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THE BRITISH COLUMBIA LABOR NEWS

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Trades Council Wants Breweries Organized

Bricklayers Affiliate with Council—Carpenters Still Obtain Old Scale of Pay—Resolution Wants Breweries Placed on Unfair List—O.B.U. Obstructs Organization Work—Another Effort to be Made to Organize Brewery Workers in City.

An application for affiliation was received from the Bricklayers Union at the regular business meeting of the Trades and Labor Council Tuesday evening. The application was accepted.

Delegates from the Hotel and Restaurant Employees' Union, Musicians Union and Bricklayers Union were obligated.

A communication from the Stove Mounters International Union informing the Council that the Enterprize stoves are on the unfair list. A carload of these stoves are now being handled by T. McArthur & Co., of Vancouver.

Reporting for the organization committee, Del. Pettipiece informed the council that he and President Crawford had approached the Street Railwaymen's Union on the subject of affiliation with the Council and were given a favorable reception. The union now has the matter under consideration. Other unions will be visited in the near future.

Under the heading of reports from unions, Del. Thom, of the Carpenters, informed the council that the Master Builders had made use of the daily press in an attempt to reduce wages, but the workers had stood pat and the contractors found that they were not in a position to put it into effect. Carpeners are therefore still getting the old pay and will not accept a reduction at this time. He was glad to see the Bricklayers back in the council and hoped they could get together in the threatened trouble.

Del. Smith (Bricklayers), said that the trouble was only imaginary. The builders resorted to the press to bluff the workers but cannot make it stick at this time.

Del. Skinner, reporting for the Typographical Union, said that the strikers were still making steady progress and asked the dels. to see that all printing was done in union shops.

Del. Graham reported conditions favorable and urged organized labor t ocontinue to ask for the union shop card and button in restaurants.

Unfair Beer

Del. Davis (Pile Drivers and Wooden Bridgemen) introduced a resolution calling attention to the fact that beer was being produced in all breweries in the province, with the exception of Victoria, by unorganized labor and desired it to be placed on the unfair list.

Del. McKenzie (Hotel and Restaurant Employees) while favoring the resolution, thought that it was a little too sweeping in its nature, and was of the opinion that it would be far better to give the owners fair warning before taking action. He stated that he had made several attempts to organize the men and while many were favorable, a few One Big Union followers had disrupted every attempt, although they themselves did not organize the men. The Victoria breweries had been 100 per cent organized for a long time and he was perfectly willing to make another attempt to organize the men, although he might be again obstructed by the disrupters.

Del. Welsh (Plumbers) said that the breweries had been fair to organized labor for a number of years and if the men were not willing to organize then the management were not to blame.

Getting Together Again

Del. Pettipiece (Typographical) made an amendment to the effect that the resolution be forwarded to the breweries informing them that it would be deal with a month hence, the council in the meantime to make efforts to organize the men. He pointed out that the whole labor movement had recently been disrupted and now that it was getting together again, an effort should be made to reorganize the brewery workers before taking drastic action. If the men refused to organize then it would be up to the management to get some who would, or be placed on the unfair list.

Del. Showler (Teamsters) said that the boss didn't give us a month to decide, he clubbed us right away. The breweries were working their truck drivers to death and he had been informed that the men were scared to talk organization because the O.B.U. element informed the boss and had caused men to be canned.

Two Weeks Grace

Del. Hardy (Carpenters) made an amendment to the amendment to lay the resolution over till the next council meeting, the executive in the meantime to take up the matter with the brewery workers and the breweries.

Del. Bartlett (Blacksmiths) favored the amendment because he thought the brewery owners wanted the O.B.U. to stand in the way of International organizations, and the amendment would give the bosses notice that the council meant business and would not let anything stop in its way of organizing the workers.

Del. Bengough (Machinists) stated that he and Del. Crawford had attempted to hold a meeting with the brewery workers some time ago and although there was a goodly number who wanted to join the union, they were scared that someone would tell the boss and they would get fired the same as others had been.

Del. McKenzie stated that the management of the Kamloops (Rainier Beer) Brewery had practically told him to go to hell when he started to organize the men.

Del. President Crawford stated that he would drink water even if it kills, rather than be sidetracked from organizing the brewery workers.

The amendment to the amendment carried.

To Take Over News

The council went into executive session on the question of taking over the ownership of the B. C. Labor News. A referendum now before the unions on the question of being completed, the matter was laid over until the next meeting of the council.

JOBLESS WOMEN IN DIRE STRAITS

Girls in Serious Straits in Vancouver — No Relief Given

The Trades and Labor Council has granted the use of one of its halls daily to the unemployed women of Vancouver. An effort is being made to organize them in order to bring the serious situation home to the authorities. Among those present at the meetings are many girls living in single rooms away from their parents, and these are naturally in dire circumstances because the authorities make no provision for the relief of single girls and women. Some girls have been out of work for many months and others manage to do a few odd jobs to keep the wolf from the door.

Three weeks ago 60 girls were laid off from the Stettler cigar factory. These same girls, along with eighty others, had been laid off two months previously, and had been re-engaged for one week. During that week the majority of them managed to earn about $7. Many other firms in the city have laid off large numbers of girls, hence the situation needs attending to at once by the authorities.

Mrs. Woodsworth, Lorimer, Booth and Graham are taking active parts in organizing the women.

RICHARDSON GOING EAST

Tom Richardson, ex-labor member in the British House of Commons, is leaving for Winnipeg next week. He is willing to accept one or two meetings in B. C. en route, provided same can be arranged immediately. Wire B. C. Labor News.

DENVER, Colo.—Because they refused to obey a court order to return to work in the meat packing plants, 27 strikers, including one woman, were sentenced by District Judge Morley to jail for terms ranging from one to 60 days.

MONSTER LABEL TRADES SOCIAL

Big Turnout and Surplus at Union Label Trades Last Dance

A monster Whist Drive and Dance was held by the Vancouver Label Trades Committee in conjunction with the Printing Trades in the Cotillion Hall last Friday. These monthly events have been getting more popular with each one, but that held last Friday practically staggered the committee. Forty-three tables were used in the Whist Drive and more could have been used had the cards been available. The dance floor was packed and the time was extended an hour in order to give everybody a rattling good time. All the committees were kept on the jump and were pretty well fatigued when it was over. Del. McDonald had charge of the door and was assisted by Dels. Hanafin and Herriet. Del. Mrs. Dolk had charge of the refreshments and was assisted by Dels. A. Graham and Mrs. Mahon. H. W. Watts had charge of the Whist Drive and was assisted by Dels. Wheatcroft and Hardy. Del. Skinner had charge of the dance floor and was assisted by Dels. Myers, Trotter and Warde and Miss Margy Black.

Prize Winners

The Whist prizes and winners were as follows: Ladies first prize, leather covered post card album, made by members of the Bookbinders Union, and won by Mrs. F. Gray, score 123; ladies second prize, a Dyer Kiss, won by Mrs. F. Gilbert, score 122; ladies' booby, manicure set, won by Mrs. W. Ford, score 81.

Gents' first prize, union made hat, won by Mr. A. B. Curran, with a score of 124; second prize, card case, made by Bookbinders Union, won by F. W. Welsh, score 116; booby prize, hair brush, won by J. W. Caley, score 91.

Winner of Special Prize

The special prize, consisting of a suit of tailor made clothes, was won by Mrs. F. Scott, who was the holder of ticket No. 82. Mrs. Scott is the wife of a union barber. The cloth and trimmings for this suit was donated by the Tailors Union, and the tailoring was donated by Hartley F. Storry and Co., 650 Granville street.

The dance netted a surplus of $175.00.

NEXT SOCIAL FOR THEATRICAL TRADES

The next Whist Drive and Dance to be held under the auspices of the Union Label Trades will be held in conjunction with the Theatrical Trades in the Cotillion Hall, Friday, April 14th. Besides the usual good whist prizes, the dance will be continued until 2 a.m. to enable all the members of the Theatrical Trades to participate. Admission ladies 25c, gents 50c.

SEAFARERS ARE BEING VERY POORLY TREATED

The Federated Seafarers' Union of B.C. is protesting against the quality and the quantity of food being doled out to the men on the ships of the Canadian Merchant Marine. When the Canadian Highlander docked this week the men again complained, and it was pointed out that mush and potatoes were being served for breakfast while half a ton of meat was found in the refrigerator when she docked. The union held a successful dance recently in an effort to raise a defence fund for the 12 men who were imprisoned for refusing to work on the Canadian Winner with a non-union fireman. The dance netted a surplus of $43 and $208 was collected for the defence.

LITHUANIA WANTS UNION-MADE GOODS

Government Asks Machinist Union to Purchase Equipment for Lithuania —

WASHINGTON.—Following upon the success of the Mexican government in negotiating purchases of machinery and railroad equipment in the United States through the International Association of Machinists and their banking connections, the government of Lithuania has opened correspondence with the union to ascertain the possibility of a like arrangement. The machinists have charged no commission, and have been satisfied to place the orders in shops employing union men. Millions of dollars' worth of American machinery has been produced and shipped to Mexico, during the past year, under this agreement.

If an agreement is made with the Lithuanians, it is likely that the machinists will seek to enlarge their European business through an active canvass on the Continent.

PILEDRIVING JOB AT ESQUIMALT UNFAIR

The pile driving work on the Esquimalt drydock has been placed on the unfair list by the Pile Drivers' Union, and the Victoria Trades and Labor Council, on account of the attempt by the sub-contractors, McDonald, Watson & Wither, to reduce wages. It is understood that the Lyall Construction Co. favors the old scale and an effort is being made to effect a settlement.

PRINTERS MAKING STEADY GAINS

Steady progress is still being made in connection with the Printers' lockout in Vancouver. Union shops are kept busy doing work formerly done by non-union shops, and this has depleted the ranks of the locked out printers. The International assessment has been reduced to 5 per cent and the organization has over one million dollars in its strike fund at he present time.

WORLD HUNGRY FOR GOODS, WORKERS STARVE

"Despite the fact that the world is hungry for goods, there are two millions of our people on the border of starvation, while seven milloins are living on weekly payments provided by those who are working."

With this solemn and appalling sentence, J. R. Clynes, M.P., summed up his indictment of the British government at a recent meeting. He reviewed the government's callous breaches of promises and the neglect to use its power for remedial measures. "Things might have been very different now," he said, "if statesmen had had forethought and wisdom had been exercised. The underlying cause of the present trouble was the folly of the ministers on the one hand, and, on the other, their fear of disturbing the existing order or disorder of the present social and economic system.

An agreement is being negotiated between the stevedoring companies and the International Longshoremen's Union. The only changes asked for by the companies are in connection with working conditions affecting a small amount of the work.

BAKERY SALESMEN

Bakery Salesmen are holding a smoking concert in the Labor Hall Tuesday evening.

Get your printing done on Union Made Watermarked Paper through the B. C. Labor News.

Union Label Trades Monthly Whist Drive and Dance

THEATRICAL TRADES

Friday, April 14, 8 p.m.

Cotillion Hall

Whist Drive 8 to 10 Dancing 9 to 2

Tickets: Gents' 50c; Ladies' 25c

Mexican Workers Are Using Political Power

Yucatan Celebrates Inauguration of Socialist Governor—Entire Legislature Controlled by Labor—Land Goes Back to the Peasants—Ice and Light Free—Big Labor Bloc in Congress — 200 Labor Councils in One State

MERIDIA, Yucatan, Mexico. — Felipe Carrillo took the oath of office last month as Constitutional Governor of the State of Yucatan, to which office he was elected last November for a term of four years, by a Socialist vote representing 90 per cent. of the voting population.

An entire Socialist administration is now in control of the state government, and the tens of thousands of henequen hemp workers, who comprise the vast majority of the citizens, are rejoicing and expressing their love for Felipe, as everyone calls him, their hero. Said one of them, speaking the other day:

"Capitalism, which bound the worker with ropes of henequen, is today officially hanged with that same rope."

Carrillo is President of the Socialist party of the Southeast, which comprises the membership in the states of Yucatan, Campeche, Tabasco and Chiapas. He is also secretary-treasurer of the Mexican Federation of Labor, and when he was elected Governor was a member of the lower house of the National Congress.

Political Struggle Ended

In his inaugural address Carrillo said:

This is a great day for all workers; a day of happiness and contentment, because today one of the great dreams of the Socialist party is realized, the gaining of control of political power. Today our struggle for political power ends, and we begin the work of putting into practice the economic programme of Socialism."

Socialist Congress

The entire state is in festival array, and many guests are in Merida attending the inauguration, including Francisco Sarrano, the newly appointed Secretary of War; 80 of the 105 members of the Socialist block in Congress and the Socialist Governor of the adjoining state of Campeche.

The State Legislature and the municipalities of Yucatan had offered the freedom of the state and cities to Eugene V. Debs, and much regret is expressed here because the state of Debs' health would not permit him to make the journey.

Free Electric Light

As a part of the celebration new public utilities were placed in operation in various towns and villages. In the pueblo (village) of Halacho, a new electric plant was opened, which will supply light and ice to the citizens free of charge. In Mexcanu a fund for Russian famine relief was started.

Thirty thousand acres of land in various parts of the state were returned to the peasants.

The Legislature is composed of 16 representatives, all of whom, under the new administration, are members of the Socialist party, as is every mayor and every other elected official in more than 200 towns and villages throughout the state.

JACK JONES, M.P. ON ECONOMY

British Labor Member Replies to the King's Speech in Parliament

Jack Jones, Labor M.P. in the British House of Commons, made the following reply to the speech from the Throne which needless to say was not reported in the daily press.

"We are going to have reform of the House of Lords. Gentlemen who are sitting round are going to be lords. Lord help us. The hereditary principle is going to be made permanent. Those of us who are not fit to govern will eventually be offered jobs. Probably we may be 'axed' to be Lord Chancellors, and then we will get the Geddes' axe! The House of Lords is going to be reformed. We are in favor of reforming it. Some of us here are going to de-form it! We are going to mend it by ending it! There is only one place for it, and that is oblivion, particularly when we get a Lord Chancellor of the kind that we have got now, who is a hooligan with a halo. We are being insulted by those who pretend to know more than we do. Labor is said to be unfit to govern, but we have seen an example of Government here. We have heard the explanations of the Prime Minister, and the policy pursued by his party. The right hon. gentleman stated that after three years of conferences we are practically where we were at the beginning, and they are asking the country to get them out of the mess. Labor is not fit to govern. There is not a word in this Royal Speech which is not a contradiction of the policy laid down by the Government three years ago. Every word of this speech is an absolute contradiction of the promises made to the people of this country.

Fit for Heroes

Take the men who fought in the war. In my own constituency the allowances of these men are being put down from 20 to 40 per cent. Where is the land fit for heroes to live in now? (Interruption). It is quite easy for fat men to talk, and for men who have made fortunes out of the war to make grimaces at me, but what does all this mean. This Royal Speech is an insult to the intelligence of the workers of this country. What do the statements made by members of the Government mean? What do the people of this country expect with two million unemployed and ten million dependants? What is going to happen to us? The Government have no policy of a definite character to meet the existing situation but economy. On what lines is economy going to be exercised? I saw economy at work today. I saw the Royal coaches going along the Strand and down Whitehall. Was that economy? There were gilded coaches, thousands of troops and bands playing. Is that economy? All gilded popinjays, and they were operating for all they were worth. Where is the real economy? (Interruption.) Hon. members opposite do not like this, but they have got to have it.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member should understand that he ought to address me in the Chair and not hon. members opposite.

Mr. Jones: I cannot help noticing the faces which hon. members are making.

Mr. Speaker: I should like the hon. member to cultivate a little of the courtesy which other hon. members show to him.

Mr. Jones: I think when people talk about economy they should remember the kind of economy which is generally practised by the Government. I saw today an exhibition of extravagance which I very much regret. I saw the Royal Procession. That was an exhibition of extravagance in view of the fact that hon. members of this House have been called upon to vote for economy. If we cannot afford to give our children a decent education, we cannot afford great processions of people who, after all, are useless to the community.

AMBITIONS OF JAPAN'S MILITARISTIC GROUP

"The militaristic group in Japan," says Margaret Sanger, "is strongly opposed to me and my principles of birth control.

"A quota of 100,000,000 as the population for Japan has been set by this group. There are 57,000,000 now. They said that with a population of 100,000,000 they 'will have the right to speak in world affairs.'

"The 'right to speak' as voiced by the militarists can be interpreted but in one way: The power to speak in a way that, with their immense population, will brook no argument.

"If Japan refuses to take birth control, if she will not accept it as her national policy, I think her plans and intentions are obvious."

The Federated Labor Party has started a membership drive. Dues for husband wife are 50c for three months.

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Baking Powder

THE B.C. LABOR NEWS

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H. W. WATTS - Editor and Manager

LOOK BEFORE YOU LEAP

Although the workers in South Africa were brutally clubbed into taking direct action against the powers that be, we are again reminded—as a result of the defeat—that all the forces of so-called law and order are marshalled against the workers whenever they rise up in arms against the ruthless economic conditions of the present system. It might be pointed out, however, that adherents to the Fourth International (Anti-parliamentarians) took an active part in the strike from its inception and many dynamitings took place more than a month before the battle, which resulted in the enrolling of over 2,000 special constables and the introduction of aeroplanes for patrol work anad transfer of troops from Pretoria. It might also be pointed out that the Nationalists led the workers to believe that the government could be overthrown and that a new government—led by General Hertzog—would right the workers' cause. Whether or not this was taken seriously by the workers is a question that cannot be answered here, but we note that the Nationalists left the brunt of the fighting to the strikers, who were attacked by all the modern instruments and tactics of warfare.

THE COAL MINERS REWARD

The proposed 25 per cent. slash in miners' wages in both the United States and Canada is nothing else but a campaign of greed upon the part of the mine owners. Most miners have been working short time, even as low as two days a week for many months, not on account of high wages keeping up the price of coal, but because high prices have kept down consumption. The labor cost of producing a ton of coal amounts to an average of $1.97. The cost of transportation is not so great as to add another $6 or $8 to the price paid by the consumer. The proposed cut will reduce the labor cost of producing a ton of coal 49 cents. That amount will no doubt be added to the mine owners' profits, while the miners' wages will be brought down to between $3.50 and $4.50 a day, and in the case of boys and helpers to as low as $1.45 a day.

When we realize that 500 lives are lost every year in the anthracite mines of Canada and the U. S. A., and that 20,000 miners are injured every year, it appears to be nothing else than an outrage to allow the mines to remain any longer in the hands of private corporations. Either the mines must be nationalized by the government or labor will be forced into battle for the confiscation of the mines.

MEXICO LEADS THE WAY

It is quite a relief to learn that the long spurned Mexican has advanced to the point where he has laid aside his gun and has used the ballot to gain control of the powers of government. Mexico today leads the way on the American continent for labor legislation. Not only do we find labor in control of the Congress, but we find that most of the Ministers are old and tried Trades Unionists and Socialists.

One of the big things we note is the protection given strikers by legislative and military forces. When we look back to the many times that the military and police forces have been used against strikes in Canada, and of the recent attacks upon strikers in Rhode Island and West Virginia, and of the ferocious display of military force in Newport, Kentucky, we seriously ask the question "when will labor throw aside its petty differences on the political and industrial field and line up solid against the unscrupulous ruling class of the world?"

All the necessary machinery for solidarity is at hand in the American Federation of Labor, which with a little fixing can easily be utilized for a United Front.

In the Labor Party we have an organization through which the workers can elect working class representatives to the legislative chambers. Instead of dividing labor by means of hair-splitting differences and wild dogmatic tactics, our efforts should be directed to gaining the confidence of the masses in order to obtain their support for Labor candidates at all elections. If the Labor movement has not moved fast enough for you, it is up to you to get into it and make it move faster in your community.

Join the Labor Party.

Put on your fighting togs—Spring is here.

"Where does the 'Province' get 'Jiggs'," roared a Vancouver parson from his pulpit. Profound theological conundrum.

Unemployment is being gradually reduced but it is now in order for the authorities to prepare for next winter.

The new Minister of Labor appears to be closely following in the footsteps of Gideon Robertson. The only difference we have noted is that Murdock uses a little more patriotic bombast.

The two big victories recently gained by the British Labor Party gives them a representation of 74 in the House of Commons. No wonder Lloyd George is afraid of an election contest.

Samuel Hill, Seattle capitalist, has been awarded the third-class Order of The Sacred Treasure by the Emperor of Japan. We call this mean considering the fact that Sam has always been a first-class lover of cheap coolie labor.

Business and professional men have been hard hit during the past winter. A few more winters of the same treatment will just about convince them that a revolutionary change in the present system of wealth production is needed.

Down in Texas someone has invented a "truth serum" which renders the subject unable to lie. If there is any of it left after Uncle Sam is supplied, it would be a capital idea to lay in a quantity for use upon our side-stepping politicians, shifty bank presidents and uncouth oil stock promoters.

The Russian Church has decreed the confiscating of church treasure for the benefit of famine sufferers. When those who pretend to represent the "Meek and Lowly One" are remiss in their duties, it is good to find at least one government that has the courage to remind them.

The Federation of Labor Unions of Kwangtung Province, China, has a membership of 400,000. It engineers strikes, walkouts and wage increases in quite the approved trade-union fashion. It has succeeded in raising wages from 20 to 50 per cent. in the last year.

ODD BITS

(Conducted by Sydney Warren)

ALL NATIONS PROVERBS

"Beware of him who has nothing to lose."—Italian.

"There is no law but has in it a hole for him who can find it."—German.

"Good is the delay that makes sure."—Portuguese.

"Justice oft leans to the side where the purse hangs."—Danish.

"Submitting to one wrong often brings on another."—English.

* * *

GOOD TASTE AND POVERTY

Good taste, we have been told, has been since the time of the "Big Wind," an inherent virtue to which our blue-blooded "aristos" have had a closed market.

Consider the luxury and expenditure which attended the marriage of Princess Mary to Viscount Lascelles while, almost with the very shadow of Westminster Abbey itself, the pangs of hunger and destitution are felt by thousands of workers, and throughout the length and breadth of not only England, but the whole Empire, millions of producers, who have produced too much, are now vainly asking the privilege to earn the bare means of sustenance.

We hold no ill-will towards the royal couple for we know they are but pawns in snobocracy's game, but let us forebear to speak of good taste while we have Whitechapels and Bethnal Greens to remind us that the price for this tinselled display is paid for by the wilted and brutalized lives of workers, men, women and children.

* * *

MIND AND MORALS

Some people are continually looking for immorality in short skirts and bare backs, and in the excitement they lose sight of the source of all immorality. The grand court ladies of Louis XIII's time wore long skirts but their morals were certainly none the better for it. It is a curious truth that in many of the South Pacific islands the more clothes a woman has on the less virtue she possesses. We have seen women going about garbed in grass girdles but having qualities of virtue unknown to their native sisters, who, aping the white man's way, mistook clothes for morality and went about in Mother Hubbards but little else.

Immorality is not in the clothes we wear but the thoughts we think.

* * *

SPRING'S LESSON

Spring effects people in different ways—some write doggerel verse, some beat carpets, and still others embark upon matrimony or new business ventures. But the one thing Spring does for all of us is to cause us to give out, to expand.

Springtime is Life-time!

It is the growing and blossoming season when a world resurrected from winter vibrates with new life and color. It is the mating season when the harmonious seeds of union are sown.

The death of winter holds no terrors for Nature, for she has learned that winter is but the first step towards Spring. Perhaps we too will some day learn this lesson and take off Death's masque to see Love's smiling eyes.

* * *

HULET M. WELLS

The arrest and imprisonment of Hulet M. Wells, of Seattle, who was to speak here on behalf of the Russian famine sufferers, affords a clear example of the sinister purpose which Canadian immigration restrictions serve.

Had Hulet M. Wells been a dope runner, a booze emissary or a brothel house procurer he would have experienced little difficulty in entering Canada as this ilk enter and leave the Dominion at will. Wells, however, was none of these, but an intelligent worker, who had visited Russia, and, at the invitation of Canadian workers, was coming here to solicit aid for the Russian famine victims. At the border he was debarred as an undesirable and when he persisted and entered the Dominion and spoke for the Russian Famine Relief at New Westminster, he was arrested and charged with violating the immigration restriction laws.

Almost at the same time "Butcher" Gregorie Semenoff," arriving here with a young woman said to be "Mrs. Semenoff," en route to the United States to raise funds for a fresh slaughter in Siberia, were perfunctorily detained for a few days and then allowed to land and take up his residence at a local hotel. A henchman of the Siberian Attila violated Canadian immigration restrictions in coming from California to meet Semenoff. He was also detained but allowed to return to the United States within but a few days.

In view of the above it must be plain that our immigration restrictions are enforced only against those, who, conscious of the calamity Capitalism has brought to the world's workers, seek a change.

It may be regretted by some that Hulet M. Wells chose to violate the immigration laws since his legal position has thereby been jeopardized, but if by so doing it will focus the attention of Canadian workers to the viciousness of our immigration restrictions, it will serve a purpose.

113 WORRERS STILL IN AMERICAN JAILS

Industrial Workers and Farmers Given Long Sentences for Opposition to War

A new and revised list of the political prisoners remaining in Federal prisons was made public by the American Civil Liberties Union as a result of personal investigation at the prisons and correspondence with prisoners and their attorneys.

The list shows a total of 113 prisoners, one in Atlanta, three at McNeil's Island, Wash., and 109 at Leavenworth, Kan. Of the 113 prisoners, 95 are members of the I. W. W. and 10 are tenant farmers convicted of anti-draft activities in Oklahoma and Northern Texas.

Oklahoma Farmers

In 1917, before and after the draft act was passed, there was considerable agitation among the farmers of Oklahoma and Northern Texas against the draft. Several organizations among the farmers adopted anti-draft resolutions, and many of their members were active in opposing the draft. Some organized to resist its enforcement by arms. Chief among these organizations was the Working Class Union, organized in 1916 to improve the condition of the tenant farmers. Fifty-six farmers were indicted under Section 6 of the Penal Code and the Espionage Act, and all were convicted. Fifty-one of them were sentenced to one year and a day. Five of them got long sentences. Four of the five are still at Leavenworth.

Long Sentences

An indictment was returned July 28, 1918, at Guthrie, Okla., against Walter M. Reeder, B. F. Bryant and five others for anti-draft activities of a year previous. Each was sentenced to six years, which the Court of Appeals affirmed.

In May, 1917, 57 farmers were indicted at Luders, Texas, under section 6 of the penal code for conspiracy to resist the draft act by arms. They were tried in September and October. Having been sentenced to six years imprisonment, three of the men are still in prison.

ARMY OFFICIAL BACKS C. O. FOR PARLIAMENT

WINCHESTER, England—"I have never missed an opportunity of speaking, as a brigadier-general, on behalf of the pacifist if I respect him," said Brigadier-General Thompson, D.S.O. (Labor candidate for Bristol), at a meeting in support of A. W. Haycock, an objector during the world war, Labor candidate for Winchester.

"I have been 26 years a soldier," continued the general, "but I have never met a soldier who did not respect a real conscientious objector."

One conscientious objector has already been elected to Parliament on the Labor Party ticket at a by-election last spring.

WASHINGTON.—The American Federation of Labor affirmed its defiance of court injunctions in labor disputes. At a meeting of the executive council of the body here a resolution declaring against abiding by court injunctions was adopted.

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Trades Union Directory

Secretaries are requested to keep this Directory up-to-date

Vancouver Unions

VANCOUVER TRADES AND LABOR COUNCIL—President F. W. Welsh; Secretary, P. Bengough, Office 308 Labor Hall, 319 Pender Street West. Phone Seymour 7495. Meets in Labor Hall at 8 p.m. on the first and third Tuesday in month.

BUILDING TRADES COUNCIL—Chairman, G. C. Thom, Secretary, Roy Massecar, Office 210 Labor Hall. Meets first and third Wednesday in month at Labor Hall.

BAKERY SALESMEN, Local No. 371—President, J. Brightwell; Secretary, W. Bowron, 2849 Burns Ave. Meets at 319 Pender Street West on second Monday of each month at 8 p.m.

BREWERY, FLOUR, CEREAL AND SOFT DRINK WORKERS—President, F. P. Gpugh; Secretary, W. H. McLean, 2035 Broadway West. Meets at 319 Pender Street West at 8 p.m. every third Tuesday in month.

BARBERS' INTERNATIONAL UNION, Local No. 120—President, C. E. Herrett; Secretary, A. R. Jennie, 320 Cambie Street. Meets Room 313, 319 Pender Street West, at 7:15 p.m. on second and fourth Tuesdays in month.

BLACKSMITHS, DROP FORGERS & HELPERS, Local No. 151—President, W. J. Bartlett; Secretary, T. McHugh, 1666 Sixth Avenue West. Meets at 319 Pender Street West at 8 p.m. on third Tuesday of each month.

BOILERMAKERS, IRON SHIPBUILDERS & HELPERS, Local No. 194—President, P. Willis; Secretary, A. Fraser, Room 303, 319 Pender Street West. Meets at 319 Pender Street West, at 8 p.m. on first and third Mondays of each month.

BOOT AND SHOE WORKERS' UNION Local No. 505 — President, Thos. Andley; Secretary, Tom Cory, 445 Vernon Drive. Meets at 319 Pender Street West at 8 p.m. on first Tuesday in month.

BRICKLAYERS, MASONS AND PLASTERERS.—President, W. Kerr; Secretary, L. Padgett. Meets at Labor Hall on 2nd and 4th Wednesday in month.

BRIDGE, STRUCTURAL & ORNAMENTAL IRON WORKERS, Local No. 97—President, B. Bronson; Secretary, Roy Massecar, 319 Pender Street West. Meets at 319 Pender Street West, at 8 p.m., second and fourth Monday.

BOOKBINDERS, Local 105—President, Geo. Mowat; Secretary, Frank Milne, Box 411. Meets at 319 Pender Street West at 8 p.m. every third Wednesday in month.

CIVIC EMPLOYEES, Local No. 28—President, J. White; Secretary, G. Harrison. Office 148 Cordova Street West. Meets at 148 Cordova Street West at 8 p.m. on the first and third Friday in month.

CITY HALL EMPLOYEES' Local No. 59—President, H. A. Black; Secretary, Ald. W. J. Scribben, City Hall. Meets at 148 Cordova Street West, at 8 p.m. on first Wednesday of each month.

CARPENTERS, BROTHERHOOD, Local 452—President Geo. H. Hardy; Secretary, W. J. Johnston; Business Agent, G. C. Thom. Office 304 Labor Hall. Meets second and fourth Monday at 8 p.m. in Labor Hall.

CARPENTERS, AMALGAMATED, No. 1 Branch.—President, T. S. Coope; Business Agent, Angus MacSween; Secretary, R. O. Webber, 146 19th Ave. W. Meets 2nd and 4th Tuesday at 8 p.m., in F.L.P. Hall.
No. 2 Branch.—Secretary, W. Bray, 60 16th Ave. W. Meets 1st and 3rd Tuesday at 8 p.m., in F.L.P. Hall, 148 Cordova St. W.

CIGARMAKERS, Local No. 357—President, G. Thomas; Secretary, R. J. Craig, 36 Kootenay Street. Meets at 319 Pender Street West, at 8 p.m. on first Tuesday in month.

ELECTRICAL WORKERS, Local 213—President, D. W. McDougall; Secretary, F. R. Burrows; Business Agent, E.H. Morrison, Office 148 Cordova Street West. Meets at 148 Cordova Street West at 8 p.m. every Monday.

FIRE FIGHTERS, Local No. 18— President, Percy Trevise; Secretary, Chas. A. Watson, No. 3 Fire Hall, Twelfth and Quebec Streets, Vancouver. Meets at 319 Pender Street West.

GARMENT WORKERS, Local No. 160—President, Mrs. W. Mahon; Secretary, Miss May Ward, 477 Hornby Street. Meets at Labour Hall at 6 p.m. on first Thursday in month.

HOTEL & RESTAURANT EMPLOYEES Local No. 28—President, Harry Wood; Secretary, Andy Graham, 441 Seymour Street. Meets at 441 Seymour Street first and third Wednesday at 3:30. Second and fourth Wednesday at 8:30.

LATHERS, WOOD, WIRE & METAL, Local No. 207—President, A. B. Finly, Secretary, A. P. Surges, 329 Fifty-seventh Avenue East. Meets at 315 Holden Building, Vancouver, at 8 p.m. on first and third Fridays in month.

LITHOGRAPHERS, Local No. 44—President, H. J. Rhodes; Secretary, H. Walker, 1008 Pendrell Street. Meets at Room 309, 319 Pender Street West, at 8 p.m. on third Wednesday in month.

LOCOMOTIVE ENGINEERS, Brotherhood of. Division No. 320—President, G. P. Boston; Secretary, H. A. B. MacDonald, 1222 Pendrill St., Vancouver. Meets at I.O.O.F. Hall on second and Fourth Tuesdays in each month at 8 p.m.

LOCOMOTIVE FIREMEN AND ENGINEERS, Local No. 656—President, T. McEwen; Secretary, H. G. Campbell 744 Helmcken Street, Vancouver. Meets at I.O.O.F. Hall, on first and third Thursdays of each month.

LONGSHOREMEN'S ASSOCIATION, Local No. 38-52—Secretary-Treasurer, B. Nixon; Business Agent, W. Burns, 152 Cordova Street West. Meets at 152 Cordova Street West, at 8 p.m., on first and third Fridays in month.

MOVING PICTURE OPERATORS, Local No. 348—President, W. McCartney, 310 London Building; Secretary, G.W. Saxted, 310 London Building. Meets at 310 London Building on first Sunday in month at 7:30 p.m.

MAINTENANCE-OF-WAY EMPLOYEES & RAILWAY SHOP LABOURERS, Local No. 167—President, A. Osborne Secretary, A. D. McDonald, 991 Pender Street West, Vancouver. Meets at 8 p.m. on third Thursday in month.

MACHINISTS, Local 182 — President, Leo. George; Secretary, J. G. Keefe; Business Agent, P. Bengough; Office 319 Pender Street West. Meets at 319 Pender Street West at 8.00 p.m. on second and third Thursday.

MUSICIANS, Local No. 145—President, Bowyer; Secretary A Jamieson. 308 London Building. Meets at Moose Hall, Homer Street, at 10 a.m. on second Sunday in month.

FEDERATED SEAFARERS' UNION OF B. C.—President, Dan Canlin; Secretary, W. Donaldson, 108 Main St., meet at 7 p.m. first and third Wednesday.

MOULDERS, Local 281—President, John Brown; Secretary, Geo. Annand, 1255 Albert Street. Meets at Labour Hall at 8 p.m. on first and third Friday.

MACHINISTS, Lodge 692—President, E. H. Robb; Secretary, Evan McMillan; Business Agent, P. Bengough; Office 319 Pender Street West. Meets at Labour Hall at 8 p.m. on second and fourth Tuesday.

MILK DRIVERS AND DAIRY EMPLOYEES, Local No. 464—President, J. Smith; Secretary, B. Showler, 319 Pender Street West. Meets at 319 Pender Street West at 8 p.m. on second and fourth Fridays in month.

PAINTERS, DECORATORS & PAPERHANGERS, Local No. 138.— President, J. King; Fin. Sec., R. A. Baker; Rec. Sec., J. McMillan. 148 Cordova Street. Meets at 148 Cordova Street, at 8 p.m. on second and fourth Thursdays in month.

PILE DRIVERS, BRIDGE, WHARF & DOCK BUILDERS, Local No. 2404—President, W. H. Pollard; Secretary, N. H. Vernon, Box 320. Meets at 319 Pender Street West, Vancouver, at 8 p.m. on every Friday of month.

PHOTO ENGRAVERS' Local No. 54—President, F. Looney; Secretary, Gordon Edwards, 2723 Fifth Avenue West. Meets at World Building, Vancouver, at 8 p.m. on Saturday of each week.

PLASTERERS & CEMENT FINISHERS Local No. 89—President, Charles Keall, Secretary, Alfred Hurry, 861 Thirty-fourth Avenue East. Meets at 319 Pender Street West, at 8 p.m. on first Wednesday in month.

PATTERN MAKERS—President, O. Heys; Secretary, J. L. Irvine; Business Agent, E. A. Goddard, 856 Richards Street. Meets at 319 Pender Street West on first and third Monday in month at 8 p.m.

PLUMBERS AND STEAM FITTERS, Local No. 170—President, Bert Stirahcome; Secretary, J. Crowther; Business Agent, F .W. Welsh, Office 301 Labor Hall. Meets at 319 Pender Street West, at 8 p.m. on second and fourth Fridays.

POLICEMEN'S FEDERATION, Local No. 12—President, Roy A. Perry; Secretary, Alexander Murray, 1484 Tenth Avenue West. Meets at 440 Pender Street West, at 7:30 p.m. on fourth Tuesday of month.

PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTE—T. & L. C. Chairman, W. J. Bartlett Secretary, Mrs. W. Mahon. Meets in room 305 Labor Hall on the first and third Thursday in month at 8 p.m.

PRINTING PRESSMEN & ASSISTANTS Local No. 69—President, S. W. Myers; Secretary, E. B. Stephenson, Box 894. Meets at 112 Hastings Street, Vancouver, at 8 p.m. on second Tuesday in month.

RAILROAD EMPLOYEES, Division No. 59—President, A. N. Lowes; Secretary, Charles Bird, 2030 Union Street. Meets at I.O.O.F Hall, 515 Hamilton Street, at 8 p.m. on first Monday in month.

RAILWAY CONDUCTORS, Division No. 267—President, G. W. Hatch; Secretary J. B. Physick 1156 Thurlow Street. Meets at I.O.O.F. Hall on first Sunday at 2 p.m., and on third Thursday at 8 p.m.

RAILWAY CARMEN, Lodge No. 58.—President, T. Sommerville; Secretary, B. J. Sansom, 5630 Sherbrooke St Meets 1st and 3rd Fridays, in Cotillion Hall.

RAILWAY TRAINMEN, Local No. 144—President, C. A. Mitchell; Secretary, D. A. Munro, 70 Seventh Avenue West. Meets at I.O.O.F Hall, Hamilton Street at 7:30 p.m. on first Tuesday and 2:30 p.m.on third Tuesday.

SAWMILL FILERS & SAWYERS' ASSOCIATION—President C. F. C. Craig; Secretary, Geo. Gray, 1638 First Ave. East. Meets at Eagles' Hall, Vancouver at 2:30 p.m. on first and third Sundays in month.

TEAMSTERS, Local No. 655—President, W. M. Brown; Secretary, Birt Showler. Office 309 Labor Hall. Meets second and fourth Wednesday at 8 p.m. in Labor Hall.

SHAKERS' UNION—Business Agent, R. Townsend. Meets at 7 p.m. every Monday at 163 Cordova Street West

SOFT DRINK DISPENSERS' UNION, No. 676—President, Frank McCann, Secretary, T. J. Hanafin, 2376 Sixth Avenue West, Vancouver. Meets at 441 Seymour Street, Vancouver, at 2:30 p.m. on first Sunday in month.

STEAM & OPERATING ENGINEERS, Local No. 620—President, Joseph Weelman. Meets at 319 Pender St., W. Vancouver, at 7:30 p.m. on second and fourth Tuesdays in month.

STEREOTYPERS AND ELECTROTYPERS, Local No. 88.—President, W. Bayley; Secretary, A. Birnie, 2626 Commercial Drive. Meets at 319 Pender Street West at 8 p.m. on second Monday in month.

STREET & ELECTRIC RAILWAY EMPLOYEES OF AMERICA, Amalgamated Association of, Division No. 101—President, R. Rigby; Secretary, F. E. Griffin, 447 Sixth Avenue East, Vancouver. Meets A.O.F. Hall, Mount Pleasant at 10:15 a.m. on first Monday and 7 p.m. on third Monday.

STONE CUTTERS, Local 162—President, C. Dolmas; Secretary, F. Rumble, 196 Gothard Street. Meets in Labor Hall Vancouver at 8 p.m. first Tuesday in month.

TELEGRAPHERS (C.P.R. System No. 1)—Chairman, W. M. Brise; Secretary, J. Cunningham. Box 4321, Vancouver, B.C.

TELEPHONE OPERATORS — Local 77 A.I.B.E.W. Secretary, Miss F. Fencroft Office Room 308 Labor Hall, 319 Pender Street, West.

TAILORS' UNION, Local No. 178—President, A. Mitchell; Secretary, C. McDonald, P.O. Box 503. Meets at 319 Pender Street West, at 8 p.m. on first Monday in month.

TYPOGRAPHICAL, Local 226—President C. H. Collier; Secretary and Business Agent, R. N. Neelands; Office 316 Labor Hall. Meets last Sunday in each month at 2 p.m.

THEATRICAL STAGE EMPLOYEES—Local 118—President W. J. Park; Secretary, G. W. Allin; Business Agent, Meets at 308 London Building at 9:30 a.m. on second Friday in month.

Provincial Unions

VICTORIA—President, C. Sievertz, 1728 Denman Street; Secretary E. Woodward, 1252 Carlin Street. Meets at 8 p.m. on first and third Wednesdays in month at Trades Hall, Broad Street.

VICTORIA TYPOGRAPHICAL UNION, No. 201.—President, C. K. Christian; Secretary-treasurer, W. H. Ozard. Box 209. Meets last Sunday of month in New Trades Hall, Broad Street.

PRINCE RUPERT—President, S. D. McDonald, Prince Rupert; Secretary, G. Waddell, Box 452, Prince Rupert. Meets at Carpenters' Hall on second and fourth Tuesdays of each month.

NELSON—President J. Lotman, Nelson; Secretary, Felix Pesenl, Box 624 Nelson.

REVELSTOKE—President James Mathie, Revelstoke; Secretary, Philip Parker, Box 224, Revelstoke. Meets at 8 p.m. at City Hall, Revelstoke, on the second and fourth Saturday of each month.

NEW WESTMINSTER — President, H. Knudsen, 403 Royal Avenue; Secretary, R. Morgan, 312 Regina Street New Westminster. Meets second and fourth Wednesdays in month at Labour Temple, New Westminster.

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ALBERTA FARMERS LAUNCH NEW PAPER

Another link in the chain of an independent progressive press is to hand in the first issue of "The U. F.A." At their recent convention the United Farmers of Alberta adopted a resolution, by a practically unanimous vote, approving a proposal from the Central Executive that, in view of the increasing demand for a provincial paper to interpret the movement of the United Farmers of Alberta, "The U. F. A. as an organization should wholly or at least hold a controlling interest in any such plan or scheme of organization as the Board of Directors may think best."

In pursuance of this authority the first number of "The U.F.A." has appeared, bearing the date of March 1st. It is published in magazine form, twenty pages — liberally sprinkled with advertising—and will appear until further notce twice a month. It is edited by W. Norman Smith, who for the past twelve months has had charge of the U.F.A. Publicity and Educational Department.

It commences with an assured circulation of 37,000, representing the entire U.F.A. membership; the membership fees having been increased at the above convention to provide for the same being forwarded to each.

Often have critics of the capitalist order of society pointed out that the central wrong of the system is not poverty, but the power which ownership of the industries gives to the few over the lives of the many.

No more glaring example of that power could be asked than the general lock-out declared by employers throughout the whole country of Denmark on February 15. No fewer than 150,000 workers thus had their chance of earning some sort of a living deliberately snatched from them. The bone of contention is the employers' demand for a 20 per cent reduction in wages, with longer hours.

Although public services, newspapers, and seamen are not affected, the lock-out is considered the biggest labor struggle in the history of the country.

Everybody knows Parm! Yes, R. Parm. Pettipiece, of Vancouver. Well, congratulations are in order, for the old war horse has put it over. He was elected to the Vancouver city council on the fifteenth ballot. That makes seven City Councillors between the 'Peg and the Coast who are active members of the Typographcial Union.—W. U. Printer.

W. Carter, Miners' Federation, was elected by the British Trades Union Congress as fraternal delegate to the next annual convention of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada. Messrs. E. L. Poulton, Boot & Shoe Operatives, and Herbert Smith, Miners' delegates to the next con vention of the A. F. of L.

Luis N. Morones, president of the Mexican Federation of Labor and chief of the Bureau of Supplies of the Obregon government, says: "It is my observation both as a trade union officer and as an officer of the government, that the Mexican people and their government were never in closer relations of sympathy and understanding than today.

The Building Trades Council of New York has approved of the $100,000,000 project to build homes for working people. President Crowley, of the Council, says that representatives of 115,000 building trades workers voted without a dissenting voice to participate in the great undertaking.

Athens — The Greek government has opened a systematic campaign against the workers. The Home Secretary announces that the General Confederation of Labour is henceforth to be regarded as illegal. No. 2 Mexican

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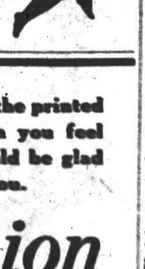
The Russian electrification plan involves the building before 1930 of about 10 large power stations with a total of 1,000,000 horse-power.

The province of Alberta has authorized the erpenditure of $900,000 for public works in order to help the unemployed.

MOSCOW.—The Baku oil concessions, one of the richest prizes in the oil worl, have been put up at auction by the Soviet government.

IN these days Goodenough falls by the wayside and Dothebest is first at the tape.



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Progressives and Labor Not Playing Politics

By W. Irvine, Labor M.P. for East Calgary.

(Editor's note.—This is the first of a series of articles on the proceedings of the Dominion Parliament from a Labor member's point of view.)

In commenting on the early stages of the New Parliament at Ottawa, it is better to pass over the opening scenes. The less said about this the better. It was a post-feudal tableau relished only by officialdom, but had little appeal and less meaning to the rank and file. The whole performance was a positive bore to the progressives, and seemingly was so to most members of the other groups.

The New Government, although without a party majority, will have nothing to fear if it follows a courageous policy. The progressives and Labor groups are not in parliament o play politics to the popular gallery. and to oppoe merely for the sake of opposing. It is likely, therefore, that the King government will gather strength as the session proceeds, but this will be so only by the sheer merit of the legislation brought forward.

Gloriously Indefinite

The speech from the throne is usually part of the frills in the opening scene, and is not taken seriously. There is, however, a marked improvement in the speech delivered at the opening of the present parliament. It was a longer speech than is customary, and, while gloriously indefinite on most things that were mentioned, it was more or less specific in some things.

His Majesty declared in his speech that the worst is over in the industrial depression; and definitely refuses to accept responsibility for unemployment, relegating it to the provincial and municipal bodies, who in turn will throw it back to the Dominion. In this way, the problem is always on the "fly" between the authorities, and is never allowed to rest long enough in one place to get solved.

Something was said of the low prices for farm produce—a painful fact known to most people long before His Majesty took his pen in hand to tell us about it; there is to be a change in the customs tariffs, but it is not said whether that change will be up or down or sideways; there is to be a co-ordination of the Government-owned lines of railways, whatever that may imply, also another co-ordination of the departments of defence: the natural resources question is to be settled providing that the provinces concerned will accept the proposal of the Government, which proposal is not stated; the deliberations of the disarmament conference are to be submitted to parliament, and it was also announced that delegates had been appointed to the Geneva conference and that there is to be a postal conference between Canada and the U.S.A. This sums up what is contained in the speech from the throne.

Farmer and Labor

The Farmer group is likely to be in substantial agreement with a good deal of the legislation proposed, but it is certain that both farmer and Labor members are in fuller agreement with much that is not proposed. The farmers want parliamentary reforms such as will give the Canadian people control over their own political affairs. They want markets for their produce, and a wheat pool, while the Labor members are at the moment concerned most with the unemployment problem. In these matters the throne is either silent or hopelessly at variance with the expressed aims of these organized groups. It is possible, however, that the Government may by pressure rendered possible by the peculiar political alignment in the House, at least make an attempt to deal with these matters of urgency.

Farmers Decline Office

The decision of the Farmers not to take the official opposition is really an innovation of great significance. There were three courses possible to be taken. The Farmers group might have taken the opposition, or they might have refused it and allowed the Conservatives to take it, or again they might have refused it themselves and at the same time have prevented the Conservatives from taking it.

The Farmers chose the middle course, and in doing so have not only set an excellent example in their co-operative attitude, but have indirectly struck a telling blow at the party system.

The idea of preventing the Conservatives to have the official opposition is rather an interesting speculation. It seems that the determining factor as to who shall be in the opposition is the position occupied on the floor of the house. If, then, the farmers had decided to scatter their members over the house, some directly to the left of the Speaker, and some to the left centre, etc., there would have been no official opposition. As to what would have happened in parliament had this been done will furnish a strong basis for another very funny speculation.

A Great Hinderer

As it is, the Hon. Mr. Meighen is happy, because he was born to oppose things, and throughout his life he has been far more of a decided success hindering than helping. Just think of how easy it is to hinder, and then to get $10,000 for doing it should surely make any one happy. The farmers, on the other hand, are now in a position to co-operate in securing good legislation, and have earned a name for themselves in repudiating the position of an official opposition.

PRINCE RUPERT COUNCIL NOTES

Supports High Standard for Canadian Citizenship—Drug Evil Recommendations

The Oriental and some of his habits received considerable attention at the regular meeting of the Prince Rupert Trades and Labor Council. The action of Judge Grant, of Vancouver, in referring to the Secretary of State of Ottawa the applications of a number of Orientals for naturalization was endorsed. The sentiment was expressed that any effort to create and maintain a high standard for Canadian citizenship should be supported.

A committee was appointed to make recommendations to the authorities at Ottawa for better control of the "drug evil." It is felt that regulations could be made that would increase the difficulty of landing the poppy products in Canada. The addict should be regarded and treated as a sick man. Jail sentences and deportation was recommended for the dealers and peddlers.

A number of matters of local interest were dealt with. Mr. J. Campbell, of the Labor Office, was present, and gave an address on the unemployment question, urging that private citizens contemplating any work make an early start on the same.

MEXICAN PRODUCERS UNITE POLITICALLY

The uniting and presenting of a common front politically by the farmers and workers of Mexico has been accomplished recently when a national confederation of the following groups and parties was launched. Union of Labor Parties, the National Agrarian Organization, the National Co-operative groups and the Socialist organizations. This means that practically all the organized workers and farmers have united in one great political party.

It is understood that the miners of District 18 are balloting on the question of a strike on April 1st.

The U.M.W.A. is taking a strike vote in the United States at the same time and the result there will no doubt be the same. However, in the U. S. the U.M.W.A. and the six teen standard railway unions have formed a coalition, and this may result in the operators coming to terms before April 1st, if they see that a strike on the railways also would be a catastrophe.

In Canada the railwaymen will give the miners their moral support and it is understood that a refusal to move coal from districts where coal was being mined by non-union miners, would be only imposed as a last resort.

A dividend of 6 per cent. has been declared by the Toronto Labor Temple Company. The annual report showed that 1921 had been the most successful year in the history of the company, despite the fact that unemployment among the members of the unions which are tenants in the building had a tendency to cut down receipts.

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attempt to reduce wages.

The Labor government of New South Wales, Australia, has warned the employers of the province not to

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MACHINISTS START ENGINEERING GUILD

Guilds Springing Up All Over Great Britain—Spreads to America Also

Members of the Vancouver Machinists' Unions have organized a Co-operative Engineering Guild and propose to enter into competition with firms doing machine work on boats and in mills and mines. The organization is incorporated under the Co-operative Associations Act and looks forward to a busy season.

The idea is patterned after the National Building Guild in Great Britain, which has many million dollars worth of contracts at the present time.

Trade Guilds are springing up everywhere in Great Britain and the idea has spread to the United States.

A Furniture and Furnishing Guild has just been launched with headquarters at Manchester.

The London and Glasgow Tailors' Guild reports splendid progress while even an experiment is being made in Agriculture. Five hundred acres has just been taken over by two guilds.

The Coventry branch of the Amalgamated Engineering Guild has taken the initiative towards organizing a national engineering guild. It is proposed to call a national conference at an early date.

MEXICAN SOLDIERS HELP STRIKERS

Law Compels Bosses to Pay Strikers for the Time Lost During Strike

All goes well with the labor movement in Mexico City.

A unique situation in connection with a taxi strike in that city has just been disclosed to local unionists in a letter received here from J. W. Kelly, who is connected with the Mexico City office of the International Association of Machinists. He is well known to trade unionists here.

Kelly relates that the taxi drivers walked out in a body when the companies tried to enforce some objectionable rules. Here is the unusual factor of the walkout.

Unique Picketing.

The strikers were permitted to use their employers' machines in which to do picket duty.

In connection with the strike a demonstration was held in front of the national palace and a number of shots were fired. The soldiers were immediately called out to protect the strikers.

One striker was killed, and still using the company cars his fellow unionists held a monster funeral in which street car and all traffic was stopped while tens of thousands lined the route of march.

Boss Pays Strike Pay

With the strike finally ended the taxi drivers are now back on the job and have obtained all their demands. In addition they are given pay for the time they were on strike, this being a provision of the Mexican constitution.

At the time the letter was written a second strike was pending against the street car company. In the first strike, which was settled several months ago, the company discharged Fernando Leon, a union officer, for activity on behalf of the workers. When the strike was settled the company was required to pay Leon $1,250 (American money) for discharging him and calling him a Bolshevik.—Seattle Union Record.

MARCHING MINERS TO HAVE TRIAL IN APRIL

CHARLESTOWN, W. Va.—Judge J. M. Woods, of the Jefferson-Berkeley Circuit Court, has designated April 24 as the date for beginning the trials of the striking and marching miners of Logan and Kanawha counties, several of whom were indicted for treason: which were transferred to the court house here under change of venue. One hundred and twenty-five of the men will be brought to this county at different times for the trials. A dozen of the men are under indictment for murder in connection with the slaying of a deputy sheriff. The trials will be the most important of the kind held here since John Brown and his followers were tried here for treason in 1859.

ATLANTA, Ga.—Organized street car men have signed last year's agreement with the local traction company.

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First Impressions of Ottawa By Woodsworth

Some years ago I remember walking along Parliament Hill, wondering what it would be like to be one of the legislators of Canada; today, looking from the Inside of my office out over the Ottawa river, I must confess to feeling very doubtful about what an Independent member of parliament can accomplished.

Ottawa Dominated by Whips

Each member is supplied with office accommodation in the buildings, and with every facility for carrying on his work. The first lesson that I learned, however, in coming to the house, was that as an Independent, or Labor man, I had really no part in the scheme of things as they are. The rooms, for example, had already been divided up among the three whips. Each whip assigned rooms to the members of his party. There are now recognized in Ottawa, three parties, the Liberals, the Conservatives, and the Progressives. I, unfortunately, belong to none of these, and so my name stood without any room having been assigned. While other men were able to get to work immediately, I had to wait twenty-four hours for something to happen. I then went to the Sergeant-at-Arms and explained the situation. He was very courteous, indeed, but seemed at a loss to know what to do, since all the office accommodation had already been assigned to the three whips. I protested that I did not come here to represent any one of the old parties, and I did not propose to be under obligation to any one of the three whips. Finally, however, the Sergeant at-Arms requested the Progressive Whip to yield one of his rooms, since it had been granted more or less on the understanding that the Progressives were responsible for the Independents and nondescripts. So in the long run, I find myself very comfortably housed, though how I am to get on in this machine without a whip, beats me. Never before did I realize the important position of a "Whip" in the life of our parliamentary affairs.

Keys

Not only is provision made for facilitating our work, but we have a host of officials to safeguard us and our papers. I find myself, these days, the possessor of a big bunch of keys—keys to the office, keys to the desks, keys to the post box, keys to the desk of the House, etc. These weigh heavily in my trouser pockets; and again these keys are to me somewhat of a parable, for what is a member of Parliament except a man who occupies a privileged position. He is supposed to do this in order that he may serve the public, in reality, I fancy, it becomes fairly easy for a man to identify the public interests with his own. I am endeavoring to get all these preliminary meditations "off my chest" at an early date, lest I should succumb to the atmosphere which seems so prevalent here. It may be true that the road to hell is paved with good intentions; wherever I wind up at, it is well for my friends at least to know at what end I started out.

Labor in the Left Wing

One cannot but be struck with the fact that the mechanical arrangements of the House have very much to do with the actual political lineup of the representatives. The government, of course, occupies the seats on the right hand of the speaker. There they sit in long rigid lines, and where they can be readily marshalled at will; perhaps this is fitting. Not so the arrangement on the speaker's left hand, for here in the same long rigid lines sit the Conservatives—the ancient opposition to the Liberals. Next to them, separated only by a single aisle, is the large group of the Progressives, and further on again, almost a part of the Progressive group, the men who owe their allegiance to Labor, Mr. Irvine of Calgary and I are seat mates. I have the honor to occupy a front bench, left wing, further removed from the speaker. Beyond me there are a number of unoccupied desks; in imagination, I try to picture these in future years, filled with Labor members. Even as I do so, however, I can hardly fancy the formal arrangements of this house permitting the labor men to accomplish a very great deal.

It has been interesting for me, in conversation with some of the Farmer members, to note how their enthusiasm is dampened by the actual realities of parliament. It is much more difficult to be able to accomplish things here, than in the freedom of outside life. It strikes one that this is a well oiled machine, that one is expected to follow the accustomed grooves—to play the game according to the rules, and that these rules permit of very little individual initiative. Even an old labor man confided to me that he had found himself helpless, and so he had decided to go in with the Progressives. Only as a member of a group did he consider that he could accomplish anything.

Opening of the House.

On Wednesday the House assembled at three o'clock; all the ancient formalities were adhered to. A clerk read a message from the Governor-General's secretary, informing the House that His Excellency's Deputy would attend at the Senate Chamber at three o'clock to open the Session, and following the reading of this message, the members were summoned to the Senate Chamber by the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod. This functionary who announced his arrival with three resounding knocks on the door of the Commons, was received with the usual formalities by the Sergeant-at-Arms.

After this most dignified proceeddignified manner to the Bar of the ing, we all proceeded in a most un-Senate. This august body, composed of the Bob Rogers and Amie Benards, impressed one as a very descripit institution, indeed. One felt very much as on viewing the inmates of a work house, "that these poor old chaps had only a few years ahead of them, and so are not to be envied their haven of quiet. The message from the representative was couched in ancient forms—"Gentlemen of the House of Commons—I have it in command to let you know that His Excellency does not see fit to declare the causes of his summoning the present Parliament of Canada until the speaker of the House of Commons shall have been chosen according to the law; but tomorrow, at the hour of three o'clock, in the afternoon, His Excellency will declare the causes of calling this Parliament." We then trooped back, and elected a speaker. Following this the speaker held a reception; the punch was declared to be excellent. I fear I shall not be able to take full advantage of the opportunities offered within the Parliament Buildings for gratifying a connoisseur's taste, but of this "more later." Thus ended our first day's work.

The second day's work was similar. A stage performance with the Black Rod and Sergeant-at-Arms, and a trip across the building to the Senate followed. The Governor-General, however, was present in person, and the so-called elite of Ottawa, and indeed of Canada, were out in full force.

The social papers contain descriptions of the brilliant event, with the Red Chamber a blaze of colors, brilliant uniforms, handsome gowns, etc. From the standpoint of a labor man, the whole performance was distinctly illuminating. Whatever we may say as to the need for efficiency in conducting the business of this country, it does seem ridiculoius that we should have one hour on Wednesday and another hour on Thursday of pure formality, and then that we should adjourn until Monday.

I recognize the fact, of course, that most men, including myself, find plenty to do outside the time actually spent in the House, but at the same time, this ancient ceremony, with all that it involves of class dis tinction and ostentation, seems much out of place in an institution which is supposed to administer the affairs of plain democratic citizens.

Class Ethics.

On every side there is manifest a wide divergence between the standards maintained by the governing classes, and those which these classes would impose upon the rest of the community. For example, I find that it is frequently the custom for members living in the East to leave on Friday for a week-end with their families, returning Monday afternoon or evening. An hour spent in the House is sufficient to secure them from forfeiting a day's pay. This is very convenient, indeed, for professional men, who are able to maintain their business offices, and regard the House of Commons as more or less of a club, attendance at which is helpful in facilitating the conduct of their private affairs.

In contrast with this, I could not but notice a sign, prominently placed on one of the buildings which is being used for constructive purposes, "Any man leaving work before the whistle is blown, will be discharged" —further comment is unnecessary.

WASHINGTON.—American organized labor has entered an official demand through the A. F. of L. for recognition of the Mexican government by the United States.

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The Federation of Labor Unions of Kwangtung province, China, has a membership of 400,000. It engineers strikes, walkouts, and wage increases in quite the approved trade-union fashion. It has succeeded in raising wages from 20 to 50 per cent in the last year.

The organized workers of Los Angeles have established a co-operative laundry. It is the first union label laundry in that city. They already have in operation a co-operative broom factory and are planning to establish a co-operative bakery and bank.

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