BRITISH COLUMBIA FEDERATIONIST

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TRADES AND LABOR

New Delegates—Committee pointed Regarding Unfair Plaster Work in City

FAVORS SUNDAY CONCERTS

Is U. S. A. Government Bonusing Dominion?—Change in Motor Act Asked

THERE was a good attendance of delegates at the regular meeting of Vancouver Trades and Labor council, held on Tuesday evening. President R. H. Neelands occupied the chair, and the council quickly got down to business.

Credentials were presented on behalf of A. Fraser, J. Wright and J. R. Matthew, for the Boilermakers; William Hunt, A. E. Killock, W. F. Harris for the Painters and Paperhangers; C. Oxenburg, J. A. Gibson, S. Cooling, W. Rourke, A. Flanagan and W. Cross for the Mental Hospital attendants.

Unfair Plaster Work in City

A committee was appointed to interview the firm having the contract for work upon the St. Julien apartments, Georgia street, a complaint being made that work was being done on an unfair basis. Delegates Dunn, Hunt and Hay will look into this matter and report back to the council.

Sunday Concerts Favored

The council went on record as being unanimously in favor of Sunday concerts. A copy of this resolution will be forwarded to the local city council.

Is U. S. A. Government Bonusing Dominion?

A letter will be sent to the minister of emigration at Ottawa, requesting information as to whether the United States government are reimbursing the government of the dominion for the workers which are being induced to cross into the United States—after money being lavishly spent in a campaign to bring them out from the old land.

The council had received a report to the effect that negotiations are under way between the state of Pennsylvania and the dominion authorities to bring into the former state a number of skilled mechanics from Great Britain. This action was being taken, the report said, to relieve a shortage of this class of labor in Pennsylvania.

The instructions to the secretary are an endeavor to get to the truth of this matter, which is vital to labor.

A letter will also go to the municipality of South Vancouver, protesting against the corporation awarding their printing to non-union firms.

Change in Motor Act Asked

Delegate Dunn, of the carpenters, drew attention to the hazard caused by the automobile traffic on the streets of Vancouver, the drivers in many cases carrying no insurance whereby pedestrians might be protected in case of accident. He instanced one particular case where a worker was seriously injured and secured judgment in court, but was unable to collect owing to the authomobile owner having no assets which could be realized. The resolution, reading as follows, was carried unanimously:

Whereas—A number of automobile accidents have happened recently, causing serious injury to many people; and whereas, judgment has in some instances been awarded by the courts against automobile owners who have not the means of paying the amount of damages awarded against them; therefore, be it

Resolved—That the Trades and Labor council do petition the government of British Columbia to have the Motor Vehicles act so amended that every person granted a motor liecnce will be compelled to take out a personal liability accident insurance policy, payable to any person who may be injured by said vehicle. This insurance to be administered by the government of British Columbia and the premium of the policy collected when the licence is issued.

A resolution was also passed, instructing the secretary to write to the dominion premier, protesting against the manner in which the fair-wage clause is being disregarded by the minister of labor on the Welland canal.

Educational Work of Carpenters

The United Brotherhood of Carpenters, local 452, will hold their regular meeting at Labor headquarters on Monday evening. The educational discussions will be continued; Bro. Ed. Meek will speak on "The Birth of Labor War," and Bro. G. H. Hardy will speak on "Employers' Agreements."

L. R. C. Dance in Clinton Hall

The Labor Representative committee are completing plans for a dance, to be held in Clinton hall, Hastings east, on the evening of Saturday, March 22. A good crowd is expected to be on the floor on this occasion.

Securing Power

"We shall use the present victory as a stepping-stone to secure, not merely office, but power," says Alderman A. W. Haycock, M. P.

DAN IRVING'S LAST SPEECH

Satisfied with Progress Labor Made—Predicted Rise of Socialism in Great Britain

[British Labor Press Service]

The last speech which the late Dan Irving delivered in the house of commons was on Philip Snowden's socialist motion. I can see him now, leaning heavily on a stick, his leonine head thrust forward, addressing the house in a voice tinged with melancholy, as though he already scented the night air. "I am practically at the end of a long period of life," he said. "I am satisfied with the progress we have made, and I am as certain of the ultimate realization of socialism as that I am addressing the house at the present moment."

STUDY OF THE TWA DOGS

Vancouver Burns' Fellowship Successfully Opened—Twenty-two Members Added

The Vancouver Burns' Fellowship, recently organized, got away to a splendid start on Wednesday evening. An audience of over 60 interested Burnsians listened with rapt attention to a characteristic description of "The Twa Dogs." Mr. Alex. McRae gave the introduction, while Messrs. Alex. Bates and W. R. Dunlop took the dialogue between Caesar and Luath. Mr. James Taylor read a splendid paper, exhaustive and of much educational value, on the famous poem. Several members took part in the discussion which followed. President P. M. Carrick expressed his pleasure at seeing so many interested in the works of the poet, and hoped that this inaugural meeting would be the forerunner of many happy evenings spent in the study of the various poems of Burns. A delightful musical programme was rendered; Burns' songs were used exclusively, and the following artistes contributed: Misses Carrick and Baird and Messrs. John McLeod and A. G. Dickson. Miss May Baird, L. A. B., was an efficient accompanist. Twenty-two new members were admitted into the fellowship as a result of the evening's study, which closed with the world's doxology, "Auld Lang Syne." The poem selected for study next month is "The Cotter's Saturday Night," one of the most sublime of the many gems from the pen of Burns.

INTERNATIONAL LABOR

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

Canada

Emigration—An abatement in the movement of emigrants from the maritime provinces to the United States, as to the close of 1923, is reported by the Canadian press, which also states that emigrants from those provinces who moved to the United States a year or more ago, are beginning to return to their homeland.

China

Shipbuilding Activity—With modern machinery, secured chiefly from the United States and Europe, and experienced and technical workmen from Great Britain and the United States, shipbuilding in Hongkong is said to have been very active during the year 1923.

Cuba

Railroad Strike—A general strike on the lines of the Cuba railroad company in December, 1923, virtually tied up all freight and passenger traffic between Santa Clara and the eastern portion of the island, until recently, when settlement was effected.

Czecho-Slovakia

Unemployment—Unemployment in Czecho Slovakia has practically reached a standstill, but the indications are that an increase may be expected in the near future, especially in the iron and steel industries.

Unemployment Subsidies — During the early part of December, 1923, the Czecho Slovokia government presented a bill to parliament requesting a further sum of 140,000,000 crowns for unemployment subsidies for the remainder of the calendar year, 1923. The sum of 293,000,000 crowns, previously appropriated, has been exhausted.

Germany

Eight-hour Day Preserved — The principle of the eight-hour day, which has been the subject of vigorous attacks by industrialists in recent months, is preserved in a decree promulgated by the government under the Enabling act.

Mexico

Unemployment—A general decrease in unemployment, on account of the resumption of mining operations and increased agricultural developments, is reported from Ciudad Jaurez, Mexico.

Spain

Railway Labor Courts—According to the Official Gazette, a decree has been issued establishing courts for the settlement of questions that may arise between railway companies and their employees. An appeal lies from the decision of these courts to the government, whose dictum is to be final.

Patronize Federationist advertisers.

CAIRN'S CONVICTION

His Sad Case Illustrates Amount of Justice Done Sugar Commission

ONCE BOOMED SUGAR KING

His Trumped-up Tales Against Nationalization Was Given Great Publicity

[British Labor Press Service]

THE conviction and sentence of E. D. Cairns, once boomed as the "sugar king," reminds us of the fact that this man was used by nearly the whole of the capitalist press as a stick with which to beat the sugar commission during and after the war. The sugar commission, as is known to all those acquainted with the facts, was a triumphant experiment in nationalization, which saved us from a sugar famine and from the profiteer. So well did it work that, in spite of the submarine, sugar was cheaper in blockaded England than it was in America. The press at large, however, ready to seize on anything to decry the success of nationalization, boomed the fraudulent Mr. Cairns, who, before his conviction on January 17, 1924, had been convicted five times previously in this country, once in Belgium and once in Holland! The eager newspapers were quite ready to swallow Mr. Cairns and his trumped-up tales against the sugar commission, and he was given a tremendous advertisement, while the sugar commission was, of course, scarified and abused and contrasted unfavorably with Mr. Cairns, the "business man." It is a sad case, and one which neatly illustrates the amount of justice which was done in the press to the triumph of nationalization in the war.

A New Labor Peer Created

Gen. C. B. Thomson.

WHO was made a baron by the King at the request of the British Labor party, is the secretary of state for the air. He has spent his life in the army, and was on the war office staff between 1911 and 1914. He went to France with the "Contemptibles" and served throughout the war in Roumania, Russia and Palestine, and his brigade was the first to enter Jerusalem. He was British military representative with the supreme war council at the conferences at Versailles and thus helped to frame the treaty. He returned home to declare himself a supporter of the Labor party. He has served on Labor commissions to Ireland and to the Ruhr. He believes that neutral Europe and America must intervene to prevent another war between Germany and France in which Germany will be supported by Russia, and France will be defeated. He was created a peer to represent the Labor government in the house of lords.

The term "master" has got to be wiped out of the dictionary.—Ernest Bevin.

QUEENSLAND STATE

Leads All Other Australian States in Question of Assitance to Farmers

GETTING RID OF MIDDLEMEN

Schemes of Government Cover a Wide Field of Research of Industry

THE labor government of Queensland leads all the other Australian states in the question of assistance to the farmers. Middlemen and other sharks, the problem of dealing with whom is the main difficulty which confronts agricultural reformers in this country, have been entirely eliminated by protective legislation, with the result that Queensland farmers are uniformly prosperous and contented. Here are some of the measures adopted by the government to develop agriculture:

Advances to settlers, with further assistance to purchase live stock, machinery, etc.

Rural credit schemes to finance groups of farmers for co-operative enterprises.

Organization of primary producers for their protection against middlemen, private financial institutions, and other exploiting agencies.

Establishment of state and co-operative cold stores, flour mills, granaries, agricultural implement works, fertilizer manufacture, fruit preserving, bacon curing, butter and cheese manufacture.

Assistance to farmers for co-operative buying of farm implements, machinery, fertilizers, seeds, sacks, etc., provision of government prepared poisons for destruction of vegetable pests.

The schemes of the government also cover a wide field of scientific research in the interests of the industry as a whole.

VETERAN HAILS THE DAWN

Robert Applegarth Saw Sale of Slaves—Now Sees Labor Government in Britain

[British Labor Press Service]

It is a long stretch from witnessing a slave sale in Missouri in the late fifties to seeing the advent of the first labor government in Great Britain.

Yet Robert Applegarth's life spans these events. Among the earliest congratulations on his ninetieth birthday last week-end was one from the prime minister.

A letter sent on his behalf to J. S. Middleton, assistant secretary of the Labor party, states that although bedridden and unable to continue his work, he is delighted with the labor government.

A PROMISE REDEEMED

By Curious Coincidence Premier Macdonald Addressed Letter to Late Keir Hardie

[British Labor Press Service]

By a curious coincidence, the letter which Ramsay Macdonald addressed to the late Keir Hardie in 1894, intimating his desire to join the I. L. P., was addressed from "Baldwin Gardens, London, E. C."

It was just after a by-election in Attercliffe, where Frank Smith fought what was, I believe, one of the first I. L. P. candidatures.

"The time for conciliation," wrote Mr. Macdonald, "has gone by, and those of us who are in earnest in our professions must definitely declare ourselves.

"I shall place part of my spare time at the disposal of the party to do what may seem good to you."

Teachers Pay Out

Members of the National Union of Teachers at a conference in London recently, consented to the continuance of the 5 per cent. reduction from salaries on condition that consideration of the scales for 1925-6 should be postponed till later in the year. A resolution expressing "admiration of the stand taken" by the Lowestoft teachers, and assuring them of continued support was carried.

A shoe in a modern factory passes through over a hundred separate operations. One can be made complete in less than 20 seconds.

SWISS REACTIONARIES

Move Indicates Aggressive Attitude of Almost Every European State

[British Labor Press Service]

In Switzerland the question of substituting a 54-hour week for the 48-hour week wrested from the employers in 1919, was submitted to the whole electorate in the form of a referendum on February 17. This move indicates the aggressive attitude which is being adopted by reaction in almost every European state, and is a useful illustration of the way in which the general situation is used by international capitalism in order to attain its ends. Especial significance, in this connection, attaches to the pretence of the Swiss employers that the 48-hour week must be abandoned because the Washington conventions providing for it have not been ratified by other countries!

Swiss Workers Win

Geneva, Feb. 21.—The workmen of Switzerland have won their fight to retain the eight-hour day. In a nation-wide referendum on Sunday, the voters supported the project to repeal the law granting the federal council the right to make a fifty-four-hour week effective in times of economic crises. Two-thirds of the voters favored the repeal of the law. The vote constitutes the first victory of the workers against the campaign now under way in various countries to set aside the eight-hour day.

Capitalist System

Our chief cause for wishing to rid the world of the capitalist system is not that it is unjust—although it is—not that it is cruel—although it is—but because it is wicked and immoral, and because it is based upon a fundamental contradiction of Christian doctrine, says H. B. Lees-Smith.

Lenin the Leg-puller

A good story of the dry humor of which Lenin was capable is told by Karl Radek in the current issue of Russian Information and Review. Radek was arguing against the treaty of Brest-Litovsk, when Lenin closed the discussion wit hthe remark, "The mujik voted against the war."

"Excuse me," said Radek, "when and how did he vote agianst it?"

"How?" retorted Lenin. "Why, with his feet. He is running away from the battle-front."

New Cabinet

Each member of the cabinet is, man for man, twice as good a man in brains, experience, courage and knowledge of the working classes as the fellow who held the corresponding job in the last cabinet, says James Maxton, M. P.

The British Prime Minister, J. R. M.

J. L. GARVIN, editor of the Observer, London, Eng., in a signed article, says in part: "Past history is fascinating, but less so to a discerning mind than living history transacted before our eyes. It means a point of interest seldom surpassed in our political annals, and might properly be regarded as a 'red-letter day' both by dukes and dustmen."

It is a commonplace now to say that the advent of the Labor party in office is a subject of great public interest and much speculation as to what will be the results.

Undoubtedly the pivot and centre around which in a large measure the attention of a large number of people of every class and in many lands east and west, including Canada, are centred—is James Ramsay Macdonald—first British socialist and labor prime minister. In the hope that it may be of interest to the readers of The B. C. Federationist, the following notes are penned:

I have in front if me "The Man of Tomorrow, J. R. M." by "Iconoclast," in which the writer records an interesting discussion which took place on the lawn at an old country house in the south of England. Among the group present was a banker, his wife, daughter and son, an Oxford graduate; also a major, a stockbroker and a prominent journalist. The subject of discussion was J. R. M.

The stockbroker, excitedly: "Well, you people amaze me," he cried. "I don't understand you. Here's a socialist pledged to a programme that would turn all his," he swept the garden and the park beyond with his arm, "into beastly allotments, that would ruin the credit of the country and make us pariahs in Europe like the Bolshies. A man who would have made peace with the Hun in 1917 and in 1914. You seem to have forgotten everything between 1914 and now. Four years ago you would have agreed with me, now wouldn't you?"

"Four years ago we thought Germany was going to pay for the war," said the banker dryly. "Well, so it should," said the stockbroker. "Yes, but hasn't ,has it?" said the banker. "Four years hence Macdonald will be prime minister."

"And thank heaven," cried the journalist. "He's an interesting man whether or no which is more than can be said of most of our prime ministers. Although I'd never claim to be impartial, as you doubtless have seen, I am rabid against him politically, and want to think ill of him—as ill as I can. Of course, frankly, as a liberal, I'm afraid of him. He's going to do us in. I do admit that. I wish we had anyone half so interesting."

The mentality of the banker and journalist is very illuminating.

When Macdoiald denounced the policy of Lloyd George and his coalition government in their mad policy of "fight to a finish," "the last man and the last shilling," "make the Germans pay twenty shillings for every pound spent to prosecute the war, including pensions to soldiers and their dependents," he was hounded out of public life. No public man in our day has been subject to such powerful, concentrated, unscrupulous and malicious attacks and misrepresentation as was J. R. M. from August, 1914, up to and including the present general election.

When on that never-to-be-forgotten day on August 3, 1914, in the British house of commons, Macdonald in closing a memorable and prophetic speech said, speaking on behalf of himself and a small band of I. L. P. colleagues, and two or three of the younger and more radical members of the liberal party: "We are going to go through it all. We will go through it all. So far as we are concerned, whatever may happen, whatever may be said about us, whatever attacks may be made upon us, we will take the stand of saying that this country ought to have remained neutral, because in the deepest parts of our hearts we believe that was right, and that alone was consistent with the honor of this country."

The storms' came and the winds blew, and amid it all, Macdonald remained true to his convictions. It is a commonplace to be reminded that the press, pulpit, and politicians played upon the feelings and sentiments of the men in active service. A few short years have passed, and the change marks a revolution of thought and ideals among the me nof the army and navy. Two incidents of recent date demonstrate this marked change.

On Macdonald's arrival in his constituency to commence his campaign at the recent general election, he was met by the returned soldiers organization of that county division, and given a torch light procession. It is now a matter of history that he secured an unexpectedly large majority on the day of the poll. Two days after the declaration of the poll, the returned soldiers organizations in the Aberavon division, in conference assembled, after passing a resolution congratulating Macdonald on his re-election to the house of commons ,forthwith passed another resolution pledging themselves to raise eight thousand,five shillings subscriptions (£2000) as a fighting fund in readiness for the next election, and to place same in the Co-operative bank. In a word, the success of the Labor party at the two recent elections in the old country, in no small measure, is due to the recognition, by the men who saw active service, of the fact that the Labor party in days of war, as well as in days of peace, were the friends of the working class.

It is not only interesting but instructive to read some of the editorial comments in newsvapers that owe no allegiance to labor or socialis. volities. In a recent editorial in the New York Nation, the editor says: "The point we wish to make today, is that this ministry represents an extraordinary break with the past. No ministry in England or in any other country, so far as we are aware, has embodied such a spirit of passificism, or humanitarianism, of internationalism, of freedom from all imperialistic capitalistic influences. Whatever may be said of Macdonald's ministry in the future, no one will be able to allege that it spoke the voice of privilege or that it sought to exalt England at the expense of other human beings."

In the last issue of the widely read weekly journal Truth, London, England, the editor, referring to the new labor ministry, says: "Whatever criticism may be made against the labor cabinet this can be truthfully said, that in no single case can it be charged that either in their personal or public record have they ever been suspected of a shady act. That is more than we can say of some previous ministries."

The London Times, England, referring to the composition of the new cabinet, said in an editorial a few days ago, "the prime minister has succeeded with consummate skill in dovetailing into his cabinet the various elements of his party, and also it would appear, has put the right men in the right place."

What ministers, what churches in this city or even in this dominion would, in like manner, sponsor the claims and interests of the unemployed and the workers generally, as was done on the occasion referred to in the preceding paragraphs?

LABOR GOVERNMENT

Should Premier Macdonald Have Accepted King's Invitation to Form Cabinet?

LABOR'S RIGHT TO GOVERN

No Alternative Without Betrayal of Whole Community of Workers

[British Labor Press Service]

"OUGHT Mr. Macdonald to have accepted the king's invitation to *form a cabinet?" asks Mrs. Beatrice* Webb in her letter to the women of the Seaham division of Durham, represented in parliament by her husband, Hon. Sidney Webb, M. P., president of the board of trade.

"It is no use deceiving ourselves about the danger and risks of this gigantic task. The labor cabinet starts with a heavy handicap. . . . without a majority in the house of commons.

"But what was the alternative? If Mr. Macdonald had refused to accept office he would have justified the taunt of the capitalist press that labor was 'unfit to govern.'

"You will agree with me that, confronted with this alternative, it was quite impossible, and would, in fact, have been a betrayal not only of the Labor party, but of the whole community of workers for Mr. Macdonald and the other labor leaders to refuse, on the defeat of the conservative party to take over the government of the country."

Plumbers Will Dance

The Plumbers and Steamfitters, local 170, will hold a whist drive and dance in O'Brien hall on the evening of Friday, March 7. Cards will commence at 7:45; dancing at 9, and all interested are invited to come and participate in the playing for the fine whist prizes.

The Labor party has been in power for a short time, and contrary to some prophecies, the country is still in existence, says Oliver Baldwin.

LEAGUE OF NATIONS

Special Interest in Appointment of N. Davis to Presidency of Commission

AMERICAN CO-OPERATION

Long Delay of Conference of Ambassadors in Settling the Fate of Memel

[British Labor Press Service]

PROBABLY no feature of the labor government's policy is attracting more attention in the United States than its attitude towards the League of Nations. There is therefore especial interest in the appointment of Norman Davis, formerly United States secretary of state, to the presidency of the League's commission, which has been set up by the council to deal with the difficult situation between Lithuania and the ambassadors' conference over the territory of Memel. Mr. Davis' appointment to a semi-political commission marks an important development in American co-operation, which hitherto has generally confined itself to the more definitely social and humanitarian activities of the League, such as opium, traffic in women and children, and the Greek refugees' settlement scheme. The long delay on the part of the conference of ambassadors in settling the fate of Memel, and the Polish-Lithuanian dispute Vilna, have combined to make the task of the League's Memel commission one of exceptional difficulty. The appointment of so distinguished an American as Mr. Davis renders a solution probable, where formerly it appeared almost impossible.

Annual Rally of F. L. P.

The annual rally of the Federated Labor party, an event keenly looked forward to by all interested in labor, will be held on Saturday of next week, in the Oddfellows' hall, corner Main street and Sixth avenue, Vancouver. An interesting programme is being arranged by the committee, including brief addresses by Mrs. Stuart Jamieson and Sam Guthrie, M. L. A. The musical programme will be of a high standard, contributed by the Theosophical orchestra of twenty pieces, under the baton of A. Manzinoja. There will be dancing for those who wish to trip the light fantastic, and refreshments will also be provided. The general admission has been set at 35c, so that everyone in any way interested is expected to be at the Oddfellows' hall on the 1st of March.

Meeting of Parliamentary Committee

A meeting of the parliamentary committee, Labor Representation committee, will be held this evening, at room 806, Labor headquarters. Holden block. Routine business will be transacted.

Spray Calendar

The "1924 spray calendar" has just been issued by W. H. Robertson, provincial horticulturist. This calendar contains full information as to the best sprays and other methods of control to be used in the combatting of different insects and diseases attacking the various fruits grown in British Columbia. The calendar is free, and may be obtained by our readers upon application to the department of Agriculture, Victoria, B. C., or from any of the branch offices of the department, throughout the province. All growers of small fruits and orchardists will find this sheet of value in their work of caring for trees and bushes.

Placer Diggings

J. N. J. Brown paid The Federationist a visit on Tuesday. He has just returned to Vancouver from Cariboo, where he is interested in mining. He predicts activity at the Cedar Creek placer diggings during the coming season. Last week a claim changed hands for $15,000.

Activity in Klondyke

The Klondyke is in the throes of another gold and silver rush. At the head of the Beaver river, fifty miles west of Keno hill, a silver and gold discovery of unusual proportions has started a stampede from Mayo, the major mining settlement of the Yukon to the new country, where it is said assays reveal pay dirt running 1100 ounces of silver to the ton.

The Internationale

"We do not object to, and are not going to apologize for, our associations with the International. We have formed an organization to bring people together, so that they will understand each other, and the more they understand each other, the more difficult it will be to plunge them into war, says J. H. Thomas, M. P."

Help for German Social Democrats

Morris Hillquist, of New York, announces that the socialist party, while refraining from making a seperate public appeal for American help for German social democrats, will co-operate with the American Federation of Labor in the campaign to secure relief for the German trade unions. An auxiliary committee for the relief of German labor has been formed with Hillquit as chairman.

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FRIDAY.....February 22, 1924

VOTERS, REGISTER

ANY ONE qualified as a voter in British Columbia should not fail to register his or her name on the voters' list now being prepared for the beer license plebiscite, to take place in the spring, when it is also quite possible that a general election might take place. The lists close tomorrow evening. DO NOT FORGET TO REGISTER.

LABOR IN ENGLAND

DURING the past week the Labor government of England has been facing a trying ordeal, one that would test the most experienced in the art of governing. It would hardly be expected by those who know of the pitfalls that are ever being placed in the pathway of the progress of the Labor movement the world over, that the road would be a smooth one. The vested interests in England are obviously quite disturbed over the excellent showing that Labor is making. They fear—not without reason—the good impression that is being made upon the minds of the people. We need hardly expect, then, that there will be any marked extension of the so-called sporting spirit of the politicians, contaminated as they are, by the big interests. They have real cause to worry.

Labor, under the sane guidance of Premier Macdonald, is striking a sympathetic chord in the hearts of the great mass of the people of the old land. They feel, that in him the common people have a sincere friend. No matter what may be the fate of this government in the near future, since it holds office only by the consent of one or other of the other two parties, it is making and will continue to make history that will forever redound to the credit of labor the world over. Ere long, the two capitalist parties will unite to oust labor from power. Of that there can be no doubt. The liberal party will all but disappear. The reactionaries within that party will join their conservative friends, while the more progressive element will throw in their lot with the labor party. When that has happened, labor will again occupy the opposition benches for a time. We can rest assured, however, that they will forever remain a most powerful influence in the house, and ere many years have passed, they will again be occupying the government benches. They will never allow to go unheeded, humanity's call. In that their future rests assured. They feel that the day of palliatives is past, and that all their energy must be directed in an endeavor to remove the causes of poverty and of suffering. In that, history will at no distant date record them as being the saviours of the human race.

Whatever might be their position, whether in the control of the government or occupying the opposition benches, one duty is clearly theirs, and that is to educate the populace up to an understanding of their duty to themselves and to their fellowmen. Unless the labor movement is able to marshall behind it the intelligence the spirit of service, and the sympathy of the masses, its progress will be slow and faltering. This duty, the supporters of the labor movement in England, have performed in a most intelligent manner, and it is to this that we may ascribe its phenomenal success today. We here in Canada can do little better than follow their example in this regard.

TO WHOM MUST WE LOOK?

MANY OF US today are prone to "let George do it." The results thus obtained, unfortunately for us, are usually not to our liking. In spite of this fact, few of us ever think of attaching any blame to ourselves. It would seem, at this time, that we should take stock of ourselves, and see if it is not within our own ranks that the greatest cause exists for the many failures that we have experienced in the past.

If we—the workers—have needs that should be satisfied, we must of necessity have some responsibility in seeing that these needs have been fulfilled. As the world is constituted today, we need hardly expect the other fellow to give of his time and energy to do something which we could and should be doing for ourselves. So long as the governments of the world are being run as they are today, by and in the interests of the fortunate few, we need look for but little consideration from them and need expect but little improvement in the conditions under which the great mass of humanity has to live today. Too long have we been blinded by party prejudices and the thought of personal gain. We must arise from our state of lethargy and indifference towards our environments and be prepared to give of our time, our energy and our thought—even though it might require some self-sacrifice on our part—for the betterment, not only of ourselves, but of our fellow men the world over.

To dedicate one's life to the betterment of mankind is one of the noblest acts of man. If we are not willing to make some little sacrifice to better our own conditions then what right have we, even to hope for others to make that sacrifice for us?

The day has dawned when he must assume our fair share of the responsibility for the government of our country. Let us be ever trying to prepare ourselves, to make ourselves worthy of the task that will, that must, some day be ours. Then, when that day arrives, not only will we be prepared and ready, but we will have, at the same time, earned and deserved, the respect and confidence of the public at large. To ourselves alone must we look for our own emancipation.

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.]

The Workingman's Worst Enemey

Editor B. C. Federationist: Much of the speech of labor orators, and much of the literature issuing from the labor press is devoted to diatribes against the capitalist and condolences for the workingman over his downtrodden condition, and low social standing in the community. He is told by his leaders that he is a wage-slave and vassal; and that, as in the days of the old Roman empire, captives from the conquered nations were chained to the chariots of the victors, and led in triumph through the streets of the city; so he is, figuratively speaking, bound to the chariots of the financial kings of today, and led as a slave, not for the march of a few hours, but for a lifetime. True, he makes protests. All hrough the records of history we find where he has now and again lifted the weapons of rebellion against his masters, but on the whole with but little effect. Writers in the capitalist press are fond of pointing to the condition of workers in long past ages, and telling the toiler of today how much better off he is than those drudges of old; and that his wonderfully improved condition has been brought about, in large measure, by the free and unselfish use of capital in constructing machinery, building factories, laying out railway lines, establishing commerce between nations, and that all this has redounded to the benefit of the workingman quite as much as to that of the dime wage-dispensing and dollar-profit grabbing capitalist. Taking as a standard of comparison the marvelous advances that have been made in the mechanical and industrial departments of our modern life, advances brought about in large measure by the labor and skill of the worker, and measuring by that standard the amount of joy and comfort that has been allotted him as remuneration. I think it is doubtful if he is very much better off than the old-time serf and vassal of the middle ages. The blame for these conditions is laid at the door of the capitalist, and the trusts that he has organized and uses as deft and efficient means to further his money-getting schemes, and also as weapons to keep the worker under subjection, and control. How much is the working man himself to blame for the oppression to which he is subjected as a wage-earner, and also for his inferior social status in this age of so-called enlightenment and advanced civilization? Does the average working man take any pains, make any effort to use the opportunities that are within his grasp for mental improvement? Opportunities that if rightly used, would give him an intellectual breadth of vision, and power of controlling and bettering his social condition. The reply generally made is: How can a man who works all day find time for study, time for reading books that require serious attention, awaken thought in the mind, and stir it to action? The answer is, that many men who worked harder, and under more and greater disadvantages than the wage worker today has to contend with, have done it and been successful. Abraham Lincoln, the great president of the United States, studied law while he was earning a living as a wood-chopper. George Stephenson laid the foundation of his successful career as an inventor, while he was engineer at a coalpit. Hugh Miller, the Scottish stonemason, toiled through the day at his arduous trade, and studied in his evening hours and today, that humble toiler with mason's hammer and chisel is remembered and honored as one of the founders of the science of geology. The history of human endeavor is full of the records of men who have wrested the gold of success from the hard and flinty rock of everyday toil. What percentage of the working men of today, are studiously inclined, show any desire for mental improvement? The percentage is a very small one. Get into conversation with them, and you will find them ignorant of the great events of history; blank-minded to the wonderful scientific discoveries of the present age, and child-like in their knowledge of the world's masters in prose and verse. It is a safe proposition to lay down that the man who does not read does not think, and such limited mental activity as he does occasionally exercise, leads him on a rambling path and through a foggy country. This lack of mental training hinders him from getting a broad and clear view of the problems of his everyday life, blinds him to the need of individual effort, in his strife for better conditions, but also blinds him to the need of union in thought and act with his fellow workers, in their strife for social betterment. The greatest evil that afflicts our world of today, and has been its greatest affliction through the ages of the past, is selfishness, and the greatest need of the worker of today is to give himself a mental training that will broaden his vision so that he will see the folly of intellectual indolence, and individualism, and realize that only by a sanely conducted and united effort on the part of the workers, can success be attained. Out of that selfishness which I have just mentioned, grows all too often a mean and petty jealousy directed against a fellow worker who is trying to better himself mentally. "Oh, you're trying to make yourself better than we are." "You are trying to stand in with the fellows on top." Such and much worse jeers and sneers I have more than once heard thrown in the face of a worker who preferred to spend his leisure hours with books, and in study, rather than waste them, in idleness or dissipation. And so taking into consideration the average working man's crass and blind indifference to his own best interests, his failure to use the opportunities for mental training and broadening of his mental vision that are within his reach, I am compelled to the conclusion that the workingman's worst enemy is—the workingman.

BROOMSIDE.

Vancouver, Feb. 21, 1924.

Legislation Concerning Health and Education

Editor B. C. Federationist: Might I be allowed a little space to criticize an article that I saw appearing in your paper on February 15th? It is the one entitled, "Legislation Concerning Health and Education," and seems also to contain a rather thinly disguised boost for the Provincial party. Now, in this article, laws are advocated which only tend to increase the cash earned by one small class—the medical profession—at the expense of the whole public. While ostensibly intended to protect the public, is one certain that they will do so? Are they not greatly over-rating both the danger of germs and the honesty of the average doctor? It is notorious that appalling conditions will persist for generations in jails, asylums, etc., with regard to the health of the inmates, and apparently the move for betterment rarely seems to come from the doctors—one of them is always employed in such an institution, but it usually remains for some lay humanitarian to stir the public conscience and do away with the grosser abuses.

The Leavenworth jute mill persists, solitary confinement still persists—and in every case the doctors in charge have the power to do away with such things—but do they act? It seems that the meat pie incident is a gross exaggeration unless the person who prepared the pie was filthily dirty. And since typhoid germs have not yet been found alive in sewage, and that Dr. Fraser, of Toronto, has demonstrated time and time again that typhoid germs do not cause typhoid, it is time for us to realize that any kind of decayed matter in food will cause disease, and that it is the poisons of decay and not the germs that are the instigators of the trouble.

To sum things up, eventually if we are ever to have a decent state of society, we must avoid the creation of beauracracies of hordes of officials that would come into being once anything in the nature of compulsory health legislation is allowed to come into operation. What we want is health education, not disease mongering by scares, "examinations, inspections," etc. For when the people have knowledge of true health, and how to obtain it, doctors will become almost as extinct as the dodo. Yours truly,

ADRIAN C. THRUPP, R. Sc. F.

Kamloops, B. C., Feb. 19, 1924.

"As to Cliquism"

Editor B. C. Federationist: I read with gratified interest the letter of "Ex-delegate" in last issue of The Federationist in reference to "cliquism" in not a few organizations. Any honest union man, with the intelligence of a donkey, knows all about the schemes and wily ways of pie-card labor leaders, so-called. They have lots of nerve; some of them will even go so far as to tell you that you are quite ignorant of the labor question, and that you require their valuable help to promote the welfare of the union and movement. This is very evident around election time. These "divine righters" will get theirs when the members will take the trouble to join together in an industrial organization, where no overlapping nor jurisdictional prerogatives will be allowed, when their activities to some extent will be cut short.

UNIONIST SINCE 1880.

Vancouver, Feb. 21, 1924.

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

REQUIESCAT IN PACE

[By L. L. Dickinson]

As fall the leaves in silence, one by one,
As through the gloaming mist sinks the great sun,
So autumn like have passed to hallowed rest
Earth cherished sons at Heaven's supreme behest.

To humble rural cot and palace hall,
Death, the great leveller, comes at length to all.
One common heritage, one path, they tread,
The faithful artisan, the illustrious dead.

When from their place the brave and just are borne
And kindred weep and stolid nations mourn,
We ponder and the sad heart reasons why
That they of greatest worth are they who die.

Two nations now from sorrow seek surcease;
Two gallant chieftains pass who stood for peace.
Tread softly, for the willing tears yet flow,
Asleep the heroes lie on the bier below.

"How shall we honor him,our fallen chief!"
The Russian nation cried in heartfelt grief,
"He rests in peace," the mourning widow said,
"Erect no marble dome above his head."

"Look to the living, this would please him best,
Relieve the suffering of a state oppressed.
Rear ye the college and the orphan's home,
He will not monuments nor marble stone."

And Wilson, thou who counted not the cost,
Who stood at gaze when th y just cause seemed lost;
Sleep on, brave heart, and rest in faith secure,
Though leagues may fail, the goal of peace is sure.

For it was always thus, since ancient days,
When Isreal's children trod their devious ways;
Their leaders fell upon the desert sand,
But children's children gained the promised land.

An Experiment That Failed

Little Janie—Mother, if baby was to swallow the goldfish, would he be able to swim like one?

Mother—Oh, my heavens, no, child. They'd kill him.

But they didn't.—Phoenix.

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The greatest assistance that the readers of The Federationist can render us at this time, is by securing a new subscriber. By doing so you spread the news of the working class movement and assist us.

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An Object Lesson to the Churches and Ministers of Canada

ON a recent Sunday afternoon, in the First Congregational church of this city, Tom Richardson, ex-M. P., addressed the "open forum" on the subject: "Is Our Present Social Order Christian?" In the course of his address, he made some criticism of the church, and at the close, during question time, amongst others who took part, Rev. A. E. Cook asked the speaker as to what his opinion was on the question as to whether the ministers and churches in Canada took as much interest in labor and social problems as the ministers and churches did in the old land. The speaker, in reply, said: "The comparison was like comparing a mole hill to a mountain, to the disadvantage of Canada."

The following report from the Daily Herald (Labor) of a very important happening in the city temple, London, England, reached this city. It reads as follows:

"You are ghosts of our social sins!"

This was the dramatic declaration of the Rev. F. W. Norwood, when addressing the unemployed who had crowded into the City Temple, London.

The occasion was the "opening of parliament" rally of London's workless.

While London's leisured thousands were lining up in Whitehall to see the king ride past, battalions of weary work-seekers had been trekking behind their bands and banners towards the embankment.

From Bethual Green and Tottenham they had come; from Poplar, and from Woolwich; indeed, from almost every part of London.

Women, Babes and Aged Men

Women had staggered along with babes in arms, while old men groaned under heavy poles from which banners and red flags fluttered in the breeze.

Many new and striking banners were carried. Upon one was an illustration of Christ on the cross, while a soldier was thrusting his bayonet into a fellow human being.

"Is it better to destroy life, or to give life and love?" was the accompanying text.

When the contingents had joined, a united procession moved off for the service at the City Temple.

Unusual Church Scene

The scene in the City Temple itself was remarkable. When the church was half full drummers and pipers trooped into the building, followed by sparsely-clad men.

Some did not know—or had forgotten—that they should have removed their hats. Others continued to smoke. Nearly all of them raised a cheer as a red flag was planted in the front of the gallery.

Banners were fixed to the balconies and the "Labor Victory" poster was proudly carried down the aisle to the pulpit steps.

The service was the joint demonstration of the Brotherhood Movement and the workless.

In his welcome, Dr. Norwood declared: "It is because that consciousness is coming home to the hearts and minds of the people in the churches that this meeting is taking place.

"I think our troubles arise because we have not yet solved the problems of our human relations.

"All Are Brothers"

"The Brotherhood movement," he continued, "is putting all the emphasis of its teaching upon this one great basic fact: that we have one divine father, and all men are brethren."

Dr. Norwood was proceeding to address "you men." A woman in the balcony interrupted. The speaker corrected himself. "You men and women. . . ."

"Comrades!" cried several of the congregation.

"Yes! Comrades!" said Dr. Norwood. "You have the sympathy of the great church-going people, and I hope that this meeting will impress upon the minds of the people and of our statesmen that the question of unemployment is the most clamant question of the present day."

Above the cheering which followed could be heard the din of rattles whirled in enthusiastic approval.

"Comrades of Poverty"

Then the great organ crashed out, and this unusual congregation was singing:

Forth, then, ye heroes, patriots and lovers,
Comrades of danger,
Poverty and scorn!
Mighty in faith of freedom,
Your great mother,
Giants refreshed in joy's
New-raising morn!

Come and swell the song,
Silent now so long—
England is risen —
And the day is here!

Mr. H. E. Martin, London district secretary of the National Unemployed Workers committee movement, moved a resolution, which appealed to parliament to encourage and stimulate the industries of the nation with a view to reducing unemployment.

The resolution also affirmed the belief that, given sympathetic and statesmanlike proposals, the workers of England would honor the trust and "play the game."

Further, it challenged the attention of the British public to the "lonely, cold and depressing lot of many individuals and families in the land, and especially to the injury inflicted upon the welfare of young persons and the health of little children."

Vested Interests

"Parliaments, up to date," said Mr. Martin, "have been the executive committees of vested interests. We must alter that system, and bring about a system of society in which all people will live as sisters and brothers."

Tom Sykes, national secretary of the Brotherhood movement, was greeted with loud cheers when he declared: "We are out to secure the end of the present order of society."

"But," he said, "you might as well expect the Nelson column to dance a fox trot in Trafalgar square as expect a government department to take a lead in anything."

If the government, said Mr. Sykes, could spend 200 millions to break down a new government in Russia, if it could spend millions to protect oil wells, it could spend some of its millions at home!

The resolution was carried with applause.

Many of the congregation were moved to tears as Gilbert Edwards, late of the Beecham opera company, sang "The Toilers."

High words and low language are often not far apart.

CITY OF VANCOUVER

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

TENDERS will be received by the undersigned up to Tuesday, March 4, 1924, at 12 o'clock noon, for the construction of cement concrete sidewalks, curbs and gutters.

Particulars and specifications may be obtained at the City Engineer's Office, City Hall.

A deposit of an amount equal to five per cent. (5%) of the contract price, by marked cheque, payable to the City Treasurer, must accompany each tender.

The lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

WILLIAM McQUEEN,
City Clerk.

City Hall, Vancouver, B. C.
February 16th, 1924.

CITY OF VANCOUVER

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

TENDERS will be received by the undersigned up to March 31st, 1924, at 12 o'clock noon, for the renewal and replacement of the destroyed section of the Connaught Bridge with steel.

Plans, details and specifications can be seen and form of tender obtained at the City Engineer's Office, City Hall.

A deposit, by marked cheque, payable to the City Treasurer, of an amount equal to five per cent. (5%) of the contract price must accompany each tender.

The lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

WILLIAM McQUEEN,
City Clerk.

City Hall, Vancouver, B. C.
February 15th, 1924.

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TO THE MEMBERS OF LABOR ORGANIZATIONS

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Teachers--And Some Reminiscences

[By Clement Manthano]

A CERTAIN prominent easterner was quoted, some time ago, as having said that if the entire training of children were left to school teachers, it would be for the good of the nation. In the writer's opinion, the nature of the matter taught, and the types of teachers employed, would to a great extent influence success or failure of such an experiment.

For instance: The teachers who use their positions to instil hatred of other countries than their own in the hearts of their pupils, instead of emphasizing the good which would result from individually and internationally held, high ideals; from good laws in every state universally approved, and administered by persons chosen upon their records for integrity, fair-mindedness and broad vision; such teachers are a menace to international peace, progress and prosperity. Do you recall Lowell's poem, "The Fatherland?"

Where is the true man's Fatherland?
Is it where he by chance is born?
Doth not the yearning spirit scorn
In such scant borders to be scanned?
O, yes! His fatherland must be
As the blue heaven wide and free!

Is it alone where freedom is,
Where God is God, and man is man?
Doth he not claim a broader span
For the soul's love of home than this?
O, yes! His fatherland must be
As the blue heaven wide and free!

Wher'er a human heart doth wear
Joy's myrtle-wreath or sorrow's gyves,
Wher'er a human spirit strives
After a life more true and fair,
There is the true man's birthplace grand,
His is a world-wide fatherland!

Wher'er a single slave doth pine
Wher'er one man may help another—
Thank God for such a birthright, brother—
That spot of earth is thine and mine!
There is the true man's birth-place grand,
His is a world-wide fatherland!

The present system of education, so widely used, turns loose on defenceless children in rural districts, newly-graduated "teachers," and often misfits, whom city schools won't or don't employ. We are not implying that newly-graduated teachers are invariably misfits. The writer has known over eighty teachers, (and many ex-teachers) about 65 of them should not have chisen this profession. They were long on temper, prejudice and poor methods; and awfully short on teaching ability and common sense.

On several occasions we were present when a teacher (who represents her type) was marking papers. She went to sleep off and on, and between times marked, and made running comments like these: Here's N's book. I like him, he's got some mistakes in his work, but I guess I'll give him pretty good marks today, he's such a nice kid!" "This is O's work; he's got more mistakes than usual, but I won't count them against him this time; I like him, too!" "This is Y's book—she's the limit! Got two mistakes; I'll take off thirty for those, lady!" "This is B's work; got seven, no, nine, mistakes. You can write those out thirty times each, after school tomorrow, mister!" "Here's a dear kid's book. He's always bringing me stuff—box of candy or apples, or something; got five mistakes, too; but I'll give him ninety just the same—such a nice kid." When a third person, who was present, said: "I'd hate to have you marking books for me, and going to sleep over 'em like that!" she laughed merrily.

To those who knew the children whose work was being marked, the respective social and financial standings, and relative influence of their families in that place, and the attitude of this teacher toward life in general, and children in particular, there was significant and direct conntction between the marks given and the identity of the children concerned.

The writer has been in rooms often when children were sent to the blackboard, and, after they had finished their work, were left standing idle for any interval from a few minutes to half and sometimes three-quarters of an hour. If they fidgeted, they were savagely reprimanded, or even punished. It never seemed to occur to the teachers—we have many in mind—that such misuse of time and energy might be, to an onlooker, indicative of exceedingly poor methods—(now, ceaseless, feverish, inflexible, slave-driving routine is the last thing we advocate as an ideal way of pursuing knowledge.)

We have seen papers whereon work done correctly was marked wrong—have even owned some of the same. Sometimes books had been exchanged with other pupils, as directed by "teacher," for marking. It depended, as a rule, on the state of feeling, friendly or otherwise, of many pupils toward each other at the moment as to the way books were marked. And teacher often refused to check over work actually done correctly, but marked wrong! Yet inspectors praised these teachers, and gave their work public and private commendation.

In this connection, also, we wondered why some teachers showed such intense interest in going through our scribblers before certain inspectors arrived. It really was too considerate of said officials to send word to "teacher" as to the dates of their impending visit. You had to work so hard to catch up or try to catch up on all the things you had not got "up to" so far in the year. But most inspectors were always heartily welcomed by "teachers" because they just "visited the schools," or rather, the teachers, and WE were not personally examined by them as to our progress, or lack of same, at all.

We used to feel angry and surprised at teachers who did not speak the truth always, who were unjust, and cruel. We grant that teachers may often have cause for irritation—but never for cruelty. We always wondered why teachers were allowed to wreak their tempers on children with little or no interference or protest. It seemed to be a special privilege they and parents had in common. As time went on, and several teachers and several parents—both classes on duty till the last—were eventually placed in asylums, where they should have been many years earlier, we understood why their "tempers" were so bad! The infliction of unlimited corporal punishment (being left absolutely to the personal judgment, or lack of it, of angry adults) upon children, without protest or interference, is a crime, and should be treated as such. Those who inflict brutal and frequent punishments ought to be examined by alienists. If adjudged sane, they should be restrained from inflicting further such "discipline." Adult male criminals are lashed only for the gravest offences, and in the presence of doctors—females are never lashed. If lashes were given to all offenders against children, there would be considerably less "punishing" of those who can't hit back done by passionate persons with "tempers."

(By the way, do you know that there is no provincial-wide, definitely-set numerical limit to the number of strokes which may be given to children by teachers in British Columbia? The manual of education states that "every teacher shall practice such discipline as may be exercised by a kind, firm and judicious parent in his family." Neither does the manual contain any definite statement as to the exact offences for which corporal punishment may be given.

Now, you and we know that there are many types of parents, and of teachers, and as many differing standards of conduct, and ideas of what constitutes "proper" punishment. The following are examples illustrative of the ideas of certain types of teachers we have known.

(1) For involuntarily laughing aloud at trivial incidents, eight heavy strokes with strap, on each hand.

(2) For mistakes in work, varying number of strokes with strap.

(3) For mistakes in work, pupils kept in for varying number of recesses, and sometimes at noon, as well. If pupils so kept in at noon, who lived half a mile or more from school, were late on returning for afternoon session, they were kept in again.

(4) For accidentally upsetting ink, dropping pencils, etc., often very heavy punishments with strap.

(5) For mistakes in work, or for punishment for some other offence, writing out two to thirteen or more words, twenty-five times each, to be done at recesses, noon or at home, as directed by teacher, in addition to other home or school work.

(6) Did you ever hear a teacher say, for example: "I tell you, I gave it to so and so today!" Or "I tell you, I'm going to fix such a kid! I can't bear the look of him. He's failed in his last two exams, and I'm going to put him back for the third time. I licked him twice yesterday, and twice today—hard, too—and, believe me, I'll keep it right up! I'm not going to have these kids who fail every time—or that I dislike in my room!" Possibly you will reply that you never have heard a teacher talk like that, or known one who acted upon such "principles." If so, what a sheltered life you have led, compared with that led by many school children? The writer has heard many remarks like the foregoing. And such teachers as these, who represent types, stood high in the esteem of inspectors and trustees of similar types, and the home folks didn't seem to care.

The writer has found this to be the attitude—as expressed in words—of a number of teachers toward parent-teacher societies: "Parent-teacher societies? No, I don't think they are a good thing! They only get a lot of people interested in the schools, and the first thing you know, they want this changed, and that done differently, and couldn't something else be improved, and done as they do it in "up-to-date" places, because their way is better. No, I am not anxious to have one formed at my school—they only make trouble for us!"

Now, the writer is not in favor of stupid interference anywhere, by anyone, at any time, with any conditions that are all right as they are. But, having had standards of comparison, has never yet found a place nor a "system," where there was absolutely no room for improvement. Methods vary; so do systems. Likewise ideals. Also administrations. It is most interesting, and always enlightening to look up the laws in school manuals, and then to compare the methods advocated therein with the observance or non-observance of those laws in any school in that specified region. And one must always remember that the methods used, and the interpretations and applications of laws generally, in one's nearest school or schools, are not necessarily indications of the state of affairs in Muddy Corners, for instance, which may be much better, or infinitely worse. . . .

Poor types of trustees employ and retain, as a rule, teachers who would not be permitted to use their individual methods, and interpretation of school laws, in any place where a live P.-T. association existed, and functioned. Sometimes such trustees employ teachers who, because of lack of teaching ability or viscious tempers. (These failings are usually inseparable), and should be debarred from continuing in a noble profession.

Now, would you like to hear a little—we would gladly say a great deal—about the "good" teachers we have known? Just what qualifications these few individuals possessed which commended them to us? Well, we classified them thus:

(1) Ladyhood or gentlemanship, as the case might be. That meant the possession of humane instincts and high standards of conduct.

(2) Love of teaching, which included invariably the ability to impart knowledge.

(3) Genuine liking for and sympathy with children and their problems.

(4) The ability to combine sympathetic understanding and first-rate discipline in perfect proportions. Now sympathetic understanding and first-rate discipline can be combined perfectly. The accomplishment thereof requires and denotes the possesion of brains and their use, and a good disposition.

The best teachers we knew possessed all of the qualifications given above. Being human, their combining of first-rate discipline and sympathetic understanding varied slightly, occasionally, in degree and application; but, as a rule, they were pleasant, just and keepers of evenly good discipline; with very rare outbursts of anger (and consequent exhibitions of poor judgment). We remember some who never showed anger.

The "next best" teachers we knew possessed the first, third, fourth, and part of the second qualifications. Because they were conscientious, they did good work, even though they showed no signs of affectionate devotion to their profession for its own sweet sake.

In order to impart knowledge, which is what a teacher is popularly supposed to do, an atmosphere of interest and sympathy is imperative—and can only be produced where good order exists. The teacher who is forever punishing, or "calling in the principal to punish" (how dear that practice is to certain kinds of teachers and principals), is not doing good work, from a teaching standpoint. If you doubt that statement (you will not, if you have ever given this subject close study) just find out all the facts you possibly can about the methods, manners and morals of teachers who work on the "flay 'em alive" principle. Get all the information possible about that school (from "unofficial" sources) and personal observation, find out what are considered good methods in the schools in any other city, then compare these with whatever methods are in use in "your" school. We guarantee that you will find the comparison interesting and instructive, whether you live in Muddy Corners or Goahead Centre.

May the teachers who are truly worthy to bear that name, have exceedingly long teaching careers, first-rate pensions, which they may long enjoy, and no end of happiness.

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.

Twin Stars at the Orpheum

"The best show of this season," is the universal comment of Orpheum vaudevillians this week, and crowded houses corroborate the decision. Sharing headline honors are Frank Farnum with his youthful revue of sixteen people, and Ernest R. Ball, popular composer and ballad singer. The Farnum revue, featuring the great eccentric dancer himself, the fascinating Stuart sisters and a special "jazzy" orchestra, is a real revue, and a winning production embodying the pep and spirit of youth. Ernest Ball needs no introduction. Wherever there is music, there will be found some of his compositions. On the stage, he does not rest upon past performance, but at the piano, proves himself a splendid pianist and an accomplished singer. John Murray and Vivien Oakland are a snappy pair of musical comedy and screen favorites, whose songs and satires reflect great originality and talent. They have been starred in many Broadway successes. Raymond Bond and his company in his new comedy success, "The Minute Man," score instantaneous favoritism, the said comedy success being the best vehicle Mr. Bond has yet appeared in. Tabor and Green are two blackface comedians who provide a great deal of merriment. Remos and company, including the European midgets, offer as versatile a sketch as has been produced in vaudeville for many years, while Clemens Belling, with his two and four-footed pals, comprise a really jolly family, which makes a hit with old and young alike. The usual attractive pictures and selections by the Orpheum concert orchestra complete this splendid bill.

Next week the most gorgeous and expensive act in vaudeville today "The Land of Fantasie," is featured at the Orpheum.

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Sensible Party

The dire prognostications of a few weeks ago have given way to the realization that the Labor party is a sound, sane and sensible party, says Ben Turner, M. P.

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FAIR STATE INSURANCE

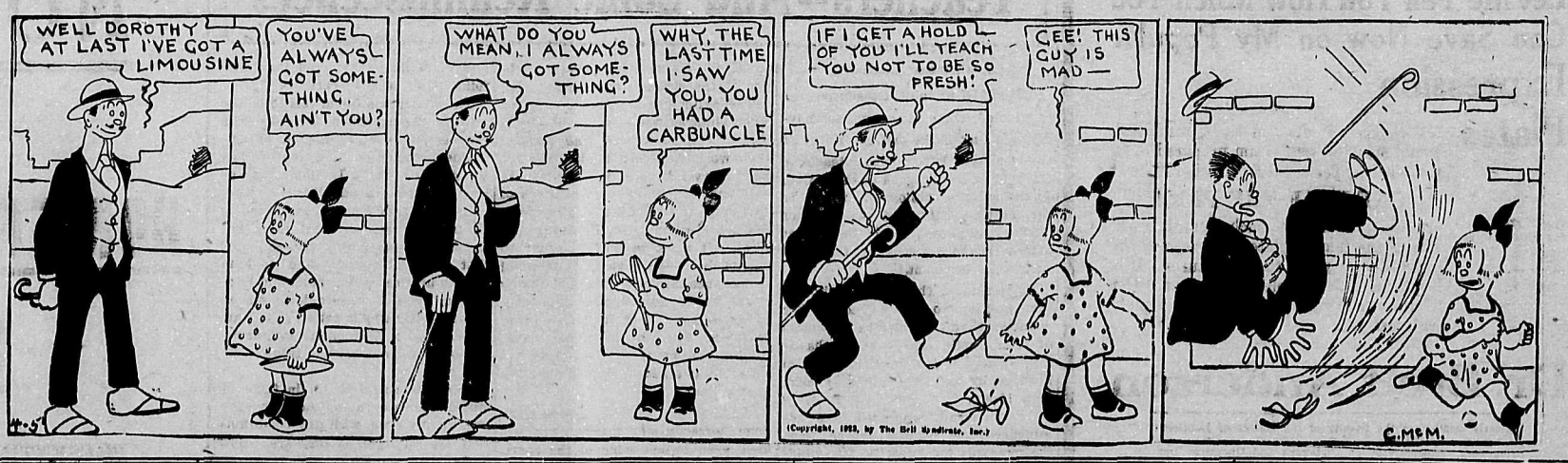
Queensland Labor Government Compels Corporations to Deal Fairly.

Having established state insurance on a sound basis the Queensland labor government is now compelling privately-owned and controlled insurance corporation to deal fairly with the people. Private companies wishing to do business in Queensland have to show, by cash guarantees deposited with the government, that they are in a position to meet all obligations they incur in writing risks. The scale of deposits is increased five-fold. No new company can start business unless the net profits are exclusively divisible among policy holders, and it must be strictly mutual. A license must first be obtained from the government. Existing companies will be entitled to licenses subject to the right of the government to cancel them if the conditions are not complied with. Provision is made for certain returns to be forwarded to the government, as well as to the registrar of joint stock companies, so that the government will be able to hold necessary investigations.

The first bank to be owned and operated by a Labor organization in New England, was opened by the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers in Boston on February 1.

FREDDIE THE FINANCIER---There's Many a Slip

---By CHAS. McMANUS



Railway Stoppage Costs

"One day's railway stoppage costs more than would be the value for a year of the concessions that one trade union is seeking," observes Frank Hodges, M. P.

You may wish to help The Federationist. You can do so by renewing your subscription promptly and sending in the subscription of your friend or neighbor.

LIVING AND MAKING A LIVING

[S. Y. in New York Justice]

WHAT a vast difference between the two, what a chasm!

Most everyone "makes a living," bad or good. Very few "live." To make it easier for himself to "make a living," a wage worker must combine with his fellow workers, he must form a union. But in order to "live" he will have to cease being a wage-worker and become just a worker.

For the difference between living and making a living is about as great as the difference between workers and wage-workers. To the wage-worker his work is toil, drudgery and travail, the very expression of life—while to the free worker his work is the expression of life.

Work of love, labor of choice, unimposed and uncoerced, arduous as it may appear to an outside observer is, nevertheless, a process of joy. Such work combines physical effort with the harmonious co-operation of the soul, heart and mind. It is when one has to sell his labor to another for a living in the knowledge that from this hired labor the purchaser will derive for himself luxuries and idleness, that work becomes galling and unbearable. It is this damning process so inseparable from labor today which plagues the worker most and as a result of which he does not live but makes a living.

The free worker, not one hired for a wage, lives his best when at work. The wage-worker only sights the border-line of life when he is through with his daily task. While at work he does not belong to himself. His "I" then is submerged and he is at best but part of the machine which he serves. The time-worn adage concerning the "sweetness" of labor is piffle and humbug when applied to hired labor. It may have a meaning and substance when it is the expression of man's free will, when it is not sold and bought. Labor for a wage is stunting, dulling, and makes life anything but "sweet." Labor for a wage helps men to continue existing, but not living; it is the denial of the human will and of the human spirit.

In our present scheme of living, most things are ugly and bad because most of what we produce is the result of wage-labor(of compulsion. There is little in it that savors of love of culture, and of what we usually term civilization. Over it all is the deadening spell of the machine, of a hired, industrialized life. In the houses in which we live, in the clothes we wear, in the cinema we watch, in the theatres we visit, in the magazines and books tat are printed for our use—there may be everything but the touch of the truly beautiful, of the individualistic, of the different, of what expresses a free, creative spirit. it is all dull wage labor. Man will begin to live when labor for wages will become non-compulsory, free labor. Then the age of real civilization will set in. The civilization we have today is but the result of the efforts of a handful of free spirits. Even these are free only in a limited sense, for most of them are eventually vanquished by forces they cannot resist. They too, for the most part, become hired artisans; their creative wings too are shorn off as soon as they begin making soulless things to order. The civilization to which they contribute thereafter is but that of making a living, but not the civilization of life. The paleness, monotony and spiritlessness of our civilization will disappear only when man will get for his labor not merely a pay envelope but when in his free work he will find the joy of life and the expression of his unharnessed individuality.

The labor union aids the worker in making a living, and then in making his life less burdensome and more attractive. This is the immediate and first aim of every trade union. The higher purpose of a workers' organization, however, is to bring about a social order where the workers will not only be able to make a living, but where the workers of the world will finally be able to live. The highest, aye, the very ultimate aim of the labor movement is to create such social conditions as will do away with work for wages and make room for free labor, so that men and women shall live a full human life not only after they cease work, but while engaged in the process of creative labor.

The enemies of life are pettiness, narrowness and selfishness.

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?

The Economic Basis of the World War

WHEN we look behind the curtains of camouflage which obscured the issues of the great war, and look for its direct and remoter causes, we discover that the war of 1914, like all other wars and struggles of human society, had an economic basis, and now that the peace and prosperity promised by the heralds of our war lords did not materialize, it is well to examine into the claims of those who declared war and compare them with the facts now known.

On Friday evening, Dr. Curry dealt with this subject, and linked it up with some of his previous discourses. A few weeks ago the subject was "Our Savage Survivals." In this it was shown how modern man is not yet guided by reason, but by blind passions, by inherited loves and hates and fears, bequeathed by our brute and savage ancestors. The marks of the beast are still upon our bodies and our minds, which alone accounts for the fact that the greed-mad profiteers and the professional fighters called, and behold millions spurred on by the ancient instinct to fight, maimed and murdered one another by millions, without even enquiring into the cause for which they fought and died.

The Myth of a Guilty Nation

Albert J. Nock's work on this subject was referred to by the speaker, and showed conclusively that Germany was no more to blame than other nations in entering the great war, but the stories of "Hun atrocities" had the desired effect, as similar stories have had in other wars. For the command "Thou shalt not bear false witness" does not apply any more than "thou shalt not kill," where commercial prosperity and imperialism are at stake.

We should also remember how ten or twelve years ago Germany was recognized as a model in industrial and educational efficiency, as in self-government, and why of the barbarian tribes who came from the north in the first centuries of our era, and began the British, French and Germanic people should there be such moral divergency between the savage founders of Britain or France, and those of the central powers?

The Secret Treaties

The publication of secret diplomacy between Britain, France and Russia, as to how they would divide the spoils when Germany and her allies wert vanquished, helped to make Russia for years the victim of slander and counter-revolutionary activities by the great powers. The plans for dividing Teutonic trade and territory also shows why Lloyd George, then the spokesman of the triple alliance, had as his war cry, "unconditional surrender, or a knock-out blow," and why Germany's repeated offer for settlement by arbitration, years before the armistice, was met with scorn by those who claimed to represent justice, peace and democracy.

The following are a few of the provisions of the treaties exposed by the Bolsheviks: Russia was to have Constantinople, the straits and Asiatic Turkey. Britain's specified share was the neutral zone of Persia, some German colonies and Southern Mesopotamia.

The Rev. J. T. Parfett, for twenty years canon of Jerusalem, lecturing in London in 1918, said: "Why, the oil fields which we took over a few days before the armistice was signed, are alone worth £10,000,000,000 and besides this our empire contains over a hundred million square miles more of territory than it did in 1914."

Italy, Japan and all the other allies gained concessions through the victory, and yet the cost of war, as always, is paid in sweat and tears and blood of the subject, and producing classes, while thousands of millionaires were made out of profiteers too busy making money to risk their precious lives in war.

Uncle Sam, with the traders' eye, was first "neutral," and sold goods to both sides. Then, seeing his cargoes were sunk by German submarines, and that his great creditors seemed in danger of losing the fight, his love for peace gave way to a loud belligerency while his moral and intellectual superstructure suddenly shifted in line with his business interests.

Commercial Rivalry the Real Cause

The production of iron is well said to be the basic commodity of imperialistic capitalism, and in noting how late Germany was in starting as a commercial power, how rapidly she overhauled and forged ahead of Britain in the production of iron, we see why this old ally of our empire in the early part of this century was becoming a dangerous rival to British manufacturers and changing to an enemy.

In 1850, Germany produced 350,000 tons of iron, while Britain in the same year, produced 2,300,000. In 1900 our empire was still slightly in advance of Germany, while in 1912 Germany's production of iron and steel had risen to 17½ million tons, while Britain's product of this basic commodity of imperialism, was a little less than half of this amount, while "German-made goods" were invading every part of Europe and of the world, which had formerly been supplied by the traders of Great Britain.

During this time, Germany's population, as well as her productive forces were expanding so rapidly that territorial expansion or collapse seemed inevitable.

The Bagdad Railroad and the Koweit Incident

Dr. Curry read passages from Budden's "Socialism and the War," and other works bearing on this subject, and it is apparent that Germany's and Britain's antagonism regarding the Bagdad railroad scheme was an important factor in cementing the triple alliance, and enabling Germany to realize that a clash of arms was inevitable. German imperialists and business classes had planned the Bagdad road, and concessions from the sultan of Turkey had been secured for this purpose. The road was to terminate at Koweit on the Persian gulf, but the "sick man of Europe" was not his own master, but was controlled somewhat by British diplomacy, which at this stage objected to Germany's railroad policy, seeing that Turkey's revenue was derived largely through duty on imports, and so far Britain was the chief importer.

It was then that our British statesmen discovered that Turkey had no right of jurisdiction over the province of Koweit, and one fine morning the natives of this proposed shipping point of the Bagdad railway saw the Union Jack flying from the mast of a British gunboat. Koweit province was declared by this guardian of small nations to be "independent," and its ruler had suddenly changed his mind, and looked upon Germany's railway scheme from the same viewpoint, as did his British benefactor.

This incident blocked this imperialistic scheme of Germany.

In conclusion, it was shown that the prime cause of poverty, unemployment and warfare is in the class ownership of the machinery of production, and in production for profit. Through the evolution of machinery, the products of labor is ever increasing, while owing to the poor and unemployed always being with us, the purchasing and consuming powers or wages of the masses of workers remains at subsistence point.

This results in an ever-increasing volume of wealth, which cannot be consumed at home, and hence the struggle for markets which in 1914 resulted in that carnival of carnage which destroyed over 20,000,000 lives, and bankrupted the nations involved.

This Friday, W. A. Pritchard will be the speaker. His subject will be: "The Russian Revolution."

Realize Their Responsibilities

The government is composed of men who realize their responsibilities, and fully appreciate the heavy task which confronts them, says Tom Smith, M.P.

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