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PUBLISHED IN INTERESTS OF ALL WORKERS

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NEWSPRINT PAPER

STARTLING TRUTHS

"Mankind at the Crossroads," by Prof. East—Facts Regarding Population Question.

TO BE FACED VERY SOON

Struggle Between Ever-Increasing Population and Its Means of Support.

[By Frances Wills]

PROFESSOR EAST, in his book, "Mankind at the Crossroads," gives some rather startling facts in regard to the population question; and they are the more startling because the catastrophe which he predicts seems in a fair way towards fulfilment.

After giving a great deal of very readable and evidently carefully thought out evidence, he thus summarises the situation:

The biggest part of the world is already overpopulated and dependent on the rest for its food. "North America (one of the so-called granaries of the world) is entering on the stage when exportation of food is no longer possible; Australia will reach the same stage within a few decades, and temperate South America will follow Australia before the present generation passes. Thus within half a century presumably, within a century certainly, each country must prepare to live upon the fruits of its own agriculture."

The struggle then, is between the ever-increasing population and its means of support. "The current rate of growth of population doubles every 60 years;" and as far as Europe is concerned, "the population has more than trebled in numbers in a little over a century." Moreover, everything that modern science and economic conditions can do, is being done to prolong life. Sanitation is better, epidemics are rarer, and through the discovery of serums, and the efficacy of vaccination and innoculation, the average life has a longer expectancy. Moreover, the expansionist stand taken by certain political parties, who dread the extermination of the white race, or fear the decrease of their own particular race, does much together with the teachings of certain sects of the church to keep up the rate of increase.

Agriculture does not keep pace with the growth in population. As pointed out before, those countries on whom the world depends for its wheat supply will soon cease to export their produce. For it is not thinkable that they will be content with the lot that has fallen to India where the majority of the population lives and toils chiefly to keep another race alive, while of themselves, probably "nine-tenths never had enough to eat in their lives; their margin of safety from starvation is practically zero; and still they export food."

As for the uncultivated Arctic and Antarctic regions, from which much is hoped in some quarter, they can never be wheat-growing districts, "for the northward limit of wheat, or of any other cereal, is determined not by early autumn frosts, but by the sporadic midsummer frosts. Until some frost-resisting plant is developed, the northern limit of profitable wheat will remain about where it is now, and is more likely to move south than north."

Professor East voices some fears as to the way in which the soil is ex-

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VICTORIAN ORDER NURSES

Makes Annual Appeal for Contributions March 16th This Year.

Commencing Monday, March 16th, the local branch Victorian Order of Nurses, will make its annual appeal for contributions to continue the work of ministering to the sick poor of the community. It is conservatively estimated that $20,000 must be raised if the order is to render adequate nursing service. During the year 1924 nurses of the local branch made 19,990 visits, of which 9,570 were entirely free, while many others were only partially paid for. One child in eight born in Greater Vancouver is a V.O.N. baby. Many of the mothers receive pre-natal as well as post-natal instruction and care, such service being a great factor in the low infantile death rate of this district.

Over fifty per cent. of the nursing service rendered by the order is given gratuitously, those receiving care and attention being financially unable to pay for the same. Everyone is eligible to the benefits of this service, irrespective of nationality or creed, the poor always receiving first attention.

The order originated 27 years ago, is functioning from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and has been continuously in operation locally since its inception.

Additional information regarding the aims and objects of the V.O.N. will be promptly supplied by campaign office, phone Sey. 3985, upon request.

FEDERATED LABOR PARTY

Collingwood Branch Elects Officers—Whist Drive and Dance March 24th.

The Collingwood Branch of the Federated Labor Party are continuing to make steady headway. Several new members were taken in to the party at their last meeting. The following officers were elected to serve for the coming year, at their last annual meeting: President, Comrade Richmond; vice-president, Comrade D. McGougan; secretary, E. Crosby; treasurer, F. Hall. The executive committee is to consist of the following comrades: D. McGougan. W. Wilson, C. Cropley, J. Wilson, Mrs. Neville, and Mrs. McGougan. Comrades J. W. Wilson and McGougan were elected auditors.

This branch is going to hold their first whist drive and dance on Tuesday, March 24th.

IN CANADA AND U. S.

Over Six Million Women Working for Less Than a Living Wage.

WOMAN AND CIVILIZATION

Exploitation of Labor and Sex Slavery of Body and Soul.

[By Rose Henderson]

MARY L. DOWNES, high chief ranger of the Women's Order of Foresters, stated recently that 6,000,000 American women are working for less than a living wage—less than $15.30 a week—in "Gods Country," one of the richest in the world, where people are extorted to be 100 per cent. American" and to be prepared to defend "America's balance of trade."

These wages, we are told, are earned many times not in eight hours but in nine, ten, and twelve hours. It needs no stretch of the imagination to realize the conditions under which millions of the future mothers of young America are condemned to live, condemned to slum life, undernourished, and that vilest of all social horrors, prostitution. Condemned so to live, because of the ignorance of the many, which permits the few to possess, and to plunder, the heritage of the many. Low wages and prostitution go hand in hand. Investigators into social conditions have asserted this fact again and again. Ministers of the Gospel have prayed; mission angels have wept and admonished, and the courts of justice have fined and imprisoned; but the social evil grows apace under capitalism, and, in spite of our boasted wealth, culture, and Christian civilization.

Society dare not lift the curtain full heighth on this side of woman's slavery. Women, and women only, will some day have courage to do this, when they do, they will abolish the cause, instead of punishing the victims, already condemned and crucified by our social system.

A glimpse into this horror was given through the police inquiry forced in the city of Montreal, as well as the report of Mr. Owen Dawson, secretary of the Committee of Sixteen. These inquiries brought out the fact, that the organized traffic in human bodies is one of the most profitable and flourishing, and that the forces of "justice" through its system of fines share in the trade and its spoils.

That there exist at least three hundred houses of prostitution in this city's red light district, with about three thousand inmates, many girls under 16 years of age, was part of the startling evidence given by Owen Dawson of the Committee of Sixteen at the inquiry. This district spends a minimum of six million dollars on vice and liquor every year. Besides grown men little boys are employed to bring customers to these houses. From the landlords down a gang of bloodsucpers get their commission and profits.

Like Cattle Dealer or Hog Trader

"I had a long talk with one of the notorious housekeepers," said Mr. Dawson. "She said that she usually paid a procurer from $200 to $500 dollars for each of the girls. To hold her customers, she had to change her "stock" every six months, because they become tired out, diseased, lost their snap. Her description of the transaction was more like listening to a cattle dealer or hog trader.

These are the daughters of the poor, girls whose parents cannot afford to give them the protection of a proper home, girls who, like their American sisters, do not get a living wage, girls who cannot find honest toil and who are driven in the majority of cases through their parents, and their own poverty, into the most loathsome of all trades, prostitution. How glibly we sing of the sacredness of womanhood, and the sanctity of the home, yet how indifferent are the majority to this slavery and crime against womanhood and the race.

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

NECESSARY WORK

Nation Needs a Thorough Overhauling; a Kindly But Critical Survey.

TRUTH MAKES US FREE

Labor Party's Important Work Is to Demand an Investigation of Facts.

[By J. C. Harris]

THE object of the series of articles that I have written has been to bring home to my readers the real sickness with which Canada is troubled, namely, that a very large part of our population is successfully dodging their fair share of the necessary work, and also that we are very badly organized, so that we waste a great deal of our labor and also produce many commodities which are of little or no value when produced or even extremely harmful.

I have suggested in the previous article that what the nation needs is a thorough overhauling; a kindly but critical survey, of the same sort as a business man would require of any business that he was placed in charge of.

I furthermore suggested that the most important work that the Labor party can undertake at present is to demand such an investigation, and I assert confidently that no other line of action will have any permanent value.

We must get at the facts for "the truth will make us free". Let us now assume that such an inquiry has been made and a comprehensive report issued. I should expect it to show that. There were certain numbers of the population engaged in basic industries, farming, fishing, mining, lumbering etc. That in these industries there was periodic paralysis caused by unregulated production, which caused immense suffering to those who were engaged in such essential work. That under capitalism no proper regulation could be arranged, unless we handed over each entire industry to a trust.

It would also show a big portion of the nation's energies going to transportation, and that our transportation problems were intensified by the way

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NEWS FROM VERNON, B.C.

School Tax Increased—Teachers Distribute Cards for Road Show.

[By Our Own Correspondent]

Vernon, B. C., March 11.—Apparently the adherents and exponents of the present industrial and social system see no reason why they should not utilise the public schools for their own personal aggrandisement. Every teacher in the schools here were given a number of cards advertising a road show, "Uncle Tom's Cabin"—not a bad play in itself—and they were to give these to the children and have them ask their parents for twenty-five cents, the price of admission. Now, many parents in this part of the country, and we are not alone in that regard, would love to have twenty-five cents to give to their children for them to buy bread with rather than to go to a picture show, road show, or any other kind of a show. Of course, we do not think that we are giving away any secret when we say that we are sure that the promoters of shows, no matter what kind they may be, are more interested in their profits, than they are in the feeding of hungry children.

Our school tax is being increased one mill this year. May be it is due to the fact that they intend to make the school a sort of advertising medium for shows. We wonder what the trustees of these institutions would say, if some adherents of the labor movement would approach them for the purpose of having the children deliver to their homes some good sound essays on economics, pointing out the tragedies of the present order of things and showing a way towards improvement. They are willing to allow the public to be gulled to make profits for a few, but they are not willing to allow the public to be educated along lines that are not in conformity with their preconcieved ideas, though it is obvious to any thinking person that there is needed badly some radical change in our social and economic system.

Certainly the citizens of Vernon should not be called upon to support schools for the purpose of spreading advertising matter for some travelling show. It has other functions—those of education—that it is much more important to fulfil. And again it might not be out of place to remind the trustees that if unvaccinated children should not be allowed to go to school it does seem as though they should not go to a heatre of any kind.

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

"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

ARTS AND LETTERS

Miss Reynolds Spoke on "Some Phases of Modern Drama."

DISCUSSION FOLLOWED

Musical Features Especially Good Under Direction of Madame Stuart, A.R.A.M.

MEMBERS and visitors were present in such numbers at the regular meeting of the Modern Arts and Letters Club that the executive are considering larger quarters for the club. The idea of "art for life's sake" seems to find a response where the usual literary society appeals only to the few.

At the meeting, in the Woman's building, Thurlow street, on the evening of Friday, March 6th., the lecturer was Miss Marjorie Reynolds, who spoke upon "Some Phases of Modern Drama". Miss Reynold's connection with the Little Theatre work, the fact that she has had actual experience in the direction and in the staging of plays, besides having written dramas of high merit, combined to make her presentation of the subject extremely worth while. Her paper was brilliantly written and productive of thought. She emphasized the fact that the artificiality of the Victorian drama was being replaced by a realism, which was true to life, while the drama, like all arts in this transitional age, is going through a period of change and uncertainty, there were signs that real progress was being made. The demand of the public for more artistic productions and less of the spectacular and costly, signified by Little Theatre movements, showed that there was a reaching out for beauty.

An animated discussion followed the address. The musical features of the evening were especially good under the direction of Madame Edith Stuart A. R. M. A trio, with Madame Stuart, A. R. M. A trio, with Madame violinist, and Miss Jessie Belden, 'cellist, presented brilliant interpretations of modern composers. Mr. S. A. McPherson, baritone, sang several selections and captured his audience by his voice and method. An interesting number given by Mr. McPherson was a song, "When You Come Back to Me," the music by Madame Stuart and words by A. M. Stephen. Miss Mildred Teeple and Mrs. Wood contributed to the "Round Table".

Mrs. Scott Drummond was appointed convenor of the refreshment and entertainment committee, so that the usual feature of a social cup of tea will be restored at the next meeting of the club, Friday, March 20th.

The speaker at the meeting, March 20th., will be Mr. Jatrinda Goho of Calcutta, India.

Mr. J. C. Goho's subject will be, "Tagore's Contribrtion to India's Art and Literature." A most interesting and instructive evening is assured all who come. It will be a rare opportunity to become acquainted with India's art and literature. Everyone invited.

R. H. NEELANDS, M. L. A., WILL SPEAK

THIS (Friday) evening, the popular member for South Vancouver will address a mass meeting to be held in the Municipal hall. He will give an account of his stewardship and the doings of the last session of the provincial parliament. All welcome.

S. P. of C. Dance

The Socialist Party of Canada (Vancouver branch) in observance of the anniversary of the Paris Commune of March 18th, will hold a lance in Belvedere Court, corner of Main street and Tenth ave, on Thursday evening March 19th. Ladies 50 cents; gents 75 cents. All invited.

Your friends might be glad to subscribe for The Federationist if you asked them. Try.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Discussion on a "Definite Matter of Urgent Public Importance."

LABOR PAYS THE PIPER

Distress Among Coal Miners and Steel Workers of Nova Scotia.

[By Lloyd Roberts.]

I HAVE just been listening to a discussion in the House of Commons on a "definite matter of urgent public importance," namely, the "acute distress existing among the coal miners and steel workers of Nova Scotia." The effect was similar, although on a smaller scale, to that experienced on reading the report of the Inter-Church Federation on the condition of the steel workers of the United States Steel Corporation; that is, surprise that the great onward sweep of civilization has left behind such sink-pots of injustice. As the case for the miners unfolded—lack of employment and insufficient wages—resulting in low standards of living, if not actual starvation and nakedness—my mind would instinctively stray toward radio, League of Nations, Einstein's theory, etc. What was all our boasted progress if we had not been able to put an end to such simple and primitive enemies as cold, hunger, want! Labor—that is, the man who actually puts his hand to the plough, to the hammer, to the stone—received the short end of the stick ten thousand years before Christ, according to hieroglyphics and papyrus, and he receives the short end now. Of course his condition has advanced, but measureably. A slip of a cog, a wink of sleep, a momentary relaxing of the guard, and—cold, hunger, want.

As the members talked on I realized that labor had been caught napping somewhere, and was everlastingly paying the piper. "We are consulted only in regard to the wage cost, and our stand in regard to it is that it is already too low to give our men a decent standard of living. It is now proposed to lower it further. . . . Many children cannot attend school owing to lack of food and clothing, and whole families face

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INTERNATIONAL LABOR

Tabloid Issued by United States Department of Labor, at Washington, D. C.

Austria

Unemployment—With approximately 200,000 persons entirely out of work and tens of thousands of "short shift" workers, in Austria, it is stated that unemployment has become a real menace to the country.

England

Cotton Workers Cut Scale—The Federation of Master Cotton Spinners has announced that the necessary majority has been obtained for the proposal to reduce the working hours in the mills spinning American cotton from 39 ¾ to 35. This affects two-thirds of the federation mills and 160,000 operatives.

Unemployment Insurance—Among the 11,500,000 workers insured against unemployment under the Unemployment Insurance acts in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the percentage unemployed on December 22, 1924, was 10.9, as compared with 10.7 on December 21, 1923.

Wages Advance in Coalfields—During 1924, wage advances were granted in nearly all the coalfields, as the result of the adoption of a revised national agreement which came into operation last May.

France

Wage Increase—Ordinary day labor in Marseilles is receiving 25 francs per day, with skilled labor running up to 35 and 45 francs. This represents approximately a fifteen per cent wage increase over the previous year. Farm wages are 20 and 22 francs per day.

Germany

Building Industry—Labor Shortage—It is prophesied that a continuing revival of the building industry in Stuttgart may be hampered on account of labor shortage.

Glass Industry—Nearly the entire glass industry of Germany is at a standstill, affecting the employment of 3,000 workers, because of the disagreement between the wholesale dealers and the glass blowers' associations regarding the fixing of 1925 prices for Christmas tree ornaments.

Woodworking Industry—At the beginning of this year about forty per cent of the members of the Wood-Workers' Union in the Frankfort-on-Main district were either without employment or on part time.

Spain

Post-War Growth—The sudden post-war growth in Seville, Spain, is said not to be without its hardships. Unemployment prevails, with neither jobs nor homes for migrant newcomers; while living costs continue to advance and overcrowding has brought about a wretched condition among the poor of the city.

ANNUAL MEETING C. L. P.

Programme of Party for Coming Election Is To Be Considered.

The executive of the B. C. section of the Canadian Labor party has instructed its secretary to issue a call for the annual convention of the party. The convention will convene on Saturday, May 2nd, in the Trades Council hall, Holden building, 16 Hastings street east. In case the business cannot be finished on Saturday, further sessions will be held on Sunday, May 3rd.

The programme of the party for the coming federal elections will be considered.

Wages are no index of well-being to the working man; without proper wages there can be no well-being; but with them also there may be none.—Carlyle.

54TH ANNIVERSARY

Paris Commune of March 18, 1871, Established by the Workingmen.

THE REVOLUTION FAILED

Socialists Hold Paris Communards in Affectionate Remembrance.

"For I say unto you that heaven and earth are not two, but one."

"Many a day have ye been fools, robbers of neighbors, despiteful haters, talebearers, or fawners on rich men for the hurt of the poor (and that is worst of all). But hearken unto me and I shall make you wise above the wisdom of the earth; and if ye die in your wisdom, as God wot ye well may, since the fields ye wend to bear swords for daisies, and spears for bents, then shall ye be, though men call you dead, a part and parcel of the living wisdom os all things, very stones of the pillars that uphold the joyful earth." John Ball in Morris' "Dream of John Ball."

THE 18th of March is the anniversary of the Paris Commune of 1871, established by the working men of Paris at the close of the Franco-Prussian war. The Commune failed. To us, looking back with that dispassionateness lent by the passage of time, and viewing the social situation in France in 1871 in conjunction with the revolutionary character of the social ideals the Commune proclaimed as its mission to put into practice, we are compelled to charge the enterprise mainly to the account of a wave of passionate anger and disgust surging against French officialdom, civil, political and military, whose utter corruption, cowardice and treachery had been revealed by the war and the mock defense of Paris. Popular rage continued to mount when it was realized that the same elements, under cover of the newly declared republic, were again reasserting their rule and maintaining intact the old system of privileges, exactions and graft. Faithless acts of the new government finally goaded the populace into open defiance of its authority.

That the revolt took the direction it did to the establishment of a revolutionary commune seems due to the fact that it was principally a revolt of the working masses of Paris, who had behind them the traditions of many revolutionary struggles, the grey heads of '48 being still among them. France, it is said, is the home of ideas, and Paris certainly was at the period a hotbed of revolutionary thought and ideals. Already at the approach of war in 1870 the revolutionary workmen of Paris and Berlin had exchanged fraternal messages over and above the heads of the great bourgeoisie and the chancelleries of France and Germany. Said they of Paris: "Brothers of Germany, we protest against the war, we who wish for peace, labor and liberty. Brothers, do not listen to the hirelings who seek to deceive you as to the real wishes of France." From Berlin came the answering cry: "We, too, wish for peace, labor and liberty. We know that on both sides of the Rhine there are brothers with whom we are ready to die for the Universal Republic."

How noble the ideal, all inclusive, wide as humanity — "Heaven and earth are not two, but one . . . ," said John Ball to the men of Kent. "Forsooth, brothers, fellowship is heaven, and lack of fellowship is hell; fellowship is life, and lack of fellowship is death"—but consider the social situation of Europe in 1871, how alien it was to the communard's purpose of organizing social life upon the ideal. They could have had little knowledge of the forces then in existence and in the making against which they were throwing themselves. Passionate impulse is not enough, high idealism is not enough! The 1870's were at the flowing tide of that industrial development of the 19th century which gave a tremendous urge to the consolidation of nation-states and the expansion of empires. The propagation of national patriotism, under

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RE BUNK HOUSES

About Two Hundred Cubic Feet Per Man Allowed for Breathing Space.

HAY USED AS MATTRESSES

Regulations Have Little Weight in Government Operated Camps.

[By John Pickenshovel.]

RECENTLY the Hon. E. D. Barrow, minister of agriculture, has been addressing the farmers in the Fraser valley on the question of bovine tuberculosis. We have not been hearing so much from him on the subject of the spread of T.B. among the human cattle. At all events, it has not been recorded that he has raised any question in the cabinet meetings about the unhealthy conditions in the road camps that the government opened up for the unemployed last winter.

The writer has recently been working at one of these road camps, and can, for that reason, give authentic information on that subject. At a government road camp situated about two miles this side of Hope, there are two bunkhouses, each of which had a capacity for 48 men. The bunks were constructed in double-deck style, and more resembled a cattle stall than anything one ever seen. The men brought their own blankets, the government supplying the mattresses. The mattresses supplied in this case were the same kind of bedding that John Oliver provided for his cattle when he was farming in the Delta—just plain hay. The bunkhouses were 40 feet long and 24 feet broad, and had an average height of 12 feet, which gives a cubic capacity of 11,520 cubic feet, or an average breathing space for each of the 48 men of 240 cubic feet. When allowance is made for a stove, a pile of wood, and the spaces occupied by benches, tables, bunks and hay for mattresses, the approximate (conservative) breathing space is about 200 cubic feet.

Formerly the camp health regulations established by the provincial board of health provided for a minimum breathing space of 400 cubic feet per man. But the regulations have been changed since to demand "a reasonable amount of breathing space." That was intended, of course, to apply to camps operated by private concerns. But such regulations have little weight so far as government operated camps are concerned. The regulations for camps in Ontario are said to be 500 cubic feet per man, or twice the amount provided in the camp above described.

The minimum breathing space allowed in hospitals is 800 cubic feet per patient, which might tend to show that the men might be just as well off in that kind of an institution as in a government road camp. With that number of men breathing each other's exhalations, it is natural to expect that the air would be stuffy and they would arise in the morning complaining of headaches, etc. If the present provincial government would be as much concerned for the health of the unemployed sent to its road camps as it apparently is for the cattle in the Fraser valley, it would be revealing a little more consistency and would be more for the health of the province.

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

JUNIOR LABOR LEAGUE

Successful Concert and Dance—This Evening Is "Hat Night."

The J. L. L. held a very successful concert and dance at the Elks hall, South Hill, Saturday evening. There was a good attendance and everybody enjoyed themselves. Those taking part in the program were: Kenneth Strickland, piano solo; Clifford McSavaney, vocal solo; Miss Olive Robinson, highland dances; Miss Doris Neelands, Miss Hazel Neelands, and Mr. R. H. Neelands, M.L.A., gave an instrumental selection. Miss Elman's orchestra provided excellent music for the dance.

This (Friday) evening the league meets at 6262 Chester street, South Vancouver, for their educational meeting. This will be another "Hat Night." Questions of interest to the movement will be discussed.

Dr. Curry's Lectures

Dr. Curry has concluded his series of lectures on "Science, and the Changing Order," but the meetings will continue as usual at 8 p.m.

Friday will begin the reading and discussions of Jack London's famous revolutionary story, "The Iron Heel." Jack London seems to have foreseen the counter-revolutionary and fascisti movement now operating in Europe and beginning its initial activities on this continent in the form of the K.K.K. Community singing.

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FRIDAY.....MARCH 13, 1925

LABOR AND HEALTH INSURANCE

WE noted a short time ago that labor and the medical profession were getting together to discuss the matter of health insurance. We sincerely hope that something worth while will result therefrom. It is high time that some different arrangement was brought into force for the treatment of the sick, as economic conditions are today. The average worker today finds it hard enough, yes, almost impossible, to earn sufficient to provide himself and his dependents with the necessary food, shelter and clothing, let alone providing medical and hospital attention. Something must be done.

There was left an impression, as the result of the reports published, that the medical profession placed a definite plan before labor for their adoption. That is not so. The meeting was simply an effort to find out if some plan could not be evolved that might be satisfactory to all concerned. Suggestions were offered on both sides. It is to be hoped that the committees will continue to function as they ought, and that ultimately, and in the not too distant future, some definite plan might be evolved that will be a God-send to suffering humanity in this province. Information regarding the schemes now in vogue in the various countries in Europe and elsewhere are available here now, and there is no just reason for further delay. If labor is really and truly anxious to better their own conditions, here is an opportunity for them to show a little enthusiasm and practical consideration for their suffering comrades. We hope that they will not allow this matter to drag unduly.

MILITIA TO PROTECT PROPERTY

AGAIN a crisis has arisen in the mining situation in Nova Scotia. The British Empire Steel Corporation are, in our opinion, running true to color. Human life means nothing to them. They must have their profits regardless of anything else.

Thousands of miners have been out of work for months. They and their dependents, have been experiencing unspeakable privations as the result of the mines being closed by the Besco people. The little credit which they had been given at the company's stores has been discontinued and now, these men, and their dependents, must face starvation. And all this, in Canada, this wonderful country!

Hungry men are dangerous and when, added to this, they see their own dependents in want, we might well be prepared to face a difficult and trying situation.

Mr. J. S. Woodsworth, M. P. and others have repeatedly brought to the attention of the government at Ottawa, the seriousness of the situation, as it existed in these mining districts sometime ago. They urged that the government look into the situation, and give it the serious attention it deserved. They heeded not! Now, when men, women, and children are in need of food, they are to be shown some shinning bayonets.

Even our daily press is prostituting its news columns here again; of course, we never expected otherwise. They would have the public believe that a great number of "returned" men are anxious to offer their services in the interest of "law and order." No doubt the Besco outfit will stoop to every means at their disposal to drive their workers to do something drastic, in desperation. Then they will through the medium of their paid henchmen in the service of the government, have the troops sent to protect "their" property. No attempt will be made by the company, or the government (they are more or less the one and same institution, in our opinion) to see that these men, their wives, or their innocent children are fed.

A few years ago, it has been told, a Chinaman, having heard of the wonderfully humane and Christian people in Canada, decided to come to this country. He came. He remained five years. He returned to China a more confirmed Confuscianist than ever.

Were he to go to Nova Scotia today, and see the appaling conditions under which the miners work there, and see how they are being treated, he doubtless, would feel that he was on the very abyss of Hell.

How long, oh, how long, is such a state of affairs going to be allowed to go on, in what has been termed by some, a Christian country? Such sacrilige.

THAT MINING BOOM.

HERE is our old friend "Boom"! Once and a while he fades away for a time, but usually he manages to make himself felt somewhere on the continent. He is, apparently, being bribed to come to B. C. to take a hand in the development of our mining industry. Doubtless, he may come for a time. While he is here he will make things worth while for a few fortunates who are more or less responsible for his coming. A few firms will make some large donations; at least, that is what they call them; but, in reality, they are very profitable investments for the donors. The daily press is trying to throw all its influence toward bringing, what they choose to call, prosperity.

Mining, like every other industry has its ups and downs, under the present system. At present there is a demand for certain products of our mines. It looks as though mining will be profitable for a time. Now, everybody will be wanting to get into the game, and soon there will be over production in these commodities, as with all others. It is all a "hit and miss" affair. Nothing more; nothing less. Again some more of the peoples' natural resources will be passed over into the hands of the private investor. Instead of their being utilized, as they ought to be utilized, for the good of the people as a whole, they are being more or less frittered away to the private investor who will reap the profits, while the taxpayer has to foot the bill. We would advise our readers to watch the little game. It will be interesting while it lasts.

CORRECTION

Note—Kindly correct the following in article "Facts and Figures" in last issue. It should read as follows: "Out of these 77,569 scholars examined, there were found approximately 83,000 defective or a percentage of defects of 107." The error read: **8300 defects and 10.7% defects.**—Nemesis.

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.]

C. S.—Socialistic propaganda and facts being published as to the serious indebtedness of Canada, are making many wake up to the true state of affairs here. Thanks for expressions of appreciation; send us in your copy, especially dealing with the subject matter of your query.

ST. ROCH.—In May, 1915, Lloyd George estimated the amount of British investments overseas as four thousand million pounds.

J. K., Vernon.—Enquiries among the brokers confirm the statement in the Vancouver papers of sale of large quantities of flour to the soviet government of Russia.

G. SNOWDEN—Levy on capital is now in force in at least six countries of Europe, namely, Italy, Austria, Germany, Czecho-Slovakia, Poland, and Greece. Many more countries will have to follow suit.

Under the sky is no uglier spectacle than two men with clenched teeth and hell-fire eyes hacking one another's flesh, converting precious living bodies and priceless souls into nameless masses of putrescence useful only for turnip manure.—Carlyle.

It is a great indication of progress in virtue to transfer our judgment to action, and not let our words remain merely words, but to make deeds of them.—Plutarch.

MEANDERINGS

[By Our Peripatetic Pagan]

THERE will be a fine to-do in Britain over the placing of that big shipping contract to Germany. The British shipyard workers are starving, yet this happens; result that the shipping men blame labor, and labor blames the high profits, rents and interest demanded by the shipping men. We await fuller details from the British papers. The whole situation is a serious involvement.

* * *

A correspondent to the Vancouver Daily Star a few days since makes a serious allegation suggesting a system of espionage at the public library of the class of literature attractive to some of its readers. He relates his experience, how one evening in the reading room he noticed a plain clothes officer with an individual he regarded as a stool-pigeon; he heard someone remark as he passed, "See that man," evidently calling attention to himself. Shortly afterwards a man who had taken a seat beside him touched him on the arm, remarking "Read that," and he noted the particular paragraph in the book opened, which read, briefly, something to the effect that "the poor will never be happy until they have torn the possessions from the rich." When the man left, the writer of the letter followed him down the staircase and saw him conversing with the party who had called attention to him.

* * *

Another experience is given, and he feels there is some subtle overlooking of what readers are interested in; his particular political opinions, as the writer says, may be responsible for this attention, but he, and we, fail to see the right of the library authorities—if it be they responsible—to discriminate. We hope there is not so much of this as appears on the surface, but as the writer is one of the unfortunately many unemployed he may be a marked man. If so, why?

* * *

Here are a few terse sentences of what Socialism is, and what Socialism is not, well worth getting into your systems, to dury amplify and pass on for the benefit of those who don't know or don't want to know:

It is not the kind of state ownership which places the control of industry in the hands of bureaucratic state officials.

It is not a big centralized machine bound by red tape, inefficient, and destructive of personal initiative.

It is the ownership of the means of life by the people and for the people (instead of by the profiteers for the profiteers) through public bodies—local as well as national.

It is the control of industry by the workers (instead of the shirkers)—by those who know most about it (instead of those who know little about it).

(Note—By "workers" we mean all who contribute some useful service—not only the manual and brain workers, but the technical and administrative staffs.)

It is the reorganization of industry for use (instead of for profit), by co-operation between representatives of the producers in each public service and representatives of the consumers.

It means that the land, the mines, the railways, and industry generally, shall become the property of the people, and that the wealth produced shall be used to give comfort to all—instead of luxury to the few, whilst the many are poor).

It means that the workers shall have a real share in the control of their industry, and thatt he consumers shall be able effectively to voice their needs.

This is Socialism, so work for reconstruction on these lines.

* * *

The coal probe at Winnipeg seems to be stirring up some very dirty water.

* * *

Premier Baldwin appears to be trying a species of hypnotism with some of the labor men in the British parliament. Well, we'll back Wheatley, Cook and a few more "extremists" to recall them from their hypnotic dreams at the psychological moment, for trouble is a-brewing fast.

* * *

Another Friday, the 13th! Unlucky combination! Be on your guard, buy two "Feds" today, read and pass them on, then all will be well!

FIGHT FOR FREEDOM

[Written for the B. C. Federationist]

If how a man would fight,
Then list the way he sings
While battling for the right.
(The world for freedom rings.)

Observe the stroke he strikes.
(Heed what to you is told.)
A brave for freedom hikes
As in the days of old.

—G. B.

Say not the language we speak is different. Acts, tears, and martyrdom are a language common to all men, and which all understand.—Mazzini.

Trust that man in nothing who has not a conscience in everything.—Sterne.

THE GRAND HOTEL

The Grand hotel, 24 Water street, has lately been renovated and painted up, and now presents a very neat and attractive appearance. This hotel has always been popular as the home of the logger and lumber worker in the old days under the late Tommy Roberts. The new proprietors of this hotel, Messrs. Clarke & Kane, are striving to make it a "home hotel for the boys" when they drop in from the camps. We wish the new owners all success in their efforts to make this a working man's hotel.

54th Anniversary

(Continued from page 1)

which the ambitions of power are veiled, became a political necessity and was intensely pursued. All this movement was resulting in an intensification of the nationalistic spirit. The industrial development and the revival of nationalism was a cultural movement which continually got more politically embittered, and which through imperialistic outgrowths in England, Germany, France and Russia has been a main factor in the recent war. The tides were running against the Commune and peace, labor and liberty and their ideal Universal Republic, the very antithesis of the nation-state, in the direction of vast accumulations of mobile capital, economic imperialisms, exploitation of all underlying peoples, and world-wide wars. The world rejected the working class communards' Universal Re-public, turned away from John Ball's city of God on earth, once again crucified the Christ. The learned intellectuals and the moralists of the pulpit, degrading their function, pursuading themselves that it is glorious to die intellectually and morally for the nation-state, beat its drums and rallied the peoples to the race of industrial and commercial rivalries, exploitations of weak peoples and imperialistic wars. Is the outcome such that we can say they possess that wisdom that upholds a joyful earth?

Let us see in what manner the world treated with the Commune. A German army was still on the outskirts of Paris as an army of occupation, but it was supposed to be neutral in respect of the struggle between the Commune and the French national government. Bismarck, however, had already declared, "When all the revolutionists of Europe shall be gathered, the trap will be shut and he will be fortunate who escapes from it." Great, far-seeing statesman! Where is now his Hohenzollerns in whose interest he plotted and schemed and used men and nations as pawns? Who thought he could stamp out an "idea"! The communards are dead, but it liveth!

Perhaps in England distance and democracy and the sea between will ensure detachment from the passionate bias—" . . . with their creed of rapine and murder. . . . For the survivors of the Commune, if there are any, we desire no mercy. . . . We know not how to frame a plea for the abominable and unsexed women who have been as savage as the men and perhaps more treacherous. . . . Leave no undying hates to smolder. . . . " (Expression taken from as many editorials in the "Illustrated London News," published during course of siege and subsequent massacres and executions.) A million times they killed the communards, yet the "idea," it fructifies.

Turn we now to France to see how bourgeois France has dealt with working class Paris of the beleaguered and finally defeated Commune. Here is the balance sheet: Twenty-five thousand men, women and children killed during the battle or after; three thousand at least died in the prisons, the pontoons, the forts, or in consequence of maladies contracted during their captivity; thirteen thousand seven hundred condemned, most of them for life; seventy thousand women, children and old men deprived of their natural supporters or thrown out of France; one hundred and eleven thousand victims at least—that is the balance sheet of bourgeois vengeance for the solitary insurrection of the 18th of March in Paris. Neither years nor victims appeased it, says Lissagaray in his "History of the Commune," they made of it an administrative function methodical and continuous. Oh, worldly-wise bourgeoisie! Yet the "idea," it liveth!

Let us see what kind of people were those communards, quoting only the testimony of journals violently hostile: "The majority have met death like the Arabs after battle, with indifference, with contempt, without hatred, without anger, without insult to their executioners."

"All the soldiers who took part in these executions and whom I have questioned have been unanimous in their accounts.

"One of them said to me: 'We shot about forty of these cannailles at Passy. They all died like sidiers. Some crossed their arms and stood head erect. Others opened their tunics and cried to us 'Fire! we are not afraid of death!' "

Another journalist reports on the conduct of young women: "Come," said one, "save me the trouble of the journey!" and placing herself against a wall, her arms spread open, her breast bare, she seemed to solicit—to provoke death. All those who have been executed thus summarily by furious soldiers have died with a laugh of contempt, like martyrs, who in sacrificing themselves accomplished a great duty.

"Happy the dead! They had not to mount the Calvary of the prisoners." So Lissagaray comments. Acknowledging the prisoners had set up a government, the judges yet tried them as common criminals—Ferre addressing the court said: "A member of the Commune, I am in the hands of its victors. They want my head; they may take it. I will never save my life by cowardice. Free I have lived, so I will die. I add but one word. Fortune is capricious; I confide to the future the care of my memory and my revenge."

His judge replied: "The memory of an assassin."

Six months after his condemnation Gaston Cremieux was led to the Prado at Bordeaux. He said to his guardians: "I will show how a republican should die." He wished to have his eyes unbandaged and to command the fire. They consented. Then, addressing himself to the soldiers: "Aim at the chest; do not touch my head. Fire! Vive la Repub . . . " The last word was cut short by death. Upright at the stakes in Paris, Herpin-Lecroix, Lagrange, and Verdagner cried in unison "Vive la Commune," and died, their faces radiant. Genton at the stake throws away his crutches and falls under lre crying "Vive la Commune." Another group of communards said to the soldiers of the platoon: "We are children of the people, and you are, too. We shall show you that the children of Paris know how to die." And they also fell, crying "Vive la Commune." One day the court-martial heard a woman's voice: "I will not defend myself; I will not be defended," cried Louise Michel. "I belong entirely to the social revolution, and I declare that I accept responsibility for all my acts. . . . I must be cut off from society; you have been told to do so. Well, the commissary of the republic is right. Since it seems that every heart which beats for liberty has only right to a little lead, I, too, demand my part. If you let me live, I shall not cease to cry vengeance. . . . "

Years afterwards a communard writes from the penal settlement at the Antipodes: ". . . Berezowski, this unfortunate man, who has suffered so much for eight years, is almost demented, and it is painful to look upon him. It is terrible, and I dare not think of this. How many months, years, are we still to pass in this bagnio? I tremble at the thought. Despite all, believe that I shall not allow myself to be crushed; my conscience is tranquil, and I am strong. My health alone could betray me and be vanquished, but of myself I am sure, and shall never swerve."

If those communards were criminals—"Brothers, we wish for peace, labor and liberty, and the Universal Republic"—then so were Bruno and Galileo, as indeed their day and generation held them to be so. But as the years unfold, other generations come to reverse that verdict and hold them in high honor. So we socialists of today celebrate the Commune of '71 and hold the communards in affectionate remembrance, who, while they attempted too much, yet suffered and died attempting to make present activity significant of the ideal society. "Though men call them dead, they are a part and parcel of the living wisdom of all things, very stones and pillars that uphold the joyful earth."

Utopia.

"Ho! Bring me my bow of burnished gold;
Bring me my arrow of desire;
And I will build Jerusalem,
In England's green and pleasant land."

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.

Success is a bad word; its false resemblance to merit deceives mankind. —Victor Hugo.

Startling Truths

(Continued from Page 1)

ploited; many methods in use are extremely wasteful and careless, and there is no provision for natural depreciation.

The remedy advocated is birth-control, that is purely voluntary parenthood, rather than hapazard parenthood, and the author replies to the really few and feeble objections, even the moral and theological ones.

If voluntary parentage were the rule and not the exception, not only would the population and food-supply questions be answered, but there would be decided racial, international and individual benefits. Several of the nations are already on the downward grade as intelligence tests show, and this is due to the fact, that the best families, i.e., physically and mentally, do not reproduce themselves as do those who are physically and mentally unfit.

Much international hostility is caused through the population and immigration problems, and in countries like Japan, where some outlet is absolutely necessary, the only practical solution is birth-control. "Mrs. Sanger's recent trip to Japan was as important in its way as was that of Commodore Perry, but government officials turned their deaf ear." says Professor East.

As for as the individual family is concerned, it is easy for anyone to realise the advantages which would follow if every country did as Holland has done (without terrible consequences) namely, to establish clinics for the spread of knowledge. As it is, most so-called advanced countries really perpetuate squalid poverty and fearful ignorance, while the lot of thousands of individual women is a history of despair and drained vitality. And this, chiefly through the hypocrisy of a law "that will one day take precedence over all barbarisms committed by supposedly civilized people," a law which is "broken by the hypocrites who defend it, the law-makers who refuse to repeal it, and the justices who are appointed to uphold it."

LITTLE JABIE SILKSOCKS

[Contributed]

Little Jabie Silksocks
Used to go to school
Little Jabie Silksocks
Never was a fool.

. . . . .

He could smell a dollar
Even in his sleep.
He, and all his pockets,
They were very deep.

One day little Jabie
Got a call to preach.
One to put some dollars,
Just within his reach.

. . . . .

Little Jabie Silksocks
Never let the truth
Interfere with dollars
In his after youth.

When Professor Hearing
Opened peoples' eyes;
Little Jabie told them
He was telling lies.

Little Jabie Silksocks
Never was a fool;
Little Jabie Silksocks
Loved the GOLDEN rule.

In bourgeois society living labor is but a means of increasing accumulated labor (capital). In Communist society accumulated labor is but a means of enlarging, enriching, and promoting the existence of the laborer.—Marx.

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DO YOU realize the convenience of choosing a hat so harmonize, in the same store, at the same time as you buy your spring costume! "Famous" gives you that service now, in the up-to-date Millinery Department above the main floor. And "Famous" "quick turnover" policy guarantees biggest possible value.

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SO. VANCOUVER UNEMPLOYED

We had a "breezy" time at our weekly meeting at the Municipal hall on Tuesday. Two councillors present were invited to speak, and some interesting questions were discussed. It was stated that work was to be found for some unemployed at $2.00 per day, and the secretary was instructed to write the Trades and Labor council on this matter.

Cedar Cottage sewers and the sewer board's job was fully discussed, but nothing definite was known, and the work may be delayed for months. Meanwhile the problem of "eats" has to be considered, so delegates were appointed to wait on the reeve and engineer as regards work immediately or full maintenance.

There is still great distress in many homes through lack of employment in this district, and all unemployed should attend these meetings and help to make a bold stand for justice. E. D. Brewer, secretary, 4854 James street, South Vancouver.

Hand The Federationist to your shopmate when you are through with it.

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W. B. Brummitt

412 Hastings Street West

THE PRESS

HY does a workingman who carries a union card vote the Conservative or Liberal ticket, and not or? Because he reads his mas's press and is ignorant.

Why does a workingman press and nt for a system which robs, enves and degrades millions of his ss? Because he reads his master's ss and is fooled by it.

Why is a workingman, in spite of limitless creative power, unable keep himself out of the bread line? d is not a man but an echo.

Why do the daughters of the work- fill the brothels and the sweated des? Because their parents read ir master's press which hides from m the truth that which would ke them free.

Why does a working man say, "Oh, at's the use; you can't change ngs"? Because he reads his mas's press which shouts "you can't nge things."

Why does a workingman shout in blic, "Woman's place is the home," d then send his daughter of twelve hunt a job? Because he doesn't nk, he lets his master's press think him.

f you want to remain a first class ve read the master's press.

EVERY READER CAN HELP

Every reader of The Federationist n render valuable assistance by rewing their subscriptions as soon as ey are due, and by inducing another rker to subscribe. It does not take ch effort to do this. Try it.

The rich grow rapidly richer, whilst re is no perceptible advance in comfort enjoyed by the industrial sses.—Professor Fawcett.

TO THE MEMBERS OF LABOR ORGANIZATIONS

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y district in British Columbia desiring mation re securing speakers or the forn of local branches, kindly communicate Provincial Secretary J. Lyle Telford, Birks Bldg., Vancouver, B. C. Telne Seymour 1382, or Bayview 5520.

ERY SALESMEN, LOCAL 871—Meets econd Thursday every month in Holden ding. President, J. Brightwell; financial etary, H. A. Bowron, 929—11th Avenue

ERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF oilermakers, Iron Shipbuilders and Helof America, Local 194—Meetings first third Mondays in each month in Holden ding. President, P. Willis; secretary, A. er. Office hours, 9 to 11 a.m. and 3 to 5

IC EMPLOYEES UNION—Meets first d third Fridays in each month, at 445 ards Street. President, David Cuthill, Albert Street; secretary-treasurer, Geo. son, 1182 Parker Street.

INEERS — INTERNATIONAL UNION Steam and Operating, Local 882—s every Wednesday at 8 p.m., Room Holden Bldg. President, Charles Price; iness agent and financial secretary, F. L. t; recording secretary, J. T. Venn.

SICIANS' MUTUAL PROTECTIVE NION, Local 145, A. F. of M.—Meets in V.A. Auditorium, 901 Dunsmuir Street, nd Sunday at 10 a.m. President, E. C. r, 991 Nelson Street; secretary, E. A. eson, 991 Nelson Street; financial secre- W. E. Williams, 991 Nelson Street; niser, F. Fletcher, 991 Nelson Street.

VANCOUVER THEATRICAL FEDERTION—Meets at 991 Nelson Street, at 11 on the Tuesday preceding the 1st Sun- of the month. President, Harry Pearson, Nelson Street; Secretary, E. A. Jamie- 991 Nelson Street; Business Agent, F. her, 991 Nelson St.

OGRAPHICAL UNION, No. 226—Presint, R. P. Pettipiece; vice-president, C. ampbell; secretary-treasurer, R. H. Neals, P. O. Box 66. Meets last Sunday of month at 2 p.m. in Holden Building, 16 ings Street East.

NCE RUPERT TYPOGRAPHICAL NION, No. 413—President, S. D. Macald, secretary-treasurer, J. M. Campbell, . Box 689. Meets last Thursday of each h.

Organic Evolution

[By Charles Hill-Tout, F. R. S. C., F. R. A. I., etc.)

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ARTICLE XVIII.

IN our survey thus far of the evolutionary course taken by the life forms on our globe, we have had occasion at times to speak of this or that geological period or life-era, taking it rather for granted that all our readers were familiar with these terms. Before going further it may not be amiss if we devote a portion of this article to a brief consideration of these time divisions and familiarize our minds with their sequences. By so doing we shall get a better and clearer view of the general onward march of life; and shall be able to perceive how insensibly one life order has, on the whole, merged into and been succeeded by another; and how continuous and unbroken has been the stream of life from the beginning down to our own day.

The geological record is usually divided into five great "eras" or primary life-divisions. These are subdivided into "periods," and some of these again into "epochs." The first and remotest of these eras is called the Archæozoic or earliest life era (from the Greek arche beginning, and zoe, life.) The second is called the Proterozoic or early life era (from the Greek proteros, early, and zoe, life.) These two together constitute what is known as the Pre-Cambrian age. We can gather very little knowledge of the life-forms that existed in those far-off times on account of the wide-spread alteration and deformation of the rocks of this age. Pre-Cambrian fossils are exceedingly scanty. Heat, pressure and other crustal disturbances have obliterated or destroyed most of them. It is thought that the time occupied by these two Pre-Cambrian eras was longer than all the succeeding ones put together. It can only be very vaguely estimated by tens, or more probably by hundreds, of millions of years.

The next, or third division, is known as the Palæozoic or ancient life era (from the Greek palaios, ancient; and zoe, life.) This era is usually divided into six "periods" called respectively: Cambrian, Ordovician, Silurian, Devonian, Carboniferous and Permian. The last named is regarded by some geologists as one of the subdivisions of the Carboniferous, and not treated as a separate period. But we need not consider such nice distinctions as these in this inquiry.

The characteristic life-forms of the first three of these Palæozoic periods —the Cambrian, Ordovician and Silurian—are the animals without backbones. It is the age, par excellence, of the invertebrates. In the three later periods—the Devonian, Carboniferous and Permian—the early vertebrates—the Fish, the Amphibians and the primitive Reptiles—are the characteristic life-forms; the Devonian being particularly distinguished as the "Ages of Fishes," so predominant were these forms during that period. The Palæozoic rocks reached a great thickness, estimated to be not less than 100,000 feet. One system alone — the Cambrian — attained a maximum depth in the Canadian Rockies of 40,000 feet, or between seven and eight miles. The duration of the Palæozoic era was thus very considerable, second only to that of Pre-Cambrian time. It far exceeded the two subsequent eras put together; and would appear to have not been less than fifty millions of years in all.

The Mesozoic or middle-life era (from the Greek mesos, middle; and zoe, life) is usually divided into three separate periods, namely: the Triassic, Jurassic and Cretaceous. The duration of the Mesozoic is estimated at from ten to twelve millions of years. Throughout this era the Reptiles are the dominant life-forms. The Mesozoic is pre-eminently the "Age of Reptiles." We dealt with them in the last article.

The fifth and latest life-era is the Cainozoic or recent-life era (from the Greek kainos, recent; and zoe, life). The dominant life-forms of this era are the mammals. The Cainozoic is pre-eminently the "Age of Mammals." Its duration is variously estimated at from three to five millions of years. This is the era in which we ourselves are living. It is commonly divided into two periods known as the Tertiary and the Quaternary; the former occupying from three to four millions of years and the latter from 500,000 to one million of years. These periods are again subdivided into "epochs," the Tertiary having four and the Quaternary two, of these. The terms by which these epochs are known indicate the greater or less number of the present-day life-forms found in each of them. These terms in the Tertiary (reading upwards) are:

(1) The Eocene, the epoch of the dawn of the present-day or recent life-forms (from the Greek eos, dawn; and kainos, recent.)

(2) The Oligocene, the epoch when only a few of the present-day or recent life-forms had appeared (from the Greek oligos, few or little; and kainos, recent.)

(3.) The Miocene, the epoch when less of the recent life-forms appear than in the epoch following (from the Greek meion, less; and kainos, recent.)

(4) The Pliocene, the epoch when more of the recent life-forms are found (from the Greek pleion, more; and kainos, recent).

In the Quaternary they are:

(1) The Pleistocene, the epoch in which most of the recent life-forms appear (from the Greek pleistos, most; and kainos, recent.)

This epoch takes in, and is generally regarded as synchronous with, the Glacial Age.

(2) Holocene, the epoch when all the recent life-forms appear (from the Greek olos, all, the whole; and kainos, recent).

These useful, connotive terms were given to the divisions of the Tertiary and Quarternary periods by Lyell, the most distinguished of the British geologists of the last century. They mark, as has been said, the gradual evolution and appearance of the modern forms as represented by that common geological time-standard—the Molluscs.

With these time divisions and life-eras more clearly before us we may now enter upon our consideration of the evolutionary history of the latest and most highly-organized of all the life-forms—the Mammals.

As far as we can gather from the palæontological evidence the reptilian age came to a relatively abrupt termination. There is a great biological break between the closing phase of the Mesozoic era and the opening phase of the succeeding Cainozoic. Whole chapters in the life-history of the Cretaceous reptiles and Eocene mammals are missing; and what they contained we have to discover as best we may by inference. Geologists tell us this period was one of wide-spread crustal movement and disturbance, of mountain-forming on a large scale, with consequent alteration in climatic and other environmental conditions. By the time the Eocene epoch was well advanced, thirteen of the known eighteen orders of the Mesozoic reptiles had entirely disappeared from the face of the earth and their place had been taken by the Eocene mammals. The toothed birds, characteristic of the Cretaceous, had also disappeared along with the fierce and bulky dinosaurs, and we find in their place new forms more nearly akin to those of the present day. A mighty transformation is everywhere apparent; a new world, peopled with new forms of life, bursts as it were suddenly upon our view.

This biological break, with its many missing links, makes it very difficult for us to follow the earliest phases of mammalian evolution; for while palæontologists do not for a moment doubt the reptilian descent of the mammals, the tracing of the direct lines of this descent presents many difficulties. Theoretically speaking the reptilian affinities of the mammals are established beyond question by the present existence in Australia and New Guinea of intermediate, connecting forms. We find there a line of primitively-formed egg-laying mammals, of which the strange duck-mole or Platypus is the best known type. This anomalous creature links up the two life-orders in a truly remarkable and highly suggestive way. Darwin called it "a living fossil," and so it would appear to be. It is as much a reptile as a mammal. It lays real eggs like the Mesozoic and most of the modern reptiles. It has also a common, single outlet for its excreta, and likewise possesses other characteristic, reptilian features; but unlike the reptiles it suckles its young like a mammal, except that it has no "mammæ" or milk organs proper. In place of these it has a number of punctures on its breast from which a fatty liquid oozes, to be licked off by the newly-hatched young.

It is thus seen to be neither truly reptile nor truly mammal, but plainly an intermediate or transitional form standing fairly midway between the two life-orders. We could hardly ask for better evidence of the genetic relationship of the two classes than is furnished by these anomalous, stereotyped forms that have come down to us little changed in character from Mesozoic times.

We know, too, that numbers of such ambiguous, transitional forms, as the Australian duck-mole and the spiny ant-eater, must have existed in those days, for many of their fossils have been recovered. There is one well-known form in particular—Tritylodon—which has been made a kind of shuttlecock by zoologists who have studied it, so indeterminate are its characters and so difficult is it to decide whether it should be classed as a reptile or a mammal. And we cannot doubt that if all these ambiguous, indeterminate forms were known to us it would often be impossible to say definitely to which group many of them belonged.

With these facts in our mind and with these intermediate connecting fossil and living forms before us, it is not possible to doubt the genetic descent, by modification, of the mammals from the earlier reptiles.

Accepting, then, as biologists everywhere do, this descent as an incontrovertible and well-ascertained fact, what may we gather concerning the course mammalian evolution has taken? Can we learn anything of the stages through which it has passed since the period of Tritylodon of Triassic times? Let us see.

In our survey of the rise and adaptive radiation of the Reptiles, we saw that some of the early Permian forms were characterized by mammalian features. It was stated, too, that these Theromopha were generally regarded by palæontologists as the original source or ancestral stock from which the mammals are descended. What became of these Permian pro-mammals? What do we know of their subsequent history?

We know they diverged into various groups more or less distinct from one another, some being herbivorous and others carnivorous in habit and that they spread over three continents. If we are to judge by the evidence of fossils alone they would seem to have become extinct before the Mesozoic was well advanced, for no fossilized forms are found after the advent of the Jurassic. To what cause can we attribute this seeming extinction? We know they survived the severe changes which brought the Palæozoic to a close and ushered in the Mesozoic. It is possible that rapid development resulted in such high specialization as to unfit them for the new condition of things and competition with the better-adapted reptiles of the Jurassic, and so brought about their end in this way. This is the common view taken regarding their disappearance. But it by no means necessarily follows that because they seem to disappear in the Jurassic they became extinct and left no progeny to succeed them.

Practically all our knowledge of the life-forms of the Mesozoic era is drawn from fossils obtained from swamp, marsh, delta and lagoon deposits. We know little or nothing of the life-forms that may have occupied the uplands of that era. It is quite possible that mammalian life-forms may have spread to, and existed in such regions throughout the whole Mesozoic. Indeed, we are almost driven to postulate some such condition of things when all the facts are taken into consideration; for in the very earliest of the Tertiary upland deposits there is revealed to us a wonderfully rich and highly-varied mammalian fauna.

Whence came these? It does not seem possible to derive them from the tiny very generalized mammals known from fossil evidence to have been contemporaneous with the Jurassic and Cretaceous Reptiles. It is far more reasonable to regard these numerous and highly differentiated forms as the direct descendents of a Mesozoic fauna that had persisted from Permain times, the period of the advent of the Theromorpha or pro-mammals. The fact that we know of no upland fossil-bearing deposits belonging to the Mesozoic is no argument against their existence. Such deposits may yet be discovered if they have not been, as is very possible, wholly wiped out by erosion, or by those crustal disturbances we know to have occurred at the close of the Mesozoic and the beginning of the Cainozoic, when the Rockies and the Alps came into existence.

Another view has been put forward, and is now held by some of our palæontologists, to account for the seemingly sudden appearance of these early Tertiary mammals. This supposes the existence, in some portion of the globe, which had been cut off and isolated from the rest, early in Mesozoic times by impassible barriers, of a mammalian fauna which flourished there throughout the whole Mesozoic era. These barriers, it is thought, were broken down by the secular changes which ushered in the Cainozoic era; and the new conditions of life being favorable to this liberated fauna, it rapidly spread over the world and took the place of the now extinct reptiles.

Both of these views are quite reasonable and the second receives strong support from the analogy of the condition and long isolation of the fauna of Australasia. Here both the fauna and flora, by the isolation of this region from the rest of the world since Mesozoic times down to our own day, and by the absence of competition with other life-forms, have retained in large measure their primitive characters, while at the same time evolving and becoming specialized along their own peculiar lines.

In their general physical characters the early Eocene mammals were in many ways very similar to the present-day mammals of Australia and New Zealand. They pointed most clearly to a Mesozoic ancestry; and as a class they became extinct by the beginning of the Oligocene epoch. Some of them were pouch-bearing animals similar to those of Australasia. Others of them were true placental mammals though of a primitive and lowly-organized type. We learn from their teeth that some of them were rodents, while others were fruit-eaters and still others insectivors.

The most conspicuous of these Eocene mammals were those known as the Amblypoda (Greek amblus, blunt; and pous, foot). Some of these, notably Eobasileus, were of immense proportions and highly suggestive of the bulky rhinoceros and hippopotamus which were later to appear. Their heads were the most peculiar feature about them. Upon these they carried three pairs of knob-like horns; one pair over the nostrils, a second and larger pair over the eyes, and the third and largest pair behind the ears. They also possessed a pair of dependent canine teeth closely resembling those of the sabre-tooth tiger also to appear later. The brain of these bulky, slow-moving animals was very small in proportion to their size; not bigger than that of a dog, though some of them must have weighed as much as two tons. The structure of the brain, too, was of a low order, resembling that of the reptiles. This small size and poor development of the brain may have contributed largely to bring about their extinction; for *by the close of the Eocene they had* all disappeared. They, would seem to have lacked the ability to successfully compete with their more highly-endowed rivals in the life-struggle.

Of these early Cainozoic mammals it would seem that only one class could have been the ancestors of the present-day mammals. This was probably one of the small insectivors.

As early as Huxley's time it was pointed out that we must look for the ancestry of the modern mammals in some animal of the insect-eating type. Such a line of ancestors is strongly suggested by what we know of the teeth of the mammals. Modern research points in the same direction, to some such insectivor as the present-day, little tree-shrew. Not only our own remote ancestors, but also those of the other mammals would seem to have been tree-climbers. Arboreal habits are plainly indicated in the limb-grasping adaptions of many of the present-day mammals. Our highest authorities on these matters are now largely a unit in tracing the descent of the modern mammals from some insectivorous ancestor, which passed much of its existence in trees. If, therefore, any of the early Eocene mammals are to be regarded as the ancestral forms from which the modern mammals have sprung, it must be one of the little, tree-loving insectivors.

From such an ancestor, Osborn, with his wide knowledge of Palæontology and Morphology finds no difficulty in deriving the whole ten major groups into which he divides the modern mammals, namely:

(1) Whales, (2) Seals (marine carnivores), (3) Carnivores, (terrestrial), (4) Insectivores, (5) Bats, (6) Hoofed animals, (7) Manatees (Sirenia or Sea-Cows), (8) Rodents, (9) Edenates (toothless animals such as the Ant-eater), (10) Primates, including Lemurs, Monkeys, Apes and Man.

From the highly-specialized and widely-differentiated mammals of today to a little tree-climbing insectivor like the shrew, will seem to the average lay mind, uninstructed in the principles of morphology, a far cry indeed. The gap will appear to him too great to be bridged. Yet each year, with its fresh accesions of palæontological evidence, brings confirmation of this genetic relationship, and the gap is steadily growing narrower with every new discovery. And investigators, like Sir Ray Lankester in England, and Professor Fairfield Osborn in America who have given a life-time of study to the tracing out of these relationships and who have seen link after link in the chain of evidence come to light, are very sanguine that science will be able, in the near future, to demonstrate, by the help of discoveries yet to be made, this descent and common origin, to the satisfaction of any intelligent person who will view the evidence with open mind.

Already the ancestral history of many of the present-day mammals has been fairly-well worked out. Notably that of the horse, the camel, and the elephant. We are able to trace back the lineage of these animals by means of intermediate forms to early Tertiary times. The ancestral history of the horse has, perhaps been retraced with the most detail, and a brief review of the palæontological evidence, by which the evolutionary transformations of this well-known animal have been followed step by step will be very enlightening. It will also, incidentally, help us to understand how the modern mammals could have been derived from earlier and less-specialized forms, and these again from some common ancestor of more generalized character.

This review we will take up in the next article.

(To be Continued)

The best work never was nor ever will be done for money at all.—John Ruskin.

Walk not with the world where it is walking wrong.—Carlyle.

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VANCOUVER, B. C.

At the Orpheum Theatre

On March 19, 20 and 21, the Orpheum theatre will celebrate its twelfth anniversary by presenting a great birthday bill of unusually brilliant vaudeville. Jack Norworth, vaudeville's popular comedian and legitimate stage star, assisted by Miss Dorothy Adelphi, is offering his latest songs and stories. He is sharing a headline position with George Jessell, musical comedy star, who is making his last appearance in vaudeville before being starred in a new musical play. He is accompanied by two winsome lassies Mary Lucas and Lillian Price, who are as clever as they are pretty, which is saying a great deal.

Dick Lucke and his "Arcadians," are syncopators supreme. They have with them Miss Jane Smith, and a dancing ensemble of eight dashing damsels who are real mistresses of terpsichore. Paul Morton and Naomi Glass have a comedy skit called "April"—in two showers.

"Broken Toys" unfolds what is perhaps the loveliest novelty of color, spectacle and entertainment seen here in some time. The individual artists are as varied in character as they are numerous. Harry King and George Brown, present a startling acrobatic and comedy bit in this extraordinary act. Marie Veatch's "dainty dancing debutantes," an ensemble of nine spritely girls, provides a background of beauty, each of the girls is a specialty artist, while their group dancing is of remarkable precision and skill. A Toy Band that plays jazz in a gorgeous setting. There are twenty three performers in this act alone.

Harris and Holley are colored commedians who present a laughable skit called "Push 'em and Pull 'em". It contains some songs and a bundle of mirth. Bicknell, "The Model Baker," is a lucky chap. he has a bevy of pretty girls who help him bake the dough in a very pretty musical revue. The Aesop's Fable is called "Black Magic". Then there are Topics of the Day, and the Orpheum concert orchestra, under the leadership of William Pilling, has a new program of selections. Its a great bill.

Praise, and not fault-finding, is the teacher's best weapon.—Bishop of Norwich.

The Federationist believes in a "cultural revolution," not a "bloody revolution."

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.

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A Necessary Work

(Continued from Page 1)

in which our small population had been scattered about by speculators who frequently withheld choice lands or mines, close to railroads, and thus drove settlers to the back blocks.

That a large part of the population were engaged in manufacturing, and that some of the manufactures produced goods of undoubted value, whilst others were of little use to the community, although they employed many hands. For instance a great tobacco industry had been built up and was being extended by extensive advertising and modern methods of pushing business, so that most boys and girls in Canada were encouraged to smoke. That the use of tobacco does not need to be encouraged and although the business has made some millionaires it has not been a blessing to the nation.

That the manufacture and sale of alcohol as a beverage has also been encouraged, although it is known to be harmful, even in small quantities, and its use should be reduced to the minimum, but many individuals and some governments have been making "easy money" out of it, so the public welfare has not been considered.

That the manufacture and sale of many other articles is being pushed by lying advertisements so that "soothing syrups" and harmful preparations are being palmed off on the public.

That untruthfulness in the nation is promoted by the habitual use of lies and exaggeration in advertisements, and that lying and fraud and sharp practises characterise modern business.

That the machinery of distribution is inefficient and the public not well served thereby; inspite of the hard work and obvious ability of very many of those engaged in it.

That there are at least ten times too many lawyers, and far too many agents, and that the support of such people is a great tax on industry.

That ownership constitutes in itself no service to humanity; therefore, rents and interest are unnecessary.

That good management is essential, and that society should be willing to give good value for it.

But you will say, "We knew all this before." I certainly make no pretense of exposing any fresh secrets, but it is these simple sort of facts, that we must use, driving them into the thick and unwilling and indifferent heads of the common people. We must make them "class conscious," as I claim to be; only the two classes that I divide mankind into, are the useful and the useless classes.

There is already a fairly healthy sentiment on this continent against idleness. I glance at the paper and see that the richest heiress in America is too marry a poor man, and that they are to live simply, and she will do at least part of the housework, etc., that she has only had a few cents of pocket money per week hitherto and has played at being poor and honest quite successfully. Nearly all the sons of rich men are taught some business or profession and many take their work seriously. What we have to insist on is: that work to be really useful must be regulated; that production without system and co-ordination with other production, is like running an engine without a flywheel and governors.

How we may set about regaining control of our wild productive forces, and become their masters instead of their victims we must leave to another essay.

Dr. Gallant, Chiropractor, 712 Robson

NOTICE TO BUILDING CONTRACTORS

TENDERS wanted for building addition to the General Gordon School, 6th Ave. and Bayswater Street, Vancouver, B. C.

Plans and specifications to be obtained from the Architect, School Board Office, corner Hamilton and Dunsmuir streets, after 9 a.m. March 16, 1925, on deposit of $25.00.

Tenders in duplicate enclosed with marked cheque for $5,000.00 in sealed envelope addressed to Chairman and Secretary Vancouver School Board, and endorsed "Tender for General Gordon School Addition," must be handed to the Secretary between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m., Friday, March 27, 1925.

Tenders will be opened at a special meeting of the board at 8 p.m. same day, at which tenderer can be present.

Lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

B. G. WOLFE-MERTON,
Secretary Vancouver School Board.

House of Commons

(Continued from page 1)

starvation at the present time." Thus spoke workmen of the Conciliation Board, grown hopeless of ever finding a basis for conciliation. "How can we conduct that fight in the face of the opposition of the press, the provincial and Dominion governments and the public at large, all of whom are forced to misjudge us by the false propaganda of the corporation?" The odds sound heavy indeed.

But are they? I glanced over the floor of the House and felt reassured. Was not Labor itself championing its own cause, and through one of the ablest fighters in public life.? Beside him sat another brilliant and fearless speaker. To their right and behind them sat other men and one woman, who, if not specifically committed to Labor, yet could be depended upon to rally to the defence of practically every plank in the Labor platform. Glancing further afield, I caught expressions of understanding and sympathy in unexpected places. In the press gallery was more than one free lance pencil, whose stories, unedited by party censors, would find small but eager audiences throughout this broad land. No, the coal miners and steel workers of Nova Scotia might be further removed from the court of justice than they are. Tardy justice will come to them—in so far as the present system of trade and economics permits.

And there is the real rub. Any corporation, through public pressure persistently applied, can be induced to toe the legal line, obey the existing laws governing capital and labor. But this does not bring in Utopia, or even a just distribution of the desirable things of this world. The brotherhood of man, in a more practical form than the world has ever practiced, alone can do this. . . .

In the meantime, what of the "acute distress" among these workers? As one member questioned: "What is going to happen to the Canadian women and children who are there, to those people who have nothing whatever to do with this industrial strife, but who must suffer because of it?" Blaming the tariff, or the lack of it, competition of non-union miners, delinquencies of the British Empire Steel Corporation, is cold comfort to these. Can the government longer evade coming to the rescue with the only substance that talks under such circumstances? Of course it is an expensive and wasteful method of meeting social obligations, but we should have thought of that before. After all, a blow to our pocketbooks might prove the most effective method of effecting a cure, just as it was to the burgomasters of Flanders and the merchants of the Thirteen Colonies. We are inclined to wax sentimental over cold, hunger, want; but increased taxation brings immediate action. "If a brother or sister be naked and destitute of daily food, and one of you say unto them, 'Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled,' notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body, what doth it profit?"

Press Gallery, Ottawa.

Power, like a desolating pestilence, pollutes whate'er it touches; and obedience, bane of all genius, virtue, freedom, truth, makes slaves of men, and of the human frame a mechanised automaton.—Shelley.

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

J. S. WOODSWORTH

Member for Centre Winnipeg Delivers Important Speech in Parliament.

GOVERNMENT OF INTERESTS

Decidedly Not One Representative of the Great Masses of the People.

(From Hansard of February 10)

(Continued from last week.)

I SHOULD like to ask, in passing, one other question: How was this debt created? I think attention has been drawn within the last two or three years to a little pamphlet issued by the Liberal party, back in May, 1915, with regard to war contract scandals—horses, boots, drugs, binoculars, motors trucks, and so on. This same matter is alluded to in a motion already on the order paper of the present session. It was stated at that time:

One outstanding fact in connection with the investigation should be kept in mind. The total amount of money involved in the purchases investigated was no more than $3,000,000. This included the price of the submarines. In other words, the Public Accounts committee's investigation touched less than one-sixteenth of the $50,000,000 voted by parliament in August for war purposes.

What about the other two billions that were spent on war? What are we going to do about it? Simply forget all the past and burden ourselves, and our children, and our children's children with these enormous loads? Have those who looted the public treasury been prosecuted? This is the question that many are asking today, though it may not often be asked in this House. Has the government sought to recover the loot? No. On the other hand we continue to pay interest on the graft. It may very well be said that many of the present bondholders are innocent. That may be true, but I submit that in ordinary legal practice the receivers of stolen goods, although they may suffer hardships, are not protected in this way.

I should like to pause for just a few minutes to consider another development that has taken place in Canada that will bring us under bondage not merely to a portion of our own people, but ultimately to an outside nation. In a review of the United States investments in Canada, issued by the United States Department of Commerce under the direction of Herbert Hoover, the following statement is made:

Economically and socially Canada may be considered as a northern extension of the United States, and our trade with Canada is in many respects more like domestic trade than our foreign trade with other countries.

The United States capital invested in Canada, the department shows, has increased from $420,000,000 in 1915 to at least $2,425,000,000 in 1922, or nearly six-fold. In the same period British capital in Canada has remained very nearly stationary, amounting to $1,860,000,000 in 1915, and to $1,980,000,000 in 1922. Further than that, the United States in recent years has largely replaced Great Britain as Canada's Banker. In the eight years just preceding the war 73.5 per cent of all of Canada's borrowings were from Great Britain and 9 per cent from the United States. In the eight years ending with 1922 only 2 per cent of Canada's borrowing came from Great Britain and 33 per cent from the United States. I might add, on the authority of Sir Frederick Williams-Taylor that in 1924 Canada's borrowings in the New York market amounted to two hundred millions which, as he quite correctly points out in a passage already quoted, means a definite added interest charges on the people of this country. It would seem that if these conditions continue very much longer Canadians may be reduced to the position of being literally hewers of wood and drawers of water for the capitalists of the United States. Then too, it should be noted, these enormous incomes that are being enjoyed by the people of the United States are not taxed as the Canadian incomes are taxed. According to the Commissioner of Taxation "under the provisions of the Income War Tax Act, 1917 a non-resident is not liable to income tax in respect of dividends or interest paid to him by the Canadian company." So there we have the situation, that although enormous wealth is being produced in this country a very considerable poportion of it is being drained away to others who do not assume their fair share of the load. I have nothing whatever against the capital being American in ownership; but this condition enables us to see very clearly the character of the great economic movements of the present day. There are some in the west who will tell us that the solution is to break up confederation. There are some from the east who are inclined to echo the same doctrine. I do not wonder very much that this position is being taken by those who are carrying an undue proportion of this load. But I should like to urge that economic questions are deeper than political questions, and that economic questions cannot be solved by mere political methods; they require economic solutions.

I should like now, for a few moments, to come particularly to the Speech as it refers to the labor people of Canada. I do not know that it was any great surprise but certainly it is a matter of keen regret to the labor men across Canada that the Speech contains no intimation what ever that the government is proposing at the present session to carry out its pledges made to labor. I hold in my hand a copy of a pamphlet entitled "Liberal and Labor". A pre-election appeal to labor issued by the Liberal committee in October, 1921, at the very forefront of which stands the name of Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King, Liberal leader. This document begins by critizing the Conservatives for their action, or rather inaction, with regard to labor affairs.

The Conservative government failed to act. It was all a case of promise and pretense used only to fool the labor vote on the eve of election.

I wonder whether this document can be said to differ very largely from those issued by the Conservatives, and I consider that it ought to be known to the labor people across Canada from coast to coast that the actual record of the Liberal government during the past three years has been almost barren of any enactment that is in the interest of the group commonly known as labor. The Liberals advocated at that time, the placing of the implements of production and food on the free list. I waited for three years for something along that line, and then last year introduced an ammendment to the budget—but without any very noticeable results. In addition to the tariff policy referred to this document goes on—

Resolved that the committee recommends that the National Liberal Convention accept in their entirety, as a part of the Liberal platform in the spirit they have been framed, and in so far as the special circumstances of the country will permit, the terms of the Labor Convention and general principles associated with the League of Nations and incorporated in the conditions of peace.

Now, let me remind the House that these general principles incorporated into the treaty at the Peace Conference of Versailles are just as vitally a part of that treaty as were any of the international boundaries drawn up at that time, and labor had a right to expect their fulfilment. And further, we have here the promise that the Liberal party would carry out these provisions to the utmost of their ability. I propose to read these clauses with very brief comments, asking what the government has done with regard to these reforms to which it is solemnly committed.

These methods and principles for regulating labor conditions so set forth in the treaty are as follows:

First. The guiding principle that labor should not be regarded merely as a commodity or article of commerce.

I should like to ask, the government to point out any specific cases in which they have regarded labor, or enacted legislation providing that labor should not be regarded, as anything else than a commodity. I fail to see any application of that principle in the immigration policy or in the provision for unemployment for example to which we have already referred.

Mr. MACKENKIE KING: What would the hon. gentleman say with regard to the appointment of the President of the Trades and Labor Congress to the Board of the Canadian National Railways?

Mr. WOODSWORTH: I quite intended to recognize that the government had carried out that provision, but I fail to see how he connects the appointment of the President of the Trades and Labor Congress to the Board of the Canadian National Railways with this principle that labor is not to be regarded as a commodity. I am quite open to any suggestion along that line, but I cannot quite see how this action is an application of the principle.

Second. The right of association for all lawful purposes by the employed as well as by the employers.

The only opportunity that we have had of testing the government on that was a resolution I brought forward two years ago, asking that bank clerks be given a right to organize, which resolution was voted down by the government.

Third. The payment to the employed of a wage adequate to maintain a reasonable standard of life as this is understood in their time and country.

It is pointed out here repeatedly that the average wage paid to the employees in this country is far below the average minimum set by the official government standard. Furthermore, many of the government employees are receiving far less than the standard which the government itself sets up as being the minimum for a decent standard of living. As I think I pointed out when the estimates were before the House dealing with civil service employees, there were postal workers, in the city of Winnipeg, employees of this government, receiving a smaller amount than was being paid in doles to those in receipt of charity from the city.

Fourth. The adoption of an eight-hour day or a forty-eight hour week as the standard to be aimed at where it has not already been attained.

The government has sought to escape responsibility for this by saying that this was not within the province of the Dominion government; but last year when they were pressed on this matter by an amendment which I introduced, the Minister of Labor said that it would not be possible to put into practice this principle of an eight-hour day on the government owned public works, because that might involve unfair competition with the private employers.

Mr. MURDOCK: I am sure the hon. gentleman does not desire to make a statement that is not correct, but he does make a statement which is not correct when he says the Minister of Labor said it would not be possible. If the hon. gentleman would stick to the record it would be better I think for him and all concerned.

(To be continued)

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

Timely Topics

The Dawes Plan

THE DAWES PLAN has produced some $144,977,705 we are told. Perhaps it has. Yes, undoubtedly it has—for some fortunate financiers. But what of the poor workers in Germany? What of the workers in France and England? And we might ask further, what about the workers in Canada and the United States? The Dawes plan may have produced some money for a few fortunates; but it has brought, and is going to be the means of bringing more untold misery to the great masses of the workers, the world over. The German workers have been driven to accept the lowest possible standards of living, and now the workers elsewhere are going to be forced to come down to that same level.

Soviet Cuts Taxes

It sounds odd to hear about taxes being cut, when all the while we are experiencing an increase in taxation. To think that the soviet government has granted a 40 percent reduction in next year's agricultural taxes seems rather odd to us when we have been reading what a failure the soviet form of government has been. Our daily press has never ceased to tell us that it has been a failure. We wonder what our farmers would think if they were to experience such a reduction in their taxation. We frankly admit that we can see but little chance of their ever experiencing such a treat under our present form of government—and it is not the soviet form.

Ottawa Government Faces Crisis

Every government is facing a real crisis these days. Conditions are such the world over, as to make us feel that a social crisis is impending. It is inevitable to every thinking mind. They would have us believe that Premier King is facing a crisis on account of the Petersen affair. That is mere camouflage. It may be used for purposes of vote catching at an election, but it is not the cause of the real crisis. A hundred thousand men are out of work in Canada today. Thousands of men and women are living on the verge of destitution. The industrial life of our country is crumbling, whether we like to hear it or not. Taxation is such that it is putting farmers and manufacturers alike out of business. Thousands of our good Canadians are leaving this country and going to the United States. A wonderful country and yet our people can not earn a livelihood in it. Ottawa, indeed, faces a crisis

British Domestics Arrive

Salvation army brings out more girls! One would think that our own girls had to work over time, so great was the demand for their services, and that the Salvation army was taking pity on them, and giving them relief. Nothing is further from the truth. Hundreds of our own girls have been forced on to the streets to earn their livelihood—and now more will have to go that way. What a tragedy! How long are such institutions going to continue, or be allowed to continue, such insane tactics? We wonder. We are not unmindful of the unfortunate girls who have been brought here, either. They are human beings, as we are, and we shudder to think of their lot in this country in the years to come.

Supervising School Libraries

We note with interest the suggestion of the Library Board to take over the supervision or management of the school libraries. We were delighted to see the principals turn down the suggestion. Our own library if all reports are true, and we have no reason to doubt them, is rather antiquated. The supervision is rather reactionary, to say the very least. Nothing very stimulating, or radically inclined, will be allowed to adorn their shelves. Not satisfied with that, they want to get hold of the school libraries and render them absolutely harmless. Some principals may not be very far advanced along lines we might like to see them know a little more about; but, nevertheless; th know a little more about develop mind of the child than the avera librarian we meet.

The Protocol

When Prof. Nearing was in our c a few weeks ago, some one asked h if he thought that the adoption of t protocol would prevent war. He a swered that the protocol would not adopted until it was rendered har less, so far as the preventing of w was concerned. We cannot help b feel that he was right. The way th are juggling with the protocol in E rope today, we feel quite certain th the arms and munition manufacture need have no fear. Their busin will be safe for a time at least.

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