INDUSTRIAL UNITY: STRENGTH

THE BRITISH COLUMBIA FEDERATIONIST

OFFICIAL PAPER: VANCOUVER TRADES AND LABOR COUNCIL, AND B.C. FEDERATION OF LABOR

POLITICAL UNITY: VICTORY

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HAWTHORNTHWAITE REPLIED TO IN VICTORIA

E. T. Kingsley Exposed the Weakness of Statements Made

Draws Comparison Between Press at Time of Paris Commune and Now

It was indeed an invigorating and refreshing experience for the large audience which filled the Columbia Theatre on Sunday evening, to listen to the address of Mr. E. T. Kingsley, after what they had undergone the previous Sunday, when J. H. Hawthornthwaite, the modern exponent of the Nicene creed, (whose main foundation is, "I believe") was on the platform. Mr. Kingsley showed in no uncertain manner that he was in thorough touch with his subject, and that heresay stories from venerable old ladies of seventy-five, whose motives are open to doubt, did not have any place in the philosophy of scientific Socialism. The speaker's remarks were greeted with round after round of applause from the audience, which practically packed the theatre.

Mr. R. Donachie was chairman, and read a resolution of the Vancouver Federated Labor Party, condemning the action of J. H. Hawthornthwaite in his anti-Bolsheviki speech of the previous Sunday, and also a challenge from No. 1 local, Socialist Party of Canada, to debate the question of Bolshevism, with the most prominent anti-Bolsheviki in the province and J. H. Hawthornthwaite in particular.

Mr. E. T. Kingsley, in his address, said the grand culmination of centuries of slave civilization had just been realized in a four years war ,the results of which was eleven millions of men slain, double that number maimed and crippled, and none can accurately tell the number who died of disease and starvation, and after all the suffering and misery we, the working class, have nothing to show for the tremendous holocaust; there was nothing in the struggle which involved the freedom of the people. The struggle was entirely between conflicting interests of the master class, and as regards payment of the bill, the only people who could and did pay were the working class, and they pay every day of their lives.

For four years the Kaiser had been the goat. Another gont had now sprung up, and the Kaiser got a rest. The bogey was now discovered in another direction, the Bolsheviki. (Cheers.) Mr. Kingsley drew an interesting analogy between the attitude of the press, in the days of the Paris Commune and their expressions at the present time regarding the Bolsheviki. After the Communards had established themselves in Paris, all the capitalist press of the world raised one long, unending howl of despair, and the working class of Paris were pictured as unkempt, bloodthirsty ruffians, running around cutting throats just for fun. The women were bedraggled, wild eyed, debauched specimens of humanity, running about with cans of kerosene setting fire to the sacred bourgeois treasures of art and science, and the cry went up from the capitalist class of the world, "If these terrorists win out in France, it will be our turn next!"

It was only years afterwards that the horrible truth was, revealed by the archives and the writings of men who had been there. Elihu Washburn stated that Paris was never so safe as during the two months when the Communards were in power, that they did not destroy a building or cut a throat; that they never laid a finger on the archives or records, in fact it was all one gigantic tissue of lies. But when the truth leaked out years after, what was the horrible tale? Fifty thousand men, women and even children butchered in the streets of Paris to gratify the cowardly bloodthirsty, all blinding desire for murderous revenge of the capitalist class of France, when the French bourgeoisie (ready to join hands with their erstwhile enemies, the Prussians) slaughtered in cold blood those humble members of the working class after they had thrown up their hands in surrender.

We of the working class should not worry about the doings of the Bolshe-

(Continued from page 1)

A Special Meeting

—OF THE—

Vancouver Trades and Labor Council

—WILL BE HELD IN—

LABOR TEMPLE

Saturday Evening at 8 o'Clock

W. W. LEFEAUX ON IMPERIALISM

Introduction of Machinery Saw Commencement of Imperialistic Idea

Sunday evening's propaganda meeting of the Socialist Party of Canada, held in the Royal Theatre, was addressed by W. W. Lefeaux, his subject being "Imperialism in General, and British Imperialism in Particular."

He dealt particularly with British imperialism, not because it was in any essential characteristic different, or in its manifestations better, or worse, than the imperialism of any other great modern power, but because he and the majority of his audience, being of British stock, were better acquainted with the history of that empire.

The beginning of modern imperialism could be traced to the introduction of machine production. With its development an ever-increasing stream of surplus values, over and above the cost of keeping the wage-working class, flowed into the possesion of the capitalist class. An ever greater volume of these values was found impossible to reinvest in the home country, consequently, foreign fields became more and more a necessity and the competition of other nations, having the same necessity, forced on the struggle for the exclusive control of territories.

The speaker in his survey of imperialistic developments gave abundant and well authenticated historical examples of the subjugation of peoples, not for their own good, as for the example of the opium war with Shina, and the subsequent levy upon her resources, but to serve the interests of the ruling classes of the conquering nation.

In explaining the world-wide working-class protest against intervention in Russia, which had so staggered the bourgeois world, he said it sprang from the working class knowledge of conditions in their own countries. This knowledge made them sympathetic with the Bolsheviki who, in spite of the press lies and slander, they realized had set out courageously to abolish the anarchy of capitalism in Russia, and establish in its place ordered management and control of production and distribution to the end that the well-being of the people may be advanced instead of the profit of the capitalist class.

Soft Drink Dispensers

The Soft Drink Dispensers, Local 676, regret to announce their dance had to be postponed owing to the "flu" ban. A wire was sent to the Attorney-General for permission to carry on owing to heavy expenses incurred and arrangements completed, but no reply was received. Ticket holders are advised to take care of their tickets and watch the papers for announcements as soon as the ban is lifted.

Members are notified that the next regular meeting will be held on Sunday, February 2, at 2.30 p.m. A good attendance is expected, as the question of affiliation with the B. C. Federation of Labor and sending delegates to the convention to be held in Calgary in March will be up for discussion.

MRS. KAVANAGH IS VICTIM OF THE FLU

Wife of Vice-President of Trades Council Is Laid to Rest

The members of organized labor and other members of the working class throughout the province will learn with regret, that Mrs. Kavanagh, wife of Jack Kavanagh, vice president of the Vancouver Trades and Labor Council, passed away on Monday last, a victim of the "flu." The funeral was held on Wednesday morning from the Hamilton Undertaking parlors. The Vancouver Trades and Labor Council was represented by President Winch. Many members of the Socialist party, and members of the working class organizations in the city attended the funeral. Jack Harrington was the speaker, and the funeral was a Socialist one, and there were no flowers by request. There were at least one hundred and fifty members of the working class at the last sad rites.

J. Harrington, in delivering the funeral address, stated that the loss was to those surviving, and that death was no catastrophe to members of the working class, as their conditions of life, were not such as to make life highly prized. Continuing, he said that the deceased had been active in the Socialist movement since she was fourteen years of age, and that it did seem unfortunate that our young comrade should have met her end, just as world-wide conditions appeared in the final stage of capitalistic anarchy, and the two classes were lined up for the final struggle. An infant daughter, as well as husband, are left to mourn their loss.

Civic Employees

At the last meeting of the Civic Employees Union, the following officers were installed: President, Bro. White; vice-presidents, Bro. Battensby, Myers and Cochrane; recording secretary, Bro. Minter; financial secretary, G. Harrison; business agent, G. McFarlane; trustees, Bros. Owen, Copes and Oliver; conductor, Bro. Dickson; warden, Bro. Goodwin.

At the next regular meeting, Mr. Geo. Hardy will give an address on industrial and economic questions. It is intended that speakers provided by the Trades and Labor Council will appear to give an address on questions of the day each month.

Circulation Going Up

This week 17,000 copies of the Federationist were printed. By March 1 it is expected the circulation will reach 20,000, and with the new press our capacity will be unlimited.

BEFORE AND AFTER

J. HARRINGTON AT THE COLUMBIA

W. A. Pritchard Will Be the Speaker at the Royal on Sunday

It has been one of the platitudes of bourgeois writers and speakers, that in a knowledge of the past is to be found the word of prophesy as to the future.

But if you would get that knowledge of the past, and get it in the form that is of use, because of the light it throws upon the present, and of practical interest because it explains the present, and shows how "in it are spontaneously developed and are ripening the condition of the future," if you would get this knowledge in this form, you will need to go outside the writings and speeches of these self-appointed mentors of the people.

The speakers of the Socialist Party of Canada analyze world events from the Marxian viewpoint.

Next Sunday, J. Harrington will speak at the Columbia. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. Chair taken at 8 p.m. sharp. Questions and discussion after the speaker's address.

VICTORIA CARPENTERS HOLD A SPECIAL MEETING

Much Business Transacted and New Rules Are Voted Upon

Local 2651, A.S.U.B. Carpenters, Victoria, held its regular meeting last Thursday evening. There was a good attendance, as it was a specially summoned meeting to vote on the amendments to the rules, and the subscribing in a body to the Tribune. This proposal was adopted by a large majority, 89 for and 12 against. Fifteen new members were admitted, and seventeen clearances accepted. Bro. E. W. Ellis was elected as a delegate to the Trades and Labor Council and Bros. Barry and Laundry were elected to represent the local on the press committee of the Tribune.

LAUNDRY WORKERS APPRECIATE ASSISTANCE

The Need for Funds Will Exist Until All Members Are Again Employed

The following further sums have been received by the Laundry Workers Union in response to the circular letter sent out to every union on behalf of the members unable to secure employment since the strike:

Already acknowledged	$250.00
I. B. S. S. & Dredgemen	20.00
U. B. Carpenters of America, No. 1621 (Caulkers)	60.00
Total	$330.00

The need for funds is still urgent, as quite a number of girls have so far been unable to secure employment.

The girls warmly appreciate the assistance they have received, and as the number needing assistance is growing less each week, it is hoped that the fund will receive such support as will enable them to be paid until all have obtained work.

MILL AND FACTORY WORKERS ORGANIZE

Further Efforts Made to Organize the Lumber workers at Royal City

Last Friday evening at the Labor Temple, New Westminster, a meeting for the purpose of organizing the mill and factory workers was held. There was a fair attendance, and over twenty men signified their intention to join the organization. The speakers were R. Groves, J. W. Wilkinson of the Shipwrights, and T. A. Barnard of the Shipyard laborers. J. A. Johnson, president of the shipwrights, presided at the meeting.

Federation of Western Postal Employees

The local branch are holding their first social evening since amalgamation, on Monday, February 3rd, at 8 p.m., in the Auditorium, 339 Pender street west. It was planned to take the form of a concert and dance, but, owing to the "flu" ban on dancing ,a military whist drive and concert will be substituted. All Postal Employees and their friends are cordially invited. Tickets 50 cents each. Refreshments provided.

NEW OFFICERS OF CENTRAL BODY

Proportional Representation System Followed Out in Election

The election for the executive board members of the Trades and Labor Council was carried out as at the last election, on the proportional representation system, the following being elected in the order named:

W. A. Pritchard, W. H. Cottrell, G. Hardy, Miss Helena Gutteridge.

For sergeant-at-arms, W. A. Alexander was elected on the first count, he having a majority of the ballots cast. The defeated candidates for executive board were: A. Crawford, J. Hubble, R. Hunt, Birt Showler, R. Sinclair, W. Youhill and A. C. Woods. The defeated candidates for sergeant-at-arms are J. Harrison and Frank Poole.

The new executive as now constituted is as follows: President, E. Winch; vice-president, J. Kavanagh; secretary and business agent, V. R. Midgley; secretary-treasurer, F. Knowles; W. Pritchard, W. H. Cottrell, G. Hardy, Miss Gutteridge and W. A. Alexander.

FATAL ACCIDENT AT COUGHLAN'S SHIPYARD

Impossible to Secure Names of Deceased and Those Injured

Late yesterday afternoon an accident occurred at Coughlan's shipyard, one man being killed and three others injured. From information supplied by one of the men in the yard, it appears that a boom fell with fatal results to one of the men and injuries to three others. Late last night Coughlan's informed a Fed. representative that they could not give the names of the men, as the day shift had gone home and the first aid men that could supply the informtaion were not there.

The City Hall Employees' Union is the latest organization to subscribe in a body to the Fed.

Calls for B. C. Federation of Labor Convention and Western Conference Issued

THE CALLS for the British Columbia Federation of Labor Convention, and the Western Labor Conference, have been sent out this week. The convention will convene on Monday, March 10, at 10 a.m., in the Labor Temple, Calgary. The Western Conference will convene on Thursday morning at 10 o'clock in the same city and hall. Every local union that is not at this time affiliated with the B. C. Federation of Labor should affiliated at once, and send their quota of delegates. The sending of delegates to the Western Conference does not entail the affiliation of the locals with the Federation, but by being affiliated they can be represented at both gatherings for very little additional cost. The unparalleled conditions that face the workers of this and every other land make these conventions the most important gatherings that have ever been held in the country. Events have moved so fast since the last convention of the Trades Congress that even if there were no other reasons, the Western Conference has now become a necessity. Labor must have some definite programme. How can that programme be defined? It can only be clearly laid down by such a gathering as this Western Conference. The provincial matters can only be dealt with at a provincial gathering. It may entail a little financial obligation to be represented at these gatherings, but that is a small item when the interests of the workers are concerned. The future is fraught with promise for those that toil, but on the intelligent discussion of the many problems that face the workers will depend the amount of suffering that must be borne by them before the conditions under which they live are changed.

E. T. KINGSLEY AT THE BROADWAY

Also Curry, Woodsworth, Wells and Barnard Busy on Sunday

Dr. Curry will speak at the Rex on "The Road to Peace and Plenty." Owing to the constant crowding of the Rex Theatre far ahead of starting time it has been decided to begin the meeting with organ recitals at 7 o'clock and speaker at 7:30 on Sunday next. It is also being urged that as there are quite a number of the members of the Labor party residing nearer the Broadway than the Rex, that these members would materially assist the carrying on of meetings by attending the Broadway and making just so much more room for the people whom it is impossible to accommodate down town. This will work no hardship as the same speakers will be heard, and generally the programme is similar. The Broadway theatre is a comfortable, modern building, seating 30 more people than the Rex, which demonstrates the accommodation provided. The chair at the Rex will be occupied by an old-timer, Mr. Joceph Johnston, and at the Broadway by Mr. Welsh Lee.

The North Vancouver meeting last Sunday was a pronounced success from the start. Dr. Curry was in good form and the results in both literature distribution and membership were good. W. R. Trotter occupied the chair. Next Sunday Mr. Woodsworth will speak in the K. of P. Hall at 3 p. m. on "What We Want," and the chair will be occupied by Miss H. Gutteridge.

Owing to the somewhat spasmodical nature of meetings in New Westminster hitherto it has been difficult to foretell how any meeting might work out. This is going to be mended by the holding of meetings every Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock in the Royal Theatre on Columbia Street. Woodsworth addressed the meeting last Sunday and A. S. Wells will speak on Sunday next.

Last Sunday's Victoria meeting was addressed by E. T. Kingsley and T. A. Barnard will travel to the Capital city for this purpose on Sunday next.

On Friday, February 7, an organization meeting will be held in Broadview school, Burnaby, at which Mr. Woodsworth and W. R. Trotter will speak. This is on the Burnaby Lake line, getting off at Crown Avenue station.

The school continues to be well attended at 641 Granville street at 2:30 on Sunday afternoons. Choir practices are to be started at same address following the school, beginning Sunday next.

General Teamsters and Truck Drivers' Sick Benefit Association

The first annual meeting of the above association was held in the Labor Temple on Wednesday evening, a good attendance of members turning out. The report of the secretary showed considerable progress had been made since the 1st of January, and all members of Local 655 are urged to join up right away. The election of officers resulted in H. C. Mills being elected president, and A. A. McKay vice-president. All information as to benefits, etc., can be obtained at the office, 587 Homer street.

SOLDIERS WAIT FOR SCHEDULE

Returned Men Are Compelled to Wait for Civic "Dignitaries"

One of the most muddled up fiascoes that has ever been perpetrated on the working class of Victoria was pulled off at the outer wharf on Friday noon, January 24, the occasion being the arrival of the transport Asia, with troops from England via the Panama Canal. The preparations for the reception of the men, (some 240 of whom disembarked here), have been going on for a month past, and despite this, no one seemed to know who was coming on the boat, so that friends and relations of men overseas could only surmise as to the identity of those aboard. The writer, with other workers at Ogden Point, watched the liner arrive at 10:30 a. m. and slowly draw towards the pier. Her decks were crowded with men in khaki, and hundreds of expectant people hurrying to the wharf, when for some reason or other, she slowly backed away again, and anchored in the Royal Roads four miles off. There was yells of disgust from the soldiers aboard, and no wonder. After a long voyage, cooped up in a dirty troopship, to be brought within a cable's length of the landing stage, and then go out again, was most exasperating. The liner lay off until 3:30 p. m., and then came in.

An elaborate spread was laid out in the dock shed, where the civic dignitaries were also assembled with their usual inflections of hot air and gas—and those men for island points were taken off while the men for the mainland were kept aboard. These boys got restive, and getting a gangway rigged aft, they proceeded to clamber over the side, and share in the grub provided by the bourgeoisie of Victoria. The officers made an attempt to stop them, but were unable, and a guard of marines, with fixer bayonets, were also powerless to stem the rush.

Several officers who left the boat at Victoria were soundly booked as they went down the gangway.

The Victoria Daily Times, in an editorial, asks: "Who were the muddlers?" The answer is easy. The soldiers could wait; they had waited often before; their wives and children could wait. They too have long waited. But oh, dear no, it would never do for the master class to shift their schedule. It would never do for them to lose an opportunity to pose and show their importance in the eyes of the workers; and no matter how much the longing of these war-worn men for home, families and friends, the hypocritical sycophants of the Victoria bourgeoisie had to be satisfied FIRST.

LOGGERS AND CAMP WORKERS ELECT OFFICERS

A Thousand Members a Month Is the Slogan Adopted

Chairman of Compensation Board Addressed the Last Meeting

The loggers are now getting into their stride. They have leased permanent headquarters at 61 Cordova street west, which is being altered and decorated to suit their requirements. Owing to the unusual character of the organization, (the members being scattered throughout the province the bulk of the year and only occasionally coming to town). They are asking the Trades and Labor Council to authorize its officers to function as countersigners of cheques, and, should the office of secretary-treasurer become vacant through some unexpected cause, the executive of the council is asked to make a temporary appointment until the Loggers' executive or general membership can themselves act.

The books are to be audited by chartered accountants ,and a quarterly financial statement published in The Federationist. The official receipt system instead of dues stamps is being used, and a card index system of bookkeeping as the anticipated size of the organization makes any other system unwieldy. "A thousand a month" is the slogan of the union, and the indications are that the big industrial union of the Logging and Construction Camp Workers will be one of the big factors in the Labor world.

At the meeting in the Labor Temple on Sunday last, Mr. Winn, chairman of the Workmen's Compensation Board, spoke upon the operations of the act, welcomed and accepted many proposals put forward by the men for the further extension of its provisions in the interests of the workers. It was pointed out that 81 fatal accidents occurred in the lumber industry last year. Next Sunday afternoon's meeting in the Labor Temple, Jack Kavanagh will speak on "the organization of Labor, its aims and objects."

E. Winch, president of the Trades and Labor Council, has been elected secretary. Brothers H. Allman, T. Cosford, H. Grace, J. W. Green, A. Lamont, E. Lindberg, Hector Macdonald, A. McKenzie, Smith as executive committee, and Brothers Allman, Cosford, Grace, Higgins, Lindberg, Mace, Winch, delegates to the Trades and Labor Council.

Hotel and Restaurant Employees

Hotel and Restaurant Employees will hold their next regular meeting Wednesday afternoon, Feb. 5th. The local had all arrangements made for their dance on the same evening, but the order in council now in effect has cancelled the arrangements ,and means considerable expense to the union. It may be pointed out that the dances the local has held periodically were the means of relieving many deserving cases in the way of sick benefit, especially during the last few months, although the local's membership is very satisfactory, the small amount of monthly dues paid does not cover the expenses incurred in death and sick benefits. We wish to advise the members through The Federationist, to attend the next meeting, as matters of importance will have to be dealt with, among these is the sending of delegates to the convention in Calgary in March. The following restaurants are on the unfair list: McIntyre's Cafe, McLeod's Cafe, Post Office Cafe, Leonard's Cafe. Members of organized labor, please take notice.

General Teamsters and Truck Drivers

Members are reminded that there will be no meeting until February 12. All members are asked to phone Seymour 4117 on Sunday afternoon. Members should get copies of the "Soviets at Work," which has just been issued by the Trades and Labor Council, and can be obtained in the office at five cents per copy. This will give them a true report on the programme of the Russian workers' government.

In the event of the "flu" ban being lifted the dance will be held as advertised. However, if the ban is not lifted before that date, announcement will be made in due course when it will be held.

LABOR TEMPLE MEETINGS FOR COMING WEEK

SUNDAY, Feb. 2—Loggers, Moving Picture Operators, Soft Drink Dispensers.

MONDAY, Feb. 3—Machinists No. 720, Telephone Operators, Boilermakers, Steam Engineers, Electrical Workers, Tailors, Policemen.

TUESDAY, Feb. 4—District Council of Carpenters, Office Workers, Boot and Shoe Workers, Brewery Workers, Butchers and Meat Cutters, Cigarmakers, Molders' Executive.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 5—C. P. R. Storemen, Tile Layers, Metal Trades Council, City Firemen (9 a.m. and 8 p.m.), Dominion Express Employees, Boilermakers' Examining Board, Hotel and Restaurant Employees, Plasterers.

THURSDAY, Feb. 6—Trades and Labor Council, Painters, Garment Workers, Foundry Workers, Machinists Ladies' Auxiliary.

FRIDAY, Feb. 7—Bro. Railway Carmen, Piledrivers and Wooden Bridgemen, Boilermakers' Executive, Civic Employees, Warehousemen, Molders, City Hall Employees, Minimum Wage League.

$25, $28, $30 and $35

—ODD—

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$27,000 Verdict Stands

White Plains, N. Y.—An award of $15,000 damages to the son and $12,000 to the widow of a man killed by a railroad is not excessive, according to a decision by Supreme Court Justice Seeger. The verdict is against the New York Central Railroad. The son was born after the death of his father.

Vancouver Drug Co.

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Six Stores—located in every section of Vancouver

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35c Freezone	25c
50c Reid's Kidney Pills	25c
25c Baby's Own Tablets	19c
50c Chase's Nerve Food	37c
25c Reid's Headache Wafers	18c
$1.00 Kellogg's Asthma Cure	67c
25c Frostilla	19c
35c Polusterine	25c
50c Diapepsin	33c
25c Reid's Arnica Salve	17c
50c Mennen's Shaving Cream	31c
60c Palm Olive Vanishing Cream	42c
$1.00 Liquid Petrolatum	50c
25c Aspirin Tablets (5-gr.)	13c
50c Brook's Barley	33c
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50c Reid's Eczema Ointment	23c
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Finest local lamb, shoulder, per pound	25½c
Legs, local lamb, lb	37½c
Loins, local lamb, lb	37½c
Stew, local lamb, lb	25c
Boiling Beef, per lb	18c
Pot Roast, per lb up	20c

PORK SPECIAL

Finest Pork shoulders, ribs, 35c lb; Saturday only 28½c
Leg of Pork, per lb 38½c

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

PROVISION DEPARTMENT

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

EGGS—EGGS—EGGS

Alberta Cooking Eggs, dozen	65c
Alberta Fresh Eggs, dozen	75c

BUTTER—BUTTER—BUTTER

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

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WE DELIVER ALL OVER THE CITY AND SUBURBS

The Defeat of Imagination

It is now two years since M. Georges Duhamel wrote in Vie des Martyrs, words of an import and implication so terrible that they have been like a poison in our blood, a haunting refrain to desolate the mind. "L'etre Humain," he wrote, "Souttre toujours solitarirement dans sa chair, et c'est pourquoi la guerre est possible." It was not a discovery or a revelation. We had always know that it was so. The force of the words lay in their power to throw a calm, cold light upon a thing of whose presence we knew, yet dared not look upon. In the flooding ray of this acknowledgment, our indignation and our protest withered. Till then we had, by God knows what tortuous process of intellectual self-preservation, half-convinced ourselves that the answer to the incessant question, Is it possible? No, it is not possible. We are caught in the toils of some grotesque and giant mistake, we said. Someone will suddenly let drop a word, and it will be revealed. We shall fall upon the necks of our brother men, and laugh and cry over the nightmare folly that is lifted from us. A man will climb to the pinnacle of the Nelson monument and cry to the world some simple sentence: "My little children." We shall not wait for the end of the words we know. He will have told us that we are little children; lost in a dark forest. It is that we have forgotten.

There was fever in the dream. For one man one cooling drug, for another, another. For us it was the calm, cold light of M. Dumael's words. The possibility which we had denied stood before us in the frozen, intolerable rigidity of a law. Against it we might dash our minds, but they would break. The law of the solitariness of human suffering would remain. A man cannot suffer his neighbor's physical pain. If he could, there would be no war. Thus the problem was posed. It was a problem so urgent and all-devouring that we began to dream again and to ask why were not all the minds of the wicked world implacably at work to discover the means by which one man may suffer with another. But all the minds of the world were engaged in discovering the means by which one man may inflict a yet greater infinity of suffering upon another, and himself be unwrung by the pain.

The men of old knew the problem. The Greeks, who first taught the world the potency of the idea, solved it with a word. As though creating a new law, they framed the word "symathein." But the magic of the idea has departed from it. The world has since learnt that the word does not make the reality. It is no longer a challenge of power thrown out over chaos. With the word the thing had been willed, but the matter was reluctant. Sympathy became in modern speech a mere shadow, all but a parody, of its brave intention. It is worn smooth by facile use; a coin, no longer a creation, a relic of the days when the mind had been all-daring, and had clamored for entrance at every gate of the sluggish soul. The mind had said; One man shall suffer with another. He shall suffer his brother's pain.

But the fiat of the mind is fact only in the kingdom where the mind is sovereign. It is a small kingdom. The community of minds created "sympathy" was only a fraction of humanity. Only a fraction of humanity kept that coinage bright and new. The rest were as savages who have caught the language of their masters and make use of it in pidgin spells and incantations to their diivinities. For "sympathy," like all true words, was not a conquest made by the mind for once and all, thereafter never to be challenged or assailed. It was a space of light won from the unconquered darkness. Each generation which would set foot in it had to defend it, and to be aware that it was precarious and impossible to maintain. It had to will the impossible over and over again.

It had to draw the soul out of the body, like a sword out of its sheath, to cut through the net of human limitations. The mind must be dashed against the inevitable law, careless of death.

Sympathy was the challenge of the mind to the universe. By the sword humanity denied the solitariness of human pain. It claimed proudly that it possessed a spirit that could dominate all material limitation, leap over the physical abyss which divides one man from another, and inhabit its brother's body and soul at will. By virtue of this spirit man could triumph over time and space; he could rise on its wings and poise calmly high above necessity itself. He could summon up the dead and hold converse with the future. The spirit was imagination. Man pitted imagination against necessity.

This was, at least, the faith. It was a true faith for those who believed in it. But they had a singular capacity for belief. They persuaded themselves that "man" was all men, whereas "man" was only themselves. They pitted imagination against necessity; all men did not. They strained their minds in the effort to suffer their brother's pain; but they were few. For themselves they made war impossible, but not for the world. In the grim light of the event, they see that a chasm now divides them from the world. Necessity has stolen a four years' march upon them. Such a wall has been built between them and the world knit together by such a cement of blood and iron that it is become incalculable. It grew up so slowly that they barely say it before it was too late to cast it down. Before the war, they were of one body with mankind; they were one with mankind because they believed they were one. Imagination in those days had easy victories. At the beginning of the war they were still one; they could believe—they were not told it? That this one last fight was necessary in order that a victory should be won for imagination in the minds of the people of a nation in which it had been supplanted by calculation. Those servants of the material exploiters of necessity, must be shown that imagination was sovereign; might was not right.

In its origin and essence the war was a struggle of imagination against the sluggish soul. Neither the origin nor the essence was pure. If the imagination had been freed on its side from the dross of sluggishness, it would have known that victory could not be bought at such a price of pain. Its will to action would have been paralyzed by knowledge. More rightly, the struggle lay between a little imagination and none. Spiritually, the struggle was ended when the people of no imagination had received so much experience of pain as would supply its place. The moment soon came when on both sides there had been amassed a sufficient consciousness of the grotesque, impossible quagmire into which humanity had been led, to safeguard the world for generations. The mass of consciousness had accumulated, but the treasure was incommunicable. It lay in the soldier's keeping; and the decision lay elsewhere. Where the decision lay, there was no imagination. The soul was sluggish as it had always been. The war, that was a struggle of the imagination, became an orgy of necessity.

So the wall grew between the men of imagination and mankind. On the one side, imagination was purified and completed by experience; on the other, an incapacity for imagination hardened into a deliberate refusal to imagine. Imagination was proscribed. It weakened the power of the fighting machine; it made units of men again. The attempt to break down the barrier of the solitariness of human suffering became high treason. Worse than this, it was branded as madness. And it was madness. Suddenly it became plain that madness is a matter of majorities. Because ten million men band together to deny that another million men are in pain, it is madness to declare their sufferings to the world.

Thus imagination was not merely rejected. It was put in a madhouse. The one power which could make war impossible, was banished from society. In every warring nation there appeared a division far more profound than any which lay between itself and the enemy. This condition was openly confessed. For all his madness, the advocate of peace at home was regarded as a being far more hateful than his enemy, while in the eyes of the advocate of peace, the advocate of peace among the enemy stood nearer to him than the advocate of war at home. But these spiritual affinities brought no relief. The imaginative minority remained a minority, even though there were moments when its numbers were apparently swelled. For if the numbers increased on one side, they diminished on the other. The temporary reinforcement was composed of treacherous elements whose ardor for war abated when the prospects of victory appeared dim or remote, and it was counter-balanced on the other side by the falling away of those to whom the expectation of triumph seemed near. The imaginative minority had been constituted finally at the end of about a year of war. It gained no adherents afterwards.

The minority had three full years to realize the truth they had learned, and painfully to reconstruct their world on other foundations. Imagination could no longer be one of them. Imagination was a reed; if humanity leant upon it, it broke under the weight of the majority. It was no use to hold that mankind woul inevitably rally to imagination in the long run. The war had shown that a catastrophe, against which imagination was the only defense, might be consummated long before imagination had prevailed among men. Their problem was to orientate themselves in a new world. It was not really a new world; it was the old one for the first time clearly seen. But it was a new world for them, a world not without imagination, but one in which imagination had no supremacy, and dared not claim; a world in which the lines of cleavage were entirely different from what they had seemed to be; a world which at the first sight seemed could and alien and hostile, yet afterwards appeared to have at least the attraction that discoveries might be made in it and new lessons learned.—The Nation.

VANCOUVER IRISH NATIONALISTS MEET

Irishmen Discuss the Labor and Bolsheviki Movements at Their Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the Vancouver Irish National Association was held in St. Mary's Hall on the 22nd inst., Mr. D. J. McCarthy in the chair. The following officer bearers were elected for the coming year: D. J. McCarthy, president; Mr. McFadden, vice-president; A. Urquhart, secretary-treasurer; committee, P. J. Molyneux, T. P. Cullen, Miss McCann and Miss Scanlon; sergeants-at-arms, James Doyle and H. S. Flood. The duty of extending unstinted support to the progressive movement of the Irish people at home for democratic self-government was fully acknowledged by the meeting, and the adoption of the name "Sein-Fein" was considered and discussed. But it was decided to continue the work of the association under the present name meantime.

The larger question of Labor and Bolshevism in their relation to the nationalism of the Irish people was also brought up in the discussion, but no definition of attitude was recorded. There is no question, however, but Irish nationalism will merge into the larger democratic movement when their lines meet.

Wage Decrease Stopped

St. Louis, Mo.—Organized stove mounters have checked an attempt to decrease wages 8 per cent. in this city.

RECONSTRUCTION FROM PEOPLE'S STANDPOINT

An Economic Commission Has Been Sent to Siberia

Capitalist Fountain Cannot Bring Forth Sweets for Workers

[By J. S. Woodsworth]

Article V.

The Canadian manufacturer has put forth a reconstruction programme; the Canadian farmer another that is widely different. Later, various groups of men, who claim to be disinterested, public-minded citizens, have added their contribution.

The Canadian Problems Club, originating with a Winnipeg group, have offered various suggestions, the most important being a plan somewhat along New Zealand lines for forcing unoccupied lands into use.

The Canadian national reconstruction groups, promoted by a Montreal committee, has issued a pamphlet outlining the problems of national reconstruction and from time to time supply to the membership of the groups bulletins containing recommendations made by individuals or groups.

The pamphlet starts out boldly—"Reconstruction pre-supposes destruction. What is being destroyed throughout the world? The old relationships between the classes; the old ideas of security and fixity of tenure, privileges, occupation and customs; the old system of 'laissez-faire' and individualism."

"What are the main expectations and problems of the period after the war? Students agree that the change of centre will be in the industrial world. . .

In the chapter on "The Employer," it is suggested that "for the time being, and in several directions it (capital) enjoys greater security than before as a consequence of its co-operation with the state. Capital occupies a better strategic position so far as concerns past war negotiations than labor. . . .

"In order to work for its future security, it must co-operate with labor or labor will work for its complete over throw. If it refuses to adopt this attitude there will be an industrial Armageddon."

It would seem that the promoters of the reconstruction group were aware of the seriousness of the situation and disposed to radical changes. Yet later, in the discussion of the state in relation to industry we find the self-same old "laissez faire" doctrine: "The state should interfere with industry only (a) where public rights are invaded by an industry or a section thereof, (b) to improve generally the efficiency of any particular industry." Further in the chapter, on taxation and finance, we are warned that "taxes on capital should be very carefully imposed as they tend to check its growth, and to accelerate its immigration."

After the brave setting forth, alas, what an ignominious ending!

The pamphlet may stimulate discussion. The Bibliography is of value. But we fear that the discussion will be largely academic in character. Concrete proposals do not contemplate the reconstruction of society.

One public body has—at least, on paper—advocated complete social reconstruction.

The general conference of the Methodist church, a few months ago declared: "That the present economic system is reverted to as one of the roots of the war. The insane pride of Germany, her passion for world domination, found an occasion in the demand for colonies as markets and sources of raw materials. The war has made more clearly manifest the moral perils inherent in the agitation of production for profits. The whole system calls for a change. . . demand nothing else than a transference of the whole economic life from a basis of competition and profit to one of co-operation and service."

How far the church is prepared to implement this declaration, remains to be seen. Certainly its confidence in the leadership of those now in authority does not appeal to the workers.

"We look to the government to enlist in the service of the nation those great leaders and corporations which have shown magnificent capacity in the organization of life and resources for the profit of shareholders."

Prominent Methodists like Sir J. W. Flavelle of the Wm. Davies Company, Mr. S. R. Parsons, president of the Manufacturers Association, Mr. Chester Massey, of the Massey Harris firm, or Hon. J. Wesley Rowell, corporation lawyer, may be willing to lead in a movement for the elimination of profits, but we confess, that our faith is weak.

If the confidence of the Methodist church in the heads of the big corporations is well placed, national reconstruction is assured for the corporations now control the nation.

What is the government doing? From time to time we are informed of the appointment of various committees and commissions, and assured that the government is preparing plans. So far as we have been able to learn, the government's proposals look in the direction of the manufacturers programme. Canada is to secure her share in the rebuilding of Europe. An economic commission has been dispatched to Siberia, through the Victory Loan the war profits are to be made safe and profitable. Provision is being made for financing a housing system that pleases no one, but the contractors. A plan for settling returned soldiers on the land is discussed by all except the land speculators. The danger of unemployment is to be met by an increase in the military police force. In short, the government propose the same old Canadian policy of special privilege and exploitation. What else could be expected? Can the same fountain send forth sweet water and bitter? Can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit?

Co-ops. Report Progress

Danville, Ill.—The Co-operative Society of this city reports that in the operation of its store the last three months, $15,500 worth of goods was sold, and a dividend of 8 per cent. to each member was paid. The dividend was based on the amount of purchases.

You will not be "soaked"

¶ So many people neglect their eyes even when they know they should have them attended to—when they know they should be wearing glasses—because they are afraid they will be overcharged—and because of the uncertainty of the cost.

¶ I want any of you union men who feel that you may require glasses—you or your wives—to come in and let me examine your eyes. Let me tell you what is wrong—if anything—what it will cost to give you glasses that will make seeing and living more comfortable.

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VANCOUVER UNIONS

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

JOURNEYMEN BARBERS' INTERNATIONAL Union of America, Local No. 120—Meets second and fourth Tuesdays in the month, Room 205 Labor Temple. President, C. E. Herritt; secretary, S. H. Grant, 320 Cambie Street.

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

BROTHERHOOD OF BOILER MAKERS and Iron Ship Builders and Helpers of America, Vancouver Lodge No. 194—Meets every Monday, 8 p.m. President, M. A. McEachern, 1245 Alberni St.; secretary-treasurer, Angus Fraser, 1151 Howe St.; business agent, J. A. Moore, Room 212 Labor Temple.

HOTEL AND RESTAURANT EMPLOYEES Local 28—Meets every first Wednesday in the month at 2.30 p.m. and every third Wednesday in the month at 9.30 p.m. President, Harry Wood; secretary and business agent, W. Mackenzie, Room 209 Labor Temple. Phone Sey. 1681. Office hours: 11 to 12 noon; 2 to 5 p.m.

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

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

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

AMALGAMATED MEAT CUTTERS AND Butcher Workmen's Union No. 643—Meets first and third Tuesdays of each month. Labor Temple, 8 p. m. President, H. E. Wills; recording secretary, Fred. Lilly; financial secretary and business agent, T. W. Anderson, 587 Homer street.

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

SHIPYARD LABORERS, RIGGERS AND Fasteners, I.L.A., Local Union 38A, Series 5—Meets the 2nd and 4th Fridays of the month, Labor Temple, 8 p.m. President, J. N. Boult; financial secretary, M. A. Phelps; business agent and corresponding secretary, W. Lee. Office, Room 219-220 Labor Temple.

STREET AND ELECTRIC RAILWAY EMployees, Pioneer Division, No. 101—Meets A. O. F. Hall, Mount Pleasant, 1st and 3rd Mondays at 8 p.m. President, W. H. Cottrell; recording secretary, A. V. Lofting, 2561 Trinity street, phone High. 168R; treasurer, E. S. Cleveland; financial secretary and business agent, Fred A. Hoover, 2409 Clark Drive, office corner Prior and Main streets.

JOURNEYMEN TAILORS' UNION OF America, Local No. 178—Meetings held first Monday in each month, 8 p.m. President, Joseph O'Connor; vice-president, A. Beamish; recording secretary, Mrs. F. A. Dolk, P. O. Box 503. Phone, Sey. 8281L; financial secretary, Robt. McNeish, P. O. Box 503.

GENERAL TEAMSTERS AND CHAUFfeurs' Union, Local No. 655—Meets every 2nd and 4th Wednesdays 8 p.m. President, W. M. Brown; business agent, F. Haslett, 125 Fifteenth avenue east; financial secretary, Birt Showler, 1120 Robson street; phone, Sey. 5679. Office, 587 Homer street.

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

PROVINCIAL UNIONS

B. C. FEDERATION OF LABOR—Meets in annual convention in January. Executive officers, 1918-19: President, Duncan McCallum, Labor Temple, Vancouver; vice-presidents—Vancouver Island, Walter Head, South Wellington; Victoria, J. Taylor; Prince Rupert, W. E. Thompson; Vancouver, E. Winch, W. R. Trotter; New Westminster, P. Peebles; West Kootenay, Marcus Martin, Nelson; Crow's Nest Pass, W. A. Sherman, Fernie. Secretary-treasurer, A. S. Wells, Labor Temple, 405 Dunsmuir St., Vancouver, B. C.

VICTORIA, B. C.

VICTORIA AND DISTRICT TRADES AND Labor Council—Meets first and third Wednesdays, Knights of Pythias Hall, North Park Street, at 8 p.m. President, B. Simmons; vice-president, T. Dooley; secretary-treasurer, Christian Sivertz, P. O. Box 302, Victoria, B. C.

SOUTH WELLINGTON, V. I.

LOCAL UNION, No. 872, U. M. W. of A.—Meets first Sunday in every month 8 p.m., Richards Hall. President, Jas. Bateman; vice-president, Andrew Parker; recording secretary, Jas. Fearon; financial secretary, William MacDonald; treasurer, J. H. Richardson.

PRINCE RUPERT, B. C.

PRINCE RUPERT TRADES AND LABOR Council—Meets second and fourth Tuesdays of each month, in Carpenters' Hall. President, S. D. Macdonald; secretary, W. E. Thompson, Box 273, Prince Rupert, B. C.

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T. B. HILL 117 HASTINGS STREET EAST

The Baptism of the Russian Revolution

JAN 22, 1905—JAN 22, 1919

[By Alexander Trachtenberg, in the Advance]

The calendar of the Russian revolution is replete with dates which stand out above all in the struggle for liberation in Russia. Among such dates especially remembered by revolutionists are March 1 (14), 1881, the assassination of Czar Alexander II.; October 17 (30) 1905 (the successful completion of the general strike and the promulgation of a Bill of Rights); March 2 (15), 1917 (the abdication of Nicholas II. and the end of monarchic rule), and October 25 (November 7), 1917 (the establishment of the Soviet government). But the red letter day of the Russian revolution will, I believe, always remain January 9 (22), 1905, known in the annals of the revolution as "Bloody Sunday." The significance of that day and the place it holds in the hearts and minds of the revolutionists can be appreciated only upon an acquaintance with what had transpired during the few years preceding it.

The twentieth century opened with a series of revolutionary outbreaks throughout Russia. The student movement had assumed by that time menacing proportions, leading to strikes in various universities and culminating with the assassination of the Minister of Public Instruction, Bogoliepov, by a student, Karpovitch, in 1901.

Peasant uprisings were taking place in different village districts, and, though local and unorganized, they registered the temper of the exploited and misruled peasantry.

Industrial strikes were not known yet in the eighties. Side by side with political and economic feudalism, Russia was witnessing the introduction of modern capitalism, with its attendant evils. The workers, drawn in the main from among the poorest peasantry and discharged soldiers who would not return to their villages, first protested against exploitation by destroying machines, breaking of factory windows and doing physical violence to their immediate superiors, whom they held responsible for their sufferings. These unorganized, undisciplined and unintelligent forms of struggle were soon supplanted by an appreciation of the political and economic forces which the workers realized they must overcome before they could free themselves from oppression. The groups of Socialists which were being formed at that time in the various industrial centres were carrying their propaganda to the laboring masses, interpreting the conditions under which they lived and worked, and pointing a way to emancipation from political and economic tyranny.

The strikes which occurred in the later nineties were interpreted by the government as representing, not only economic demands made upon employers but also of political significance. Due to Socialist training, advanced groups among the workers were directing the labor struggle both against their immediate exploiters and the government which did not permit them to organize and fight for an improvement in their conditions. Such was the great strike of the 30,000 textile workers in Petersburg in 1896, which caused the government to enact remedial legislation.

The growing trust among the laboring people in the leadership of the Socialists caused the government a great deal of worriment. There were some in the autocratic government who could foresee the ultimate result of such a leadership. The chief of the secret police at Moscow, Sergius Zubatov, developed a scheme whereby he planned to divert the workers from association with the Socialist movement, which was growing in adherence and influence. Believing that the workers were taking up political questions only because the Socialists advised them to combine their economics with their political struggle, Zubatov proposed to help the workers obtain improvement in their working and living conditions. Such an attitude on the part of the government, he thought, would make the workers more friendly to it and would win them away from the Socialists and revolutionists. Starting with the organization of the Council of Workers in the metal trades in Moscow in 1901, Zubatov helped to form similar councils in other trades and cities. Clubs were established for the workers, where questions concerning labor conditions were freely discussed, though the statutes denied the right of association and common action with regard to such matters. Zubatov even assisted the workers in his councils to formulate demands and use the power of the government in forcing recalcitrant employers to grant concessions. The extra legal status of these labor organizations led to their growth, and with the perfection of their organizations the workers grew bolder and made more stringent demands upon their employers. A series of strikes followed, which, contrary to the expectations of the promoters of these organizations, transcended pure economic demands.

Somewhat of a similar nature was the experiment which a priest, George Gapon, was making in the proletarian quarters of Petersburg in 1904. Whether starting this work originally under government auspices, or going into the secret service later, Gapon succeeded in attracting a great many workers to his plan of non-partisan, non-political labor clubs. Gapon exerted a great deal of influence among the workers because of his magnetic personality. He organized many clubs where the workers gathered to discuss the affairs in their shop and conditions of employment. All subjects, except politics, were allowed discussion there.

As the country was seething with political questions and various radical topics, Gapon could not stifle all political discussion in the clubs. The war with Japan brought one disaster after another, graft scandals were coming to the surface, various groups of the liberal bourgeoisie were inaugurating all sorts of reform movements and under the guise of banquets were holding political meetings where petitions and addresses dealing with the political situation were prepared for presentation to the government. The Socialist forces were feverishly preparing for an open struggle with the autocracy. The atmosphere was heavily charged and all sides were expecting something to happen any time. The assassination of Von Plehve, who, as Minister of Interior, inaugurated the most ruthless policy against the revolutionists, drove the government to further excesses. All this could not but affect the workers, whom even Gapon's subsidized clubs could not keep from lending a willing ear to what the Socialists were saying. Socialist literature, in which the futility of Gapon's scheme was laid bare, was reaching them.

In the midst of these stirring events something comparatively insignificant occurred which later led to the great drama of January 9. In the latter part of December four workers who were members of Gapon's organization were discharged from the Putilov works. The workers were incensed over it. The incident was much discussed in the clubs. To the demand for the reinstatement of the discharged fellow workers were added other demands which were to be made upon the managers of the Putilov factories. The demands not being granted, several thousand workers went on strike on January 3. The complete tieup of Putilov's encouraged workers in other factories, and soon strikes followed in the most important industries of the city. It is estimated that about 200,000 workers went on strike. Almost all industry was paralyzed by the struggle. The economic strife was threatening to become a political one as well. Like an elemental force it came upon the city, and the most optimistic among the Socialists were overwhelmed by the suddenness and the potential force which the strike movement possessed. The Socialists busied themselves with organizing the strikers and solidifying their ranks. Impromptu meetings were being held, where Socialists were welcome speakers.

The power of Gapon was, however, very strong with the mass of workers on strike. He was laboring hard to keep them from falling under the influence of the Socialists, whose hopes for a revolutionary outbreak were rising with the determination of the workers to continue the strike. Gapon then proposed the organization of a manifestation to the Winter Palace, and to petition the Czar for redress of grievances. The revolutionists attacked this proposal and warned the strikers against a trap laid by the cunning priest. To counteract the agitation of the revolutionists, Gapon drew up a grandiloquent petition, including most of the immediate demands of the Socialist platform. He made a whirlwind campaign among the strikers for the support of his plan. He exploited the myth about the Czar's ignorance of political affairs, and vouched that when the Czar heard the grievances of the workers he would inaugurate the reforms.

Sunday, January 9 (22), was set for the parade. The workers were told to come with their wives and children, so that the Czar may see his subjects and hear of their needs. The police did not prohibit the demonstration. This worried the revolutionists most. They tried to dissuade the workers from going to the Winter Palace, fearing a fatal ending of the errand. They were unsuccessful. The working class districts of Petersburg were busily preparing for the homage to the Czar, upon whom all hopes were laid by those who still believed in him. On Sunday morning a procession of workers, many of them with their families, singing religious hymns, carrying national flags and portraits of the imperial family, headed by Gapon, was moving from the suburbs toward the Winter Palace. It was the first great labor demonstration Petersburg witnessed. The police did not molest the paraders. They were allowed to proceed to the Palace Square, observed by the surprised and scared populace. They soon filed into the square and were awaiting the appearance of the Czar from one of the balconies of the palace. Suddenly a regiment of soldiers appeared on the square and, without a warning, sent a volley of shots into the peaceful crowd. Nearly four thousand of the participants fell dead or were suffering from wounds. The snow-covered square turned red with the blood of the victims. The rest of the great crowd ran in different directions, amazed, terrified and betrayed.

The news spread quickly. Barricades were thrown up in the several districts of the city and the workers engaged in skirmishes with the police and military forces. As fast as the news of the dastardly crime reached other cites, the workers arose in arms and strikes were called as a protest against the barbaric treatment of the Petersburg workers. In the Caucasus, in the Donetz region, in Siberia, in Poland, on the Baltic—everywhere the workers were rising and declaring war upon the government. The sacrifice of the Petersburg workers made the entire working class of Russia politically conscious and determined to wage a relentless struggle for the overthrow of the autocracy. It is estimated that nearly 13,000 strikes took place during that year.

The revolution, which later led to the October and December general strikes in 1905, and still later to the crowning days of the proletarian uprisings of March and November in 1917, was baptized in the blood of the workers on Sunday, January 9, 1905, the Red Sunday of the Russian revolution.

Conductorets Barred

Washington—The National War Labor Board has ruled that the Detroit Street Railway Company shall employ no more women conductors. The board holds that the company can secure men if it applies itself diligently to this endeavor. The union was ordered to issue permits to 15 women, per an agreement made with the company during the war because of an alleged shortage of men. These women will be employed, but they, together with other women, shall be replaced by men as fast as possible.

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PEACE OR WAR

Pessimism of the Neutrals

Zurcher Post (Swiss S. D.), quoted Kolnische eZitung—What happened at Brest-Litovsk, arousing the indignation of the world, was child's play to what is happening now. "The French were great in war . . . but they are small in the armistice and in peace. . . . They are sowing in every German heart the ineradicable seed of bitter hatred. What is being done to destroy the German nation . . . means the lamentable annihilation of the truly great idea of the League of Nations."

Dagens Nyheter (Stockholm, Liberal):

"The terms of the armistice 'bear the same hall-mark as that which characterized Wilson's attitude during the whole of the preceding interchange of notes. No sooner did Germany bow to his demands than he increased them. For wherein do the conditions now defined differ from a complete surrender? The first condition, the guaranteeing of the Allies' military superiority, has proved to be of an elasticity which exceeds even what hight have been expected. . . . They know that Germany is not in a position hereafter to offer any effectual resistance, and therefore they decide to let her drain the cup of humiliation to the dregs. The old story of the victor's arrogance always repeats itself."

Berner Tageblatt (Swiss, Conservative), qd. Kreuzzig:

"The impression ofthe conditions imposed by General Foch are eminently saddening. Not a spark of that generosity which the French have always claimed as their own, of that chivalry towards the vanquished enemy on which the French formerly prided themselves. Nothing but the most brutal will annihilate, hatred and inhumanity are revealed in this dreadful document. . . . It is quite certain that under such circumstances no League of Nations can be formed for peace. . . ."

Politiken (Copenhagen, Liberal):

"The whole European situation contains a serious reminder for the Entente powers not to aim too high with regard to Germany. . . . They should not now be blind to the fact that they ought not to behave to Germany as Germany behaved to Russia, and that there is no guarantee that the dissolution spreading among their opponents will stop at the frontiers of their own countries. . . . The question now is to create a lasting and valid foundation of right for the intercourse between European nations."

Stockholms-Tidningen (Liberal):

"It may be said of these (armistice) conditions that if they are to be considered to be the augury of the kind of peace, which will later be offered to Germany, then it is nothing but biting mockery to continue to speak of the Wilson principles of right. . . ." At this moment it might perhaps have been more fitting if exactly this document had not been the first to be delivered in the name of the west European democracies to the newly-created Mid-European democracy." (The S. T. then expresses anxiety about the settlement and the 'historic sequence of events' it may evoke).

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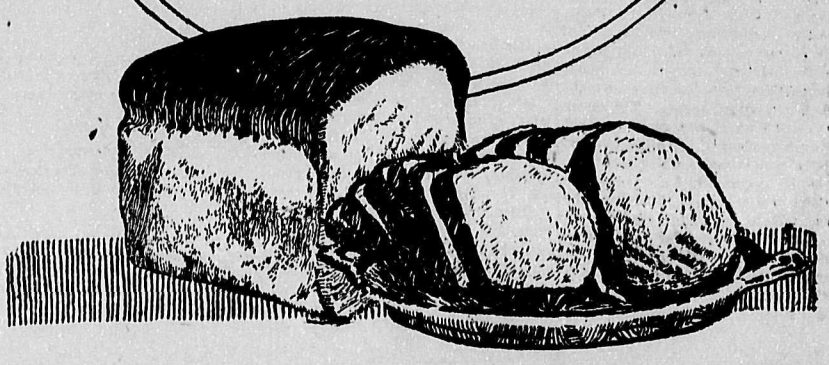

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"Unity of Labor: the Hope of the World"

FRIDAY.....January 31, 1919

THE ENEMY ALIEN question has been largely before us for the past few days. It has been brought before us by city councils, and other public bodies. The situation in Winnipeg, last Sunday, was caused by this question, and returned soldiers, and the public bodies, are alike in their demand for the deportation of the workers of enemy country origin. A good deal of sympathy can be felt for the returned men, for they are finding that it is by no means an easy thing for them to secure employment, and as they have been engaged in fighting men of enemy nationality, their psychology can readily be understood. In time when the returned men have settled down, and have taken stock of their advisers, and of the different bodies that are dealing with the enemy aliens, and urging their deportation, they will see that the removal of these workers will not solve the questions, and the problems that face them. To get to the real issue, it becomes necessary to go back into the past, and find out just how these enemy aliens came to this country. It is also necessary to go into the reason for them being induced to come to our shores. It has ever been the desire of the employing class to secure cheap labor. The nationality does not matter, so long as it is cheap. The large employers of labor have been behind the immigration policy of this country for many years. The C. P. R. and other large transportation companies, have had a two-fold interest in the immigration policy. One for the profits derived from the transportation of the immigrants, the other for the profits to be derived from the labor of these very immigrants when in the country. Has not the most of the railroad work in this land been done by men of foreign extraction? Did the employers consider the workers of British stock when their economic interests were to be enhanced by the employment of German, Austrian or even Asiatic labor? Not on your life. The only question then was, is the labor that can be secured from the overstocked labor markets of Europe or Asia, cheaper than the type that is to hand.

THE ALIEN QUESTION.

* * *

There is no doubt that those that are engineering the present demand for the deportation of aliens, are doing so with a two-fold purpose. The soldiers are not a party to this, except it be some of the officers. The main reason for the cry of "deport the aliens," is to divert the attention of the returned men from the industrial outlook, the second one is to cover up the present schemes for a new immigration policy. There are not sufficient jobs for the returned men. That is an indisputable fact. There are no jobs for a considerable number of men that have not been out of the country. The deportation of the enemy aliens will not secure jobs for either of these sections of the working class. There is another reason for this, and many other forms of agitation along similar lines, and the cry of "Bolsheviki," that is being raised wherever workers gather to discuss these problems. That reason is to prevent unity amongst the returned men and the workers. After the returned men have been back a very short time, they will recognize that the distinction which is made between the soldiers and the workers is purposely made. They will also realize that they are workers, and that after they have doffed the khaki, that they have immediately to face the same problems that have faced the working class for all time. The returned men in most cases are, and always have been, members of the working class. They will realize this fact in very short order, or we miss our guess.

* * *

The deportation of the aliens will not solve the problems that face the returned men and the industrial workers. The employing class agencies are already making preparations for a further immigration of people from European countries, including the British Isles. So if the aliens are deported, and other immigrants are brought here, and there are not enough jobs to go round, the position will not be in any way bettered. Not only that, if there are no more immigrants brought here, and the aliens are deported, there will not be sufficient jobs. And if there were, they would only give the workers the same old life of drudgery that has been their lot for ages. Jobs will never solve the difficulties of the returned men. For so long as the workers have to have jobs in order to live, so long will they be compelled to suffer from periods of unemployment. As capitalism is based on the exploitation of the working class, and can only operate with a large army of unemployed ever at the command of the employing class, there is little hope for any better conditions for the workers. What is needed both on the part of the returned men, and the industrial workers, is a knowledge of the cause of unemployment, and its consequent misery. The enemy of the workers in any country is not the working class of any other country, but the system under which they live. It is the system which is responsible for the present unrest throughout the world. There is nothing that can relieve the situation under the present system of society. The workers of all countries are in competition one with another, no matter in which country they reside. Production is today carried on for profit; commodities are produced for sale in the world market. The workers of all countries ,as well as the ruling class of all countries, are competing in this market, which is ever diminishing, for capitalist production must ever seek new markets, and when they are secured, destroy them. There are no further markets to exploit, and consequently the position of the workers must become worse. Unrest is in every land. It will become worse as the soldiers are demobilized. Great Britain is seething with discontent. It will get worse. It will get worse in this province. A large number of men will be returning in the near future. What is to be done with them is the problem? The organized labor, and the working class movements are as interested in the solution of this problem, as are the returning men. More effort is being put forward in the endeavor to solve this problem by the working class organizations, than by any other, or all other organizations combined. The workers have every interest in common with the returning men, but there is nothing to be gained by such disruptions as took place in Winnipeg last Sunday. The solution can be found, in fact is already known, but can only be put into effect by co-operation on the part of the working class, of which the soldiers are a part. The system must be changed, and there is no other class, but the working class that can change it, and no other class desires to see a change. Once this fact is apparent to the workers, the solution will be easy. In the meantime, the lot of the workers will not be a happy one.

THE unemployed problem is still unsolved. It is increasing in proportions every day, and as the demobilization continues, it will become more and more to the fore. That is unless the workers take a hand in the game and do away with its cause. The New York Herald has this to say:

HOW TO SOLVE IT

"Unemployment in the United States has reached an alarming stage and daily is becoming worse.

"Officials of the United States employment service are putting forth tremendous efforts to solve the problem, but are unable to reach its basic cause.

"The general trend of the situation is acknowledged as 'dangerous,' and unless checked is likely to reach a crisis in February of the most far-reaching seriousness."

Another item in the same newspaper says:

"The surplus of labor over employment is increasing daily, having moved from 11,000 in a group of representative cities on January 14, to approximately 210,000 today. The area of unemployment is spreading all over the country, starting in Maine, running on a line along the northern tier of states to Minneapolis. Starting again in Montana, it jumps to the coast and back again, through the Southwestern and Southern States. Daily reports received by the National Employment Service show this condition increasing with every 24 hours.

"In this area of unemployment, Pennsylvania is in the best condition, showing a shortage of labor instead of a surplus. But this shortage has been scaled down daily. On December 21, Pennsylvania had 11,600 opportunities for laborers. In the week ending December 28 this number went down to 10,700. For the week of January 7, the number fell to 6,082. The week ending January 14 showed the number still decreased to 4,282, while this week the figures have reached 1,200. At this rate next week will show a labor surplus in Pennsylvania, making the iron ring of unemployment around the United States complete.

"New England States are in the foreground, with conditions especially bad in Connecticut. Further west, Ohio is in a thoroughly alarming condition, with its industrial centres filled with the unemployed."

Lieut. Mayne, secretary of the American Soldiers and Sailors Protective Association says that "the number of idle returned soldiers in New York is being increased by 10,000 per week, and he estimates that there are 50,000 returned men idle in that city."

These are glorious conditions for men from the battle fields of France and Flanders to return to. But we do not need to go to the U. S. A. for any evidence as to the prevalence of unemployment, either amongst the returned men or in the ranks of the industrial workers. Vancouver has eigth thousand men at the least, today, on the idle list, and unable to secure jobs. Great prominence has been given in the press to the demand being made for the deportation of the aliens, but the following press despatch was found snugly hidden away in the local papers:

Time for Return Extended

Ottawa, Jan. 29.—By an order-in-council just pased, Chinese who have registered out of Canada between November 15, 1917, and November 15, 1918, may prolong their return to Canada without affecting their right to free re-entry. Reduced boat accommodation in the transpacific service is given as the reason for the extension.

It is high time that the returned men and the industrial workers took a tumble to the game of flim-flam that is being played. Why the removing of any restrictions as to Asiatic labor at a time like the present? The same old gang, whose interests are not identical with the working-class interests, are in control. Those interests desire cheap labor. They will have it if they have to flood the country with Asiatic or any other kind of labor. The question will be asked, well what can be done about it? There is only one answer to that question, and the answer, if put into force, will do away with the unemployed problem. The answer is, abolish the system that is the cause of this nightmare of the workers.

Unemployment is a natural condition under the present system. The system depends on an army of unemployed. It is only by this surplus of labor on the market that the employing class can lick the workers into line and hold them in check. Profits, not the needs of humanity, rule the world today. Everything that is produced is produced for profit, and as often pointed out in these columns, the workers are denied access to the means of life when they need it the most, that is in times of unemployment. What is the use of hollering for the many fool propositions that are now being put forward as schemes of reconstruction when the system is too rotten to do anything with. The conditions are bound to become worse, but it is little use railing at those that point these things out; they are not responsible for the conditions, although the ruling class would have the workers think that Socialists and others who point out conditions as they are, were responsible parties for the conditions that prevail. The unemployed problem can only be solved when the workers take over the means of wealth production, and produce that which is necessary for their comfort.

UNREST is the order of the day. Great Britain is in the throes of industrial turmoil such as has never been known in the history of the country. Strikes and other labor disturbances are taking place all over the world. And the end is not yet. It is safe to say that this state of unrest will become more pronounced as time goes on. While we are regaled from time to time by statements in the press as to what is to be done, not a single thing has yet been advanced by any of the governing bodies that is of any value in bringing about stable conditions. The press has gabbled about the dearth of foodstuffs in Russia, and from the local press we learn that the price of butter has fallen 22 cents in six days, this due largely to large shipments from Siberia. If this statement is true, then the reason for the intervention in Russia becomes much clearer and the activities of the Allies in regard to the prevention of getting supplies into Central Russia are exposed. While the people on this continent have been urged to save the foodstuffs for the past two years or more, because of a shortage of supplies, which were needed by the Allies, we find that in beef alone there is 120,000,000 pounds more in storage than there were a year ago. Warehouses all over the American continent are reported to be filled to overflowing, and the warehouses of Vancouver are reported to be no different to those of any other locality. And so the merry game goes on. Workers are idle, the warehouses of the world are full to overflowing with commodities that have been produced by them. Supplies have been hoarded, not by the public, but by the speculating fraternity, figuring on the war lasting longer than it did, with the expectation of a period of profiteering even more beneficial to that class than had prevailed during the past four years, and they are stung. And we hope that they are stung so badly that the cry that will go up from them will be equal to the cries of the victims of capitalistic exploitation.

THE END IN SIGHT

* * *

With all the talk of bringing about stable conditions in Russia that has emanated from the statesmen of Great Britain, the ordinary man would think that there were stable conditions in that land. The same can be said of France and this continent. Stable conditions do not prevail in any country unless, perhaps, it is in Russia. The French Socialist leader, Longuet, has stated that the time has come for the Socialists of the world to decide whether they will line up with Wilson or Lenin. One thing is certain, the workers cannot line up with Wilson, if they have any knowledge of their class position. Sir Bernard Pares has been giving his opinion of the Bolsheviki in Russia. He stated that the aim of this force was to abolish all other classes but the one it represented. That may be true, but the aim of the Bolsheviki or Socialist factions is not to abolish by destruction all other classes but the working class, but it is to abolish the system which brings the two classes into existence. Today there is a ruling class and a ruled class, the one class owning all, the other dispossessed of even the means of securing the necessities of life. The term Bolsheviki has had placed upon it a construction by all the ruling class apologists that is not true, and is only done to discredit the workers' efforts to bring about a change in society. If the ruling class have no other methods but this to stop the oncoming change, there will be little opposition, but any attempts to disenfranchise the workers will only make the period of transition more difficult and attended by more suffering. In the meantime the Soviet method on the part of the workers is growing, and industrial centres in the old land are being dominated by bodies similar to the Russian Soviets. Old-time methods of trade unionism are being dropped, and industries are acting together, and the craft form of organization is being thrown into the discard. Loud protests are being raised by the employing class at this new proceeding, and it is all being blamed on the "young and irresponsible" members of the organization. The blame, if blame it be, rests on the conditions, and the safe and sane variety of trades unionists have had their day. Surely the day of the workers is in sight.

The following clipping from the Durham (England) County Advertiser, is so good that it would be a pity not to pass it on to our readers. It will give our women readers a good deal of satisfaction we have no doubt, especially those that are not employed, and will sustain them when at some later date, if they are now employed:

Domestic Servants

Respectable young women should use their best efforts to enter comfortable situations, for the time is fast approaching when all places will be filled up, and there will be thousands unable to obtain employment of any sort. They should remember that in entering nice houses they are really greatly bettering themselves, for their own homes are not as refined or as well furnished; and that if they have a wage of £18 or £20 a year, it really equals £50 or £55 if they had to find board and lodging for themselves; also that they would have no fire to sit by, and many other discomforts when they are in lodgings. When a good, capable girl enters a respectable house she adds to her respectability; she need never mind the name "servant," but be proud of it; it only means "to serve." The very act of being in such a situation is a guarantee that she is respectable, for true ladies will not have inferior girls of bad character in their houses. And this is the reason why mistresses do not like to have servants that only came in for particular hours a day for a continuance; they do not think it respectable that a member of their household should be wandering about till midnight every night, tiring and unfitting herself for their work, and they cannot take the motherly care of them that all kind mistresses like to do. Neither should servants think they are overworked, for they do not work nearly as hard as their own mothers who have children do, nor as hard as they themselves will when they get married, nor do they rise as early. Every one has to work hard in some way, and all are servants, even mistresses are practically servants to their husbands, members of parliament to their constituencies, soldiers, policemen, etc., are all servants. Those who go into domestic service should remember that they become members of a household; they should interest themselves in the family, be amiable, obliging, and aim at being "superiors" in their work, for it is hardly worth while living to be pleased at being an inferior worker; be content with a few hours outing once a week or on Sundays, and recollect that a mistress has to endure a great deal in many ways. Those who are faithful and good will hereafter be greeted with the holy words, "Good servant, enter thou into the joy of the Lord."—One Who Loves Her Servants.

The references to the possibilities of thousands of women, that will be in the near future on the unemployed list, will no doubt, be very acceptable reading to those women in the Old Land, that have helped to "win the war," and as a result of the closing down of the munition factories, will now have to hunt for a job. The possibilities of adding to their respectability will no doubt be a great factor in their becoming better "servants," and duly appreciative of the worth of "true ladies." The ruling class mind is certainly something to wonder at.

It is not long since we had an Idlers' Act. Under this act it was unlawful for a worker to be idle. However, time brings many changes, and conditions became so bad that the workers could not secure employment, as the master class did not have any need for them. So the Idlers' Act was dropped. We now learn that Germany is to compel all workers to work, or suffer dire penalties. We wonder if they are going to find the workers jobs to go to and if, to pay the indemnities, plenty of opportunities will be provided for the workers to earn their living. If so, would it not be a good scheme for the Germans to demand an indemnity from Canada, and then Canadians now out of employment might be supplied with work, as it is very evident that to date that is the height of their ambitions. "A job" is a wonderful thing.

PEACE THAT PASSETH UNDERSTANDING

Humanite (Off. Soc.), reports that M. Pams, Minister of the Interior, in reply to the Socialist's proposal for the abolition of the Parisian 'state of siege,' gave reasons why the government did not consider the return to "public liberties" advisable: "There were incitements to Bolshevism in the country, and it is said that sums of money, of Russian origin, have been imported by way of Spain; in short, it seemed impossible to the government to subject the military authorities to the civil power."

Populaire (New Maj. Soc.): "The 'state of siege' will not be removed. . . . Tremble, bourgeois! If M. Pams did not keep watch, by day and night, . . . you would awake, one fine morning . . . with the great Soviet of soldiers and workers established at the Palais-Bourbon." The French working-class may console itself for a 'state of siege' by the sense of having fought for the People's rights. "One cannot have everything. If the Czecho-Slovaks are free, it is very natural that the French, in their turn should not be. It does not hinder them, moreover, from being a Republic."

The Censorship Remains

Verite.—Paul Mennier notes that the government, having justified the "state of siege" originally by the threat of foreign war, now justified it by the threat of civil war. But it is contrary to French law for a regime which suppresses liberty of the press and public meetings to last over a general election. Pams himself admitted it.

Populaire.—A. D. complains that since the signing of the armistice, Homo's articles (the well-known Swiss correspondent of l'Humanite) have failed to arrive.

"The censor has never sifted foreign news at the French frontier more rigorously than in the last four weeks. The fact is that the government, jealously watching over the purity of our ignorance, only allows to circulate, about the German revolution (like the Rusian revolution) tendencious and lying information. . . . But the country has had enough of this pestilent regime. . . . It wants to know what is being concealed from it, and why."

Humanite (Off. Soc.)—Cachin writes: "So long as the state of war lasted, the governments found in the necessities of national defence a thousand pretexts to justify their prolonged dumbness. Now that peace has come, there is no reason to refuse to declare to the face of the world the use France means to make of victory. . . . Tomorrow, President Wilson arrives in France. The Labor and Socialist organizations had purposed demonstrating, by a procession in certain Paris streets, their sympathy with . . . the President's ideas. But still under the state of siege, . . . M. Clemenceau refused. . . ."

Ah! Cette Paix
(Ah! This Peace)

Humanite.—Since Quentin writes of the "Serious inconveniences" of peace.

"Look here! We have had two or three years of war when all seemed for the best. This was certainly the feeling of the good people who denounced the danger of the importunate conversation between Wilson and Germany . . . if only one could hope that in claiming the 340 milliards owed by Germany to the Matin, the little fete could begin again. But no this canaille of a Hindenburg, agent of Liebknecht and William II., declares it is no use dreaming of fighting the German army again. Quel Salaud! What a coward! So here we are with this peace definitely on our hands. . . . To begin with there are all those people who . . . are never content where they are and who want to come home. Mais oui just like that, they would get into a train and get out at the station nearest their home. Then there are thousands of masons, . . . painters, etc., etc., who imagine they are needed for building houses. . . . Also the unhappy army contractors whose fate . . . deserves commiseration. They have contracts for making tanks, shells, cannons, etc. They cannot, from one day to another, begin making ploughs or bicycles. And they have contracts, and a contract is sacred, the Temps will tell us. . . . finally, then with the suppression of the censor . . . we shall even go so far as to allow the returning soldiers to speak out all the admiration they feel for the war! Doubtless we shall thus find ourselves face to face with all the dangers of a state of peace. . . . But, at least . . . let it come as late as possible. Do not let us trust the camouflage presented to us under the name of the German Republic. Let us imagine that the Barbarians of Germany will again prove their cruelty by violating the armistice terms, in blowing up a train of munitions, thus causing a thousand soldiers to perish—German, it is true, but no matter. Nothing goes to prove moreover that in order not to pay the thousand milliards claimed by Dandet, or to prevent its dismemberment demanded by Maurice, if not Wilson, Germany will not recommence her submarine war, although she has given up her submarines. That, you see, can all be managed. Ah! This peace! . . ."

SIR HARRY JOHNSTON ON SLUSH AND HONORS

Premiers (and prime ministers-to-be) have long looked upon the peerage, the baronetcy, the privy councillorship and knighthood—knight-bachelorhood — as their perquisites while in office or when speculating on office; something—in plain language—to sell , with the party whip or "patronage secretary" as the handy medium to do the actually unpleasant part of the business. The money, of course, goes to the party funds, and the prime minister only profits from it indirectly, in that by retaining or obtaining office he draws a very handsome salary and allowances and has a rent-free house to live in and almost sovereign power; while when he is out of power he has the party funds at his disposal and the small committee in whom they are vested probably if he is a needy man makes him a comfortable allowance out of them. Another method of using honors for personal ends is as a means of bribing persons of influence—possible enemies or useful friends—who would be quite beyond monetary temptations.

Jewelry Workers

The Jewelry Workers held their election and installation of officers Friday, January 24, and in spite of the rumors of a few workers who are quite satisfied to get the benefit in better working conditions brought about by the union, and let some one else pay for it, we had the best attended meeting so far. Ninety per cent. of the total membership were present and the membership represents ninety per cent of the Jewelry workers in the city.

Officers elected: President, W. Holmes; first vice,president, W. Wilson; second vice-president, H. C. McBride; secretary treasurer, D. J. Snell; recording secretary, L. Simpson; trustees, D. D. Black and F. C. Yarrall; sergeant at arms, N. B. Pearsoll; convener of entertainments, R. Thompson; delegates to Trades and Labor Council, W. Wilson, G. R. Ropkins and H. C. McBride.

CHEWING THE CUD

The Royal Northwest Mounted Police is a body primarily instituted as an agency for the enforcement of law in the territories which are under the sole jurisdiction of the Dominion parliament. When the prairie provinces were carved out of the territories an arrangement was come to, under certain conditions, for the continuance of the operations of this body in the new provinces.

There is a provision in the law (Cap. 91, Sec. 5, R. S. Canada) respecting the R. N. W. Police under which the government of the Dominion may, from time to time, enter into arrangements with the government of any province for the use or employment of the force, or any portion thereof, in aiding in the administration of justice in such province, and in carrying into effect the laws of the legislature thereof.

I may not have been following local affairs very closely, but I do not remember any announcement by the provincial government of any arrangement having been entered into with the Dominion government "for the use or employment of the force" in this province. Yet such an arrangement must have been made, for neither the government nor parliament of the Dominion has the right of its own motion to place the force in British Columbia. If my memory serves me well British Columbia in years gone by was rather jealous of encroachment on her police prerogatives. What has supervened? Whatever has must be of much moment; for I would expect so staunch a Liberal as Mr. Oliver to be as watchful a guardian of provincial rights, if not so mighty a protagonist, as was Sir Oliver Mowat. Of course the matter is one that appertains particularly to the Attorney-General. But upon Mr. Oliver's government is the responsibility for the force being here and for its operations in British Columbia.

* * *

The Fabian women's group in London has suggested that the hostels which the government maintained in munition areas should be utilized as training centers for domestic workers. They might go further. Domestic work will not be satisfactorily done for hire until the state of domestic workers is improved. It takes more brains, more brain and sense training, and more thought to be a good domestic than to be a good typist. A trained cook should have the social standing of a trained nurse. There was a time, and not so very, very long ago, when nurses were regarded not much above ordinary servants. Their training and advancement have stepped together. Cookery comes before pharmacy. Those who keep us well should step with those who cure our ills. Men may live even without physicians, but "where is the man who can live without cooks."

* * *

Politicians, aye, even premiers and ministers of state, should remember that words are mere verberations of the air, if not informed by thought and purpose.

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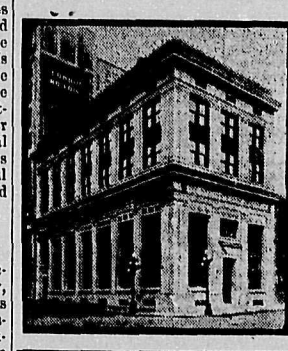

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A "Texas Steer" at the Empress
Charles Hoyt's greatest comedy, "A Texas Steer," will be presented by the Empress Stock Company next week, and oh, Girls! Ray Collins is going to put cork on his face and be a regular darkey, and, by the way, play one of the best negro parts ever written; and that's not all. There'll be about twenty-eight different persons in this play and every one of your favorites will be seen in a part entirely different from anything they have ever done in Vancouver. As a comedy of politics "A Texas Steer" stands in a class by itself, and probably contains more great character parts than any other comedy, and, like all of Hoyt's plays, it is brimful of witty lines that will be just as humorous in fifty years as they are today. Charles Royal, George Howard and everybody will be pressed into service in this great play and a number of excellent specialties will be interpolated in each one of the acts. ***

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WORLD WIDE NEWS

RUSSIA
Workers Regulate Marriage

Among the many decrees issued recently by the Soviet government of Russia, the decree on marriage has been made the subject of very general comment. Articles have appeared in which it was asserted that this decree forced women to marry against their will. The new law on the subject of marriage, contained in the decree of the Soviets, states in detail how marriage should be performed.

According to this decree the Russian Soviet Republic recognizes only civil marriages; church marriages is considered the private affair of the contracting parties. Those who wish to contract marriage must appear before the department of registration of marriage and births of the district, and declare their intention orally or in writing. Such declarations of intention to contract marriage are not accepted from persons of the male sex under 18 years and of the female sex under 16 years of age. (In Trans-Caucasia, where the custom of marrying younger is in practice, the native inhabitants may enter into marriage upon attaining the age of 13 and 16 years respectively for girls and boys.) Relatives in the direct line, full and half brothers and sisters, insane persons, and those already married cannot apply for a marriage certificate. These wishing to obtain a marriage certificate must, according to this law, sign a statement, "that they contract marriage voluntarily." The latter clause would indicate that no legal forcible marriages are possible. The law further allows the contracting parties to decide whether they will be called by the surnames of the husband or wife, or by any combined names of both.

The law is very simple, and a certificate of marriage is easily obtainable, if the contracting parties come under the provisions quoted above. In general, the law does not vary from marriage laws in other civilized countries.

RUSSIA
Workers Take Over Land and Industries

The new constitution of the Russian republic adopted in July, 1918, has recently been translated into English. Among other provisions of this constitution those relating to land, natural resources, factories, railroads and banks are as follows:

"For the purpose of realizing the socialization of land, all private property in land is abolished, and the entire land is declared to be national property and is to be apportioned among the husbandmen without any compensation to the former owners, in the measure of each one's ability to till it.

"All forests, treasures of the earth, and waters of general public utility, all implements whether animate or inanimate, model farms and agricultural enterprises, are declared to be national property.

"As a first step towards complete transfer of ownership to the Soviet republic of all factories, mills, mines, railways and other means of production and transportation, the Soviet law for the control by workmen and the establishment of the Supreme Soviet of national economy is hereby confirmed, so as to assure the power of the workers over the exploiters.

"The transfer of all banks into the ownership of the workers' and peasant's government, as one of the conditions of the liberation of the toiling masses from the yoke of capital is confirmed."

ARGENTINA
Strikers Win Great Victory

The labor unions of Argentine have won a sweeping victory, as a result of the nation-wide strikes that have spread over the country during the past month. The dispatches indicate that all except the harbor workers have gone back to their jobs. President Irigoyen has made important concessions to the labor unions.

The reports from other South American states indicate victory for the striking workers. A new spirit of aggressive class-conscious unionism has taken possession of the important industrial centers of South America.

MEXICO
Labor Laws Enacted

Mexico has secured a number of important labor laws, according to "The Carpenter." Wages and working conditions were extremely bad at the beginning of the present Mexican administration. The situation has been remedied by the enactment of a code of labor laws which at first seemed drastic, but which are now proving highly satisfactory. At present, workmen take so much interest in governmental affairs, that much of the legislation proposed is suggested by the labor organizations of Sonora, Vera Cruz, Pueblo, Yucatan, and other states.

NEW ZEALAND
Exploitation of Farm Workers

There are parts of Australia that are still in the grip of landlordism. A dispatch in the "Maoriland Worker," describes the conditions in these words:

"From Tenui to Akitea there is a stretch of country extending over forty miles owned or in the possession of a few men. The class of men they employ is such that the only school now open is at Akitea, and the attendance is ten children. There are stations whose owners will not employ a married man, partly because a married man wants enough wages to keep his family and partly because to accommodate a married man more accommodation will be required. This expense the squatter avoids and herds his men in hovels like swine, building wooden bunks side by side, and, in some cases, to save space, in tiers one above the other. It seems to me that the country which, in the hands of the squatter, cannot support families, should be taken away from them and cut up into closer settlement. From Whakataki to Akitea no land has ever seen the plough though much of it, if in the hands of small men, would produce fine crops and give much employment."

ENGLAND
Miners Demand Six-hour Day

A report from London announces that the Southport Miners Federation has unanimously adopted a resolution demanding that the miners in the British army be demobilized immediately, and be given employment. The resolution also asks that these disabled in the war receive the wages which they would have earned if they had not been injured. The concluding paragraph of the resolution demands that a six-hour day be substituted for the present 8-hour day.

FRANCE
Labor Angered and Restless

The working people of France are aroused as they have not been for many years over the problems that are confronting them as a result of the world war. A special mail despatch recently received in the United States indicates that French labor is in no mood for trifling. The despatch states: "Forced into extremist positions by the angry rejection of its most moderate demands, French labor is more restive every ray. The French government is afraid to close the munition factories for fear of idle labor, and tanks and ten-inch shells are still turned out monotonously. The government fears to demobilize the army, uncertain of its temper, certain only of its own incapacity to re-establish peace-time industry."

JAPAN
Socialists Issue Manifesto

The Socialist Party of Japan, according to Le Populaire, has issued a manifesto in the form of an address to the Council of Soviets in Russia. In the course of this manifesto, the executive committee makes the following statement:

"All of our attention is given to the progress to the Russian revolution, and it is with profound sympathy that we observe the vigorous advance of the Russian proletariat—an advance which produces an ineffaceable impression on the soul of the Japanese people.

"We are full of indignation against the methods of the Japanese government, which, under one unimportant pretext or another, sends its troops into Siberia in order to check the free development of the Russian revolution. We regret very much not having enough organization to ward off the present danger which menaces you on the part of our imperialistic government. But you may be persuaded, that although persecuted as we are today by the government, the flag of liberty will float some day over Japan."

Le Populaire notes that Socialist groups have difficulties in Japan where the legislation against them is very oppressive. It is, therefore, difficult to keep in touch with the activities of the Japanese Socialists. The above document, however, throws an interesting sidelight upon some of the things that they are trying to do.

ENGLAND
Labor Party Urges Government to Keep Factories

The British Labor Party has taken a vigorous stand in favor of having the factories and other works built by the government during the war, retained under national control. The London Times in an effort to discredit this move, has been urging the government to permit the trade unions to make an experiment in guild Socialism by taking over some of these factories and managing them in competition with private industries.

The London Nation in commenting on the situation, calls attention to the fact that even should the trade unions make an effort to take over the factories and manage them, they would very easily be discredited by their failure to secure raw materials and to obtain markets. Workshop control is only a small part of modern business. The trade unions controlling the shops would be helpless in the hands of the bankers, producers of raw material and marketers of the product they created. The Nation warns the unions that any attempt to follow the suggestion of the Times is bound to fail. It further suggests that the Times desires this failure in order to discredit the work of the Labor Party.

Mine Conditions Bad

Columbus, Ohio—In a study of the health of Ohio coal miners, conducted by Dr. Emory R. Hayhurst, of the state department of health, it is stated that working conditions are not as good as the average of most industries in this state. While ventilation in the mines is good, in the main, many of them are of a damp and muddy type, and work is such that exposure to this hazard is large. Blasting during working hours fills the mine air with poisonous gases and occasions considerable health complaints. The mining laws, he says, should be amended in this respect, and the division of mines given a larger force to compel obedience.

FALLING OUT OVER SPOILS

Italy's Strategic Needs

The Jugo-Slavs and Greeks stand to suffer from excessive Italian claims, it is asserted, that Italy has spent herself in the cause of the Entente to an extent unequalled by any other Ally (Corriere della Sera), yet the very people who pressed for her intervention in the war now wish to refuse her those territories which are essential to her future safety, and were guaranteed to her by the pact of London (which, says Bedolo in the Giornale d'Italia, "no political acrobatics of the Jugo-Slavs" will serve to invalidate.) Italy's situation (as the chief Medditerannean power, having, however, an exposed coastline to defend) requires that she should possess naval security in the Mediterranean, and more particularly in the Adriatic (where an enemy fleet, operating from the Eastern harbors, with their incomparable advantages over the shallow harborless Western coast, could easily have Italy at its mercy.)

Gazette de Lausanne (Swiss, pro-Ally)—Dr. Bossi, of Lugano, writes in answer to the article in the G. de L. (given above):

"As regards the Italian aspirations in Adalia and Smyrna, allow me to ask M. Ed. Ch. how it is possible to reconcile the occupation of Jaffa, Jerusalem and Palestine by the British, and the occupation of France of Beyrout, with the Wilsonian principles? Not to speak of the anomaly by which England keeps possession of Cyprus and Malta, without making the slightest allusion to consulting the 'free will' of these populations, which have become British by the simple right of conquest, without even having been asked to give her decision in virtue of the 'principle of nationalities.' . . . At all events it appears to me equitable that since France and England have thought that they should pay for the war expenses at the expense of the Turkish Empire, Italy can in the same way cut out her slice (we are, as may be seen, somewhat remote from Wilson's principles) as a recompense for her voluntary participation in the war, at a moment when the situation of the Allies was not promising, and as a compensation for her enormous sacrifices of blood and treasure."

Italy's Claim for Her Fair Share

Corriere della Sera (Milan, Conservative), suggests that the Allies are much concerned to draw attention to the mote in Italy's eye and neglect the beam in their own. There are 400,000 Italians, and at most 750,000 Jugo-Slavs in the territories disputed between the two nationalities. Compare this with Alsace-Lorraine, where there are 204,200 French speaking, against 1,634,000 German speaking inhabitants. Nine million Czechs of Bohemia annex two million Germans. The Poles, Roumanians and Jugo-Slavs seek to incorporate Germans, Hungarians, Bulgarians and Albanians. Only in the case of Italy is a strict ethnological boundary insisted upon, precluding the incorporation of alien nationalities. But the English writers who combat the Italian claims should remember that they belong to a nation which for strategic reasons has taken Cyprus from Greece and Malta from Italy. (Similarly the Secolo observes that "while the Jugo-Slavs accuse the Italians of violating the principle of nationality in the west, they are themselves accused of violating it in the east.")

Italia (Milan, R. C.):

"France and England, who already possess immense empires across the seas, after having divided the German colonies, have laid their hands on these territories of Turkey in Asia which they respectively covet. It would be intolerable if the application which the Allied powers have already given, where their own interests were concerned, to the doctrines which have triumphed with the victory of the Entente, should be subjected to an unexpected restriction peculiar to Italy (in a case) where she can demonstrate the most legitimate claims and the clearest rights."

How rare are sermons on that pregnant text: "Money is the root of all evil." It causes hunger and thirst and heart anguish. Bodies are prostituted for it, and souls are sold. From it springs the upas tree of political corruption. The evils of industrialism are its flowerings. The calendar of crime is crowded with its fruitage—just a few headings for the clergy.

If all the little nations were as modest as Ireland how relieved the peace conference would be. The Irish only ask to have in their keeping the tight little island the Lord put them on.

French Press on Russia

[From the Cambridge Magazine]

Temps (Con.), Dec. 9, reports that M. Noulens, French ambassador in Russia, has been visiting the French troops stationed along the Vologda railway (between Archangel and Moscow). In his addresses to them, he explained that "the armistice is not peace, and that anyhow, before the world could enjoy peace, the Bolshevik regime must disappear from Russia." The Bolsheviks, he said, were banned by humanity by reason of their tyranny and atrocities, and they were "allies of Germany from the outset. . . . To allow the Bolshevik regime to exist, is to allow the danger to survive of civil war, and of a new international war. We must go on to the bitter end, until complete peace reigns in Europe. This one more effort and sacrifice we ask of you."

Populaire (New Maj. Socialist): Pax says that the above publication by the Temps of Noulen's speech "rends the veil." It is no longer war with Germany, but "the holy war of capitalism against the workers' effort for freedom. Of old France made war on kings. Nowadays she declares war on peoples."

Action Francaise (Clerical Roy.): Bainville rallies Gauvain, in the Journal des Debats, who is "preaching a crusade against Bolshevism." According to Gauvain:

"Our 'duty' towards the Russians anid ourselves is to deliver them from tyrants whom they make no move to overthrow. One of the efforts of armistice is to allow us to begin a new, a holy war (censor). The Russian question will require a more delicate treatment than a surgical intervention, the dangers of which are evident. We see at Archangel just how much small detachments can do on a huge territory. M. Gauvain disposes of his effectives with facility; he already sees our troops from Roumania on the march to the Ukraine. It might be prudent first to know how much we can ask from troops that have already done a good deal. We are at a moment when we cannot afford follies ,and when the advice of day-dreamers may prove fatal." (Censor).

A "Holy Alliance"

Humanite (Off. Soc.): Cachin writes:

"The dispatches of foreign press agencies confirm us more and more in the conviction that war is beginning afresh in the East, no longer against Germany and Austria, but against the Russian revolution. Those French papers in touch with the foreign office allow discreet references to escape occasionally; others are more downright, and give away the whole design which appears, day by day, to me coming into operation in Russia." Cachin quotes details of a campaign by M. F. Noel in l'Opinion for a vast armed intervention in Russia by the Allies; which concludes: "Russia is open everywhere; with an energetic offensive, penetrating her from all sides, in three or four months, the world will be cured of its Russian nightmare." We have serious grounds for the belief (says Cachin) that this programme is that of the government. Lafont (for the Socialists), will not fail to demand (in the chamber) clear explanations before the country. If it be proved that our armies, and those of the Entente are at this moment marching against the Russian revolution, if the Holy Alliance forms again after one hundred years against the revolting peoples, what will not be the unanimous protest of the international proletariat?"

Cachin then exhorts the Russian Socialist parties to forget their dissensions and unite for a common effort, else the counter-revolution will get the better of all parties alike.

Intervention for the Sake of Czechs

Temps (Cons.): M. Masaryk, president of the Czecho-Slovak Republic, interviewed on his arrival in Paris, spoke of the Russian situation as the "gravest of the contemporary problems for Europe and humanity." A strong and organized Russia was a necessity. He hoped the Entente would help Russia, now that the preoccupations of war were disappearing. The Bolshevik programme was "abstract, with a maximum of freedom, of idealism. But who would regard it as practical?" The Czecho-Slovaks did not fear its "contagion"—had indeed resisted it in Russia.

Action Francaise (Cler. Roy.): Bainville refers to the above press interview:

"M. Masaryk has made known to some of our colleagues his views on the future of Bohemia. If we may translate into plain language an idea which he expressed with prudence, a Czecho-Slovak state, shut in, compressed on three sides by the German masses, will only be assured of existence if Russia is born again. He links the reconstruction of Russia with the establishment of a new settlement (statut) of Central Europe. M. Masaryk frankly invites us to intervene in Russia. For he thinks that the Russians cannot be counted upon to overthrow Bolshevism. He does not even believe in a Russia groaning under the yoke of Lenin and ready to join the Allies as soon as they appear. What then remains to be attempted in order to restore a Russia 'organized and strong.' A military expedition undertaken by the Entente? After the experiences of Archangel and Vladivostok, it is a matter requiring reflection. We are speaking, of course, of active intervention by arms. But if the new states which have arisen out of the decomposition of Austria-Hungary demand this armed action, the question becomes very complicated."

Ib.—Bainville adds to above his view that it is out of all proportion that M. Masaryk and his state of seven or eight million inhabitants should require an enterprise whose aim would be to restore a Russian power of 80 million inhabitants. We ought to know whither the "policy of nationalities" is leading us. France does not want to throw away more milliards than those she has lots in a doubtfully successful military operation in Russia. It is wild for her to think of restoring the Czar, however regrettable. It is a good chance for Europe to do without Russia, or rather to be contented with blockading her (as at present) with the added help of Poland, Bohemia and Roumania, and so let her "stew in her own juice," and see what happens.

A "Policy of Blindness"

Verite (Paris Socialist): Criticising Russian intervention, Fabrice argues that it is her "milliards" France is after, she will be disappointed; they were spent long ago. There are certain pledges in the form of mines, railways, etc., but in what condition are they?

"After all I do not see by virtue of what judgment we perform this seizure. By what right, on what principle, are we to interfere in the internal affairs of this people, which is quite free, after all, to call order, what to us, is disorder and government, what we call anarchy. They are in their own country, let us remain in ours; let us save the cost of this wild goose chase."

Humanite (Off. Socialist): The manager of important mining industries, just returned from Russia, offers an earnest warning to the Allies to stop their "march in the dark" against the Soviet government while there is still time. "Tomorrow it will be too late."

"We must stop if we do not wish to suffer in Russia the German experience in Ukraine. To continue this fight in order to try to justify by the fall of Bolshevism the policy of blindness which has ignored or has not understood the strength of the Soviets . . . would be worse than a mistake; it would be a crime laden with consequences. It is through having chosen to ignore the facts, and not basing their action on realities that the Allied governments, while sacrificing in Russia men, enormous economic interests, their prestige and honor ended in utter failure."

Victorie (Nat.): Herve laments that, among all the rejoicing of the Allied nations, Russia alone, who lost four to five millions of men in our cause on the field, should sit "weeping with bowed head."

"And how should they not have been massacred en masse, the unfortunates, with their rudimentary material . . . at certain tragic moments (provided) with one rifle between three. . . . That the Russian army was able to hold out like this for two years was a tour de force of which perhaps no other army would have been capable under similar conditions, and after having contributed more than the greater part of the Allies to the common victory, the Russian army is abandoned by its former companions in arms. Are we not going to help them to re-establish in their country the civilization abolished a year since by the Bolshevik hordes, and give the word to a national Constitutional Assembly which, with the devoted help of the democracies of the west, will end by saving Russia from ruin and dishonor? With what especial harshness have the Germans not treated the poor troops of Russian soldiers, now reaching us dying of hunger." Herve deplores the fact that Russian soldiers have not always been well treated in France, and says now is the moment to make up for it." If we are not capable of that, in 25 years Russia, a great nation once more, will hate and despise us."

An Official Opinion

Avanti (Off. Socialist), publishes the following extracts from a letter of Captain Sodaul, dated Sept. 1, written to a friend in Paris. Captain J. Sadoul (it is explained) was sent to Russia at Albert Thomas' request, commissioned to inform the French government on Russian affairs. Believing that hostility to the revolution, incapacity to understand, preoccupation of diplomatists with their own interests rather than with their country's, has profoundly vitiated the information sent to the French government. "I made up my mind," writes Sadoul, "to send news, sparing neither things nor persons, concerning myself only with what I believed to be true." This system made him some powerful enemies, and being warned of possible Anglo-French movements to suppress him, he gave his private diary to a trustworthy friend, since the revelations contained in it concerning the disastrous policy of the Allied representatives would have provoked a scandal.

"I assure you (he writes in his letter to Paris) the attempts on Lenin's life will not weaken but strengthen the Russian revolution—the Soviets have never been so solid as today. I have always thought that even if the Maximalist movement perishes, its example of revolutionary force will certainly greatly benefit international Socialism. If only for this Lenin and Trotzky would deserve our gratitude. But you know with how much reserve I exposed their tactics, with what scepticism I judged the consequences of this tremendous upheaval. I have now come to the conclusion that Lenin and Trotzky have a clearer vision than we opportunist and conciliatory Socialists, and that they are greater realists. Facts seem already to prove them right—from the frightful ruins of ten months of systematic destruction, the strong shoots of a new organization are beginning actually to appear ,and in a few years will bear fruit. But even up to now, in all fields —administrative, military and economic, the amount of creative work accomplished is immense. It would be dishonest and foolish to deny this. If the power of the Soviets had not been undermined by all parties, and so implacably by the Imperialist forces of Germany, France, Britain and Japan, in the north, south, east and west; if (the Soviets) had not been cut off from their granaries, their industrial centres, their iron and coal mines ,and their petroleum wells; if they had not been ruined, starved and bloodsoaked by the foreign, if they had only had to fight against the Russian bourgeoisie and the political and economic sabotage organized by the counter-revolution, who knows but that they would already have successfully carried through the first stages of a communist organization? The splendid victories on the western front have undoubtedly facilitated the exception of the programme of the Bolsheviks by diminishing the German pressure, which is the greatest immediate obstacle to the realization of this programme. The Socialization of Russia will become more profound. The depression and then the revolt of the masses of the people, in enemy countries will become more threatening. The nations of Europe will turn their eyes to a democratic ideal, purer, and more fraternal. Thus will humanity change the bloody nightmare which has tortured it for four years into a wonderful dream."

Ib., speaking in the chamber (Nov. 29). Treves said:

"If armed intervention of the Entente in Russia was justified during the war, it ought to cease after the armistice. It is a grave mistake to try to crush the Russian revolution if it is destined to assert itself ,and no human force will be able to stop it."

Carpenters Found Gem

At the recent social evening held by the Victoria Carpenters, a surprise was in store for all. Bro. W. Grey, a member for some time, was the cause of the surprise; he sang two songs, both of which were loudly applauded. Bill has a lovely tenor voice, and his evident ability to use it to the best possible effect was demonstrated. It is rare that such a voice is heard in a private gathering. Bros. Starkey and Belton also showed no mean ability in their singing.

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ARRESTED FOR HAVING BANNED LITERATURE

Newly Formed Loggers Union Looks After Interests of the Lumberjack

Richard Higgins was arrested about two weeks ago for having in his possession, literature that contained objectionable matter. Higgins is a lumberjack and his interests are being watched by the newly-formed Loggers' Union, which organization has retained Mr. Bird of Bird and Macdonald, solicitors, as legal counsel. When charged in the police court bail was set at $5,000; needless to say he is still in the toils of the law. Amongst the works which the accused was in possession of were some by Karl Marx and Haeckle. The amount of bail demanded has since been reduced to $3000.

Shipyard Laborers' Riggers' and Fasteners' Union

At the last regular meeting of the above local the following delegates were elected to act on the Metal Trades Council for the ensuing session, vis.: Brothers Lee, Sully, Paterson, Nelson and Phelps. It was decided to ask the Trades and Labor Council to send a speaker to the next meeting on February 14. The committee on the Ladies' Auxiliary reported and it was decided to ask all wives, daughters and sisters of members to join.

Any lady who is eligible for membership and is willing to join will please write the secretary of the union, Room 220, Labor Temple.

The union, after a long discussion, decided to accept the 30 days armistice with the Coughlan firm.

Mr. C. B. Young, president of the District Council, was in Vancouver for the week-end, and reported that on his way back to Seattle from Washington he had started to organize the shipyard laborers in Texas and gulf points.

There will be no regular meeting of the Shipyard Laborers until February the 14th, the regular meetings being held on the 2nd and 4th Friday in each month. January has five Fridays, and it may cause some little confusion, unless the fact is called to the attention of the members.

Won't Reduce Wages

Washington—Director General of Railroad Hines gives notice that the railroad administration will not be a party to the policy suggested in some quarters, that it use its purchasing power to break coal prices for the purpose of reducing miners' wages.

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Peru on 8-Hour Basis

Washington—The General strike in Peru has ended, according to a dispatch from the Peruvian foreign office to the Peruvian legation here, which says: "The general strike is at an end owing to the establishment by government decree of an eight-hour day and the designation by President Pardo of the president of the supreme court as arbitrator between employers and laborers." It was stated that "enthusiastic manifestations" have been held because the strike is ended.

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BOYS' AND GIRLS' CORNER

"OVERCOMING DISTANCE"

[By J. S. Woodsworth]

"How far is it," I asked an Indian, "to Battle River?" "Two days," he replied. He did not measure the distance by miles but by the time it took to get there by canoe, or dog-train or on horseback, as the case might be. So we say that Winnipeg is two days from Vancouver or New York is five days from Liverpool.

If I live ten miles out in the country how far am I from my work? Three hours by foot; an hour and a half by horse, an hour by street car; twenty minutes by express train and a few seconds by telephone. The quicker the service the nearer, for all practical purposes, I am to town.

The application of steam to transportation made a new world. Hitherto inaccessible areas were opened up to settlement. One winter I lived in Southern Saskatchewan where there wasn't a tree for many many miles. A heavy snowstorm blocked the railroads for some days. The supply of coal had run out. In the village the storekeeper was burning packing boxes and the harness-maker scraps of leather; in the country we had almost come to an end of the odds and ends that would burn and were thinking of pulling down the cow-sheds. It made one realize how absolutely we were dependent on our railroads.

So the steamboat has bridged the oceans, the ferry is practically a bridge to North Vancouver. The big liners unite us with Japan and Australia—the world is becoming small.

Quick transportation has made possible our large cities. From one of the suburbs of London, in which I lived, 17,000 workmen came into the city every morning. In the old days food had to be brought into the city by wagon or small river boats. Now every day scores of express trains bring butter and eggs and vegetables for hundreds of miles, or ocean liners bring fresh meat or fruit from the other side of the world.

But electricity is bringing greater changes still. Steam helped to build up large cities. Electricity may help to carry people out to the country again. Far from any water power or any coal mine, their are now springing up great factories. Why? You see the explanation in those wires that lead out of the city. They bring electric power for hundreds of miles that is sufficient to run all the factories that will be built. Niagara Falls helps to milk the farmers' cows a hundred miles away, lights his home, hatches his chickens and carries his crop to market!

Electricity is performing still greater wonders through the telegraph and the telephone and the wireless. In the Arabian nights one had but to turn a magic ring and our friends appeared or to sit on the magic mat and presto! he was hundreds of miles away. To-day we take down the phone receiver and our friends in another city talk to us, or we put a record on a gramophone and we are sitting in a grand opera house in Paris. Daily the telegraph brings us messages from other parts of the world—sometimes apparently hours before the events occurred! Surely we live in a new world!

These changes have almost revolutionized our social life and make necessary many changes in our institutions and ways of looking at things. In the old days, when cities were walled, the gateways were very important—all roads led to the gateways. What are our gateways today? Why, our stations and wharves. Through them all men and goods must come and go. In the old days the gateways belonged to the city. Today the gateways belong to companies. Policemen still stand at the gateways, but they wear on their caps the letters C. P. R. Taxes are still charged on goods that go through the gateways but they are collected by the Grand Trunk or the other dock owners.

Quick transportation has, by overcoming distance, really created vast wealth. When False Creek was filled in many acres of building sites were added to the city. When a suburban line is run ten miles out into the country thousands of acres are added to the land available for residential purposes. This ought to mean the possibility of thousands of workers having comfortable homes. Instead of that, under the present system, a few speculators buy up all the land for a few dollars an acre, divide it into little lots and hold it for hundreds of dollars a lot. So, as before, the people must do without homes or pay very heavy tribute.

In the factories, machinery which ought to have helped the people often made their conditions really worse. So sometimes the farmers who have the advantage of a railroad are worse off than their grandfathers who had to drive to market. In some cases workmen find it too expensive to live in the suburbs!

Who owns the streets? Who should own the cars that run on the street? Who should have the benefit of the lands opened up by the cars?

Most public services to be efficient and economical must have more or less of a monopoly. The B. C. Electric claim that they cannot run their cars profitably if the jitneys are allowed to run. So the jitneys have been stoped. But why should a private company be able to drive anyone off the public highway?

Under the stress of war both Great Britain and the United States have found it necessary to operate the railroads. If this is an advantage in war why not in times of peace? Further, why should large dividends go to stockholders who really never should have been allowed the special privileges that enabled them to build up their great systems.

Transportation is the key to our natural resources and our industrial and commercial system. That key must be in the hands of the people.

Woman Official Appointed

Washington—Miss Ethel E. Tulloch of San Diego, Cal., has been appointed fifth vice-president of the National Federation of Postal Employees. This is the first time in the history of postal trade unionism that the Federation of Postal Employees has elected a woman to an executive position in a national organization. "Miss Tulloch's appointment," said Sec.-Treas., Flaherty, "is the Federation of Postal Employees, a recognition of the fact that the large number of women clerks now in the postal service are entitled to direct representation in the management of their organization."

Engineers Organize

Tampa, Fla.—Stationary engineers have organized in this city and have affiliated with the International Union of Steam and Operating Engineers.

LETTERS TO THE FED.

The Armenian Situation

Editor B. C. Federationist: Sir—In a recent issue of the public press I happened to notice the following headline: "Man Responsible for Armenian Massacres Arrested," and it went on to say in substance that one Kyamil Mehomond (Hemal Mahmond) Pasha, who is said to be responsible for Armenian massacres, had been arrested. It is now realized that the press does not always tell the truth, but this untruth, or distorted fact, can easily be considered the crowning distortion of all the untrue press items, because if the men really responsible for the Armenian massacres were arrested and rightly punished, there would be another bloody massacre on both the European and Asiatic continents.

One scapegoat used to carry the sins of the Israelites into the wilderness and evidently poor Kyamil Mahmond is doomed to suffer the fate of the goat; but let this be plain to your readers, that thousands of black and white goats of European and American courts, together with secret treaty makers, cannot shift the blame for the crimes that have been committed on the Armenians, neither can they shirk the responsibility for the abominable cruelties perpetrated upon this ancient people. Kemal Jdevded Enver or Kiagun Pashas and the innumerable hirelings of the Court of Osman may (or may not) be only superficial instruments of others, for at the bottom of all these crimes lies hidden the secret international intrigues of European and American courts, the conquest of commerce and exploitation of Asiatic territory, Bagdad railways, Russo-Persia and Russo-Indian boundaries, Mesopotamia oil fields, and Ural silver mines, "and the necessity from the capitalist standpoint for the extinction of the Armenian commercial element, because it stands between them and these sources of wealth." European commercial and American exploitation would have free play in the Near East, and sooner or later any victorious industrial nation would take the riches of the East without any hindrance, if the Armenian capitalists and the Armenian people were out of the way. The hypocritical Christian world sheds crocodile tears over the blood of the Armenians and sends a few rags to cover those whom their policy has rendered naked and helpless, but at the bottom of their hearts they are glad because there is no one left to compete with them commercially, or to dispute their westernized phase of Christianity.

Does any hireling of the capitalist press dispute these facts? I stand ready to give complete details of the why and wherefore of the Armenian massacres. Some of us have been, and seen, and know. The capitalists of the western world and Europe cannot camouflage the facts with a hired press, for they and they only, are responsible for the crimes that have been committed by the Turks upon these people.

DERVISH.

No Independent Press

Editor B. C. Federationist: In view of the frequent discussions that take place about a free or independent press, the following may be of interest to some of your readers:

John Swinton, one of America's oldest and most beloved journalists, was tendered a banquet by his fellow editors, and surprised his hosts by the following words:

"There is no such thing in America as an independent press, unless it is in the country towns. You know it and I know it. There is not one of you who dares to write his honest opinions, and if you did, you know beforehand that it would never appear in print. I am paid $150 a week for keeping my honest opinions out of the paper I am connected with—others of you are paid similar salaries for similar things, and any of you who would be so foolish as to write his honest opinions would be out on the streets looking for another job.

"The business of the New York journalist is to destroy the truth, to lie outright, to pervert, to vilify, to fawn at the feet of Mammon, and to sell his race and his country for his daily bread. You know this, and I know it, and what folly this is to be toasting an 'Independent press.' We are the tools and vassals of rich men behind the scenes. We are the jumping Jacks, they pull the strings and we dance. Our talents ,our possibilities and our lives are all the property of other men. We are intellectual prostitutes."

The above extract is from The Cry for Justice, page 754. This book can be obtained in the Carnegie Library, and is well worth reading. I can strongly recommend it to any of your readers who think that the interests of capital and labor are identical.

JOHN M. C. CLARK,
137 Hastings street east.

Editor B. C. Federationist: Will you kindly publish the following:

Our opinions are largely formed and influenced by our experiences in life, consequently most people whose provision for the future is assured, are apt to look at the economic position from a lofty standpoint and blame the workers for wanting too much. To put the blame on the workers shows a poor sense of justice, for while the well-to-do persons—many of whom will call themselves brain workers, even though their fortune was made in real estate, prohibited liquor, etc., are standing in the way of justice to preserve their social standing, and keep their posterity from anything like work, the workers are fighting for the real thing, justice, our daily bread and better conditions in the Labor market for their posterity.

Can any fair-minded man honestly say that capital compounding in limited areas does not act adversely against Labor? It is up to the workers to organize every man and woman possible, reading, and listening to economic discussions is not sufficient; membership in the Labor Party is absolutely necessary to create a body of public opinion strong enough to attain results.

The usury of capital and the helpless attitude of the church—fully awake to the serious economic conditions—for its ministers are educated men, standing by unable to tackle the monster who now pays their salaries. I say these things stand locking the way to Christianity, and instead of serving the Lord, these men have been busy climbing the social ladder and listening to a voice calling to a higher place, a little higher, only to find out right now that they are getting no nearer heaven, and that the workers are not following them, and that the voice they listened to was the voice of the devil, and that they were on the wrong road.

We are in the twentieth century now, and yet some of these ministers are actually taking money to keep men's souls from purgatory. Ye gods, think of it. There are no transfers on this journey, and if one cannot get to heaven through not using one's talents, well, I don't think you can shove the blame on to some one else.

Wake up, workers, know yourselves, and organize. I am, your truly,

SAMUEL LIGGINS,
Gibson's Landing, B. C.

Editor B. C. Federationist: Last week we were somewhat surprised at the attitude taken by Mr. Hawthornthwaite, M. P., towards the Russian Bolsheviki. He had discussed the Russian situation with a lady who had just arrived from Russia, it seems. Now he had come away from the conference with the conviction that the Russian Bolsheviki were not what he had always thought them to be. Before an audience in the Columbia Theatre, Victoria, he said that the Soviet rule was communistic anarchy. Now this sudden change of views is rather peculiar, and I confess I do not understand it. Who is this Mme. Breshskovskaya, "the little mother of the Revolution?" The following may help to solve this matter.

The Vancouver Trades and Labor Council has issued a very instructive pamphlet, entitled "The Soviets at Work." In it a classification of the different factions in Russia is given,

There are two main parties in Russia, the Social-Democrats and the Social-Revolutionaries. The first, named are the Marxian Socialists, and the second are the non-Marxians. Now the Social Democrats are split up into two groups, the Bolsheviki and the Mensheviki. The former are more uncompromising in their attitude toward the Bourgeoise. The Social Revolutionaries are also divided. The leader of the most reactionary group is our friend, Mme. Breshskovokaya, known as the "little mother." She is a supporter of Kerensky, who is a member of her group. There are two other groups which are slightly more radical.

The pamphlet, which is a report of a speech of Nikola Lenine, is very interesting. It is pleasingly free from the idealogical stuff which detracts from most articles and reading matter which we can get about the Soviet regime.

Yours truly,
A. COTTRELL.

SOME PRESS NEWS

Isvestia (Moscow, Soviet), quoted Kreuzztg.

Wilson demands the return of Alsace-Lorraine without consulting the inhabitants. He garrisons the Philippines as a road to China where he is struggling with Japanese capital for the mastery. He raises no word of protest against Russian Tsarism nor the subjection of the Irish. . . . American capital is fighting against the Soviet power, in order, in common with the English, to rule the market in raw materials, of naptha by the possession of Baku, of cotton and Ciberian ores by the possession of Turkestan. If in Europe the Socialist revolution triumph, then American capital will try to blockade it, with even less mercy than showed to German capital. In such a state of affairs, to represent Wilson's sole aim as being the triumph of democracy, is to sell the workers of Europe to the American Moloch. As for the disarmament that Wilson advocates, only a ninny could believe that England and America will do away with their navies.

Paris Temps (Cons.) regards as dangerous and immoral the policy in Russia of the cordon sanitaire, or 'isolation' of the infected area which might leave Russia to German influence. Nor can it really be done.

"One cannot disinfect brains, and the ideas written upon paper are not subject to any antiseptic treatment. . . . So-called 'sanitary' proceedings (at the frontiers) did not serve to guarantee the Tzar's security. To be sure, the Western democracies have not the same reasons for anxiety and weakness as Tzarism, and it is infinitely more just to combat the Bolshevism theory, than to strive against most of the theories that were attacked by the Russian ancient regime. But it is none the less true that a police force is never certain of keeping propaganda in check."

Post Official Blamed

Washington—In urging a cessation of immigration before the house immigration committee, A. F. of L. Secretary Morrison said that an unhealthy unrest is being fostered in this country by the anti-union attitude of certain large employers of labor, including the post office department and the steel trust. "Postmaster General Burleson refuses to meet with representatives of a union. Many of the officers of the unions have been discharged from the service because of their union activities," said Secretary Morrison.

Leather Workers Unite

Kansas City, Mo.—Officers of the United Leather Workers International Union report that locals have been organized in San Francisco, Boston and Portland, Ore.

To Uurge Public Works

Washington—Secretary of Labor Wilson urges wage earners to use their influence in their communities to have school houses, engine houses, roads, canals and other improvements begun at once.

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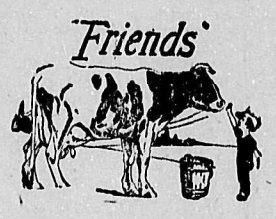

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Yours truly,
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JEN-H. Per J. E. Newton.

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AUSTRALIAN LABOR PARTY PEACE TERMS

These Terms Are Identical With Those Later Adopted

Jingoes, However, Villified Attempts of Labor for Peace

[By W. Francis Ahearn, Special Representative in Australia]

History in the future, if truthfully written, will reveal one highly important fact—that the terms outlined by the Australian Labor party in June, 1917, are substantially the terms upon which an armistice between the warring nations was signed and the way made clear for approaching the peace table. This is a matter in which we, in Australia, have a right to feel not a little proud.

I doubt if ever a honest purpose was more cruelly villified than the attempt on the part of the Australian Labor Party 18 months ago to outline terms on which a just and lasting peace could be secured. We were branded as pro-Germans, as spies in the employ of the enemy countries, and traitors to our country, and as cowards of the deepest dye. Even when it was revealed that President Wilson's famous fourteen points, uttered some six months after our own peace terms had been published to the world, efforts were sought to malign and libel our intentions.

The fact still remains—it is indisputable—that the end of the greatest war in history was brought about by an agreement to observe conditions which approximate our own peace terms, in a remarkable manner. Our peace terms have already been published in the American Labor and Socialist press and need no repetition here. What, perhaps, is necessary, is a brief outline of Labor's attitude in Autsralia throughout the course of the war.

At the outbreak of war, Labor in Australia endorsed, rightly or wrongly, the declared objects of Great Britain as then expressed openly. Labor accepted the war as a struggle for liberty, democracy, and the independence of small nations. Labor accepted the war as a vindication of publicly-made treaties; as a re-assertion of the principles of international ethics. And on these declared ideals, perhaps no democracy could turn its back.

Labor rendered aid to Great Britain—the aid of a free army. Think what that means—an army of freemen, freely delicating their lives to the cause of the world's liberty and peace. The world has yet to appreciate to the full the fact that Australia was the one nation of the world which sent its men to fight as free men, and not as conscripts. No lust of booty lured Labor to war, nor did revenge course in our veins. And right here the cry by certain jingoes in Australia for revenge and lust of conquest is an insult to our hallowed dead. No Australian soldier gave his life that our country should be so enriched—no sailor sailed the seas that we should exact revenge from a defeated nation.

As with all other countries, much lip service to liberty and peace was rendered by men, soon to be revealed as hypocrites. Men clamored for liberty abroad and denied it to us at home. Sinister motives, often frankly admitted, inspired the advocates of the press-gang. Conscription was demanded by many who sought cheap and submissive workers; by many again who sought to relieve the wealthy by securing a cheap army. These could have done nothing had they not seduced many of the trusted servants of Labor. It was a bitter blow to those of us who have given the best part of our lives to the Australian Labor Movement to find that our leaders and companions—the men who bitterly opposed conscription in the early days of the Australian Commonwealth—had abandoned the party and their solemn pledges.

Much has been said of the political coup d'etat in Australia in September, 1916, when, without a second thought, we discarded the most intelligent of our leaders because they had betrayed us. Never a man who broke the solemn pledge of the Labor Movement that "no Australian citizen should be compelled to fight outside his country against his will" was allowed to remain with us. In May, 1917, at the general elections, we paid our penalty by being defeated. But we kept the Labor Movement spotlessly white and clean, and today we can look back on our action of those days with perhaps not a little pride. What other labor movement in the whole world has such a record? If we paid the heavy price of surrendering power to our implacable enemies and their new mercenaries, was it not, after all, worth paying? At least we were able to test the sincerity of those who stood for liberty in Belgium, in Servia, in France, or any other country—everywhere except in Australia.

In June, 1917, the Labor Conference of New South Wales carried a resolution demanding immediate negotiations for peace, in the spirit of reparation and reconciliation, with no annexations and no penal indemnities. The same resoltuion was soon endorsed by the other Australian State Labor conferences, and then finally endorsed by the Interstate Labor Conference.

The resoltuion carried by the New South Wales Conference, at which the representative of this journal was present—it was after all an historic conference—was the first attempt by any representative body among the Allied people to set forth the terms of a just and honorable peace and reconciliation. At the conclusion of hostilities, copies of our peace terms were scattered throughout the world, and published in this journal, and soon came requests from Labor and Socialist bodies throughout the world for the peace terms of Australian Labor. In substance, and this should be borne well in mind, the resolutions, first of the British Labor Party, and later of the Conference of Allied Labor, reproduced the Australian proposals. Even Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, at the Conference of Allied Labor, stated his position in the words of our resolution. "The following," said he, "are the essential fundamental principles of a peace treaty:—

"1. League of free people.

"2. No political, economic, or discriminatory restrictions; no indemnities and reprisals for vindictive or injurious purposes; but to right manifest wrongs.

"3. Recognition of the rights of small nations.

"4. No territorial changes, except for the welfare of the people affected."

Australia's Labor peace terms are now well known. Time passed. President Wilson outlined his famous fourteen points—almost identical with our own peace terms. We were then told by the cunning jingoes in our midst that the Allied nations accepted those terms; that Germany alone refused them. Our reply was that never yet had the Allies stated that they accepted the policy of "No Annexations." When the Allies have clearly accepted the policy, we shall know whether the war need be continued. If a frank and unequivocal offer of peace upon our terms is made, and refused by Germany—and upon her alone—will rest the responsibility for prolonging the war. Where that responsibility now rests no one knows." We further said: "The German rulers must be left to the German people. They alone can destroy German militarism and autocracy; and we believe that the prolongation of the war only postpones the hour of triumph for German democracy."

These were the views which caused Australian Labor, at the Interstate Conference at Perth last June, to declare that Labor should not urge anyone to go to war unless and until the Allies should, by a clear and authoritative statement, assert their readiness to enter into peace negotiations, upon the basis of no annexations and no penal indemnities. This declaration was submitted to a ballot of the rank and file of Labor throughout Australia and carried by a huge majority. After the close of the ballot, the required condition was complied with by an Allied acceptance of President Wilson's proposals. These declarations have been justified by the event. It saw the greatest triumph of German militarism—it saw its final downfall. What caused this seeming miracle? While the German war lords could put before their people the secret treaties and brutal boasts of the jingoes they could exact the utmost sacrifice from their soldiers and citizens. When Allied Labor by its resolutions, when President Wilson by his appeals to the German people, had undone the work of the war lords, the soldiers and workers in Germany revolted against their masters. The advocates of a negotiated peace and the workers of Germany have brought to a sudden close a struggle which otherwise would have been prolonged to the ever-increasing misery and exhaustion of the human race.

The basis laid down by President Wilson's fourteen points, closely following the Australian Labor resolutions, have been agreed upon. All that remains now is the development of the details of the peace treaty. The general principles are settled. And they are what we laid down, for the first time in the world, at a Labor conference in Australia in June, 1917.

We claim that the signing of the armistice was a clear indication of the terms outlined by Australian Labor 18 months ago. And though our purpose was libelled and villified at the time, history, if it speaks the truth, will reveal in good time, what part Australian Labor played in bringing to an end the greatest war the world has ever known.

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TO A FUTURE HISTORIAN

When, standing on the battlements of Time,
You overlook our plains with restful eye,
And, while the shuddering constellations climb,
Chased by the sun, against the rounded sky,
Consider the procession of our years,
The train of our endeavors passing by,
Across the landscape of our faiths and fears.

Think then, O Watchman! of the blinded host
That fought between itself to make you wise,
And think that even they who suffered most
Knew not what harvests from their grief might rise;
Remember then the youthful brotherhood
That died to purge you of their fathers' Lies,
And wrote your Books of Knowledge with their Blood.

—C. A. Barman, in The Cambridge Magazine.

AUSTRALIA HOLDS PROTEST MEETINGS

The Cases of Mooney, Debs and Haywood Are Taken Up

At the time of writing the political and industrial organizations throughout Australia are condemning the action of the United States government in incarcerating Tom Mooney, Gene Debs and Bill Haywood. In the case of Tom Mooney, perhaps no such appeal for an international Labor leader has been seen in Australia before. Columns of publicity matter are being regularly circulated throughout the Australian Labor press, carefully written and edited by W. Francis Ahern of the editorial staff of the "Australian Worker," Sidney, and who is the Australian representative of this journal—who is acting in Australia on behalf of the Tom Mooney Defense Committee. Scores of meetings have been held, motions passed, and cabled to President Wilson, the Governor of California and the Tom Mooney Committee in San Francisco. Much of the success of the agitation on behalf of Mooney is due to the untiring work of Mr. Francis Ahern, who must be credited with having brought the matter under the notice of Australian democracy in the way he had.

In connection with Debs and Haywood, this matter is being handled by the Socialist organizations throughout Australia, and many motions of protest have been recorded and forwarded to the right quarter. It is to be hoped that the voice of Australian democracy will not be raised in vain.

AUSTRALIA AND THE ONE BIG UNION

Manifestos Sent to the Men Who Are Serving Overseas

Same Old Policy of Divide and Rule Is Those of Employers

[By W. Francis Ahern, Special Representative in Australia]

Despite the opposition of a few craft unions, the capitalistic press, and the captains of industry in Australia, the one Big Union Movement is assuming definite shape. There has just been concluded (November 16, 1918) a three days' conference in which the finishing touches were put to the movement in Sydney, Australia, preparatory to calling a Commonwealth conference, to take place in Melbourne on January 11, 1919.

At the present time, an army of 50 leading industrialists are conducting a propaganda campaign throughout Australia, on behalf of the One Big Union Movement, while a ballot is to be taken of all trades unionists prior to the holding of the Commonwealth conference next January.

At the Sydney conference, just concluded, some important resolutions were carried. The following was carried, to the singing of the "Red Flag":—::That this conference of the One Big Union of Australia sends to the workers of Russia, Germany, Austria, and other countries, their warm and wholehearted congratulations on the magnificent achievement of political liberty after a long struggle against official tyranny, persecution, and despotic monarchism, and expresses the hope that the spread of revolutionary propaganda among the peoples of all countries in Europe will everywhere help forward the cause of the people towards complete emancipation from capitalism."

Consideration was given to the question of returned men from the war. Most of these are, of course, working men, and because of their absence from Australia, it became necessary to address a manifesto to them setting out what the future holds for them. The manifesto was as follows:

"In the name of organized Labor this congress of the One Big Union Movement cordially greets you upon your return to Australia. In thus welcoming you back to the civil life of the community, we assure you of our earnest desire to render you every assistance in securing the fulfilment of every legitimate promise made by the government and the people of Australia at the time of your departure. Organized Labor possesses many facilities for obtaining employment for its members and for securing those rates and conditions which it has been our constant effort to maintain in your absence. These facilities we unhesitatingly place at your disposal in our common interest.

Realizing that the vast majority of Australian soldiers and sailors are members of the working class, and that as such their economic interests are identical with those of organized Labor in the reconstruction of society, they and we must stand together. This fact has been fully realized by the soldiers and other workers in every European country who are now taking combined action to secure common justice.

The attitude of the industrial movement of Australia toward the members of the Australian armies has been persistently villified and misrepresented by the capitalistic daily press. The rigid and scandalously biased political censorship effectually prevented Labor's aims from reaching you.

No other period is likely to witness such a multitude of complex problems demanding solution, as demobilization, machinery to secure reabsorption into industry, repatriation, etc. All past experience has proved that no government has made any serious attempt to redeem those promises so freely given to men to secure their enlistment and so quickly forgotten when the need of their services has ceased. In the case of the present Australian "Win-the-War" government, the treatment accorded to the comparatively small number who have returned, the muddling incapacity, the favoritism shown to some and the neglect of others, prove that no sincere effort can be expected to cope with the many thousands who will soon be returning to our shores, and is an ominous warning for the future.

The capitalist class of Australia, of which the present "Win-the-War" government is the mouthpiece, stands universally condemned for its shameless and unwarranted profiteering, which has so increased the cost of living that those in relative comfort four years ago are now on the border line of poverty. This profiteering which robbed your dependents, is still in existence, and those who have practised this economic piracy during the war will be loth to forgo their unholy advantages gained at such terrible cost to the workers now the war has ceased. Those returning from the war will be faced with a similar, if not worse, situation than that endured by their comrades and dependents in their absence.

The only means to redress these evils is strong and effective industrial organization. This our soldier and sailor comrades must realize if they hope to put a stop to their own exploitation. The Workers' Industrial Union of Australia (the One Big Union) is the one form of organization which will enable us to resist the continuance of profiteering and ensure for all a decent livelihood.

We therefore appeal to you to link up with the industrial organizations without delay. Attempts have been made by the employing class against which we most emphatically warn you, to divide the workers into antagonistic groups, with a view to reducing wages and still further plundering all other sections of the community. We live in critical times when events are moving rapidly. We can by unity and energetic effort, secure more complete economic and social freedom than we have ever before possessed. Should we neglect our present opportunities the shackles of industrial servitude will be rivetted upon us and upon you, and the forces of reaction triumph.

Shall we, in Australia, lag behind the nations of Europe, which have not only thrown over autocratic rule, but have insisted upon economic freedom as the keystone of their future national life?

The One Big Union headquarters are situated in Sydney, Australia, at the Trades Hall—it having superseded the Trades and Labor Council. Most of the organizations in New South Wales, where the scheme was initiated, have joined up, and quick progress is also being made in the Australian States—particularly in Queensland and Victoria.

Profiteering—Two Kinds

The Vancouver papers report that the city council endorses the resolution of the Calgary city council to petition the Dominion government to demand for Canada an indemnity of $1,000,000,000 from the Central powers. Archaic, ain't it? Makes one smile sadly. It is a gem serene of Cavedom.

In the London Nation, the reviewer of Keeling's Letters and Recollections, remarks: "His vision of future fraternity and reconciliation became almost painfully acute, and his sense of the identical humanity of the German soldier in the trench before him all but intolerable."

Keeling was killed in August, 1916. In January he wrote: "I have no use for the poem you sent me, because in the bitterness of things out here I have no use for 'God' or for the sentiment that we are fighting in holy righteousness a nation of brutes. . . or feel any sympathy for the yap, yap, yap of the press about these things."

He puts on record for us that the soldier did not fight and suffer and die to make a victory for Lloyd George, for politicians, pen patriots and profiteers. "Execration," "Hang the Kaiser," "Make the Hun pay," he states, "is a civilian trade." Humanity, and England's contribution to the temple of humanity was what he fought for, the brave profiteering that was worthy of the sacrifice.

Oppose Night Work

Madison, Wis.—Organized bakers in this city are demanding the abolition of night work. Other demands include a nine-hour working day.

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CARPENTERS HAVE VERY INTERESTING SESSION

Educational Meetings to Be Continued —The Asiatic Question at the Next One

The A. S. of U. B. Carpenters held their regular meeting on Tuesday evening. Six new members were admitted, and two clearances were received. The referendum on the question of submitting matters of dispute to the central body, was referred to the mass meeting of all the carpenters' locals, which is to be held on Tuesday next. A petition asking for the release of Bros. Watson and Cheeseman of Toronto, and the lifting of the censorship forwarded by the Toronto District Council of Carpenters, was endorsed, and passed around for the signatures of the members.

The committee appointed to conduct the series of educational meetings, reported as to the last one of these meetings, and it was decided that at the next meeting, a speaker should be secured to deal with the problem of Asiatic labor. A special meeting is to be held to deal with the question of subscribing to The Federationist in a body.

Will Deal With Employers

Portland, Ore.—At a meeting of the Pacific coast metal trades district council it was voted to have no further dealings with the wage adjustment board of the shipping board, known as the Macy board. The metal workers gave notice that hereafter they will do business with employers, and that wage reductions will be resisted.

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MINERS ENDORSE ACTION TAKEN AT CONVENTION

Arrest of Miner for Having Banned Literature Causes Strong Comment

A joint meeting of the two locals, Carbondale No. 2227 and Coleman No. 2663, United Mine Workers, was held in the Eagle's Hall, on Sunday, January 19th, for the purpose of hearing the delegates report from the Alberta Federation of Labor convention, and also bring up for discussion the circular sent out by W. Smitten, calling upon us to voice our protest against the continued incarceration of political prisoners in our jails.

These two locals combined, represent about 670 members, and we had a very enthusiastic and crowded meeting. There was some lively debate on the above subject, and the meeting unanimously supported a resolution:

"That we endorse the action taken by the Alberta Federation of Labor convention at Medicine Hat, demanding the release of all political prisoners incarcerated during the war, and are ready to fall in line with any action the executive of the A. F. of Labor may take, no matter how drastic, to attain that end."

The arrest and conviction of Bro. Tom Shannon, secretary for Diamond City local, for having in his possession banned literature and other correspondence in connection with the local, called forth some very strong comment, and it was argued that if such a state of things were allowed to exist, all secretaries for organized bodies would be placed in a precarious position, and liable to arrest at any time, therefore it was,

Unanimously resolved, That we urge upon all locals in the district to take immediate action in this matter, fix a date as early as possible, and all cease work until Bro. Tom Shannon is released from prison.

The resolution passed in convention at Medicine Hat, demanding free speech, free assembly and the ban entirely lifted from all literature, was also duly endorsed.

Trades and Labor Council—Educational Committee

A number of unions have asked to have speakers for their next meeting, and the committee decided to publish the names of those speakers who have already promised to assist them, so that the locals may choose their own speakers if so desired.

It is hoped that all locals will make use of the programme, and that in time it may become a familiar feature in local meetings.

H. Neelands—"Why Be a Union Man?"

A. S. Wells—"Where Are We Heading?"

D. Rees—"Functions of a Trade Union."

W. Lee—"A Dog's Life, His Aims and Objects."

G. Hardy—"Our Class Position—Or Proportional Representation."

B. Showler—"Getting Together."

W. Youhill—"Arbitration."

V. R. Midgley—"Evolution of Trade Unions."

J. H. McVety—"Workmen's Compensation."

W. Thomas—"The Trade Union Movement."

C. Rouse—"Organization."

Other members of unions who have promised to assist include Bros. Pritchard, Winch and Welsh, but they have not yet named their subjects. A supplementary list of other speakers will be published next week.

ROYAL COMMISSION TO BE APPOINTED

F. W. Welsh to Represent the Men—Mr. Justice Murphy Chairman

At the last meeting of the Vancouver Metal Trades Council it was decided that no work would be done by members of the affiliated organizations on any ships from sound cities. This decision was arrived at owing to the attempts that have been made to have work done on the Admiral Watson. This course has also been adopted in Victoria. The request for a Royal Commission to go into the whole shipyard situation has been granted by the government, and the Metal Trades Council elected F. W. Welsh as the representative of the men. Coughlan's has not decided on their representative. E. H. Morrison of the Electrical Workers has been requested to act as counsel for the men. Mr. Justice Murphy has been agreed upon as the chairman of the commission.

SALMON ARM NOW HAS LABOR ORGANIZATION

Branch of Federated Labor Party Was Formed Last Sunday Evening

Quite a large number of the progressive residents of Salmon Arm and district were present at the meeting in the Finn Hall, last Friday. Mr. George F. Stirling was the speaker of the evening. He went into the subject of trade and commerce, discussing particularly the theory (held by many prominent financiers and business men) that the exports of a country should greatly exceed the imports in value.

He showed that the difficulty of finding fresh markets for the enormous surplus of commodities is increasing steadily, and it is this competition for markets that causes the friction and antagonism resulting in war.

Mr. Stirling made his subject very clear and interesting, and drew the conclusion that the exports should about equal the imports in value, so that all the people, while having an abundant supply of the products of their own industries, should also enjoy a goodly share of the necessities and luxuries imported from all foreign countries.

A small but rather hostile band of reactionaries were present at the meeting, and these gentlemen actually imagined they could prevent a branch of the Labor Party being formed at Salmon Arm. As well might they endeavor to prevent the morning sunrise, which dispels the darknes of night.

This opposition objected to the suggestions that the recent war was caused by trade competition; and also to the proposal that the government should take over the C. P. R. Their remarks on these points enlivened the proceedings considerably, and Mr. Stirling made short work of replying to their objections.

At the close of the meeting the Salmon Arm branch of the Labor Party was organized with twenty-five members. The following officers were appointed.

President, Jack Chapple; vice-presidents, A. E. Tweeddale and Frank Coleman; secretary-treasurer, Alf. Johnson; organizer, George Stirling.

U. S. SOCIALISTS AND PASSPORTS FOR EUROPE

Question to Be Aired in Both Legislative Houses in the United States

Chicago—Both branches of congress, the senate and the house of representatives, will hear about the discrimination against the American Socialist party in the granting of passports to Europe, according to the plans of the party officials here.

Adolph Germer, national secretary of the party, under instructions from the national executive committee, sent a telegram to Meyer London of New York City, the lone socialist representative in congress, as follows:

"National executive committee asks you to raise questions of personal privilege and protest against discrimination in refusing passports. Our delegates are as much entitled to passports as Gompers to represent reactionary labor policy and Wickersham to represent Republican party."

Representative London will be instructed to point out that every conceivable form of organization, except the Socialist party, has been granted passports. Gompers heads a special mission of the American Federation, while Charles Edward Russell and John Spargo have gone abroad on behalf of the Social-Democracic league, a fictitious organization that exists only on paper. Mr. Wickersham, the attorney general in the Taft cabinet, is in Europe on behalf of the Republican party. No reason is given for discrimination against the Socialist party.

Although the Socialists have no member in the United States, it is planned to have the facts placed in the hands of some Republican or Democratic member and have him bring up the matter in the senate jointly with Representative London in the house.

Defeat Constitution

Little Rock, Ark.—The proposed state constitution has been rejected by the voters of this state. One of the jokers provided that not less than one-half of the designated percentage of the electors in 20 counties must be obtained. In addition the initiators would be compelled to pay the expense of publishing their proposals while under the present law the state pays for the publication in at least one newspaper in every county. Organized labor is agitating for a new direct legislation law.

QUESTIONS FOR THOSE BOOSTING ALIEN DEPORTATION

To Mayor Gale, Officers of Great War Veterans Association and others:

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LONGSHOREMEN HOLD DANCE

Celebration of Amalgamation of Forces on Wednesday Evening

The Longshoremen beat the ban placed on dances by a short head. On Wednesday evening, the Amalgamation dance and whist drive, to celebrate the amalgamation of the Longshoremen's Auxiliary with Local 38-52 of the International Longshoremen's Association, was held at Lester Court. The usual high standard in social functions for which the Longshoremen are famous, was upheld, and a splendid list of prizes were provided for the winners in the whist drive. The dance hall was nicely filled ,and many had to be turned away who had not bought tickets, but left it to chance as to whether they would gain admission by paying the fee at the door. No doubt it will be a lesson to them in the future ,as they missed a treat by their tardiness. During the evening, A. S. Wells, secretary-treasurer of the B. C. Federation of Labor, addressed the gathering briefly. Refreshments were served in the dining hall during the evening.

PITY THE BLIND

[By K. C. Jones]

A capitalist asked me the other day if I considered for a moment that I could represent his class, if I were elected to parliament. My answer was, No.

I then put exactly the same question to him, viz., if he considered he could represent my class if he was elected a member of parliament; his answer was, yes, he certainly could, and the poor blind fool believed he was telling the truth.

So I then took him in tow to find out how much he knew about the labor class, and here are a few of the questions I asked him, along with his answers:

Q. How much does capital produce in one year?

A. Everything.

Q. How much does labor produce in one year?

A. Wages.

If the above questions had read "get" instead of produce, the answers might be fitted in a little better.

Q. What is capital? A. Capital represents the ownership of the means of production.

Q. Who made this machinery which you call the means of production? A. My workmen, labor.

Q. How much of it did you make? A. Oh, I was in England when it was being made.

Q. That being the case, labor must own it? A. No. I paid all the men that made it, so it belongs to me.

Q. But if you never work where do you get the money to pay these men? A. I borrowed it from the bank.

Q. Where did the bank get it? A. They got it from the people that work for safekeeping. You see at no time do the men get paid until they have worked two weeks, and in that length of time they have spent the wages they got two weeks ago, and it is in the bank again. So I borrow it again and pay it out to them in wages. After the machinery is all made it belongs to me, only I owe the bank, and as I am the president of the bank, it all belongs to me.

I now put the machinery to work and fire all the men except half a dozen, and do you know that machinery is capable of making me $300 a day less the wages I pay my men, which is $5.00 each, making a total of $30. I am a good union man and always pay the union rate.

Q. So you make $270 per day. A. Yes.

Q. What do you do for it? A. I am the owner.

Q. Are you a union man? A. Yes.

Q. Well, all you should get is $5.00 per day. But—

But nothing, how long would you keep your men if they did not earn their $5.00 per day? A. I would fire them.

Q. Well, do you know that that is exactly what the men are thinking of doing with you, firing you?

Q. What for? A. Being a damned thief. And yet you are one of the men who says you could represent the laboring class in parliament. But, the most astounding thing about it all is that you do represent them in parliament. "Pity the poor blind."

Hawthornthwaite Replied to in Victoria

(Continued on Page 8)

viki, for if they hung every Grand duke and every general without an army, and all the rest of tyrannous ruling class outfit of Russia, they could never attain to one ten-thousandth part of the atrocities practiced under the Czar. We could rest assured that all the stories of Bolsheviki atrocities were 99 per cent. falsehood and the rest a lie! Such men as Col. Thompson, Raymond Robbins, John Reed and Arthur Ransome, tell an entirely different tale from what we read daily in the capitalist press. Russia was never so orderly and free from atrocities, and all who were going to Siberia with the intention of beating up the Bolsheviki would be well advised to think twice before they tackled that job.

Even the tyrannous land barons had not suffered any violence from the Bolsheviki, unless when they offered resistance. These barons received the same quota of land as the peasants, and so long as they were industrious they were perfectly safe. It was only those Russian barons without land and Russian generals without armies who were now in Paris raising such a cry against the Bolsheviki, and saying it would be dishonorable to meet them. Touching on the peace conference, Mr. Kingsley said they were certainly a nice bunch. All this talk of league of nations, no wars, etc., was just so much hypocritical bunk. The United States and Great Britain were making bigger guns than ever, the British navy was to be maintained, so that freedom of the seas might be insured. How did navies originate?

The precursor of the present gigantic fleets of fighting machines was the pirate of the high seas. In earlier days it was a regular means of getting revenue, by equipping a fleet and setting out on a marauding expedition, robbing merchantment, until eventually it became a permanent institution in every capitalistic country, and while a single fighting ship was left there could be no freedom of the seas. As for no more war, we might as well forget it, for while the exploiting system lasted there would be war after war, each one more fierce and terrible than the previous one. Never in history had there been such a conflict as had just been finished in Europe.

The rulers had conjured up a spectre that would not down and that was not confined to Russia alone. The working class is not infallible and make mistakes. Anyone, however, who says the Bolsheviki are killing and burning, speaks falsely; no man can read the record of Trotsky and Lenine and think of them otherwise than as truthful and courageous men, valiant in the cause of working class emancipation.

Kerensky wished to form a bourgeois republic the same as the United States, than which there was no more reactionary or backward country, no country with such an apology for a labor movement, bourgeois to the core, with scarcely a grain of revolutionary thought. We in Canada do not want any rough stuff if it can be avoided, but just now there was a military shebang in Canada; our literature was banned, our correspondence scrutinized; but we had still some semblance of political rights. The time would come when we would be able to express our will at the polls, and woe to him who would attempt to thwart the will of the majority. (Loud cheers.)

A collection of $50.50 was taken.

Many people have an entirely wrong notion of the criminal law, and, hence, are oft dissatisfied with its operations. They conform law with justice—the broad bed-rock basis with the little structures of statutes men have erected upon it. For instance, the kaiser cannot be convicted under the criminal law because his offense was against "the basic law of humanity." A new law and a new court, drawing its authority from a new order, must be provided. There are other examples.

Care is necessary lest in the gaining of victory the nation loses its soul. "What destroyed the German soul," says the eminent London divine, Dr. Campbell, "was her crushing victory over France in 1870."

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