RITISH COLUMBIA FEDERATIONIST

AL UNITY: STRENGTH — OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE FEDERATED LABOR PARTY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA — PUBLISHED IN INTERESTS OF ALL WORKERS — POLITICAL UNITY: VICTORY

TH YEAR. No. 16 — FOUR PAGES — VANCOUVER, B. C., FRIDAY MORNING, APRIL 18, 1924 — 5c A COPY

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AND LABOR

Union-made Overalls -union Made in ish Columbia

GES CONDITIONS

ew Workmen's Com- Board on Schemes actice in B. C.

uver Trades and Labor d its regular bi-monthly uesday night in Holden of the delegates stated to goods made in the forcing workmen to pur- ion overalls, and threat- the union-made goods in the United States if as not done to remedy

discussion on non-union announced that a very ian order for doors was by mills here because ipulated that the goods e by organized labor.

e discussion took place r of the recent investi- medical health office de- he city, and it was deci- city to supply the coun- anscript of the evidence that inquiry.

hat the dominion fair- had returned and nego- been started in connec- ir wage conditions and e waterfront jobs in pro- in the secretary being ask the government to wage officer for each provinces. The delegate ers reported active and se in membership in the ring.

eers' delegate reported n was considering a re- present scale.

ounced that the Canada convention would be held

en's Compensation board viewed by a representa- ouncil on the subject of emes in practice in the ese schemes are hospital ngements made by com- ot administered directly board.

that the workmen on adian Pacific pier were Canadian Pacific railway d therefore came under 's approved scheme and under the compensation workmen paid $1.50 a e benefit.

of Delegate Pettipiece, was instructed to write horities asking, in the posed money bylaws are e money would be spent ntract labor.

Labor Party Endorsed

Trades and Labor coun- sed the provincial Labor on the understanding party would be compre- embrace a wide range of uch as the British Labor s announced after a re- that the Labor party in d have at least one can- next provincial election. atically denied that the ad any connection with l party.

RDSON, EX-M. P.

Surprise Party by of Federated Labor rty of B. C.

ay evening, a surprise ld at the home of Tom ex-M. P., by members of ed Labor party to bid e and Mrs. Richardson re leaving for the old ttle token of appreciation y services that he had behalf of the labor move- e party presented Com- son with two books. Mrs. was presented with a making the presentation, ks were made by Com- s and Mrs. Lorimer, ex- appreciation of the party dly efforts in this great movement, and wishing on their return to their On the previous Tuesday South Vancouver branch Representation commit- rprise party for Mr. and son, when a very pleasant spent.

se Anniversary

rs throughout Canada ted States will observe l 27th, birthday of Pro- l F. B. Morse, inventor aph, as Morse Memorial

Guthrie, M. L. A.

ss a public meeting, un- ices of Socialist Party of held in the Royal thea- ay evening, commencing verybody welcome.

PROF. T. H. BOGGS

Delivers st Interesting and Instructiv ddress to Women's Int ational League

"IF BRITAIN IS TO LIVE"

Solution Lay in Formation of Workable Internationalism for All Nations

UNDER the auspices of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, a most interesting and instructive address was given last week by Prof. T. H. Boggs, of the University of B. C., on Norman Angell's latest book, "If Britain Is to Live." At the outset, the professor pointed out that it was one of the characteristics of the writer of the book to "shock people into thinking and so take them out of their accustomed mode of thought." He pointed out how Mr. Angell decried the widespread deception of the public, that was so prevalent today. This deception is being practiced by our politicians, press and even by the pulpit. Public men were not saying in public what they were saying and thinking in private, the results of which were very regrettable. Not only they, but the public as well, are prone to turn their backs upon reason. They are the victims of prejudice and preconceived notions. This attitude on the part of the public was, oftimes, created by the politicians themselves to serve a purpose quite different from that which it is now serving. He did not believe that the deception that was being practiced was always the result of deliberate intent; rather that it is often the outgrowth of the fact that mankind is too prone to substitute prejudice for reason.

It was suggested by the speaker that Lloyd George practiced some of this deception on the public during the years 1918 and 1919, for he was in close touch with J. M. Keynes, a man who well understood the economic situation, and who no doubt advised Lloyd George on these questions. It could hardly be said, therefore, that Lloyd George acted at the time with anything but a thorough knowledge o fthe economic situation, notwithstanding the perverseness of his policy.

Mr. Angell pointed out that, though men are weary of turmoil, confusion knowledge of the economic situation, left alone, and undisturbed, nevertheless that this should not be allowed. Mankind must not be left to "blunder through." At all costs they must be aroused into thought and made to see and face the facts as they are, no matter how disturbing they might be. It was shown how the race-prejudice so prevalent in the European countries today, made it all but impossible for even the press of one country to lay fairly before its own people the right and the justice that was present in the claims of the enemy, thus making the formation of public opinion on a sound and just basis quite out of the question.

The changed position of the industrial power once held by Britain was taken under review. It was pointed out that each nation is now becoming desirous of being its own workshop and more and more nations are themselves making the things that they require, which formerly they had gotten from Britain, so that now, little by little, the balance of industrial pre-eminence once held by that nation, is gradually slipping from her. It was shown that if Germany was to discharge her indebtedness to the allies, it was imperative that she develop her export trade, and that that this couud not be done under a system of intense nationalism. Settlement, it was pointed out, was only possible on the basis of economic internationalism, and that it was here that Britain must pledge her power and influence.

It was noted that Mr. Angell had pointed out that it was not desirable that civilization should be based upon economics alone, but that it would be, if the economic truths were neglected. Economics has a very essential part to play in any civilization. An economic system is very hard to build up properly to any state of perfection, and that which it has taken years to accomplish can be destroyed quickly by war. It cannot be built up or assured by war. It is therefore encumbent upon us to find some substitute for war, with its accompanying international misunderstandings and national aggressiveness. Most of the social ills that are present today in the international sphere are due to one chief cause—nationalism in its most exaggerated form, with its accompanying arrogant pride in nationality and by its intolerant impatience with the claims and rights of others. With such a state of affairs existing in Europe, was it any wonder that, as Anatole France once said, "The war was not a deliberate crime. It was something that flowed out of the conditions of European life." It would seem that nothing else could logically be expected.

In one's domestic relations there is a proper and wholesome regard for one's family which need not lead one into a ruthless disregard of other families. So in the international sphere, there should be a wholesome

(Continued on page 4)

THE FABIAN SOCIETY

[In connection with this article, it might be pointed out that Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Webb, active members of the Fabian society, firmly believed over a period of twenty years or so, that capitalism could be controlled. Recently they have written a book entitled, "The Decay of Capitalist Civilization," in which they give up that hope.—Editor.]

IN THESE days when one scarcely sees the word socialism without finding coupled with the name of Karl Marx, it is refreshing to read an account of a socialism which was founded and developed by men who made a thorough study of Marx, gave him due credit, but refused to regard him as a god, or his book as a bible.* As one reads this book it become evident, in the light of present world events, that the most significant accomplishment of the Fabian society was that it broke the spell of Marxism in England. It is due to its influence, mainly, that the laboring classes of England became permeated with a practical, rather than a revolutionary socialism.

That this should be done, not by a political party, but by a "society" with not even a socialist name is remarkable, and the more so that the society was founded by no great leader, but by a small group of men, with no distinct dogma nor special book to guide then.. That these men were above the average in ability cannot be denied, however; and this ability, combined with unwearied devotion to the cause they advocated, enabled them to draw into the society a brilliant group of intellectuals. On its roll of members are the names of men and women famous in the world of art, letters, political science and social reform, such as: Arnold Bennett, Laurence Irving, Sir Leo Chiozza Money, Jerome K. Jerome, Mrs. Pankhurst, H. G. Wells, Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Webb, Bernard Shaw, Mrs. Annie Besant, Graham Wallas and Ramsay Macdonald.

The author of the history of the Fabian society was secretary of the society for 25 years, and every detail of its life is familiar to him. With due care for accuracy, he never wearies. His style is simple and direct. He is so familiar with his subject, that under his light, sure touch even the ponderous theme of economics becomes intelligible and interesting, because in the Fabian society, personality lent it charm and good humor robbed it of its usual terrors. His pages radiate that earnestness of purpose and lightness of heart, which combined to make the society loved by its members and respected by the public.

Founded 35 years ago, the Fabian society had much to learn; and its members resolved to learn first, then act; hence the motto of "Fabius," who waited when warring with Hannibal, though many censored his delays.

The society was frankly socialistic from its inception, but only gradually did it determine a programme and a method; for its members realized their ignorance of both conditions and remedies, and the danger of falling into error. "It was at this period that we contracted the invaluable habit of freely laughing at ourselves, which has always distinguished us, and which has saved us from becoming hampered by gushing enthusiasts, who mistake their own emotions for public movements." (Would that social reformers of the present day might learn this lesson, if none other, from the Fabian society.) "Our way of chaffing our opponents in preference to denouncing them as enemies of the human race, repelled from us some—socialists." Yet these very characteristics, one feels sure, were largely responsible for keeping the atmosphere of the society wholesome and critical; and illustrations are not wanting to show the stimulating influence they had upon the public.

Once in the early days of the society, it was asked to send delegates to a conference on industrial remuneration. It was the first occasion in which the society emerged from its drawing-room obscurity. Bernard Shaw was a delegate. One passage in his speech indicates that kind of arguments by which the Fabians stung their listeners into thinking. "It was," he said, "the desire of the president (of the conference) that nothing should be said that might give pain to particular classes. He was about to refer to a modern class, the burglars, but if there was a burglar present, he begged him to believe that he cast no reflection upon his profession, and that he was not unmindful of his skill and enterprise; his risks—so much greater than those of the most speculative capitalist, extending as they did to risk of liberty and life—his abstinence; or finally of the great number of people to whom he gave employment, including criminal attorneys, policemen, turnkeys, builders of gaols, and it might be the hangman. He did not wish to hurt the feelings of shareholders—or landlords—any more than he wished to pain burglars. He would merely point out that all three inflicted on the community an injury of precisely the same nature."

The foremost aim of the society was to abolish poverty, and to "assist in the reconstruction of society upon a non-competitive basis." In tracing the sources of ideas from which the Fabian society drew in its early days, the author mentions particularly John Stuart Mill and Henry George. The latter proposed to abolish poverty by political action. The Fabians accepted his method while rejecting his plan—that of single tax—as quite unsuited to conditions in England.

But political action did not necessarily mean the creation of a political party which would overthrow the existing order. This was Marx's idea, but it did not appeal to the Fabians. They believed that the political machinery already in existence could be used to bring amout socialist measures, if public opinion was educated in that direction. The society decided to demonstrate, and did successfully demonstrate, to the leaders of the working classes in England that socialism was a living principle, which could be applied to existing social and political conditions, without a cataclysm either insurrectionary or even political. The Fabian society "regarded socialism as a principle already in part embodied in the constitution of society, gradually extending its influence because it harmonized with the needs and desires of men in the countries where the larger industry prevails."

Therefore the society did not preach class-war or even class-consciousness, but relied on the slow growth of public opinion. The political method it used was the method of permeation. It permeated working men's clubs and universities with its ideas, knowing that the public opinion thus created would in time crystallize in legislation. It permeated political parties with its programme and urged them to pass socialist measures. Imperturably good humored in all its propaganda, it was quite irreverent toward authority. In one of its earliest manifestos, one resolution reads: "That the established government has no more right to call itself the state than the smoke of London has to call itself the weather."

The author quotes several writers of history who have given attention to the effect of the Fabian society on English politics of the past 25 years. Of its policy, one writer says: †"An intellectual circle has sought to permeate all classes from the top to the bottom with a common opinion in favor of social control of socially-created values. Resolved to permeate all classes, it has not preached class-consciousness. It has worked as much through liberal capitalists as with and through labor representatives. It urged a gradual amelioration of social conditions by a gradual assertion of social control over unearned incomes."

After a time the society began to publish tracts, written by its foremost members. These set forth the economic theory and policy that the society hewed out for itself, and tested afterwards in many instances on boards of control, local government boards, etc. The demand for the tracts was immediate and steady, and they continue to be published up to the present time.

One of the early tracts is described on page 70. It was called "Facts for Socialists." "The theme of it was to prove that every charge made by socialists against the capitalist system could be justified by the writings of the foremost professors of economic science. . . It is simply a mass of quotations from standard works on political economy, strung together in order to prove that the bulk of the wealth annually produced goes to a small fraction of the community in return either for small services or none at all, and that the poverty of the masses results, not as the individualists argue, from deficiencies of individual character, but as John Stuart Mill had declared, from the excessive share of the national dividend that falls to the owners of land and capital."

The popularity of the tracts brought great success to the society; and the success of the tracts was due to the group of brilliant essayists who composed them. Four of those essayists, Sidney Webb, Bernard Shaw, Graham Wallas and Sydney Oliver, then and for many years afterwards, may be said to have worked and thought together in an intellectual partnership. These with half a dozen others, formed a "group of leaders, all intimate friends, all loyal to each other, and to the cause they advocated, and all far above the average in vigor and ability, that in a few years turned an obscure drawing-room society into a factor in national politics."

The "Fabian Essays" was the work of this same group. It was not really a collection of essays, but a book, planned in advance, and produced by collaboration. Its success was phenomenal. The first edition of 1000 copies was exhausted in a month. In all, 46,000 copies have been sold in English editions alone. It has been printed in the United States, and translated into Dutch, Norwegian and German. The effect of the Fabian Essays arose partly from what it left out as well as from what it contained; for it showed a way of escape from an environment of ideas that had been growing for some years in England under the name of socialism.

While the Fabian society was developing, other socialist societies societies had also grown up. The social democratic federation, and the Socialist League had been teaching revolutionary socialism, claiming Marx as their master. The author points out that in Marx's own thought, evolution and revolution was tangled and alternated. The idea of revolutionary catastrophe was almost an excrescence. But to Marxians (of whom Marx once observed he was not one) the excrescence became the whole thing. On the "morrow of the revolution," all things would be new, and at a bound the nation was expected to reach something very like the millenium.

"Fabian Essays" presented the case differently. It based socialism "not on the speculations of a German philosopher, but on the obvious evolution of society as we see it around us. It accepted economic science as taught by the accredited British professors; it built up the edifice of socialism on the foundations of our existing political and social institutions; it proved that socialism was but the next step in the development of society, rendered inevitable by the changes which followed from the industrial revolution of the 18th century."

Several interesting chapters tell of the other activities of the society. Local groups were formed in various sections of London and also in the large centres of population throughout the country. University groups were also formed and a summer school was begun.

*The History of the Fabian Society by Edward R. Pease, A. C. Fifield, London, Eng.

†"Political Thought in England, from Herbert Spencer to the Present Day." Mr. Ernest Barker.

(Concluded next week)

NOMINATIONS MADE

Federated Labor Party to Have Candidates in Field for Provincial Elections

ADY CANDIDATE TO RUN

Neelands for South Vancouver and McInnes and Morrison for City

AT the recent nominating convention held by the Federated Labor party, it was definitely decided to enter the political field in the coming provincial elections. There was an optimistic feeling permeating the meeting, when it was recalled how labor has progressed so rapidly in the various countries of the world during even the last year or so. They felt that if they went into the coming election campaign with any degree whatever of earnestness, together with enthusiasm, that they were assured of several seats in the provincial house.

Comrade Harry Neelands was nominated as standard-bearer for South Vancouver, while Comrades McInnes and Morrison were chosen to represent the city. It is anticipated that a lady candidate will be found to run as a third representative of labor on the local field. An effort is being made to have candidates in as many of the outside constituencies as it is possible, since it is felt that the time is ripe for labor to have her fair share in the government of the country. Capitalism under the guise of liberalism or conservatism has held sway long enough, and if ever labor wishes to accomplish anything, so far as the emancipation of workers is concerned, its only hope is to get into the fight itself. It is hoped that the workers will rally to the support of those who have taken upn themselves the serious task that has been assigned to them, of representing the workers in our new provincial house at Victoria.

BURNABY LABOR PARTY

Will Hold Special Meeting Tuesday Evening to Organize for Provincial Election

The Burnaby branch of the Federated Labor party of B. C., will hold a special meeting on Tuesday next, April 22nd, at the Oddfellows' hall, McKay, at 8 p.m. The question of joining up with the Canadian Labor party will be discussed, and delegates appointed to attend the conference on the 29th. Organizing for the forthcoming provincial election will be gone into, and several other important matters discussed.

Civilization is not flowing backward; is it flowing in the wrong direction.—Mrs. Thomas Hardy.

BEARING ON LABOR

Rev. A. E. Cooke Says Christ's Law of Love Applies to All Institutions

RELIGION AND POLITICS

n Truly Christian Country No Worker Would Be Hungry and No Idler Fed

LAST SUNDAY evening, Rev. A. E. Cooke, of the First Congregational church, answered two or three questions that had rather a vital bearing on the labor problems. He was asked: Why do you mix religion and politics in your preaching? He answered in part as follows: "If you mean by politics, not mere partizanship, but the science and art of citizenship, then I might answer in a single sentence, because what God hath joined together, no man should put asunder." He pointed out that Christ's laws of love, service and sacrifice applied to all institutions and activities from the nursery to the home, to the church and the parliament. He agreed with John Pym when he said: "It is part of a man's religion to see that his country is well governed." If it is the will of God that wrongs should be righted, that laws should be just and humane; that parliaments be composed of God-fearing men, instead of swindlers; that righteousness shall permeate the whole life of the nation, then, he pointed out, that it was his business to insist that the will of God be put into effect. Religion could often be much better expressed at the ballot-box than in the prayer meeting. To pray, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven," and then refuse to preach that will or to urge men to vote to bring that kingdom nearer is nothing short of an insult to God.

If you were utterly penniless, and could get no work, could not borrow, and had nothing to pawn, while your family were hungry, what would you do? To this he replied: "To this there is a simple and practical reply. Under the circumstances described, I would apply at once to the city relief department, and ask them to assist me to find some work, and to provide food for my family until I had found it. I would do this, not as a man begging for charity, but as one who had the right to live and to have my family enjoy the same right. If a man has a right to live, he also has the right to work in order to live. If the right work is denied him by society, then society, through its government, municipal or national, must provide him with the necessities of life, not as charity, but as fundamental human right. No "sacred rights of property" or powers of law have any right to trample on the more "sacred rights" of human beings to live, and to do so in physically comfortable, and morally helpful circumstances.

Is it not a disgrace to civilization that, in spite of the great resources of this country, starving men are begging in the streets of Vancouver, was another of the questions answered by Mr. Cooks. He said: "Yes, it is a double disgrace; a disgrace that the natural wealth is not being developed for the benefit of the nation, and a disgrace that the men who could do it are kept back from earning their livelihood and developing their manhood in the work of turning those resources to practical uses. It shows how far, under the modern industrial system we have drifted towards barbarism. It indicates the breakdown of a system which has largely refused to obey the teachings of Christ. In a truly Christian country, no worker would be hungry, and no idler, whether rich or poor, would be fed.

Clarke Pettipiece Joins Benedicts

Apparently marriages can be consummated, as well as terminated, at Reno, Nevada, according to recent advices. Clarke Pettipiece, son of ex-Ald. R. P. Pettipiece, well-known in labor circles in British Columbia, was married there on Saturday night to Miss Curtis, a native daughter of Reno. Like his father, "Pat" is a member of the Typographical union, and learned his trade in the composing room of the Vancouver Province. For the last few years he has been employed as a printer at Reno. "Pat" has a host of friends in Vancouver, who will wish him all the luck possible in his new venture.

Will Discuss Poems of Burns

A real treat is promised lovers of Burns on Wednesday evening, when the Vancouver Burns Fellowship will meet in Glencoe Lodge. President Carrick will deal with "Tam Samson's Elegy," and will give many personal reminiscences of the Burns' country; Rev. Alex. Thomson will give a paper on "The Auld Farmer's Salutation to His Mare," which poem will be read by John McInnes. Special thought is being given to the musical programme, which will also be of an interesting character. All interested in the works of Robert Burns are welcome to attend.

Ben Tillett has said: "If you scratch a socialist you find an enlightened tory." We doubt if we could find anything so enlightened, if we were to scratch a "die-hard" tory.

Land Question

A good many years ago the liberal leader (Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman) said that the time had come when the land should no longer be the pleasure-house of the rich, but the treasure-house of the poor. What have the liberals done? asks George Edwards, M. P.

We fight for a thing, but we die only for an idea.—A. W. Tilby.

A COMPANY TOWN

Capitalism at Work in All Its Nakedness at Ocean Falls, B. C.

RULE WITH AN IRON HAND

Men Still Working Twelve and Thirteen Hours a Day

[By W. Gilmour]

HOW much longer are we going to deceive ourselves into believing that we are living in a truly democratic and enlightened age? We need go but a little way to have brought to attention, in no uncertain manner, the fact that men are today as much slaves of a system as they have never been before. It is utter folly to suggest that men and women are free, when they are dependent for their daily bread upon the whims and fancies of a class that may seek to utilize their services, when they consider it opportune or profitable so to do!

In Ocean Falls, today we see capitalism at work in all its nakedness. Ocean Falls is a company town. Doubtless many of you are quite aware of this fact. It is ruled, in my opinion, by nothing short of a despot with an iron hand. The town and all that in there is, belongs to the company—even to the men themselves, it would appear. There are no organizations whatever, not even a fraternal society. Rather an unusual thing in a town of this size. I suggest, of course, I might be quite wrong, you must judge for yourself—that these organizations are not allowed since they might serve as a meeting place for men where they might happen to discuss the conditions under which they have to toil.

To speak of labor or socialism, so it is alleged, is nothing short of high treason, and marks you as a dangerous man. If you do happen to act so unwisely, you will in all probability be escorted to the boat by a provincial constable. To discuss that phantom Eight-hour Day bill which may some day come into effect, may lead you almost to the verge of starvation in this, the land of the free. There are men still working 12 and 13 hours a day in this town. It is hard for the average individual to believe that such conditions exist, but they do, nevertheless. Our daily press has succeeded beautifully to keeping the great masses of the people in blissful ignorance of these conditions. Not until the workers realize their dependence upon their own efforts will emancipation be truly theirs. Let them learn to support their own institutions—press included. They must do it if they would be free. Our labor representatives in the house at Victoria, Comrades Neelands and Guthrie, could not do better than bring this matter to the attention of the public.

Point Grey Sets Another Record

With the building season barely started, building permits issued at Point Grey since the beginning of the year have passed the million dollar mark, according to figures just issued. About three-fourths of this work is now under construction. Since the beginning of the present month, erection of fifty-two houses have been authorized, the figures for which reach a total of over $275,000.

TO NOMINATE CANDIDATE

West Summerland Branch, F. L. P., Will Hold Convention April 28

West Summerland, B. C., April 17.—At the regular meeting on Monday night, Summerland local, F. L. P., decided to call a convention for the purpose of nominating a labor candidate for the South Okanagan at the coming provincial election.

The convention will be held in the labor rooms, above the drug store, West Summerland, on Monday, April 28, at 8 p.m., and it is hoped that representatives from every point in the valley will be in attendance. As soon as a candidate has been definitely placed in the field, locals will be organized in as many places as possible, and plans are under foot for an active propaganda. While labor all over the world is winning victory after victory, it is time that we bestirred ourselves here in British Columbia, and prove that we have not been dead, but only sleeping.

League of Nations Society

On Friday, April 25th, at 8:15 p.m., in the Board of Trade auditorium, Dean Coleman, of the University of British Columbia, will lecture on "International Prejudice and Education."

We wonder if the "spring cleaning" fever has overtaken the provincial government since it is rumored, that we are to have an early election. We hope that the electorate will help them make a clean job of it. Things have appeared a little dirty of late.

I am proud to belong to a government that seeks religiously the goodwill of the world.—Mr. Leach.

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FRIDAY.....April 18, 1924

PRINCIPLES VS. PERSONALITIES

IN ONE of our daily papers recently, we read that the coming provincial elections were, apparently, going to be run on the strength of personalities. It does seem appalling that such should be the state of affairs once again. It has been so, more or less, during the years gone by. How much longer are we going to tolerate such utter disregard of the principles of common-sense, and elect, as our representatives at Victoria, men who have so little consideration for the welfare of those they represent, as to waste their time in telling or in listening to such intolerable nonsense. Surely the crying need of the age is for men with principle, with vision, and with a consistency of purpose, that will make them serve as beacon lights to guide their fellowmen from out this state of inequality, of suffering and wretchedness, to a happier and more contented state where every one of us can enjoy, to a reasonable degree, at least, the heritage that is rightly and justly ours.

LIVING FOR ONE'S COUNTRY

IT HAS been said and thought by many in the dark ages that, to die for one's country was the highest honor that could be bestowed upon any man. Our ideas are changing, and changing rapidly. We feel rather, that it should be, not only delightful but fitting to live for one's country and, if we may judge from the past, much more effective and helpful. And while we live and build, let us think, as Ruskin has expressed it in a parallel connection, that we build forever, "let it not be for the present delight, nor for present use alone, let it be such work as our descendants will thank us for, and let us think, as we lay stone upon stone, that a time is to come when those stones will be held sacred because our hands have touched them, and that men will say as they look upon labor and wrought substance of them, 'See! this our father did for us'."

As we look about us today and see the heritage that has been left us, and still worse when we look and see what we are leaving to the generations that are still to come, we should hang our heads in shame. We can do nothing better than follow the advice, so ably put by Ruskin, in the lines above. Will we rise to the occasion?

THE FARMERS' POSITION

IN a recent issue of this paper we printed an article from a correspondent from the Okanagan in which was stated the position of the fruit-farmers of that fertile valley, and it was everything but a rosy picture. The local press also gave publicity to the dire straits in which the small fruits and poultry farmers of the Fraser Valley find themselves. The Daily Province (April 2nd) printed a report of an interview that the Canadian Council of Agriculture had with the members of the Federal cabinet. The delegation said in part: "That agriculture was in an exceedingly bad way in spite of the fact that the 1923 crop had been very large, and that the production of other forms of produce had been greater or as great as in any previous year. The value of farm products had decreased by $70,000 last year as compared with the previous year, and the farmer was no better off today than if his crop had been small." "I am safe in saying that never was there a time in the history of Ontario or Canada when there was such a scramble for farm loans or so many foreclosures," said W. A. Amos, president C. C. of A., all of which goes to show that the plight of the farmer is very bad all over Canada. Indeed, the independent farmer that we used to speak of is a thing of the past. The great majority of the farmers of today are nothing more or less than the servants, or in some cases superintendents for the machinery trust, the loan companies and the bankers. The fact of the matter is, that the farmer no longer produces wheat or any other farm product, but only takes part with many others in the processes of production. The wheat, etc., is not ultimately produced until it is placed in the hands, ready to be consumed, by the ultimate consumer. That is, the farmer is not producing wheat, sheep, wool, etc., to satisfy his own and family wants, but for a world market. And before the products reach the final consumer they pass through many hands, all of which is a necessary part of present day production.

Some of the requests made by the Council of Agriculture of the government was a lowering of the tariff and the completion of the Hudson Bay railway.

While a lowering of the tariff on farm implements might for a while make these things cheaper to the farmer, it would not make any appreciable difference in the position he would find himself at the end of the year. As for the building of the Hudson Bay railway, or any other railway for that matter, it will not ease the burden of the farmer. Under the present economic system, railways, piers, docks, elevators, banks, and such things that were brought into being presumably for the purpose of aiding the farmer, are in reality so many instruments to facilitate his exploitation. No one would be bold or stupid enough to say that the improvement in industrial tools and machinery was perfected for the purpose of easing the burden on the back of the industrial worker and in making his life more comfortable. Then why think differently in regard to the instruments necessary to farm production?

What the producers of farm products and all the other essentials of life need is not more instruments of production, but the ownership of the instruments already in existence.

The farmer in common with many others lay the plight of the city unemployed to the fact that they would not work. Is it because the farmers did not work, or will not work, that they face the dire destitution that they are up against all over Canada, yes, and the United States as well?

From the words of the president of the Canadian Council of Agriculture it is because they have worked (produced) too much. Both farmer and industrial worker have produced, but they do not own that which they produce. Both are a necessary factor in production. Both should mutually own their mutual product.

ASK FOR UNION LABEL

A WELL-KNOWN Vancouver clothhouse, probably the largest men's wear establishment in British Columbia, is authority for the statement that many trades unionists buy overalls, made by Chinese labor in a local manufacturing plant, in preference to union label overalls, because the latter costs 50 cents more. Is this the way to strengthen the ranks of labor? If you do not insist on the union label how can you expect others to ask for the label? Be loyal to the organization to which you belong; see that you ask for the union label and insist on it where possible.

Labor and the Poets

William Wordsworth—One of the Lake Poets

[Frances Wills]

A SUPERFICIAL knowledge of Wordsworth does not reveal much of sympathy between the lake poet, the recipient of a government pension whose life was calm, serene and almost uneventful, and the average working man busy with quite different things, living his life in dry as dust monotony or the lower strata of life, who know not "respectability" or peace or serenity. Yet there is a very great bond between Wordsworth and the worker, nor it is too much to say that the latter can more readily appreciate and understand Wordsworth than his "intellectual" brother.

For Wordsworth has been called the poet of humanity. To quote the words of a critic: "Wordsworth went to common life, to the obscure and neglected portion of society for beauty. He could discern more truth and beauty than ordinary minds, and saw truth under disguises and humble forms. He thought that beauty was not confined to that which is rare, new or distant, but exists among common things—in the loneliest flower, in the lowliest heart. He taught reverence for our universal nature; he broke down some of the class and race barriers."

Although we cannot label Wordsworth as we are apt to label people today, we find his ideas very similar to those held by those who seek freedom and justice. In his early days he had great hopes about the French revolution, and he spent some months in France. But he was disillusioned, even before the reaction set in, by the frightful excesses committed; though like all fair-minded people, he realized that the terrible deeds had been born of centuries of maddening injustice, oppression and cruelty. Yet two wrongs do not make a right, and somewhere he wrote, "By the soul only, shall the nations be great and free." He realized that power transferred does not necessarily make everything all right; and concerning the slavery of the masses that the human creature must be roused whether he be in religious or civil slavery, whether domestic or foreign. That is the plea of socialism today; education and more education, freedom and development. Wordsworth regarded the poet as a teacher and as such, he strove to use his influence in the right direction. He says, "I spend about twelve hours considering people and their lives, and hopes to one hour on poetry, which is merely the form of my thought."

Wordsworth's poetry was very largely the result of a peaceful, calm life in the picturesque English lake district, and the rich Devonshire country. Four years of his life were spent in a university, and apparently they were the least satisfactory. The hoary cramped atmosphere did not appeal to him; he wanted the country with its trees, flowers, rivers, lakes and hills, where beauty reigned. Without these, Wordsworth would never have attained to the height of his genius. Alas! for the genius that is never developed, that starves and dies in our hideous cities, or that sees but never perceives! For which we can thank our present system of repression. Like his friend Coleridge, Wordsworth believed that a something within the human soul makes beauty more beautiful, and adds the gleam, "the light that never was on sea or land, the consecration and the poet's dream." And so he, with his keen perception and warm appreciation, says that "Nature never did betray the heart that loved her; 'tis her privilege through all the years of life to lead from joy to joy. Therefore, let the moon shine on thee in thy solitary walks; and let the misty mountain winds be free to blow against thee; and in after years thy mind shall be a mansion for all lovely forms, thy memory as a dwelling place for all sweet sounds and harmonies." He is indeed a worshipper of nature in all her aspects; he loves the stormy sea and the still landscape; the birds and flowers, but better still, he loves humanity. Probably he acquired something of this in his tramps in the British isles and his wanderings in France, Germany and Switzerland. So he can give us living descriptions of simple rustic life and people; and touching details of those whom the world still spurns, the tramp and the vagabond. And he loves the child; he remembers his own childhood when everything was so different.

Heaven lies about us in our infancy.
Shades of the prison-house begin to
close upon the growing boy,
But he beholds the light and whence
it flows; he sees it in his joy,
The youth who daily farther from the
east must travel, still is nature's
priest,
And by the vision splendid, is on his
way attended;
At length the man perceives it die
away, and fade into the light of
common day.

The reader of Wordsworth has little difficulty in following the poet's meaning, for the poet set out to free poetry from its artificiality. Therefore, everyone can take pleasure in such pieces as "Nature and the Poet," "Michael," "Tintern Abbey," "The Daffodils," "Early Spring," "The Solitary Reaper," the various Odes to Liberty, and the poems on Lucy—"A violet by a mossy stone, half-hidden from the eye; fair as a star, when only one is shining in the sky."

He who reads between the lines can perceive something of the man himself—as simple as his verse. In his "Character of the Happy Worrior," we see the individual as the poet would have him.

Who is the happy warrior?
It is the generous spirit, who, when
brought
Among the tasks of life, hath wrought
Upon the plan that pleased his child-
ish thought. . . .
'Tis he whose law is reason; who de-
pends
Upon that law as on the best of
friends. . . .
Who if he rise to station of command
Rises by open means, and there will
stand
On honorable terms, or else retire,
Who comprehends his trust, and to
the same
Keeps faithful with a singleness of
aim,
And therefore does not stoop, nor lie
in wait
For wealth or honors or for worldly
state,
And through the heat of conflict keeps
the law
In calmness made.
Who, whether praise of him must
walk the earth
Forever, and to noble deeds give birth,
Or he must go to dust without his
fame
And leave a dead unprofitable name,
Finds comfort in himself and in his
cause.

This is Wordsworth's sermon on the mount, translated into modern terms. Are not these the very qualities we must possess if we are to win honorably?

LETTERS TO THE FED.

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

Farmer-Labor Party

Editor B. C. Federationist: "Farm Problems," by John Ball, in your April 4th issue, is educating and true in fact. But the article contains one phase to which I take exception, i. e., "The time is rotten ripe for a Farmer-Labor party." Why not a Hod-carrier-Labor party? Or a Stone-Mason Labor party? But is it not the accepted view of the organized industrial worker to catalogue the land worker as something different—something unworthy of even the least consideration. And does not Mr. Ball really mean to say: Hyphenated Cousin Rube, you may hold on behind and run. Be ever ready to crank the car, or pump up a shrinking tire!" We need the Labor party. Drop the farmer part of the title, and take us in as fellow workers. Speed the day. WILLIAM LAW.

Heriot Bay, April 10th, 1924.

No Security

"It is wicked and cruel to ask people to believe that any kind of armaments that you can organize can give security in time of war. The last war gave security—for whom? Ten millions of men are under the sod today. Security for them?" asks W. H. Ayles, M. P.

A Union Is What You Make It

Some men imagine that a union comes out of the sky, and that it is made to order. This is a fallacy which only active participation in union affairs can destroy. Why not be an active member, instead of a knocker.

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.

Problems of the Farmer

Marketing

[By John Ball, West Summerland]

JUST after the fruit growers of this district had been holding a public meeting to discuss the threatened collapse of the industry, owing to defections among their ranks, the following appeared in the Daily Province, March 22, 1924:

Tacoma, Wash., March 22.—One hundred and fifty lumbermen from all the producing centres of Oregon and Washington met here today in secret session to consider the decreased price of lumber in the light of threatened over-production.

Production at present is twenty per cent. more than the demand, and the sales average has fallen from $7 to $5 at the mills, and curtailed buying has been noticeable for the last sixty days, said lumbermen after the meeting.

To correct this condition, plans for curtailment of production were discussed, and will be put into immediate effect, it was reported. Northwest mills are now operating about twenty-five per cent. above normal, and a cut to normal is expected to halt a threatened overstock.

This statement contains in a nutshell the gist of the marketing problem, as it affects the farmer and fruit-grower.

Every other industry is more or less controlled from the top by Manufacturers' associations, trusts, combines or trade agreements. The available market is thoroughly studied and known, and when a gult is threatened, the manufacturers curtail production by laying off employees or only working part time, and the price is still kept up.

On the other hand, the farmer is obliged to produce up to the limit of the capacity of his land,—he has no control over his market, and when crops are good, supply exceeds the effective demand, which has the price behind it, and the price drops to the lowest point.

At present in the Okanagan valley, it is below the cost of production. You can produce apples which cost 80c a box, and sell them for 50c for a time, but that spells eventual bankruptcy. You may manage to exist, but taxes and water rates remain unpaid, and that is why orchards are being abandoned and fruit growers leaving for other parts.

That same process of curtailing production by bankrupting the farmer is going on all over the North American continent, and it must be rather painful for the farmer. The writer has just received a letter from a relative who is visiting in Louisiana. he says that she attended a farmers' meeting there, and apart from the ftcm tht they tht they spoke broken English, and chewed a good deal of tobacco, it was just like being at home in the Okanagan valley. The whole talk was of low prices and crooked sales managers, and we suppose that instead of apples the main topic would be sugar cane or rice.

At the present time, a drive is on to sign up 80 per cent. of the tonnage here, and if this is not secured, the co-op. threatens to disband and let the industry smash, the independents going down in the common ruin. The markets cannot be controlled with anything less than this, and when one carload of apples shipped on consignment can break the market altogether, it is not difficult to realize the attitude of the co-operators.

A few years ago, the poor, despised socialist was considered a menace to society, but now the shoe is on the other foot, and the grower who carries his individualism to the extent of shipping his produce wherever he sees fit, is regarded as a subject for social correction. Certainly his attitude is extremely short-sighted, as nothing but co-operation to the fullest extent can save the industry. The independents are only able to secure some of the cream now, because they can hang on to the fringe of the co-operative growers and the cream will be very sour and scanty if the market cannot be controlled by securing the desired tonnage.

The independents had better get in while the going is good, as it is quite evident that even after full co-operation as producers is an accomplished fact, the struggle is only beginning. However, as the average farmer can only see one step at a time, and most of them cannot even see that far, we will leave the problem where it is at present, and deal with other aspects in later articles.

The Hiking Harvesters

[By Lucy L. Woodsworth]

LAST WEEK came the soviet trade delegation. It seemed strange to think after these years of discussion about Russia, her accredited delegates were acetually sitting in the office. This week, another delegation came, unknown, unaccredited, and yet their coming was deeply significant of the times—the hiking harvesters.

Now, hiking to the capital to demand justice, does not conduce to doors wide-flung in welcome. The general air of inhospitality was intensified by the lion in March having triumphed over the lamb to the extent of a fair-sized snow-storm, but these dour Clydesmen won through to an interview arranged between five of their dealers and the prime minister, with the minister of immigration and the minister of labor present. The deputation was introduced by J. S. Woodsworth.

The men gave a clear presentation of their case. They claimed they had been induced to come to Canada by false representations. Glowing pictures of this country as a land of opportunity had met them on all sides; there was work for all in the harvest fields at $4 per day. The harvest ended, there would be work for each at his own particular trade. With this assurance, they said no sacrifice had been too great—even to parting with articles of household furniture—to put husbands in the way of seizing this chance; the time would be so short until families could be re-united in the new land.

Instead of this, they pointed out, the harvest had ended, and there was no work. Several hundreds of them had found themselves in Toronto subsisting as best they could; 75 per cent. of them were married, and the rest had dependents. The city officials refused any relief on the ground that the men had not been in the country twelve months. They freely admitted that after they had started on their hike from Toronto, they had been offered work upon farms at $15 per month, and a year's agreement. They thought it hardly necessary, however, to point out either the inadequacy of the amount for the up-keep of a family, or the unfairness in demanding such a contract. Fifteen dollars per month and his board for an inexperienced farm hand may seem a heavy charge upon the farmer, but that does not make the $15 go any farther towards covering the family budget. It is also true that at Kingston they had been told of work for rivetters—most of them are skilled mechanics—but they knew that some of their friends who were not rivetters, were at that moment unemployed in that very city.

They finished their statement with a request for justice; first, that the government should take steps to prohibit misleading and false advertising; and secondly, that they should be given work at decent wages.

It requires no prophet's word to interpret the significance of this demand—31 men voicing it berore the government in Canada; millions voicing it throughout the world.

Replying, the government disclaimed all responsibility alike for any false or misleading representations, and for providing the men with work. Indeed, the terms used would rather seem to imply that these men must be either work-shy or misfits. Canada had been settled by those who could get out and do things, and these were still the conditions for success in this young country. They were told they should apply to the Government Employment bureau. This, notwithstanding the fact that on March 1st, 700 families were on the citys official relief lists, either for part or total maintenance. The government had no other proposals, and the interview was over.

Outside the snow was falling; night was coming on rapidly; the men, some of them scantily clad, were without food, bed or money. It is a thought provoking experience for a man in this plight to step out from a warm, well-appointed office in which he has played absolutely his last card to secure justice, and lost out. Foolish men, to think that they could secure justice by going to Ottawa.

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FEDERATED LABOR PARTY, Room 111—319 Pender St. West—Business meetings every Wednesday evening. A. MacInnis, chairman; E. H. Morrison, sec.-treas.; Geo. D. Harrison, 1182 Parker Street, Vancouver, B. C., corresponding secretary.

Any district in British Columbia desiring information re securing speakers or the formation of local branches, kindly communicate with Provincial Secretary J. Lyle Telford, 524 Birks Bldg., Vancouver, B. C. Telephone Seymour 1382, or Fairmont 4933.

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

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Why Let George Do It

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Next Wednesday night will be a gala event at the Orpheum. It ushers in the final vaudeville bill of a season replete with excellent shows, and also opens the annual "National Vaudeville Artists" week celebration. From Wednesday night to Saturday night all vaudeville artists in Vancouver will "do their durndest" to produce extra fun and frolic for vaudeville patrons. There will be special features at every performance, and on Friday night there will be the big annual "N. V. A." dance-cabaret at Hotel Vancouver, where a jolly time is promised for all. Sophie Tucker, that "reg'lar feller," heads the big bill of brilliant features. She brings with her two noted syncopators, Ted Shapiro and Jack Carroll. There are eight big features on this special bill instead of seven. The eighth consists of a delightful afterpiece, in which all artists appear, headed by Ed. Alexandria and Ole Olsen, whose act "What's It All About," is a veritable scream of laughter. More genuine convulsive fun is offered by Burns and Allen, with their act, "Sixty-Forty," which contains a real kick. Still more merriment offers in the acts of McCormick and Wallace, "On the Beach," and that of Cook and Coan, "We'll Come Back." The three Weber Girls run strongly to versatility, while Walter Sayton and partner are equilibrists supreme, offering many thrills. In toto the bill is a record-breaking offering for a real good time, topped off by feature pictures and the Orpheum concert orchestra.

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DEMOCRACY

[Edith Fielding]

I speak of the password primeval—I give the sign of democracy; by God! I will accept nothing which all cannot have their counterpart of on the same terms.—Walt Whitman.

THERE seems to be a regretable tendency for the word democratic to develop into nothing but a distinctive name for a certain class of people. As t the real and vital meaning of the word democracy, it appears to be swamped, choked beneath a merciless, tyrannous system, which has apparently blinded one-half of the people to the degradation and persecution which the other half has had to endure.

It had been hoped by many that when the franchise was extended to woman, she, with her natural instinct uppermost, would have thrown her weight into the cause of those whose human rights and privileges have been disregarded for so long.

Perhaps it is that not sufficient thought is given to these things—perhaps the blare and excitement of electioneering cloud the vision, and dull the reasoning powers to the real issues at stake. Perhaps, too, the very hardest thing of all is to attempt to make people think. They can be persuaded to follow, that is comparatively easy—but to think—that is a very different matter.

Still there is always hope, and as soon as the majority of the people can be educated to demand a certain standard from their would-be politicians, then may the people be said to rule, and democracy will come into its own. If the quotation at the beginning of this article could be made the motto for parliament, we should be well on the way towards that Utopia which has haunted man's vision like a will-o'-the-wisp.

Mankind, generally speaking, can be divided into three classes, or perhaps from an evolutionary standpoint, they should be called stages. The first is that of the savage, and that of the undeveloped man generally. This would, of course, include criminals.

These might all be called the children of humanity, for man is himself a universe in miniature, and the stages through which he passes after birth are reflected in the whole human race, just as in the pre-natal period, the earlier or pre-human evolutionary stages are passed through.

So, as I said before, we might call these undeveloped people the children of the race. Their distinctive characteristic is "taking." The law of possession is with them very strong, and the distinction of "mine" and "thine" is almost entirely lacking. Let me say here, that we may find examples of this class everywhere, irrespective of the strata of society which they occupy.

Now we come to the second stage. We might call it the stage of youth, when the child has outgrown the habit of wanting everything which it sees for itself, and is at the stage where it recognizes that some exchange is expected. It is at this stage that we find the bulk of humanity today—at the bartering stage, willing to give, certainly, but wanting something in return.

Now, if we will look a little farther afield, we will find some people, not very many, though these are more than one would think, the difficulty is that they do not advertise themselves and so are not always noticed, but here and there we will find some who belong to the third class; and they also are in every strata of society. They are the ones who think only of giving, without any thought of return.

These are the altruists, the true democrats, for altruism, if it be genuine, gives a feeling of oneness with others, and where this oneness is recognized, the knowledge that what affects one affects all is recognized, and from this we get the very highest democracy, which is in truth the very highest and purest autocracy—where each man becomes a law unto himself, for he knows he can neither improve himself nor degrade himself without in a proportionate degree doing the same thing for every other member of the human family.

Can there be any doubt as to which of these three classes should be drawn upon for the rulers of the country?

Unfortunately, however, we seem to have mostly drawn from the first two, and our best people are usually so modest it is difficult to dig them out and persuade them that it is a duty to come to the front in all affairs affecting the nation.

The people who are clamoring for better government and better conditions should educate the voter to know exactly what he wants, and how to insist upon getting it.

When the demand for the right kind of representative is sufficiently strong, we may be sure he will be found. The solution is in the hands of the people.

Once be properly represented, and the evils of the present system would die a natural death.

But we must not forget that the government is a reflection of the majority—the task before each one is a man's task, for it means a thorough searching of self, the Herculean task of cleaning out the stable of his inner nature, taking great care to be rid of these tendencies which he at present condemns so freely in those who hold the reins of power, and who, if they but knew it, are steadily driving to their own destruction.

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The Three Great Parties

[By W. W.]

OUR daily papers are now giving us some warning of the "great fight" that will be staged in the very near future, when the election for our provinvial parliament takes place. We are told that the three "great" parties are out for a rough and tumble fight, and are given to understand that we can look forward to an election that will be unequalled for a real live mud-slinging contest. How long, how long in heaven's name are the workers of British Columbia going to stand for such downright nonsense to be staged in their expense, when thousands of them are out of work, many working for starvation wages, and the majority, at best, only making a bare existence. I should like to shout from the house-tops, to all workers, men and women, "up guards and at 'em," for not only is it our duty to try and protect our own interests, but what is more important is that the heritage of our children is being squandered right and left by the present politicians and their parasite followers. Are we going to allow this state of things to continue indefinitely? We are not, and already the clans are gathering, the beacon fires are lit, and we are birding on our armour ready for the fray. What has done successfully last provincial election in the South Vancouver and Burnaby constituencies could be repeated in every constituency in British Columbia with exactly the same result, and the three "great" parties could be blown into oblivion, like chaff (and what else are they but chaff) before the wind. Full reports were published showing the success of the above election, when Comrade Harry Neelands was returned at the head of the poll, but in order to bring the lesson home more fully, and for the bentfit of those not familiar with it, I will endeavor to give a brief outline of this particular fight.

A mere handful of labor men from South Vancouver met a handful of labor men and women from Burnaby in the city, decided to fight the election, and duly nominated Comrade Neelands as their standard-bearer. There was at that time no existing organization in either South Vancouver or Burnaby, nor any funds at their disposal to start the campaign. What they did have was faith, faith in themselves, and faith in their fellow workers. They hired halls and schoolrooms, and took up collections, together with a few subscriptions given by sympathizers, and were thus able to pay their way as they went along, the only expense being the rents of the halls and printing or handbills—all the work attched to the election being done voluntarily. The whole cost of the fight was $150, and the committee had raised about $200, thus leaving a surplus of about $50, which was divided amongst three labor organizations in the city, if my memory serves me right. Comrade Neelands had three opponents, and it would be a fair estimate to say that they spent, squandered, or otherwise disposed of, considerably over $10,000 in their endeavor to blind the workers and gain further power over them.

I see in the last of The Feleration-ist an appeal from the Burnaby branch of the F. L. P. to other residents of the constituency, who are in sympathy with the party, to send in their names and help to form branches. I should like to make an appeal to all the workers of British Columbia, where two or three can meet together in the name of labor, to send in their names and address to Dr. Lyle Telford, 524 Birks building, Vancouver, and state what prospects there are for running a labor candidate in their district.

Are the workers of British Columbia going to attend the meetings of the three "great parties," and listen in silence to their mud-slinging orations, or are they going to leave them severely alone, and let them do their dirty work amongst themselves, and see where it will land them; the workers in the meantime, attending to their own business and taking an interest in their own candidates? What will the three "great parties" have to offer the workers? They may talk a little at the conclusion of their speeches (after disclosing all the grafting and thieving that has been done by their opponents, or going to be done if the new party is successful), about causing more work for the unemployed when the grain starts moving westward, but they won't say anything about such an event causing unemployment in Fort William. They may talk about trying to lower the freight rates from the east, and the completion at some future date of the P. G. E., but how in the name of commonsense that will improve the unemployed situation, I cannot see. In fact, they will talk about anything but getting off the backs of the workers, and the sooner we throw them off our backs, stop listening to their twaddle, and ditch the whole bunch, the better it will be for us and the rising generation. This can be done if the workers, men and women, would only contribute ten cents each, and let their votes follow their dimes, and the great campaign funds of the three "great parties" would be used, for once, and lastly, in making the rope to hang themselves with, and just about pay for their political funerals. To put this idea into practical shape, I would suggest that labor has a tag day, and the workers be given a chance to buy their freedom for ten cents. If they could not wear the tags in front of their coats, they could tag them in front of their vests, underneath their coats. Now then, altogether, boys, and away we go, and try and catch Macdonald in the first round.

Always look up The Fed. advertisers before making purchases.

When through with this paper, pass it on.

Some Opinions

GOVERNMENT Economy: People are still losing life as a result of the war. Thirteen girls were recently killed in an explosion at Erith, while engaged in separating the component parts of cartridges not used in the last war—presumably for the next war.

• • •

Talking of war, already one section of the followers of the unwarlike Carpenter; are wondering what pose to take when the next war happens along. One worthy bishop believes, "God was on our side, because we were on the side of the oppressed." I wonder whose side God's on now we have reduced Germany to misery.

• • •

It's queer how the touchy national spirit takes cold where a class-conscious rebel is concerned. But maybe the British labor government will do something for its one time supporters (when it was merely the I. L. P.), who are cooling their heels in U. S. A. prisons, serving 14 years for being on strike and belonging to a union of their choice. That's all!

• • •

Russia, of necessity, is completing the "vicious circle"—peasant population to capitalism even though state capitalism. Russia is dependent on European and American political progress to a very great extent.

• • •

Alas! we laborites, communists and bolshies are a terrible lot. We are accused by a celebrated lady who declares there are too many proletarian schools, of destroying law and order and openly teaching sedition and treason. Cheers! We didn't know we were so advanced.

• • •

We thought Upton Sinclair's book, "King Coal" was only applicable to the United States. But no! In Canada you may work as a miner for several days and find your cash account minus, because the company obligingly relieves you of superfluous cash by providing "digs" for you—and such "digs." Not so bad in cold weather, because the beds are always warm from the last shift. No wonder discontent and tuberculosis are at a premium in Canada!

• • •

Socialism advances as socialist opinion is created. We all know that when men and women accept and understand that our ideas are scientifically true as well as morally right; that they "work;" that if applied they can give us what Hardie called a regime of "fraternity founded on justice;" then, and only then, can constructive socialism come into operation. The barriers, the obstacles can be cleared, bit by bit; achievement depends upon opinion. The government is dealing with the obstacles. It is also creating the opinion. The second process is going on as fast, if not faster, than the first, and some of the signs are worth registering for our own encouragement. They are part of our essential ammunition.

• • •

The Sunday Express, in its different way, echoes the same disquiet. Mr. Baldwin's curious speech at Cambridge spells, for them, impotence in an opposition leader. In the Sunday Herald, Sir John Foster Fraser, no friend of ours, writes:

The restraint which is placed on the present government by the other two parties will one of these days be advertised as an inherent quality of the government itself.

When the majority of us laugh at the old fear that a socialist government meant flying-away capital, find that after all we have not had to share our saved bawbees with greasy slackers, that, indeed, the world rolls round very much as usual, we will have a general election.

It is on the cards the socialists will be returned with an independent majority. Then we will have a real socialist programme, and some of us will wake up from complaisant doping and feel the world is bumping rather awkwardly.

• • •

Some time ago the Manchester Guardian had a highly significant leader on Mr. Macdonald's "open diplomacy." In this they point out that by being "sincere, humane and honest" very important things have already been achieved, and greater are in store. There is here a solid guarantee of growing confidence on the part of those innumerable men and women throughout the country who try to arrive at political opinions on a basis of realism; who look at what is done, and how it is done, and judge accordingly. Moreover, another thought, suggested by the Guardian, will surely work in their mind. It is this:

The success of this procedure has so far been as great as its ususualness" (unusual in being honest, humane, sincere) "and one can hardly fail to wonder whether the exercise of a like sincerity, a like openness, ten years ago might not have thwarted one of the greatest calamities with which the world has been afflicted in all history.

Is not that an admission of an essential part of the I. L. P. case against the war? It was not "just and inevitable;" it could have been prevented by the sincerity and openness with which, in a situation at least as explosive, Mr. Macdonald is preventing any such catastrophe today. Think over that, electors. It leads you far.

• • •

Gradually, if slowly, the idea is beginning to penetrate that the worker is not part of the machinery he operates, but a human being. "Speeding down," as against "speeding up," is advocated in the report just issued by the Medical Research council and the Industrial Fatigue board. The introduction of systematic rest pauses, it has been demonstrated, was "almost invariably followed by a slight, but genuine, improvement in output."

In the opinion of the board, there seems to be justification for stating that in light repetitive work the judicious introduction of rest pauses may not only tend to reduce monotony, and so increase the contentment of the workers, but may also often bring about an increase in output amounting to from 5 to 10 per cent., in spite of the diminution in working time.

• • •

Rest pauses act most favorably on slow workers; the slowest third in a group of labellers improved 17 per cent., the intermediate 13 per cent., and the quickest 8 per cent. The investigator, Mr. Wyatt, states that "the results of the experiments described in this report suggest that monotonous activities of the type under consideration cause a considerable reduction in output, which is most apparent about the middle of the spell of work. This reduction can be avoided to a certain extent by the introduction of a rest pause of fifteen minutes' duration halfway through the spell, and such a pause is slightly more effective than two rests of 7½ minutes each, introduced at intervals of 50 minutes. There is an increase in output not only after the rest, but also before the pause takes place.

Why Let George Do It

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

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

You Can Buy a Hoover Now

The New HOOVER
IT BEATS . . . as it Sweeps as it Cleans

—WITH—

$4.50 Cash

THE BALANCE you can pay in monthly installments of $6.25. This offer is good for this month only. Every housekeeper can use a Hoover to advantage—it saves time and labor—because it beats as it sweeps as it cleans. Three features at one time—something no other vacuum sweeper can do. These are housecleaning days—let us show on one of the rugs in your home the wonderful help a Hoover can be to you. $4.50 cash puts it in the home and $6.25 monthly quickly pays the balance.

Demonstration Booth, Main Floor.

Hudson's Bay Company
INCORPORATED.....2ND MAY 1670
VANCOUVER, B. C.

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.

Pass The Federationist along and help get new subscribers.

CORPORATION OF POINT GREY

TENDERS

SEALED TENDERS, addressed to the undersigned for the undermentioned works, will be received by the council up to 8 o'clock p.m. on Tuesday, April 22, 1924:

1. Construction of 5560 ft. (approximately) of lateral sewers.
2. Grading of Dunbar Park (approximately 6500 c. yards).
3. Erection of Pavilion at Athletic Park (Marpole).
4. Clearing and draining 28th Ave. from Dunbar St. westerly 650 ft. (area approximately 1 acre).

Specifications, conditions and forms of tender may be obtained on application to the Municipal Engineer on payment of Five Dollars, which will be returned if a bona fide tender is made.

A deposit by cash or certified cheque of ten (10) per cent. of the amount of the tender must accompany each tender as security that, if called upon, the Contractor will enter into a contract for the work and provide the required bond.

Tenders must be marked on the outside, "Tender for.....".

The lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

HENRY FLOYD,
C. M. C.

Municipal Hall, 5851 West Boulevard, Vancouver, B.C., April 11, 1924.

PARENTS! Warn Your Children!

IT HAS BEEN reported to me that a man *introducing himself as the School Doctor* has called at several Vancouver homes in the absence of the parents, ostensibly to examine the children's chests.

Please note that Dr. Harold White, M.D., is the only doctor employed by the Vancouver School Board, and that he does not visit homes to make physical examinations.

In case of a recurrence, please notify the police.

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

NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that under the Provisions of Section (490) of the Criminal Code of Canada it is unlawful for any Manufacturer, Dealer, Trader, Bottler, Junk Dealer or Junk Pedlar to buy, sell, deal or traffic in any bottles bearing the Trade Mark or name of the following Companies, viz.:

Vancouver Breweries Limited.
Victoria Phoenix Brewing Co. Limited.
Silver Spring Brewing Co. Limited.
Rainier Brewing Company Limited.
Westminster Brewery Limited.

without the written consent of the said companies, and that any person or Company who commits a breach of this Section of the Criminal Code will be prosecuted.

Dated at Vancouver, B. C., this 4th day of April, 1924.

W. F. BROUGHAM,
Solicitor for the above named Companies.

MUSICIANS' UNION LABEL

Musicians' Mutual Protective Union
LOCAL 145 A.F. of M.
OF
CANADA and U. S. A.
Union Musicians Employed Exclusively

LEND YOUR PATRONAGE TO THE MUSICIANS' LABEL.

A REFRESHING BEVERAGE

NOTHING BUT THE FINEST INGREDIENTS

—BREWED TO PERFECTION—

Britannia
CAN'T BE BEAT
BEER

This Label Is a Guarantee of Purity

Insist on BRITANNIA

On Sale at All Government Stores

INTERNATIONAL LABOR

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

Czecho Slovakia

Unemployment — During January, 57,900 unemployed persons and their 60,000 dependents, were supported by subsidies from the national government. To this number should be added 24,000 unemployed, who receive support through private concerns.

Germany

Modification of Unemployment Regulations—In view of the large number of unemployed persons in Germany, the regulation which requires the unemployed to render work in return for the doles received, has been modified so as to restrict such employment to work required in the interest of common welfare, and to the assignment of the unemployed to only such work as their physical condition will permit them to perform.

Greece

Number of Refugees—It is estimated that there is a general total of 1,136,000 refugees in Greece. Of this number, only 200,000 are self-supporting. Agriculturists comprise 60 per cent. of the total, and the remainder is comprised of tradesmen, merchants, etc. Of the total, some 50,000 are orphans, 10,000 of whom are being cared for by the near east relief.

Norway

Unemployment—Due to strikes and lockouts, involving more than 60,000 workmen in approximately ten major industries, the whole labor situation, and unemployment in particular, were said to be worse at the beginning of March, 1924, then they had been in many months. In all, about 80,000 workmen were out of work on the first of the month.

Palestine

Immigration and Emigration—According to the official statistics for 1923, which have recently been made available, immigration to Palestine continues to show a decrease, while emigration increased 68 per cent. over that of 1922; and despite the fact that Jews comprise only 11 per cent. of the population of Palestine, 70 per cent. of the emigrants were Jews.

Switzerland

No Subsidy for Emigration—According to the Tagblatt der Stadt, Zurich, the Swill federal government expended one million francs in 1923 for the purpose of facilitating the emigration of Swiss citizens and securing employment for them in foreign countries. The Swiss Federal council is said to be of the opinion that emigration should not be subsidized this year.

Anti-War Day, 1924
THIRD SUNDAY IN SEPTEMBER

TUBBY — Meet Mr. Barnum, Jr. — By WINNER

Prof. T. H. Boggs

(Continued from page 1)

regard for one's country, which, however, should not lead one to disregard the rights of other nations. Some alternative must be found to national militarism. As the organization of a central community power was effective in removing from our national or community life, the settlement of our private disagreements by the use of force, so we must look to the organization of a central power or an international scale to settle national disputes. The alternative does not lie in a British imperial scheme of self-sufficiency. No matter how honorable and peaceable our motive may be, or however much we may wish to be left alone, there is involved in such a plan the principle of the balance of power and alliances; and within the empire, stiff preferences and inter-imperial protection. In the end, misunderstandings would arise which must ultimately lead to discord if not war.

In closing his review, Prof. Boggs pointed out that in the opinion of Mr. Angell, the solution lay in the formation of a workable internationalism, and that if the world is ever to enjoy the peace and goodwill which we would all desire, it can be attained only through some form of economic internationalism, in which every nation would be accorded its rightful place in the comity of nations, whether they be large or small.

"No More War"

Following is culled from a reproduction of a calendar printed in London, dated 1713: "Our victories in Flanders have been crowned by a treaty signed at Utrecht. This war maketh further wars impossible forever. We cannot be too thankful for this."

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

What about your neighbor's subscription?

SYSTEM IS WRONG

Why Do Teachers Hate Their Jobs and Children School?

PRESENT DAY EDUCATION

Hours Spent on Subjects of No Use When School Days Are Over

[By Frances Wills]

WHAT is wrong with our boasted modern eduactional system? Why do most teachers hate their jobs, and why do most children secretely hate school? Are these impertinent questions, or do they concern us all? If so, let us consider them for a moment. Teachers hate their work, and children their schools because the whole system is wrong; because it is in line with the industrial system, because in some of its aspects, it is a miniature industrial system. Because the worthwhile radical element has no chance against the mass of reaction, red-tape, self seeking and placid content. Because radicalism is promptly squashed and because it is nearly always inarticulate. The radical teacher is in an impossible position, hampered, limited and discouraged at every turn, and for whom private enterprise is the only solution. But the average teacher is moulded in early youth to fit into the system, and soon becomes an ideal cramming machine unconscious that the system might be different; or if vaguely dissatisfied, afraid, owing to pressure of circumstances (in the shape of dependents), to do differently.

So much for the teacher. We are all familiar with the child's miseries. Of course, there are instances where these remarks do not apply, but these are few and far between. The years of a child's life, which should be the most happy, are used for cram and grind and generally with one end in view—examinations. Not the effect on after-life, on ideas; simply a scrap of paper. Once this is attained, it is quite possible to forget; to stretch one's legs, mentally. And meanwhile the most important, because most impressionable, years are gone. Hours and hours have been spent on subjects which are no use once school-days are over, while the vital facts of life have all been missed. Yes, and harm has been done. Knowledge pursued for the sake of a paltry examination is rarely loved for its own sake afterwards, and without love of knowledge, how can a man spend his leisure aright, how can he care for the beautiful in life—literature, art and music, when these things were insufferably dry and dreary at school?

And what is more, how can the credulous youth know that education is in the hands of a system, which is not out for the good of humanity? How can the boys and girls know that they have been poisoned to some extent, when they have never learned to question, and to doubt that which they hear or read? How can they know that history is a perverted subject as taught usually, and that patriotism is a snare to themselves and a traitor to the peace of the world? How can they know that their point of view is painfully one-sided and ludicrously prejudiced? And once they realize all these things, it takes years to unlearn them and to replace them with reasonable, broad-minded views.

But not only do we disagree with what is taught in school. We quarrel with the methods of teaching. Coercion is deplorable, what ever form it takes. Once it took the form of the cane or the strap. It still does in some unvicilized parts, and is the greatest argument of parents and teachers, when dealing with naughty children. But up-to-date methods are slightly different. Nevertheless, the aim is the same; obedience and attention to authority. And this is the greatest grievance with present-day education. It teaches obedience to the teacher; therefore, obedience in the political and industrial world follows naturally. It is the greatest preparation for wage-slavery.

The child or grown-up who has never learned to rebel, will not only be physically a slave, but mentally and morally he will be a slave. Every newspaper will become gospel to him, everything bearing the stamp of authority will be beyond dispute. He has never been trained to think and reason for himself, and indeed it is much easier to let others think and reason for him. And how hard it is to persuade the average workingman to throw off his lethargy and think; otherwise labor would not be in its present wretched condition, at the whim of every intellect that can make a pleasing appeal. Labor is indeed a giant of immense strength and capabilities, but blind and unreasoning. And education is to blame. It has drugged our manhood and womanhood; they have never learned to face truths. They have been moulded to a pattern; originality has been crushed, self-development has been dwarfed. Some talent and genius have grown, not because of so-called education, but in spite of it.

The capitalist system has, of course, been responsible for this. Yet the socialists, because they happen to be against the wasteful competitive system under which we groan, are accused of being enemies of originality and individuality. This is most untrue, as anyone who is aware of what socialists think and have put into practice in regard to education, must know.

At present the reformer is up against a stone wall, for not only elementary education, but the higher branches need putting in order, and they are interlocked. The high schools demand certain standards of public school candidates, just as the universities require certain standards. Examinations form the chief gateway to knowledge (knowledge of a sort, that is), and just like the hero of H. G. Wells' "Joan and Peter," we find those gates remarkably high and the treasures within not always worth the climb.

And now, having said all these nasty things about education volumes might be written on the new conception of education, the education we individuals want, the education that will lead to better things in this world of ours. But strangely enough, parents nearly go bald when they realize how far-reaching the new education will be, and how it will upset some of their most cherished ideas about how to train children. One can but plead that the old order has made a sad muddle of things, and must yield place to newer, saner, more reasonable things.

(To be continued)

Martin-Harvey Stage Prince

Vancouver theatre-goers are looking forward with keen anticipation to Sir John Martin-Harvey's two-week engagement at the Orpheum theatre, April 28 to May 10 inclusive. Wonderful press notices are recorded wherever the actor-knight has appeared on this tour, and under the heading, "A Prince of the Stage," the Montreal Gazette says: "It is a new and welcome revelation of the genius of Sir John Martin-Harvey that has been vouchsafed to the theatre-going public of Montreal during the week just closing. For a score of years he had been held in affectionate remembrance in Canada as an actor of poetic personality, high ideals and unerring technique, these attributes having been displayed in a succession of plays which included such purely sentimental or romantic efforts as "The Only Way," "The Breed of the Treshams," "David Garrick" and "A Cigarette-Maker's Romance." All were done with exquisite delicacy of art and assured instinct for effect, but they left the beholder with an unsatisfied sense that their chief merits were those lent them by the ennobling touch of the chief player, and that he was capable of much finer things, a feeling that received impersonal confirmation by the brief despatches or other communications that told of Martin-Harvel's successes in London or the provinces in the production of the Shakespearean, the medieval and the classic drama."

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.

IMMIGRATION

[Canadian Railway Employees Monthly]

IF A STRIKE was on in your neighborhood, how would you feel about it if the dominion government's employees offices immediately advertised for workers and pumped them into the territory where the strike was taking place? You'd recognize at once that the government was performing the part of a strike-breaker, and protest with all your power.

Such a protest is needed in Canada now because the whole policy of the government's immigration department is designed to pump Canada full of men who will work for lower wages than present Canadians are willing to accept. Because many have recognized this, they have publicly and emphatically denounced the immigration efforts of the government.

But is it likely that their protest will go unheeded unless supported by an immediate and widespread demand on the part of workers that the government desist from filling Canada with potential strike-breakers.

For the pressure on the government in the opposite direction is intense. Bank presidents, presidents of industrial concerns, boards of trade, newspapers, all echo "his master's voice" in asking for a greater surplus of labor power in order to deflate wages. They camouflage as a rule, claiming that Canada needs to be built up in order to reduce taxation, etc., but their real purpose is revealed by an occasional utterance, such as that by Sir Edmund Walker, of the Bank of Commerce. Hear him:

"We referred a year ago to immigration conditions in Canada and the United States, and to the policy of both countries as opposed to what to us seemed to be their true interest. That we ought to exclude all subnormal types is evident, and that those who do not belong to the so-called white races will be excluded is presumed, but apart from these restrictions we should let the bars down if we expect **to equalize the rewards of labor in the cities and towns as compared with agriculture, the striking inequality in which is in our opinion the most serious feature of the business conditions of North America."**

What does he mean? Farmers are making little or no money after they pay bank charges. Therefore the city workers should be put in a position where they earn little or no money. That this is clear is proved by a later statement in the same address:

"Immigration from other countries than Canada is so restricted that labor in manufacturing centres is paid more highly than almost ever."

In view of what has happened in banking circles, starting with the absorption of the Merchants bank and continuing to the most recent disappearance of the Bank Nationale, the workers are less prepared than ever to look upon the heads of the banks as all-wise and all-knowing.

And they are certainly suspicious, when not hostile, when the advice rendered by such men as Sir Edmund Walker is calculated to lessen the amount of work and the amount of wages they receive.

The workers are not opposed to immigration as such. But they are bitterly opposed to the policy of substituting Canadians with Europeans. And that is what our immigration policy to date has meant; we have swapped the Canadian exile for the European immigrant for decades. The population of the country would certainly be greater if conditions were made sufficiently attractive for the Canadian worker so that he wasn't driven across the border to work for living wages.

There is a crumbling of faith in the financiers and the politicians; there is a rumbling of discontent, a rising tide of resentment against conditions that are making life intolerable for the workers of this country. In their eagerness for a plentiful scab supply men like Sir Edmund Walker may have their little day, dictating as they do the policies of the Mackenzie Kings and Arthur Meighens. But have they counted the ultimate cost?

Mr. Macdonald has one qualificat for a British prime minister, he not been afraid of unpopularity.— Churchill.

THE CHOICE OF THE UNIONS
CATTO'S
VERY OLD HIGHLAND WHISKY
THOROUGHLY MATURED—ONE OF THE MOST POPULAR BRANDS AT THE GOVERNMENT STORES
GOLD LABEL - - 15-YEAR-OLD
Ask for CATTO'S. For sale at all Government Liquor Stores
This advertisement is not published or displayed by the Liquor Control Board or by the Government of British Columbia

THIS STAMP ON BOOTS AND SHOES SIGNIFIES:

BOOT & SHOE WORKERS UNION — UNION STAMP — Factory

That the principle of the Collective Bargain is operative and no strikes or lockouts are permitted.

That the manufacturers and employees are settling their disputes through mutual adjustment or arbitration without losses from cessation of work.

That industry and workmanship are benefited by uninterrupted production leading to highest quality.

That goods will be delivered on time so that dealers and wearers may be assured of seasonable footwear in season.

A system of handling labor problems that has been in operation more than twenty-five years and has created growing respect between employers and employees.

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