550 copies of a four-page paper an hour, were small in comparison with the development from that method of printing to the printing press of the present time which rains 250,000 copies of a sixteen-page paper in two colors, folded and counted, on the conveyors to the mailing room? The monotype, the linotype, engraving with sensitized plates through machinery and acids, the printing from type that never touches paper, are a greater revolution in this means of human communication than all that occurred in the previous history of mankind.

From the time when the first savage burned out the inside of a tree into a canoe to the beginning of the century of the Industrial Revolution, water transportation had developed the wooden ship, depending on the winds and tides, weathering the storms of Tierra del Fuego and the Cape of Good Hope, instead of cutting out the voyage around a continent through Panama and Suez. Then less than one hundred years ago, the hand of labor, armed with the machine, took hold of this means of transportation. Now ocean greyhounds, under the tireless urge of steam, electricity or gasoline, carry passengers into the teeth of the wind, while from their squat stacks they belch smoke in their victorious defiance of the elements. It is less than one hundred years since the first steamship crossed the Atlantic, yet today ocean warehouses ply the channels of trade, equipped with all the labor-saving accessories of steam, electricity and hydraulics, undreamed of one hundred year sago. Lighthouses of concrete flash their beacons, while machines can tell them their location as unerringly as the landsman can tell where he is from the street signs. Recently a ship crossed the Atlantic with no helmsman at the wheel. Steering the ship was a mightier one than any quartermaster, with hands that are tireless and eyes that are unblinking—electricity. Sailors call this new machine the "Metal Mike," but it could be well named "Industrial Revolution."

One hundred years ago ships were made of wood. "Iron does not float." Now ships are of iron and steel, with a consequent decrease of weight for their tonnage of one-third. At the present time the United States is planning a number of ships much larger than any that have ever appeared on the ocean. These ships are to have a capacity of 70,000 tons, with a speed of thirty knots an hour. They will leave New York on Wednesday and arrive in Southampton on Monday. They will be built like hotels, with a bath in each stateroom. There will be suites with two bedrooms, a sitting room, dining room, a private veranda, two bathrooms and two trunk rooms.

One hundred years ago man crept and crawled on the face of the earth, and ventured on the waters, not as master but as the servant of the elements. Now he speeds over the face of the earth and dominates the ocean. The birds have been forced to grant him the supremacy of the air, the fishes the supremacy of the waters. Yet it was about a hundred years ago that the school board of Lancaster, Ohio, asked for the use of the schoolhouse to debate railroads and telegraphs, both of which as yet existed in the realm of thought only, replied:

"You are welcome to the use of the schoolhouse to debate all proper questions in, but such things as railroads and telegraphs are impossibilities and rank infidelities. There is nothing in the word of God about them. If God had designed that his intelligent creatures should travel at the frightful speed of fifteen miles an hour by steam, he would clearly have foretold it through his holy prophets. It is a device of Satan to lead immortal souls to hell."

We are living in a world remade, recreated through the productive power of labor during the last century. Each year now sees more changes than long centuries in the previous history of the race. The evolution of the previous centuries was like the slow arduous production of handicraft. The evolution of the present moves forward with the swiftness, the irresistible power of the machine. And all this is a tribute to the crowning achievements of labor and human ingenuity in harnessing the forces of nature.

Machinery is king. It dominates our lives from their very beginning to their end, and beyond. Our first yell—given before we know how much there is in the world we are entering to yell over—is not silenced before we are wrapped in clothing prepared by the machine. We are put into a machine-made cradle. We are with our first breaths fed machine-milked, machine-pasteurized, machine-bottled and machine-delivered milk, heated on a machine-made stove, burning machine-produced fuel. With the first dawn of consciousness we begin to distinguish between the universe that is I, and the universe that is not I. And the latter is controlled and dominated by the machine, until the machine that is I—heretofore the result of the past environment of the race, or heredity—becomes a part of the present environment of a machine-dominated world.

In a few years we pass through all the phases of the evolution of the race and reach the stage where everything is changed in the environment of the machine and machine production. We go to schools, also machine-made, where we are taught to assimilate the deportment of a machine-produced and machine-controlled civilization, and the knowledge which prepares us to become citizens of a machine-ruled society.

When we enter industry as workers, the environment of the machine, which has unconsciously dominated us in the past, becomes the conscious arbiter of all aur activities. Our thoughts are machine—not tool—thoughts. Our living machines of flesh and blood are meshed into the cogs of the machines of steel and iron. Our pace is set by these tireless auxiliaries of production. Our lives are lived under machine control, as though these lives were themselves stamped out by the machine. Our thoughts are based on the messages that come to us from our five senses, our experiences; and these experiences are experiences of the machine. Off the job our recreations are largely machine-made. Our foods are machine products. Our time is not ours. It is measured out to us by machine-made alarm clocks and the shrieks of machine-made whistles. The Seven Ages of man are all ages of machines, ruled directly or indirectly by the machine.

We become sick. We go to machine-produced hospitals. Our sputum is tested by a machine. Our heartbeats and respiration are made audible by a machine. Our blood pressure is tested by a machine. Our bones are photographed by a machine. We are given machine-made drugs and machine-made diets. We get well and go back to the machine—which in the larger sense we have never left—or we die, and death ends all. But does it! It does not end the domination of the machine. We are put into machine-made, machine-cut and machine-sewn shrouds. We are put away in a machine-made coffin, with machine-made handles. We are rushed to the graveyard in a machine. We are lowered into the grave by a machine. Our ashes are mixed with the dust by machine-made tools. Over our graves, Affection, hearing the insistent "Come and serve me, your king," of the machine, casts machine-produced roses over the mound, and later perhaps there is a machine-made headstone.

Environment, being so potent in moulding the thoughts and feelings of man, in contact from birth with the machine, man indelibly bears its imprint. For this reason the Industrial Revolution is an enormous force which has not only changed the nature of production but man himself. This industrial revolution in the very basis of life is a transformation of our world. It is cosmic in its significance, and its effects now only dimly realized must become a turning point in the stream of life on this planet.

The machine is more than a change in the mode of production. It is a vital and fundamental change in the very life of man. It touches and moulds men in all the relations of life, and if we are to understand the industrial disease of unemployment, we must take the scalpel of facts as we of the working class know them—as experiences, not as abstractions—to probe into the vitals of our present system of machine production and the social reflections of that machine production, in order to trace and understand the cause and cure of the cancerous growths of unemployment that feed on the living tissues of industry.

(To be continued.)

Farming Situation

(Continued from page 1)

value is swallowed up in useless methods of advertising or distribution.

Of course, it may be pointed out that thousands of people are getting a livelihood by engaging in these very distributing occupations. It is very true, but if they are not doing necessary labor they are only curtailing the purchasing power of the primary producers. In modern times it has become more remunerative to be engaged in distribution than in production and that has drawn more and more workers from productive enterprises to swell the ranks of the non-producers, until today the producers are unable to carry the load any further.

The farmers are falling down under the burden. They are leaving the farms and agriculture is in a sad plight.

"Ill fares the land, to hastening ills a prey,
Where wealth accumulates and men decay.
Princes and lords may flourish or may fade,
A breath can make them, as a breath has made.
But a bold peasantry their country's pride
When once destroyed can never be supplied."

(To be continued.)

When the time comes for the meek to inherit the earth, it is likely it will be in such a condition that nobody else would have it.—Columbia Record.

You have supported the Boss long enough, by buying his paper, now, support yourselves. The Federationist is out to help you in your fight. SUPPORT IT.

Timely Topics

WE are told that Canada needs nationality. But how can people grasp the large idea of nationality when they haven't grasped the simpler idea of citizenship, in spite of the lessons in "civics." Anyway, what's the good of feeling national pride or patriotism when you only need it to fight the wars of the master-class, and when the masses of the people have no land or possessions to boast of.

* * *

If the business of breaking rock or clearing land is worth doing at all it is worth paying for in an honest manner, whether it is done by the unemployed or not. The members of the city council are just trying to find out how cheaply the workers can be bribed to submit quietly to the glaring injustice of being dispossessed.

* * *

The war-mongers keep steadily to their trade, and when they are not trying to scare Europe about Germany, they are trying to scare 100 per cent. Americans (and incidentally Canadians) about Japan, who is working day and night at her already immense output. No wonder someone laughted at Morgan the other day when he was instructing his guests how to get rich. The man who laughed was thinking of the profitable game of patriotism.

* * *

According to a well-known political economist, Scott Nearing, "Both the subject matter and the method of the Japanese exclusion bill were direct blows at the pride and the position of Japan." But the struggle that is being forced to a head is not only between America and Japan. Their rivalry only concerns the control of the Pacific. The greatest rivalry of all is between the States and Britain for world power, and up to the present the American bankers control a great portion of Europe, not only financially, but economically .d politically.

* * *

General Griesbach of the Canadian forces declared recently when addressing a military institute: "I take it that as soldiers and citizens loyal to their institutions, you are not prepared to accept the dictatorship of the proletariat . . . whether obtained by constitutional means or by force." So we know what to expect from our comrades of the working class who have been forced into the army for the price of a meal. However, we have a vague idea that the worthy commander is mistaken.

* * *

"We will best maintain peace," he continued, "by frank declaration that communist propaganda carried to its conclusion means war." It is remarkable to hear a professional killer thinking of peace. And no less remarkable to note that he has arrived at a tragic truth. But if a revolution is forced, it will come from the ruling class who prize their economic power above everything else. Not from the workers trying to gain their rights. The majority of the workers don't know that they have any rights to regain, and the rest have waited so long that they feel they can wait longer.

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Scarlet	$11.50	Scarlet	$13.50
White...	$12.00	White...	$14.50
4-Point—Grey.....	$15.00	4-Point—Scarlet	$15.00
Khaki...	$15.00	Green...	$16.00

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Hudson's Bay Company INCORPORATED 2ND MAY 1670

VANCOUVER, B. C.

EDUCATION PAYS

Thirty-three Thousand Dollars Cash Value of Four-Year High School Course.

UNTRAINED HANDICAPPED

Technical School Graduate Starts Work at 22—Average Boy Begins at 14.

Thirty-three thousand dollars is the cash value of a four-year high school course, and $72,000 the cash value of a college or technical training, according to a recent study by Dean Everett W. Lord, of the college of business administration of Boston University. Dean Lord has issued charts showing the maximum earnings of the average untrained man, as compared with those of the high-school graduate and of the college, or technical school graduate. The untrained man, he finds, begins work at 14, reaches his maximum income at 30, receiving on the average less than $1,200 a year, and has earned by the time he is 60 about $45,000. During the four years that would have given him a high school education he earns not more than $2,000.

The high school graduate goes to work at 18, rises to a maximum income of $2,200 a year at 40, and has earned by the time he is 60, about $78,000. By remaining four years in high school, at an immediate loss of $2,000 in earnings, he has increased his total earnings by $33,000.

The college or technical school graduate begins work at 22, rises to a maximum of $6,000 at 60, and earns in all about $150,000.

While the capitalist press is knocking you and your organizations, The Federationist is boosting for you. Which SHOULD get your first consideration? Which IS getting that consideration?

B. C. FEDERATIONIST

Official Organ of the
FEDERATED LABOR PARTY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
Published in the Interests of All Workers

THE party is desirous of making what contribution it can to the betterment of society. It realizes that the most effective method to accomplish this end is by educating the masses through the medium of its press, and likewise the best literature procurable regarding the Labor movement. There is no other means available to the workers to voice their opinions. Work with us to make The Federationist a mighty power for good in Vancouver and throughout British Columbia. Principles, not personalities, are alone desirable.

Contributions for The Federationist are always welcome. Be brief and write on one side of the copy paper. Matter for publication should reach this office by Tuesday. Advertisements received up to Wednesday noon.

You must have The Federationist in the home each week to keep in touch with the City, Provincial and Federal and International Labor Movement.

Subscription Rate: United States and foreign, $3.00 per year; Canada, $2.50 per year, $1.50 for six months.

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HONOR POET'S BIRTHDAY

Vancouver Burns Fellowship Pays Tribute to Burns in Unique Manner.

Vancouver Burns Fellowship fittingly celebrated the birth of Robbie Burns at their first annual banquet, held in Glencoe Lodge on Tuesday evening. One hundred and ten sat down to partake of the typically Scottish fare, which, of course, included a generous portion of haggis, with all the customary trimmings. President P. McA. Carrick made an admirable chairman and toastmaster. The premier toast, "The Immortal Memory," was in the hands of Mr. A. Fraser Reid, secretary of the Fellowship. Mr. Reid's contribution to the success of the evening was fully up to the high standard set by the Fellowship. He discussed freely the diversified nature of the wonderful legacy of poesy and song bequeathed to the Scottish nation by Burns, paying special tribute to the influence of Jean Armour upon the poet's life and career and speaking also of the splendid spirit and kindly good nature which ran so persistently through all of the writings of the poet. Other toasts were honored, the eloquence being of a high order. The musical programme was also of a delightful nature, the whole function being a radical departure from the accepted method of celebrating Burns' nicht in this western country.

A special service, which will be of a memorial nature, will be held under the auspices of the Burns Fellowship in the First Unitarian Church on Sunday evening. Rev. Alex. Thomson will conduct the service, and the lessons will be read from a Scottish Bible. Special soloists and music by Vancouver Scottish Orchestra will feature the service, a rather unusual tribute to the memory of the post.

The closing meeting of the celebration will be held at Glencoe Lodge on Tuesday evening, when President Carrick will contribute a paper on "Tam o' Shanter." There will be special music.

EVERY READER CAN HELP

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.

A baroness of Neuilly entered a lion's cage and recited a poem; not a funny one, yet it kept the lion in a roar.

Mix tin and copper and you have bronze; mix tin and brass and you have a road hog.—Eugene (Oregon) Guard.

After a man has purchased a used car, it is merely a question of which will break down first.

TO THE MEMBERS OF LABOR ORGANIZATIONS

Boost for The Fed.

OUR CIRCULATION IS INCREASING

GET ANOTHER NEW SUBSCRIBER

THE CHOICE OF THE UNIONS

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BURNS' ANNIVERSARY

Heir of Ancient Tradition Champions Cause of Oppressed in Prose and Poetry

PUT CONVENTIONS ASIDE

More Scottish Vernacular Verse Written Since Burns' Time Than Previously

THE 25th of this month brings another anniversary of the birth of Robert Burns, and in accordance with the usual practice, many hundreds in greater Vancouver will eat haggis, and "jazz" enthusiastically in celebration thereof.

Once again he will be hailed as the apostle of contentment, and the supreme advocate of "moderation."

It will again be left to the student of democracy to appreciate the work of Robert Burns, "the rebel," the opponent of privilege, and the lover of national and individual liberty.

We, therefore, offer no excuse for this rapid survey of his work, believing that the best appreciation of Burns is to show him in his true light, and prove him to be, as *Thomas Carlyle* nobly put it, "The Largest Soul in all the British Lands."

Much has been written of Robert Burns. Many have been the critics of his life and work; there has been *loud disputation concerning his character*, the nature and quality of his genius and the position which he occupies in the world of literature; but, withal, generations have worshipped at the shrine of his genius, and the inspiration of his living message to humanity has been the driving force towards the ideal of the Brotherhood of Man, not only in his own country and among his own countrymen, but amongst lovers of liberty the world over.

On the one hand the zeal of enthusiastic admirers for the character of Burns and judicial attempts on the part of others, to analyze the quality of his work, have blinded both to the fearless integrity, the championship of the oppressed, and the nobility of purpose which are the outstanding characteristics of the message he conveyed to his fellows both in prose and poetry.

The most notable illustration of this latter tendency, and one which I will deal with, on account of its denying those things which I now *claim* for Burns, is to be found in the brilliant, but manifestly unjust, and poorly considered essay of the late *Mr. Henley. His theory that Burns* was the last of the old Scots school of poets, in other words, that he was the last poet *in the vernacular prior* to Scottish national characteristics being absorbed and merged in the life and character of the English people is entirely misleading, for such absorption has not even now taken place, nor is it ever likely to.

In order that we may fully realize how far from the truth these theories are let me quote the following from Henley:

"Burns, for all his exhibition of some modern tendencies, was not the founder of a dynasty, but the heir of a flourishing tradition and the last of an ancient line. He is demonstrably the outcome of an environment, and not in any but the narrowest sense the unnatural Birth of Poesy and Time, which he is sometimes held to be. Being a great artist he derives from a numerous ancestry, and like all great artists, he is partly an effect of local and peculiar conditions and partly the product of immediate *and remote forbears. Genius* apart, in fact, he is "ultimus Scotorum," the last expression of the old Scots world *and therewith the culmination of a* school deep-rooted in the past, which by producing such men as Dunbar, Scott, Alexander Montgomery, Ramsay, Ferguson, and the nameless lyrists of the song books, made it possible for him to be."

That such conclusions could be possibly arrived at by so capable a literary authority as Henley is almost beyond comprehension.

There has unquestionably been more vernacular verse written since Burns' time than there was before it, and it has only been kept from ranking higher on account of the overshadowing influence of the magnificence of Burns.

He was therefore the greatest but not the last.

Henley's assertion that Burns was partly an effect of local and peculiar conditions, and partly the product of immediate and remote forebears is correct, but in a different sense from *that which Henley attempts to convey.*

The conditions in which Burns *lived and wrote were entirely different* from those in which his poetic predecessors lived and wrote and the *influence which developed this genius* was more likely that of the grandfather who was out in the '45, and the other maternal relative who died at Aird's Moss fighting for religious liberty, than that of all his literary predecessors.

Dunbar, the greatest Scotch poet prior to Burns, was a begging Franciscan friar, and later a court dependent. Henryson taught his scholars within the sacred precincts of the Abbey of Dunfermline, and beneath the windows of a royal palace.

No student would seriously believe that the gentle shepherds of Allan Ramsay had any marked influence on the man who wrote of the "simple hind whose toil upholds the glittering show." Ferguson, who died early in life, had little which could influence a poet like Burns and the homage *paid by Burns to Ferguson was more* likely due to the unfortunate fate of the latter in whose tribulations Burns saw a parallel to his own.

Scottish poetry prior to Burns and that of Scott who succeeded him, was *mediaeval in character, and was typical* of feudal times. The theme was that of the chase, and the banquet hall, of knight errantry and chivalry, of battle, siege and tourney, and the annals of court intrigue. The characters were mainly of exalted rank, and the people in the mass came only into the picture as retainers.

It were more justifiable to refer to Walter Scott as the culmination of a school deep-rooted in the past.

Henley says Burns was demonstrably the outcome of an environment. So was Henley, so are we all. But how different was the environment of Burns from that of Dunbar and Henryson.

These men were influenced by a Catholic world, semi-scholarly, semi-barbarous, wholly mediaeval. Scott and Montgomery belonged to the turbulent times following the Reformation when the final success of the new doctrines was by no means assured. Burns was born into a protestant, Calvinistic world. As different from theirs as is our own. Where they saw only the surface and fringes of society, Burns, due to the environment of which Henley speaks, *saw society comprehensibly*, and discovered his own class, the working class, that class which had always *figured in the mass, like the chorus* of an opera. He discovered the importance of the common people.

To talk of Burns as the heir of deep-rooted conventions is to be absurd.

He brushed conventions aside. He certainly made use of old modes of expression but then only to express a new conception. He used the old methods to explore an entirely new world, a world of which fragmentary glimpses had been had in the past in "Christ's Kirk in the Green," and Habbie Simpson,, a new world, which was a very old world indeed, the world of the "merry, freenly country folks," and the "poor o'erlaboured wight."

As burden bearers and fechtin' men, they had been there through the centuries, inarticulate.

It needed a ploughman poet to see the peasant correctly, and Burns was the first to come armed with humour, kindly understanding of their woes, and when necessary biting satire and able to present these in a manner most likely to intrigue their understanding. With Burns the people are not subsidiary. With him they are first and foremost, the belted knights and those who made them are to him of no import.

And certes in fair virtue's Heavenly road,
The cottage leaves the palace far behind.
What is a Lordling's pomp, a cumbrous load,
Disguising of the wretch of humankind
Studied in arts of hell, in wickedness refined.

An entirely different conception of the proper order of society from that *of his forerunners. Thus for the* first time the principle was established that "a man's a man."

(To be continued)

The British Broadcasting company *propose to broadcast the cries of wild* fowl. Let's hope they won't get the "bird."

ROYAL

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RE UNEMPLOYMENT

Hundreds of Single Men Throughout the City Looking and Waiting for Jobs

MARRIED MEN AT HOPE

Many Visit Labor Bureau in Search of Work—Prevailing *Conditions Lamentable*

[By John Pickenshovel]

QUITE recently at the Powell street employment bureau, commonly called the "slave market," there appeared on the board the following item: "20 married men for road work at Hope; $3.50 per day; board $1.05 per day. Need blankets."

That item was on the board for over three hours. If it had been a job for single men at the university site for $2.00 per day, it would not have been on the board five minutes. There are hundreds of single men in *rooming houses and hotels throughout* the city who have their blankets rolled up ready to leave for an outside job *at a day's notice, and these* are the men who are told to get out of town. Yet here is a government road job, in order to work at which married men are asked to strip the bedclothes from their wives and families. Of course, the lack of judgment, as revealed in this instance, is on a par with the rest of the present provincial government's maladministration, and will continue so long as the people will stand for it.

Mr. J. H. McVety, superintendent of the provincial government employment bureau, reported recently to have made the following statement in regard to the single unemployed men in our midst.

"We have enough work started now *to look after our own men unemployed* and it is mostly men from other cities of Canada who have come here *who are now out of work.*"

In reply to such a statement all we have to say is that he is either stating what he knows to be a deliberate falsehood, or he has no knowledge whatsoever of the conditions whereof he speaks. The writer has been a resident of this province for a large number of years and is acquainted with many of the single men who like himslf visit the employment bureau in search of work. The conditions that prevail are lamentable enough without them being made worse by the mistatements of McVety or any government hireling. *If the Minister of Labor* is interested in preventing his department from debasement, he might well *dispense with the services of such* individuals, and substitute therefor men having greater competency to provide the public with correct information.

Judge—I understand you prefer charges against this man? Grocer—No, sir. I prefer cash, and that is what I had him brought here for.

Mere cash seems to mean nothing to the lords of Cashmere.—New York Herald Tribune.

Dr. Gallant, Chiropractor, 712 Robson

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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.

Rastus—What for yuh keeps your daug muzzled? Sambo—Dat's to give him courage in hisself.

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

DR. FORSYTHE, PALMER GRADUATE Chiropractor, 709 Dunsmuir St.; 10 till 6. Sey. 6798. Evgs. by appt.; Sundays, 3 till 4.

At a recent baby show, all the competitors were awarded a first prize. The judges were so busy they had not got a second to spare.

TENDERS FOR VALVES

THE undersigned will receive tenders up to 12 o'clock noon, Tuesday, February the 10th next, for the supply of the following:

25 6-inch Valves.
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Purchasing Agent.

Manifesto and Platform

—OF THE—

Federated Labor Party of B.C.

THE FEDERATED LABOR PARTY is organized for the purpose of securing industrial legislation, and the collective ownership and democratic control of the means of wealth production.

Private ownership of the means of wealth production (lands, forests, mines, fisheries, mills and factories), is the basis of the present system of society. The ownership of these natural resources and the machinery of production is vested in a small minority of the people, who, because of this ownership, constitute the real rulers of the country—the ruling class.

This class ownership of the means of life, with the restrictions and appropriation of the fruits of labor necessarily following it, is the root cause of the present insecurity and privation suffered by the working class.

The large majority of the people—the working class—being property less, must obtain the necessities of life through the only channel open to them, i.e., by selling their labor power. The only condition upon which they can do so is that a profit must accrue to the owning class from the process. Profits for the few and not the needs of the many is the motive underlying production.

The farmer, despite the semblance of ownership which appears from the occupancy of the land and the machinery with which he works it, is in approximately the same position as the propertyless wage-worker. The wage-worker sells his labor power direct to the capitalist class for a price (wages), and that which he produces belongs to the party employing him or her. The farmer converts his labor power into other commodities, (wheat, oats, etc.), which he must dispose of in the open market, having little or no control over the disposal of his product. The result of his toil passes into the hands of the capitalist class in rent, interest and profit just as surely and completely as does the product of the labor of the wage-worker, which he (the wage-worker) leaves in the mill or factory when the whistle blows at the end of the day.

The production and distribution of the things essential to our needs has reached a stage of development in which it requires the active cooperation of practically all the productive forces in society; social production has superseded individual production. Our ultimate objective is, therefore, the collective ownership of things collectively produced and collectively used. The need and well-being of society must be the regulator of production.

The present ruling class maintains its ownership in the means of life and consequent exploitation of the workers through its control of the powers of the state. This present system of government is controlled by the same class which controls the industries and hence is used in their interests. Under these conditions the welfare of the masses is a subordinate consideration.

Realizing this, it logically follows that the working class can not improve their condition in any permanent way until they assume the powers and functions of the state. This can be accomplished in this country by taking advantage of our political privileges and electing working-class representatives to all legislative and administrative bodies. The working class itself must be its own emancipator.

Taking into consideration the international aspect of the development of capitalism and the interdependence of each country upon all other countries for even the partial functioning of the productive forces that obtain to-day, we realize the impossibility of the working class of any one country—even if the entire government was within its control—formulating and carrying out, unaided, a complete programme of socialisation. We therefore pledge our support and cooperation to all groups, of whatever nationality, having similar aims.

The Federated Labor Party will support all legislative measures having for their purpose the betterment of the condition of the working class, but we maintain, that so long as the workers are content to sell their life's energy in the market they must accept the conditions which the fluctuation of that market entails.

The present productive forces of society are quite sufficient to supply our every need and comfort; but the present system of production and appropriation denies to the great mass of the people the bare necessities of life. While the few revel in wealth and luxury, millions are done to death by slow starvation. Knowledge of the cause of this phenomenon is absolutely essential to intelligent action.

Class ownership of the means of production; class appropriation of the social product of labor, is the cause of this denial to the workers of an opportunity to participate in the fruits of their labor.

Collective ownership of the means of production; social appropriation of that which is socially produced, is the only means to end exploitation.

In the foregoing we have given an outline as brief and concise as possible of the basis of present-day society.

The Federated Labor party as a socialist party holds that the difficulties which the working class is laboring under can only be removed by a change in our economic system. For this reason we do not put *forward any lengthy list of immediate aims.*

By working class we mean all of the people who must labor by hand or by brain and have no other means of support.

The function of the party is to organize and educate the workers along political lines as the surest and safest way to get control of the powers of government. Once having secured that power it will be used to liberate where it is now used to oppress.

Changes come slowly as the people learn slowly and to try and force changes before the mass of the people are ready for them will ony defeat the end we have in view.

Before the workers can advance to power they must gain confidence in their own ability as organizers, legislators and administrators; and the best way to create that confidence is by contesting the election to every elective office.

On the platform, around the council table or in the legislature we shall put forward and work for the passing of such reforms as the workers think necessary for the strengthening of their position, but our ultimate goal is the socialist state.

Federated Labor Party of B. C.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

I, the undersigned, endorse and subscribe to the furtherance of the declared objects of the Party and agree to be governed by the Constitution thereof.

Name .....

Address .....

Phone No. .....*Occupation*.....

Proposed by.....

Date .....