

BRITISH COLUMBIA FEDERATIONIST

INDUSTRIAL UNITY: STRENGTH

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE FEDERATED LABOR PARTY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
PUBLISHED IN INTERESTS OF ALL WORKERS

POLITICAL UNITY: VICTORY

SEVENTEENTH YEAR. No. 19. FOUR PAGES

VANCOUVER, B. C., FRIDAY MORNING, MAY 8, 1925

5c A COPY

THE HUMAN TRAGEDY WAGES AGREEMENT

Fra Giovanni, the Franciscan Monk, Poor, Merry-Hearted, Obedient and Dutiful.

ANATOLE FRANCE'S WORKS

His Strange Tale of Making the Prince of Darkness Contrive Monk's Escape.

EVERYONE has surely read some of Anatole France's works, more especially since he attained the nobility of death. His books are indeed, worthy of careful study; for the author was an artist, a thinker, and one of those who have taken up the cause of "the people".

In his book, "The Human Tragedy," he portrays a pilgrim's progress—not from earth to heaven, but from thoughtlessness and blind sympathy.

Fra Giovanni is a Franciscan monk, poor and merry-hearted, obedient and dutiful. "He was afraid to act, for is not all effort painful and useless? He was afraid to think, for thought is evil." He was an unprofitable follower of the Order; he obeyed literally the teachings of the Founder. Never the less, he was happy with a happiness of his own.

Unfortunately, the Evil One (in whom all good folks believed in those days) took notice of him. And Satan meditated somewhat as follows: "I will tempt these monks, telling them what is hid from them by Him who is their Friend. I will utter to them words of reason, they will be unhappy, for peace is only to be found in ignorance... And they shall call me the Prince of Darkness, because my kingdom is of this world. And I shall tell them that the tree of their Charity bears bitter fruit." Then said Satan to Fra Giovanni: "If it is true you despise the goods of this world?" And Fra Giovanni answered: "I do despise them." And Satan replied: "Look you, in scorning these, you are scorning the hard-working men who produce them." But the monk does not understand until later he encounters a quarryman dragging great stones from the side of mountain, and to whom he says (after his custom): "Peace be with you." "I shall have no peace till I am dead... I hate out stones from dawn to dark and all I get is a scrap of black bread. Then when my arms are no longer as strong as the stones of the mountain and my body is all worn out, I shall perish of hunger." (And so it is today; the producer and the industrial worker keep only bare necessities for themselves as long as they are able to work. When they can no longer work, they do not keep even bare necessities.)

Says the monk after contemplating his hitherto unsuspected aspect of life, "Labor shall be joyful thing when it is no longer paid. 'Tis gold only that makes the sharing uneven. In the days to come there shall be neither rich nor poor." The quarryman replies: "I shall not see the end of my miseries, for I am going to die of hunger and exhaustion. But I shall have beheld the dawn of the day of Justice."

In Fra Giovanni's city, there was a brotherhood composed of judges, merchants, money-changers, doctors and ex-soldiers, and their brotherhood was called the "Friends of Order," for it was their aim to persuade the poor to follow goodness and good order, to the end that no changes should be made in the constitution. At their monthly meetings, they congratulated any serving maid that served their masters without receiving wages, and spoke highly of the old men who, having no bread to eat, did not ask for any.

And when Fra Giovanni criticised this, he was severely lectured by the "dean of the order": "Goodness is to support the established order of things and to be ready to fly to arms to defend the same; for the duty of the poor is to defend the good things belonging to the rich, etc.

The monk has other ideas about goodness, and so he is thrown into prison for being a disturber of the peace, although his intentions were as peaceable as any "conscientious objector" of the last war. And while he is in prison, he is visited by his old friend the devil, who endeavors out of the goodness of his heart, to shew him a few truths. For instance, he quarrels with Fra Giovanni's acquiescence in his approaching martyrdom: "Men are intensely sensitive to the sounds that the lips utter; they will let themselves be killed for the sake of words that are devoid of meaning." And that night the monk had a dream; he saw the most beautiful rose-window such as churches have, that he had ever seen. And therein was depicted in every possible shade and hue, multitudes of figures of all classes and from all ages; and each one bore a device. These devices were all different and most of them were contradictory, but they were all "truths." And then our monk heard a voice which declared: "Whatsoever a man has thought or believed in his brief lifetime is a parcel of this 'Infinite tru' knaves, who make the mass of mankind, participate in some sort in that—even the maxims of fools and knowledge of good and evil, O Satan."

general and universal Truth—which is absolute, everlasting and divine."

Anatole France concludes his strange tale by making the Prince of Darkness contrive the monk's escape from prison... and his full entry into life. So that he learns to appreciate what he has never appreciated before, the cool sweet air, the fruitful valley and those who people it.

And to the archangel, who has given him happiness and unhappiness thus, he says, in conclusion: "You are my misery, my pride, my joy, and my sorrow; the splendor and the cruelty of things created. For verily your promise in the Garden, in the dawn of the world's days, was not vain, and I have tasted the fruit of knaves, who make the mass of mankind, participate in some sort in that—even the maxims of fools and knowledge of good and evil, O Satan."

ANNUAL CONVENTION

Statement of Carpenters' Unions on Dispute With Contractors' Association.

FEEL QUITE JUSTIFIED

In Making Stand Against Employers Not Paying a Fair Wage.

MORE than a year ago, the Carpenters' unions concluded an agreement with the Contractors' association for an increase of wages from \$6.50 to \$7 a day, to take effect on the first day of June, 1924.

Clause 3 of this agreement reads as follows: "The minimum rate of wages from June 1st, 1924, shall not be less than 87½ cents per hour, and shall hold good without change until May 2nd, 1925. In case of either the Contractors' associations or the Joint carpenters' organizations or the Joint carpenters' organizations wishing to open up the question of wages, notice of such intention shall be given by either party at least 30 days prior to May 31st, 1925.

The contractors engaged on work for the dominion government not being members of the Contractors' association did not put the increase into effect immediately, and this caused some dissension amongst the contractors. The fair wages officer was appealed to, and he declared for the \$7 rate as from August 15th, 1924.

On September 15th, 1924, the General Contractors' association notified the carpenters that the wages would be cut to \$6.50 a day (in spite of the agreement) and some of them put the cut into effect right away. At that time both the dominion and the provincial departments of labor stated that the contractors had violated their agreement.

Last fall the contractors asked the dominion fair wages officer to take another survey of the district and the fair wages officer gave his ruling for \$6.50 a day. A week or so later the provincial department of labor made a survey and decided that \$7 was the rate being paid, and, in our opinion, at no time since June 1st, last, has more than 50% of the carpenters been working for \$6.50 a day. The last survey of the dominion department of labor is about two months old and certainly cannot be taken to apply to conditions today.

In view of the fact that a majority of the Carpenters in the district have been getting \$7 per day since June 1st, last, and also remembering that the General Contractors' association who made the agreement were the first to cut the wages and that the majority of men working for contractors outside the association are today getting the \$7 rate, the carpenters feel quite justified in making a stand at the present time against those contractors who are not paying a fair wage.

Reports From Russia

T. A. Barnard, the popular bookseller of Nanaimo, has just received a number of official reports of the British Trade Union delegates to Russia. The book contains 234 pages with illustrations and maps, the price for which, post free, is \$1.50.

Anniversary Number

The "Third Anniversary Number" of the British Columbian Musician, appears this week. Ernest C. Miller, editor; Edward Jamieson, managing editor, and Fred Fletcher, advertising manager, had the work in charge, and they certainly made a good job of it. The letter press is all that could be desired by the musicians and their hosts of friends. The paper contains 16 pages and is liberally patronized by advertisers, which makes this popular trades union journal look prosperous, being well printed in photo brown ink.

Only a few days ago I was where they wrench the precious metals from the miserly clutch of the rocks. When I saw the mountains, treeless, shrubless, flowerless, without even a spire of grass, it seemed to me that gold had the same effect upon the country that holds it as upon the man who lives and labors only for it. It affects the land as it does the man. It leaves the heart barren, without a flower of kindness, without blossoms of pity.—Ingersoll.

The oppressor is a waster and a destroyer, and the righteous man is one who buildeth up.—Syrian proverb.

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MEANDERINGS

[By Our Peripatetic Pagan]

Decides That C. L. P. Shall Not Have Power to Form Local Branches.

W. H. COTTRELL CHAIRMAN

Efforts To Be Made to Contest Every Seat in B. C. in Federal Election.

THE second annual convention of the Canadian Labor Party opened at 3 o'clock on Saturday, May 2nd, in the Holden building, with about fifty delegates present.

The delegates represented industrial and political labor organizations in Vancouver.

The only delegates from outside Greater Vancouver were delegate McCormick from New Westminster, and Jack Logie, representing the Summerland local of the Federated Labor Party.

The first discussion took place on the seating of delegates from the city wards and South Vancouver that were organized as groups of the Canadian Labor Party. It was held that the parties being formed in violation of the constitution were not eligible as delegates.

After some discussion the delegates were seated.

Several amendments and additions to the constitution were recommended by the executive. These were then taken up seriatim. It was soon apparent that a difference of opinion existed among the delegates as to what the composition and function of the party was to be. This was referred to the resolution committee. The convention adjourned at 6 p.m. to meet again on Sunday morning at 10 a.m.

The clause referred to the resolution committee was then taken up and it was finally decided that the party will consist of affiliated units and shall not have the power to form local branches of the Canadian Labor Party. But there is nothing to prevent groups in any locality to form local organizations and affiliate with the C. L. P. if they cannot see their way clear to form a branch of any of the existing political labor parties.

The afternoon session on Sunday was taken up with discussion of various resolutions.

A recommendation from the executive that every effort be made to contest every seat in the province in the coming federal election was concurred in.

W. H. Cottrell was re-elected chairman. Delegate F. A. Hoover, R. H. Neelands, and J. Flynn were elected to the executive board for the Lower Mainland. Four others to be appointed from the rest of the Province, Delegate John Sidaway, of the Street Railways was elected secretary-treasurer.

The poor fools who fetter the limbs of freedom's martyrs do not know that the spirit of liberty cannot be confined with chains.—Walter Hunt.

What is difficulty? Only a word indicating the degree of strength requisite for accomplishing particular objects; a mere notice of the necessity for exertion; a bugbear to children and fools; only a stimulant to men.—Warren.

The war... between privilege and the people is the soul of all revolutions and the formula of history.—Mazzini.

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Phillip Snowden has a few caustic remarks on the real burdens of industry. Note this: "The cost of bringing goods from Manchester to London is just double the cost from Germany to Manchester via London; but, of course, profits must be made to pay

The House of Peers (or whatever is the proper name for it) of Japan are hot on the trail of all socialist and radical propaganda and have passed a Peace Preservation act. It is suggested that if you agree with the imperialism of absolute monarchs who knew that there was no appeal from their ruthless decrees. This settlement is the joint ukase of King Dolard and King Stirling."

The choke of the capitalist is tightening and what the Midases demand has to be. Here is a paragraph on this subject which has been kept very close from the British public and the world in general by the careful tact of the British press. This is what Lloyd George speaking on the Dawes report said last year: "Agreement would never have been reached without the brusque and brutal intervention of international bankers. They swept statesmen, politicians, priests and journalists, all on one side, and issued their orders with the imperiousness of absolute monarchs who knew that there was no appeal from their ruthless decrees. This settlement is the joint ukase of King Dolard and King Stirling."

The Duplex of Staffs for Commons and Senate.

DEPARTMENTS OVERLAP

Three Sets of Officials and Three Groups of Equipment All for One Purpose.

IN Ottawa we see on every side indications of inefficiency and extravagance. The other day Mr. W. E. MacLean spoke incidentally of the duplex staffs for the house of commons and the senate.

"Coming in the center door of the parliament buildings, under the tower, what do I see? Duplex post offices, double-manned with two postmasters and two deputy postmasters—one for the house and one for the senate—and double sorters in the two offices. Further, a duplex system of accountancy and a battery of timekeepers on members and senators, and a double staff of writers of indemnity cheques for the two houses, also duplicate barber shops, duplicate Hand-sard staffs, and duplicate messenger staffs."

Such duplication is by no means confined to the capital. A little earlier in the session Mr. Shaw of Calgary, illustrated the situation:

"Take the important public service of dredging. That was carried on two years ago by three departments of government, the public works department, the marine and fisheries department, and the railways and canals department. Each department has certain jurisdiction in the St. Lawrence river. The St. Lawrence ship channel, the middle of that river, up and down, is dredged by the marine and fisheries department. From the boundaries of the channel to the boundaries of the river on either side the dredging is done by the public works department; whereas the harbors are dredged by the railways and canals department.

"I have heard that these three departments met at Port Nelson on Hudson bay to do dredging up there. Each

are oblivious of the fact that too many lawyers, or too many storekeepers, or too many commercial travellers, are just as expensive and just as big a burden on the working population as an equal number of civil servants. This great burden of the parasites hangs over us all, though most are utterly unconscious of it, or at best see only portion of it. The progressives see that the Canadian manufacturers are living on the rest of the citizens; they do not see very clearly that if under free trade they got implements and supplies cheaper, and farming became more prosperous, that the price of land and rents, etc., would go up, and the land lord parasites would absorb, what the manufacturers had been forced to disgorge.

It is highly amusing to read in the press, of the vagaries of those who are urging Oriental exclusion. Dr. Clem Davies of Victoria recently urged as a remedy the refusing to purchase goods from Oriental tradesmen. He stated that: "If sufficient people refuse to patronize the Chinese and Japanese, they will ultimately be forced from the country." All of which is just pure bunkum. The Orientals were here long before they became a "menace" to the petty merchant. They were then on the labor market, and the inevitable result of a policy such as the reverent gentleman from Victoria suggests would be for the Oriental merchant to again enter the labor market in competition with those already there. If the government tax the C. P. R. \$1000 for every Oriental they bring into the country. If that was done, there would soon be a stop put to Oriental immigration.

What a furore has been created in Europe over the communists' activities on May day. The press has been "boozed" up on it for a week. The communists all over Europe were according to the "responsible" papers that we read daily, all loaded up with bombs ready for the occasion. Well there were bombs, alright, the police arrested them and so did all their stooges. The aeroplanes hovered over European cities ready to drop them on anything that looked like a communist gathering. Meetings were broken up by the police and other "disturbers" of peaceful gatherings and the leaders arrested. The jails are consequently full of men whose only crime was trying to convey ideas (bombs) for a new social order to the minds of the workers. It is, in a manner, nothing new for the authorities to place such men behind prison bars, and this is to be expected—for the main function of prison bars, under this order of society, is to keep the working class in and the capitalist class out.

But despite the precautions taken, the ideas of international solidarity were bursting with explosive effect the world over. What the workers are thinking today is gathering a momentum that will some day shatter the chains that enslave them. This is what the master class fears, and in the desperation born of such fears, they will use any means that will extinguish, if possible, any and all who dare to think in terms of justice. But do as it may, it can neither stop the workers thinking, or from crystallizing their thoughts into action.

There is a tremendous lot of work needed in Canada today. Work on our farms, work to preserve and extend our forests, great irrigation projects that would employ thousands in construction work, and whose effect would be to increase the farming produce enormously, and to support millions in comfort. But we cannot attempt these things whilst the workers have to carry a great load of parasites.

Spray early and spray often is our

only hope and do not fool with cheap imitation sprays.

From each according to his abilities, to each according to his services, is a first rate receipt; use it.

WASTE AT OTTAWA NOT ENOUGH WORK DOUKHOBOR SEIZURE

Indications of Efficiency and Extravagance—Duplex of Staffs for Commons and Senate.

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British Columbia Federationist

Published every Friday by
The British Columbia Federationist
Business and Editorial Office, 1139 Howe St.
The policy of The B. C. Federationist is
controlled by the editorial board of the
Federated Labor Party of British Columbia.
Subscription Rate: United States and Foreign, \$3.00 per year; Canada, \$2.00 per year; \$1.00 for six months; to U.S. subscribers in a body, 10c per member per month.



The Federationist is on sale at the following news stands:

VANCOUVER.....940 Granville Street

E. J. GALLOWAY.....1071 Granville Street

P. O. NEWS STAND.....325 Granville Street

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FRIDAY.....May 8, 1925

C. L. P. CONVENTION

THE second annual convention of the Canadian Labor Party, which met over the week-end, marks another step forward in the determination of the working class to make their influence felt in the government of the country.

While no matter of vital importance to the working class was discussed, except the question of organization, it was apparent that the delegates were keenly interested in what should be the function of the party, and what part it is allotted to play in the future activities of the workers of this province.

One good arising out of the convention was the defining of the status of the party; this being done, there is every indication that its work can be proceeded with, with much less friction than was the case for the last six months.

While there was much room for improvement, we are not at all dissatisfied or discouraged with the routine or results of the convention.

Unlike previous conventions that we have known, this one was not conspicuous by the presence of a few outstanding personalities who monopolized the most of the time in discussion. On this occasion the discussion was well distributed among the various delegates.

A work of colossal magnitude confronts the working class, and it can be performed by none other. We would appeal to the members of the Federated Labor Party to increase their activities in the matter of education and organization; and we would ask all who agree with our principles to get into the party without delay and make your influence felt in the labor movement. However, if you cannot see your way clear to join the Federated Labor Party, join some working class party.

It does not benefit the labor movement any what your understanding and knowledge of its problems may be, or what ability you may have, unless that understanding and ability is used in co-operation with your fellows. Numbers organized, guided by understanding, spells success. Get into the fight now.

BLIND BROOM-MAKERS

SINCE the B. C. Federationist has taken up the cause of the blind men, the sweating process at the C. N. I. B. broom factory seems to have been slightly modified, but the main point, namely, a reasonable wage for the workers, is entirely ignored. This factory is supposed to be established for the benefit of the blind men. Brooms made by blind men are extensively advertised, and by using the affliction of the men as a drawing card for the sale of their brooms, without giving the blind men their share of the money granted each

year by the government, seems to us to be a camouflage of the worst kind.

The sighted men are the only ones receiving enough to live on, except it be one or two of the broom-makers who are working themselves to death to earn a possible \$15 in thirty-two hours, and we look for the management to make a change whereby all these workers shall receive better pay, or else shall continue to put before the public contrary, which, in our opinion, in some cases will show heartless management and in other cases no management at all. The law allows a minimum wage for factory girls. Why should blind men with families depending on them be made victims of this broom factory, simply because there is no law to protect them? This paper reaches far more homes and far more business men than is generally supposed, and we will continue to publish facts, whether it looks good in print or not, until the men get justice or the factory is closed and a pension given.

HINDENBURG!

THE people of the world have had their eyes upon Germany for some time lately, wondering what would be the results of the elections. They felt that it was a race between the reactionary element on the one hand and bolshevism on the other.

Our reactionary friends are in rather an unpleasant position. They have no love, for the "war lord." They have constantly raised a hue and cry against German militarism. Now,

since they feel that Germany is safe from bolshevism for a time at least, they give thanks that their enemy—the chief of their enemies—is in power again.

Of this they can rest assured, however, that Hindenburg, nor any of his kind, no matter from what nationality they may arise, can ever stem the tide of human progress for any great period of time. They may browbeat, they may kill, they may imprison those who see the dawning of the new day for the great masses of the people, not alone in Germany, but in the whole world, but they can never stop the wheels of social progress. When the people as a whole have reached that stage of enlightenment which will enable them to see the ridiculousness of the present social order, we can rest assured that no one can resist the change, not even the mighty war horse, Hindenburg, himself. Our reactionary friends need find no solace there.

- EVOLUTION -**[Nemesis]**

In dealing with the subject of evolution, we must first clearly define in our minds what evolution is, or we shall not be able to think logically of it.

Evolution is neither a force nor a principle, but the sum total of the series of effects produced through the ages by the working of law since the remote epoch when matter probably began to materialize from the universal ether.

Neither can we deal satisfactorily with this sum total of effects without postulating the existence of universal and governing Mind.

The primary and fundamental principles of the whole of things would seem to be Mind and ether. We can think of nothing else as being boundless, omnipresent and eternally absolute. We cannot imagine their creation, so must consider them as eternal facts, that is, without beginning and without end.

To the finite mind this, at first, is a difficult conception; yet it is more difficult still, indeed absolutely impossible, to imagine their creation.

We cannot imagine an empty universe nor a universe with limits in space, and can think of nothing except Mind and ether as entirely pervading it.

While we can logically speak of the quantity of matter, force and energy in the universe, we cannot thus limit even in our thoughts the fundamental, eternal realities of Mind and ether. As we cannot think of a limited space, neither can we limit, in our thoughts, the things which occupy that space.

From this fundamental and dual existence, we must believe that all things, conceived by the senses, have evolved and, though those senses reveal to us only an infinitesimal fraction of the things which exist, and those only dimly, we must accept them as sure guides, as far as they go, and rely upon reason and imagination to grasp—the appearance of life. It has been suggested that it made its appearance associated with the simplest form of living matter we know, the single cell; and if that be so its appearance was a distinct creation, a momentous miracle, which can only be explained by the existence of creative mind.

To this we must hold even if the first pulse of life appeared in some elementary, structureless form of matter, which afterwards developed into the comparatively complex unicellular organism.

The mystery can only be explained by the hypothesis of a distinct creation by external Mind.

After the primal appearance of life, the subsequent developments are explicable only on the hypothesis of the operations not only of creative mind but also prescient Mind.

The first thing to notice is the appearance of two distinct forms of life, at first barely distinguishable, but ultimately to develop into quite distinct forms, that is, the vegetable and animal organisms.

When we consider the higher form, the animal kingdom is entirely dependent either directly or indirectly upon the lower form, we can trace the working of this prescient Mind in the long and logical miracle we are considering.

By no other hypothesis can we explain these two distinct forms of life. Also when we consider that some of the primal forms of life have remained in their first simple appearance, mere cells, through all the ages of development while others have developed into the complex organisms as we know them today, and considering also that these lowly forms of life play an indispensable part in the working of the whole scheme, as for instance, the functioning of bacteria in the soil, it becomes evident to the most obtuse intellect that prescient Mind has directed the whole of this long and logical creation.

We must assume that varying potentialities were endowed in the primal cells as we cannot account by any process of logic, for some developing into complex beings and others retaining through the ages their primal form, and these varying potentialities, we can only ascribe to the presence and operation of prescient and governing Mind.

The next unsolvable mystery that presents itself in both forms of life, is the dual mystery of sex, the two distinct life principles each dependent on the other for fulfillment. There is no explanation to be suggested for this dual mystery, but as we see this dual principle exhibited in other ways, as, for instance, in electrical phenomena, it may be that in the innermost and undiscovered recesses of Nature there may be a connection, yet undreamed of, but which may ultimately be revealed to us.

In considering the truth of the theory of evolution, as there are still interested people and automatic thinkers who pretend to, and do honestly question it, we can dismiss from the argument similarity of structure as being merely a corroborative but not a convincing support.

But when we review the amazing facts revealed by the embryologist we see at once why its opponents are left without a shred of logical argument in their favor. What possible explanation can be offered, except that of the evolutionist, for the significant forms of prenatal existence exhibited in all animal life? Added to this the significance of useless vestigial remains may well leave the opponent of the theory pale and dumb. There is only one deduction to be drawn from such premises.

We read that the embryologist has discovered that, during the first five weeks of prenatal life, the embryo passes through eight distinct changes of form, each being represented among the living organisms today, but which has become "fixed" and set in its habits and organization.

How can we possibly account for some organisms stopping permanently at a certain stage of development, while others developed into higher and higher forms, culminatingulti-

mately in man himself? Only surely on the assumptions that present Mind endowed the latter, at the hour of creation, with a greater power of development.

If each of these eight distinct stages of existence noted in the first five weeks of prenatal life, represents an ancient adult life of the organism, has embryology no record of the intermediate forms between these distinct stages, or are we to number them as innumerable "missing links" or to assume that there was a "sudden leap" between these appearances? In either case we must acknowledge order, preexistence and creative power. Mere chance could have played no part in such a development for development implies order and design.

In some cases it seems that the theory of a "sudden leap" is, so far, the only explanation that can be advanced to account for the developments. And here again, as a "sudden leap" is a species of creation we must acknowledge, and bow our heads to creative and prescient Mind, the almighty architect and builder of the Universe.

In conclusion, let us acknowledge with gratitude and gladness, the debt we owe to Darwin, Wallace, and the old pioneers in the science of evolution; but also to the later biologists and embryologists who are completing their work for these geniuses have revealed to us the order, the beauty and the magnitude of the work of creative Mind, which work, while finding the imagination, convinces the reason, leaving no jarring doubts or puzzling difficulties of faith in which to founder.

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. S. KING: Unemployment is terribly high in Vancouver at present. We have heard 25,000 given as the figure. Still the fresh-comers stream in!

J. LLOYD: (a) According to Tom Johnstone, M.P., Dundee, there are five millions of acres out of a total of nineteen million devoted entirely to sport; that between 1920 and 1924 the number of acres under cultivation decreased by 107,121. The above refer to Scotland and apply to your enquiry. (b) We have no references accessible to figures thus far.

S. ROBB: The Riff tribesmen are most certainly worthy of sympathy. The robbery of lands and wholesale murdering of native populations will bring a terrible karma in due season to the white races who have enacted these doings, and they all have.

TAME VERSE JERKER: By all means send us in some of your verse. We socialists need for the cause vigorous poetry and stirring music.

POLL TAX: Goodness only knows where this taxation will end, but be sure the unfortunate worker is the one who pays. The remedy, stir yourself; see your neighbor, your uncles, cousins, aunts, all people you know; let their opinions be felt at all elections, then we will alter things.

CONSTANT ADVERTISING

One word won't tell folks who you are. You've got to keep on talking. One step won't take you very far. You've got to keep on walking. An inch won't make you very tall. You've got to keep on growing. One little ad. won't do at all. You've got to keep them going.

A constant drop of water: Wears away the hardest stone; Mastacates the toughest bone; The constant cooling lover Carries off the blushing maid; And the constant advertiser Is the one that gets the trade.

—Winnipeg Weekly News

The working class is the only class which is not a class. It is the nation; it represents, so to speak, the body as a whole, of which the other classes only represent special organs.—Frederick Harrison

There are 20,788 public elementary schools in England and Wales.

POSTAGE STAMPS

CASH PAID FOR OLD POSTAGE STAMPS—Especially on original envelopes; do not detach, but send entire envelope by registered mail to Adelbert Porter, Santa Ana, California.

"MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS"**A SUGGESTION TO TIRED FARMERS**

THOSE individuals, or groups, wishing to get pamphlets which have just recently been printed are urged to send in their orders at once. There are only a limited number printed. They are the following:

WOMAN AND WAR
By Mrs. Rose Henderson
10 cents.

MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS
By George F. Stirling
5 cents.

These pamphlets are well written. They contain a wealth of information, and are, to say the very least, thought-provoking.

Send in Your Orders at Once
You Cannot Afford To Be
Without Them

DEAF? Deaf?

NOW you can mingle with your friends without that embarrassment which every deaf person suffers. Now you can take your place in the social business worlds to which your talents entitle you, and from which your affliction has heretofore excluded you. Inasmuch as over 500,000 users have testified to the wonderful results obtained from the "Acoustic," we feel perfectly safe in urging every deaf person, without a penny of expense, to accept the

"ACOUSTICON" For 10 Days' Free Trial**PITMAN OPTICAL HOUSE**

EVERYTHING FOR THE EYE AND EAR

We Are Now Selling the
ORIGINAL NANAIMO-
WELLINGTON
COAL

From the old WAKESIAH SEAM. This coal is far superior to any mined on Vancouver Island to day, having More Heat, Less Ash, and contains No Rock, No Shale and No Clinkers. If this coal is not satisfactory in every respect, your money will be cheerfully refunded.

A Trial Will Convince Every Consumer
ALL WHITE HELP

Leslie Coal Co. Ltd.

944 BEACH AVE.
Phone Sey. 7137



TENDERS FOR COAL

SEALED TENDERS, addressed to the Purchasing Agent, Department of Public Works, Ottawa, will be received by him until 12 o'clock noon (daylight saving), Thursday, May 14, 1925, for the supply of coal for the Dominion Buildings and Experimental Farms and Stations throughout the Provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia and at Kenora, Ontario.

Forms of tender with specifications and conditions attached can be obtained from G. W. Dawson, Purchasing Agent, Department of Public Works, Ottawa; J. E. Gurney, Sup't of Dominion Buildings, Winnipeg; J. E. Mathewson, District Resident Architect, Winnipeg; Man.; G. J. Stephenson, District Resident Architect, Regina, Sask.; J. M. Stevenson, District Resident Architect, Calgary; J. C. Wright, Supt. of Public Buildings, Vancouver; D. G. Brown, District Resident Architect, Victoria, B. C., and from the Superintendent of Experimental Farms and Stations, and the Cartwrights of the various Dominion Buildings in the said provinces, outside of Winnipeg, Regina, Calgary, Vancouver and Victoria.

Tenders will not be considered unless made on these forms.

The tender must be made from the successful tenderer a deposit, not exceeding 10 per cent. of the value of the contract, to secure the proper fulfillment of the contract, is reserved.

By order,
G. E. O'BRIEN,
Secretary.

Department of Public Works,
Ottawa, April 20, 1925.

CORPORATION OF POINT GREY

TENDERS FOR PAVING

SEALED TENDERS, addressed to the undersigned, will be received by the Council up to 8 p.m. on Monday, May 11th, for paving and curbing on the following streets:

44th Avenue—East Boulevard to Maple Street.
45th Avenue—Angus Avenue to Granville Street.

Aders Street—45th Avenue to 49th Avenue.
MacLennan Street—31st Avenue to 37th Avenue.

Forms of tender, specifications and full information may be obtained on application to the Municipal Engineer on payment of the sum of \$5.00, which will be returned on receipt of a bona fide tender.

A certified cheque of ten (10) per cent. of the amount tendered will be required with each tender as security that the tenderer will, if called upon enter into a contract, and provide the required bond for the performance of the work.

The lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

HENRY FLOYD,
C.M.C.

Municipal Hall, 5851 West Boulevard, Vancouver, B.C., May 4th, 1925.

Those Long Silences

It was during the impaneling of a jury the following colloquy occurred:

"Your are a property holder?"

"Yes your honor."

"Married or single?"

"I have been married for five years your honor."

"Have you formed or expressed an opinion?"

"Not for five years, your honor."—San Francisco Labor Clarion.

UNION DIRECTORY

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

FEDERATED LABOR PARTY, Room 111—510 Fender St. West—Business meetings 1st and 3rd Wednesday evenings. R. H. Neelands, Chairman; E. H. Morrison, Sec-Treas: Angus MacInnis, 3544 Prince Edward Street, Vancouver, B. C. Corresponding Secretary.

District in British Columbia desiring information re securing speakers or the formation of local branches, kindly communicate with Provincial Secretary J. Lyle Telford, 524 Birks Bldg., Vancouver, B. C. Telephone Seymour 1882 or Bayview 5220.

BAKERY SALESMEN LOCAL 371—Meets second Thursday every month in Holden Building. President, J. Brightwell; financial secretary, H. A. Bowron, 929—11th Avenue East.

CIVIC EMPLOYEES UNION—Meets first and third Fridays in each month, at 445 Richards Street. President, David Cuthill, 2652 Albert Street; secretary-treasurer, Geo. Harrison, 1182 Parker Street.

ENGINEERS—INTERNATIONAL UNION of Steam and Operating Local 300—Meets every Saturday at 8 a.m., Room 808 Hotel Bldg. President, Charles Price; business agent and financial secretary, F. L. Hunt; recording secretary, J. T. Venn.

MUSICIANS' MUTUAL PROTECTIVE UNION LOCAL 145, A. F. of M.—Meets in Old Mill Hall, corner of Davie and Granville Streets, second Sunday at 10 a.m. President, E. A. Jamieson, 991 Nelson Street; Secretary, J. W. Allen, 991 Nelson Street; Financial Secretary, W. E. Williams, 991 Nelson Street; Organizer, F. Fletcher, 991 Nelson Street.

THE VANCOUVER THEATRICAL FEDERATION—Meets at 991 Nelson Street, at 11 a.m. on the Tuesday of each month. President, Harry Pearson, 991 Nelson Street; Secretary, E. A. Jamieson, 991 Nelson Street; Business Agent, F. Fletcher, 991 Nelson Street.

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

PRINCE RUPERT TYPOGRAPHICAL UNION, No. 413—President, S. D. Macdonald, secretary-treasurer, J. M. Campbell, P. O. Box 689. Meets last Thursday of each month.

THE ANNUAL REPORT

Department of Labor Indicates a Decline in Trade Union Membership.

LABOR ORGANIZATIONS, 1924

Expenditure for Union Benefits Less Than in 1923—Other Bodies.

THE information published in the fourteenth annual report on labor organization in Canada, covering the calendar year 1924, which has just been issued by the department of labor, shows that the trade union system in the Dominion is made up of four groups, as follows: (1) Local branches of international organizations having headquarters in the United States; (2) non-international bodies with headquarters in Canada; (3) independent trade union units, and (4) national and Catholic unions. The only class of unions to show an increase was that comprising the independent units, the number of which increased by nine, and the reported membership by 1867. The three remaining classes of local branch unions had decreases as follows: (1) International, 45 branches and 1862 members; (2) non-international, 10 branches and 12,551 members; (3) national and Catholic, 12 unions and 5000 members. These figures show a total loss of 58 in branches and 17,449 in members, the aggregate membership of all classes of trade unions in Canada at the close of 1924 being 260,643, comprised in 2429 branches. There are 89 international organizations operating in Canada, five less than the number in 1923, with 2034 branches, and a combined membership of 201,981, representing approximately 78 per cent. of the total of all classes of organized workers identified with trade union bodies; the number of non-international organizations remain at 17, and between them they have 288 local branches, comprising a membership of 21,761; independent units number 33, with a combined membership of 11,901, and there are 94 national and Catholic unions comprising a membership of 28,000. The membership of all classes of organizations in Canada, as reported to the department for the past fourteen years, has been as follows:

1911	133,132
1912	160,120
1913	175,799
1914	166,168
1915	148,348
1916	160,407
1917	204,630
1918	248,887
1919	378,047
1920	373,842
1921	313,320
1922	276,621
1923	278,992
1924	260,643

Trade Union Membership by Province—The 2429 local branch unions of all classes in the Dominion are divided by provinces as follows: Ontario 1007, Quebec 429, British Columbia 236, Alberta 217, Saskatchewan 164, Manitoba 133, Nova Scotia 126, New Brunswick 106, Prince Edward Island 11.

Trade Union Membership in Chief Cities—There are 34 Canadian cities;

an increase of three, having not less

LABOR TO BUILD HALL

Encouraging Sign

IT WILL be of more than passing interest to the many labor adherents in this province to know that, in one section at least, there is a very active interest being taken in the movement.

The South West Burnaby branch of the Federated Labor Party are about to build a small hall, suitable for their requirements, and yet within their financial reach. They believe in that old saying: "Be it ever so humble, there is no place like home." In the past they have been having to hold their meetings in empty stores or such other buildings as might be available from time to time. Under such circumstances, it is exceedingly hard to build up any movement, and it speaks well for those who have this section of the movement in their keeping to think that they have gotten on so well as they have.

All labor necessary to construct the building will be donated by those interested, and the only money required will be for the necessary material. Here is a worthy objective, and one that every labor man, who can possibly assist, should be anxious and willing to contribute his fair share to. It is a start in the right direction. When this one is put over, many others will follow in their footsteps.

Any comrades who feel they can assist in any way should communicate with the treasurer of this branch, Comrade H. S. Bate, 2137 Royal Oak Avenue, Burnaby, via New Westminster, B. C.

that 29 branch unions of all classes,

and represent nearly 49 per cent. of the trade union membership of 260,643 in the Dominion. Montreal ranks first in the list of cities, with 169 local branch unions, 121 of which reported 39,140 members; Toronto stands second with 137 branches, 91 of which reported 21,618 members; Vancouver occupies third place with 80 branches, 59 of which reported 10,119 members; Winnipeg being fourth with 72 branches, 61 of which reported 7,790 members. The remaining 30 cities in order of number of branches are: Hamilton, 64 branches; Ottawa, 63 branches, 53 reporting 5,118 members; Quebec, 59 branches, 33 reporting 4,734 members; Edmonton, 58 branches, 50 reporting 4,929 members; Calgary, 53 branches, 46 reporting 4,022 members; London, 52 branches, 44 reporting 3,547 members; Victoria, 43 branches, 37 reporting 1,857 members; Regina, 35 branches, 30 reporting 1,277 members; St. John, 34 branches, 26 reporting 2,513 members; Saskatoon, 33 branches, 28 reporting 1,275 members; Windsor, 32 branches, 23 reporting 1,586 members; St. Thomas, 30 branches, 22 reporting 2,094 members; Halifax, 29 branches, 23 reporting 1,222 members; Moose Jaw, 28 branches, 25 reporting 1,587 members; Fort William, 27 branches, 20 reporting 917 members; Brandon, 24 branches, 20 reporting 1,275 members; Lethbridge, 22 branches, 19 reporting 1,604 members; Moncton, 21 branches, 18 reporting 2,265 members; North Bay, 21 branches, 18 reporting 1,619 members; St. Catharines, 21 branches, 16 reporting 735 members; Sherbrooke, 21 branches, 13 reporting 592 members; Kingston, 21 branches, 13 reporting 502 members; Kitchener, 20 branches, 19 reporting 530 members; Peterborough, 20 branches, 17 reporting 627 members; Guelph, 20 branches, 17

reporting 521 members; Port Arthur, 20 branches, 14 reporting 960 members; Niagara Falls, 20 branches, 12 reporting 778 members; Sault Ste. Marie, 20 branches, 10 reporting 369 members. Included in the branches in both Montreal and Quebec are 23 national and Catholic unions, the reported membership of the 23 unions in Montreal being 3,248; nine of the 23 Quebec unions reporting 2,019 members.

Trade Union Beneficiary Features.

The report contains figures showing the expenditure made by labor organizations for benefit purposes. Of the eighteen non-international organizations four reported having made disbursements during 1924 for benefit purposes, the total expended being \$33,027, a decrease of \$9,208 as compared with 1923. Of the 89 international organizations operating in Canada 60 made payments for one or more benefits, the combined disbursements amounting to \$20,300,364, a sum \$3,376,577 less than that spent in the previous year. The disbursements for each class of benefit were as follows:

Death benefits \$11,211,924
Unemployed and travel-
ing benefits 1,044,546
Strike benefits 2,781,280
Sick and accident benefits 4,160,072
Old age pensions and
other benefits 1,102,542
Benefits Paid by Local Branches
—Besides the expenditures of the central organizations, a statement is also published in the report showing the amounts disbursed in benefits by local branch unions in Canada to their own members. These payments, which totalled \$358,902, were \$25,693 in excess of those for 1923, the disbursements for 1924 for each class of benefit being:
Death benefits \$ 68,019
Unemployed benefits 19,600
Strike benefits 101,346
Sick and accident benefits 124,617
Other benefits 45,329

Other Interesting Features of the Report—Apart from the statistics published, the report contains much interesting matter in regard to the various labor organizations with which the Canadian organized workers are either directly or indirectly connected, and also gives much general information as to their more important activities. As a directory of labor unions the volume is very complete, giving particulars of every known local trade union in the Dominion, and also lists of central organizations and delegate bodies, together with the names and addresses of the chief executive officers for the year 1925.

Reference is also made in the report to organizations composed of school teachers, commercial travellers, government employees and other wage earners, which, though not identified with the organized labor movement, are considered to be of sufficient importance to warrant them being given a place. The associations in this group number 66, the combined reported membership is 86,333.

Brandon Opera Company

The Orpheum circuit has engaged the Brandon opera company an organization of fifty singers and heralded as "the best light opera organization in America" for the entire summer season starting Monday, May 18th in productions of the world's best light and comic operas, opening for the week of the 18th with the brilliant comic opera "The Chocolate Soldier".

The cast includes: Theo Pennington, soprano; Harry Pfeil, tenor; Carl Bundschu, baritone; Ed Andrews, comedian; George Olson, comedian; Jean Rae, soprano; Delos Jewkes, basso, and Chester Bright, baritone, with a chorus of more than thirty well-trained voices under the able direction of Clarence West.

The operas to be offered during the summer include such favorites as: "The Chocolate Soldier," "The Bohemian Girl," "The Gondoliers," "The Mikado," "The Spring Maid," "The Pirates of Penzance," "The Chimes of Normandy" and "The Prince of Pilsen," with beautiful scenic and costume production and at prices that are indeed popular and easily within the reach of everyone.

There will be one new opera presented each week with popular matinees on Wednesday and Saturday. Patrons desiring to hear all the operas may make their season reservations and have their favorite seats held for them on any night designated throughout the summer.

Final Bill at The Orpheum

Starting Thursday of this week, the Orpheum is presenting its last vaudeville bill of the present season. It will prove to be a programme of unusual features, seven star acts, and will run twice daily, Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Under a new summer policy, the Orpheum will open on Monday, May 18, with "The Chocolate Soldier," played by the Brandon opera company, which will be seen in an extensive repertoire of standard light and comic operas, changing weekly, for the ensuing twelve weeks.

The final vaudeville bill features Jane and Katherine Lee, two fascinating youngsters who are known as "the baby grandmas" of vaudeville. Also featured is Al Herman, that blackface comedian, who is known all over the big time as "the black laugh." Next in featured place is Miss Venuti Gould, clever musical comedy star and a leader in the special line of impersonation. Six English Tivoli girls assist Edw. Stanisoff and Gracie in a beautiful dancing act called "Gypsy Wanderers." The Arco brothers supply an interlude more along athletic lines, while Clark, Morrell and company will have a pleasing skit replete with musical trimmings for the delight of patrons. A seventh surprise act is also included, and the splendid bill concludes with attractive pictures and the Orpheum concert orchestra.

Mme Ina Bourskaya

Acclaimed by four famous singers as one of the finest singers of the day, Mme. Ina Bourskaya, Russian prima donna of the Metropolitan Opera company and of the Chicago Opera, comes direct from great eastern triumphs to sing here on Monday. "I sincerely believe Miss Bourskaya's voice to be one of the greatest of the present age," declares Tito Schipa, famous Italian tenor. "She has lots of personality" adds Edward Johnson, Canada's internationally famous tenor, "and ought to please you all in Vancouver very much." When she sings at the Metropolitan Opera the role of Carmen, formerly sung there by Geraldine Farrar, Bourskaya has Edward Johnson for a Don Jose, while at the Chicago Opera, Tito Schipa fills the same role to her Carmen. Mme. Bourskaya comes direct from the stage of the Metropolitan Opera, from triumphs with Rosa Ponselle, Johnson and Chaliapin, the last named the four thousand dollar a night Russian basso of the company. Corroborating the enthusiastic praise of the Russian mezzo-soprano is the testimony heard at Fletcher's ticket bureau. A New York visitor confessed that he had heard Bourskaya several times but even if he knew nothing about singing would be content to watch the beautiful Russian all evening. "She has lots of pep, too," he concluded, "besides being a charming singer." The

Farmer - Labor

The time has come when these two great groups must unite—
There must be a greater understanding of each others problems

BOTH GROUPS ARE BEING EXPLOITED. BOTH ARE BEING ROBBED OF THE FRUITS OF THEIR LABOR. BOTH ARE FEELING THE PINCH OF PRIVATION, SOME OF ACTUAL DESTITUTION. FOR EVERY EFFECT THERE IS A CAUSE. WE KNOW THE EFFECT; LET US SEEK THE CAUSE AND ERADICATE IT.

THREE never was a time in the history of the Dominion of Canada when the Farmers were finding it harder to bear up under their burdens than they are today. Why do such conditions exist? There is to be found in this Province of British Columbia soil that is unsurpassed for its productivity; a climate that is well adapted for the growing of an unlimited variety of farm products; the farmers themselves are a thrifty, industrious, hard-working group. As the result of all this, there are grown in this province fruit and vegetables and other farm products, world famed for their quality and appearance.

In spite of all this, such a state of affairs as is depicted in the following, taken from the Duncan report, published by the Department of Labor of the Dominion of Canada, exists.

TELLING EXCERPTS

Extract from a letter from A. C. Stephens at Vernon, who was collecting Summerland accounts:

"To W. E. Carruthers, Nash Supervisor, Calgary, Alta.:

"I sure stepped into a nest of hornets there, without knowing where I was going till I was up against them. The way feeling is running down there it is a wonder I got anything at all. Charlie Brosi was well spoken of, and the mutual organization generally, but it was largely a matter of a lot of them being right up against it, watching their families starving, and they just naturally turned 'red.' It is a bad time to ask a man for money or for a note."

Another extract: Mr. Snow, of Mutual Limited (Vancouver), writing to Carruthers, states as follows: "The writer is meeting the local growers daily, who are talking as though they were a bunch of starved Russian refugees."

Mr. Snow, to Mr. Carruthers, further quotes: "Do not think for a moment it gives the writer any pleasure to advance money to the growers. We would have been much better today if we did not have to worry about some of the advances we are continually being asked for. You ask if they are absolutely broke at Victoria. We do not see any difference between the Growers over there and those in any other place, only that they are just bent, not broke."

PLAYING ONE AGAINST THE OTHER

The people who have been living off the farmer and the industrial worker have been playing the one against the other. Long tirades have appeared in the public press for the consumption of the farmer, pointing out the short working hours and high wages which the city worker, it is claimed, through the medium of his various trade unions, has been able to command. This was the "red herring" that was drawn across the trail to divert the attention of the farmer from his real exploiters.

When, as is admitted by all, there is such a marked difference in price between that paid by the worker for the farmer's products, and that received by the farmer for those products, it is evident that the worker is little, if any, better off. It is obvious that a large amount of this "spread" is being absorbed along the way and in a manner that works equally to the disadvantage of both the worker and the farmer alike. Evidently the farmer is beginning to see this, as is shown by the following communication received by the Duncan Commission from a grower:

A RANCHER'S INVESTMENT

"* * * A rancher's investment brings him no interest, small or large, and his time is counted for nothing. Yet we go to Vancouver and elsewhere and see with our own eyes our fruit being sold at very high prices—yet we dare not spend a cent other than for dire necessities. * * * We must go on working or let our ranches die, or go elsewhere and earn money, as several are doing right here (I could give their names) to live and pay help to keep the trees alive."

CO-OPERATION

Another thing that the farmer is beginning to see is the benefits that accrue to him through co-operation. The following extract from the Duncan report: "The producers of British Columbia may be classified as organized and unorganized, and are known as co-operatives and independents. The co-operative associations, which represent an achievement in organization, have made possible what slight amelioration there has been in the condition of the growers. The independents are enabled in some cases to avoid certain of the overhead to which the co-operatives are subject, but, in so doing, they take the benefits created by their fellow-growers without contributing to the cost; and, in many cases, by their unregulated marketing seriously disorganize the market for both parties. Like some fungus, they sap the strength of the tree which shelters them."

FARMER AND INDUSTRIAL WORKER

The problem that confronts alike the farmer and the industrial worker is how to free themselves from the control of the big financial interests that are today robbing them of the fruits of their labor, without rendering any necessary service to society. As the necessary factors in production, there are two parallel paths by which the farmer and the worker must proceed to become the masters of their own destiny. First, through co-operation in the production and distribution of the fruits of their labor. Second, by co-operating upon the political field, securing control of the various legislative bodies.

THE FIRST STEP

A Dominion election is a possibility during this year, and must come in 1926. As a first step, the farmers should organize on a political basis for the purposes of united action on their own behalf. It is a case of "their minding their own business." They have allowed the old-time politicians to run their affairs quite long enough and now they should take a hand in it themselves.

LABOR WILL CO-OPERATE

We are quite sure that labor will meet them more than half way. We would suggest that the matter of organization of the farmers be left in their own hands. They understand the conditions as they exist in their own localities and can better organize to meet their particular needs. With a programme of co-operation they will, undoubtedly, find that labor will be more than ready and willing to co-operate with them.

WRITE THE B. C. FEDERATIONIST

THE B. C. FEDERATIONIST does not attempt to lay down a programme or platform for either the farmers or the industrial workers. Sufficient for us is it if they accept the principle of co-operation as opposed to individual action. The actual policy will be worked out as time goes on. However, we are anxious for a discussion on this matter by the farmers, and we would suggest that they write to THE B. C. FEDERATIONIST, giving us their various viewpoints and suggestions. It is by an interchanging of ideas that we hope to make any advancement along the lines of real progress.

Timely Topics

THE "tariff cure-all" for Canada cannot possibly work until Canada's consuming power is raised. At present, she simply has to export, and how can she continue to do so unless she imports? The only people who are likely to gain from the tariffs are the owning classes; not the producers.

"The farmer's position has been greatly improved through higher prices" says a leading financial paper. These operations are profitable; they can pay current rates of interest as well as other classes; there is more mortgage money available." If the farming outlook is so bright, why is there such an epidemic of credit in some districts; why do farmers have to borrow at all; and why do hundreds of them live from hand to mouth—or hardly live at all?

Twenty-five million acres of good farm land lies idle within easy reach of railways. And it is being held by "land-sharks" who hope to profit out of unfortunate farmers. The organized farmers are proposing that the owners of idle land shall be taxed in keeping with their deserts.

There is an attempt to limit the rate of interest to twenty per cent. in Britain. Rather hard on those who so nobly risk their all in the cause of dividends.

THE WORKERS' CLASSICS

To Friends of the Radical and Labor Movement:

The American Fund for Public Service has voted to finance the publication of a series of standard works of literature and education in the service of the movement for workers' emancipation. The series is to contain two hundred titles, to be put upon the market at the lowest possible prices. It will be known by some such title as "The Workers' Classics," "The Radical Classics," or "The People's Classics." I have been asked to become editor of the series; an advisory editorial board of twenty or thirty persons will be appointed. The first step toward the undertaking is the preparing of a list of titles for inclusion in the series, and the purpose of this letter is to ask your assistance.

Let me point out that this series, when completed, will involve an investment of a large sum of money, not less than a hundred thousand dollars. It will constitute a permanent treasure of the labor movement throughout the English-speaking world. It is proposed to spare no pains to make the series of the utmost possible usefulness, and to this end it is hoped that you will give your share of guidance at this preliminary stage.

The series will be all-inclusive and entirely non-partisan, as regards factions and schools of thought in the working class movement. The classics of the Socialist, Communist, Anarchist, Single Tax, Co-operative, and all other wings, will be represented. The series will include fiction, poetry, drama, history, philosophy, politics, economics, finance. The sole test of inclusion will be whether the work contributes ideas or information likely to be of service to the awakening workers. The series will include translations from works in foreign languages, and will endeavor to be international in point of view; but aiming to serve that public which uses the English language, it will necessarily include a higher percentage of works representing the English and American points of view.

We ask you to take the time to make us a list of all works which you think should be included in these two hundred volumes. Make your range of selection wide, including everything which might by any possibility go in, and leaving it for the editorial board to do the work of eliminating. We should also appreciate having the names and addresses of other qualified persons who might be willing to make suggestions. In the case of works likely to be unknown to an American committee, we ask the names and addresses of publishers, and any information or opinion you care to give concerning each work. It is asked that you underscore those titles which in your opinion should certainly be included. It is asked that you be as prompt as possible, in order that the mass of data may be effectively assembled. It is also hoped that you will not expect personal replies to letters on the subject, because this is a task beyond the capacity of a single editor. The receipt of all replies will be acknowledged by a formal letter, and you may then rest assured that your suggestions are receiving consideration. The money has been formally voted, so there is no possibility of your labor being wasted.

On the sheet enclosed you will find a list of suggested works and authors. This is a transcription of notes which I have jotted down occasionally, while thinking over this proposed series. It must be understood that the list does not pretend to be complete; it is merely one man's suggestions, submitted with the idea that it may be the means of starting your own mind to work, and perhaps saving you some time. Please underscore such works in my list as you think should positively be included; and be sure to put your name and address at the bottom of the sheet. In the case of authors listed without any works, you are invited to suggest such works as seem to you most suitable.

Yours for the cause of workers' emancipation,

UPTON SINCLAIR,
Pasadena, Cal., April 23, 1925.

Every great and commanding moment in the annals of the world is the triumph of some enthusiasm.—Emerson.

No reform movement can succeed without woman's assistance.—Gronlund.

There is but one law which, from its nature, needs unanimous consent. This is the social compact; for civil association is the most voluntary of all acts. Every man being born free and his own master, no one, under any pretext whatsoever, can make any man subject without his consent. To decide that the son of a slave is born a slave is to decide that he is not born a man.—Rousseau.

When justice is lost, then expediency follows. But expediency is the mere shadow of what is right and true, and is portentous of confusion.—Lacteze.

Write on my gravestone, "Infidel, Traitor"—infidel to every church that compromises with wrong; traitor to every government that oppresses the people.—Wendell Phillips.

The three essentials of life are bread, beauty, and brotherhood.—Edwin Markham.

Bird, Bird & Lefaux

BARRISTERS, SOLICITORS, ETC.
401-408 Metropolitan Building
837 Hastings St. W., VANCOUVER, B.C.
Telephones: Seymour 6666 and 6667

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 co-operation 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 only 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