THE BRITISH COLUMBIA FEDERATIONIST

INDUSTRIAL UNITY: STRENGTH — OFFICIAL PAPER: VANCOUVER TRADES AND LABOR COUNCIL, AND B. C. FEDERATION OF LABOR — POLITICAL UNITY: VICTORY

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KNOWLEDGE THE ROAD TO SUCCESS

W. W. Lefeaux and McKenzie Held Platform Last Week

"What we of the working class need is knowledge. Knowledge of society, its history, structure and the laws of its determining economic life processes, because the working class must know its own position within society in order to solve its problems." So spoke the chairman in the Theatre Royal in opening Sunday's meeting of the Socialist Party of Canada. "Ignorance will mean confusion, despair and disaster in the critical days that are near." He quoted the closing words of the address of Premier Lenin to the proletariat of Russia when he asked them to "apply themselves with self-sacrificing zeal to the collossal task of assembling and reconstructing the economic and industrial life of Russia," which are contained in the pamphlet, "The Soviets at Work." "Only a class that marches along its road without hesitation, that does not become dejected and does not despair on the most difficult and dangerous crossings, can lead the toiling and exploited masses. We do not need hysterical outbursts. We need the regular march of the iron battalions of the proletariat.

Two speakers occupied the platform, Comrades McKenzie and Lefeaux. McKenzie in his address said the solving of the problems of reconstruction depended on the revolutionary working class, the Russian proletariat pointing the way.

We had only to listen to the spokesmen of the present dying regime to realize the mental bankruptcy of its apologists in the futility of their proposed remedies. How were we to face the ever recurring industrial panics, one of which was approaching now. The bourgeoisie had no remedy, because such social phenomena were the result of the wage system itself and production for profit.

The speaker also dealt with the conditions in Russia and Germany and with the false impressions, as to the proletarian movement in those countries, which the capitalist press was trying to instil into the minds of the workers in other countries. He said it was our bounden duty, as Socialists, to whom the success of our Russian and German comrades was of vital interest, to counter these false impressions and lies by spreading the truth.

Comrade Lefeaux then spoke on Russian intervention and the relation and responsibility of the workers in this and every other country to and for this affair. He said he could see a vision of men dead or dying in agony on the plains of Russia, and who were they? Working men of Russia. Killed by working men of other countries, with bullets and shells from guns made and transported also by working men and women of other countries. He wanted to know for what and why. Had the experience of these last few horrible years and the many years of Socialist education among the working class gone for so little that they were dead to any feeling of solidarity with the workers in Russia who were fighting the fight of not alone their own emancipation from capitalist exploitation and its attendant miseries, but also that of the workers of all other countries. He said we could not escape our share of responsibility by any sophistical arguments, for the carrying on of the intervention in Russia. And what were we going to do about it? Could we all sincerely say we were doing our utmost to prevent this expedition? He thought not. Not by any means. He appealed for a change in the attitude of the workers on this question and called for a more vigorous opposition to it. It was matter that could only be dealt with by the whole of the working class and the truth of it must be put before them. We cannot sit quiet in tame acquiescence and permit the affair to go on, not even in the interests of trade and commerce. For we will not live by the Russian workers' death nor profit by their exploitation by foreign capital, nor sacrifice our class ideals for a fat pay envelope.

In closing he said he had hopes, but he was beginning to be suspicious that all was not right with the Anglo-Saxon working class. He hoped events would justify his hopes and not his suspicions.

SEATTLE WORKERS ARE AROUSED

Protest Meeting Against Intervention in Russia to Be Held Sunday

On Sunday at 2.30 p.m. in the City of Seattle there will be a mass open-air meeting called by the Seattle Metal Trades Council, the central body, and the Socialist local. The object of the meeting is to protest against any interference in the Russian situation. Efforts have been made to secure a suitable hall in which to hold a meeting of protest, but without avail, the powers that be having evidently tiped off the owners of suitable places to refuse to rent any hall for this purpose. As a result of this attitude on the part of the owners it has been decided to hold an open air demonstration, and it is expected that thousands will be in attendance.

Hotel and Restaurant Employees

Business Agent McKenzie, of the Hotel and Restaurant Employees, is confined to his home, and it may be a few days before he is able to be around again. Following the successful dance held on New Year's Eve, it is intended to hold another of these functions in the near future.

BETTER SERVICE FOR FED READERS

Provincial Library Victoria B.C.

New Plant and Press Is Being Installed to Meet Increased Circulation

Last week there was a delay in getting out the Federationist owing to the strike of the job printers. The week before some little delay was occasioned through the holidays. This week the paper is out on time. The growth of the circulation, which has more than doubled in the last six months, with the printing plant used, has made it an increasingly difficult matter to get the papers mailed on Friday morning, especially on the week when the Trades and Labor Council meeting is held, which does not often finish until after 11 p.m. Within the next month, however, we shall be able to give Federationist readers better service than in the past. A new press and stereotyping plant is being installed by the printers of the Fed., Messrs. Cowan & Brookhouse, in order to cope with the additional number of papers. Additional mailers will also be employed, and when everything is in order the papers will all be mailed before 8 a.m. on Friday, and there should be no need for delay in the delivery, unless the postal authorities fall down or some unforeseen circumstances intervene. Complaints as to non-delivery of paper will be dealt with immediately they are received, but subscribers changing their addresses should send in their old as well as the new address. A little patience will be rewarded in the near future by better service, but phenomenal growth in circulation can only be met and dealt with as times goes on, and immediate steps cannot always be taken to cope with the situation.

The Meat Cutters and Butchers

At the last meeting of the Meat Cutters and Butchers Union, No. 643, were installed the officers for the ensuing six months, and a good number of candidates were initiated. Considerable business of interest was taken up. The butchers in general are showing more desire for the better working of the organization, and are determined to show that when disagreement arises, it is the employer that is to blame. The next meeting is on Jan. 21. Members serve themselves best by attending every meeting and keeping in touch with what is going on.

No. 191 Boilermakers Elect Officers

The annual election of officers, Local 191, Boilermakers, Victoria, took place in Labor Hall, Sunday, December 29. There was a large attendance. Mr. Woodward addressed the meeting on behalf of the Tribune, and on a motion by Bro. Lamrick, seconded by J. Waters, the local decided to take the paper "en bloc" for a period of three months. The election results were as follows: President, T. Moir; vice-president, W. Stevens; secretary and organizer, A. Stewart; recording secretary, J. Waters; treasurer, H. Prior; trustees, D. Wood, J. H. Carmichael, A. C. Carmichael.

The body of Bro. Peters, who had died as a result of exposure in the Goldstream woods, was found on December 28, and was buried in Ross Bay cemetery, December 31, there being a large representation of the local at the funeral.

Business Agent A. Stewart reports that the boilermaking industry in Victoria is in a flourishing condition, and there was a difficulty in finding men, twenty being wanted for the navy yard.

J. S. WOODSWORTH AT REX ON SUNDAY

A. S. Wells Will Be the Speaker at Broadway Meeting

Last Sunday, E. T. Kingsley spoke to a record crowd at the Rex. At 7:40 p.m. the doors were locked, as there was no more room. That the working class is taking an interest in the problems of the day, is fully proved by the crowds that are attending these meetings. On Sunday, J. S. Woodsworth will speak at the Rex. His subject will be: "What We Want," chairman, Mr. Nelson.

The Broadway meetings are still being carried on, and on Sunday A. S. Wells will be the speaker. The party is considering the advisability of starting another down-town meeting to accommodate the overflow from the Rex. Due notice will be given as to the time and place. On Wednesday evening the party held a very successful whist drive and dance, and these social gatherings are to be continued each month throughout the winter. The date for the next one will be announced in a few days.

LONGSHOREMEN TO HOLD A DANCE

Amalgamation of Two Locals to Be Celebrated By a Social Function

The Longshoremen are going to celebrate the amalgamation of the two locals by holding an "Amalgamation Dance," in the Lester Court, on the 29th of this month. The committee in charge is leaving no step untaken to make this dance a red letter event in the annals of this organization. Those that have in the past attended the Longshoremen's social affairs, will have no doubts as to the success of this one, if the past is anything to go by, and if all reports are true, then the dance on the 29th will be the best ever. Tickets can be obtained from any of the officers of the organization, the charge being $1.00 per couple.

NEW YEAR "HONORS"

WAR CHIEF SHIPS CHINESE CREW

Fifteen Asiatics Are Signed Up for Local Built Ship

For four years or over, the Canadians overseas were fighting for democracy, and a better world, at least that is what we were told. In so far as Canada has been concerned, we have been informed that the shipbuilding programme was to be a great boon to this country. With ships built on the coast, the seamen have been looking forward to some benefits as a result, but it would appear that British, or white seamen, are not in demand. This week a crew of fifteen has been signed up for the War Chief, one of the freighters built on this coast. There is evidently not sufficient seamen on this coast to man the ships that are built here, or possibly there is not sufficient seamen "cheap enough," as the crew of fifteen were brought here from China. The wages that these men are to receive are such as no white man would ship for: First Chinaman, $40 per month; second Chinaman, $36, and the remainder, $25 per month. Evidently the "freedom of the seas" and the glory of the traditions of the British mercantile marine service is to be maintained by the Asiatics. "Blittania Rules the Waves." This latest addition to the British mercantile marine was brought here by the steamer Madras, which recently arrived here from Eastern ports.

OFFICIAL RETURNS OF CARMEN'S ELECTION

The Old Officers Are Re-elected by Large Majorities in Recent Elections

President, W. H. Cottrell, 474; W. Barker, 194. First vice-president, J. Hubble, 354; E. Hicks, 138; T. Eccleston, 72; P. Logee, 68. Second vice-president, A. J. Harraway, 294; E. Pearson, 248. Recording secretary, A. V. Lofting, 389; A. Macduff, 248. Financial secretary-business agent, F. A. Hoover, 435; E. S. Hougham, 223. Treasurer, E. S. Cleveland, 402; H. Birnie, 202. Second conductor, E. Hicks, 174; E. Pearson, 164; J. Johnstone, 123; E. Wadge, 70. Auditors (three to elect)—E. Kermode, 437; J. Byron, 363; Y. White, 337; A. J. Harraway, 277; E. Pearson, 201.

Trades and Labor Council delegates (eight to elect), F. A. Hoover, 495; W. H. Cottrell, 484; J. Hubble, 415; A. Lofting, 397; E. Kermode, 374; E. S. Cleveland, 352; R. E. Rigby, 394; J. Price, 265; A. McInnes, 264; W. Barker, 246; P. Logee, 173; J. Johnstone, 173; E. Hicks, 162; B. G. Davies, 138; E. Pearson, 132; D. Fraser, 131; G. R. Fettes, 106; W. E. Fennell, 104.

Delegates to Convention of B. C. Federation of Labor (four to elect, W. H. Cottrell, 407; J. Hubble, 280; E. Kermode, 257; A. Lofting, 257; J. Hubble, 280; E. S. Hougham, 220; W. Barker, 161; R. E. Rigby, 149; J. Price, 120; J. Johnstone, 117; A. McInnes, 113; J. Sidaway, 100; A. J. Harraway, 84; E. Pearson, 77; E. Jackson, 57; J. Auton, 47.

Elected by acclamation—First warden, B. G. Davies; second warden, R. Anderson; first conductor, J. Hendry.

Judge of elections, H. S. Schofield.

Tellers—Prior Street barns, S. A. Wilson and J. McKinnon; Lulu Island, G. Hanson; North Vancouver, R. M. Vincy.

United Warehousemen's Association

A mass meeting of the association will be held on Friday evening, January 17, at 8 o'clock. A full attendance of the membership is specially requested to assist in making the meeting a success.

ANNUAL CONVENTION OF ALBERTA LABOR

Censorship and Intervention in Russia Is Strongly Condemned

Mothers' Pensions and Provincial Department of Labor Are Demanded

The annual convention of the Alberta Federation of Labor convened on Monday last at Medicine Hat, Alberta. President A. J. Kinney, who has been appointed as commissioner on the Workmen's Compensation Act, presided. The resolution of the Vancouver Trades and Labor Council, calling for the cessation of the Allied intervention in Russia, was endorsed unanimously. A resolution calling for an increase in the amount of alcohol in beer, as passed at the Quebec convention of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, was defeated. A resolution calling for the establishment of a provincial department of Labor, under a responsible minister, was adopted.

Censorship

A resolution dealing with the censorship and banned literature, was introduced on Wednesday. This resolution caused considerable discussion, the resolution merely called for the removal of the restrictions, but an amendment was made, giving the executive the power to call a general strike if the ban is not lifted within sixty days. After considerable discussion, the resolution was referred back to the committee on resolutions for amendment, to make it more effective.

Mothers' pensions and many other remedial measures were endorsed, amongst which was the provision in the Factory Act for a half holiday for all workers each week. That child labor exists, and that the factory act is not enforced, was brought forcibly to the attention of the convention, by specific charges against a Redcliffe firm. A committee was appointed by the convention to take legal proceedings against this firm. Later the committee submitted a report which astounded the convention.

Mr. E. E. Roper, convener of the special committee, reported the action taken by the committee, and this was endorsed by the convention, but the prosecution proceedings instituted by the committee were dropped after a report from Delegate Russell of Edmonton, which revealed a situation which amazed the convention. According to the statements of Bro. Russell, the justice of the peace before whom the information was laid, was not only unsympathetic, but was it was alleged, himself an employer of child labor; the parents of the children were acquiescent in the matter, and the other laborers were so loath to give evidence that the committee anticipated great difficulty in securing justice in the event of bringing the case to court. The superintendent of the factory assured the convention that the children were not employed in the factory on Wednesday.

A resolution promising the support of the Federation to all members of the working class, arrested or imprisoned for political offences, was endorsed by the convention, as was a proposal for the nationalization of the medical and dental professions and hospitals. It is expected that the convention will give its undivided support to the proposed Western Labor conference.

LABOR TEMPLE MEETINGS FOR COMING WEEK

SUNDAY, Jan. 12—Musicians, Sawyers and Filers, Saw Filers' Association.

MONDAY, Jan. 13—Boilermakers, Steam Engineers, Electrical Workers, Amalgamated Engineers, Patternmakers, Upholsterers, Ironworkers, Bakery Salesmen, U. B. Carpenters No. 617

TUESDAY, Jan. 14—Pressmen, Barbers, Amalgamated Carpenters, Machinists No. 777.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 15—Bookbinders, Boilermakers' Examining Board, Metal Trades Council, Laundry Workers, Hotel and Restaurant Employees.

THURSDAY, Jan. 16—Trades and Labor Council, Foundry Workers, Maintenance of Way Employees, Painters, Machinists Ladies' Auxiliary.

FRIDAY, Jan. 17—Granite Cutters, Brotherhood of Railway Carmen, Pile Drivers and Wooden Bridgemen, Boilermakers' Executive, Civic Employees, Molders, City Hall Employees, Warehousemen Minimum Wage League.

SATURDAY, Jan. 18—Blacksmiths.

HARRINGTON TO SPEAK SUNDAY

Discussion of Working Class Problem Draws Big Crowds at Royal

The war has given an impetus to history. The necessity for war production on a gigantic scale has speeded the development of the machine. The war market has disappeared, millions of men are being demobilized and will again compete in the labor market for jobs. Recall pre-war conditions with its periodical panics, and even at the best of times its large armies of unemployed. Consider the increased productivity of the machine and how long think you before the markets of the world are glutted with every conceivable commodity. What has always been the condition of the working class when that has happened previously? If you are interested in these problems, and you should be if you are a member of the working class, attend the Sunday night meetings of the Socialist Party of Canada at the Royal Theatre.

Comrade Harrington is the speaker next Sunday. Doors open 7.30 p.m. Meeting called to order 8 p.m. sharp. Questions and discussion.

Jack Kavanagh at Columbia

After turning hundreds away every Sunday night at the Royal Theatre for the past six weeks, the Socialist Party of Canada has decided in future to run two meetings. For this purpose, the party has engaged the Columbia Theatre, and, commencing Sunday, the 12th inst., addresses on scientific Socialism and the many problems affecting the working class can be heard at this house.

Comrade Kavanagh is the first speaker to take the platform at the Columbia, and undoubtedly will put forth the working class position in his usual forceful manner. Doors open at 7:30 p.m., chair will be taken at 8 by A. McKenzie.

The usual course will be followed that applies at all meetings; when the speaker has concluded, the meeting will be thrown open for questions and discussion.

VICTORIA TRADES COUNCIL ACTIVE

Retail Clerks Seeking Saturday Half-Holiday Instead of Wednesday

At the last meeting of the Victoria Trades and Labor Council, President Dooley presided.

Credentials were received from the following organizations: Retail Clerks, Delegates Woodward, Mrs. Ellis, Mrs. Sutton, Grogan and Taylor; Street Railwaymen, W. Matthews, Robinson, West, Campbell and Bell; Steam and Operating Engineers, Coleman; the delegates were seated.

Secretary Sivertz reported that there were 29 organizations affiliated with the council, with approximately 3021 of membership.

The censorship protest meeting committee reported all ready to hold a mass meeting on Sunday, at the Columbia Theatre.

A delegation from the Men's Auxiliary to the Great War Veterans Association, presenting the following resolution:

"Be it resolved, that this association demands from the Dominion government the disfranchisement of all enemy aliens, and that legislation be forthwith enacted by parliament prohibiting the immigration of alien enemies into the Dominion of Canada, and that naturalization laws be changed so that no enemy alien can ever become a citizen."

Mr. Cross, of the delegation, tried to show the necessity of the resolution; the delegation were subjected to a severe grilling, and the council informed them that their ideas would be considered.

From Fort William Trades and Labor Council, a resolution was received protesting against the increase of the Northwest Mounted Police, as it was going to be used as a coersive force against labor. The resolution was endorsed.

The Retail Clerks sent in a communication asking support of the council in an effort to get the weekly half-holiday changed from Wednesday to Saturday. A committee composed of Dels. Woodward, Dakers and Mrs. Sutton was appointed to visit the unions to place the case before them, and get their support.

A communication from the Socialist Party of Canada condemning the censorship regulations, was received, and was unanimously endorsed by the council, and a motion to write to Ottawa protesting against the opening of mail, and demanding that it be immediately stopped, was also passed.

The election of officers were deferred to next meeting, January 22.

The Blacklist

Local employment agencies are busily compiling a blacklist. This contains the names of those that have in any way shown so-called "Bolsheviki tendencies." No Russians or Swedes are to be employed through these agencies. Many will wonder if the government employment agencies that are to be established, will also have a blacklist, as it is well known that some kind of a blacklist is in operation in connection with the Old Country bureaus.

Bakers Union, No. 179

This union continues to increase in membership, and the members are working harmoniously together. The union passed a resolution to the effect that all soldiers who desire to join shall be admitted for $2. Meetings 2nd and 4th Saturdays in the month.

LAUNDRY WORKERS BENEFIT DANCE

This Dance Is to Raise Funds in the Defence of W. L. Geofroy

It is to be hoped that a large number of unionists will find their way to the Dominion Hall, Pender Street, on Monday evening and help make the whist drive and dance given by the Laundry Workers in aid of the Geofroy defense fund a big success. Every preparation has been made to handle a good crowd and all are assured of a great time. Don't forget to come along and bring your friends. Ladies 25 cents, and gents 50 cents. (War tax extra.) Whist drive at 8 p.m. and dancing from 9 to 1.

Music will be supplied by Holden's orchestra. The total proceeds of this dance will go towards the defense fund of W. L. Geofroy, a laundry worker who was convicted during the strike. Everybody come, Monday, January 15, 1919.

Fatal Accident at Foundation Yards

It is said that a period of peaceful capitalist prosperity will kill and maim as many as a periodical war. The Victoria shipbuilding industry continues to add to its numerous list of killed and injured workers. On Thursday, January 2, Alfred Reynolds, a member of 1598, U. B. Shipwrights, died from injuries received while working at Point Ellice yard of the Foundation Co. Bro. Reynolds in attempting to adjust a cross-piece, was caught between the heavy timbers and was so badly crushed about the head that he died on the way to the hospital. He was a resident of Victoria for the past ten years, was 45 years of age, and was born at Tilbrook, Lincolnshire, England. Bro. Reynolds was well-known and liked by all who knew him, being also for a number of years bandmaster in the local Salvation Army band. He leaves a widow and three children.

The Red Flag—Following Melbourne and Sydney, the Brisbane Trades Hall now flies the red flag at its mast-head.

KINGSLEY AND CIVILIZATIONS

A Record Crowd Listened to His Expose of Present and Past Systems of Society

Judging from the attendance at the Rex Theatre meeting on Sunday last, under the auspices of the Federated Labor Party, the scare headlines and fulsome lying of the daily press of capitalism in reference to the internal affairs of Russia and other European countries, is meeting with results entirely contrary to that which the aforesaid liars and their instigators intended. Because of the frantic falsehoods, so brazenly spread broadcast by the press and other prostitutes of the ruling class in regard to the Bolsheviki of Europe and elsewhere, it seems that the curiosity of the common people has been splendidly aroused, and they are not only anxious but determined to find out the truth about a movement that has been thrust to the centre of the world stage by the agencies of ruling class misrepresentation and downright lying. Not long since, the German Kaiser was supposed to be the very embodiment of all evil. If we are to believe one-half of that which we were assured by the press and spokesmen of capitalism, to be the solemn truth about the wickedness and peculiarly devilish characteristics of the Hohenzollern person, we would certainly be forced to the conclusion that he had achieved the well-merited distinction of having attained to the very ultimate in wickedness. But now the Kaiser is practically forgotten. A new goat has been discovered by the watchdogs of "liberty and democracy," upon which to saddle the sins of mankind. The erstwhile wicked Kaiser now gets a rest. The Bolsheviki is found to be infinitely more wicked and threatening to the beneficent powers that be, and that wisely rule and guide the common herd for its uplift and beatification, than the Kaiser ever dreamed of being.

And the clatter and din raised by the aforesaid watch-dogs against the pestiferous Bolsheviki, that would poison the fount of ruling class purity at its very source and destroy all of that sweet-smelling civilization that has so generously and plentifully poured forth its delightful perfume during the last four years, has been made a perfect torrent of raucous and impudent lying for now quite some weeks. But all of this noisy lying and frantic warning against the approach of evil goes for naught. The common herd does not care worth a depreciated cent. The eagerness with which the workers and other decent persons (if there are any such) gather to the international situation, and the avidity with which they seize and absorb reading matter dealing therewith, clearly affirms their entire absence of fear regarding the Bolsheviki bugaboo conjured up by the pimps and panders of ruling class evil.

The Rex last Sunday was filled to capacity at 7.30 p.m.; 500 or more people were turned away. Mrs. Lorimer presided over the meeting. When she announced herself as a "Bolsheviki," and with a husband and son in the Canadian army at the front, the big audience nearly raised the roof with applause.

E. T. Kingsley was the speaker of the evening. He occupied an hour and a half in pointing out the political and economic characteristics of the civilization of the last ten thousand years; that such civilization had at all times, and still is based upon the enslavement of the workers of the world; that all social and industrial institutions are predicated upon the enslavement and exploitation of labor and are maintained and safeguarded by the organized brute force of the modern state. The Bolsheviki movement of the world that is now frightening the rulers of all lands is but the advance guard of the world proletariat that is coming into its freedom through the overthrow of the capitalist or ruling class state and the institution of production for the use of those who do the work, and the ending for all time of the slavery that has cursed the world for the last ten thousand years.

The speaker at the Rex on next Sunday will be J. S. Woodsworth. Those who expect to get in will needs come early.

PRINTERS GET AN INCREASE IN WAGES

Job Printers' Dispute Was Settled on Wednesday Morning

The Typographical Union was successful in bringing about a settlement in the trouble with the job printers on Wednesday. The job men will from now on receive the same scale as the newspaper men. The amount of the increase is considerable, as the job men were receiving $29.50 and will now receive $34.50, or an increase of five dollars per week. The agreement has been signed by the officials of the Printers' Board of Trade and all offices that are operated by members of the employers' association are now working under the new scale.

Left for Chicago

A. J. Crawford, international executive board member of the Sheet Metal Workers, left for Chicago on Thursday to attend a board meeting. He expects to be away a couple of weeks or more.

Machinists 182.

Lodge 182 of the International Association of Machinists met last night and the officers for the year 1919 were installed. A list of the officers has already been published in the Fed.

Not how cheap but how good

IT'S the extra strength in the metal, the extra skill in the workmanship that makes all the difference in the world between a good machine and a poor one.

That's the Twin Bute Story

IT'S the extra strength in the cloth, the extra skill of Union workers, the extra value in twin needle stitching, reinforced corners, continuous, rip-proof pocket and fly facings and the extra value in rivetted buttons that make Twin Bute Overalls preferred.

You can pay less for Overalls, but you could not get so much.

Jas. Thomson & Sons, Ltd.

Makers of Twin Bute Work Garments

Pattern Makers Union

Harrisburg, Pa.—The pattern makers have finally succeeded in completing their union and electing a full set of officers. The work of securing the organization required continued close application and much effort on the part of representatives of that league.

Demand An Increase

Pottsville, Pa.—The United Brewery Workers are demanding an increase of $1 a day. The request for the increase is the result of the brewery companies advancing the price of beer $4 a barrel. An offer of $2 a week was rejected by the workers.

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Finest Pork shoulders, ribs, 35c lb; Saturday only 28½c

Leg of Pork, per lb 38½c

Crisco, per tin	35c
Tomatoes, large tins	20c
Sunlight Soap, 4 for	25c
Royal Crown Soap, 6 for	25c
Sardines 3 for	25c
Pork and Beans, 3 for	25c
Fry's Cocoa, 2 for	45c

PROVISION DEPARTMENT

Sliced Streaky Bacon, lb	50c
Sliced Boneless Ham, lb	50c
Sliced Ayrshire Roll, lb	50c
Sliced Smoked Backs, lb	55c

EGGS—EGGS—EGGS

Alberta Cooking Eggs, dozen	55c
Alberta Fresh Eggs, dozen	75c

BUTTER—BUTTER—BUTTER

Finest No. 1 Alberta, 3 lbs	$1.60
Fine Alberta Butter, 3 lbs	$1.50
Finest Ontario Cheese, per lb	35c
Finest Pure Lard, lb	35c
Finest Compound Lard, lb	30c
Finest Beef Fat, lb	20c
Finest Beef Suet, lb	25c
Finest Beef Dripping, lb	25c
Salt Pork, per lb	40c

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WE DELIVER ALL OVER THE CITY AND SUBURBS

WITH THE BOLSHEVIKI

[By R. Reynolds Ball]

I have been two years in Russia, engaged in relief work. I have been in Samara, in Moscow, on the western frontier, in Astrakhan and the Caucasus, and quite recently in Petrograd. From time to time I have been in relation with Bolshevik commissars, and have found them well-disposed, and men, as a rule, with a sense of their *responsibility. I was struck by the* fact that those in responsible positions in Russia are mostly young men.

On the western frontier, which I visited at the end of May, the government was making use of an existing organization, the "Union of Towns," *for the relief of refugees.* Thirteen thousand people were being fed at Orsha, and arrangements were being made for the supply of foodstuffs along the whole western frontier from other parts of Russia. Whether these arrangements have been prejudically affected by the Allied occupation I cannot say.

In Astrakhan the relief is being carried out directly by commissars and committees working under a state department. I visited, in September, the commissar in charge of Armenian affairs, who is also commissar (minister) of the interior in the republic of Astrakhan. Six million roubles had been assigned by the central department in Moscow for the relief of refugees in Astrakhan and the Caucasus. A commissioner had been sent into the Caucasus to link up existing relief committees with the state department. A sign that the department was bent on practical measures of relief was the fact that they were sending 30,000 yards of cloth into the Caucasus for *the Armenian refugees.* By the way, I might mention that an Englishman working under the Bolshevik relief department travelled with several comrades of the Red Guard on a journey of more than a week's duration in a goods wagon bringing the cloth from Petrograd to Astrakhan.

On my return to England, I find that there is a great discrepancy between what my countrymen expect to hear about Russia and what I can tell them. Where one is expected to describe scenes of bloodshed and riot in the streets of Moscow and Petrograd I saw no scenes of violence or disorder. The extreme shortage of food makes this somewhat remarkable. I should perhaps qualify the above statement by saying that there was one disturbance while I was in Moscow (I was there from the beginning of May to the middle of July), a disturbance occasioned by the murder of Count Mirbach by the Social Revolutionaries, which was promptly suppressed by the Bolshevik government.

As to personal safety, I can only say that it was possible to travel unmolested from Moscow to the southern limit of the Caucasus through Bolshevik territory. It is true that on my arrival at Vladikavkas (August 18th), two days after the Bolsheviks had captured it *from the Cossacks, there* was looting by Ingush tribesmen, but by the third day it was put down by the Bolshevik administration. On the other hand, the only occasion when I was molested was on my return journey through a village belonging to our Allies, the Cossacks, where some mountain tribesmen, allies of our Allies, were engaged in dragging a woman out of the village to shoot her.

It may be urged that the preservation of public order signifies nothing more than the acquiescence in a reign of terror by a frightened population. In that case one would expect to find signs of a repressive police or unpopular martial law.

Since the first revolution there has been no police force; its functions have now fallen to the Red Guard. A little less than a year ago the Red Guard was a body containing heterogeneous and irresponsible elements. These are no longer conspicuous. The committee system, which arose in an army which did not trust its officers, has gone, and officers promoted from the ranks have full authority and maintain discipline. In fact, the experiment of creating a disciplined army without offending the Socialist temper of the soldier seems to have succeeded.

The difference between the Red *Guards of nine months ago and those* of today is very noticeable in their bearing. They now have the air of men confident in themselves and their cause, who are conscious that they share the faith and aspirations of the masses. The Red Army, which is directed by the commissar for war in Moscow, is said to be a million strong. Nine months ago a few thousand men could with difficulty be scraped together from the highways.

It may be supposed that order both in the army and in the towns exists only in certain special parts of Russia. But the truth—not always known in England—is that from the western frontier to beyond the Volga, that is to say, over the greater part of Russia, there is a federation of republics and a uniform structure of governments of those names. In each there is a central Soviet, while in every town and village there is a smaller Soviet. The professional classes, teachers, doctors, chemists, etc., are represented by their Souz or trade union.

The confidence of the population in the stability of the government is greater than it was earlier in the year.

Contrary to the expectations, not only of its opponents, but also of many of its supporters, it has survived the treaty of Brest-Litovsk, the signing of which *has actually increased Lenin's* prestige in Russia. The Czecho-Slovaks, who were carrying all before them in the spring, have retreated from the Volga into Siberia, and Lenin's popularity has greatly increased since the attempt to assassinate him.

There has lately been something like a cult of Lenin.

The failure of all plots, of which there have been plenty, to overturn the government, combined with the weakness of the Social Revolutionaries, has made it clear to the Russians, even if it is not yet clear to us, that there is, at present, at least, no alternative party.

Gorky has recognized this, and has joined the government. Early in October he called a mass meeting in Petrograd in which he appealed to the Intellectuals to join forces with the Bolsheviks. The meeting had a great success. In view of the facts of the situation it is difficult to believe that anything short of intervention by foreign armies, which would involve the occupation and garrisoning of towns, both large and small, is likely to upset the Bolshevik government.

The objection to the Soviet system likely to be most strongly held by Liberals is that it is not democratic. This is possibly true, but the Russians may possibly argue that a labor qualification for the franchise is at least as democratic as a property qualification.

The Soviet government is an experiment, and to be blind to the experimental nature of revolution in itself is to misunderstand it. Just as it is a mistake for us to wish to apply our own constitutional precedents in Russia, so it is a mistake to see in the Bolshevik application of Marxian doctrine the experiments of mere doctrinaires. Lenin is a doctrinaire in the *full sense of the word; he never re*linquishes one iota of the pure doctrine, but he is a doctrinaire at bay, and never fails to use an advantage when circumstances offer. Such a weapon, ready to the hands of the Bolsheviks, was the Industrial Soviet bequeathed by the revolution of 1905.

The experiment would have been crushed by the constituent assembly, which we now know was not wholly representative of the Russian people because it was elected before the return of the younger genration from the front had remodeled the old-fashioned parliamentary machinery in the country. A parallel will suggest itself to many Liberals at the present time in the recent election in England. The constituent assembly would have been a reversion to the parliamentary type of representation which offers no attraction to the rank and file of the Russian people. The Soviet gives them that direct contact with the government, an outlet for that spontaneity of expression which they are accustomed to in the Commune. The Industrial Soviet is a spontaneous development in a centre of industrial activity of the same instinct for communal action which finds its expression in the Mir and the village Skhod or meeting. We English have not the instinct for meetings.

The most unforgettable impression left by a year and a half in a Russian village is the scene so constanly witnessed in front of the village hall. An apaprent pandemonium; all are talking at once, no one apparently is listening to what another says. And yet pandemonium it is not:—a conclusion is somehow reached. It can only be interpreted as collective thinking. Sometimes the whole crowd can be seen moving away at once to carry their conclusion into action. It is as mysterious as a swarm of bees.

What a contrast to our ideally elected parish councils!

Bolshevism rests on this instinct, and it seems to me that in the absence of it the widespread fears of Bolshevism in England are idle.

—From the London Nation (Nov. 30).

THE ALBERT HALL LABOR MEETING

Workers of England Demand Cessation of War Against Russia

Allusive reports from the Old Country indicate a near crisis over the letting of the Albert Hall in London for the big Labor and Socialist meeting of a month ago. This hall is perhaps the finest and largest in London, and is mostly devoted to gatherings of rank and beauty. But Labor wanted it for this occasion, and the directors decided to refuse it—to exclude Labor from it, and there was no other hall adequate for its purpose.

"Consider," the report states, "what would have happened if the trustees had persisted in their refusal with the total acquiescence of the government. On the following Wednesday, was the Victory ball at the Albert Hall—a gathering of the clans of London wealth and society. There would have been no taxi-cabs and no buses. No tube trains would have stopped at South Kensington. Any attempt to restore the electric current would have plunged all Kensington into darkness. It would have been a powerful demonstration; but it would have been more than that. It would have been a foretaste of the possibilities taht are lying ahead—and that no wise man would invite."

It is evident that Labor threatened to strike, to force the letting of the hall to it. It is a foretaste of possibilities, all right. When Labor really wants the square deal it can no doubt get it.

Of the meeting, the Nation reports: "The audience was more revolutionary than the speakers dared to be. . . . Any reference to direct action betrayed the real mind of the crowd. Parliamentary methods, such as Ramsay Macdon*ald offered, were received in silence.*" Formal resolutions were listened to with restraint. "Then came the demand to stop our war against the Russian Republic. There was a pause, there was a little hearty cheering, which caught up like heather alight, which swept back and up to the galleries, and ended in a storm with the rare and unmistakable note of passion."

Times Are Changing

Los Angeles, Cal.—This city has boasted of the fact that it is an open shop city where the newspaper editorials are inspired by the advertisements and the advertisers are controlled by the merchants' and manufacturers' association, whose only legitimate excuse for existence is to circumvent the organization of labor unions, increase hours and reduce pay of the wage earner. Recently the worker has been aroused to the danger by which he is surrounded and is moving along on safe and sane lines at a rate of speed hardly to be believed by the doubting Thomases in and out of the ranks of organized labor. The fact has been brought home to the more astute business men of the city that a $6 a day worker is more profitable to the interests of the city than a $3 a day man; and also that the Saturday half-holiday has increased the buying opportunities of the wealth producers by giving them more time to make their purchases.

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BUSINESS MAN'S PSYCHOLOGY

[By J. S. Woodsworth]

A good deal of nonsense is often solemnly uttered by Soialist speakers and other working class advocates with regard to the "capitalist bunch." They are classified as bourgeoise and petit *bourgeoise. They are often depicted* as a set of self-conscious hypocrites. Frequently highly colored pictures are drawn of the idleness and luxury in which they live.

Now as a matter of fact most of these descriptions are second-hand, being borrowed from translations of European writers, some of them writing of conditions thirty or forty years ago. Certain distinctions are considered essential to the maintenance of "orthodox scientific" theories of social development.

We submit that there is nothing to be gained by maintaining arbitrary or erroneous ideas. We have, for example, in America no class corresponding to the bourgeoise class of Europe. Our "middle class" occupies a very different position from what in Europe is known as the "middle classes." Most of our wealthy men have not inherited their wealth and by no means live an idle, self-indulgent life. They are, according to their light, highly estimable citizens.

The rather crude invective with which these "capitalists" are assailed has not only the effect of making their minds to a still greater degree impervious to modern social ideas, but it also prevents the workers understanding the true position of those whom they regard as "the enemy" and hence adopting the most effective form of attack. Not infrequently the members of the business and professional classes are as much the victims of "the system" as the manual workers who have become "class-conscious."

In the background of the minds of the majority of the successful business men of Canada there in an old Eastern homestead. The successful business man may lunch at a high class club or occupy a box at the theatre or spend his vacations in Europe, but as a boy he "did the chores," swam in the village millpond, cut his name in the desks of the little red school house and generally lived the all-round democratic life of a farmer's boy.

Those who have come to Canada in recent years, especially to Western Canada, often fail to understand the Canadian life of a generation ago in which the men past middle age were nurtured. Agriculture was the predominant industry. There were few cities, and these small. Social problems were unknown. The virtues and vices were those of a simple individualistic type of society.

The labor problem was confined to the hired man and the hired girl, but as there was plenty of free land the hired man soon took up land for himself. As there was a scarcity of women *the hired girl soon found herself in a* home of her own.

Flitting recollections of such a life pass before the half-shut eyes of the big business manager as he rests in his comfortable leather chair after a heavy day at the office.

*In the nearer background of his con*sciousness is the life of the small town in which he experienced his early business struggles. Here he married and set up his first home. Here his children had measles and croup and he know what it was to be on friendly terms with all sorts of neighbors. In his business, he called most of his employees by their first names and know more or less of their personal affairs. There were few poor in the town, and they were generally shiftless or addicted to drink. If a man didn't make things go it was more or less his own fault. Organized labor was unknown and Socialism unheard of. A few constables represented the dignity of the law and rounded up petty thieves and disorderly persons. The church stimulated men to overcome tempations to appetite and to strive for a certain type of personal goodness.

Since our successful business man moved to the city and entered upon larger commercial and financial enterprises the life has been very different. The greatest change lies in his isolation from the common life about him. His offices in the fine new warehouses are open only to employers of the highest rank. He throws the responsibility for details upon managers and foremen. He studies the rise and fall of markets and analyzes costs. Only privileged visitors get past the outer offices to trespass upon his time. At noon he lunches at a high class club with men of his own group and way of thinking. He drives his own car, so he does not even rub shoulders with the strap-hangers in the street cars. His home is in the best residential district, where building restrictions are rigidly enforced. After dinner with guests of his wife's "set" or circle he may accompany them to the theatre. On Sunday he and his family occupy a pew in St. Mark's, where everything is in the best of taste. His isolation is complete. His class-consciousness assured.

He is kind-hearted. He gives to the children's home, even though he protests against mothers' pensions. This is not rank hypocricy. His early childhood and the village life gave him personal sympathy. But he has had no personal experiences of the desperate struggles of modern industrial life and no enlightmenment with regard to modern methods of social service.

He will send a Christmas basket to a poor family at Christmas but he will fight valiantly against organized labor. Again the key to his action lies in his own personal experiences with their limitations.

He thinks he knows the problems of labor because he knew his father's *hired man or knew his men in the little* town where he began business twenty-five years ago. He fails to realize that just as his mahogany-finished office and beautiful residence differ widely from the old barn in which he forked back the hay or his little bedroom with the *rag carpet, so an absolutely new world* has grown up about him.

He has depended for his information on the newspapers and on his subordinates, and they have made only partial representation.

He has, he thinks, a mass of new data, but the new data has all been run into the old moulds—the moulds of his personal experiences in a simpler social state.

But is he not a leader in the new industrial and commercial life? Undoubtedly, but he has not seen that life as a series of human relationships, but merely from the standpoint of dividends.

He thinks himself just. He would not commit a vulgar theft. He would not insult his neighbor's wife. He does not realize that he is the beneficiary of a system that is degrading womanhood and crushing out manhood. Can he be made to understand?

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

JOURNEYMEN BARBERS INTERNAtional Union of America, Local No. 120—Meets second and fourth Tuesdays in the month, Room 205, Labor Temple. President, C. E. Herritt; secretary, S. H. Grant, 820 Cambie Street.

BROTHERHOOD OF CARPENTERS, LOCAL No. 617—Meets every second and fourth Monday evening, 8 o'clock, Labor Temple. President, M. MacKenzie; financial secretary, G. Thom, 6 Dufferin Street East; recording secretary, J. E. Campbell; business agent, Walter Thomas, Room 208 Labor Temple. Phone Sey. 7495.

BROTHERHOOD OF BOILER MAKERS and Iron Ship Builders and Helpers of America, Vancouver Lodge No. 194—Meets every Monday, 8 p.m. President, M. A. McEachern, 1245 Alberni St.; secretary-treasurer, Angus Fraser, 1151 Howe St.; business agent, L. Cummins, Room 213 Labor Temple.

HOTEL AND RESTAURANT EMPLOYEES Local 28—Meets every first Wednesday in the month at 2.30 p.m. and every third Wednesday in the month at 9.30 p.m. President, Harry Wood; secretary and business agent, W. Mackenzie, Room 209 Labor Temple. Phone Sey. 1681. Office hours: 11 to 12 noon; 3 to 5 p.m.

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF STEAM AND Operating Engineers, Local No. 620—Meets every Monday, 7.30 p.m., Labor Temple. President, J. R. Flynn, 810 Moodie street, New Westminster; vice-president, D. Hodgee; secretary-treasurer and business agent, W. A. Alexander, Room 216, Labor Temple. Phone Sey. 7495.

ELECTRICAL WORKERS, LOCAL NO. 213—Meets in Room 205, Labor Temple, every Monday, 8 p. m. President, H. Burnes, 1162 Powell street; recording secretary, W. Foulkes, Labor Temple; financial secretary and business agent, E. H. Morrison, Room 207, Labor Temple; assistant secretary, F. R. Burrows.

INTERNATIONAL LONGSHOREMEN'S ASsociation, Local 3852—Office and hall, 804 Pender Street West. Meets first and third Fridays 8 p.m. Secretary-treasurer, G. Thomas; business agent, A. Hill.

AMALGAMATED MEAT CUTTERS AND Butcher Workmen's Union, No. 649—Meets first and third Tuesdays of each month, Labor Temple, 8 p. m. President, Chas. P. Huggins; recording secretary, J. Summers; financial secretary and business agent, T. W. Anderson, 587 Homer street.

PATTERN MAKERS' LEAGUE OF NORTH America (Vancouver and vicinity)—Branch meets second and fourth Mondays, Room 204, Labor Temple. President, J. Banforth, Euclid Ave., Collingwood East; financial secretary and business agent, H. S. Nightingales, 276—56th Ave East, South Vancouver; recording secretary, E. Westmoreland, 3247 Point Grey road. Phone Bayview 2979L.

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TYPOGRAPHICAL UNION, No. 226—Meets last Sunday of each month at 2 p.m. President, R. Marshall; vice-president, W. H Jordan; secretary-treasurer, R. H. Neelands, Box 66.

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These fantastic schemes, such as "State Socialism," Municipal Socialism," "National Guilds," "Fabian" free thought Socialism, and the many more or less step by step to Socialism fallacies are completely out of joint with the evolutionary process that in our present society, as in all those of the past, is controlled by the economic forces of production.

Socialism can never come by the gradual extension of state ownership or municipal enterprise. Such a process merely strengthens the stranglehold of financial interests, and can never lead to a form of society dealing out economic quality, which is the only thing worth striving for, as when the individual's needs are assured it enables him to live a fuller life free from the anxieties of a system such as our present, that never has, and never shall be able to assure to every unit the essentials of life.

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A study of the past reveals the fact that the economic in all its phases of society has been the basis upon which was built the social life of the community. The social superstructure, ethical, legal, religious and the ideology generally, have been but a reflex of economic conditions, that has always controlled, is controlling today, and will in the future, the aspirations and outlook of humanity.

The economic basis of our present system dominates the mental outlook of the community, many being forced unconsciously to adopt a physchology in antagonism to the system, instinctively they act in opposition to economic forces that have grown out of joint with the conditions created by those forces. They have a vague unconscious feeling that the superstructure or environment does not harmonise with the economic, and are forming within the shell of the present form of society the germ of the ideology of the new.

The Errors of the Past.

This unconscious ideology is but the reflex of the economic development that has taken place during the past one hundred years. Our industrial system was based upon individual liberty, a revolt against the State control, or rather, curtailment of industrial enterprise. As the system developed the individual has had to more and more merge his isolated activities in that of his fellows, whether employers or employed. The extension and development of the world's markets has forced the individual capitalist to combine his capital with other capitalists, leading to the formation of the joint stock companies, in which the owners are parasites pure and simple, living upon the interest of their capital, without performing any social function. The workers in these big industries have evolved into automata. In the early stages of the system the skilled worker predominated, but as the system evolved he has gradually been replaced by unskilled machine-minders as the tools of production became more perfected. The evolution from simple production to meet home consumption with comparatively a small surplus for oversea markets, has led to all fully developed countries depending more and more upon the world's markets to dispose of their surplus commodities. A production of commodities for the social use of the human race in all parts of the globe, socially produced in the big industrial centres, and distributed by the collective worker in the joint stock railways and shipping companies, produced by tools and distributed by transport not socially owned but owned and controlled by a diminishing number of parasitical shareholders.

The Problem to be Solved.

This is the economic antagonism that requires solving. Social production for social use by tools individually owned. State Socialism or extension of municipal enterprise are no solution of the problem. They are not even palliatives, for if put into force would still leave the financial capitalist astride of the community, and the workers compelled to grind out surplus profits to pay interest upon loans raised to pay off the owners of the industries.

We have no reason to believe the Co-operative Commonwealth will be brought about by peaceful means. The capitalist class will fight hard to maintain their control of both the economic and political power, but must eventually be beaten in the struggle with the only class below them—the working class. The economic contradiction of private ownership and social production is the point around which the struggle will centre.

The harmonising of this contradiction will place the land and tools of production under social ownership. Whilst the struggle continues it will be a working-class dictatorship, but when ended the society that will spring up will be a society freed from class distinction, an environment freed from the sordid, grasping snobbery of our economic system of get rich quick. An environment that will raise humanity, give it a nobler outlook, freed from the brutalizing insecurity of a system that requires for its continuance the prop of an unemployed army of workers as a standing menace to those in employment.

A Happier Future for Humanity.

Such is our objective. We cannot fill in the details. We know, however, that the foundations of all past societies, and our present, have been economic, and that the social life of the community is the reflex of the economic. All the economic forces of all phases of society since the advent of civilization has been privately owned by a minority, thus leading to a degrading dependence by the majority. We feel certain therefore, that the social ownership of the means for producing the essentials of life will lead to the raising of a social superstructure, that befogged as we are mentally by our degrading capitalist society, words fail to convey any idea of the glories of life in such an environment.—J.M.G., in the "International."

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A NEW ELEMENT IN BRITISH LABOR SITUATION

Shop Steward System to Be the Means of Gaining Control

The British Labor Movement faces a serious crisis, in the opinion of G. D. H. Cole, one of the leading experts on British labor problems. Writing in a recent number of The Dial, Mr. Cole states that the war has brought into existence a new element, the shop steward movement, which threatens to revolutionize the old standards of trade union organization.

The shop steward movement, in the opinion of Mr. Cole, provides a machinery "through which trade unionists can hope, by gradual extensions of their power, to assume control in the workshops." Mr. Cole tells that the trade unions are very barely prepared to take this step. However, he insists that wherever the movement has gained strength "the same far-seeing stewards are beginning to work out the immediate problems of control."

NATIONS IN BLINKERS

Mr. R. Reynolds Ball writes to the London Nation on his two years experience in Russia, where he was engaged in relief work. He is one of the increasing band of finer spirits in all countries who are daring to protest against the damnable lies manufactured by governments and press against Russia. "On my return to England," he writes, "I find that there is a great discrepancy between what my countrymen expect to hear about Russia and what I can tell them." He had been all over Russia, "in Samara, in Moscow, on the western frontier, in Astrakhan, the Caucasus ,and quite recently in Petrograd." He was struck by the fact that those in responsible positions were mostly young men, all well disposed and with a due sense of their responsibility.

The western frontier wa sorganized by Bolshevik commissars for the relief of refugees. "Thirteen thousands people were being fed at Orsha, and arrangements were being made for the supply of foodstuffs along the whole western front from other parts of Russia." But he was afraid these arrangements would be prejudicially affected by Allied occupation. "Six million roubles had been assigned by the central department in Moscow for the relief of refugees in Astrakhan and the Caucasus. The same department had sent 30,000 yards of cloth to the Armenian refugees, and an Englishman working under the relief department travelled with several comrades of the Red Guard on a journey of mere than a week's duration in a goods wagon, bringing the cloth from Petrograd to Astrakhan."

A government call for volunteers to join this Englishman in the work of organizing a new and better democracy presents a contrast to its expeditions of machine guns and bayonets. To the objection that the Soviet system of government is not democratic, he counters with the argument that "a Labor qualification for the franchise is at least as democratic as a property qualification." This suggests a new plank for the platform of our Labor Party. A Labor franchise qualification would be educative, at least, and might shorten the spectacle of the seduction of the Labor vote by lawyers, politicians and grafters.

Personal safety, he states, was secure in Bolshevik territory. "The only occasion when I was molested was on my return journey through a village belonging to our Allies, the Cossacks."

The confidence of the population in the stability of the government is growing. "The professional classes, teachers, doctors, chemists, etc., are represented by their Souz or trade union" in the government. Lenine is becoming a cult. And it is clear to those who know that there is no alternative government to the Soviets. "Gorky has recognized this, and has joined the government. Early in October he called a mass meeting in Petrograd, in which he appealed to the Intellectuals to join forces with the Bolsheviks. The meeting had a great success."

It would seem that the Allies in the war for Democracy have got more Democracy than they bargained for, and deep down in the hearts of our reactionaries is a wish to replace the Czar and Kaiser on their thrones, if they could. The sending of armed expeditions to Russia, and the concealment and poisoning of the truth by press censorship are damning facts. The people must not see or hear what is being done. Their heads must be encased in blinkers, and their view confined to the dusty turnpike. The fair scenery and delectable pastures are not for them. And now we are told from the Old Country, "the press is being appealed to, in the name of the prime minister, to avoid all speculation in or discussion of the terms of peace." Blinkered children that we are, peace or war, it is none of our business, any way.

SOWING THE WIND AND REAPING THE WHIRLWIND

The Frame-up on Mooney Has Become a World Issue

Mooney Speaks Through a Thousand Avenues to the Workers

Little did the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce suspect that the desperate effort of their million dollar "Law and Order Committee," organized in 1916 to destroy the labor movement of San Francisco, would result in cementing the solidarity of labor's forces far beyond the boundaries of California, even of the United States, aye, to the ends of the earth.

The "frame-up" on Mooney and his co-defendants has become a world issue, and the insistent demands for justice has become a rallying point around which surges the flowing tide of labor's growing voice. Not alone in the great industrial centres of the world, but on the very frontiers of civilization where the white man mingles with other races, "The Mooney Case" stalks like an ominous Frankenstein threatening to destroy belief in the courts, those solemn institutions which the overlords of society have chosen to surround with a halo of semi-sacredness, in order that the masses of men may not scrutinize their inner workings too closely.

Times move and we move with them!

Americans, that is, those Americans who think and feel like human beings, who are not satisfied merely to browse like cattle on straws from the capitalist trashing machine, find themselves forced to adopt their own means to establish justice where courts have declared themselves bankrupt.

The trial court presided over by Judge Franklin A. Griffin, the only court that heard the evidence, has declared that the court was imposed upon by fraud and perjury and therefore the Mooney verdict should not stand. The Appellate Court, the Supreme Court of California, and the Supreme Court of the United States do not do deny that there may have been fraud or perjury used, but it is their contention that as long as none of the sacred rules of the law books were violated relief could only be afforded by the exercise of the royal prerogative of a pardon.

The governor of California commuted death sentence to life imprisonment, a crowning act of stupidity and injustice.

Little did the corporate interests of California realize that Mooney in his living tomb speaks now with a thousand voices where he had but one before.

Little did they realize that labor for its own protection must prevent the establishment of legal precedents, which if allowed to remain, will make unsafe the life and liberty of any champion of labor's cause, as long as unscrupulous men with money enough to hire perjurers can get away with a frame-up.

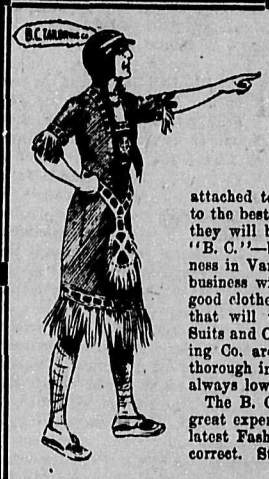
Labor's political power is at present undeveloped—until labor learns to develop a powerful press of its own that condition will remain.

While labor papers may educate one man to use his ballot intelligently, the millionaire-owned big dailies will miseducate ten.

But Labor's economic power is absolutely unquestionable. It is in the hands of labor itself. If organized on definite clear-cut lines, voicing as in a trade movement for hours, wages or shop conditions, the opinion of the rank and file, co-ordinating their activities through the instrumentality of central and national bodies, there can be no doubt of its efficacy.

It is to secure the expression of labor on how to best combat the new peril that confronts labor through the judicial approval or indulgence in the Mooney frame-up that a conference has been called for January 14, 1919, in Chicago.

The "call" has gone forth to local unions, central labor councils, state federations and internationals. No labor man with his ears to the ground, listening to the approach of coming events, can afford to ignore the most democratic movement ever conceived in the history of America. He should insist upon having his own voice heard, through instructed delegates if need be, thus picking up the gauntlet of big business and flinging it back in their teeth.



Returning Soldiers

should ask their comrades, especially those who have been attached to the construction departments, as to the best tailoring outfit in Vancouver, and they will be told, nine times out of ten, the "B. C."—because the B. C. has been in business in Vancouver for ten years, doing a big business with men who work and who want good clothes, well-fitting clothes, and clothes that will wear and look well for years. Suits and Overcoats made by the B. C. Tailoring Co. are genuine from start to finish—thorough in all respects—and B. C. prices are always low. A fair price for a good article.

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New Orleans—A new wage and working agreement has been presented to the employing bakers by representative of Bakery Workers Union No. 35. It calls for eight hours and time and a-half for overtime. As the trade is well organized, little opposition is anticipated. The minimum wage is $22 and the maximum $36.

New Co-operative Store

Denison, Tex.—The Co-operative Buyers Union store has opened for business. The stock of the new venture will be in the hands of members of the various unions. It starts with a capital of $10,000.

Kneading 1000 Loaves In Less Than 15 Minutes

From the old-fashioned spinning wheel to the modern loom turning out its yards of cloth was a big stride in progress. Just as in the last few years scientific machinery in the modern bakery has so reduced the cost of bread that home baking is no longer economical.

Above we show one of our battery of mixing machines that turns out 1000 loaves in less than 15 minutes. Compare this with the housewife toiling over her batch of four loaves. Thus it is possible for you to buy Baker's bread at the same price it sold for 18 months ago, though flour, wages, sugar, etc., have all greatly increased in price since then.

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"Unity of Labor: the Hope of the World"

FRIDAY.....January 10, 1919

THERE ARE many signs that the day of the present ruling class is about spent. In Great Britain—in spite of the election results—there are signs that do not auger any long tenure of office on the part of the government or the control of the present ruling class. Strikes for shorter hours are becoming common, and on every hand industrial unrest is evident. The soldiers are also evidently dissatisfied at the way things are going, and the recent demonstrations in the south of England, by the soldiers demanding the hastening of the demobilization, shows that now that they have made the "world safe for democracy," that they desire to be rid of the impositions of military rule. In connection with these demonstrations, it will have been noted, that the Canadian troops took part in them. Of course, the press again comes to the rescue by saying that they only did it for fun—but we have a suspicion, that they too are seeking an end to their military servitude. Reports in the press are again taking on an antagonistic attitude towards the Bolsheviki government in Russia, and the taking of control by the Spartacus group in Germany is causing much concern. But it will be noted that at the same time, as this campaign of slander against the new democracy is going on, that all the troops are to be withdrawn from Russia, and the president of the United States is reported as saying that if the policing of Russia is to be carried on, then some other nation than the United States will have to do it, as the American troops are to return home at once.

THE END IN SIGHT.

* * *

The fact of the matter is, the governments of the world are at their wits end, as to how to provide employment for the returning men, and the released munition workers. The rebuilding of France and Belgium may suffice to assist them in this object for a time, but France will not need to be rebuilt every year, neither will Belgium, and the French and Belgian governments are in exactly the same quandry as to what to do as are the rest of the Allies. Employment cannot be found for the workers so long as the present system is in existence. The very productivity of the workers themselves, when in employment, will make this impossible. The Engineering and Mining Journal, published in New York, says, in discussing the labor situation: "The laborer is going to get what he earns and no more." Exactly, and unless he is employed, he will earn nothing. This same journal goes on to say:

"We have no doubt that there will be resistance by labor to any changes. It is not unlikely that there will be an attempt to unionize the labor in industries more extensively than is at present the case, and keep the jobs within the unions. Some employers may acquiesce to such a plan. Others may refuse ,and there may be disputes about it. But the one thing that is certain is that the wages for labor are going to be determined by economic law.

"The classic economic doctrine that labor is the residual claimant upon the product of industry, i. e., that after rent, interest and profits, which are determined and limited by competition, have been deducted from the produce of a community, labor gets all the rest, may not hold true during such a period as the last four years, but under natural conditions it is generally true. Now, more than ever, should labor be taught that its real interest is to produce more, which is to earn more ,and employers should not attempt to diminish labor's residual claim by abolishing competition among themselves or artificially enhancing profits by other means. And just as it is the interest of labor to earn the maximum, so is it the interest of the employer, which means that he should ever be alert to improve his methods of production. Wide differences of plant efficiency, administration, etc., are really the inspiration of social unrest among workers, rather than conditions that are intentionally designed to be evil. **The social reformer, who does not understand production,** is a far less important person in the promotion of human welfare than the engineer, who does."

* * *

Well do those workers that have studied the present system know that "wages will be governed by economic laws," and that they always have been, and always will be, and that wages in the last analysis are but the food, clothing and shelter, necessary to the laborer in order that he may reproduce his labor power, and more slaves to follow him. It is not labor's interests to produce more, it is concerned in the ownership of what it produces ,and when that question is solved, the question of greater production will be no longer a problem. The improvement in the methods of production, by which the productivity of the working class is enhanced, is but the hastening of the fall of the present system. And the social reformer who does not understand production, is a joke and should be so treated by all men who understand that production as we have it today, is not a blessing to the producers, btu a curse, the more the workers produce the less they have. All the efforts of the ruling class and the apologists of that class, coupled with the growing knowledge of the workers, proves conclusively that not only is the system dying, but that the ruling class is bankrupt, morally, intellectually, and in every other way as is the system, and their clumsy effort to bolster it up are doomed to failure.

NO GOVERNMENT NEEDED.

THE RULING CLASS and the press of the Entente Allies, are very much concerned about the establishment of constituent assemblies in both Russia and Germany. Much is made of the fact that these essentials to ruling class domination and exploitation are not brought into being. They desire that "governments" be set up in these countries. Evidently they do not, or will not, see that governments such as have been known in the past, are not necessary in any industrial democracy. The very term government would imply that some one was held in subjection, or under control. While in an industrial democracy, government would not be necessary, but an administration, not of laws governing property, or men, but of things, an administration of industry, and this bogey of the ruling class is like all other subterfuges of those who desire to continue the present system of exploitation; but a red herring across the trail. The Bolsheviki in Russia has established an industrial democracy. This is a fact; in spite of all the lies that are from day to day published in the press as to the situation in that country. The Soviet government, or administration, is not concerned in ruling men, but in ruling and administering the means of wealth production. It has turned over to the peasants in that land the means of production in so far as agricultural pursuits are concerned. The single taxers are of the opinion that high prices, etc., etc., can only be governed by the taxation of land values. In Russia, however, the people are not worrying about taxes, but as to how wealth may be produced by the workers, and when produced, enjoyed by those that produce it. It has turned over the land to those that will use it in production, and not as a means of speculation and profit. The same can be said in so far as the production of wealth in any form is concerned, and as a result, the Soviet government is not bothering to set up any machinery by which the people can be ruled, as where the people are not robbed, there is no need for any ruling, but the only necessity is industrial administration.

* * *

And so it is in Germany. Liebknecht and his followers, like the Bolsheviki in Russia, are not concerned with setting up any constituent assembly, but are concerned in capturing the powers of state, so that they may introduce production for use instead of profit, and introduce an administration of the means of wealth production, in order that those that produce collectively, may enjoy collectively the things that they have produced. The press this week has announced that if there is no constituent assembly, that there will be little chance of collecting any indemnity. This in itself shows that what the ruling class in any country fears, is the establishment of democracy on the lines of Russia. It fears the removal of the established form of government, because as soon as that is abolished and an administration of the means of wealth production is set up, and wealth is produced for use instead of profit, that the ruling class will have nothing to pay any indemnity with, for it is the workers alone that can pay any indemnities, in the shape of wealth produced, and taken from them by the present exploitation system. Once again it must be pointed out, that even under the present system, the payment of indemnities by Germany or her late Allies to the Entente Allies, would spell disaster to the workers of those countries which were the recipients. This is borne out by history. It is also borne out by common sense. And a very little thought would show that indemnities can only be paid in wealth produced by the workers of the country that is paying them, and as in the case of France when she was paying the war indemnity to Germany, after the Franco-Prussian war, Germany suffered industrially, and France prospered.

* * *

But to come back to the question of government. Not only are the workers of Russia and Germany aware of the fact that in an industrial democracy, constituent assemblies are not necessary, but the workers of Great Britain are also aware of this fact, and the Steward system in many parts of the Old Land is already the established method, and will in a very short time be used by them in their attempts to establish the rule of reason, over the rule of profit. Government was never necessary until men become enslaved. Government, as we know it, will no longer be needed in any country, when the workers are freed from the domination of a capitalistic ruling class. The workers in Russia, or any other country, are more concerned about the ownership of the means of wealth production, than they are about the continuation of the government of a slave class, by a useless and parasitic class in society.

THE WHEEL OF FORTUNE.

NOT ABOVE a thousand miles from Britannia Beach, there is a noted outfit that endeavors to protect its slaves from imbibing any knowledge that will be of benefit to them in gaining their freedom. This outfit does not desire to have its workers receive The Federationist, and repeated requests are made to us to send copies to subscribers who work for this aggregation, in a wrapper, as unless this is done, they have considerable trouble in getting the paper. In addition to this solicitude on the part of these kind employers, they are at present giving their employees something to read which will inspire them with hope for the future. Here is a sample of the bunk that is being distributed in pamphlet form to the slaves of this outfit:

"Those who possess money are an interesting study. We hear a lot about what is termed the capitalistic class, but did you ever figure out that those who possess surplus money constantly change? Every month, every year, new men come along, men who have saved a little, invested a little, until they have capital sufficient to enable them to take an interest in some industrial enterprise. After they may have made a competence, they drop out and other new men come in.

"Oliver Wendell Holmes, referring in one of his books to the New England States, tells of how he noticed the names of families, once well-to-do, in lowly parts of towns, or where the descendants of prominent people were keepers of boarding houses, or little businesses, in which a hand-to-mouth existence was eked out. The progenitors of these families were once capitalists, prominent in the affairs of the state. Their money was spent by their heirs, and a new race of 'capitalists' took their places. And so it goes on. As Longfellow's potter, in 'Keramos,' says:

"Turn, turn, my wheel. All things must change
To something new, to something strange;
Nothing that is can pause or stay;
The moon will wax, the moon will wane,
The mist and cloud will turn to rain,
The rain to mist and cloud again.
Tomorrow will be today."

"Take the men today—look at the men you know at the head of affairs, the men who have saved money and have been able to invest it safely. How many of them are what are known as self-made men? Quite a few, are there not? In fact, nearly all of them. A generation or two ago they were not known. Very few are those whose fathers were capitalists before them. Most of them are workingmen like you and me, and their success is due to the face thta they worked and saved.

"So-called capital is the individual savings of a few or several workmen, thrifty souls who gradually put by a little money. This aggregation of savings from wages makes the fund today which operates businesses and and even the largest enterprises. The stockholders of a company are not limited to a few, they are many. Take the Southern Pacific Railway for example, which has 37,000 stockholders. The holdings of stock in any large company vary from the modest $100 to larger amounts, according to how the holders have saved. This pooling of money constitutes the capital. The contributors to this fund are constantly changing—present ones are dropping out and new ones are coming in. To have such wealth is not a crime—on the contrary it indicates thrift, careful habits, progressive industry. It is the premium paid respectability, education, thrift and decent living.

"Many persons have an idea that there is some mysterious source of wealth. There is none. The only source of wealth that employers have or that you have is the reward of such intelligence as is put into the business and your work.

"If the people were to give up working and saving, then capital would vanish. If capital is missing, then business is nothing. If managing intelligence is not there, then business will go on the rocks. If co-operation is lacking between the man and his assistants, the entire business feels it. If you extend cordial co-operation, if you work, you will find that some day you will have saved enough money to take an interest in some business. You will be an employer—a capitalist—yourself!

"This idea that capital is something to be possessed or controlled by a few is false. Anyone can have it, everybody has it. It is wrong to suppose that capitalists are a distinct set of beings, who always had money and who always will have it. You will find that in a few years the present generation of men in the employing class will have passed along and that a new set will have taken their places.

"If you live long enough, you will find that some of the new employers are men you know—very probably follows you never heard much of, men who stuck to their work. You may have known them as plodders, men who did not listen to the tempter and get into a frenzy, but who thought for themselves, who quietly saved and studied, improved their knowledge and capacity and made their services indispensable to some one.

"These are the capitalists. They were
These are the capitalists. They were the capitalists a generation ago, they are the capitalists today, they will be the capitalists a generation hence.

"They are the workingmen!"

The most delightful passage in the epistle is the one referring to the illusions that many persons have to the source of wealth. It says: "The only source of wealth that employers have or that you have is the reward of such intelligence as is put into the business and your work." Sure thing, the intelligence put into the business is the intelligence displayed in exploiting the workers. And the intelligence put into the "business" by the workers, along with their labor power, is the source of the wealth created. But the trouble is the workers do not get the wealth they create. What a lovely picture to paint for the edification, or should we say, delusion of the workers. Turn the wheel and you will "may be" all become capitalists. Another fine passage is, "if people were to give up working and saving, then capital would vanish." Holy mackerel! They came pretty nearly giving the game away then. Just a step further and they would have said that labor was the source of all wealth ,and then the workers of this firm would have got next, and would have decided that it was about time that the intelligence displayed in exploiting the workers was no longer necessary, and would have also decided to get rid of the intelligence employed in "business." Careful, careful, or it may be that the workers will see through the game, and end it.

Dealing with politics and other things, the Nation has the following to say on the economic interpretation of history:

"There is a school of thought, devoted to the economic interpretation of history, which holds that all modern war is waged under an idealistic camouflage, for concrete economic ends. It was right about the German junkers and industrialists. The 'Associated Powers' are now about to come under its microscope. Among us certainly are some men, notably Mr. Wilson, who are free from any suspicion, and many others who at least are unconscious of such motives. The realists are, none the less, numerous and vocal. Trade papers frankly remind us that Russia, with her vast stores of unworked war material, is a great 'prize,' that Mesopotamia can be made to grow three crops a year, and that Africa is the world's treasure house. However much we may prefer to talk of humanity and democracy and philanthropy in dealing with Russians, Arabs, and negroes, we must certainly deal also with railways and mines, oil wells, exploitable sources of raw materials, concessions and debts. A prudent man, called in as trustee in private life to settle some similar tangle, would take his precautions. He would not begin by excluding all the rival interests, and he would look about for disinterested associates. It is folly to pretend that we or the French or the Italians can be, or even ought to be, purely disinterested. A business interest in railways and raw materials is nothing to be ashamed of. But we treat such matters in our public debates as the last generation used to treat sex. We are economic prudes. We pretend to be above all this kind of thing, and to escape any frank handling of the facts. If the projected treaty stands as a sectional instrument, without any true international appeal or organ of justice between the states, the Socialist all over Europe will simply find his familiar thesis confirmed. 'These powers,' he will say, 'won the war, settled the balance of power in their own favor, and then proceeded, after excluding their rivals, to deal with the spoils in the usual way, but on a scale hitherto unknown in history. They were much cleverer than their rivals. They wore a glove over the mailed fist. When they took over a big rich region, they did not annex, they 'protected.' When they took over a German colony, they called themselves its 'trustees.' None the less, the net economic result was that all the concessions and other valuable considerations fell to them and theirs." We do not say this, but we are well aware that an able, logical, well-equipped school of thought, whose thesis is a conquering force in Eastern Europe, and may make a formidable bid for power in the West, is waiting to say it. There is still a fair chance to defeat this criticism by doing as little as possible to deserve it."

It may be true that Mr. Wilson is free from suspicion, or again it may be that he is unconscious that the economic factor has a large bearing on his viewpoint. The outstanding thing, however, is that all the countries that are now about to engage in the peace conference are dominated by the material interests of their particular ruling classes. That every action of the nations that are "making democracy safe" will be analyzed by the Socialists, or men that understand the materialistic interpretation of history goes without saying, and as they have exposed the ramifications and hypocrisy of the ruling class in the past, so they will in this case. Pelf and spoils is the object of every country under the sun in these days, with perhaps only one exception, that of the new democracy of Russia. There the people only desire to be left alone, in order that they may have the fruits of their toil, which has been made possible by the revolution that has taken place in that country.

Mrs. J. W. DeB. Farris, speaking at the Women's Canadian Club meeting, held on Wednesday, on the "University and Its Relation to the Life of the Province," stated that it was from the universities that the public leaders came. This may have been true in the past, but the future "leaders" will not have been educated in the universities of the ruling class, but will have received their education in the university of capitalistic production. The aims of all our educational institutions in this day, is to poison the minds of the student with ruling class philosophy, but greater forces are at work than the universities, and the school of practical experience is giving a knowledge as to the present system of society, which will eventually knock out the props of all our so-called educational institutions. Universities are ruling class institutions, and with the abolition of the ruling class, education will take on a very different form.

Vancouver is suffering from an epidemic other than that of the Flu. This new epidemic is taking the form of "hold ups," and citizens are much concerned as to their safety, and as to the safety of their goods. Hold ups are always in evidence when industrial conditions are bad. And in spite of all the talk of prosperity, there are a large number of unemployed in this city. With the cost of living over on the increase, the workers are nearer the bread line, even when working, than ever, and any lay-off of men is only aggravating the situation. With from three to four thousand workers jobless in the city, the blacklists at employment agencies, and Chinese crews for "British" built ships, the prospects for industrial peace in this neck of the woods are remote.

A private and confidential document has recently been circulated among employers in Britain suggesting that support should be given to those organizations "which are organizing counter propaganda from various points of view against the revolutionary tendencies in British industry;" including "The National Alliance of Employer and Employed," "The Industrial League for the improvement of relations between employers and employed," "The British Workers National League," and the "Women's Social and Political Union."

TWENTY- FIVE YEARS AGO
Vancouver Trades and Labor Council

[January 5, 1894]

Newly-elected delegates seated as follows: J. Rumble, W. Lawson and James Twaddle (Stonecutters); Chas. Kaine, W. H. Ireland and J. E. Henderson (Amalgamated Carpenters); Geo. Gagen (Brotherhood Carpenters); W. Elliott, Thos. Nye and D. Holmwood (Mainland Steamshipmen); J. Clarke, R. Harrison and F. Bridge (Builders' Laborers); A. Wemken, F. Cordingley and W. Cartwright (Stevedores); C. Galbraith, Fred Fowler and Geo. Bartley (Typos.).

Owing to municipal elections small attendance. Meeting adjourned 9 p.m.

Geo. Walker, vice-president, presided, and Geo. Gagen, secretary.

CHEWING THE CUD

If an account is to be rendered on Judgment Day for every idle word, what will Premier Borden's reckoning be for cabling at the public expense that New Year's message?

The "flu" seems to be accompanied by telegraphitis. The high-ups are peculiarly susceptible. Acting Premier White wired a New Year's sermon to all Canada. Governor Barnard telegraphed from wet New York joyous greeting to his subjects in this dry zone. Have another, Governor!

* * *

Remember that message from General Sir Arthur telling us how debonair and spick and span our boys were and how their armor shone when they marched into Germany? I was reminded of it on reading a letter in Friday's Victoria Times from one of the same soldier boys, marching from "fifteen to twenty miles" a day "on two of those hard biscuits for two meals," and when camped, without fires, expected "to sit and shine brass and freeze to death." The Victoria man thinks "somebody will pay for" it "when the boys come home."

* * *

Sir John Willison, chief writer for the capitalists of Canada, tells us: "There are millions of people in the world for whom "democracy" (he quotes the word—he'd not use it as his own) would be the door of anarchy." That's rather rough on us after fighting and bleeding and planting Flanders' Fields with corpses "to make the world free for democracy." However, Sir John had beter remember that it was thinking just such thoughts that spilled the beans for Bill Hohenzollern.

* * *

I should like to have heard Stephen Leacock's laugh when he saw the spluttering fury of Sir Hibbert in the Star over his near-irreverance for monarchy. Why does not Sir Hibbert get after Wells? Stephen got the idea from him. Couldn't he have Joan and Peter put on the Ottawa index expurg? Of course it was published in dear old London, and a competent critic regards it as a triumphant achievement, but is it the stuff to feed colonials on in what Agent-General Wade calls "British North America"?

* * *

When I read recently in the Winnipeg Free Press that the Dominion government had practically completed arrangements for giving a concession of the whole country north of the Athabasca River to the Shell Transport and Trading Company of England, it occurred to me that a plutarch could draw a most illuminating parallel between Bacon and Sifton. No; I did not think of hoggishness at the time. I was away above that. Both most able men and most acutely minded—and keen-eyed at gathering gear; apt too at giving reasons of state and setting forth purposes of "godly government." Sir Clifford is said to be interested in the Shell Company. No; not game—company. I feel quite sure Sir Clifford made as clever an argument to Premier Borden for putting the deal through as Bacon did to Essex for "the deluding of as wise a people as the Irish." It is our government's great work of reconsruction. It is designed in the public interest. It is a splendid piece of imperial patriotism. There may be profit in it for those who put their capital at the public service, but it will be "without any show that such a thing is meant."

* * *

Why is the Canadian government so bent on sending troops to Russia that unwilling men were forced to embark for Siberia at Victoria on December 23-24 after leading protestators were put under arrest? Surely the answer is not in the announcement of the birth of the Canadian-Siberian Development Company, which we are told "has good ground for hoping to get valuable concessions." From whom? From Kolchak? And is it his party our troops are being sent to support? Kolchak is the Siberian adjutant of Denikin, was an intimate of the Czar and is the present hope of the Romanoffs.

* * *

Canada went to war against the Central Powers; not against Russia. That war was ended in fact by the armistice. The government of Canada has no mandate—nor has Parliament voted any money to send men out of Canada to take part in any other war or to support or oppose by armed force any party in Russia or any other country. It was announced some weeks ago by a "high authority in Ottawa that Canadian intervention in Russia was an "Imperial idea" and that word was awaited from the London War Office as to whether the troops encamped on the Pacific Coast were to be sent to Siberia or not. But Canadian public money cannot be constitutionally expended on the mere order of the British War Office. That would be worse than what led to the old Boston Tea Party.

* * *

Acting Premier White has called a great council of our country's wise financiers, or financially wise men; and in the land of shades Grover Cleveland remarked to John A. "In Canada parliamentary government seems to have lapsed into innocuous desuetude."

BREHON McCARTY.

Proposed Labor Bank

Seattle, Wash.—The Central Labor Council's plans for the organization of a banking institution are reported to have been fully matured and the promoters are hopeful of being able to do business in the near future. The new enterprise will be known as the Trades Union Savings and Loan Association. Its board of directors will be composed of a member from each of the unions holding stock. An effort is being made to interest the grange, farmers unions and other friendly organizations in the new venture.

Butchers Win Eight Hours

Bakersfield, Cal.—The Butchers Union here has just signed a new scale agreement that concedes them the 8-hour day. It is asserted that this is the first butchers union in the United States to secure that recognition. The agreement also provides that no Japs or Chinese are to be hired in the butcher shops.

Form State Body

Nashville, Tenn.—Postal employees of the state held a most successful mass meeting. Representatives from all sections to be known as the Tennessee State Association of Postal Employees was formed. The purpose of the new organization is to better the postal service and the working conditions of postal employees.

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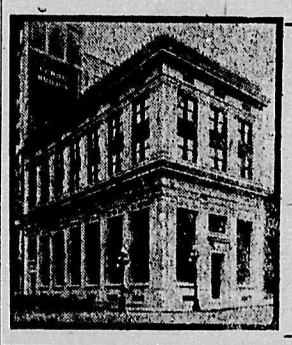

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What Thou Dost—Do Quickly

The simpletons and hypocrites who urge us to "keep within legal limits," remind one of Marie Antoniette, who recommended the starving peasants to eat cake! One would think we suffer from an organic aversion to cake, a kind of incurable disease. One would think our lungs were infected with an irresistible desire to breathe the atmosphere of the solitary dungeons in the fortress of Peter and Paul! One would think we have no use for those endless hours pulled out of our lives by the jailers.

We love our underground just as little as a drowning person loves the bottom of the sea. Yet we have as little choice as, let us say directly, the absolutist order. Being fully aware of this we can afford to be optimists even at a time when the underground tightens its grip around our necks with unrelenting grimness. It will not check us, we know it! We shall survive. When the bones of all the great deeds which are being performed now by the princes of the earth, their servants and the servants of their servants will have turned to dust, when nobody will know the graves of many of the present parties with all their exploits—the cause we are serving will rule the world, and our party now choking underground, will dissolve itself into humanity, for the first time its own master. History is a tremendous mechanism serving our ideals. Its work is slow, barbarously slow, implacably cruel, yet the work goes on. We believe in it. Only at moments, when this voracious monster drinks the living blood of our hearts, to serve it as food, we wish to shout with all our might: What thou dost, do quickly!—From "Our Revolution," by Leon Trotzky, Paris, 1907.

Socialism in Japan

The New South Wales attorney-general, Mr. Hall, has lately been on a visit to Japan, and says: "Huge fortunes are being made in Japan today. People are flocking into the cities from the country to join in the prosperity. The cost of living has, of course, increased, rents being double what they were, and there has been many a bitter struggle to secure better wages. Although the government practically shoots Socialists on sight, the fact remains that last year there were 360 successful strikes in that country.

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THE SORROWS OF SATAN

Wandering in disconsolate isolation among the triumphing crowds, one is the prey to a subtle despair. Life, or what seems to be life, is passing out of our grasp. We remember that in the remote August days four years ago, we were thrilled by the common emotion. We were part of the nation, while with a sickening premonition we watched the Highlanders swinging past the Green Park on their way to something unknown and terrible. With their rhythm some nobility of valor and high resolve in ourselves kept time. In the set face of those who watched with us, we could read the workings of our own emotion. We were not outcast then.

Today we are. Somewhere, in a manner and time which we seek forlornly to discover, the contact has been snapped. We are glad that the slaughter of man by his brother has ended; but our gladness, though profound, is not spontaneous. A stern effort of the mind is needed to acknowledge that even this cause of satisfaction really exists. It is as though we had once more to steel our imaginations and bend our flinching minds as we once did in order to understand that fellow men in their thousands were being murdered and mutilated day after day. The process of understanding was long and terrible; yet we feel that the effort to respond to the sursum corda will be as long, and may be more terrible still. We have reason to rejoice and cannot rejoice.

Being what we are, we seek to understand ourselves. It is not the memory of our dead which weighs us down. To that burden we are accustomed, and to the knowledge that we shall carry it with us to the end. A part, how great we do not know, of our soul is become forever numbed and insentient. But with what remains we feel ,and we feel no joy. It may be that it was through the friends who are dead that the roots of our being found their way into the common life. Through them our personality may have been extended and touched by the general emotions. Now they have been severed, and we are left to live to ourselves, or to die.

The tree whose roots have been severed does not always die. There are some which grow greater strength. Even though it should prove to be only the saving illusion, we shall believe that our present isolation reveals us stronger than we are. Not that we desire it in order to manifest our strength. There is no man who, being isolated in a crowd of his rejoicing fellows ,does not desire to be one with it. But now we are prepared for the isolation; we are armed and nerved against it. We make a virtue of our grim necessity. And we know that it is not the loss of our friends that has brought the grim necessity upon us.

The horror of the crowd has seized upon us. Like men who stand on a crumbling island in the midst of a raging sea, we have watched the spume and scum borne always to the summit of the angriest and most menacing wave. We have seen a Northcliffe and a Bottomley become the spiritual leaders of a people to which we once belonged; we have seen the reluctant people of America become fanatical for war, and all but disown the President, whose authority alone gave to the last year of the struggle some element of its old moral significance; we have seen the people of Germany wait for the shock of defeat to turn their rulers who brought this ordeal upon the world. The war, which has been fought to make the world safe for Democracy, the cynic in us argues, has ended by making Democracy a danger to the world. The autocracies have crumbled, it is true, in the struggle for existence they have revealed themselves the weaker social units. But whether Democracy has triumphed by virtue of more than the surplus of brute strength that comes from a greater elasticity, this we do not know. To believe it, we must make an act of faith.

It is precisely this act of faith in Democracy which the war has made hard, if not impossible for us. What has been the attitude of Democracy to Russia? Here was a giant nation, utterly exhausted by war, which had in a supreme effort thrown off the chains of a tyranny which had been a byword among the people of the world. Yet Democracy treated it just as autocracy had done, as a soulless instrument of war. Had England been Prussia herself, she could not have been more ruthless and cruel. And who will dare to say with conviction that our treatment of the new-born German Democracy will be otherwise? The greatest height of generosity which we have yet reached is to insist that Germany must be fed in order to work—for us. We propose to act as the slave-owner acted in the good old days ,to keep body and soul together in order that the last ounce of labor may be extracted. Would autocracy have acted otherwise?

The evidence does not justify a faith in modern Democracy; it justifies only the belief that it is actually the strongest form of social organism that has yet been evolved. And the triumph of the stronger in the struggle for existence can be made the occasion of profound rejoicing only by those who are prepared to swear that whatever is, is good. This may be a subject for acquiescence, but surely not for exultation. It may be part of the imminent purpose that all those things which we were accustomed to call good should perish out of the world, or disappear for a season as long as our lifetime, but the purpose itself is not what we call good. A victory which preys upon its own vitals is hardly victory. Yet what was the vague thing we fought to win, but the opportunity for those freedoms of thought and speech and act which we have sacrificed in the effort to victory? Now, the very leisure in which alone they come to flower is to be denied to us and our children. To meet the interest on their war debts, the belligerent peoples will have on a modest calculation to work twice as hard as they worked before the war; and they had little enough leisure, in all conscience, then.

And if we say the battle has been fought and the victory won for distant posterity, it may be answered that perhaps distant posterity will curse us for our pains. It may still, in the third or fourth generation, be paying for this victory with its blood, shed not with violence, but slowly drained away in factories where speeding up has reached the limit of the endurable. It might be credible that we have secured posterity; if we had the sure knowledge that a mighty effort would be made to assert the slumbering conscience of the world, in the establishment of peace. If this peace were to be based on the justice of fraternity, instead of the justice of retribution, on the new covenant, instead of the old; if the high resolve that this should be the war to end wars were made good in act; if by some splendid assertion of humanity, complete disarmament were achieved; if these things were to be, then there might be room for confidence. If we could only believe in such an act of liberation, then we could believe in many other things besides. But who will deny that the possibility of these ideals has diminished during the war? As the flood of hatred has ebbed on the one side, it has mounted on the other. And even were this burden removed, ideal remedies such as those which will alone give us back the old expectations are not applied by the scratch of a diplomatic pen. For these renunciations young minds and young wills are necessary; and they have been hurled by their thousands unto nothingness. Few indeed remain of those who of their own free will dared everything for a future that was denied them; the old spirit did not, could not last. Its place has been taken by a lesser, but still valuable, thing, the horror of the war in those who have endured it. The champions of the positive ideal have perished; but the force of the negative ideal might still be drawn upon to shape the world anew. There are those who would say this thing, and that thing, shall not be again. But their voices are to be stopped lest they should disturb the settlement, and should declare that our modern Cleon is not the very pinnacle of the Democratic ideal.

We wander on disconsolate in the crowd. Not all these doubts are present to our mind in forms so acute as they now bear. But in the past they have risen one by one against our hope; they have torn away belief after belief, leaving wounds that ache dully within us. Only when we try to distinguish amid the general pain do we remember what each particular intolerable and incredible happening was; only by long thinking can we realize that once our faith was so great that it could have moved mountains. To its slow decrease we have steeled ourselves; we have heard the verdict, that we were dreamers, and we have tightened our hearts and cannot expand them again. Like sick men who have learnt to live from a trickle of air in their lungs, we are stifled, even though we are told the air blows free once more.

"Nous avons cru en trop de choses,
Nous hommes de peu de foi."

And while we reach timidly back into the past to discover the sequence of our wounds, and to remember what once we were, we begin to wonder why we were amazed. We should have known that it would be thus. And so in the last resort we find in ourselves so much at least of faith, that we wonder at its absence. A small seed, in truth, but the birds of the air might one day again make their nests in the branches of the tree which could grow out of it. A seed so tried and tested should produce a toughish plant. There is some logic, after all, in our saving illusion.—The Nation.

LENINE APPEALS TO THE AMERICAN WORKERS

Frankly Admits Mistakes and Appears Hopeful of Ultimate Triumph

Nicolai Lenine, Premier of the Russian Soviet Republic, addressed an open letter to American workingmen, which is published in the December issue of "The Class Struggle." A short summary of the document follows:

"Had the Anglo-French and American bourgeoisie accepted the Soviet invitation to participate in peace negotiations at Brest-Litovsk, instead of leaving Russia to the mercy of brutal Germany, a just peace without annexations and indemnities, a peace based upon complete equality could have been forced upon Germany, and millions of lives might have been saved."

But though the bourgeoisie deserted the Soviet Republic, the workers of the whole world, in whatever country they may live, rejoice with the Russian workers. They understand that Russia had to come to terms with German militarism in order to save the revolution.

As for the mistakes in method and in tehcnical execution made by the Soviet government, these Lenine frankly admits. "It is not to be expected that the working classes who have been exploited and forcibly held down by the clutches of want, of ignorance and degradation for centuries should conduct its revolution without mistakes. The dead body of bourgeois society cannot simply be put into a coffin and buried. It rots in our midst, poisons the air we breathe, pollutes our lives, clings to the new, the fresh, the living with a thousand threads and tendrils of old customs, of death and decay."

Lenine closes with an apepal to the American workingmen to rally to the support of their Russian fellow workers: "We know that it may take a long time before help can come from you, comrades, American workingmen, for the development of the revolution in the different countries proceeds along various paths, with varying rapidity. . . . We know full well that the outbreak of the European proletariat revolution may take many weeks to come ,quickly as it is ripening in these days. We are counting on the inevitability of the international revolution. But that does not mean that we count upon its coming at some definite, nearby date."

Employment Furnished

Washington—In its report on the part it is playing in restoring war workers and discharged soldiers to peace-time industry, the United States employment service announced that during the week ended December 7, jobs were found for 84,284 applicants who registered. Women registrants numbered 17,350, and of these 13,054 were placed.

"In memory of the men, women and children who lost their lives in freedom's cause at Ludlow, Colorado, April 20th, 1914. Erected by the United Mine Workers of America." Such is the inscription on a magnificent monument on the site of the slaughter of 33 men, women and children by the thugs of capitalism under the name state militia.

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FERNIE MINERS AND COMMISSION

Refuse to Take Part in Inquiry to Be Made by Royal Commission

Some little time ago, the miners in the Crow's Nest Pass were compelled to strike for the single shift as a safety measure. At that time a Royal Commission was appointed to enquire into the conditions of the mines in that district. At a recent meeting of the Gladstone local at Fernie, the following resolution was passed:

"Whereas, the result of Order 86 decreed that the mines at Coal Creek and Michel resume work on single shift for an indefinite period pending the report of a Royal Commission;

"And whereas, our position is actuated by the question of greater safety of the mines only, it is then we view with great concern the probabilities of such commission composed as it will be of men of lesser efficiency, or repute in the mining world;

"Now, whereas, we as members of Gladstone Local Union, did not seek or request that such expert services as that of the highest reputed authority on the American continent, viz., G. R. Rice, of the United States Bureau of Mines, nor were we asked collectively or individually to give evidence as to conditions existing in this coal field, but such evidence was supplied exclusively by the Crow's Nest Pass Coal Company, and by the department of mines, nor were we informed of the conditions which led to the disastrous explosion at No. 3 mine, notwithstanding the fact that the department of mines had G. R. Rice's report of conditions on file, which report of conditions clearly shows the flash point should be reduced from 5.5 to 2.5 in those mines;

"And whereas, since the above-mentioned disaster, the withdrawal point has been changed from that of 1-2 inch cap to 1-4 inch, which shows that the department of mines must have some faith in the Rice report on which we base our argument;

"Now, whereas, all commissions that have been appointed to settle disputes between capital and labor have invariably been unsatisfactory to labor;

"Therefore be it resolved that we, the members of Gladstone Local Union No. 2314, U. M. W. of A., absolutely refuse to take any part whatever in aforementioned commission."

IS IT REALLY TRUE AND IF SO WHAT IS TO BE DONE?

Hotel Vancouver Gathering Did Not Sing God Save the King

Yes, sir; it really happened!

Nearly one thousand of the city's "elite" attended a grand musical recital in the big ballroom of the Hotel Vancouver on Saturday evening, and then dispersed without "God Save the King!"

George Barrere with his flute, Paul Kefer with his 'cello, and Carlos Salzedo with his harp, had been discoursing real music of the instrumental kind; and Lucy Gates had been just as enchanting with the magic of her melodious voice and dainty artistry. And then the artists had stepped down from the platform and gone behind the screen "for keeps"; the hand-clapping had died down; and the audience—just went home!

It was really bewildering to some; amusing to others. There was the piano, standing open, ready on the platform; and nearly every person present knew enough about music to strike the first few chords of the "anthem." Yet nobody dared! Incredible, but true.

Yet, after all, there is a very simple explanation. Two hours of music—real music—with all its sweet aesthetic charm and spiritual exaltation! No wonder that nobody had the heart to mar its echoes by the intrusion of any such piece of wooden ineptitude as the political doggerel, with its desperately-doleful, make-believe melody, which serves as the British "National Anthem." It would have been sacrilege —nothing less.

Who first perpetrated this stodgy specimen of British or Teutonic genius, nobody seems really to know. Perhaps that is just as well. In point of rhythm, it is just about as musical as the multiplication table. As to rhyme —well, "glorious" and "over us," for example! And as to sentiment; it hasn't any but that of the sycophant and the slave. It's "Hoch der Kaiser" in English.

Still, to see it publicly discarded in the Hotel Vancouver! Things are moving after all.

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and 25c

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Also duplicate styles of each in black. See them.

$7.50 THE PAIR

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Some Press Items on Russia

The "horrors of Bolshevism" is the heading to a dispatch printed in the daily press which goes on to state that Russian landlords are being deprived of their holdings and turned out into the streets. Heretofore the landlords of every country did this to poverty-stricken workers, but it was never described as a horror by the Plute press.

Monster mass meetings are to be held in all the largest cities of the United States on Sunday, Jan. 5, to demand the immediate release of all political prisoners.

The Portland, Ore., News informs its readers that the returning soldiers are becoming I. W. Ws. and Socialists, because they are stranded and begging for food in Eastern cities. And there are two million more to be returned.

A dispatch reads that Catholics in Holland will be refused sacrament if they are members of any organization that is in conflict with the Catholic religion. This sounds like another frantic yet futile effort to save the church from the inevitable crash.

Wear Union Buttons

York, Pa.—The members of the newly-organized union of street car men are all wearing their union buttons and are proud of the much-treasured ornament. It required a long contest to secure that privilege.

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BOYS' AND GIRLS' CORNER

THE STORY OF A LOAF OF BREAD

[By J. S. Woodsworth]

Who made the loaf of bread we had for supper? Mother? But where did she get the flour? And where did the miller get the wheat? It is like setting the dinner table: it takes a great many people to make a loaf of bread.

In the old days it was very simple. The farmer went into his field carrying a bag full of seed. This he scattered broadcast. Then he waited till the sun and the rain had done their work. When the harvest was ripe he cut the wheat with a sickle, bound it by hand into bundles, beat it out with a flail or big club, tossed it into the air to let the straw and chaff blow away. Then he had his little heap of wheat.

Next, his wife took two flat stones and by putting the wheat between them and turning them round and round ground the wheat into meal. This she put over a camp fire and baked it into a cake.

Then she and her husband divided the cake between them and probably thanked God for sending the fruitful showers and blessing the work of their hands.

But how different is the making of a loaf of bread today! In preparing the ground, the farmer uses plows and harrows and rollers. He puts in his grain with a seeder. He takes it off with a binder and threshes it with a great threshing outfit. The miller has all sorts of complicated machinery to grind it.

Where do the agricultural implements and milling machinery come from? We must take a long journey to Eastern Canada or the United States. Here we go into a great manufacturing plant. Thousands of men are at work—machinists, moulders, blacksmiths, carpenters, boilermakers—all the trades. Tramways run through the shops, great cranes swing overhead, fires belch out strange fumes that almost choke one, live wires and belts and wheels and shafts make travelling more dangerous than it is in the jungles of Africa. Amid these surroundings all these men are helping to grow the wheat that waves on the prairies.

And where does the iron come from? And the coal used to smelt the iron? Over at Nanaimo hundreds of men each morning go deep down into the earth—you remember how a few weeks ago a number of miners were killed when the cage dropped part way down the shaft. These miners go away under the sea to get the coal. There in the dark they work all day or all night in danger of fresh air being cut off, in danger of bad gasses creeping up and smothering them, in danger of the bending roof falling in and crushing them, in danger of water leaking in and drowning them, in danger of an explosion hurling them to their death. These are the men that dig the coal, that smelts the iron, that makes the machine, that grinds the grain, that makes the flour that mother used to bake the bread that Jack ate!

You can tell all about where the wood for the machines come from.

Then how did the machinery get to the farmer? How many men helped to build the railroad or the ship? Yes, tens of thousands. Without their help the farmer could not grow his grain or could not get it to us.

Then as we carry on business today we must use money to pay workmen, to help us exchange goods, to buy supplies. So we need banks and loan companies and the great commercial and financial system that has grown up in recent years. We haven't time to talk much about that now.

But think! We have already spoken of the agricultural industry, the manufacturing industry, the mining and lumbering industries, the transportation and commercial systems—all these and the millions of men whom they employ have helped to make our loaf of bread.

It was easy for the old farmer and his wife to divide the loaf between them. They two had made it all by themselves. But into how many slices are we to cut our loaf and who is to have the biggest slice, or are we all to have the same sized slice? Don't you see how difficult are our problems nowadays. The service that deals with the production of wealth, its distribution and its exchange, is called economics. As our social life becomes more complex questions of right and wrong depend more and more on our understanding of economics. Our laws have to do very largely with material wealth, so you see how important it is for us to take an interest in public affairs.

In fact, today no man can live to himself alone—unless you are going to live like Robinson Crusoe you must be interested in economic and social questions. Even Robinson Crusoe had his man Friday!

But to return once more to our loaf of bread. Should anyone who doesn't help have any part of the loaf? Should my slice be as nearly as possible equal to the work I put into making the loaf, or since I'm a growing boy with a big appetite should I have as big a slice as I need?

When the old-tie farmer and his wife divided the cake between them, they thanked God for sending the fruitful showers and blessing the work of their hands. When so many thousands help make the loaf and we know more about how the wheat grows we often utter no word of thanks.

Now what would you think of the man who thanked God for the good things on his table and yet had done nothing to help make them or knew that some who had helped had nothing but the crumbs that fell from his table?

Many who know most about nature and economics and life are reverent as they think of "the Giver of all good things."

But, it seems to me, that not one of us who eats his slice of bread should forget the many who helped, or, as the bread gives new strength, should refuse to use that strength for the common good.

Clerks Federated

Waco, Tex.—Thirty-three lodges of the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks representing the southwestern section met here and formed an organization to be known as the Southwestern Federation of Railway Clerks. The delegates present represented a membership of over 10,000. E. J. Morgan of Dallas was chosen permanent chairman and J. R. Hooper of Houston secretary. Houston boasts of over 1000 members and other locals reported that they were close seconds.

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LETTERS TO THE FED.

Editor B. C. Federationist: Would you kindly find space for this short letter? By doing so you will be assisting me to find Ernest Broadhurst.

Will Ernest Broadhurst, a returned veteran, late of 137th, Edmonton, who left Drumheller last November, communicate with the undersigned? Anyone knowing the lad please draw his attention to this, and it sure will be appreciated by a comrade.

T. P. THOMPSON.
Secretary Miners' Union 1746,
Drumheller, Alta.

Ideas From Cell No. 7, Vancouver Police Station

Editor B. C. Federationist—As I have been held in custody for three months at the C. P. S. on account of being a very "dangerous" member of the Industrial Workers of the World, I would be very thankful if I am allowed to speak some of my thoughts through the columns of the official organ of organized labor, The B. C. Federationist.

During my imprisonment I could not help thinking of the different stages of evolution I had gone through before I became a member of the "dangerous" I. W. W. Unfortunately I am only a Swede so I can't speak nor write the English language as well as I wish to. I left my home among hills in the northern part of Sweden eight years ago and arrived at Winnipeg, Man., in June, 1910; after a year and a half I began to understand the language to a certain extent, and the general slogan of the workers around Winnipeg, was "Go West," because there is more money and food to be had out West. So I went "out West" along with the rest of the men.

Some years later I came to Calgary, Alta., and as I was walking along Eighth Avenue I happened to see a sign reading "Liberal Meeting," so I went along with six or seven hundred others, and there were four or five men on the platform, and the principal speakers of the evening got up and accused another kind of a "political party," that he called "Conservative"—he accused them of having dug into some treasure somewhere, and having made investments that would never in all the ages to come, give any returns, and the "people" clapped their hands, and so did I; it was great, I thought. I became very much interested, and talked to all the men I could get hold of, telling them that it was no wonder that we are working so hard and get almost nothing for it, when the "Conservatives" are digging into our treasury and spoiling everything for us. My slogan then was "Vote for the Liberals—to h—l with the Conservatives." Excuse my clumsy attempt at satire.

About one week later I saw another sign reading "Conservative Meeting," and I could not understand that those scoundrels, the Conservatives, dared to come out in the open and hold meetings at all, after all the bad things we—the people—had heard of them a week ago, so I went to their meeting also. It is useless to say that I hated them; of course I was curious to learn what they had to say for themselves, the darned scoundrels, as I called them.

Some six or seven hundred persons were present at that meeting, too, I for my part remembering what I had heard at the Liberal meeting, expected to see a bunch of shame-faced men standing on the platform trying to apologize to us—the people—for what they had done to us, and I was also gloating secretly in my heart over the impossibility of clearing themselves in the eyes of the people.

As I came inside the door I saw three or four men on the platform. They did not look very shame-faced at all; they looked neat and clean and also, to a certain extent, intelligent, so I said to myself, "Are those the horrible scoundrels that those Liberals told us about?" I could hardly believe my eyes, they looked so honest and well-meaning. The speaker of the evening got up and started to accuse the Liberals of not knowing anything about economics, and he also said that he did not believe that they, the Liberals, knew anything about handling the administration of the people, and he also had his doubts as to their honesty, so I was astonished when the people started to cheer and clap their hands at this meeting too; he also spoke something about some other kind of a party that he called Socialists—he said they were dreamers and fools and did not know what they were talking about. Of course, as I did not know anything about political economy then I could not say that he was a fool, but I reached two conclusions: First, that both the Conservatives and the Liberals must be a bunch of crooks, and second, that I should go and listen to some of the men that he, the speaker, sneeringly called Socialists. All my faith in the Liberals that I had so faithfully believed in, faded away that night, and the Conservatives could not give me any more satisfaction either, so I left the meeting in disgust.

After a while I went to different Socialist meetings and I became convinced that their explanations of sociology were true regarding the ultimate downfall of capitalism, because the student of International Socialism cannot avoid becoming convinced that capitalism carries the seed of its own destruction within its bosom and that is "The robbery and exploitation of the workers at the source of production." The speeches that I have heard at the different Socialist meetings appeal to my reason; it is very true that labor creates all wealth, and it is entitled to what it produces; it is also true that the wage system must of necessity be abolished some time in the future.

However, I went to different places looking for work, and sometimes I got into a camp where the bed was unclean and the work hard, and sometimes I got rebellious and went up to the foreman and told him that if he could not give me a cleaner bed and more money I would not work any longer for him, but he always told me, "Well, if you don't like it, why in h— don't you get out of here?" So I had to leave and look for something else, and at least I did not dare to say very much because as soon as I said anything I always got fired.

But at last a grand idea struck me. I started to learn that if I wanted cleaner beds and more reasonable treatment, the only thing was to get into a union of laborers and by the co-operative efforts of us all enforce our demands, and I selected the Industrial Workers of the World, among all the other unions, because they include so much territory. However, since my imprisonment I have learned that they are an unlawful organization, and as I am not much of a politician I cannot understand how a few men at Ottawa could make the Industrial Workers of the World an unlawful organization.

In my opinion, the order-in-council should read the Industrial Workers of Canada, because as far as my reason goes the men at Ottawa have only the jurisdiction over the workers of Canada, and not of the workers of the world. After all, in spite of my sufferings, my theory is the same as the immortal words of Paine, "The world is my country, and to do good is my religion." In conclusion I also wish to include the equally grand words of Karl Marx, "Workers of the world, unite; you have nothing to lose but your chains, and a world to gain."

ERNEST LINDBERG.
205 Carrall Street.

WORLD WIDE NEWS

Cotton Workers Gain Right to Unite

The labor movement of Brazil has gone beyond the propaganda stage. The textile industry, the basis of the garment industry, centres in and around Rio de Janeiro, some of the largest textile mills in the world being located there. The workers, who are banded together in the "Union of Operatives," sent their demands to the manufacturers organized in the Centro Industrial de Brazil. The terms were accepted after some parleying, and the industry became organized. While wages are not mentioned, the principle of union recognition is definitely established, and thus an entering wedge secured. A weekly schedule of 56 hours is agreed to.

Uruguay—General Strike Threatened

As a part of the epidemic of labor disturbances now sweeping over Central and South America, news comes from Montevideo that a general strike is threatening. This fact has resulted in the government's calling upon the military forces under date of December 27 to be prepared for mobilization at any time against the strikers.

Argentina—Socialist Conferees Chosen

Juan Justo, Socialist leader in the Argentina Chamber of Deputies, and his colleague, Detomasso, have been appointed by the Socialist Party to attend the coming International Socialist congress in Europe.

Cuba—Workers on Political Strike

A general strike is on in Cuba. It was precipitated as a sympathetic walkout to aid the railroad workers on the Cuba Railroad. Although the railroad workers won, the general strike continues, the demands being largely of a political and not of an economic nature. The abolition of laws permitting the deportation of "foreigners" who are "agitators" is demanded. The employers now threaten American intervention.

Important Agreement Reached

An important conference has been reached between the Socialist Party the Socialist Party and the General Confederation of Labor. An agreement has been reached by which the confederation yields to the party the absolute right to call any general, local or national strike for a political reason. On the other hand, the Socialist Party pledges itself to give all the support it is able to give to any economic strike called by the confederation.

Labor United in Opposing Imperialism

The General Federation of Labor, the League of the Rights of Man, the Republican Coalition, and the Socialist Party have signed a joint manifesto setting forth that these organizations are resolutely opposed to any policy of imperialism in the coming peace settlement.

Labor Clauses Demanded in Treaty

The labor committee of the Chamber of Deputies has adopted a report of clauses relative to international labor legislation to be inserted in the peace treaty. These include: Prohibition against night work for young industrial workers and a 10-hour day for women and youths in factories; a mimimum age of 14 years for the employment of children, an eight-hour day for adults in factories or mines, with half a day's rest weekly; the institution of periodic international labor conferences.

Belgium and Italy to Send Delegates

From present indications it appears that Belgium will be represented at the peace conference by a Socialist, Emile Vandervelde, president of the International Socialist Bureau, and that Italy will be represented by an expelled member of the Socialist Party, Leonida Bissolati.

Cost of Living in Great Britain

A parliamentary committee of experts and economists was recently appointed to make a study of the increased cost of living with the view to determining what wage increase should be granted in order to keep the working population on a plant of economic life equal to that preceding the war. The commission, which includes some of the leading statisticians of England, reports that between July, 1914, and June, 1918, the cost of living for a wage-earner's family in the cities of England increased from 68 per cent. to 80 per cent., with an average of about 76 per cent. Clothing increased 96 per cent.; food 90 per cent.

General Strike of November 11-13

A detailed account of the general strike in Switzerland, in which 900,000 workers participated, and in the course of which postal, telegraph and transportation service were entirely interrupted, has reached the editorial offices of the New Yorker Volkszeitung. It appears that the strikers demanded new elections to the Parliament on the basis of proportional representation, woman suffrage, popular reorganization of the army, guarantee of food supply in co-operation with agricultural producers, a 46-hour week, general obligatory labor, state monopoly of importation and exportation, old-age and invalidity insurance, and payment of the public debt by the propertied classes. After three days, however, the strike committee was persuaded to call off the strike.

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75c Creme El cayo	54c
50c Bland's Pills	25c
25c Mennen's Talcum	14c
50c Ferrozone	35c
$1 Reid's Syrup of Hypophosphites	69c
50c Pink Pills	35c
25c Aspirin Tablets	13c
50c Cassel's Tablets	38c
25c Dentone Tooth Paste	17c
50c Parrish's Chemical Food	25c
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Victoria Mayoralty Campaign, 1919

To the Citizens of Victoria:

I beg to announce that I am a candidate for re-election as Mayor.

If elected, my policies will be a continuation of those of the past two years, and I shall, at all times, continue to do my utmost to advance the interests of Victoria.

As in the past, I am strictly an independent candidate, and am not connected with any political party, clique or interest.

A. E. TODD,
Mayor of Victoria.

3rd January, 1919,
Victoria, B. C.

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THE SOCIAL SPIRIT

[Eugene V. Debs, in New York Call]

We need to grow out of the selfish, sordid, brutal spirit of individualism which still lurks even in Socialists and is responsible for the strife and contention which prevail where there should be concord and good will. The social spirit and the social conscience must be developed and govern our social relations before we shall have any social revolution.

If there are any among whom the social spirit should find its highest expression, and who should be bound fast in its comradely embrace and give to the world the example of its elevating and humanizing influence, they are the Socialists. They of all others, have come to realize the hardening and brutalizing effect of capitalist individualism in the awful struggle for existence, and it is to them a cause of unceasing rejoicing that they live at a time in the world's historic development when the very conditions which resulted from this age-long struggle forbid its continuance and proclaim its approaching termination.

The rule of individualism, which has governed society since the days of primitive communism, has effectually restrained the moral and spiritual development of the race. It has brought out the baser side of men's nature and set them against each other as if the plan of creation had designed them to be mortal enemies.

Typical capitalists are barren of the social spirit. The very nature of the catch-as-catch-can encounter in which they are engaged makes them wary and suspicious, if not downright hateful, of each other, and the latent good that is in them dies for the want of incentive to express itself.

I saw two such capitalists shake hands. It was pitiable. Their hearts had no part in the purely perfunctory ceremony. They happened to meet and could not avoid each other. And so they mechanically touched each other's reluctant hands, standing at right angles to each other for a moment—not face to face—and then passing on, without either looking the other in the eyes.

This cold and heartless ceremony typified the relation begotten of capitalist individualism, in which men's interests are competitive and antagonistic, and in which each instinctively looks out for himself and is on the alert to take every possible advantage of his fellow man.

The result of this system is inevitably a race of Ishmaelites.

How differently two Socialist comrades shake hands! Their hearts are in their palms and the joy of greeting is in their eyes. They have the social spirit. Their interests are mutual and their aspirations kindred. If one happens to be strong and the other weak, the stronger shares the weakness and the weaker shares the strength of his comrade. The base thought of taking a mean advantage, one of the other, does not darken their minds or harden their hearts. They are joined together in the humanizing bonds of fellowship. They multiply each other, and they rejoice in their comradely kinship. The best there is in each, and not the worst, as in the contact of individualism, is appealed to and brought forth for the benefit of both.

What an elevating, enlarging and satisfying relation!

And this is the "dead level" of mediocrity and servitude to which we are to sink when this relation becomes universal among men, as it will in the international Socialist republic.

So, at least, we are told by those who, in the present system, have acquired the instincts and impulses of animals of prey in the development of their imagined superiority by draining the veins and wrecking the lives of their vanquished competitors, but we are not impressed by the virtues of the system of which they stand as the shining examples.

Through all the ages past men, civilized men, so-called, have been at each other's throats in the struggle for existence, and the spirit of individualism this struggle has begotten, the spirit of hard, sordid, brutal selfishness, has filled this world with unutterable anguish and woe.

But at last the end of the reign of anarchistic individualism is in sight. The social forces at work are undermining and destroying it, and soon its knell will be sounded, to the infinite joy of an emancipated world.

The largest possible expression of the social spirit should be fostered and encouraged in the Socialist movement and among Socialists themselves. In spite of the hindrances which beset us in our present environments and relations, we may yet cultivate this spirit assiduously, to our increasing mutual good and to the good of our great government.

In our propaganda, in the discussion of our tactical and other differences, and in all our other activities, the larger faith that true comradeship inspires should prevail between us. We need to be more patient, more kindly, more tolerant, more sympathetic, helpful and encouraging to one another, and less suspicious, less envious and less contentious, if we are to educate and impress the people by our example, and, by the results of our teachings upon ourselves, win them to our movement and realize our dream of universal freedom and social righteousness.

SEATTLE UNION LAUNDRY IS TO PAY DIVIDENDS

First Year of Operations Is Entirely Satisfactory to All Concerned

That stockholders of the Mutual Laundry Company may decide to declare dividends about the first of the year, was the statement made by F. A. Rust, secretary, in issuing a call for the semi-annual stockholders' meeting held recently. At this meeting a financial statement was made and six trustees were elected.

Reviewing the history and progress of the big union laundry concern, the capital stock of which is owned and controlled by labor organizations and individual unionists, Rust gave an interview to the Union Record.

Organized in 1914, the Mutual Laundry Company was capitalized at $25,000, about $19,000 of which was necessary before the storm of opposition from the big private laundry interests was overcome. During this period of stress the Labor Temple Association, of which Rust is manager, financed the Mutual by putting a mortgage of $15,000 on the Labor Temple and safely carrying the union laundry over the rough place. During this time the laundry lost a total of $10,000, but with the powerful backing of the Labor Temple Association has now wiped out the overdraft, is doing a business averaging $2300 per week, and may be in a position to declare dividends early this year.

RECONSTRUCTION FROM PEOPLE'S STANDPOINT

Manufacturers Are Able to Escape "Unwise" Taxation

Old Phrases Are Used to Bolster Up the Bankrupt System

[By J. S. Woodsworth]

ARTICLE III.

In previous articles we have discussed Old Country schemes. We come now to those "made in Canada."

The best known is the programme of the Industrial Reconstruction Association, which is practically a child of the Manufacturers' Association.

A few paragraphs indicate the scope and viewpoint of the manufacturers' programme:

"Employers and workmen, labor unions and veterans' organizations, have a mutual interest in opposing unwise taxation. . . . There is a great danger that land taxation would retard immigration and settlement. . . . A great influx of desirable settlers will be wanted in order that the individual burden may be lessened by distribution over a larger population."

So immigration may be as in the past, a good thing for us but rather hard on the immigrant! Especially so when we consider our liabilities.

According to Sir John Willison, thus far the greatest revenue we have raised in any year was $170,000,000. When the war is over in order to meet previous interest and the general purposes of government our annual charge will be $350,000,000, and possibly $400,000,000. That means that there will be an annual charge of at least $50 on every man, woman and child in the Dominion.

Remember! Many of us have heavy private burdens to carry. We are paying heavy tribute to those who have "made money" out of inflated land values and out of "watered stock." We are paying heavy tribute to monopolistic corporations and protected interests. We are paying heavy tribute to an army of middlemen. We are struggling under the load of municipal indebtedness and provincial obligations. Now on top of all this, we are to provide $50 each to our federal finances. Not a rosy prospect for a man with a wife and six children—$300 a year! If he doesn't pay it some one else must!

Undoubtedly taxation will be a large item in our reconstruction programme, but there may be some difference of opinion as to what is "unwise taxation."

According to Prof. O. D. Skelton, head of the department of political economy of Queen's University, "In the four years of war Canada has met only six per cent. of the direct principle cost of the war out of surplus revenue, as against 20 per cent. met by the United Kingdom; while the United States has met the extraordinary proportion of 44 per cent. the first year and proposes to meet 42 per cent. this year." (Canadian Federal Finance.)

Prof. Skelton contrasts the policy of the United Kingdom with that of Canada. In 1917-8 in the United Kingdom 81 per cent. of the taxes came from property and income; only 19 per cent. on consumption. In Canada on the other hand in 1917-8 only 11 per cent. of the taxes came from property and income, consumption being 89 per cent. In the earlier years of the war consumption bore the entire burden.

Truly, the manufacturers—many of them may justly be called war profiteers—seem to be able so far to escape "unwise taxation." They propose to do so in the reconstructed Canada.

Let us quote again from their programme: "Customs duties must continue to be the chief source of revenue. . . . Duties necessary to provide revenue will afford such incidental protection as should enable us to create and maintain new industries and take full advantage of all that we have learned during the war of processes of manufacture, stores of raw material and requirement of overseas markets. . . . "By manufacturing in Canada we create local industrial communities, provide employment for labor, trade for merchants and home markets for producers."

How strangely familiar the old phrases! They have done duty on every election platform since the good old days of "Sir John A." The national policy of reconstruction turns out, then, to be simply Canada's "National Policy" on an enlarged scale. Under the new phrases of "rebuilding devastated Europe" and "opening up of the Orient" our attention is turned to new and larger markets. Canada has been exploited. The manufacturers are now looking for other worlds to conquer.

It is not necessary here to go into the old academic question of Free Trade versus Protection. Most of us are coming to understand that if we buy "Made in Canada" goods, as the manufacturers advise, the Dominion government gains no revenue from customs duties, but the Canadian manufacturer is able to add to his regular profit an amount equal to the customs duty. If, on the other hand, we buy imported goods, we as consumers carry the financial burdens of the country while at the same time Canadian industries are not built up—the whole protectionist scheme falling to the ground. We are, further, coming to understand that "Protection" is the mother of trusts, the source of much of our political corruption and a constant menace to international goodwill.

Naked and unashamed the programme of the Manufacturers' Association is placed before us as a reconstruction policy. Are the people of Canada willing that this policy enlarged and strengthened and backed up by military power should be our national policy?

Let us dwell on the well-sounded phrases: "By manufacturing in Canada we (1) create local industrial centres. Undoubtedly true. Our cities and industrial camps have grown at the expense of prosperous rural communities. Are the country people satisfied with the result? Are the men in the camps satisfied? Are we, dwellers of the cities, satisfied? If our cities double their populations and the price of real estate doubles, and the cost of living doubles, will we be any better satisfied?

"By manufacturing in Canada (2) we provide employment for labor"—the bait to catch labor votes. Has the manufacturers' policy provided employment? Ask the thousands whose greatest anxiety in life is to find a steady job. Rather, profitable manufacturing demands, and an abundant supply of cheap labor. Are the people of Canada contented to be "cheap labor" increasingly in competition with Oriental labor?

"By manufacturing in Canada, we (3) provide trade for merchants"—the bait to catch middle class votes. True, if the meaning is trade for big business, the little men know that commercial developments are squeezing them out, and are beginning to understand that increased manufacture, under existing conditions, does not involve for their increased prosperity—rather the reverse.

"By manufacturing we (4) provide home markets for producers"—the bait to catch the farmers' vote. But once bitten twice shy. The farmers of Canada in their reconstruction programme, denounces the whole protected manufacturers' policy and demand, not home markets, but open markets.

The association might have added a fifth clause—"By manufacturing (under our policy) we provide opportunities for the enrichment of the few."

All very well for the few. Before the war, a few grew wealthy at the expense of the welfare of the common people. During the war, these few have increased and consolidated their fortunes. Now by a reconstructive policy, it is proposed to continue the great work.

Very desirable; but will the people stand for it?

RUSSIA FROM WITHIN

J. Fineberg, of the B. S. P., Litvinoff's secretary in England, thus describes his first impression of a visit to Russia, last June:

Preconceived notions of the appearance of a great city during a revolution, together with the lurid tales of English press correspondents, increased one's astonishment on entering Petrograd. The town presented a strikingly normal appearance. At the station tried guards are at the entrances and exits. Outside there is little on the surface to indicate that the greatest social conflict in the world's history is being fought out here. In the thoroughfares droshkies and the trams are running. In the Nevsky Prospect crowds of people are promenading. Prosperous looking bourgeois are taking their families for a walk, apparently not afraid of being robbed or murdered. Vendors are selling all sorts of wares. The first signs of change came as a shock on seeing fashionably dressed women at the street corners selling cigarettes, flowers and sweets, obviously for a livelihood. High over the Winter Palace is the red flag of International Socialism.

Moscow presents a similarly orderly appearance. When one arrived there on Sunday there was a long queue at the railway station, people going to the country for the day. Here also were bustling crowds of hawkers. The armed guards at different parts were not as numerous as the policemen to be seen in London.

Living Costs $14.75 Week

San Francisco—Mrs. Sarah Hagan, chairman of the United Garment Workers, appeared before the industrial welfare commission with documentary evidence to show that the cost of living of a single woman in these times, without putting anything aside for a rainy day, is $14.75 a week. Her list shows such items as wholesome food, substantial clothing, one picture show a week and 10 cents for church plate. The purpose of the meeting was the proposed readjustment of the wage schedule for women to fit post-war conditions. No decision was reached. Representatives of employers advocated a national wage scale in order that there might be no disadvantage suffered by any of the various states.

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Illiteracy Shames the United States

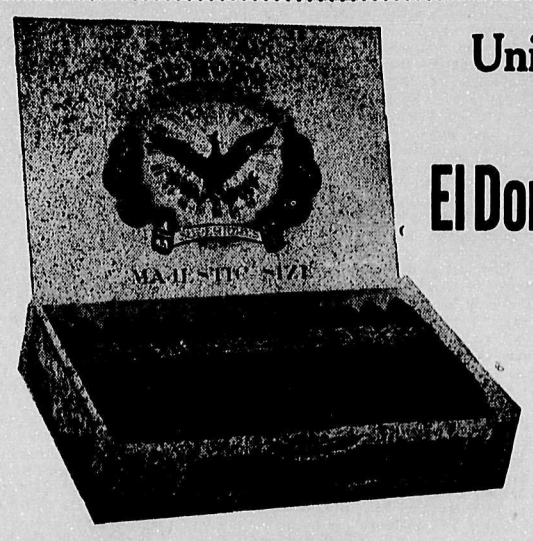
Washington—"What would be said of a world-leading democracy wherein 10 per cent. of the adult population cannot read the laws which they are presumed to know?" asks Secretary of the Interior Lane in his annual report. The cabinet official asks this question because the draft disclosed that of the first 2,000,000 men conscripted, there were 200,000 who could not read their orders or understand them when delivered or read the letters sent from home. Secretary Lane declares that the nation spends in a year twice as much for chewing gum as it does for school books, more for automobiles than for all primary and secondary education, and pays the average school teacher less than it pays the average day laborer.

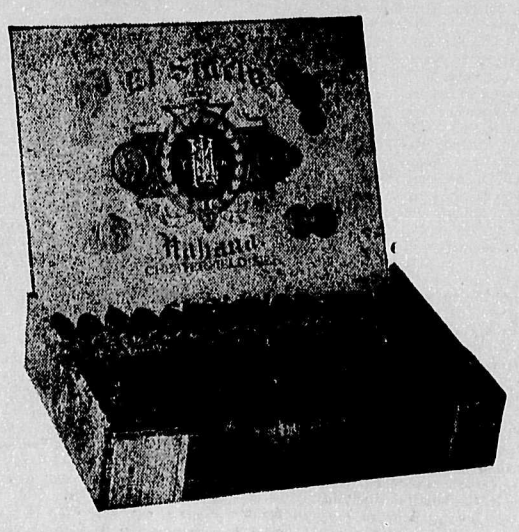
Australia Strong for Mooney

Australian Labor has taken up the fight on Tom Mooney's behalf in very earnest. From one end of Australia to the other, state organizations of Labor, trades and labor councils and individual unions are passing motions demanding that Mooney be either released or given a new trial. It is to be hoped that the powers that be will understand what Australia means—that when Australian Labor speaks, 55 per cent. of the working manhood of Australia carrying union tickets, speaks. No other country in the world can register the same effective protest as Australian Labor, because no other country in the world can claim that, on government official figures, the workers to the extent of 55 per cent. are trades unionists, carrying union tickets.

To Form Marine Council

New Orleans—Delegates from all the gulf states met here in convention to form a Gulf Districe Marine Council of the various organized crafts engaged in building ships. Approximately 100 delegates, representing 40,000 men, were in attendance. A committee of three has been sent to Washington to perfect arrangements for obtaining the charter from the American Federation of Labor, and to look after other details incident to forming the organization.





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STEAM ENGINEERS NEW WAGE SCALE

New Agreement Presented to J. J. Coughlan & Sons by Metal Trades

During the past week a new agreement was presented to the firm of J. J. Coughlan & Sons by the executive of the Vancouver Metal Trades Council.

Mr. J. J. Coughlan, Sr., stated that it was a financial impossibility for him to pay any increase in wages under his present contracts unless the government assisted him in the same manner as the government of the United States had assisted the various shipbuilding firms on the other side.

In view of the fact that members of the Metal Trades Council, working under the Robertson and Macy agreements are receiving a considerable amount in wages over the amount the firm of Coughlan & Sons are now paying, there is no doubt that some action will have to be taken in order to bring the wages of members working in the Coughlan yard up to at least the same level as the members working under the Robertson Agreement.

The latest award handed down by Mr. MacDonald, labor adjuster, under Robertson Agreement, calls for an increase in wages of 2 3-4 cents per hour, making a total increase since the agreement was entered into of 4 3-4 cents per hour. This increase became effective December 1st, 1918, and is based on the increase in the cost of living from figures supplied by the government. All members working under the Robertson Agreement should see that they are now receiving the following rates of pay, as all firms have been notified by the business agent to pay same:

Wage Scale for Members of Local 620
Effective December 1, 1918.

Operators of locomotive cranes	$6.98
Operators of gantry cranes	6.98
Operators of double cable ways	6.98
Operators of all double machines	6.98
Operators of electrical, air, or steam operated winches or donkeys	6.98
Operators of single aerial cable ways	6.38
Operators of overhead cranes (in shops)	6.38
Steam and electrical operators in power houses	6.38
Engineers in charge of boilers	5.88
Firemen	4.78
Oilers	5.38
Furnacemen	5.38
Operators of single drum steam, electrical or air winches and donkeys, not hoisting	5.38

Several members working in mills reported that it was the intention of the firm where they were employed to reduce their wages and stated that should this action be taken they would all refuse to continue working. When this fact was pointed out to the firm by the business agent, and they were shown that the cost of living was still increasing, and instead of reducing wages they should be increasing same, the firm assured the business agent that they would not reduce the wages of their engineers until such time as there was a considerable decrease in the cost of living.

Business Agent Alexander considers it was not the fact of him being a good talker that pursuaded the firm to take this action, but the realization by the firm that the members of the union he was representing intended acting in unison (as all union men should act) that was responsible for the firm's action in agreeing not to reduce their wages.

Victoria Metal Trades Council

At the weekly meeting of the Metal Trades Council on Friday evening, credentials were received for the following delegates, who were duly seated: Electrical Workers, Brothers Dooley, Barnes, Hynes and Ormond; Amalgamated Carpenters, 2651, Bro. J. Green; Painters, Bro. Johnson.

Delegate Harbord was elected vice-president, re Delegate Chisholm resigned. Much discussion took place with regard to the increase of pay granted from Sept. 1, several firms not having complied with Adjuster Macdonald's decision.

Organizer Watchman pointed out that the attitude of several of the organizations was detrimental to getting the increase, as some of them had gone on record as being in favor of repudiating the Robertson agreement, and thus in some instances they were no nearer a settlement today, than in August last.

Delegate Donnachie spoke on the serious state of affairs prevailing, owing to the inadequacy of hospital accommodation in the city, citing a recent case, which, because of the serious nature of the accident, was taken to St. Joseph's Hospital, being nearest, but owing to the accommodation having been taken by the government for returned soldiers, the ambulance was diverted to the Jubilee Hospital, the injured man dying on the way. A committee composed of Delegates Wylie, Huby and Donnachie was appointed to investigate the hospital situation.

Cholbergs shipyard came in for severe criticism, where the management has apparently adopted stalling tactics in connection with the two cents per hour back pay. Action was taken to bring about a decision.

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VICTORIA LABOR PARTY MEETING

J. S. Woodsworth Spoke on Christianity and Labor Movement

The weekly meeting of the Federated Labor Party, held in the Columbia Theatre, Sunday evening, was well attended. The audience was very attentive, and took a keen interest in the lecture.

Mr. H. Dakers occupied the chair, and after stating the aims of the party, introduced Mr. Woodsworth of Vancouver, who in the course of an interesting address on the subject, "Christianity and the Labor Movement," said:

"The Federated Labor Party indicated a new development amongst the working class, the crisis was leading us to join forces to get what was due to us. The people were yet under the dominance of the church, the church was a social institution, and like the schools and press, was largely reactionary. For 2000 years, Western Europe had been recognized as under Christian civilization, and it was a force to be reckoned with, when we take into account the environment and its consequent effects, but that it was losing its hold was evidenced by the manifestations of the present day. The Federated Labor Party was one manifestation, the Labor unions another, the Bolsheviki another. The great changes in the outlook of the working class, was due to the change that had taken place in the system of production. Up till one hundred and fifty years ago, production was largely carried on by hand, but with the introduction of machinery, a social revolution took place, the worker left home and went to the factory. Now only a few could own the tools and control industry; the rest, the great mass, had no voice except to ask for a job."

As an illustration, the speaker mentioned the case of a farmer, who previous to the social revolution, sowed his own grain, reaped, thrashed and ground it into flour; his wife baked it into loaves, and it was consumed by the farmer and his family; but today, it was altogether different. The agricultural machinery and the industrial plants necessary to its production; the coal, timber and other materials required; the transportation systems, all entered into the making of the loaf today, and made production not individual, but social; the problem was not how to make a loaf, but how it should be cut, and it was no longer safe to trust the ownership of the means of production in the hands of a few; what was socially produced, should be socially owned, for the benefit of all, and the present system must inevitably give place to a new, namely, control by the people.

The speaker emphasized the great contrast between the teachings of Jesus and that of the churches of today; that Churchianity was the dominant feature, not Christianity. The church had become a class institution, and the mass of the workers were not found there, for the church corporations were after the dollars and cents, like any other capitalist institution. In all the mysterious rites and ceremonies, in all the creeds, in all the hymns and prayers, the trend of thought was towards another world, and the good thought was towards another world, and the good things that were waiting for the weary slave in the sweet bye and bye! The church had not a high code of ethics, for it condemned individual personal vices, but it had not taught the great social virtues. It was a sin to steal a pin, we had been taught, but the man who stole a franchise or a railroad, was sent to parliament, and very probably would receive a knighthood! The old kind of stealing was to put your hand in another's pocket and help yourself, but the new kind was to get control of what ought to belong to all the people. The discovery of coal—which had undergone a process covering millions of years in its formation—was of great importance to the human race, yet we find the coal of the world owned and controlled by a class who had appropriated it. The day was coming when such men would be regarded as thieves, for no one has any right to take out of a community more than they contribute towards it.

Mr. Woodsworth went on to explain his reasons for leaving the church, of which he was a minister, and gave illustrations of conditions during an epidemic in Winnipeg, when a great number of children, all mostly of the poorer class died, mainly due to the huddled up, half starved, insanitary condition of the working class districts, and recollected seeing a number of graves, ready dug to receive all the little bodies. The hypocrisy of the burial service: "For as much as it hath pleased God," etc., was borne in upon him, and he realized that his duty lay in trying to save the children alive, rather than burying them. On another occasion, his attitude had been questioned, regarding a strike, where he had shown sympathy with the working class, and was of the opinion when a church got to the position that its members were advised to vote Union Government, or a minister was required to give a statement of the number of recruits obtained, that it was time to have done with the church. The powers that be have got possession of the church, and made it over to suit their purposes. Jesus was a man of the people, by trade a carpenter, and yet it was curious to note the exalted position he was placed in today by the ruling class, while the workers were trampled upon and exploited. Jesus placed human life first, property second, while today the church preached Christianity and elevated property ownership.

The human life today was the cheapest, the workers might contract tuberculosis in a factory as a result of damp, ill-ventilated workrooms, but if the machinery began to rust, heat would be installed, because machinery was of more consideration than human life. The master class knew if one slave died others would be waiting at the door. The government of the country had taken a strong, healthy, stalwart man and sent them to France to be maimed, or killed. Surely if it was right to confiscate human life, it was right to confiscate property. Jesus had said, "the servant is not above his lord," but He said also, "he was the greatest who served others." Today the man was greatest who had got most; and the plutocrat who had made millions of dollars out of the war, was elevated for the admiration of the people. Bishop Gore, of Oxford, had said that the Germans were not alone in their militaristic ideas, and the revelation of the secret treaties by the Bolsheviki had placed the Allies in an unenviable and contemptible position. "It was dangerous to refer to Russia," declared Mr. Woodsworth, and quotations were read from the London Nation, London Chronicle, Manchester Guardian and Westminster Gazette, all speaking against Allied intervention, and calling for the withdrawal of British troops from Russia.

A number of questions were asked and answered. The collection, amounting to $28.70, was announced by the chairman, also that the Victoria Trades and Labor Council were going to hold a protest meeting the following Sunday, when a monster meeting is expected, the vital questions to be taken up being, the "Censorship," and the "Russian Question," "Ban on Literature," etc.

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CAPITALISM IS BREAKING DOWN

The Proletariat Is Gradually Taking Control the World Over

The army of the proletariat still continues its victorious march in every country on the globe. The revolutionary wave is still rising, and is destined ere long to shatter all opposition. Those in the know cannot help enjoying the plight of the master class. How helpless they seem an how woefully ignorant. They are in control of the ship, but they no longer steer it. They have no compass, and society is drifting and will continue to do so until the working class comes forward and takes the helm. The capitalist is now utterly unable to gauge the future. In a system of production for sale, supply must anticipate demand, and owing to the peculiar situation, due to the stoppage of the war, the inflation of the currency through the floating of war loans, etc., we are going rapidly to chaos.

The machinery of wealth production, or rather the present system of wealth production, that has production for sale and profit, as the be all and end all of its existence, is rapidly flying to pieces. It is this fact, (the breakdown of capitalist production), that is the fundamental cause of the situation in Europe. The Allies have won and yet have not won anything, because there is nothing to win. Capitalism is played out. It is impossible, however, for the master class to realize this, and they will continue to plow the sands until the proletariat moves in its own behalf.

It is now stated that the Allies are going to withdraw from Russia, and it may be expected that they will withdraw from Germany also, or their troops stand a good chance of becoming infected with Bolshevism. The Spartacus group have the situation well in hand, and are bound to establish full control in the immediate future. It is an interesting spectacle that confronts the world. The Spartacus group are a small body in the midst of a sea of enemies, and yet they move steadily ahead. All the power and might of the Allies and German reactionaries combined cannot stay the advance of the revolutionary army. In the recent election in Britain, the deep dyed red section, mostly kept away from the polls. They have a card up their sleeve that will be played when the situation is fully developed. It may appear that now and again a temporary setback will occur, but the advance all along the line will be maintained. The awful misery following in the wake of the war, was anticipated by all thinking minds. Look at the conditions in Belgium for instance. They appear to be worse than they have ever been. The demobilization of the millions of working men in Britain, and the throwing on the streets of hundreds of thousands of working women is likely to create havic in the Old Country. Something is bound to give there immediately. It is impossible to feed the slaves of England under the old system and she looks like being the next to make the plunge. The working men do not seem yet to grasp the fact that the master class has clean and completely lost its head. It does not know what to do. The capitalist controls the state, but the machine won't work, and the world is waiting with bated breath for the universal rise of the proletariat.

That this is imminent, there is no doubt. Spurred on by necessity, and driven by the insane badgering of ignorant officials, the working class is now forced to move. The goal should be kept clearly in view. The working class ownership of the means of wealth production, and the abolition of the profit system. Everything is going fine for the slave class, therefore be bold and march confidently forward. It is impossible to be too audacious. It is impossible to demand too much, because nothing short of the whole shooting match is of any use. It is now realized that compromise is impossible, between the working class and the master class. It is a fight to a finish, a fight to the death. In many countries the bitterness between the contending elements will increase as the conflict grows more desperate ,and quarter will be neither given nor taken. The man who a few years ago looked forward to a peaceful transition from capitalism to the co-operative commonwealth, perceives now that this is not likely to occur. The capitalist system will be smashed to smithereens before the building of the co-operative commonwealth begins.

The old war horses of the social revolution smell the battle from afar, and are lining up for the last great political combat. The next great clash between capital and labor will be the last, because there will be no cessation until the slave comes out on top. The triumph of our class is as certain as tomorrow's sunrise and it behooves us each and every one to do our bit, and wherever we happen to be to take our stand and play our part. For the first time since civilization began, the slave and the master stands face to face. All the veneer, all the hypocrisy, has been cast aside. The mask is off. We know our enemy and he knows us. "Down with the system of profit." Down with the barriers that bar our way to liberty. How small the movement seemed five years ago, compared with the dimensions it has reached today. Three hundred millions already lined up under the red flag, and the numbers increasing by the hundred thousand every day. The victory is ours in this generation.

The master class is in mortal dread of the future. It judges the working class by itself. The working men and women are the only decent creatures on the planet, and the world they build will be a clean world, a world in which fraud, corruption, vice, filth and all the fruits of capitalism can not exist. The master class has no need to fear the victory of the working class—if it behaves itself and consents to be transformed from a parasitic element into a useful portion of society. Should the capitalist class break its own laws, then may the Lord have mercy upon it, for the slaves will have none, and the accumulated misery of ten thousand years will be avenged at one stroke.

LAUNDRY WORKERS ELECT NEW OFFICERS

Every Effort to Raise Funds to Appeal Case of W. L. Geofroy Will Be Made

At the last meeting of the Laundry Workers' Union the following officers were elected for the coming term: President, J. Little; vice-president, Mrs. Graves; secretary-treasurer, E. Levy; recording secretary, Mrs. LeBrun; trustees, N. Thompson, W. Reed and J. Hart; finance committee, G. Carter, Mrs. Creelman and Mrs. Cottam; guards, J. Wilcox and W. Todd.

A letter was received from the Trades and Labor Council sating that no further strike pay would be forthcoming.

The appeal case of W. L. Geofroy, who was sentenced to 18 months' imprisonment during the strike, together with the case of another member awaiting trial on the same charge, was discussed at length, and in view of the fact that funds must be raised immediately to carry on these cases, an appeal was ordered to be made to organized labor for assistance. No efforts have been spared by the Laundry Workers, there being a series of entertainments already under way to raise funds.

Although the strike has been called off, only a very small number of girls have been able to get back to work in the laundries or elsewhere, and as reported at the meeting there are some 80 girls, many of whom ar self-supporting, and about 20 men now left without any resources, until such time as they obtain employment.

Jewelery Workers

The International Jewelery Workers will hold a smoker and concert at Room 307 Labor Temple tonight (Friday) at 8.30 o'clock. The nomination of officers is to take place on this occasion. David Spencer's have agreed to comply with the request of the union. The only two firms now outside the pale are Paul and McDonald's and Lyttleton Bros.

QUIET WHEN ALLIED TROOPS LANDED IN VALDIVOSTOK

Press Reports Were Not True as to Scenes of Disorder

Nothing to Sanction American Troops in Siberia

The news from Russia, particularly since the Bolsheviki have had control, has been notoriously false. The stories of massacre and anarchy are, of course, largely for effect. . . . It is also well known that the various governmental censorships, principally the British, have suppressed actual news messages sent by accredited correspondents of accredited news associations from Moscow and Petrograd—messages sent by men who were not themselves Bolsheviki at all, but simply honest journalists. And many are the stories of events by "eyewitnesses" who saw no more than the inside of a hotel in Stockholm. Not a word of the constructive work being done by the Soviet government has been given out by the press. . . . All that we are allowed are silly stories about new decrees on marriage and free love, issued (where rarely authentic) by irresponsible groups striving to put the Soviet government in a false light. When a really first-rate analysis of what the Soviet government is doing is published—like "The Soviets at Work," by Lenine—we are informed by Postmaster General Burleson that it is unmailable.

But the worst of all is the fashion in which the news about Allied intervention is distorted. We are led to believe that Allied troops landed in Vladivostok to restore "law and order," to put down the rule of an anarchical minority and to substitute a democraic government. It is false. There was quiet and the best of law and order at Vladivostok when Allied troops landed. The Soviet had the support and affection of the people. The Allied troops did not set up a democratic government; they set up a reactionary dictatorship. We are prepared to prove that in every case where Allied troops have invaded Russian soil they have overthrown the popular government and set up a temporary government resting for its support on foreign bayonets, a government reactionary and, in some cases, even frankly monarchist. It is safe to say that the average American citizen would be thoroughly shocked at knowing the kind of imperialistic and anti-democraite game which is being played by our own and our Allies' armies in Russia. These are facts, and we think it high time that they be told. We do not believe that our own government wants the restoration of the monarchy in Russia, or that it would support a demonstrably unpopular government forever. The American government would like to see in Russia a liberal and commercial republic like ourselves—a quiet, respectable government with which we could do business. Undoubtedly. But what we should like and what we are as a matter of cold fact getting are two widely different things.

Japanese Ambitions

It is no secret that powerful parties in Japan are advocating the unostentatious annexation of large sections of Siberia, and that they have no interest in seeing any stable popular government arise east of the Urals. It is no secret that England trembles for Persia, Afghanistan and India, and that the Tory party would gladly crush the Russian Revolution if it exhibited any tendency toward proselytism in foreign countries (as it has). It is no secret that a certain section of the French governmental opinion cares not a fig what sort of a reactionary government there is in Russia, provided only it is a government that will immediately repay the foreign loans. In a word, our intervention in Russia may have been undertaken with the best of intentions, but the practical situation with which we are faced today is either to support reaction and imperialism or—to withdraw our troops.

Tragic Anachronism

Russian intervention has become for America a tragic anachronism since the defeat of Germany. We have neither a national nor an international interest which today legitimately sanctions the presence of our troops on Russian soil. It is false to our traditions to be fighting a workingman's republic, even if we do not approve of its form or its manners. It is not in accordance with any doctrine of American national policy for us to be engaged in crushing a revolution or in crucifying the hopes and aspirations of a great and mighty people. It is really difficult to believe that this is the same country which in Washington's time almost had a civil war because the government refused to intervene in the French Revolution, on behalf of the revolutionists. And not even the most severe critics of the present leaders of the Soviet government have said one-tenth as bitter things as were said of Robespierre and Marat in their day. No; to help crush a revolution is not in accordance with the real American tradition.—The Dial.

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