

Canadian Workers Yoked to Imperialistic Policies, Says Labor M. P.

Op. Successful Militarists Advice Canada To Prepare For Another World War Brutal Repression

WHEAT POOL BRINGS RESULTS TO FARMERS

By Scott Nearing
WINNIPEG — (FP) — Canadian farmers, members of the grain pools, have just received a part payment of about \$37,000,000. This has been mailed out by the Canadian Co-operative Wheat Producers Ltd. in 190,000 checks. Canadian Co-operative Wheat Producers Ltd. is the central selling agency for all of the grain pools. It will handle nearly 200 bushels of wheat (60 per cent of the Canadian export) because amounts of oats, barley, and rye. Local grain pools of Saskatchewan and Manitoba market their crop through a central agency.

Year farmers who sold in the pools received \$1.66 for wheat. Thus far in this year's crop farmers have received \$1.20 as payment on No. 1 Northern at William. In the next four months they will receive two additional payments. The payments for 1924 crops were \$1, 35c, 20c.

Thousands of farmers have the wheat pool during the year, making the total membership about 125,000. This is the answer to the charges of grain dealers that the pool gets less for their wheat than farmers outside of the pool. Over the grain dealers may say that farmers are joining the pool in large numbers.

Grain pools have also been set up to handle oats, barley, flax, etc. Steps are being taken to set up a dairy pool, a poultry and a seed grain pool in Saskatchewan. In Saskatchewan there are 72,074 farmers in the pool and 35,167 in the coarse pool. The Saskatchewan pool has 19 country elevators, "bought, and paid for."

Organization is simple and effective. Saskatchewan is divided into 16 districts. Pool members elect 10 delegates. Each of 10 delegates chooses one member and the 16 so elect the executive committee pool. This executive selects members to act on the board of central selling agency. They join the pool by paying a signing an agreement to their wheat to the pool for a period of five years.

Shop Zealot Galloped By Union

CHICAGO, Ill.—(FP)—Quick, effective work by members of Chicago Typographical Union No. 16 to grieve the ambition of a shop openshop house to horn the election printing of Chicago. The McCarthy Typesetting shop boasts of complete open-shop service with electric time had obtained the printing of tickets of registered voters. The union printers on duty threatened to strike this threatened to strike the shop in town where election lists were being printed. McCarthy had to dump his back into the melting precincts going to a union.

Union has voted \$10,000 as a contribution to the Chicago Federation of Labor radio broadcasting campaign. Voting power will be apportioned to the money contributed by the local unions.

WAR TIME LIBERTY

"IT SHALL be an offence to print, publish, or publicly express an adverse or unfavorable statement, report, or opinion concerning the causes of the present war, or of the motives of purposes for which Canada, or the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, or any of the allied nations entered upon, or are prosecuting the same, which may tend to arouse hostile feeling, create unrest, or unsettle, or inflame public opinion."—Part of Canadian order-in-council, passed in April, 1918, while conscription was in progress. Quoted by Woodsworth in his speech.

Capital Deflates Canada's Fishermen

MONTREAL—(FP)—The fishing industry, probably the oldest occupation in human history, is showing the effects of modern industrialism in common with its younger rivals. In Canada in 1900 a capital investment of \$10,000,000 and 99,269 persons produced a fish harvest from the seas and lakes valued at \$21,500,000. In 1923 a capital investment of \$48,000,000 and 69,000 persons produced a fish harvest valued at \$42,500,000.

Capital in improved fishing craft and implements increased nearly 5 times, and the product was practically doubled. But the labor required was greatly reduced.

Two centuries ago France sent 500 fishing vessels and about 15,000 men to the Grand Bank. Last year 25 steam trawlers and half a dozen sailing vessels from France captured nearly as many fish.

Boston Unionists Win Wage Increase

BOSTON, Mass.—(FP)—Building trades unions here are signing new agreements giving most of the workers small wage increases. Carpenters and painters have already signed the new scale of \$1.25 an hour for mechanics. The bricklayers and tile layers get a raise from \$1.25 to \$1.40 an hour. Laborers get 72½ and 77½ cents an hour instead of 65 and 70 cents, and tile layers' helpers remain at 80 cents unless they want to refer the dispute to arbitration. Hoisting and portable engineers get \$1.25 instead of \$1.10 for straight time, \$1.45 instead of \$1.30 for broken time; steam-shovel men, \$1.50 instead of \$1.35, and helpers \$1.05 instead of 95 cents an hour.

Police Club Pickets in Furriers' Strike

NEW YORK—(FP)—New York's police industrial squad joined employers' gangsters in attacking picketing furworkers and arrested a number of strikers. The police squad even invaded the office of the union physician, Dr. Marie Lerner, while the doctor was treating badly bruised pickets, and arrested all but four patients. Dr. Lerner cared for 15 workers seriously cut and bruised by police clubbing. The strikers were all released by the court.

Hearty support of the fur strike is assured by the New York central trades and labor council.

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Woodsworth Disturbs Lawmakers' Serenity

OTTAWA, Ont.—Pointing to the preparations being made for next war, the commercial causes of all wars, and the disastrous consequences resulting from Canada being inextricably bound up with the imperialist designs of Great Britain, J. S. Woodsworth, Labor M.P., in a speech on Canada's Imperial Relations, gave the members of the House of Commons an uncomfortable two hours, and aroused the ire of the kept press from coast to coast.

In opening, Mr. Woodsworth dealt with the effects of last war, and the probabilities of another. He quoted from Major-General J. H. Mc'Brien that "It is useless to deceive ourselves into believing that there will not be another war. . . . The causes for this next war to come might well be an adjustment of frontiers in the European countries."

Continuing, the speaker said: "Here we have our chief of staff definitely preparing us and the country at large for another war that is likely to arise, as he says, because of the adjustment of frontiers in the European countries."

Almost at the same time we have Viscount Jellicoe suggesting that Canada should contribute \$36,000,000 a year for the next few years towards the cost of the Imperial navy, and should provide a squadron of four cruisers within the next four years at an annual cost of approximately \$10,000,000 during the years of construction."

Dealing with the Locarno Treaty, and whether Canada was obligated to uphold its provisions, the Labor

member quoted Lord Parmoor as follows: "The Locarno Pact was signed without previous consultation with the Dominions. It places upon Britain an obligation to fight on the side of either France or Germany in the case of aggression, and the Dominions cannot escape some of the results of these obligations. It is true that Mr. Chamberlain inserted a clause protecting Dominion interests so that the Dominions are not obliged to send troops or any form of assistance in the event of war arising from the Locarno Treaty, but if Britain goes to war the rest of the empire automatically goes to war, and no general election in Canada or vote of the Canadian parliament can alter this international fact. All that Canada can refuse to do is to refuse to assist, but under international law she still remains the enemy of Britain's enemies."

(Continued on page 3)

FAIR WAGE AGREEMENT VIOLATED LABOR ALDERMAN UNEARTH'S FACTS

THE fact that the Vancouver Engineering Works are failing to live up to the fair wage clause in their agreement with the city for the manufacture of water pipe has been unearthed by Alderman Angus McInnes, of the Vancouver City Council.

The Union rate for riveters and caulkers is 75 cents an hour, but the company is paying only 71¼ cents. The Union scale for punch and shearmen is 64 cents an hour, and for reamers 59 cents, while for both classes of work the company is paying only 55 cents. In no case is the company paying the rate called for in the Union scale.

The agreement between the City Council and the Vancouver Engineering Works states that: "The Contractor will pay or cause to be paid to any workmen, artisans, mechanics, and laborers employed by him under or in connection with this contract a rate of wages not less than that recognized from time to time by the Fair Wage Officer of the Dominion Government of Canada for the City of Vancouver and surrounding districts as a fair rate for competent workmen, artisans, mechanics, or laborers when employed in similar work to that hereby contracted to be performed and carried out; provided, however,

that notwithstanding anything herein contained, the Contractor shall pay or cause to be paid to all workmen employed by him, or by any Sub-Contractor under him in the execution of this contract, a minimum wage of not less than fifty (50) cents per hour."

The Dominion Fair Wage Officer in Vancouver stated recently that in October last the prevailing rate of wages for boilermakers in Vancouver was 75 cents an hour, and for helpers 56¼ cents. This rate is not being paid by the company, and no reduction of wages have taken place since October last. The contract is, therefore, being completely disregarded.

That the City Council can, if it so desires, deduct from the company the wages due these men is evidenced by Section WZ-28 of the contract, which reads in part:

"The Corporation or their Treasurer or Solicitor, may, if deemed advisable on recommendation of the City Engineer, settle any claim for damages, and may pay all wages overdue, or the price of any materials for which payment is in arrears, and the amount thereof shall be debt due by the Contractor to the Corporation, as and for money (Continued on Page 4)

IMPERIALISM RAMPANT

"I REGARD it as our duty whenever British capital is forthcoming in any part of the world, and is applying for concessions to which there are no valid political objections, that we should give it the utmost support that we can, and endeavor to convince the foreign government concerned that it is to its interest as well as our own to give the concession for railways and so forth to British firms who carry them out at reasonable prices and in the best possible way." — Sir Edward Grey in the British House of Commons, July 10, 1914. Quoted by Woodsworth in his speech.

The Miners Must Bear this Burden

MONTREAL — (FP) — Though production costs in the mines of Nova Scotia have increased since prewar, the proportion of such costs represented by labor has decreased. This is shown by a comparative cost statement issued by the Dominion Coal Co., the largest coal operators in Nova Scotia and a subsidiary of the British Empire Steel Corp.

In 1913 the labor cost of mining a ton of coal in the Dominion Coal Co.'s mines was 65.03 per cent. of the total production cost. In 1914 it was 63.70 per cent. But in 1922 the labor cost was down to 53.23 per cent. and in 1923 it was 55.16 per cent.

The Dominion Coal Co. mines much submarine coal, and, as the galleries slope downward as they go under the sea the cost of pumping and haulage is high.

Business Mergers Growing in Canada

By C. McKay.

MONTREAL—(FP) — In Canada nearly everything is being put into mergers or trusts. Even three leading religious denominations have amalgamated, with a consolidated creed.

Among the latest mergers is the Canadian Steamship Lines, the Great Lakes Navigation Co. and the George Hall Coal & Shipping Co. This brings under one head 199 steamers (mostly lake and St. Lawrence and some ocean boats), several ship building plants and a grain elevator. The merger will control nearly half the Canadian boats in the lake grain trade and practically all the boats employed in the St. Lawrence passenger trade.

The Ontario Grocers' Assn. proposes a national conference to standardize prices and profits.

Cleveland Workers Canvass for Union

CLEVELAND—(FP)—With hundreds of delegates present, the Cleveland Labor Forward movement for a 100 per cent. union city got under way to canvass every industrial worker. The campaign is to be carried into every residential block in worker districts and at the finish red or black spots will be marked on the huge campaign map to indicate success or failure with each prospect. Efforts will be concentrated on unionizing metal workers, auto workers, job printers, bakery workers, tobacco and cigar workers. The building trades are 100 per cent. union.

CONVICT COAL MINERS ARE TORTURED BY ALABAMA STATE OFFICIALS

By Esther Lowell

NEW YORK—(FP) — The 1350 convict miners in Alabama's 3 state-run mines produce a million and a half tons of coal per year. Each convict miner is forced to get out twice as much coal as the free miner. Attention to Alabama's convict coal mine slavery has been aroused by the state attorney-general's finding that Convict James Knox was killed by brutal treatment instead of having committed suicide as officially registered. The Federated Press has obtained authentic information from a private investigator of prison labor conditions in Alabama.

The mines worked by white and colored Alabama convicts are all gaseous, dangerous and could not obtain free labor to do the work demanded of convicts. Convicts work as far as four miles in from the mine mouth. They have a task of 10 to 14 tons per man per day and are required to complete it under pressure of physical punishment, amounting sometimes to torture. They work 10 to 11 hours, six days a week. Of all convicts crippled, 90 per cent. come from the mines.

The state of Alabama leases and operates the three mines, actually evading the 1923 state law passed to end state convict leasing in the mines. In addition to state convict miners, prisoners of 47 counties are leased in the old way to Alabama Bit-Products Co., a Birmingham coal corporation with numerous mines. Convicts of 50 Alabama counties are leased to mines, lumber camps and farmers.

James Knox, the convict whose death brought the state attorney-general's investigation, was physically unable to do the heavy mining. Testimony showed that he was beaten for days with trolley wire, shovels, kickory sticks, etc., and finally thrown into a wash vat and the steam turned on. He died of heart failure from fright. Bichloride of mercury was pumped into his stomach to make it appear he had poisoned himself.

Chicago Typos Pile Up Big Strike Fund

CHICAGO—(FP)—To show the employing job printers that it means business and will back up its demands with economic force, Chicago Typographical Union No. 16 is rolling up a tentative strike fund. By 2550 votes to 1015 the members have voted for an assessment of five per cent. of their wages each week beginning March 15 and continuing until the long pending job scale negotiations are brought to a satisfactory close by the employers.

The union demands that in job shops the present minimum scale of \$51 for a 44-hour week be raised to \$60. Night men are asking for \$64 instead of \$55 for a 40-hour week. The scale expires June 15 and the term of the new contract would be one year. Negotiations have been going on for over a year.

By June 15 the union should have in its strike fund \$150,000 or more with which to support its members who will then walk out of the jobs if no agreement is reached. The five per cent. assessment is in addition to the regular three per cent. union dues paid on their earnings by Chicago printers. If an agreement is signed before June 15 the strike assessment will be returned or credited to the members.

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REVIEWS

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How British Justice Operates In India

An Englishman who kicked an Indian worker so that he died — \$20 fine.
An Indian who ducked a trespassing English officer—12 months' hard labor.
Contrasts such as these, fully reported in the Indian papers, are entirely destroying such confidence as still exists in the impartiality of British Justice.
The Englishman was the manager of an Assam tea plantation. There was no question as to the facts. He had lost his temper and kicked one of his coolies. And the coolie died of his injuries. But the court acquitted him of manslaughter, found him guilty only of "causing hurt on grave and sudden provocation," and fined him 200 rupees.
The Indian was the sadhu or religious devotee in charge of a sacred tank. An English officer, disregarding the notice boards, came up and began shooting the ducks on the tank—an action which to the Hindu seemed sacrilege as well as trespass.
He also lost his temper. But he did not kick the officer. He pushed him into the tank and sat on him. The officer was none the worse for his ducking. But the court promptly sentenced the sadhu to 12 months' hard labor and bound him over for a further 12 months. — "Daily Herald."

NEW BRUNSWICK, N.J.—(FP)— New Brunswick unions are combating the removal of Wolf & Abrahams Clothing Co. from Bridgeport, Conn., because the firm refuses to make an agreement with the Amalgamated Clothing Workers union. Union building trades workers will not do alterations on the building picked by the anti-union concern.

Union Directory

PAINTING TRADES COUNCIL—Meets second Monday in the month. President, J. R. White; secretary, R. H. Neelands, P.O. Box 66.
BAKERY SALESMEN, LOCAL 571—Meets second Thursday every month in Holden Building. President, J. Brightwell; financial secretary, H. A. Bowles, 761 13th Ave. E.
CIVIC EMPLOYEES' UNION, LOCAL 12—Meets first and third Fridays in the month at 145 Hastings W., at 8 p.m. John MacRitchie, president, 536-4th Ave. E.; Geo. Harrison, Sec. Treas.; W. J. Scribbs, business agent. Meet 1st and 3rd Fridays 8:00 p.m., Hastings St. E.
MUNICIPAL LOCAL PROTECTIVE UNION, LOCAL 145, A. F. of M.—Meets in G.W.V.A. Hall, Seymour and Foster Streets, second Sunday at 10 a.m. President, E. C. Miller, 991 Nelson Street; secretary, E. A. Jamieson, 991 Nelson Street; financial secretary, W. E. Williams, 991 Nelson Street; organizer, F. Fletcher, 991 Nelson Street.
THE FEDERATED SEAFARERS' UNION OF CANADA—Headquarters at Rooms 5, 6 and 7, Flack Building, 163 Hastings Street W., Vancouver, B.C. Tel. Sey. 3099. President, Robert Thom; Vice-President, David Gillespie; Sec'y-Treasurer, Wm. Donaldson. Victoria Branch, Room 11, Green Block, Broad Street, Victoria, B.C. Phone 2094.
TYPOGRAPHICAL UNION, No. 236—President, C. B. Campbell; Vice-President, R. Gouthro; secretary-treasurer, R. H. Neelands, P.O. Box 66. Meets last Sunday of each month at 2 p.m. in Holden Bldg., 16 Hastings St. E.
FRANCIS RUPERT TYPOGRAPHICAL UNION, No. 413—President, S. D. Macdonald; secretary-treasurer, J. M. Campbell, P.O. Box 669. Meets last Thursday of each month.

THE CANADIAN Labor Advocate

With Which is Incorporated THE BRITISH COLUMBIA FEDERATION
PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY By the Labor Publishing Co.
Business and Editorial Office 515 Holden Bldg., 16 Hastings St. E.
The Canadian Labor Advocate is a non-fictional weekly newspaper, giving news of the farmer-labor movement in action.
Subscription Rates: United States and foreign, \$2.50 per year; Canada, \$2 per year, \$1 for six months; to unions subscribing in a body, 10¢ per member per month.
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Labor Questions in Parliament

SINCE parliament reassembled discussion on questions directly affecting the living conditions of Canadian workers has been somewhat more lengthy than formerly. In fact parliament has devoted almost one-quarter of as much time to discussing Labor problems as it has given to the consideration of such vital national issues as the sale of Australian butter; acoustics of the House of Commons; marketing of eggs; duty on automobiles; or the right of the Liberals to retain office, which is not too bad considering that there are only two Labor members in the House. Had they not been there the butter, eggs and "tin lizzies" would have had all the consideration.

On the day that parliament opened J. S. Woodsworth moved: "That, in the opinion of this House, a wage sufficient to provide for a reasonable standard of living should constitute a legal minimum wage." The Labor member produced an itemized statement, drawn up by the Canadian Railroad Employees' research expert, showing that the cost of living for a man, wife and three children in Canada was \$2,202.57, while the Canada Year Book for 1924 stated that the average earnings of salaried employees and wage earners in Canadian manufacturing industries was \$1,133. He also read an item from the Toronto Daily Star of December 14th, 1924, telling of a sick father of a family in that city who informed the press that: "If I could make \$20 a week regularly I would be happy." This man also stated that \$24 per week was the highest wages he had ever earned.

Of course neither King nor Meighen could take a definite stand against the payment of a wage sufficient to maintain life, at least not so long as no effort was made to make it the law of the land, but next day the question was disposed of by the premier moving that the question "be referred to the standing committee on industrial and international relations." To this Meighen replied: "There does not seem to be any reason why I should object. One cemetery is as good as another."

This incident speaks volumes on how much the sponsors of the prosperity slogans of a few months ago are interested in the actual conditions affecting Canadian workers. However, no thinking person would expect anything else from either of the pair. They are the elected representatives of the two main wings of the employing class, which gets all its wealth and luxury by grinding down those who toil.

Conscription of Labor in B.C.

THE conscription of Labor to fight forest fires, which was imposed upon the camp workers of British Columbia by Bewhiskered John, had its innings in the House of Commons when A. W. Neill (Comox-Alberni) moved: "That, in the opinion of this House, every effort should be made to affirm and establish the full industrial freedom of the citizens of Canada to bargain for their services on all industrial contracts and works; that the exploitation or conscription of labor should be prevented and condemned; that no person should be induced or compelled by undue influence, threats of dismissal, loss of wages or position, or by any other unfair and improper means, to work for wages less than the standard, or to engage in work which he has not agreed to do."

The mover of the motion told the House how the men working in the logging camps of B. C. were compelled to work for 25 cents an hour fighting forest fires, and in a hazy, indefinite, indecisive manner, like an erring sinner fearing the wrath of the village priest, felt that something should be done to stop this nefarious practice, but seemed uncertain as to what that something should be.

But if Neill was uncertain as to what he wanted not so the other members of the House, several of whom waxed eloquent on the need for conscripting labor to "protect our valuable forests," and violently resented any insinuation that such should be regarded as interfering with "industrial freedom," although the minister of finance confessed that he had observed during the last federal election, while going around the country, that "in certain industries notices sometimes are posted warning the employees that unless they vote in a particular way they will lose their position the day after election." Such notices, of course, the minister objected to. Doubtless they were to the effect that the workers had to vote Conservative.

Mackenzie King, however, came to the rescue. Neill had to be appeased, he meant a vote, and votes mean a whole lot to King these days. The premier suggested that the real object to be achieved was to arouse public opinion, because "In industrial questions, public opinion in the long run is more effective in achieving the object that is to be desired than mere legislation," which says a whole lot for the efficacy of parliament as a means of improving the lot of the workers. According to King's version the radio, church, or theatre should be the quickest way to convince the lumber barons of British Columbia that a worker should be paid more than 25 cents an hour.

The matter ended by Neill agreeing to a suggestion from Premier King that the words "or conscription" should be deleted, thus making the resolution read: "That the exploitation of labor should be prevented and condemned." How this is going to be done and capitalism retained is a problem which will require a prodigious amount of head scratching.

The Week at Ottawa

By J. S. WOODSWORTH, M.P.

THE West Indies Treaty has received considerable discussion in the House. The idea is to develop much closer commercial relations between Canada and the other American-British possessions. It would seem as if this is desirable in view of the fact that the products of the countries are complementary in character. Advocates of the Treaty urge that before the set term is up, it will have to demonstrate its advantages that we shall establish commercial union.

One question that arises is with regard to the steamship service which the Government will be under obligation to supply. For some years we have had the curious spectacle of our own Canadian Merchant Marine boats running at a big deficit in competition with a private company subsidized by the Government. It would seem that the time has surely come when we should insist on this service being developed under a public ownership scheme. This is, however, strenuously opposed by the Eastern members, some of whom are said to be financially interested in the private steamship lines.

My own resolution on our Imperial relations, was the occasion of the most interesting discussion of the week. It read, that in the opinion of this House Canada should refuse to accept any responsibility for obligations arising from the foreign policy of the United Kingdom. It seems rather strange what a future one private individual can create, if he touches a sensitive spot. The discussion of this resolution was postponed for a week at the request of the Prime Minister, lest this discussion have some effect upon the world situation when the League assembly was meeting at Geneva. Then, according to the dispatches, the fact that it was on the Order Paper was having its effect on the debates which are in progress in the Imperial Parliament over the question of Locarno. Further, the Liberals were rather apprehensive lest this discussion might have an adverse effect upon the by-election in Middlesex.

Undoubtedly, neither the Prime Minister nor the Leader of the Opposition was inclined to say anything with regard to the issues involved. The Prime Minister seems to be very apprehensive lest he should give some occasion to the Toronto Loyalists to denounce what they call his anti-British tendencies. The leader of the Opposition, on the other hand, has by no means the unanimous support of his followers with regard to his changed attitude, as indicated in his Hamilton speech.
Mr. Bourassa during the evening, in the course of a speech of over three hours' duration, gave an outline of the history of our relationship with the Motherland. In the course of this, he brought out many interesting facts, not generally known to Canadians.

I devoted the greater part of the time to an outline of economic Imperialism. The "Star" characterized the speeches as "hackneyed harangues" and "awful twaddle." This is surely hardly justifiable as never before in a Canadian Parliament has the viewpoint of Labor on Imperial and military questions been set forth. We followed very much the lines of the Labor party in Great Britain, urging that our machinery of Government was very largely in the hands of large industrial and financial interests, who were using it to their own ends.

Following my speech, there was what the "Star" rightly characterized as "an hour of turbulent relevancy." There was no serious attempt to answer the arguments or to refute the statements made by Mr. Bourassa and myself. Further debate was then shut off by a motion of adjournment, made by Sir George Perley. This places the subject at the foot of the list, where it will not likely be reached during the Session. The Government has, however, given the promise that the Locarno Treaty will be discussed and this, after all raises the same problems in a particular case.

Jubilee Labor Hall Notes

ON WEDNESDAY, March 31st, the Independent Labor Party, South West Burnaby Branch, held the regular meeting in the Jubilee Labor Hall.

Owing to the absence of our secretary, who is also a delegate to the Canadian Labor Party, Comrade Page acted in his stead. A letter was received from the Burnaby May Day Committee thanking the branch for a donation. Plans were made for the free distribution of 800 copies of the Labor Advocate through the district on Good Friday, which we were able to make through the advertising support given the paper by local merchants. Three applications for membership in the Party were received and passed upon. Next business meeting will be held in the Hall on Wednesday, April 14, at 8 p.m.

Ladies' Auxiliary Bazaar

The bazaar held last Thursday afternoon to raise funds towards the completion of the Hall was very successful. Over \$68 were raised by the sale of needlework, home cooking, plants and flowers; and \$12 in prize drawings. The ladies are to be congratulated on the fine spirit which they displayed in the organizing and carrying out of this ambitious project. Owing to the renting of the Hall on Monday last to the Ward Six Ratepayers' Association, the ladies' monthly meeting had to be postponed until Tuesday, April 6. All members were notified of this change by the secretary.

Open Forum

Last Saturday night the subject under discussion was "Should the good work, Comrades!"

Labor Party enter municipal politics? Comrades Bates and Sorley, who organized the meeting, gave short addresses relative to the subject. It was pointed out that we were rather belated in discussing such a subject. That Labor men were in municipal affairs in Canada, Britain, Australia, New Zealand and other countries, and had accomplished very useful work. Mention was made of the municipal milk supply in Wellington, New Zealand, of municipal power plants in many cities in Britain, municipal banks and fire insurance, city owned slaughter houses with humane killers; also in many German cities they even had municipal opera houses and concert halls. Of course it was recognized that these things could not be undertaken in Burnaby, as it was mainly a non-industrial, residential district; most of the residents either working in Vancouver or New Westminster, or were in these cities looking for a job. Comrade Alderman Angus McInnes gave an interesting talk on his experience in the Vancouver City Council and, previous to that, on the school board. It was generally conceded that the Labor Party should have as candidates in municipal elections men who could carry on socialist propaganda.

Councillor Gray of Burnaby was present, and gave his views on the subject. A very enjoyable and instructive evening was held. One application for membership was received and two subscriptions to the Labor Advocate booked.

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Bulgaria
Thousands of articles of shoes nothing were made in 1924 by compulsory labor in Bulgaria, according to the International Labor Office, the monthly publication of the League of Nations. By these all able-bodied Bulgarians, those exempted for legitimate reasons and those who have the state for more than consecutive months, are required to give a certain period of the state—eight months for men between 20 and 34, four months for women 16 and 30 years.

Germany
German government, stung by criticisms of its Geneva and the evasive defense of Chamberlain, has published correspondence between League of Nations officials. The letters include a reply from Brazil in favor of Germany a permanent seat on the council. Chancellor and Foreign Minister Brüning, the German signers of the Locarno pact, are much up over the fact that their superior, Austen Chamberlain, ignore his knowledge of correspondence in his speech in the British House of Commons.

Austria
The much-advertised "reconstruction" of Austria by the League of Nations, economic conditions are getting worse. Arguments are being made for the union of unemployed workers in all countries. A large group is going to the Soviet Union where an Austrian colony is being established by the government and Vienna authorities will be established. Another group is going to Germany. Negotiations are being on for a colonization in Brazil.

Ireland
The city has been discovered by police following a raid upon the arms cache in Dublin. The raid included 235 live rounds, 500 rounds of rifle ammunition, 10,000 detonators, 10 boxes of barrels of Gellignite cordite, bombs parts and molds for land mine revolvers. No arrests were made.

Australia
Men employed on steamers along the coast of New South Wales have been granted a week. There is no reduction in wages because of the week. The 44-hour week is in effect throughout New South Wales.

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Old Country Labor News

BRITISH COAL REPORT COMPROMISES

The report of the British coal commission shows the owning class clinging desperately to the principle of private operation while forced to admit that the private operation of this basic industry is foundering. All the concrete proposals for saving the industry are socialistic.

"The report of the coal commission," says the London Daily Herald, "betrays the fear and dislike of change which have become obsessions of the ruling class of this country." It quotes Justice Sankey, of the 1919 coal commission, which recommended nationalization, as saying of the present report: "I think that it is an effort to postpone the inevitable."

The commission was carefully packed against nationalization. The chairman, Herbert Samuel, had previously come out against the theory of nationalization in a newspaper article.

The report, nevertheless, is a thorough indictment of the results attained by private management. The commission finds many mines badly planned, many on too small a scale. A number are defective in equipment or management. The methods of utilizing coal are unscientific. Research into the methods has been made toward associating mining with gas, electricity, coke, chemical products, blast furnaces, etc. Selling organization and transportation methods are too costly and the organization of the industry on the labor side calls for many improvements.

The remedies are to be carried through under a disguised state control. The state is to acquire the nation's resources. These are to be administered by a coal commission under the secretary of mines. This commission is supposed to bring about the amalgamation, joint ownership of coal cars, improvements in management and facilities and industrial relations by controlling the terms on which the coal deposits are leased to private operators.

Both capital and labor are concentrating their comment on the suggestion that wages be reduced. Adam Nimmo, a prominent Scottish operator, says "the one practical suggestion in the report is that, with the subsidy withdrawn, wages must be reduced." Secretary Cook of the miners answers, "with wages at 30 per cent. below the standard of 1914 the British public cannot expect further sacrifice from our mining community. It is now for the government and the owners to make the next move. There will be no catastrophe in May unless the miners are attacked." The Daily Herald comments that "those who receive wages already too low are told that they ought to rescue the industry from the mess and muddle into which slack and selfish management have cast it."

The commission's suggestion would mean an average cut of about 10 per cent. in wages. There would be protection for those now receiving the lowest subsistence minimum. There is a rumor, circulated by a London Sunday newspaper, that the commission originally proposed continuation of the subsidy but reversed itself at the request of the government. The suggestion that there has been tampering with the commission in the interest of Premier Baldwin's announced belief in wage reductions all along the line has created considerable resentment. There is a feeling that the government may meet the crisis by extended the subsidy after May 1 while the industry reorganizes.

Mussolini Praises Black Shirt Rule

ROME.—The Fascist party celebrated the seventh anniversary of its founding with "black shirt" parades and the usual "revolutionary" speeches by Mussolini and the leaders of fascism in Rome and other Italian centres. 50,000 black-shirts marched through the capital on review before Mussolini, who later in the day spoke at a demonstration in the Villaggio Hippodrome.

In his speech, Mussolini continued his policy of appearing as a revolutionist. "The counter-revolution which we have crushed at home and which was vainly organized abroad is the best proof that we have accomplished a revolution."

Addressing himself to "responsible authorities of other nations," he said, "If you want to live you must face the most serious problems of this century, that of the relations between capital and labor—the problem which fascism has solved by plainly placing capital and labor on the same level, in the face of a common goal, the prosperity and grandeur of the nation."

"If you want to live, you must do away with loquacious parliamentarism; you must give the authority to the executive power."

Writer Finds Paris Commune Paper

KIEV, U. S. R.—Chagovets, a local literary worker, found a complete set of the newspaper "Pere Duchene," published in Paris during the days of the Paris Commune. The files have papers up to May 28, when Paris was taken by the Versailles. Besides the newspaper file, Chagovets found an album with 24 pictures depicting the destruction done by the Versailles in crushing the Commune.

There are pictures of destroyed theatres, churches, abandoned barricades and some were absolutely hitherto unknown.

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CANADA YOKED TO IMPERIALISM

(Continued from page 1)

Dealing with British imperialism, Mr. Woodsworth went on: "Think of it, Mr. Speaker: Within the short space of a little over a hundred years Great Britain has fought with the French and the Russians, with the Arabs, and Afghans, and Zulus, with Boers and Ashantis and Burmese and Chinese, with Germans and Austrians, with Turks and Bulgarians, and with a host of smaller peoples. Are we in this country to be dragged in at any time that some commercial adventurers undertake to exploit some still unexploited part of the world? Think of the history of imperialism since 1882, a date which is within the memory of most of us in this House. I would simply glance over some of the events. In 1882 Egypt, in which country the foreign control encouraged the nationalist movement, Great Britain crushed the revolt and there followed the so-called 'temporary' occupation which still continues. Then there was the Venezuela boundary dispute of 1895, closely connected with the gold fields and the trouble in Persia in 1896 indirectly connected with the growing tobacco trade at that time and later on certain loans. In 1895 came the trouble in South Africa, concerning which Mr. Brailsford has summed up the cause in a couple of sentences: 'What the mine owners really at bottom desired was cheaper labor, and their effort to acquire political power through the franchise had no other object. Good government, as one of them reckoned, would mean two and a half million a year in dividends.'

"This war resulted in the establishment of Kafir and Chinese cheap labor and compound slavery in the Rand mines, and in the reduction of white men's wages. I need not refer to the Anglo-Japanese alliance into which Britain was practically forced because of her growing isolation in other quarters, nor to the Fashoda incident after the settlement of which the Associated Chambers of British Commerce passed a resolution in favor of an entente between England and France for the mutual commercial benefit of the two countries. Nor need I go into the question of the Moroccan crisis, nor the Anglo-Russian relations of 1906-7, concerning which we have not heard the last, and because of which we have had so much trouble in re-establishing relations between Great Britain and the Soviet Republic. The treaty between Britain and Russia had reference to their relations in Persia, Tibet and Afghanistan. Then there was the Triple Entente of 1907. Great Britain about this time became involved in financial complications in China. The republican reformers were led by Sun Yat Sen. Their powerful backers, the Shanghai Chamber of Commerce, and the

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With the Marine Workers

Conducted by W. H. DONALDSON, Secretary Federated Seafarers of Canada

UNDER date of March 27th, we received a letter written by a member of the crew of the Canadian Trooper from Halifax, N.S., stating that when the "Trooper" signed on in Vancouver the crew were under the impression that they were on a journey which would terminate at the port of signing on, but when the vessel arrived at Halifax orders were received to tie up the vessel and discharge the crew. The crew refused to sign off, demanding transportation back to Vancouver. The shore captain told them they could be shipped on the first company's vessel sailing from that port, and this was done, but some members of the crew were left behind to await further development.

One clause of the ships articles for Canada which the Federated Seafarers are striving to have altered is that seamen can not be signed on in Vancouver and discharged in some other Canadian port. The C.G.M.M. is not the only offender in this respect as the owners of the "Margaret Coughlan" did the same thing with the crew aboard that vessel at the time she was sold to a New York firm, and the seamen were sent to Montreal instead of being returned to Vancouver. The engineers and officers were returned to their port of signing on.

The writer also mentions that he met Scotty McLaughlin, who was on this Coast for some time. "Scotty" tried to get members of the "Trooper" to leave the ship at Tampa, Fla., but was unsuccessful. We add the hope that Scotty will stay in Tampa, as he is a detriment wherever he goes. His chief line of success is absorbing alcoholic liquors, evading work, and sponging on other workers.

The writer also informs us that sailors in the east are clamoring to get into a reliable union. This is one field in which the I.W.W. is not interested until some other organization breaks the ground for them to corrupt later on. So far there is no pay for breaking up anything in the East. No doubt as soon as the seamen get organized they will have a visit from the glib operators of the I.W.W., who seem to thrive on the exploitation of unfortunate workers in California jails.

The renowned James Forbes, whose last ship, so far as we know, was the "Importer," has written from Duncan, B.C., stating that he has been fired for asking for better grub for himself and other workers. We feel that Jamie has been the mouthpiece for others, who do not seem to have the courage to speak for themselves, and as one might expect from the way things are done in the lumber camps, Jamie had the "skids" put under him. He is now on the look-out for pastures new, and we hope he meets with more success, and better backing than he got from the loggers at Duncan.

Militant Seamen's Secretary is Freed From Graft Charge

SYDNEY, Australia — (FP) — An atrocious charge that Tom Walsh, president of the Seamen's Union, has been guilty of maladministration of the funds connected with the recent British seamen's strike in Australia, has been exploded by the Labor Council of New South Wales.

The charge was made by Have-lock Wilson, the reactionary secretary of the British Seamen's Union, who, in a cable to Walsh, said: "No more serious charge could be made than that you have manipulated strike money to your advantage." To this charge Walsh replied by cable that the charge could hardly be true, seeing that he had no handling of the funds, that such funds were handled by the Labor Council, and that a certified balance-sheet of the administration of the funds had been issued by the Council.

The Labor Council of New South Wales, feeling that it was entitled to a say in the matter, immediately cabled to the secretary of the British Trade Union Congress, London, denying the charges made by Wilson, and pointing out Walsh had no connection with the funds of the strike; that these were administered by the Labor Councils in the various Australian States, and had never come under his administration at any period. Neither was he a member of any committee concerned with the funds. Such statements, the Council added, could only be circulated by an agent of the Shipping Combine.

Australian Rulers Hamstring Labor

MELBOURNE — (FP) — The crimes bill, which seeks to outlaw striking unionists and revolutionary organizations, has become law in Australia. Under this measure the Communist party is classed as an unlawful association and can be suppressed at any time, while members of the party not born in Australia can be jailed and deported. Those born in Australia can be jailed. The bill also declares certain strikes to be illegal and makes unionists on strike subject to the same treatment as members of the Communist party. Even Britishers can be deported under this law.

It is certain that threats of jail and deportation will not deter the workers from strike. At a largely attended conference of industrial unions, held at Sydney Feb. 20, it was decided to resist the crimes bill, particularly those clauses outlawing the Communists and unionists on strike. It was also decided to get in touch with industrial bodies in the other Australian states to institute continent-wide opposition to the measure.

KUZBAS RAISES WAGES

WASHINGTON — (FP) — Reports reaching the Russian Information bureau in Washington show that that Kusbas colony, to which a large number of migratory workers from the United States went some years ago, at the call of W. D. Haywood, is making good as a producer. Wages were increased 35 per cent. last year, the selling price of coal was reduced 35 per cent., and labor productivity increased one and one-half times in this Siberian experiment.

Notes From the Camps

Conducted by J. M. CLARKE, Secretary L.W.I.U. of Canada

THE HIGH AND LOW IN LUMBER

By Leland Olds, Federated Press
THE \$11,503,738 operating profit taken by the owners of the Long-Bell Lumber corporation in 1925 marks the end of a half century's exploitation of the low paid workers in logging camps and saw-mills of the south and west. In that period it has built up assets of more than \$50,000,000, almost entirely out of profits, and in addition has paid over \$24,000,000 in cash dividends.

The 1925 profits represent a return of \$4.23 a share on the 1,136,490 shares of no-par common stock. On the corporation's books this stock has a value of approximately \$50 a share, so that by the company's own account this means a profit of about 8½ per cent. This compares with the 1924 profit of \$10,736,972, equivalent to about 7 per cent on the claimed value of the common stock.

The low wages of lumber workers in the northwest which have made the recent large profits of these lumber barons possible are shown in a U.S. department of labor report on wages in sawmills and logging camps in Oregon, Washington and Idaho in 1925. These wages range as low as \$2.40 a day for laborers in the sawmills of the Pacific Coast division. On an 8-hour day basis this means 30c an hour for able-bodied male labor. In the logging camps the minimum shown is \$2.80.

The average daily wages of typical classes of workers in the Pacific Coast and Inland Empire divisions in 1925 were:

	Pacific Coast	Inland Empire
Sawmill Wages		
Boom men	\$4.25	\$4.00
Chain men	3.85	3.50
Laborers	3.48	3.40
Planer feeders	4.00	3.90
Sawyers	9.25	7.75
Slashers	3.80	3.50
Logging Camp Wages		
Fallers (sawyers)	5.00	4.00
Hook-on men	5.00	4.10
Laborers	3.75	3.60
Loaders	5.60	4.80
Rigging slingers	5.40	3.90
Swampers	4.60	3.60

These rates were furnished by the Loyal Legion of Loggers and Lumbermen known as the Puor L. As this is an organization fastened by the lumber bosses to undermine militant unionism in the industry, the rates shown probably put the best possible face on the matter from the viewpoint of the employers.

Long-Bell profits for the last 7 years have totalled \$57,233,738 after all deductions for interest and taxes. This exceeds the entire present capital and surplus profits combined. The capital today is almost entirely built of the surplus profits of the previous years. Lumber is an expensive item in building a home.

MOORE'S CAMP, FREDERICK ARM

This is one of the "haywire" camps on the Pacific Coast. The fare is \$6.50. Wages are low. Blankets \$1.00 per week. Board \$1.20 per day. Food poor, and accommodation worse. No bath houses; wash in a basin in the bunk house. No toilet arrangements, and filth floating all round

the logs on which the camp is built. Beds are double-deckers. The rigging is rotten and a man risks his life working with it. The Compensation Board instead of plastering the logging camps with safety first placards should get after outfits like this which daily endanger the lives of the men working for them.

There are two early Victorian antiques here that the boss says are donkey engines. These two venerable piles of junk keep the engineer busy picking up bolts, nuts, etc., that they shake out when running. Store prices are exorbitant. In short this camp does not have one redeeming feature. No self-respecting human being would remain in it any longer than necessary to make his fare back to town.

Fight for Control of Labor Executive

SYDNEY — (FP) — The annual conference of the Australian Labor party will be a bitter fight between the parliamentary wing and the trade unionists for control of the executive, which directs the movement between conferences. Three years ago the pitlians secured control by the cry that the movement had been fouled by a coterie of crooks. They entered upon a purification campaign, expelling the Communists and others.

It wasn't long before the workers saw that the movement was more corrupt than ever. Last year, when the opposition to the political was particularly strong, they refused to hold the usual conference. This year the unionists have issued a manifesto to the unions affiliated with the Australian Labor party, pointing out the rottenness of the present political control. At an industrialist conference in Sydney Feb. 20 attended by delegates of most of the unions steps were taken to regain control of the labor movement.

At the coming conference the unionists should win. If this happens labor will develop along left-wing lines.

FAIR WAGE AGREEMENT BROKEN BY CONTRACTOR

(Continued from page 1)
paid by the Corporation for the Contractor at his request, and shall be deducted or collected by the Corporation, as provided in Section WZ-29 hereof.

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Motion Picture Censors Dislike Scenes Of Policemen Clubbing Striking Workers

By Carl Haessler, Federated Press
CHICAGO — There must be no class propaganda in movie films shown in Chicago as long as the present personnel of the municipal board of motion picture censors is in control. This edict was impressed on the International Labor Defense when it asked permission to exhibit films depicting familiar scenes in the class war as it is waged in America.

Reels of Chicago policemen clubbing and dragging away workers on strike at the stockyards are particularly obnoxious, the censors declare. Mounted guards doing their stuff in the klan riots at Herrin are also taboo. In fact when the censors got through slashing the defense organization's film there was not enough left to show.

The censors, all estimable ladies, headed by Miss Sigler, sighed as they viewed the subversive material in the projection room. "The police have a hard enough time as it is," sobbed Mrs. Adams of the board. "We should not do anything to make it harder for them. All these films are class propaganda. There must be no class propaganda or anything that might incite to riot."

George Maurer, of the defense body, asked if the truth of the films was questioned and was told that their effect was a more important issue than their fidelity to actual events. A film from Germany depicting a judge dealing out upper-class justice against the workers came in for severe criticism. To case doubt on the integrity of the courts, even of German courts, is not to be tolerated in Chicago (where corporations and bootleggers own most of the judiciary).

The censors did not know of any propaganda in the movies that favors the owning and employing class, they indicated, and so they did not want to set a precedent by permitting working class propaganda against the opposite class. Anyhow there are no classes in America, was their parting shot as Maurer gathered up his celluloid and left without the permit.

MELBOURNE—(FP) — Because civil service employees of the federal government supported the Australian Labor Party at the last elections, the government threatens to apply the muzzle. The men will fight against the gag.

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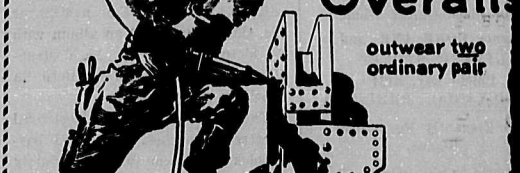
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