BRITISH COLUMBIA FEDERATIONIST

INDUSTRIAL UNITY: STRENGTH — Official Organ Vancouver Trades and Labor Council (International) — POLITICAL UNITY: VICTORY

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TRADES COUNCIL HAS LIVELY MEETING

Hastings Park and Water Works Scheme Under Discussion

Committees Appointed to Investigate Both of the Proposals

The leasing of Hastings Park to the Exhibition Association, and the greater water works scheme of Mayor Tisdall, were the chief causes of debate at the regular meeting of the Vancouver Trades and Labor Council.

The Hastings Park matter was brought to the attention of the council by a letter from the Exhibition Board, asking the council to endorse the request made for a ten-year's lease.

Delegate Hardy moved: "That this council go on record as being of the opinion that all parks should be under the control of the Parks Board."

Delegate Pettipiece, in opposing the motion, stated that he had gone all the way with the Parks Board, but the function of the exhibition was different. He was prepared to place the Exhibition Board on the same plane as the Hospital Board, and that all work done should be paid for at the union rate of wages.

Much Money Invested

Continuing his argument, Delegate Pettipiece asserted that too much money was invested at present to back up, and that it was necessary in every city to have an amusement park, and suggested that if the people in the East End wanted a playground, there were lots of tax sale lands which could be used for that purpose. Outlining the plans of the management of the Exhibition Association, he stated that the proposal was to have five representatives of the city elected on the board, making it a civic and public institution, combined similar to the Hospital Board. The oval would be turned over to the Parks Board for sports, and that under these conditions it was the best thing to do to give the lease; elect five people and take horse racing out of civic politics, as racing had been legalized by the Dominion government.

Delegate Nixon supported Delegate Pettipiece's arguments, and outlined what had been done through the co-operation of Alderman Pettipiece in having the work done at trade union rates of wages.

Would Be a Favor

Secretary Bengough said that if the arguments advanced as to what it had cost the Exhibition Association to keep the park in shape, which was $14,000, and the city only granted $10,000, then it would be doing the association a favor if the lease was not granted. He also asked why not let the Parks Board put on an exhibition and run horse races?

Delegate Welsh supported the

(Continued on page 3)

FEDERAL UNION MEETS MONDAY

Unskilled Workers Seek New Members for Organization

At the last meeting of the newly-formed Federal Labor Union, held on Wednesday, April 25, a report was made by the organizing committee, and this report was the cause of considerable discussion and enthusiasm.

Appreciation of the interest taken by the Trades and Labor Council in the efforts of the unskilled workers was expressed, and the granting of a hall free of cost for the initial organizing meetings by the central body and the efforts put forward for the securing of a charter, were praised.

It was decided to hold regular meetings every Monday at 8 p.m., in room 312, Labor Hall, 319 Pender Street West, when applications for membership will be received.

All workers who are classified as unskilled, or who cannot join one of the existing trade unions, are invited to join the new organization, and the co-operation of building trades workers in organizing the building trades laborers is sought.

R. E. RIGBY ELECTED AS SCHOOL TRUSTEE

L. R. C. Candidate in South Vancouver Is Successful at Polls

Prov Library Dec 23

first effort on teh part of the Van ver and District Labor Representa Committee in an election, was at least partially successful in spite of the shortness of time, and the fact that the committee had hardly organized and was working under all the difficulties of a newly-formed organization. R. E. Rigby, a member of the Street and Electric Railway Employees Union being elected as school trustee, while the committee's candidate for police commissioner, O. Mengel, was only counted out on the last ballot.

H. E. Rees, another candidate for school trustee, was defeated, while polling a fair sized first choice vote.

The committee, recognizing the shortness of time and lack of organization, is not by any means despondent over the result, and will have all arrangements made in full time for the next election in South Vancouver, as well as in the city.

Help the locked-out Cigarmakers of Vancouver by attending the Benefit Whist Drive and Dance tonight (Friday), at the Alexandra Pavilion. Good prizes for whist, and 15 other prizes. Souvenirs will be given to all.

J. S. WOODSWORTH SPEAKS TO MINERS

Porcupine Workers Hold Largest Meeting in History of Camps

On Sunday evening, April 22, J. S. Woodsworth, Labor M. P. for Centre Winnipeg; A. L. Potly of Matheson, and Oliver Pause of Iroquois Falls, addressed the largest mass meeting in the history of the Porcupine camp, where Labor trouble is pending.

The large New Empire theatre was jammed to the doors, and hundreds were refused admission for lack of accommodation. The meeting was billed for 8 p.m., the doors opened at 20 minutes past 7. A first-class orchestra was in attendance, and furnished music, while the crowd surged in, and by 7:30 most all the seats were occupied.

The mine operators have been circulating propaganda to the effect that the workers were well satisfied with their present living conditions and the treatment they have and are receiving, and that the demands for a decent living wage has only come from a few agitators. They must now be surprised at the number of agitators or the following those few agitators have succeeded in convincing and gathering there.

The enthusiasm displayed at this meeting showed very plainly that those men are determined to have their demands complied with. It was also quite evident that they are not going to be satisfied even when they do get their demands. The workers in the Porcupine camp will never again be satisfied until they receive the full fruits of their labor.

They realize that this is only an incident in the class struggle that is raging, not only in Canada, but in every capitalist country the world over, and they are determined to do their bit. A collection was also taken up to defray the expenses in connection with the meeting, and the balance is being turned over to the campaign committee, which is raising funds to finance the campaign in the coming Provincial election.

Building Permits

April 27—2687 Triumph Street, J. M. Read, dwelling, $2000; 1940—10th Ave. East, W. B. Stiles, dwelling, $2500; 1170—15th Ave. West, Mill Cut Homes, dwelling, $5000.

April 28—2266 Union Street, M. J. Acton, dwelling, $2000.

April 30—1731—6th Ave. East, W. Gillespie, dwelling, $1500.

May 1—35 and 37 Hastings West, W. W. Johnson, alterations, $2000; 2350—4th Ave. East, J. J. Lambert, dwelling, $2000.

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SAYS EMPLOYMENT AGENCIES ARE ILLEGAL

Mr. Justice Murphy Renders Important Decision to Labor

Mrs. Mahon and J. H. McVety Secure Conviction Against Employers

Mr. Justice Murphy rendered a very important decision on Thursday, and one which affects labor vitally. For many years the employment agencies have been condemned by working class organizations, and when the government bureaus were opened, legislation was enacted making such private agencies illegal.

Some time ago Mr. J. H. McVety, superintendent of the Provincial Labor Bureaus, instituted proceedings against four private agencies. When the cases were tried before the police magistrate, the charges were thrown out on the ground that these agencies had not acepted money from the employees, but only from the employers.

Later Mr. McVety appealed against the magistrate's decision, and on a stated case, that of O. H. Joy and three others, namely, Lamont, Olson and Dumaresq, won his point. Mr. Justice Murphy upholding the contention that the operation of these agencies was an illegal act.

Mrs. Mahon, recently appointed by the Provincial government as a woman factory inspector, and who has jurisdiction as to the enforcement of the Minimum Wage act, brought charges in the police court last week against Mrs. Mackenzie of the Vancouver Hotel annex, and succeeded in securing a conviction.

The allegations were that the defendant employed girls on the switchboard in the annex at less than the minimum wage, the salary paid being $50 per month as against the minmum of $15 per week or $65 per month.

It was also charged that the employees were caused to work longer hours than those set out by the act, while failure to post the regulation notice as called for, was also alleged.

The defendant was fined $25 on each charge.

New Pictures from Russia

A Lantern Lecture will be given in the Workers' Party Hall, 303 Pender Street West, on Monday, May 7th, at 8 p.m. The lecture will be on Soviet Russia, and the development of that country under the Soviet regime. Many new and interesting pictures will be shown, depicting the life as it is in the first workers' republic. This will be the last lecture this season.

Cigarmakers' Benefit Dance

All trades unionists should attend the Cigarmakers' Benefit Whist Drive and Dance tonight (Friday), in the Alexandra Pavilion, corner Hornby and Robson Streets. The Cigarmakers have been locked out for over two years, and the Label Committee of the Trades Council has arranged this function to aid them.

A SAILOR'S LIFE NOT A MERRY ONE

Experience of Local Seamen in Australia Has Sequel in Vancouver

The ship's crew of the S. S. City of Vancouver, which left here November, 1922, on a voyage to Australia, with that ship have had their troubles with the captain of that vessel. They were put in jail at Newcastle, N. S. W., Australia, on Feb. 19, 1923, for refusing to work aboard that vessel unless they were advanced £2 out of their wages. (This is customary in all deep sea vessels when in other than the home port.) The captain had offered the men £1, which was refused. Then he offered the men 30 shillings; this the men refused also. Then Captain Elford threatened to put the men in jail unless they resumed work. The men held steadfast to their original demands for the £2. The captain, therefore, had the crew arrested, and charged them with refusing to "obey a lawful command."

In the police court, the defending solicitor asked for an adjournment in order to get the men's view of the case. The prosecuting solicitor stated that the captain of the vessel was in a hurry to get away, nevertheless the magistrate adjourned the case for a few minutes. After the adjournment, the case was withdrawn, the captain promising to give the men what money they wanted with time to spend it furthermore, that there would be no logs in connection with the case. (This was a verbal promise).

When the vessel arrived in Victoria, B. C., on Sunday, April 22, 1923. The men thought everything was "o. k." although Captain Elford had been very mean in some things. The men received their account of wages the following morning, Monday, April 23, and greatly to their surprise, the noble captain had logged them to the extent of $13.42 each man—24 men in all. The men appealed to the shipping master at Victoria. Although he remarked to the captain that he thought that the captain was in the wrong, he added that it was a court case. Thereupon the men had their union agent at Victoria wire Vancouver in order to get legal assistance. The Federated Seafarers Union engaged Mr. Maclean, of Elliott, Maclean & Chandler, solicitors at Victoria, to handle the case. A summons was promptly drawn against Captain Elford to appear in police court next morning. In the meantime, Mr. Maclean, K. C., had an interview with Mr. J. Coughlan. That gentleman said he was willing to pay the men, although he thought that the men were in the wrong. The case was withdrawn, and the men were paid in full the money that the captain tried to beat them out of; although it may be stated that the officers aboard the same ship had their troubles with the same captain. When he offered Mr. Coughlan, the owner, an explanation, he remarked that he would not listen to any complaint against the captain, as he had never had any complaints against him before.

Obituary

The Federated Seafarers Union regrets to announce the death of Bro. John Abell, who died on Friday, April 27. Many members turned out to the funeral, which was held on Tuesday, May 1.

Be sure to notify the post office as soon as you change your address.

CHARGE THAT AGENTS ACCEPTED MANY BRIBES

Widespread Investigation Into Burns Agency May Result

Ex-German Spy Is One of Detective Agency's Servants

[By Mildred Morris]
(Federated Press Correspondent)

Washington.—Charges that two agents of the department of justice accepted bribes totalling $2,000,000 may lead to a widespread investigation of the activities of William J. Burns operatives and produce a scandal of big proportions.

Gaston Means, who is accused in affidavits of accepting one bribe of $50,000 and another between $15,000 and $20,000, has long been one of Burns' closest associates. It is charged that other operatives in Burns' bureau are known to be open to bribery.

The affidavits filed against Means brings to light the interesting fact that the department of justice has agents who do not appear on the payroll. They are known as "blue ticket" men and work directly under Burns. They are paid from a lump sum appropriation which is not specifically accounted. Neither is there any accounting of their activities. Most of them are the stool pigeons in organizations under the ban of the department of justice, like the Workers' party. Others are engaged in even stranger activities.

Means was one of those blue ticket men and may still be so far as anyone knows. He has been employed in connection with the private affairs of high officials although paid with the public's money. Two instances are known of his being assigned to help eminent officials out of delicate situations. He is said to have the "low down" on other members of the administration, and the publication of his confessions would have startling effect.

Were all the facts known of the manner in which the dpeartment of justice is run, they would reveal, it is said, that strained feelings long have existed between Daugherty and Burns. While congress was bombing Daugherty with demands for war frauds prosecutions, Means is said to have got hold of information embarassing to a certain member of the cabinet; at the behest of this official Daugherty ordered Means suspended; the latter continued to work for Burns.

Burns is absent from Washington. He is thought to be too busy rounding up all the terrible Reds to give time to charges against his agents. One of the affidavits says when information of Means was sought at the department of justice, Burns would neither deny nor affirm that Means worked for him.

Means was charged a few years ago with the murder of a wealthy North Carolina woman who made him beneficiary in one of her wills. Before the United States entered the war, he was employed in this country as a German espionage agent.

PILE DRIVERS STRIKE MAY 1

Many Employees Sign Up and Non-Union Men Join Strikers

Local 2404 of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, composed of Wooden Bridgemen and Pile Drivers, has a strike on its hands. The jobs declared unfair are, Greenlees, Vancouver Pile Driving Company, Canadian Pacific Railway wharf and the Ballantyne pier. Other firms have agreed to the terms of the union, which are the same as in the 1920 agreement, namely $7.00 per day for all pile drivers and bridgemen; $7.50 per day for boommen, and not less than $9.00 per day for foremen.

The International has sanctioned the strike, and the local union has the full support of the general officers.

All employers were notified a month ago as to the demands of the union, and informed that the rates of wages would go into effect on May 1. Those firms complying with the demands of the men are not affected by the strike, but the firms referred to above did not even acknowledge the receipt of the letter informing them of the demands being made.

The men working for the firms who have refused to grant the scale are standing pat, and men who did not belong to the union prior to the strike, have now joined up.

CONSTITUTION IS ADOPTED BY L.R.C.

Officers Will Be Elected at Next Meeting in Near Future

At the meeting of the Labor Representation committee held on Monday last, the constitution and by-laws were thoroughly discussed and finally adopted as amended.

Copies will be sent to all organizations in the city and district, and a call for affiliation will be made to all working class organizations.

The South Vancouver election was briefly discussed, and the election of R. E. Rigby to the school board was acclaimed as a victory, which demonstrated that after the committee is thoroughly organized, the results will be much more substantial.

School trustee elect Rigby addressed the meeting briefly on the election, and O. Mengel, candidate for police commmissioner urged that organization work for the next election be started at once.

The secretary announced that several organizations had contributed to the campaign fund, and as soon as all bills were in, a full financial statement would be rendered to all organizations.

At the next meeting, the date of which has not been decided upon, the election of officers in accordance with the provisions of the constitution will take place. Organizations wishing to affiliate are urged to do so at once, the affiliation fee being $2, and should be sent to the secretary, at 319 Pender Street West. Full particulars as to date and time of the next meeting will be forwarded to all organizations and published in the Federationist.

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Bert's Cigar Stand

Strikes often have strange results, and the Typos' strike of a year or more ago has at least made a change in the life of one of the members of that Union. Brother Adams, a printer of years standing, went on strike with his fellow members, and realizing the difficulty of securing a living at the trade where several shops are non-union, he has decided to make another venture, and has opened a cigar and candy stand at the corner of Homer and Pender Streets. Union cigars are a specialty, and soft drinks can be purchased from a union man.

Ottawa.—Bricklayers in this city are to get $1 an hour this year according to an agreement signed with the master builders. This is an increase of 15 cents. Carpenters receive an increase from 70 to 75 cents an hour; laborers are to get 45 cents an hour.

TEN YEARS NEEDED TO COMPLETE CHANGE

Mr. Spector Quotes Trotsky on Economic Reconstruction of Russia

Workers Party Representative to Moscow Describes Conditions in Europe

"Trotsky asks for ten years in which to complete the economic revolution in Soviet Russia," was one of the striking passages in a speech delivered by Maurice Spector, of Toronto, who has but recently returned from Russia, in the Columbia theatre, Vancouver, on Sunday last.

If there were any doubts in the minds of those present when Spector rose to address a capacity audience, as to what a political revolution meant and what was necessary to bring about an economic change, there was no possibility of his hearers being in the dark when he finished.

The Trip to Russia

Referring to his trip to Russia, the speaker pointed out that on his pilgrimage to Red Moscow, he had passed through the land of "social democracy" with an idea of getting an understanding of the struggle of the workers against capitalism. Continuing, he stated that in passing through Germany, one could not but remember that this country had been the birthplace of Karl Marx, and at the same time compare the present plight of the German workers with the hopes aroused by their past. For the first time in history, the German bourgeois had fled to their homes and hid themselves. The German revolution, as the Russian, presented the question as to whether it should be in favor of the bourgeois or the proletariat. But as in 1914, when the Social Democracy betrayed the workers, so in 1918, the Social Democratic Party handed power over to the bourgeoisie, and refused the support offered by Soviet Russia. The result was that the German workers today are in economic and political servitude.

Low Wages in Germany

Referring to the growth of Fascism in Germany, the speaker pointed out that the German workers are now the under dogs, without economic power, and are receiving lower wages than any other European workers. They are in the position of Japanese and Chinese coolies prior to the war.

Continuing, his description of the conditions of the German workers, it was pointed out by the speaker, that not only were the German workers the slaves of their own masters, but the international ruling class as well. He also pointed out that the proletariat of Germany was awaking to the lost opportunity offered by Soviet Russia in 1918, and that the workers are now turning their eyes to Moscow.

Social Democracy

Reference was also made to the loss

(Continued on page 4)

MINING BIG FOR BIG DIVIDENDS

B. C. Miners Have Created Vast Wealth for Mine Owners

[By H. M. Bartholomew]

The various mining companies operating in the Province of British Columbia, have found that that Province has been a constant source of rich dividends. In a recent issue of the Financial Times, there was given a complete list of these companies, together with a complete list of the dividends paid since operations have been started. Coal, copper, gold, silver, lead and zinc have been dug from the bowels of the earth by an army of workers. They have received wages—the coupon clippers have received handsome dividends. According to the list, the grand total paid in dividends to date has been $65,217,488. In other words, the miners of the Province have not only maintained themselves, but they have made a present of millions of dollars of dividends to social parasites who live at the expense of others.

Patronize Federationist advertisers.

Loggers: Aristocrats of Labor?

USING nearly three full columns in the "Daily Province" of May 1st, a writer named R. McGavin pictures in glowing terms the palatial living quarters of the modern lumberjack. Inset with the article in question is a picture of the castle (in the air) occupied by the married slave (a rare animal) in the logging industry.

The rapacious plunderers of the timber resources of this Province are casting their gluttonous gaze about them in search of fresh supplies of human material that might be exploited, and enticed into their industrial infernos, herded together like cattle in a corral.

The alluring bait dangled before the eyes of the young husky, intelligent, would-be logger is composed of: "chances of promotion in the industry"; "open air exercises"; "sanitary and wholesome surroundings"; "airy and well-ventilated sleeping quarters"; "good food plentifully served"; "radio concerts"; "blankets supplied free"; "hot and cold shower baths"; etc.

The sleeping quarters, it is claimed, put to shame the vile dumps and uncomfortable sleeping quarters that the slaves of the forest are compelled to stay in "while holiday making in Vancouver." Wow! Go easy, McGavin! The camp boss, or "push," as he is known in a logging camp, has suddenly become metamorphosed from the rough-necked, two-fisted, bullying hyena he once was, into a meek, soft-voiced, velvet-pawed, purring kitten. One might get the impression, after reading the above description of a modern logging camp, that our masters had suddenly become disgustingly altruistic, and have so gorged themselves lately with the "milk of human kindness," that they are verily slobbering at the mouth, and falling over each other in their anxious haste to make some restitution for their barbaric behaviour toward the passive victims of their greed in the past. Now the victims having recently manifested a disposition to turn on their class enemies, the masters like the devil when sick would be a monk.

After driving the old time skilled logger out of this country with the blacklist, the lumber barons try to attract the younger men to the industry; considering them more tractable, and less inclined at first to recognize and resist their subtle schemes of intensified exploitation. They are in fact making a bid for cheap apprentices.

Fables of loggers reaching Vancouver with stakes of $1000 "earned in a few months in a logging camp," remind one of the methods employed by the real estate sharks in the hey day of the real estate boom; they usually pointed to the isolated individuals who made millions at the expense of the millions of super-boobs who got stung by purchasing parcels of phony real estate; and if you would get stung, buy a ticket to a logging camp.

For every logger who comes into Vancouver with a stake of $1000, there are a thousand loggers who land in Vancouver with less than $100. Why? For the most part simply because they are disgusted with the social conditions and the meagre rewards of slavish toil in the prison-like logging camps of the Pacific Coast; where even those birds who naturally love solitude, e.g., the owl, raven, etc., deserted the country.

A pretty picture can be drawn by one whose knowledge of logging is confined to writing nonsensical articles of propaganda for the capitalist press; always taking care to present the conditions in camps that are exceptions rather than the rule.

It is a deliberately misleading statement, the claim that logging is a well-paid occupation, which can be verified by those who are more interested in the significance of facts, proved by reading the tabulated average rate of wages paid in the basic industries and published by the Department of Labor, Ottawa.

The scribe for the "Daily Province" does not "write of those things that are not to be told." He does not mention the high transportation charges paid by a logger in getting to the job, in a good many instances running as high as $40. It is either accept that or be content with being herded below the decks of an alleged passenger boat in about the same manner and accept similar treatment as was meted to the black slaves of Africa by those who found it profitable to traffick in slaves. The Union S.S. Co. is the best modern example we have of those days.

After considering the many disadvantages, social and otherwise that the workers labor under, especially those who follow logging in order to gain a livelihood, and taking into account the dangerous and precarious nature of such employment, the fact that "'intelligent learners' do take

(Continued on page 4)

LABOR HALL MEETINGS

Friday, May 4 to Thursday, May 10

FRIDAY, May 4—Molders.

MONDAY, May 7—Electrical Workers, No. 310; Structural Iron Workers, Boilermakers.

TUESDAY, May 8—Bookbinders, Barbers, Printing Pressmen, Machinists, No. 692.

WEDNESDAY, May 9—Bricklayers.

THURSDAY, May 10 — Sheet Metal Workers, Bakery Salesmen, Label Committee, Steam and Operating Engineers, No. 844.

—UNION LABEL LEAGUE OF TRADES AND LABOR COUNCIL—

—BENEFIT—

WHIST DRIVE AND DANCE

Under Auspices of Cigarmakers' Union

FRIDAY, MAY 4th, 1923

ALEXANDRA DANCING PAVILION

Corner Robson and Hornby Streets

15 Prizes Besides Whist Prizes To Be Given Away

Whist Drive 8:15 p.m. Dancing 9 p.m. to 12 p.m.

Each person paying admission will be presented with a souvenir

Six Whist Prizes Buffet Lunch 15c 5-Piece Orchestra

GENTS, 50 Cents; LADIES 25 Cents

A MEETING OF THE

Federal Labor Union

—WILL BE HELD—

Monday, May 7th, 1923

at 8 p.m.

LABOR HALL, 319 Pender St. W.

All Building Trades and other Laborers Should Attend This Meeting.

BRITISH COLUMBIA FEDERATIONIST

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Unity of Labor: The Hope of the World

FRIDAY.....May 4, 1923

The Cumberland Disaster and "Investigation"

THE FEDERATIONIST has repeatedly demanded that there should be an investigation into the Cumberland mine disaster—not an investigation such as governments usually order, but a delving into the real cause of the reason of more than thirty men losing their lives.

* * *

The government of this Province has held an investigation. The investigator was Mr. George Wilkinson, an appointee of the government. His investigations have been so minute, that he even found a match stalk, which on circumstantial evidence, produced by himself, was struck by a Chinaman who died as the result of the explosion, and cannot talk back, and which he claims was the cause of the disaster.

* * *

But while this match stalk has been featured in the press headlines, there are other things in the report which have not been given as much publicity. One passage reads as follows:

> A short review of the conditions existing in the sections prior to the explosion will support the theory that the rise side of No. 2 east level was the point in that section where the explosion originated. Explosive gas had been found and reported on the rise side of this level, intermittently for over two weeks, and had existed there, practically steadily, for five days prior to the explosion. Evidence given at the coroner's inquest by the fire boss in charge of this section, if correct, would indicate that the amount of gas in this particular place at times assumed serious proportions.

* * *

Other passages in the report taken from the evidence adduced prove conclusively, that there was an excess of explosive gas in the mine, as previously stated in The Federationist, which made such a catastrophe possible. But to date the reason for this excess of gas, and why care was not taken to see that the danger was eliminated, has not been either explained or investigated.

* * *

Mr. Wilkinson, the investigator, has laid the blame on a Chinaman. The Chinaman is dead. He cannot deny the statements of the investigator, but the investigator himself denies his own charges against this man who now rests in mother earth.

* * *

From information received, not from governmental sources, we have learned that the miners expected a second disaster in the Cumberland mines. The miners, trained men, realized the danger and the disaster to them was not unexpected. But what about the government inspectors? Did they realize the danger? If so, was it reported? If not, why not? These are questions that will have to be answered.

* * *

In the meantime, the only investigation which can satisfy the rank and file of organized labor, will be an investigation by the miners themselves, who can and will tell the truth as to the conditions in the mine prior to the disaster. No government investigator, who praises the employers for the measures taken to insure safety, but who at the same time reports that the amount of gas in the mine was of serious proportions, can be relied on. What is the Minister of Mines going to do about it? Will he let the blame rest on a dead man who cannot refute the charges, or will he allow the miners themselves to make a report, and protect them if they do so, and make charges which will implicate not only the employers, but the Department of Mines. We await his answer with expectancy.

Ignorance and the Logger's Life

THERE IS AN OLD SAYING to the effect that where ignorance is bliss, it is folly to be wise. But if there was ever bliss in the life of a writer to the capitalistic press, then one by name of R. McGavin, must have more than the average man could ever expect to receive, for his ignorance of the conditions in the lumber camps of the Province is colossal.

* * *

This writer in a recent issue of the Daily Province, depicts the life of the lumber jack as one which might well be sought by any "husky youth," for he says, among other things:

> Logging for the main part is a man's job carried on in the open air, and as such should attract those of sound body. It is also a well-paid one, a fact which should influence those who desire to accumulate a stake. In addition, it offers exceptionally good chances of promotion to those who stay with it—a circumstance that should draw young men anxious to learn one of the real businesses that are keeping British Columbia on the map.

* * *

But an article in another column of this issue, written by a one-time "husky youth," and now a logger, a skilled one at that, appears to disagree with the statements made in the article written by McGavin. The article in the Province is too lengthy and wordy to quote in full, but we will let our readers imagine lumber jacks becoming radio fans, having hot and cold shower baths, and all the pleasures of modern civilization, including electric light, good heating and food served unstintingly, and this is the picture of the life as drawn by our ignorant friend the writer to the Daily Province.

* * *

But ignorance is also a sign of ineptitude as well as of bliss. It is also sometimes found that ignorance is assumed for the purpose of securing that bliss which comes from a full pocket book and good remuneration for services rendered ,and in this case we imagine that the latter is the kind of ignorance which the artist on lumber camps has assumed. To write of conditions in a lumber camp, or in industry with any degree of accuracy, needs experience, and we do not think that the writer in question has had any experience outside of a newspaper office, so far as camp life is concerned. If he has, he should not be named Mr. Gavin, but Ananias . Keeping British Columbia on the map in a newspaper office is certainly a soft job, but we doubt if our propaganda experts in the pay of the capitalist press could keep themselves if they were to tell the truth.

Transportation, C. P. R. and Immigration

ALL LARGE CORPORATIONS have heads. In other words, they have men who act as spokesmen for them, and the C. P. R. has one named Beatty. He speaks with authority, for he has power and finance behind him, and if necessary, all the powers of the State. Corporations also have annual meetings, at which the "head" gives forth words of wisdom, and the rest of those who are supposed to represent the stockholders, cheer the statements which are made.

* * *

We have claimed, from time to time, that the immigration policy of the government of this great Dominion, has been dictated by the transportation companies. Of course, we have been branded as "Bolshevik," and biased against capitalism. But read what President Beatty, of the C. P. R., has to say of the government's immigration policy. According to press reports, it is as follows:

> "President E. W. Beatty spoke with approval of the increased efforts of the Dominion to obtain immigrants of the best class from Great Britain and from countries of Northern Europe. He considered the prospects for obtaining the class of colonists needed urgently to assist in developing the country's natural resources were brighter than they had been for the last few years."

* * *

The brightness will no doubt appear in the coffers of the Canadian Pacific Railroad, but we doubt if there will be any reflected glory in the lot of the workers already in Canada, and who have gone through years of unemployment, or in the new state of life which the immigrants will find when they reach this country. But there is one thing sure, and that is that when the Canadian Pacific Railway endorses the action of any government, it is a safe bet for the workers to take an opposite stand. In the meantime, we will pursue a policy of watchful waiting and at a later date, say, "well, we told you so," but you liked liberalism, and you have had it, now what do you think of it?

Liberalism and the Workers

KEEPING a good man down is a hard proposition. unless he be a radical, and the ruling class throw him into gaol. But keeping a politician out of the limelight is even more difficult, and once again our old friend, David Lloyd George, has popped up again.

* * *

As in the days prior to the time when he assumed the reins of power, and for the war period was the dictator of the British ruling class, he is now appealing for the people who are submerged. His tender heart bleeds for the unemployed. He is filled with grief to think that there are more than a million idle men in the British Isles, but at the same time pleads for liberalism.

* * *

It is, however, but a short time since he was disposed from power. A "liberal" he has always been. Liberal to his masters, but never to the workers, as the war-worn heroes who fought the battles which he and his colleagues planned, can testify, and during the time of his power, when he had the chance to "do something for the submerged," what did he do. The answer is what the returned soldiers got before they went away: "Nothing is too good for you." And they got, "nothing."

* * *

But as already stated, politicians cannot be kept out of the limelight. They must have the spotlight, and once again our old friend has broken into the front pages of the capitalistic press. This was done when he outlined the proposed liberal porgramme on Saturday last, when among other things he said:

> The Labor Party had had no experience in the work of government. That party's great promises had not been subjected to the assay of experience. Liberalism, on the other hand, had a great record. Liberation, its great task of the future, was the remedy for the evils of modern industrialism, but before tackling that problem the Liberal forces must overthrow the tyranny of the sword and germinate peace. More than 1,300,000 in the United Kingdom were unemployed as the result of the war which they had not made. A system which condemned millions living sober, decent and industrious lives to unemployment without any fault of their own was organized blasphemy.

* * *

We are prepared to admit that the Labor Party has not had experience in government, and hope that no working class representatives will govern a slave. But if the Liberal Party of Great Britain has a great record behind it, and its first task is to abolish slumdom, we can only wonder that this task was not tackled when a Liberal government was in power.

* * *

We have a Liberal government in Canada; we have also had Conservative governments, but even in this land of "great opportunities," we have poverty, slums, and all the evils of the present system, yet the Liberal governments have never attacked the root cause of slums and poverty, which is human slavery.

* * *

Labor governments cannot exist where the human race is freed from slavery. Governments—call them what you will—only exist to keep an exploited class in subjection. But labor can, and will, take control of the means of wealth production, but will never submit any section of the community to government; rule the workers will, in the transitionary stages; compel all men to work, but to govern the workers will never descend, but to control and operate the means of wealth production that all may eat and live, is the mission of the working class, now a subject class, but destined to free humanity from Liberal, Tory, or any other form of government; for governments never existed before men became slaves to a ruling class.

GERMAN WORKERS PROTEST

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FASCISTI ARRESTS LEADER OF ITALIAN RAILWAYMEN

[By George Hardy]

NEWS COMES to hand of the imprisonment of Comrade Isidoria Cazzario, of the revolutionary railwaymen of Italy. The blood-stained hands of the Fascisti have satisfied their desire by throwing this militant fighter into prison. Azzario is a leader of the left wing, and has been in the forefront urging resistance to the attacks of Mussolini. Therefore, in the hands of the "Black Shirts," his life is in daily peril.

Since Fascism became the governmental policy of Italy, the railwaymen's Union has been sbujected to all kinds of suppressive measures. The railways are owned by the State, and the old law suppressing strikes, has once more come into force with bayonets to back it up. Workers have been subjected to individual interrogation and registration. All those who dared to challenge their right to exercise an inquisition, or refuse to sign and swear away their rights as union men, were blacklisted. Their homes were afterwards entered by Fascists, and, if they were known to be aggressive, families. This is a common occurrence in Italy. Azzario spoke for organized labor and led a militant faction, which refused to bend the knee to this new terroristic method of union-smashing. He urged a united front against force and violence until he was arrested. His appeal fell upon deaf ears, as far as the reformist leaders are concerned, leaving him and his faction open to attack.

This case should be a vehicle to carry the dastardly methods of Fascism to the American workers, for the daily press lauded the coup de etat of the Italian White Guard as something to be emulated by the bourgeoisie generally, when the workers prepare to strike successfully, or threaten the existing governmental stability.

Every reading person knows the methods used by Mussolini to establish himself in power. They all know his furious hordes, equipped with torch, dagger and gun, entered printing establishments, union halls and even purely trading co-operative societies' premises, and burnt them to the ground in many cases. Pillaging houses and murdering union men who refused to surrender to their malicious threats, was the order of the day. They even reinforced their army from the country districts at the point of the gun.

This is important for the union men of all countries, for if they succeed in Italy in smashing the unions, they can accomplish the same elsewhere. They have reduced the Agricultural Workers Union from 900,000 to 100,000. The Italian General Federation of Labor, from 2,500,000 to a little over 500,000, according to the latest figures. They have forced the Seamen's Union to sign not to strike without appealing to the Mussolini's government.

All this is important. They are organizing the Fascists in America today. This under the direction of Mussolini. The Imperialists and their agents from the United States, make it a point to consult with him personally while on the business and pleasure jaunts in Europe. They are preparing to introduce Fascist terror here on a larger scale than heretofore. It is to become a counter-stroke when Ku Klux Klanism does not avail them longer. Unless we unite to make our unions impregnable and become a formidable Labor movement, with a Communist perspective, we shall witness a savage defeat.

If you are in doubt of this, read what Mussolini says. Quoted in the Chicago Daily News, March 29, under the headline, "Tired of Liberty, Mussolini" this "peace-loving Fascist" speaks: "If any government is deprived of force and left only with its principle, it will be at the mercy of the first group organized and determined to overthrow it." There is no doubt as to what he means, is there?

That the international working class is showing their anxiety over the arrest of Comrade Azzario is shown in the manifesto sent to the Italian railwaymen by the militant railway men of Germany, which is as follows:

"Dear Comrades:

"Revolutionary Railway Men of Italy! A new and brutal attack has been made upon you by the arrest of Comrade Isidorio Azzario!

This blow is not felt by you alone. It is felt by all class-conscious railway and transport workers of Germany. The imprisonment of Azazrio removes a militant resisting with all his might the offensive of capital and the aggravation of misery it brings to the working class.

"By a reduction of wages; a lengthening of the hours, and the introduction of intolerable conditions of work the workers are to be tired out and made incapable of resistance. In order to carry this out, bourgeois society is mobolizing military forces everywhere, who by force, intend to inaugurate a reign of terror. By ill-treatment, imprisonment and death, the Fascists of all countries believe they are able to crush the revolutionary aspirations of the proletariat.

"They are mistaken; our militant spirit cannot be crushed or defeated by the imprisonment of our leaders.

"On the contrary, the imprisonment of Comrade Azzario will reveal to the Italian railwaymen better than anything else their real enemy—the employing class.

"It is with the aid of the railway men of all countries that the bourgeoisie is able to crush the proletarian revolts. They make it yossible by transporting troops and munitions. Will they continue to aid in the butchery of their own fellow workers? He who resists is treated as an enemy. Let us resist collectively!

"Indeed, Comrade Azzario is an enemy of the bourgeois class. This is the cause of his incarceration.

"Hail Azzario-

"We send you greetings, revolutionary railwaymen.

"Fight your struggle with firm determination and a clear mind!

"Your enemy is our enemy!

"Your fight is our fight!

"Long live the class war of the International Revolutionary Railway Men!"

Fraternally yours, for the revolutionary railway men and Transport Workers of Germany,

Signed OTTOMAR GOSCEKH.

WORKERS WILL WIN THROUGH

German Workers Are Being Trained and Disciplined by Ruhr Occupation

[By Louis P. Lochner]
(Federated Press Correspondent)

Dortmund, Germany — Whatever may happen in the Ruhr, it looks very much as though the workers organizations will come out on top.

Everywhere we have talked to workers and to trade union officials—in Dortmund, Bocum, Gelsenkirchen, Gladbeck, Buer, Oberhousen, Essen, Bottrop, Herne and Dellwig—all of them feel that, serious though the situation is, the brighter side to it is the training the workers are receiving for the struggle against capitalism.

Everybody in Germany recognizes that the Ruhr situation depends upon the workers. "Will the workers hold out?" is the question asked on all sides.

To which the workers reply: "Yes, we shall hold out as far as resisting French militarism is concerned. But we cannot be expected to share the bravado attitude of our government, which declares that there can be no negotiations unless the French first withdraw from the Ruhr. Our slogan is rather, 'Negotiate in order that thereby troops may be withdrawn and the reparations issue settled at last'."

The greatest gain will be that of the shop councils. These councils of representatives from the shops and factories are playing a more important part than anyone had anticipated.

In the railway administration, the shop councils have assumed a great measure of authority. The higher officials, trained in old bureaucratic methods, were floored by the situation created in the Ruhr, while the shop councils showed an adaptability and readiness to act which made the government rely upon them in many cases when it could not rely upon the officials. The workers don't propose to give up these prerogatives when the present emergency is over.

Similarly in the mining industry; often when a French commission came to a mine, the mine managers, in their helplessness, called in the shop council. This organization of delegates elected by the shops then takes full responsibility of the entire body of workers, and in most cases is able to persuade the French commission to withdraw the soldiers and leave the workers undisturbed.

The workers realize that the same bosses who now ask their help, will try after the Ruhr adventure is over to cut wages and lengthen hours. But the workers, determined, that this shall not happen, feel that the present situation is a good training school for the future struggle.

In more than one locality I find trade union leaders who feel they are actors in a great historical scene in which their experiment in passive resistance may mark a new mile-stone.

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

FEDERATED LABOR PARTY, 148 Cordova Street West—Business meetings every Wednesday evening. A. MacInnis, chairman; R. H. Morrison, sec.-treas.; Geo. D. Harrison, 1355 Woodland Drive, Vancouver, B. C., corresponding secretary.

Any district in British Columbia desiring information re securing speakers or the formation of local branches, kindly communicate with Provincial Secretary J. Lyle Telford, 524 Birks Bldg., Vancouver, B. C. Telephone Seymour 1352, or Fairmont 4938.

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JOURNEYMEN BARBERS' INTERNATIONAL Union of America—Local 120, Vancouver, B. C., meets second and fourth Tuesdays in each month in Room 313—319 Pender Street West. President, C. E. Herrett, 71 Hastings Street East; secretary, A. R. Peal, 320 Cambie Street. Shop phone, Sey. 9701. Residence phone, Doug. 2171R.

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The Anglo-American Alliance

[By J. T. Walton Newbold]

THE RUHR, and to a lesser degree, the Near East have for some time been absorbing practically the entire attention of all those interested in world politics. Yet, at this very time, there has been taking place an enormously important orientation of forces in an entire different quarter.

When the government of Lloyd George went out of office, it appeared as if the relations of Britain and the United States promised little peace for the near future. Lloyd George may be said to have been the spokesman and agent of the nationalist tendencies in British politics. He was the agent of the *Industrialists*, and as such, he stood for a militant British assertiveness in the councils of the world. The policy for which he and his colleagues spoke was for a survival of the economic phase which had passed some time, prior to his resignation. The new forces, or rather the old forces which had regained economic power as a result of the long-continued trade crisis, were those of the bankers and financiers. They had, gradually succeeded in undermining the economic power and political influence of the industrialists who had raised Lloyd George to the head of the coalition. Lloyd George, had he remained at the head of the government would probably have led Britain into a war with France, either indirectly in the East or directly in the West. He would not have been prepared to make the apparent submission to the United States with the same good grace as the government of Bonar Law and Stanley Baldwin, has done. He was associated in the mind of America with hostile oil interests in Mexico, the West Indies and Mosul. He was similarly committed to interests in the financial world hostile to the domination of Chicago and New York.

Will Not Yield

The government of Bonar Law, while not by any means likely to yield at all points to the United States Conservatives, has already taken a line which is calculated to bring the United States into alliance, though it would be difficult to say whether this policy only commenced with the entry of Bonar Law into the office. It would *seem that for some time previously*, there had been unofficial approaches to America, made through banking and commercial magnates, and which may have had the tacit approval of the more conservative element in the Lloyd George government. During the year 1922, and especially during the latter half of it, the question which assumed the greatest importance for the government was not the Near East, but the question of arriving at a settlement with the United States government on the matter of the debt owed to it. Coming events cast their shadows before and we can take it that the Geddes committee on economy in public services, was appointed with a view to arriving at such a *reduction of government expenditures* as would make possible the payment of interest and sinking fund on the American debt. The recommendations of this committee have by no means been entirely followed out, but the money saved is certainly about equal to that required for the immediate charges on the debt to America. It is not always the more spectacular aspects of state policy which are worthy of our notice. The adventures of Great Britain in the East were nothing like so vital an interest to our governing class as some people imagine. They were in fact rather a last effort of an obsolete phase of imperialism.

Finances the Question

All important as the question of oil is for the British admiralty the question of finances appears even more important in the minds of the government as a whole. While the war had greatly enriched the manufactures, ship-owners and certain other profiteering interests, their position had been undermined during the two years of depreciation by those other and older economic interests whose capital values, relatively depreciated during the war, had rapidly appreciated during the last two years. In this country at any rate, the whole banking fraternity and the mercantile houses in the City of London have recovered the position they occupied in the national economy prior to 1914, but which they lost for a while during the war. They have, a natural predilection for friendly relations with the United States. British investments in South America are somewhere in the neighborhood of £1,000,000,000, and that *these, like holdings in Canada, Mexico* and the West Indies would be endangered by any complications with America. We can understand how strongly their influence works for the achievement of an entente between the two English-speaking peoples. Sentiment may appear to be a link which binds these peoples together, but in reality is it a class bias, an economic community of interest.

Financiers Dominate

Turning now to America, we find that there also, as a result of the terrible depression, the big industrialists have come once more under the domination of those financiers of Wall Street, from whose control they had managed to slip during the war period.

The Wilson administrations from 1913 to 1921 were a visible political expression of an effort at emancipation from Wall Street, vigorously attempted, and for a time successfully carried out by American industrialists. That is to say, with the building up of huge fortunes as a result of the expansion of American industry, to meet the demands of the war-years, American big business became more self-reliant, *more self-assertive and more nationalist* in character, and for a time revolted successfully against the big houses of Wall Street, whose power in American finance was built not so much upon American production as upon the service which they rendered to European capital, seeking to exploit the expanding agriculture, industry and trade of the United States. The greatest achievement of the Wilson administration was undoubtedly the setting up of the Federal Reserve Bank, which sought to give American business men a financial service at home, guaranteed and controlled by the American government. Just before America's entry into the war, the big corporation of business men and financiers connected with the Rockefeller and the Chicago Produce Trade, thought to cultivate an American export and carrying trade and an American economic expansion which expressed *itself sometimes in terms of* decided imperialism. With the entry of America into the war, these interests sought to build up a great mercantile marine, built at the expense of, and constructed by the State and intended to provide American exporters and importers with transport under the American rather than a foreign flag. From 1917 to 1921, numerous corporations were founded and efforts made to foster American trade and influence throughout the American continent and the Far East. Not only that, but efforts were also made to gain a financial footing within the British Empire primarily in Canada, but also in South Africa and India.

In Bankers' Clutches

This was the inevitable corollary of the acquisition by the American capitalists of British holdings in American securities, followed as it was by extensive loans, to the British government and the Allies. It seemed, until last year, that America intended to assert herself as a great world power in active opposition, not only in finance, but in trade and politics, to Great Britain. The same phenomenon of *militant industrialism which expressed* itself through Lloyd George and the coalition government, appeared in America. The failure, however, of the gigantic promotions of the industrialists and the Trust Companies, for the purpose of developing export trade, and the calamitous failure of the American Mercantile Marine, built and promoted by the United States Shipping Board, together with the added inability of Europe to do business with America, have, in America, brought in the same liquidation of bloated industrialism which we have witnessed in this country. The great financial houses of Wall Street, have once more come into their own and resumed their sway in the world of economics. Not only that, but the farmers of the Middle West, unable to sell their produce in any of American or European markets, have also fallen back into the clutches of these same bankers.

Thus, while the Republican Party *came into power in 1921 with a tremendous majority*, to carry into practice this policy of splendid isolation and strident Americanism, the logic of events has compelled President Harding to bring his party into the service of its traditional task-masters and pay masters, the bankers of Wall Street in general and J. P. Morgan in particular.

The house of Morgan has been a concern for the active promotion of Anglo-American friendship and co-operation. During the war it was a buying agent for the British government; it sold immense quantities of securities for the British government which that government had taken over from its subjects; it acted as a *loan agent for all transactions*, the cumulative result of which is now seen in the stupendous debt of the British government to America. In every scene and on every occasion, J. P. Morgan and Company have been the faithful friends and close collaborators of the British governing class.

America and the Ruhr

While Americans have a very considerable influence in Paris and have certainly been behind the electrical industry and behind Loucheur, they are not likely for a single moment to be in sympathy with the policy of the French militarists and petty bourgeoisie which is responsible for the occupation of the Ruhr. They have no more use for French national assertiveness than for the national assertiveness of any other foreign imperialism. In fact, it is doubtful whether Morgan and Company favor imperialism at all. They are essentially the agents of the international bond-holding interests that are a force likely to favor the regime of the League of Nations which, there is reason to believe, has its active though secret aid at every turn. They also, like Bonar Law, *desire tranquility*. Tranquility is, of course, just what merchant bankers and bond holders want.

While it would seem at first sight that the Americans have driven a hard bargain with the British government *in the matter of the funding of the* debt, it is now evident that the British have not done so badly. The Americans have quietly dropped the Shipping Subsidy Bill, which was causing intense anxiety to British shipowners, and which, had it been proceeded with, would without question, have resulted in the bankruptcy of British shipping or, at an early date, war between this country and America.

This abandonment of State guarantee for the American shipping industry means, in effect, the actual abandonment of the attempt to build up a great American mercantile marine, for it is quite realized that without such governmental assistance it is impossible for the United States ship-owners *to hold their own against the more* firmly established and infinitely more experienced British ship-owners. Here again we see the influence of this great house which, while controlling the International Mercantile Company and its great subsidiary lines, the White Star, the Red Star and others, sails them under the Union Jack as British ships.

On top of all this, we have the proposal on the part of the American President, that America, while not entering the League of Nations, shall appoint its judges upon the International Court established in the League.

This coming together of the American and the British financial oligarchy and the harmonious relations being established between the respective executive committees, are phenomena which deserve our most earnest attention. What is coming into existence is an alliance of bondholders, and alliance of creditors, and an alli*ance of international owners of ab*stract property. The American government and the British government will come together as agents of the mortgage-holders of the continent. They both desire and will see that they get tranquility, however drastic the measures of repression which may be necessary. Together, they will guarantee the supremacy of the League of Nations, together they will formulate a code of laws to govern the hopeless millions who, for the next eighty to a hundred years, shall have one duty, and one duty only—to toil ceaselessly to pay off a debt incurred in order to made the world "safe for democracy."

Trades Council Has Lively Meeting

(Continued from page 1)

granting of the lease and stated that it would be impossible for the Parks Board to run an exhibition.

Delegate Herrett also supported Alderman Pettipiece, who he claimed, was supported by the general public.

Slipping It Over

Delegate Thom said it seemed that the other class was trying to slip it over the workers, and that it was a *political game all through*; they come to us when they want something, and why cannot the Parks Board handle the situation and make the money, he asked? He also stated that in the East there was no park or the people, while in the West *End there were ten*nis courts and all kinds of parks.

Delegate Hardy asked the council to see the difference between a private corporation and a civic institution such as the Parks Board. He also pointed out that the council had gone on record as being in favor of public ownership, and asked if the council was now going to reverse its policy?

It was finally decided that the matter be referred to a committee, consisting of Delegates Hardy, Cory and Hunt, to report at the next meeting of the council.

Water Works Scheme

Mayor Tisdall's greater water works scheme was introduced by Secretary *Bengough, who stated that about 30* representatives of Labor had been present at the dinner in the Vancouver Hotel on Monday evening, when the proposal was outlined. The motion was then made to endorse the principle.

Delegate Pettipiece opposed this, stating that he thought there should be some investigation into the proposals. Delegate Rankin also favored this course being taken until such time as the adjacent municipalities were alamgamated with the city, he also stated that it looked like a scheme to provide political jobs for incompetent persons.

Delegate Hardy stated that he had no opposition to offer against men *sitting on public bodies who were* elected, but he did object to political appointments.

The following committee was appointed to investigate the proposals, after the motion to endorse was lost: Delegates Dunn, Rankin and Secretary Bengough.

Level Crossings

Delegate Herrett raised the question of the elimination of the Hastings and Carrall Streets crossing, stating that prior to the war, such a move had been contemplated, and moved that a letter be sent to the City Council urging the elimination of this crossing.

Another delegate suggested that the *B. C. Electric Railway* should not be allowed to use this crossing for the freight trains. The motion to send the letter to the City Council was adopted.

On a recommendation of the executive, the building committee was given power to arrange for a show so that funds could be raised for a Labor building.

Pile Drivers' Strike

The Pile Drivers and Wooden *Bridge Men reported that their mem*bers were on strike, but that some employers had signed up, and asked for the assistance of the carpenters and steam engineers.

The Painters reported trade slack, *but active work being done in organ*izing.

Delegate Pettipiece reported that he had been successful in having a clause inserted in the contracts for the hiring of teams by the City Council that the union rate of wages would be paid.

The Building Trades committee reported progress in the organization of a Federal Labor Union.

After the Union Label committee had reported that the last dance had been a financial success and that a full statement would be rendered as soon as all bills were in, and that a benefit dance would be held for the locked-out cigarmakers on the 4th, it was decided to purchase $15 worth of tickets as a donation to the cigarmakers.

Delegate Herrett, in reporting, pointed out that while the men had been out for over two years, this was the first time that they had appealed for assistance.

L. R. C. Success

The delegates to the Labor Representation Committee reported that the constitution had been adopted at a meeting held on Monday night, and that all locals would be supplied with a copy in the near future. Speaking to the report, Delegate Rankin referred to the work done in electing R. E. Rigby as a member of the South Vancouver School Board, and voiced the opinion that this was a good success for a first effort.

The Musicians announced that they had started a trade paper called "The British Columbia Musician."

On a vote of 18 to 17, which was not a sufficient majority to suspend *the rules, J. G. Smith, a delegate from* the Carpenters Union, Local 452, was not seated, and his credentials returned to the local to have them made out on a proper credential form. During the discussion on this matter, Secretary Page of the Carpenters, pointed out that he had mislaid the credential form and written it on an official letter head.

A good deal of discussion arose out of the motion to return the credential, Delegate Rankin taking the stand that it was not because the credential was not in proper form, but because it was J. G. Smith who was the delegate. He also stated that for twelve years Bro. Smith had been an active worker in the Labor movement in Vancouver, and if he had not been a member of his local for a year, the raising of this point was but camouflage.

A communication was received from the School Board, acknowledging the receipt of a protest from the council *against awarding of a contract for* cadet uniforms to Gault Brothers, was read. The secretary pointed out that the letter, which the council sent making the protest, was sent by special delivery on the day on which the contract was awarded, while the letter acknowledging same was dated two days afterwards. The communication was left in the hands of the president.

Other communications received was one from the British Labor Party assuring the council that they understood the conditions of labor in Canada, and replying to one sent by the council against immigration. The other was one from the Toronto District Labor Council advocating a universal union label, instead of the large *number now in vogue covering differ*ent crafts and workers. This was referred to the Label Committee for report. The council adjourned at 11 p. m.

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WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF PARAGRAPHS

Seattle.—Union miners of District No. 10 are balloting on a new wage agreement covering miners working by the day. District officers are advising the acceptance of a cut of $1.25 from the $8.25 scale. About one-third of the 2000 working members of this district will be affected; the rest are working on a contract basis. Plans are being prepared fon an intensive organization campaign *to line up 1500 workers in non-union* mines if the new scale is adopted.

San Francisco—Paul Scharrenberg, secretary California Federation of Labor, has been dropped by Governor *Richardson from the State immigra*tion and housing committee, of which he has been a member since its foundation in 1914. His removal is attributed to his activity in behalf of Labor legislation and his opposition to the governor's anti-labor and anti-welfare economy budget.

St. Louis—Union furniture movers, drivers and helpers here have secured a wage increase of 10 cents an hour. This returns the men to the scale in effect before a reduction was accepted about a year ago. The new agreement, effective May 1, provides for 60 cents an hour for packers and chauffeurs, and 55 cents an hour for helpers.

San Francisco—At the opening of the salmon season, the Alaska Fishermen's Union will strike all along the coast unless the packers agree to pay *a higher rate per fish. The union is* strong here, and a strike would tie up the whole industry as this is highly skilled labor. The increase demanded is from 7 to 8 cents for each red salmon delivered at Bristol Bay.

New York—"The decision of Secretary of State Hughes to bar Ekaterine Kalinin, wife of the President of the Russian Republic, from this country, was in harmony with American capitalism's attitude toward children," says J. Louis Engdahl. "The nation that boasts a supreme court that has declared an anti-child labor law unconstitutional, cannot be expected to care much for the children of other lands."

Berlin.—Another reactionary coup d'etat is being planned in Germany. The Fascist organizations are standing by, ready to threaten the Cuno government if its shows signs of listening to the *demand throughout* the country for a reasonable solution of the Ruhr problem, which might involve sacrifices for the oligarchy of capitalists who control German industry. As the Ruhr situation develops more and more into a deadlock, the Fascisti organizations become more active.

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"The Sun" Shedding Light

Publishes a Letter by Dr. Curry

THERE is somewhere a verse in the Bible, which is as follows: "If their light is darkness, how great is that darkness."

This text might well be applied to many of the news items, and editorial comments of the daily press in general, regarding the great problems of Labor, which are, in reality the great problems of the human race. But for some reason, the Vancouver Sun occasionally jumps over the traces of its masters, and kicks over holy things such as "Patriotism, Boy Scout movements, and war pictures for our schools." It does this occasionally, through the publication of letters. To prove this, we reproduce the following letter, from which for lack of space, several paragraphs were omitted in the Sun. This included the reference to J. S. Woodsworth's seditious utterances in quoting Isaiah, and also the paragraph containing Bernard Shaw's suggestion, and the one following. However, 30,000 or 40,000 copies of this abridged condemnation of false patriotism circulated throughout this Province in a day, shows what judicious activity might do if this method were enlarged upon: W. J. C.

Are We Preparing for Another War?
A Reply to a School Principal

Editor Sun: Accept my congratulations. You have shown independence, even daring to oppose war pictures and military propaganda for our school children. To some of the guardians of our country, this opposition to militarism is treason to the Empire, and an attempt to substitute the Red flag for British law and order.

We remember that a few years ago a present member of our Federal House was indicted for seditious utterances. One of the counts was that he published certain verses of that old peace-loving democrat Isaiah. This would be humorous if it were not serious. And we also remember that Jesus, the Carpenter, was crucified for sedition and blasphemy by the flag-waving patriots of his day.

As hate begets hate, so the "Great War to End War" is, through the efforts of soem of our leading citizens, preparing the minds and morals of our people for another carnival of blood and destruction, and doubtless through the desires for territory, trade or oil, a plausible pretext will be found, as it was before.

Lloyd George, in speaking of the world war some time ago, declared that the nations staggered or glided into it, and that a meeting of statesmen could have saved the world from that calamity. If the minds of the younger generation are to be fed on national antagonism, fear and ambition to fight and conquer, we may ere long stagger into another cataclysm which our real statesmen believe will destroy civilization itself.

But, if after two thousand years of Christianity, we can be made sufficiently drunk on patriotism to stagger into suicide, then we had better go and permit the heathen to try his hand at ruling humanity.

Bernard Shaw has suggested that this world as it is today, must be the lunatic asylum of the universe. Science affirms that we have been struggling up from the primordial ooze for millions of years. Our pre-human and savage ancestors conquered the great ice ages and innumerable enemies.

Modern man has weighed the atom and the star, and made obedient servants of the gods and devils of the past. He flashes messages around the world swifter than the wings of light. If after all this, he uses his powers over matter and force to destroy the crowning products of creation, then it seems that civilization is only fit for destruction, and that so far man has builded on a false foundation.

A few days ago the principal of a West End school publicly stated that we who are writing against war pictures and militarism for our boys, do so only for notoriety.

Mr. Editor, you are publishing the publishing the greatest story of mankind ever written, and this history tells us that the destruction of ancient empires was not the work of reformers or the slave classes, but of imperialistic profiteers and war lords.

It was not the teachings of the rebel carpenter and His Communist followers which scattered the Jews and destroyed ancient Rome, but rather the blind greed of her rulers and leading citizens. It was the corruption and tyranny of the rulers of Russia which brought revolution and destroyed the empire of the Czar. It was war propaganda in the schools and the swaggering war lords and greedy exploiters which brought low the empire of Germany, while today it is the same war lust and greed which is glutting the beast instinct of vengeance on the prostrate people of Germany and hastening imperial France towards the abyss of ruin.

I would inform our school principal that while he is taking the easy road that this smooth path for individuals as for nations is sometimes the easy grade downward. To climb means a struggle, where we meet opposition on all sides.

The crown of thorns and the cross is frequently the lot of those who help the world upward to progress and light. History proves that sooner or later they who base their faith on the sword of brute force, shall perish by that sword, and it may be that the patriotism of today will prove itself tomorrow to be treason to our country and to our race.

W. J. CURRY,
Dominion Building,
Vancouver, B. C.

LUMBER INTERESTS HAVE POWERFUL COUNCIL

Constitutes Governing Body of Lumber Industry of B. C.

Employers' Attacks Only Can Be Met by Workers Organizing

[By H. M. Bartholomew]

The inevitable tendency of capitalist administration is towards an industrial basis. The powerful Federation of British Industries, with its interlocking directorates and associations throughout the British Empire, is conclusive proof of this contention, for it is subdivided into industrial councils.

In British Columbia, the same tendency is made manifest. According to a recent issue of The Financial Times, lumbering is the greatest single industry in that Province.

"Over 20,000 persons find employment in one or other branches of the timber industry ,about half of them in the woods, and the remainder in the sawmills and other wood-working plants. More than that, at least half of the trade and commerce of British Columbia depends directly or indirectly on the timber industry."

It is interesting, therefore, to know just how the lumber companies are organized. The Timber Industries Council of British Columbia was formed several years ago. It is composed of representatives from each of the original independent associations, one representative fro meach association being a director, the directors forming the executive of the council with a president and managing director. This council, thus composed, has tremendous powers, and constitutes the governing body in the lumber industry of the Province.

There are, in British Columbia, the following bodies representing sections of the lumber industry, and all now affiliated with the powerful council mentioned above:

The B. C. Lumber and Shingle Manufacturers Association, formed by the coast mills in 1900, with Vancouver as its headquarters.

The Mountain Lumber Manufacturers Association, founded in 1904, with headquarters at Nelson.

The B. C. Loggers Association, organized by the coast logging operators in 1907, with headquarters at Vancouver.

The Shingle Association of B. C., formed in 1910, by the shingle manufacturers, first as a selling agency, and later with a much broader basis of organization.

The Timber Holders Association, formed two years ago, comprising in its membership holders of timber under all forms of tenure in the Province.

The B. C. Box Manufacturers have an association on identical lines with the Canadian Manufacturers Association, whilst the northern spruce mills have organized with headquarters at Prince Rupert.

With such powerful affiliations, the council, organize industrially, exerts tremendous power in the lumber industry, and provided us wit hanother argument in favor of industrial unionism for the workers.

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PIERRE PARIS

51 HASTINGS STREET WEST

Loggers: Aristocrats of Labor

(Continued from Page 1)

the place of the skilled men driven out by the blacklist from time to time, appears to be very easily accounted for in spite of the silly absurd excuses offered by those who certainly should know better.

Fresh from one of these camps, with the encrusted mud not yet completely dried on my clothes, I can say the camps described by the writer in the Daily Province are a figment of his imagination in as far as his description applies to logging camps in general on the Pacific Coast, where the conditions are perhaps less intolerable than in the swine pens and dog kennels further East.

The chances of promotion in the logging industry are about on a par with the chances of promotion promised the young husky raw recruit who took part in the late blooody bacchanal of capitalism; that Devil's jest, a war for bourgeois democracy. A war to make a country fit for heroes to live in (not to mention a logging camp. The slaves were enchanted at that time by the prospect that "the humblest private might possibly some day carry the Field Marshal's baton." It was a damned slim chance and the same applies to the business of logging.

To starve a good work horse or mule would be false economy on the part of the driver or owner, and a logger is fed for the very same reason.

Free bedding is as rare as radio concerts, and radio concerts in a logging camp are as rare as ice water in Hell. True to type, the masters first flatter and deceive their dupes in order to more easily enchain them.

The budding young logger has our assurance that cold shower baths are a regular feature of all logging camps on the Coast during the winter months, when he may revel in the delights of a cold shower running in little rivulets down his back, and filling his caulked shoes during eight hours of a wintry day. When water connections are usually frozen, we must leave the hot "bawths" to the phantasy of writers to the Daily Province.

The writer has a vivid recollection of a logger taking his "bawth" some years ago in a Coast camp. The modus operandi was simplicity itself, conveniently and dexterously accomplished by merely removing a plank from the bunk house floor, and doing the spring board dive into the icy waters of the creek which flowed below. "A bally rough-neck stunt, doncherknow."

Whatever improvement has taken place in the logging camps is the result of the organized pressure of the logger, and not to a sudden change of heart on the part of the owners. Moral: ORGANIZE, YOU SLAVES OF THE FOREST.

Help the locked-out Cigarmakers of Vancouver by attending the Benefit Whist Drive and Dance tonight (Friday), at the Alexandra Pavilion. Good prizes for whist, and 15 other prizes. Souvenirs will be given to all.

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LETTERS TO THE FED.

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

Alas! the Poor Printer
The Mystery Grows

Editor B. C. Federationist—Sir: What is the meaning of that appearing above Harrington's name? queries Billsack, snappishly, and the editor solemnly puts the solution up to Russia.

Kindly allow me to object.

I don't know how Billsack sensed it, but what appeared above my name is not what I wrote and, part of the obscurities at any rate can be charged, let us say, to the printer.

The substitution of a litle commonsense for such kiddish capers as dragging Russia into every backyard wrangle would tend to make Russian advocates in this country less farcical. Yours truly,

J. HARRINGTON.

[Note by Editor—The above letter was received on the 24th, and Comrade Harrington was phoned to ask him if he insinuated that the letter he had written had been deliberately changed. He stated that he was under that impression, and had been informed that the writer of the article which he (Harrington) replied to, had boasted that he had made the alteration. He was then asked if he had a copy of the original, and stated that he would send it along and was then told that the proof of the letter in question would be gone over, and the trouble located. Later Comrade Harrington sent a letter stating that he had not a copy; that in the first place two copies were made, but not a carbon copy, and as his original letter had been destroyed, the proof was gone over to see if by any chance anyone had made any alterations in the letter, as first set in type, and there has not been any such thing done. If there is a fault at all on the part of The Federationist, it is a typographical fault, but as the proof was read twice, we can only surmise that the one who copied the letter in the first place either made the mistake or that the writer of the original did not express what he intended to do. But there is no truth in the insinuation that the letter was changed by even the eradication or addition of a single letter.

In connection with this controversy, the Western Clarion comments that J. Kavanagh wrote a letter to The Federationist on the same subject. The letter was received, but has not been published, as the matter contained therein did not confine itself to the matter under discussion, and contained nothing of sufficient importance to warrant its publication.

The Clarion wishes The Federationist to explain why Comrade Harrington's letter was not published. Possibly the above will suffice, and if the editor of the Clarion had consulted Harrington, he might have learned the reason, before he asked his question.]

Paris.—Whatever the result of the Ruhr occupation, it is certain, in the opinion of labor men here, that the French iron-masters and the German coal owners will come to an agreement, in which the French obtain at least a half-interest in a Ruhr-Lorraine steel trust. Such a settlement would merely complete France's present military supremacy by an economic supremacy in Europe.

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Ten Years Needed to Complete Change

(Continued from page 1)

suffered by the death of Liebknecht and Rosa Luxemburg. The growth of the German Fascisti and the Ruhr invasion, is being met by the increasing militancy of the workers, in the Communist and shop stewards movement in Germany. The Social Democrats are opposed to social revolution, claimed the speaker, but when the next revolution takes place in Germany, there will be no handing back of the swords to the junkers to cut off the heads of the workers. When the German revolution does come, the Russian revolution will look like a Sunday school picnic by comparison, because the workers of Germany realize that ruthlessness can only be met with ruthlessness.

Delegates Greeted

The speaker next described the entrance of the delegates to the Communist International Congress, which, he stated, was held on soil that belonged, not only to the Russian worker, but to the international proletariat. A surge of life and cheer went through the delegates as they passed through the streets of Moscow, greeted by the great crowds, and the Red army lining the course of entry. The streets were decorated in honor of the celebration of the fifth anniversary of the Soviet revolution, a revolution which had succeeded against counter-revolution, intrigue, blockade and starvation. There was no doubt in the mind of the speaker that the Russian workers are the greatest heroes in history, and he stated that a man who would gibe at the Russian workers is not fit to be heard by any working class audience.

Gave Their Lives

Continuing, the speaker stated that the Russians had given their lives and blood to establish the most stable government in the world, and now they are on their way to the second, the economic stage of the revolution; they declare they will win the second stage as they did the first, and will go to even greater lengths to save the revolution.

Referring to a visit to Petrograd, he stated that the delegates were met by a mass of Russian workers, and the Red army, and the delegates split up to address hunireds of meetings; to address workers in factories, and that Johnson and Ashley, whom the speaker jocularly referred to as two Chicago bums, had to go to Kronstadt, where arches were erected in their honor.

The Red Square

A scene on the Red Square of Moscow was next described, and the arrival of Trotsky, who was greeted by a salute from the Red army, which made a perfect reverberation of thunderous applause, and paid a tribute to the man who, when he took a step, shook the bourgeoisie of the world. The Red army, said the speaker, is the soul of the Russian revolution. It is different; it is the army of the Red International, and filled with such a spirit that it will not permit the German workers to be crushed by the ruling class.

Referring to this demonstration, the speaker asked if a demonstration in which 800,000 people took part, showed that the workers want to get from under the dictatorship; a demonstration prepared to acclaim their own victory while the European workers were ready at all times to welcome the victory of their masters.

The Congress itself was next dealt with, which the speaker declared was opened in the throne room of the late Czar, and he stated that when the British Labor Party was prepared to open its sessions in Buckingham Palace, then it will be a party of the working class.

British Labor

Referring to the British Labor Party's failures, the speaker pointed out that when in 1913, the ruling class was framing for a world war, the Labor Party framed its policies to support the Lloyd George policies, and that the Gompers party had become the recruiting agents for Wilson and his fourteen myths. He drew a contrast between the Communist International and the Labor Parties, by describing how the first congress had proclaimed that the alternatives facing the Labor movement was either to establish a proletarian dictatorship or to suffer a greater bourgeoise dictatorship.

The Labor movement in general was next dealt with, and the speaker took the position that factionalism in the Labor movement sabotaged it. It was not only necessary to have a wave of unrest but to have a unified leadership, and that if these things did not obtain, then the workers are lead astray by the reactionaries, and that revolutionary crises are lost for lack of organization. What is lacking, said the speaker, is the revolutionary will in the working class movement, and that is why the working class is split, and any splitting away of the militants is opposed by the Red International.

Heal the Breaches

Heal the splits, urged the speaker; let us send our exponents into parliaments, so that when the bourgeoise representatives lie we can expose them. The twenty-one points of the Communist International stick in the gullets of the reformists, and if you find any Socialists who does not conform to the Communist policy, then you can know that they are not revolutionists, said the speaker.

How the policy of the International should be carried out, was then dealt with, and the speaker said that this had been dealt with by the Third Congress, and that it could not be done by study-classes in economics, although that is necessary, but through the militant elements going right into the heart of the working class movement. If it is only for an increase of five cents per day, the militants should be in that struggle. The living experience of the working class, that is the process of education. The fourth Congress found the workers in retreat, and the ruling class on the offensive. In 1917, when the working class was on the offensive, the ruling class backed up and made concessions, but the leadership of the workers was faulty, and the bourgeois won, and the capitalistic offensive today takes the form of open terrorism and Fascism and an open military dictatorship.

The speaker then referred to the struggles of the Nova Scotia and Alberta miners, and the methods employed in those mining areas to break the miners' organizations, and urged greater resistance on the part of all workers.

Urges United Front

The speaker, in words which left no misunderstanding, concluded his address by urging a united front on the American continent. He stated that no revolution could be achieved without the masses, and militant leadership. The removal of splits and the healing of the breaches in the ranks of Labor and an attempt to win the masses to the revolutionary movement not by calling leaders names, but through the participation of the militants in the every day struggle of the workers, and by so doing, tearing the workers away from those sections who are opposed to unity and the struggle against capitalism. The problem in America, is to build up the Labor movement, and to do away with the dual unions; to bring about the united front; to struggle for amalgamation, and by so doing, shaking up the worker and making him think. The speaker then made the statement made by Trotsky, and did so when he referred to those who slightingly referred to Russia's new economic policy, in which trading was legalized, but he stated if you do not like the present policy of Soviet Russia, why not have a revolution the world over and let the Russians deal with the workers instead of the capitalists?

At the close of the address, a collection of $72.50 was taken, and then questions were asked and answered by the speaker, one of which was: "Is it true that Bill Haywood would sooner be in jail in the United States than live in Soviet Russia?" The speaker replied, that "he had met Big Bill nearly every day while in Russia, and that he was still in his right mind." This answer evidently gave the audience the satisfaction which was wanted, if the applause could be taken as any criterion. The meeting closed at 10:30 p.m., half an hour after it should have been closed, which denotes the interest aroused.

Cigarmakers' Benefit Dance

All trade unionists should attend the Cigarmakers' Benefit Whist Drive and Dance tonight (Friday), in the Alexandra Pavilion, corner Hornby and Robson Streets. The Cigarmakers have been locked out for over two years, and the Label Committee of the Trades Council has arranged this function to aid them.

Toronto.—Labor day is not the celebration of an event of national intcrest, according to the judgment of the Ontario supreme court. This was the reason given by the court for refusing to give the city of Ottawa permission to vote $400 for a Labor day celebration. The court made permanent an injunction against such a vote by the city council.

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