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The District Ledger

Industrial Unity is Strength — The Official Organ of District No. 18. U. M. W. of A. — Political Unity is Victory

Vol. V., No. 6. — THE DISTRICT LEDGER, FERNIE, B. C., SEPTEMBER 30, 1911 — $1.00 A YEAR

PRESIDENT WHITE IS COMING NEXT WEEK

The Official Head of the United Mine Workers of A.

INCREASE IN COAL OUTPUT

Notwithstanding a Long Drawn Out Strike-- Got 632 Victims

WASHINGTON, Sept—Ohio's total production of coal in 1910 was 35,209,288, short tons, with a spot value of $35,932,288, according to Edward W. Parker, of the United States Geological Survey.

Although more than half of the coal miners of Ohio were on strike in 1910 for a period equivalent to 25 per cent of the average number of days worked, the increase in production in 1910 over 1909 was the largest gain ever made in one year. In 1909 Ohio produced 27,939,641 short tons of coal, valued at $27,789,010. The increase in 1910 was 6,270,027 short tons, or 22.44 per cent in quantity, and $8,143,278, or 29.3 per cent in value. It was due principally to the long-continued idleness in the State to the west, but in addition to the influences exerted by the strike the cold winter of 1909-1910 had cleared the lake docks in the Northwest of coal, so that the year opened with a good demand for Ohio coal, and there was unusual activity during the year, except for the comparatively short time of the strike in the organized mines and during two local strikes.

George Harrison, the state mine inspector, reports that in 1910 there were 161 men killed and 471 injured in the coal mines of Ohio. The death rate per 1000 was 3.45 and there were 212,482 tons of coal mined for each life lost, against a death rate per man of 2.45 and 241,358 short tons mined for each fatality in 1909.

Production increased in twenty of the twenty-eight mining counties in the state and decreased in eight. The most notable increase was made in Belmont County, whose output gained 2,203,446 short tons. Guernsey County ranked second in increased production, with a gain of 1,601,617 tons. Athens County showed an increase of 1,462,290 tons, and the Hocking Valley district comprising Athens, Hocking and Perry counties, showed a total gain of 2,052,961 tons. One other county, Jefferson, added over a million tons to its output in 1909, with an increase of 1,333,563 tons. The principal decrease was in Tuscarawas County, which fell off nearly 50 per cent from 1,577,803 tons in 1909 to 816,189 tons in 1910.

Ohio counties to lead in the percentage of the total production undercut by the use of machines, and in 1910 28,887,241 short tons, or 84.44 per cent of the total wa machine mined.

The number of men employed in the coal mines of Ohio in 1910 was 46,041, who averaged 20 working days. Had it not been for the time lost by strikes, the mine workers in Ohio would have averaged about 230 working days. The record of efficiency among the miners in Ohio is, however, high. In 1910 the average production by each man employed was 733 tons for the year and 3.01 tons for each working day.

CAUGHT AT THE LINE

On Monday morning last Provincial Constable Gunn made a good capture when he arrested nine Italians and their driver near Erickson. These people were charged with entering Canada without reporting to the Immigration Inspector. On Tuesday afternoon at the Provincial Police Office before Joseph Ryan of Cranbrook, J.P., and S. A. Speers, J.P., of Creston.

From the evidence taken at the hearing it seems that Edward Adams was the principal offender. He hailed from Spokane, and last May was caught by Constable Gunn when he was in the act of escorting a bunch of Italians across the line. At that time Immigration Agent, Chas. Rykerts, informed Adams of the consequences that would result should he be caught at the same offence again and prosecution against Adams last May was withheld owing to the remission of the Act. Adams, who practically pleaded guilty to the present charges was fined $450 and costs and in default of payment three months in the Nelson Goal.

The accused C. R. Knight, who was the teamster, was acquitted, while the 8 other Italians were each fined $10 and costs of court with an option of three months in the Nelson Goal at hard labor.—Creston Review.

SPECIAL TO SPOKANE OVER G. N.

For the sum of $11.50 a return fare will be given by the Great Northern Railway as an inducement for visitors from Fernie to Spokane to attend the Big Fair in the Northern City of Washington.

WAARSCHUWING

Alle steenkool mijners worden verzocht weg te blijven van Alberta en Eastern British Columbia, daar de werkstaking mog niet is opgeheven.

SUFFERING IS CERTAIN

Saskatchewan Calls for Coal and Can't Get it An Awful Plight

That there will be a great deal of suffering among the people on the prairies this winter if the present coal strike is not settled within a short time, is the opinion of M. McDonald, a coal dealer from Swift Current who is in the city today. Mr. McDonald is making a trip through the coal area with a view to obtaining a sufficient supply for his customers, but has met with only partial success.

"I contracted for three hundred tons a week at Taber the other day," he said, "but that will not be nearly enough to supply my trade. Even before I left Taber I had six carloads of my first shipment sold. The demand in Swift Current is greater than it ever was. The reason for this is that a great many of the dealers in the smaller towns close by cannot see their way clear to buy Pennsylvania coal which is being shipped in now, and so they have to draw on our supply at Swift Current, while other years they bought direct from the mines here. The people further east are taking the strike situation more seriously than the people of Alberta, for they are afraid of a repetition of the suffering of 1908. Some of them are already considering the advisability of moving into the towns for the winter, but I don't see that this would do any good if a sufficient supply of coal cannot be had.

"At present I am getting coal from the east and in spite of the fact that the strike has been going on during the summer months, I have already spent $12,000 in coal at Fort William. The province of Albert is losing a great deal of money on account of this strike, and the sooner it is settled the better for everyone. The people of Saskatchewan are asking that the mines be opened up as soon as possible, and that the miners and operators get together in the meantime and reach some settlement. Then when a settlement is reached the new rates should be made effective from the time that the mines were opened. In my opinion it will be almost impossible to meet all the orders if the coal mines were to open right away."

INSPECTION TOUR OF G. N. OFFICIALS

This week a party of G. N. officials made a trip over the line visiting various points, including Fernie, Hosmer and Michel. Three private cars conveyed the gentlemen, among whom were J. M. Gruber, general manager; G. H. Emmerson, assistant general manager; E. J. Brown, general supt.; W. R. Smith, division supt.; Wm. Kelly, general master mechanic; R. D. Hawkins, supt of motive power, and a number of lesser railroad lights.

HOI HO ALL YOU ODD FELLOWS

Mount Fernie Lodge

The goat, so long on pasture, is to be brought in and put to good use next Wednesday night, when some anxious and curious ones will take their first step in the realm of mystery surrounding the third-linked fraternity.

Fearing his goatship may be too frisky, and in order that the strangers may report for work next morning, provision is being made for food and stimulant to strengthen the body and keep up ambition. A program of vocal and instrumental music will be arranged, so that a good evening's entertainment is assured.

SKETCH OF SITUATION

An executive meeting of all the officials of District 18, U. M. W. of A., was held at Macleod this week, which gave rise to many conjectures of a probable early conclusion to the existing strike. These were, as is quite natural, based upon a wish-the-father-to-the-thought foundation and we regret to report that such a consumation is not at present perceptible.

The mineworkers of District 18 are still as determined as they were at the beginning to remain steadfast, because they feel that inasmuch as the cost of living has been constantly increasing and there have been no appreciable changes in the wages for several years past that the demands made are the very opposite of unreasonable, and that the propositions so far tendered to them are of a character that may be termed robbing Peter of a dollar to pay Paul fifty cents.

The increase offered to the day wage men and so persistently published by the press, gives a wrong impression of the real state of affairs so far as the outside public is concerned.

The substantial decrease to a very large number of the miners is given but little publicity, which is by no means a strange procedure for the operators to follow, inasmuch as it is to be expected that they wish to bolster up their side of the controversy and belittle as far as possible that of their opponents.

The approach of winter is evidenced on every side, there is every reason to expect a shortage of coal, but until such time as they who control the key to the situation begin to be inconvenienced, we may not look for any change. Still, with the congestion at Fort William, the steady depletion of stocks of coal, the huge harvest to be transported and the report that owing to the orders from their home markets demanding attention, that the supply of coal from Pennsylvania and other points finds a ready sale in the U. S., Canadian buyers will not be able to purchase with the same facility during the winter season as they have done during the past five months, all of these instances naturally lead to the supposition that the force of circumstances will necessitate some modification of past tactics.

So far as the miners are affected they did not take the step hastily, and confident in the justice of their claims, although they are, of course, inconvenienced somewhat, nevertheless their slogan is still Better continue to contend for improved conditions even though suffering ensue, than continue to suffer without any improvement.

John P. White, International President of the U. M. W. of A., will reach Fernie during the coming week for the purpose of conferring with the Executive Board of District 18 regarding the existing controversy with the Western Coal Operators' Association relative to the demands made by the mineworkers for different conditions.

Mr. White was elected president of the mineworkers' organization at the last annual election, when he defeated Tom L. Lewis for the position of chief executive by a majority of over 20,000 votes.

During his career in connection with the coal mining industry he has fulfilled minor offices satisfactorily, and the esteem in which he is held as a man of integrity throughout the vast area over which he has jurisdiction, is particularly noticeable in his own state, Iowa (his home town being Oskaloosa) this contradicting the old adage of a prophet being without honor in his own locality.

Rev. Father Bernard Vaughan sails from England for Canada to-morrow (Saturday) the 30th.

Preparations are already under way in Alberta for elections to decide upon candidates for the provincial parliament to succeed those members who were elected representatives to the House at Ottawa. These include Warnock, Macleod; Buchanan, Lethbridge; and Bennett, Calgary.

COMMUNICATED

Corbin, B. C. Sept. 25, 1911

To the Editor, District Ledger: —

Dear Sir,—Kindly publish the following in the next issue.

At a regular meeting held September 24th of Corbin Local Union it was unanimously carried that the members as per list below be expelled from our organization because of breaking their obligations by acting as traitors to their fellow workers, and furthermore, that we especially condemn the action of the four English Speaking recreants because of their activity in adding to their infamy of playing traitor to the organization that of inducing the foreign speaking brethern to do likewise.

(Signed) RICHARD JONES, President
JOHN TWIGG, Secy.

The following are the names of the members who were expelled:

ROBERT REDHEAD, English.
THOMAS BRACE, Welsh.
JOHN JONES, English.
JOSEPH CROOKS, English.
MIKE FARRACE.
TONY DIANO,
TONY SMITH
CHARLES WALBY
JOSEPH ZOUCHIE,
JOHN DUTHEL,
JOHN NOGI
JOE MATT
JOE PODGORNICK.

This quotation is from the "Compendium of Moral Theology," by Aloysio Sabetti, S.J.:

"In cases of extreme necessity the value of life itself must be considered above that of property. In such extremity a man has the right to appropriate unto himself sufficient to satisfy his necessity. In cases of such extreme necessity all things become common, as at all times it must be remembered that life itself is of greater value than the things of fortune."

WARNING

This is to notify any member of the U. M. W. of A. found guilty of making false statements with a view to obtaining relief will be prosecuted and forfeit all rights of membership.

THIS MINER IS JAILED

Urged Workman Not to Scab--Law Plays its Little Part

The Calgary Trades and Labor Council have decided to take action against the city over the recent arrest of a mine worker named Hamilton, who is at present behind the bars at the police station. A resolution was passed last night at a meeting of the Trades and Labor Council to the effect that the council's solicitor get Hamilton out of jail, and if a case could be made out to go after the city.

They claim the arrest is more or less an outrage, and not only that, but bonds have been offered for his release and were refused. The information which the Trades and Labor Council has, is that Hamilton, who is a miner, was asking men on the street not to turn "scabs" and go to work in the mines, but as working men to stay with the striking miners.

For this Hamilton was arrested and at the trial was fined $5 or seven days. A number of his friends offered to pay his fine, but at the police station this was refused, and a bond wanted guaranteeing him to get out of town. Several bondsmen were then offered, but were refused, consequently Hamilton is still behind the bars. The Trades and Labor Council are of the opinion the police have a frame-up against Hamilton, hence the resolution passed at their meeting.

The result of this resolution means that the labor men will, through W. T. D. Lathwell, probe the matter to a finish, and if in the opinion of their solicitor the arrest was unjustifiable they will seek redress from the city.

THE TRUTH—THE WHOLE TRUTH

"Many mines are working"

"And large shipments of coal are being made daily from the mines in the vicinity."

The above headlines appear in The Blairmore Enterprise, and in practically all other exchanges we note insistent outcries about the suffering that must ensue because of lack of coal. There must be a rift in the lute somewhere.

Consistency, thou are a jewel!

"The mines at Coleman, Lille, Hillcrest, Bellevue and Maple Leaf are not working on such a large scale as those referred to above, in fact some of them are doing practically nothing, while others are mining a little coal and making small shipments."—Blairmore Enterprise.

Quite right! The above are not working on such a large scale as those referred to, because they are not extracting a pound of coal for commercial purposes, and there are a number of others throughout District 18 that are making no shipments.

Such speciously worded reports of suppression of the truth should be treated with a pinch of salt about the size of magnum bonum potato.

STARVING WOMEN SPUR STRIKERS ON TO VICTORY

ROME, Italy, Sept. [illegible] with the spirit that made Rome the mistress of the world, striking workmen at Elba, are determined to win, or perish in the battle they are now waging against their employers.

The sight of starving women and children has often unnerved men fighting for industrial emancipation, and the organized workers of Italy are determined that the men of Elba will not have to face such an ordeal. They have made plans to take the women and children, especially the children, from the strike district, and leave the men untrammeled in their battle to abolish the horrible conditions under which they have been forced to labor.

MONKEYING WITH TARIFF

Impending Danger Says United States Press-- Insurgent's Plan

WASHINGTON, D.C., Sept. 23.—A coming tariff war between Canada and the United States in which Newfoundland and other British colonies and France and Germany will play a part is the prediction this morning of politicians and statesmen.

These authorities now governing themselves for the coming presidental campaign say that the opportunity afforded by Canada's failure to pass the reciprocity pact after America had thoroughly believed it would be passed is too good an opportunity for a general tariff mixup with several countries to be allowed to slip by the Democrats and insurgents. Representative Stanley of the United States steel committee, speaking for a group of members of the house said to-night:

"The Canadian reciprocity pact was the one measure that President Taft, in the opinion of the country, should have gotten passed. His failure to bring about a pact between the two countries has hurt him irretrievably.

"The president has failed to revise the tariff as he promised in his campaign and he tried to give the country the Canadian pact as a sop in place of a tariff revision. He did not succeed and the people will not forgive this."

Those interested in steel affairs are saying that they believe Canada will attempt some upward revision of tariffs, according to private advices from Canada, under a semi-agreement made before the election as to what the Conservatives would do in case they won and that there may be an attempt to exclude steel rails of American manufacture from Canada by prohibitory tariffs. If this, or any other attempt, to raise tariffs on American products going into Canada is made the Democrats and insurgents acting together have made up their minds to retaliate either by aiming at Canada direct with tariff legislation, or by attempting to make a trade agreement with France, Germany and Newfoundland. At the state department it is said that Newfoundland has been desirous of entering into a reciprocity agreement with the United States. The Democrats and insurgents will see that the arrangement is not allowed to drop; that they may have further opportunities for tariff revision in order to embarrass President Taft's political fortunes.

In fact there are mutterings of old line Republicans being now willing to turn to Lafollette. The extra session of congress at which the pact was passed cost the United States $1,000,000. Mr. Charles C. Glover, president of the Riggs National Bank, and one of the financial leaders of the country, said this morning:

"America is in a serious business condition owing to the parliamentary unrest, and will be until next election.

'Many men who did not believe in the benefits to this country of such a pact are now miffed at what may be called Canada's rebuff. Their pride is hurt. As a consequence I think it likely that there will be further attempts at all kinds of tariff legislation and as a result of the business depressions caused by the American attacks upon American financial and commercial institutions, now further stirred by the failure of Canada to pass the pact, I look forward to a period of business depression in America lasting clear up to election time."

AT THE GRAND

"Human Hearts" was played at the Grand Theatre last Friday night and about the only redeeming feature to this lurid melodrama was the prattle of the little child, the rest of the play a blood and thunder representation, might meet with applause in Bluevilleby-the-Bush or Scappoose-by-the-Sea, but so impressed was one of the spectators that he preferred to take forty winks in his seat to watching the performance, and from the few comments we overheard by those present were by no means favorable.

Saturday, there was a fair sized gathering in the same building to see "Yon Yonson." The typical Swedish characteristics were brought out splendidly by the leading man David Brattstrom and his funnisities produced peals of laughter from the audience.

The support was by no means extra strong. One young lady spoke with too much speed, in fact, at times it was difficult to understand what was said, although when she sang there was a decided improvement of enunciation, and the other young lady who rendered "The Garden of My Heart" possesses a beautiful voice and was accorded a well deserved recall.

WAR DECLARED

C. C. CLUB ROBBERY

The Would-be Burglars Grabbed and Lodged In City Jail

About 1.15, Thursday morning, when Constable Joe Boardman was leaving the Tepee Boarding House, where he had been in the ordinary course of his duties, hearing a slight noise in the Club House, he went across to investigate, and to his surprise noted that the window was open, and hearing sounds from within of scurrying feet as if anxious to effect their getaway, he closed the window, and awaited at the corner for the intruders to come out, as he did not know how many there were. Suddenly a man dropped out of the lavatory window and rushed off, but not before he had been recognized by the watchful officer. Almost immediately another individual dropped from the same window, only to be grabbed by the constable, who after a brief struggle was captured and confined to the lock-up. This was John Drew. Boardman then aroused the janitor, and together they entered the Club premises and upon examination found that entry had been made very cleverly a piece had been taken out of one of the window panes in a neat manner, through which the hand could be introduced and the catch pulled back. In the bar-room the till had been turned out but without success so far as money was concerned, as the cash is taken out every night. The other contents of the drawer were scattered about the floor; three empty glasses stood on the bar, bearing evidence of recent usage, and the keg from which the liquid had been taken was still running, the contents trickling down into the cellar. Kegs of beer were lying around, one having been carried upstairs and placed near the window, evidently with the intention of packing it off. Constable Boardman then left the janitor and proceeded to the home of the Drews, where he found John Dooley and Ben Drew eating a late supper, or perhaps it would be more correct to say an early breakfast. Dooley said that he had been with the Drews all night, so the pair was arrested and locked up. Asst. Provincial Constable McLeod came up on the early morning and escorted the trio down to Fernie, where the preliminary trial will be held on Friday.

The report during the past week relative to the dispute between Turkey and Italy regarding Tripoli has culminated in the declaration of war by Italy, and we may now expect a possibility of further European complication arising out of the conflict.

There is not the slightest doubt that the Turks will do everything possible to enlist the Arabs on their side, using the religious antagonism as an important factor in creating animus for the "infidels" with which all followers of Mahomet dub the various Christian denominations.

WARNING

All coal miners are urged stay away from Alberta and British Columbia, as the strike is still on.

DIST. 18 NOMINATIONS

The date of nomination for all the offices under the jurisdiction of District 18, U. M. W. of A., was September 26th, and all the present incumbents have been selected as candidates with the exception of Chas. Garner (resigned) and for the positions held by him as International Board Member there are several aspirants, among whom are: Dave Rees, of Gladstone Local, Fernie; J. A. Tupper, of Hosmer; Tom Harries, Michel; William Graham, Coleman; Robt. Evans, Frank; John C. Jones, Hillcrest; D. McNab Lethbridge.

The elections will take place the second Tuesday in December.

ESCAPE WAS THRILLING

Man Leap From G. N. Train Travelling at High Speed

On Monday last when the Great Northern passenger train was speeding along at 35 miles an hour, not far from Swinton, a puff of wind lifted the hat of a Russian named Anton Wascovich, off his head, rolling it down the embankment, when, without the slightest hesitation the lidless Muscovite leaped out in space, and rolling and tumbling among the rocks and stones for about 75 feet, received such injuries that entitled him to a cot in the Fernie Hospital, from which he is expected to arise a few days hence. Those who witnessed the incident are at a loss to understand how the man was not killed, because the slope down which he rolled is covered with all kinds of rocks, big and little, sharp and hard, and can only be explained upon the supposition that nature has blessed him with an extraordinary solid cranium.

THE ISIS THEATRE

The constantly increasing attendance at this popular entertaining moving picture establishment is the best proof of public appreciation, and now the management as a further inducement intend to give prizes to their patrons every week. Clear films, comfortable seats, excellent music and every attention paid to patrons is the only highway to success, and these have all been adopted by the management of the Isis.

METHODIST MONTHLY TEA

The regular monthly tea given by the Ladies' Aid of the Methodist Church will be held at the home of Mrs. J. Hamilton, Macpherson Avenue, Tuesday, October 3rd, from 3 to 6.

A Simple Talk to the Wage-Earners

Fellow Wage-Slave,—

The system we live under is known as the capitalist system. The wealth of this system consists of a great accumulation of commodities. A commodity is a product of labor, possessing a use value, privately produced for social consumption. The characteristics of this system is that things are produced for profit and not for use. It matters not to your master whether poisonous food or shoddy clothing is made up in his factory, so long as he receives from the process a profit. He is a capitalist and not a public benefactor. He engages you for one purpose—the production of goods with a view to reaping a profit. He goes into coal, iron, clothing or jam, with tha tend in view.

It is for the purpose of getting a profit that he allows his machinery to be used, and when machinery is used with that end in view it becomes capital. The system we live under is one that has for its driving force the exploitation of labor-power, hence we speak of it as the capitalist system. At one time things were produced for use and not for profit. It was so under communism. At that time the things produced were not commodities, and the means of production was not capital; the things produced were products, and the means of production wealth used for the production of goods with a view to use alone; there were no capitalists, because no capital, as we understand the term.

What, you ask, is capital? Capital is that amount of wealth used in the production of commodities with a view to profit. To illustrate what capital is let us take a simple example. Say, you are "a married man." You know what that means. And, say your wife possesses a sewing machine. There are three ways in which we can take the possible use of that sewing machine to make clear our meaning of capital.

1. Your wife uses it to make clothing for you, herself, and the rest of the family. She makes a product and the machine remains wealth and is not capital.

2. She makes, besides the above amount of clothing, a certain amount to sell as commodities, or things made for the purpose of exchange instead of for use in the home consumption. Still that sewing machine remains wealth, used in the one case to produce products, in the other, commodities.

3. Say, your wife gets the money itch, and hits upon the idea of bringing in a girl to work that machine for the purpose of making things for the market, that is, for social use, with a view to profit; say, the intention of your wife is money grabbing, the motive that inspires her "to find employment for a poor girl" that of making a profit out of her, then that very intention stamps the machine as capital, for it is used in the production of commodities with a view to profit, used for the purpose of exploiting labor-power.

Sometimes you hear the politicians who call themselves "hard-headed," "practical," and "industrious," saying that the workshop people are the capital of the country. The truth is that the workpeople (that's a nice term) use the capital and have no share in it, or in the things they produce. They do not own the machinery, they do not own the things produced. They are divorced from the means of production, and are forced to sell themselves to the owners of those means—the capitalist. And it is only when the capitalist sees a chance of "making something" that he "finds employment" for some of them. He must have a profit "in store," or no "finding employment." There's no sentiment or humanity about this "finding work for workpeople." Don't you be deluded on that question.

Where do his profits come from? Well, profit or, as the Socialist calls it, surplus value, is simply the difference between what the master pays for the labor power of the workpeople and the value that labor power creates. Value is a general term; the master got very likely, value for his coins in the shape of machinery. He kept that machinery and you are working it producing commodities in return for a bare existence. The commodities on the market are realizing more value than they cost your master in production. That part of the value which the master got for nothing is surplus-value, or profit, and he only got it by paying you less than you actually made. Your wages and not the product. The less you get the more is there left for the master. It is over this "dividing up" that the "row" takes place. Each wants as much as he can get, and you struggle for that end. What takes place between you and your master takes place between the working class and the master class, and the Socialist calls the struggle of the classes the class struggle, and their different interests class interests. The interest of the profit taker is different and antagonistic to the interest of the wage taker. You cannot divide a cake so that each can get the larger share.

Now, you know what profits are. Suppose we turn now to wages. What are "Wages"? Wages are the price of labor power. How are wages determined? Wages—the price of labor power—are regulated by the law of supply and demand; if labor power is plentiful, labor-power is cheap; if labor power is scarce, it is dear, the same as every other thing on the market. But before labor power enters the market it already has a value, and that value is determined by its cost of production, that is, by the amount of actual labor embodied in the necessaries it took to produce it; but one thing we must remember, the labor is of a specific kind, viz., socially necessary labor. Capitalism is a system of social production and the labor time is social labor time; when we speak of the worker we do so as a social factor. It is the labor socially necessary that gives value. For instance, if you take two hours to do a task in a backward sort of way, a task that can be, and is, done in an hour, or the average, you do not get twice as much in return for the doing of your task as other people who did it in half the time it occupied. Your two hours method of doing the work was antiquated and not socially-necessary, that is to say, that the two hours was not the time required for the given task under the prevailing conditions.

The value of one commodity is to the value of another as the socially-necessary labor embodied in the one is to that embodied in the other. The value of laboring power of the worker is determined before he enters the market, and all that the "corner" of trade unionism, if it succeeded, could do, would be to regulate its price. Commodities may fall or rise at different times below or above their value, but, in the long run, the movements counterbalance each other, so that commodities exchange on the average, at their value. Labor power being a commodity, on the average, its exchanges at its value. There is this commodity status of labor, this buying and selling of labor power, like steam or horse power, always to be remembered. The worker is not a human being in the labor market, but so much "power," so much productive energy to be used up. But a word more on the value of labor-power.

"If the owner of labor-power works to-day, to-morrow he must be able to repeat the same process in the same conditions as regards health and strength. His means of subsistence must therefore be sufficient to maintain him in his normal state as a laboring individual. His natural wants, such a food, clothing, fuel and housing, vary according to the climatic and other physical conditions of his country. On the other hand, the number and extent of his so-called necessary wants, as also the modes of satisfying them, are themselves the product of historical development, and depend, therefore, to great extent on the degree of civilization of a country, more particularly on the conditions under which, and consequently on the habits and degree of comfort in which the class of free laborers has been formed. In contradistinction, therefore, to the case of other commodities, there enters into the determination of the value of labor-power a historical and moral element. Nevertheless, in a given country, at a given period, the average quantity of the means of subsistence necessary for the laborer is practically known.

"The owner of labor-power is mortal. If then his appearance in the market is to be continuous, and the continuous conversion of money into capital assumes this, the seller of labor-power must perpetuate himself 'in the way that every living individual perpetuates himself, by procreation.' The labor-power withdrawn from the market by wear and tear and death, must be continually replaced by, at the very least, an equal amount of fresh labor-power. Hence the sum or the means of subsistence necessary for the production of labor-power must include the means necessary for the laborer's substitutes, i.e., his children, in order that this peculiar race of commodity owners may perpetuate its appearance in the market.

"In order to modify the human organism so that it may acquire skill and handiness in a given branch of industry, and become labor-power of a special kind, a special education or training is requisite, and this on its part, costs an equivalent in commodities of a greater or lesser amount. This amount varies according to the more or less complicated character of the labor-power. The expenses of this education (excessively small in the case of the ordinary laborer) enters pro tanta into the total value spent in its production.

"The value of labor-power resolves itself into the value of a definite quantity of the means of subsistence. It therefore varies with the value of these means or with the quantity of labor requisite for their production." —Marx.

Increasing poverty in New York City is reported by the Association for Relieving the Condition of the Poor; and out of this report those who explain poverty by the intemperance of the poor will get no help. Intemperance is given as accounting for only two per cent of all the cases of poverty reported on. Pretty soon the game of blind-man's-buff in the hunt for causes of poverty will have to be given up. An open-eyed hunt for the causes of wealth would soon solve both problems.—The Public.

WITNESS BEFORE COMMISSION ADVOCATES INCREASE OF POLL TAX

VICTORIA, B.C., Sept. 25. — An excellent beginning with its important work of investigating assessment and taxation conditions in British Columbia with a view to devising reforms in the public interest should these prove justified was made in the initial session today of the commission consisting of Hon. Price Ellison, minister of finance, and C. H. Lugrin. Both morning and afternoon sittings were held the formal constitution of the commission and the taking of evidence or opinions volunteered by John Dean occupying the forenoon, while after luncheon H. G. Wilson, F. A. Paulin, D. R. Ker, Simon Leiser and Colonel E. G. Prior were heard as representing the board of trade and Victoria business interests chiefly in support of a resolution adopted by the board in January last suggesting an extension of the exemption amount under the income tax and the cancellation of the existing taxation of business stock. The concensus of opinion recorded during the opening day of the commission's activities was unanimously in favor of the non-taxation of commercial stocks and of a slight extension of exemption under income tax. As to the wild land tax the majority of opinion favored it as a legitimate charge against the speculator, while with regard to the much attacked provincial revenue tax the majority of the witnesses appeared in favor of its retention as a necessary piece of the machinery for compelling the alien resident to contribute something toward the expenses of government in this province in which he makes his living, and toward which he otherwise would pay nothing. Simon Leiser indeed strongly advocates not only the retention of this poll tax but its increase from $3 to $4 per capita. In the matter of general property assessment the opinion appeared to be unanimous as to the desirability of exempting improvements from assessment as an encouragement of building. It was even held that the principal should be extended at the earliest possible date to farm as well as city properties.

The working men and women of this country have many faults and fallings. Many of them are ignorant, though that is not quite their own fault. Many a working man starves and pinches his wife and his little one to gamble squandering his money; yes, and the lives of his family, upon horse races, prize fights and other brutal and sense less things called "Sport!" It is all wrong, and we know it. Many of our fellow workmen drink, wasting the children's bread money, and making beasts of themselves in saloons, and that is wrong, too, though I do not wonder at it when I think of the hills they work in, the hovels they live in and the dull, soul-deadening grind of their daily lives. But we have got to struggle against it; got to conquer the bestial curse before we can get better conditions. Men who soak their brains in alcohol, or who gamble their children's bread, will never be able to make the world a fit place to live in—a place fit for little childdren to grow in!—John Spargo, "Common Sense of Socialism" page 20,

Mankind are divided into two great classes—the shearers and the shorn. You should always side with the form against the later.—Talleyrand.

All men having the same origin are of epual antiquity; nature has made no difference in their formation. Strip the nobles naked and you are as well as they; dress them in your rags and you in their robes and you will doubtless be the nobles. Poverty and riches only discriminate betwixt you.—Machiavelli.

Thou shalt not steal. Thou shalt not be stolen from.—Thomas Carlyle.

Ninety per cent of the actual producers of wealth have no home that they can call their own, beyond the end of the week; have no bit of soil, or so much as a room that belongs to them; have nothing of value of any kind, except as much as will go in a cart; have the precarious chance of weekly wages which barely suffice to keep them in health; are housed for the most part in places that no man thinks fit for his horse; are separated by so narrow a margin from destruction that a month of bad trade, sickness or unexpected loss brings them face to face with hunger and pauperism.—Frederic Harrison, Report of Industrial Remuneration Conference, 1886, p. 429.

It seems to me that people are not enough aware of the monstrous state of society, absolutely without a parallel in the history of the world. With a population poor, miserable and degraded in body and mind, as if they were, slaves, and yet called freemen. The hopes entertained by many of the effects to be wrought by new churches and schools, while the social evils of their conditions are left uncorrected, appears to me utterly wild.—Dr. Arnold of Rugby.

Habits Well Taught

That preposterous proposition of Descartes, "I think, therefore I am," has been reversed by certain scientific individuals to read, "I am, therefore I think."

I must confess untter failure to appreciate the advantage of the change and might be induced upon compulsion to aver that the general correctness of the reverse proposition is as much open to question as the original. The mere fact of consciousness presupposing the faculty for thinking is a conclusion which the most exhaustive examination of the facts will fail to support. And if man were possessed with any ordinary degree of that so-called God-like faculty of reason he would not arrogate to himself exclusively an attribute which he denies to all other forms of life.

The "Myself and God" attitude of mind is ridiculous enough even without expression in excellent satirical verse, when observed in an individual member of the voting specie. But when we observe almost all mankind parading the same offensive pomposness the result is almost paralyzing; and were it not that the absurd farce unfolds itself by degrees and never even to the most discerning mind presents the play in full, I verily believe those who do think would end their days in unseemly and uproarious laughter. Myself and God, we think; our actions are the result of premeditation; we first applied divine reason, and then we acted. We differ in this respect from the animals, who instinctively exercise their various functions.

"As the stars perform their shining and the sea its long moonsilvered roll."

From the animals; mark you that, not if you please, the other animal.

Myself and God are things apart and reason, divine reason, is the dividing line.

"Verily, verily; the gods must needs laugh could such things be to see their little manikins below."

Reason is instinctive, divine or other wise; the fact is that mankind or ants, gods or little fishes are the veriest chances of habit and the habits of God partake of essentially the same characteristics as do the men who worship him.

If there be any difference between the mental process which controls the actions of man and that which sets in motion the brute, it is not hidden in any metaphysical relationship to God, but rather lies unrevealed, because the brute does not wear clothes, does not speak, nor write nor yet, for which it should be truly thankful, does it vote.

The brute, therefore, being thus much secured from displaying its folly, displays to that extent so much more wisdom.

For in all these characteristics which are essentially man's the human animal comports itself in such unbounded folly, that to my mind it is an open question whether they exalt him above the brute or contrariwise. To write at length on the follies of man would require more time and space than is at my disposal. And to select his greatest folly calls for a much more discriminating taste than the present writer can lay claim to, but subject to correction from more nicely balanced minds, I beg leave to select one instance of what appears to me methodless madness.

There is abundant evidence at hand in any civilized country for the assumption that man is a reasoning animal. We have only to look around at the primitive stage of nature and then turn to where the hand of man has been active, and we are instantly impressed by the extraordinary change. By the side of a primeval forest, whose huge trees, towering hundreds of feet, and embracing with its far-reaching hosts acres of soil, a human creature will settle, and presently the entire face of nature undergoes a change. The forest disappears and street upon street appears, graded, bound in concrete, electrically lighted, patrolled by brass-bound, blue-clothed policemen, and swarming with men, women and children. Examine this city more closely and you will find ingenious machinery in constant operation; you will find a swarm of men, women and children in constant command over this machinery; you will see a constant stream of boots, coats, vests, pants, beds, tables, chairs, mates and utensils of all kinds, lumber and tool in every shape and form, but why try to enumerate the innumerable wealth of beauty and utility in superabundance comes from the concerted activity of this mighty army of producers, and you will feel impelled to say, here is the reasoner, here is one who can truly call himself the chosen of God.

But approach him and see what he knows about his activity or its causes, and everywhere we find habit. He was taught to do it that way. He was taught to speak, to walk, to swear, and not to swear; to operate these levers; to manipulate that tool; to fashion yonder instrument; to control that power; to calculate those dimensions, to harmonize conflicting forces, to neutralize dangerous elements, to eleminate disruptive factors; to keep the entire works in the most perfect order compatible with profit to his master; to order himself lowly and reverently before all his betters, teachers, pastors and masters; and furthermore, to be tickled to death to remain in that station of hope to which it has pleased God to call him. He must admit his skill; we cannot fail to observe his tireless energy; and did we stop at his productive activity we could grant the habit and then feel inclined to credit the creature with something of the God.

But when we follow him home and observe his antics there; his Godlike vesture fades away, his divine reason vanishes, his ingenuity, fails, and his entire attitude changes. In his miserable apology for a house he takes his rest, his recreation and his meals. Such rest, such recreation, and such meals! Where is all the wealth he has been producing? Did he bring any home? Not a particle. Approach him. Question him. Here is a contingency wherein we may hope to find an exercising of that divine reason. Why is his shelter so inadequate, his food so unwholesome? Ask his wife, ask his father, ask his progenitors for all time and you will be amazed. Fire, the wheel, the marine compass, the telescope, steam, electrical energy, in fact all the greatest discoveries of all ages become the merest commonplace happenings compared with the superlative reasons he will advance to excuse his base and terrible existence. The reasons he has to wear poor clothes, eat poor food, forego the comforts of a modern sanitary home and live so far from his place of employment, are because the Liberals are in power, or because they are not; because we have Free Trade, or because we have not; because we are sinful and God would punish us, or because he loves us and chasteneth whom he loves; because—in short, any thing which can be expressed in language, except that they are damned fools, base slaves and unreasoning habit-controlled voting animals.

Here is, at least, one instance of the methodless madness I spoke of above. That man who produces so much, should have less of his product than will suffice to supply his immediate needs and should still find enough energy left to invent innumerable excuses for his slavery. If this be the act of reasoning creature, give me the instinct of an insect, which knows when a horde of parasites have outlived-their-usefulness-and-acts-accordingly.

There remains one consolation, however: If this slave has been taught to hug his chains, he may be taught to break them. That is the mission of Socialism. That is every Socialist's task.—J. H., in the Western Clarion.

WESTERN FUEL COMPANY AND ITS EMPLOYEES

Agreement Which Has Been in Force Six Months Renewed For Two Years

The agreement between the Western Fuel Company and its underground employees, under which the local mines have been worked the last six years, has been renewed for another two years, dating from the end of the present month, says the Nanaimo Herald. This agreement which has been in operation six years, was signed by the men's committe and the officials of the Western Fuel Company Monday night. Negotiations between the company and its underground employees looking toward this renewal of the agreement which expired at the end of the present month have been conducted for the past two weeks, and that the question has been amicably settled, and two years more of industrial peace assured will be cause of gratification not only to the company and its employees, but to residents of the city in general. It speaks well for the officials of the company that the terms of the working agreement have been so faithfully kept that the employees have secured a renewal of the same without difficulty or hesitation, and with the opening of new mines in the near vicinity, with vast development work projected, and two years of industrial peace assured Nanaimo looks forward to a bright future with even more prosperous days than the past has recorded.

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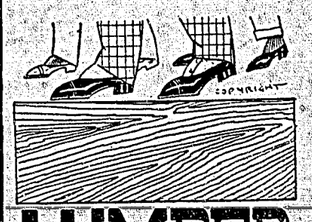

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Nyal's FAMILY REMEDIES

SAVING OF BRITAIN'S COAL FIELD

Recommends the Conservation of the Coal Areas at Once

The presidential address of Sir William Ramsay at the openeing of the British Association for the Advance men of Science, which was held at Portsmouth, has attracted much attention by reason of the somewhat gloomy prognostication the great scientist made regarding the world's supply of coal, the mineral in which the largest quantity of stored up energy is concentrated.

This was really but an incident in the address which dealt with recent developments in that most fascinating sphere of science in which he works—the field that lies along the border line of physics and chemistry and touches some of the greatest unsolved problems of the universe.

His address was probably the most powerful bulwark that has yet been built around the unitary conception of the origin of matter on the basis of the atomic theory that Dalton constructed from the ancient Greeks, and it must pulverize the wreckage of the atheistic theories of the origin of the universe.

It has been ascertained that the atomic weights of more than half the elements are on the most recent computations within one-tenth of a unit above or below an integral number in Prof. Mendeleff's system of periodical classification of the elements.

Moreover, Sir William Ramsay has the assurance of so great a mathematical authority as Pro. Carl Pearson that the mathematical chances against such a condition being accidental are twenty thousand millions to one.

Of course it has not yet been proved that all elements spring from the one original element and there are those who say that even were all the atomic weights ascertained to be integral, and were the periodic table completely and satisfactorily filled, the unitary hypothesis would not be adequately proved, and there would still remain for solution the baffling problem why substance made up of different multiples of the same primary stuff should present the wide divergences of character and behavior found in the elements as we know them. But the evidences of design in the architecture of the universe are unquestionable, even if the designer remains inscrutable to the eye of science.

Source of Energy

A reference to the enormous store of energy concentrated in radium and liberated during its disintegration led Sir William Ramsay to the subject of the energy available to the world in general and to Great Britain in particular. Radium itself probably exists in quantities far too small to be of any practical use as a source of energy, but supposing that like it the other so-called elements are changing, though very slowly, with evolution of energy, and supposing that some means could be discovered of making the changes proceed at a useful rate, then, he pointed out, a new supply of energy would be put at the disposal of mankind which would alter the whole future of the race. But he made it clear that in his opinion there is no warrant whatever for relying on so remote a possibly—"it would be folly to consider seriously a possible supply of energy in a conceivable acceleration of the liberation of energy by atomic change"—and other sources which have been suggested, such as the tides, the heat of the sun, and the interal heat of the earth, are all equally hopeless so far as can be seen at present.

In the discovery of new means of concentrating energy lay, Sir William argued, the secret of the whole progress of the human race. Stick, spear, arrow, crossbow-bolt, bullet—here was one series representing the progress effected by successive inventions for the concentration of energy. So with the steam engine, converting one-eighth of the potential energy of its fuel into useful work, followed by the gas-engine, using more than one-third of the total energy in the gaseous fuel. It was this power of work which gave the British people leisure, and which enabled a small country like Great Britain to support the population which inhabits it.

Exhaustion of Fields

"Now, we in Britain are much better off than were the ancient Greeks. Each Greek freeman had on an average five helots who did his bidding and saved him manual labor, but the population of the British Isles is, in round numbers 45,000,000; there are consumed in our factories at least 50,000,000 tons of coal annually, and it is generally agree that the consumption of coal per indicated horse-power per hour is on an average about five pounds. This gives seven million horse-power per year. How many man power are equal to a horse-power? I have arrived at an estimate thus: A Bhutanese can carry 230 pounds, plus his own weight, in all 400 pounds, up a hill 4000 feet high, in eight hours; this is equivalent to about one-twenty-fifth of a horse-power; seven million horse-power are therefore about 175,000,000 man-power. Taking a family as consisting on the average of five persons, our 45,000,000 would represent 9,000,000 families; and dividing the total man-power by the number of families, we must conclude that each British family has, in the average nearly twenty 'helots' doing his bidding, instead of five of the Athenian family."

But the stored-up energy in the form of coal which provides us with these 'helots' is rapidly vanishing, according to the general report of the royal commission on coal supplies, 1906. The available quantity of coal in our proved coalfields is very nearly 100,000,000,000 tons, and if the rate of working continues to increase as it has been doing since 1870, these fields will be completely exhausted in 175 years.

"It may be said that 175 years is a long time." Sir William observed. "Why I myself have seen a man whose father fought in the year '45 in the Pretender's side, nearly 170 years ago! In the life of a nation 175 years is a span."

Problem Confronting Races

What, then, was to be done? The British Science Guild, which has formed a committee to investigate our available sources of energy, had brought the following subjects under review:

1. The tides.
2. The internal heat of the earth.
3. The winds.
4. Solar heat.
5. Water power.
6. The extension of forests and the use of wood and peat as fuel.
7. The possibility of controlling the undoubted but almost infinitely slow disintegration of the elements with the view of using their stored-up energy.

The conclusion arrived at was that sources 1 to 5 are negligible in this country when compared with the coal supply, while "it would be folly to consider seriously a possible supply of energy in a conceivable acceleration of the liberation of energy by atomic change." There remained source No. 6, and to state-aided afforestation Sir William admitted that he attached considerable value.

His chief hope, however, lay in the conservation of our coal reserve. "It is to the more economic use of coal that we must look in order that our life as a nation may be prolonged."

Among the many ways in which this economy could be effected were: The substitution of turbine for reciprocating engines; the further replacement of turbines by gas engines; the manufacture of electrical power at the pit mouth; the substitution of "recovery" for "bee-hive" coke ovens, and the improvement of domestic heating and cooking arrangements. In connection with the last point he suggested the imposition of a sixpence fine for each smoky domestic chimney.

Permanent Commission

"What can be done?" he enquired again. In the first place, a permanent commission, similar to that initiated by Mr. Roosevelt in America should be created to take stock annually of the nation's store of natural energy and to do what is possible to lessen its rate of diminution.

"Two courses are open to us," Sir William said in conclusion. "First the laissez-faire plan of leaving self-interested competition the combating of waste, or, second, initiating legislation which, in the interest of the whole nation, will endeavor to lessen the squandering of our national resources. This legislation may be of two kinds; penal, that is, imposing a penalty on wasteful expenditure of energy-supplies; and helpful, that is, imparting information as to what can be done, advancing loans at as easy rate of interest to enable reforms to be carried out, and insisting on the greater prosperity which would result from the use of more efficient appliances.

COAL SUBSTITUTES

Oil Resources of the Empire

"Coal is an effete fuel." This is the startling commentary of Mr J D Henry, the authority on oil, upon Sir William Ramsay's address before the British Association. Mr. Henry advocates oil as a coal substitute and speaks optimistically of the possibilities of the colonial oilfields.

A representative made some investigations recently with regard to coal substitutes in general and the oilfields of the empire in particular. The coal substitutes taken were coal gas, electricity, oil and peat. The immediate future — at any rate, so far as our centres of population are concerned — appears to lie with coal gas. This is evidenced by the extraordinary growth in the public demand for gas cookers and gas fires. Whereas in 1900, within the London postal district, there were 3,879,439 consumers of gas, and 837,253 cooking stoves in use, there were last year 6,501,273 consumers and 2,747,671 cooking stoves. According to figures provided by an official of the Gas Light and Coke company (Limited) (who supply about three-fourths of London), this company have now in use upon their services 145,000 gas fires and 6,000 hot water generators. "An interesting point to note," said this official, "is that over 2,100 of the gas fires mentioned have been installed within the past two years in the living rooms of medical men. This is surely an indication of the hygienic worth of a coal gas fire." The question of economy in direct comparison with coal is a mixed one. Coal gas used intermittently for heating purposes in the household has undoubted advantages, but when used continuously is somewhat more expensive. If comfort is taken into consideration then coal gas indisputably scores. The average price of coal gas through the United Kingdom stands at about 2s. 10½d. per 1000 feet.

Whereas electricity stands supreme as an illuminant, it cannot compete with gas in domestic life as an economical heat producer. Electrical energy at 1½d per unit is stated to prove seven times as costly in the end as gas at 3s. per thousand. As a general substitute for coal electricity must be passed by for the present.

Oil has a great immediate future in less populous districts, if the public can be given greater confidence in its resources. The control by trust and constant fluctuation in prices has made many timorous of its use. There is a rapidly growing demand for oil fuel for marine purposes. As a substitute for coal in the navy it has immediate use, while recent developments in the Clyde indicate a development of the oil fed internal combustion engine for general marine work. The admiralty will of course, make every endeavor to secure independence of the present supplies of Russia and the United States, and a serious development of the resources of the oversea dominions may be expected to follow. As it is these countries cannot show a very striking record for their oilfields. The province of Ontario, Canada's principal source of oil, produced 368,987 barrels in 1881. In 1907 it produced 788,872 barrels, but last year the output dropped to 314,410 barrels. As some 53,604,053 gallons of crude oil were imported into Canada last year, the Dominion will have materially to increase its output before it can independently help the mother country. Western Australia can show no oilfields at present, but with encouragement from England it would not be surprising to find it rising to meet the demand. New Zealand has been striving for four or five years to add oil to its known mineral wealth. It presence was proved at Katuku in 1908, but the prospectors have experienced difficulties by water flood during the boring operations. The greatest optimism, however prevails. Burma is a star of hope with at least one district company for exploiting its oil, whilst the Transvaal may add yet another item to its array of mineral wealth.

In reviewing oil resources within the Empire, those of Scotland must not be overlooked. Its output of crude oil, apart from valuable by-products, increased between 1871 and 1907 from 25,000,000 to roughly 64,000,000 gallons. These oilfields are in close proximity to the new naval base at Rosyth.

The development of domestic heating and lighting by oil is making steady progress. Portable oil lamps fitted with incandescent mantles have existed for some time, and are steadily gaining in popularity where gas is available. Oil stoves have also improved greatly of late. Unfortunately the promiscuous handling of oil has its dangers.

Lastly comes peat. The British empire has two principal peat sources —Canada, with bogs of 30,000,000 acres and Ireland with 2,858,150 acres. The preponderance of moisture in virgin peat necessitates certain drying and briquetting processes to give it the heat-producing value of coal. Sold in briquettes it has the advantage over coal of containing, mass for mass, a much smaller percentage of sulphur, but its cost to the average consumer is more than that of coal.

Cost of Living and Wages--Memorandum

Written for "The Week" by an Oxford Professor of Economics

The statement has repeatedly been made, that the proposed agreement with the United States will lower the prices of the necessities of life, and that the benefit of that reduction will go to the workers. Both clauses in that statement are false and misleading. The agreement will not lower those prices, and if it did, the workman would not get the benefit of the lower prices for more than the shortest space of time.

The first half of this claim is easily disposed of. If the law of supply and demand means anything, it means that when the American worker enters the B. C. market to buy foodstuffs and other natural products, prices will not fall, but rise. The prices of many natural products are already high, because the supply actually on the market is short, and the addition of the American to the B. C. demand is bound to raise those prices still further.

But we will suppose, for the sake of argument, that a large increase in the supply of natural products follows the agreement, and prices fall. Even in that case the workman cannot hope to reap the benefit of the lower scale for any length of time, because wages will inevitably accommodate themselves to the lowered cost of living.

The usual argument is something like this:

'You B. C. workmen get high wages, but you have to pay so much for your keep that your wage is not nearly as good as it looks. Pass Reciprocity and the cost of your living will go down, while you pocket the difference."

All this is very charming, but unfortunate quite illusory, for the price of labor is determined not only by demand and supply, but, like every other price, by the cost of production. A manufacturer cannot go on selling at an average price lower than the average cost of production of the thing he is making. The cost of production of labor is the amount of money which it takes to feed, clothe and house the worker, besides supplying him with any luxuries he may refuse to do without. If prices are low, then that production—cost of labor—the minimum wage—will be low; if prices are high, then the minimum wage will be high also.

This is the reason why wages are normally higher where prices are higher, as in the towns, and lower where prices are lower, as in the country; these are facts well known to all who do business in any form, but they could be supported by the authority of the most eminent economists, including Karl Marx.

In England living costs about two-thirds of its cost here, and wages are proportionately lower. They are further depressed by the over-supply of labor, especially casual labor, so that in this particular case the actual wages paid are not only influenced, and absolutely fixed by the minimum upon which a man can keep body and soul together.

Let one instance suffice to illustrate the conditions in the Old Country. The unskilled labor of Glasgow is among the worst paid labor in the United Kingdom. Some time ago a number of well-meaning people tried to help these men by providing them with cheap housing at non-commercial rates. The only consequence was a further reduction of wages to follow this decrease in the cost of living.

Or take an illustration nearer home: Asiatic labor is normally cheaper than European. If you care to ask the next workman you meet why that is so he will tell you pretty vigorously that the Asiatic can live on next to nothing. In other words, the wage he is prepared to take is regulated by his low standard of living. He may make more in times of exceptional scarcity of labor, but he can always be obtained at a lower rate than a white man of equal efficiency, because whether through lower prices or parsimonious living, he can exist on less.

To state the case quite generally. Here is an employer wanting to buy labor and a prospective employee wanting to sell it. They meet in the market, which is any place where men are engaged. The employer thinks of the most he can afford to can be induced to take. These two mental reservations, call them reserve prices if you like, fix the limits inside which the wage will fluctuate according to that law of supply and deman so often quoted. The workman also fixes the least he will take, at an amount governed by just the same consideration, namely, what it costs him to live, and will generally include his little luxuries in his minimum. There are certain things he will have. If their price is high the minimum wage which he will accept is high. If their price is low he will take a lower minimum. Even while a man may be thinking of the current rates rather than of these maxima and minima, the wage which he can get is none the less surely fixed between those limits.

Within these two the law of supply and demand has play. If there are a few laborers and many jobs, wages are high and the workman does well. But he does well out of the margin above his minimum, and not out of the whole. If there are many laborers and few jobs then wages will come down to the minimum level, which is the normal state of affairs in most countries, since a rise of wages anywhere attracts an inrush of labor whenever it becomes well known, and down comes the margin to zero.

All this is very elementary, and it should not be necessary to dwell upon it at any length. Neither is it necessary for us to point out how that margin may be affected by the action of trade unionism. All that we are here concerned with is that the normal rate of wages in an open market tends always to the actual figure which represents the cost of living, and in any case is absolutely greater or less according to the amount of that first charge.

We deny that an increased demand on the men who are even now making an insufficient output of food can do anything but increase price. We assert without hesitation that the most we can expect is an increase in the supply to meet the new demand and keep prices level: and we maintain that even if these prices should fall, wages must inevitably take the new scale as a minimum, and fluctuate somewhere above that, as they did somewhere above the old. If you lower prices you will soon lower wages to match.—The Week.

(Ed.—The reason that the above article was published in the columns of The Week, a strong supporter of the Conservative Party, is, we assume, as a refutation of the economic fallacies that have been so persistently presented by the adherents of the Liberal party when proclaiming that the benefits accruing to the consumer by virtue of decrease in the cost of living would not affect the scale of wages adversely. We may state that the arguments advanced by the political opponents of the Pact viewed with even a superficial analysis in the light of political economy were exceedingly shallow, but it is not with the pros and However, it is not with the pros and cons of either side that we are so much interested in the present instance but that our co-tem. In his zeal to expose the weakness of his opponents has likewise disclosed the truth of the contention of the Socialists that there is no identity of interest between the laborer and the capitalist, but, on the contrary, their respective positions of buyer and sellers must necessarily be antagonistic. This is the real status, and the sooner they who are compelled to be the sellers recognize that they are of no more consequence than any other commodity, that all the talk about the "rights of labor," "fair day's wage for a fair day's work," etc., are equally as logical as it would be to advocate "the rights of butter," or "a fair day's supply of oil to a threshing machine," the quicker will they determine to be masters of themselves, change their commodity-status and become MEN and WOMEN with aspirations and ambitions above that of mere things.)

THE WEEKLY PAYMENT PLAN.

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Full particulars concerning the scheme may be had by any one over the age of five years if he or she will apply to the Superintendent of Canadian Government Annuities, Ottawa. State age last birthday, the age at which annuity is desired to begin and the amount which you want to pay each week, and the Superintendent will tell you what amount of annuity the payments will buy. Write tonight.

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JOHN ADAIR, Manager, Fernie

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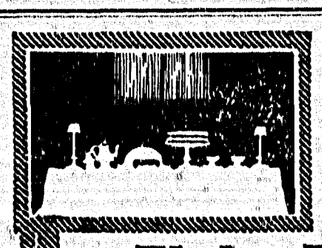

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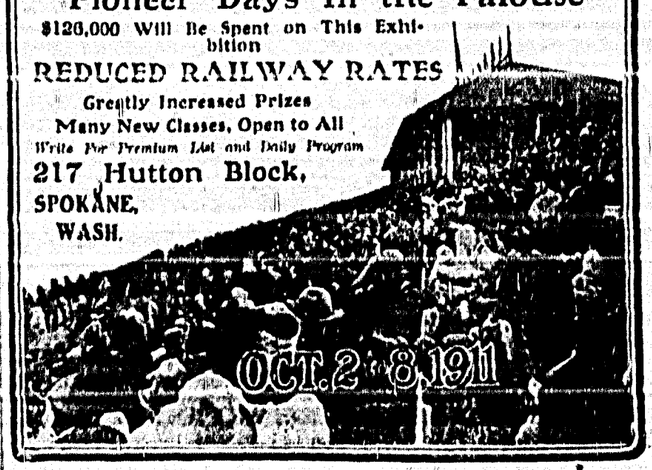

The District Ledger

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J. W. BENNETT, Editor.

Telephone No. 48. Postoffice Box No. 380

ADVICE GIVEN FOR NOTHING IS OFTEN WORTH THAT MUCH

THE truly philanthropic thoughtfulness bestowed upon trades unions by capitalistic agencies of publicity urging that they should be very careful not to harm themselves by rash and unconsidered action is enough to make angels weep.

In the early days of the labor movement, when trades unionism had its birth, vilification and sage (!) counsel were each in turn addressed to individuals advising them to stand sternly on their "rights" as men and refuse to become the victims of industrial tyranny, suggesting, even most pathetically, the advisability of making known their demands to the ever beneficient employer who, when assured of the justness of their claims, would graciously concede them. Such exhortations, pleasing in sound, and making exceedingly good reading in a novel entitled "The Dove of Industrial Peace; or the Identity of Interest Between Master and Man," was, and is, like the dodo rarely met with; but, on the contrary, the supplicant for better conditions, coming as a unit, was more frequently greeted with "Your demands are absurd and unreasonable, and if you do not like conditions under which you are working, you are at perfect liberty to go elsewhere." There is no cause without effect. Constant repetition of such incidents as the one quoted eventuated in the creation of unions, and collective bargaining, where large bodies of wage workers were involved in contradistinction to the unitary method. Craft unionism or single-trade unionism, having served its purpose in the process of evolution, has now reached the end of its usefulness as an effective factor against combined capital, to cope with which more successfully industrial unionism is imperative. Hence the explanation of its growing tendency, which, coupled with the desertion from the ranks of the two old political parties, and a determination to support parliamentary representatives sworn to espouse the class interests of the workers, is only viewed with alarm by the apologists of the laissez faire school of political economists, than whom there is no abler exponent than 'The Spectator' of London (Eng.) The issue of the above mentioned weekly, dated September 22nd under the heading of "Topics of the Day,' has two articles most ably written, entitled 'The Hopes of Labor," and "The Trades Disputes Act," the length of which, unfortunately, precludes us from criticizing as fully as desired. It furnishes excellent food for thought, because in its analysis it soundly and justly discloses some of the weak points in the armor of those, who today are prominent in the labor movement in Great Britain. With its criticism of individuals we refrain from comment, but with its arguments, of the typical bourgeois stamp, do most assuredly take issue.

In both articles alluded to freedom of contract is the dominant note, whereas we contend this is a mere legal fiction without foundation on the economic field, because freedom presupposes a parity of conditions which, in the case of him who only possesses labor power, must dispose of same in order to live, thus effects complete stultification of "freedom." Labor force lacks all the elements of property. The seller cannot separate himself from it, nor have it taken from him, except by his destruction. It exists and dies with the laborer himself. What rights could the purchaser of labor assert if he were to pay for it in advance and the seller refuse delivery? "Labor cannot be replevied, cannot be taken on execution, cannot be attached; it does not go into the hands of an administrator, nor descend to heirs. It is inseparable from man—it is man himself. Labor can only be property if the laborer himself is property, consequently only slave labor can be property, but not wage labor." Labor power is a commodity, and like every commodity, on the average exchanges upon the base of its cost of production, but with this difference, that the two-legged commodity is a sentient human being, and yet the same iron law applies to him that does to other commodities of exchange. To illustrate—Freedom is considered from a political and not from an economic standpoint, although most contracts are of an economic character, and a minor cannot make a valid contract, but a starving man can, yet in law the later is deemed a free agent. The law based upon, or rather being the fruit of, our economic system presupposes a freedom of will where there is no freedom of choice, a palpable impossibility.

Much as they who would like, consequent upon the enjoyment of certain privileges, to continue to retain same, whilst attempting solutions to the ever present problem, are doomed to disappointment, because just so long as production is carried on for profit, and the only really essential factors in production retain their commodity status, creating surplus values, any thought of a solution other than the collective ownership of the means of production and distribution is a manifest absurdity.

ON TO OTTAWA!

"PEACE hath her heroes," but a political victory has her heelers too, who, firm in their belief of the ex-President Grover Cleveland's famous slogan: "To the victors belong the spoils," are marching with no measured tread upon the government citadel at Ottawa, in such vast numbers that the new Minister of Agriculture will probably be compelled to apportion an extra large quantity of seed for the purpose of restoring to the lawns surrounding the parliament buildings their pristine verdurs.

The well known signs "Keep off the grass" have had no deterrent effect upon the cohorts of the Conservative party, and indeed why should they? Because, in all seriousness, they may advance as an irrefutable argument that having been "kept off the grass" for lo! thes many years, in fact more than twice the length of the historic seven lean years, that now is the accepted time "to make hay while the sun shines."

Those prevented from making a personal request upon the Guardians of the Government Granary, because of the excessive cost of transportation, are availing themselves of the facilities afforded by H. M. mail sack to convey their petitions for places to be awarded to them in recognition for the valuable services with such signal results on the memorable twenty-first day of September.

How many patriotic (!) Conservatives solely actuated by pure disinterestedness (to be sure!) have already made application for positions within the gift of the government situate in the City of Fernie we know not, but if Dame Rumor (a fickle jade, 'tis true) be worthy of any consideration as a gossip, the number of those desirous of serving in a public capacity is large enough not only to man every position of the different departments inside the local Federal edifice, but also establish a rural free delivery to every cardinal point of the city confines as well as a corps of landing waiters at all the railway depots, Morrissey, Fernie and Michel inclusive.

For years past there have been talks made of the establishment of Civil Service, but so far its existence is largely of a perfunctory character and, undoubtedly many of those now hungering for "the flesh pots of Egypt" would present excellent arguments against the adoption of any competitive examination to demonstrate their fitness for the coveted offices, because forsooth, "the time is not ripe," however, the plums of office are. We do not know who has been selected as the local Chief Dispenser of Patronage, nevertheless, there is one positive certainty, his will be no sinecure, nor will any of the favors he has at his disposal have to be advertised through the "Wants" column to prevent their being shop-worn or moth eaten.

Those opponents of any tendency to paternalism, fierce in denunciation in the ordinary course of conversation, will now be as meekly dumb as the proverbial clam, until it has been definitely decided who is to be the fortunate appointees of those soft billets where the expenditure of energy is in inverse ratio to the monetary compensation accorded-when we may hear the disgruntled ones sally forth from the cave of temporary silence and once again loudly advocate the early establishment of Civil Service regime. To the bystander who stands without the wall of the corn crib, the antics of the horde of hungry office seekers are delightfully amusing, and our only regret is the inadequacy of our pen to pourtray them with that vividness of description which the subject so justly merits.

NO CHANCE TO LEATHER MOROCCO

THE war lord of Europe, Kaiser Wilhelm, ever anxious to make a display of his military and naval forces, must indeed feel incensed at the cruel manner all of his best laid plans have been so ruthlessly shattered.

For months past the war scare has been exploited by the press upon a scale so gigantic and elaborate that the ordinary observer became totally unable to understand by what marvellous intervention the clash of arms could be averted.

The scenario carefully outlined in all details, the casts selected for the various roles, whilst poets and penny-a-liners were busily engaged stringing their muses in anticipation of working overtime to provide the natives with panegyrics. But alack and alas! every hope of ascending Mount Parnassus lies prone at the foot—i.e., to be consigned to the tender mercies of W.P.B.

Who are they that are responsible for such dire results? Who are they that thus crush the laudable patriotism of the Pan-Germanic section? Vaterlandlos Social Democrats, who should be cast into outer darkness, and with tongues extended far downwards, not allowed the slightest drop of Munchen's famous beverage, but condemned throughout all time to eat pretzels and weinerwurst.

To what depths of degradation have these subversionists descended when they have the effrontery to roundly applaud such anti-patriotic sentiments as those uttered by the little wagonmaker, August Bebel, who, at Jena recently said "The whole of Morroco is not worth the sacrifice of the life of a single German workingman." Such treasonable expressions ought to open wide the doors of the hostelry to which Bismarck consigned Liebknecht for lese majestat. Those lofty sentiments that are engraved upon the heart of every patriot, "Dulce es et decorum pro patria more" (How sweet it is to die for one's country) will, ere long, have no lodgement; but ignominious as this must be even to contemplate, it is still further accentuated by the classic enemy beyond the Rhine boldly asserting "We shall refuse to murder our German brothers and who make wars may fight them, because we refuse to do so." But the bicker of gall and wormwood is not yet overflowing, and those sordid creatures, the cormorants of commerce, the money manipulators of hated Albion threaten to withdraw their finance from German undertakings if any more advances be made upon Agadir.

The positions of kinglets, princelets, and orders bedecked emperors are daily growing more precarious, so much so that "divine right" is considered antiquated, and a contract in a dime museum looms up menacingly on the horizon as a probable court of last resort for their titular dignitaries. Lassen uns weinen (Let us weep).

"Our Letter Box"

The District Ledger accepts no responsibility for the views expressed by its correspondents. Communications will be inserted whether signed by the real name of the writer or a nom de plume, but the writer's name and address must be given to the Editor as evidence of good faith. In no case will it be divulged without consent.

"UNIONISM."

To the Editor, District Ledger—

Dear Sir,—Much has been said and much is being said, not only by certain sections of society, but by some of the disciples of Marx regarding Unionism and its effects.

The endless chain of industrial struggles all over the world at present is creating a fear among the wealthy and their laymen, and the blame for the existing turmoil is attributed to Unionism.

We can hardly expect anything else but ridicule from an undeveloped brain and we can only, like the man that got kicked by the mule, consider the source.

It is evident that gigantic organizations are springing up in the different industries all over, and it is better that it should be. To remain obsequious would be like digging our own grave. We could never reach that coveted goal, nor yet could we have brought about brotherhood—that brotherhood that we perceive growing among men if we had remained unorganized. It is the struggle with difficulties that produces man's best powers, and the binding together in the different spheres of labor, the standing firm together on the field that will create the incentive for brotherhood, and although meeting with defeat, it is from failures that man receives his best lesson, and when he discovers that partially combined efforts will not force the masters from their pinnacles, a remedy will certainly be sought for.

It is admitted that strikes will never solve the problem, but it is the result of such struggles that has enabled the workers to get better conditions to work under. If we had never formed a union our chances for development would have been infinitesimal. Our fare is meagre enough and if we are to conquer that huge monster by ancient spiritual and intellectual weapons we will accomplish our ends much easier on a fairly nourished body than we could possibly do on a shattered frame.

Socialism is rapidly gaining ground in the ranks of labor unions, the multitude of workers connected therewith can be easily reached, otherwise it would have been slow progress. The future of Socialism when in power can only be based upon hypothesis, but it will be unions, co-operative and municipalities, controlled by the state that will require to handle the various industries, therefore, the workers are forming the unions and cooperatives, while the Capitalists are developing the economic side of the programme, which is paving the way for Socialism.

I may be traveling rather fast about the future of Socialism, but when we perceive how rapidly capital is becoming concentrated and the momentous rapidity of intellect growing among the workers, one cannot refrain from inheriting the idea that the proletarian regime is not far distant.

Society industrially is divided into two classes, a Capitalist class and a Working class. When we begin to investigate we find mines, mills, factories, railroads, forests, fields and all educational institutions coupled, with the iron fist in the hands of one class, and then we discover that Society industrially is organized and managed for part of society, and that part is certainly not the Working class.

The outstanding feature in the British strikes was the iron fist. The action of the capitalist class in forcing out the soldiers will have a powerful effect on many a man with a growing intellect. Those fools forced out to protect private property are dead to the fact that they have no property of their own to protect. Why can any sane man blame unions? It is that mighty octopus, that hugo monster that is spreading out its tentacles seeking whom it may devour, hissing forth and ejecting its inky fluid, contaminating everything that it comes in contact with. Capitalism is at the root of the evil, Unionism has nothing to do with it, and to change the present Social system we must apply deracination. Organize society and manage it for the benefit of society as a whole and not for part of society, then, and then only will we be able to cease this industrial turmoil and place society on a proper basis.

Yours in sympathy,

G. PATON

Fernie, B. C., Sept. 28th, 1911

To the Editor, District Ledger:

Dear Sir,—Would ask a little space in your valuable paper to report the miserable conduct of two individuals who claim to hail from Bentley, near Doncaster, England. When they landed here they said they did not know there was a strike on, and in addition to receiving rations from the commissary were helped by two of the local union members, which they repay by the basest ingratitude, and have gone to Corbin where they are believed to be working as scabs.

The names of these two are:

JESSE GREAVES, and

EDWARD JONES.

and I would suggest that if any member of our organization who takes the Ledger has friends near where they come from that he will send this copy, after he has read it, so that their acquaintances may know what kind of creatures they are.

Thanking you for the courtesy,

I, am,

Yours truly,

A UNION MAN WHO LIKES FAIR PLAY.

Fernie, B. C.

To the Editor, District Ledger:—

Dear Sir,—Enclosed I send you a letter from Rev. C. W. Gordon, replying to one I wrote to him about the differences between what I said and what Mr. Wilson's figures showed. He figured it out as if I had got $3.80 a day, giving the number of days worked at 37, when in reality I worked 38½ days in 1911, and my average day's wage was $3.24.

I hope you will publish this, because, if it only seems small on the face it is just the same a big difference when you come to look into it.

(Signed) A. WARING.

August 15, 1911.

Mr. A. Waring, Fernie, B.C.

My Dear Sir,—In connection with the statement made by yourself before the Board of Conciliation and the records of the Company, as presented by Mr. Wilson, while it is true that they do not harmonize, it does not follow either that Mr. Wilson told a falsehood or that you were swearing to a falsehood. In occasions like this there is always room for a difference in the method of reckoning, and if the matter were gone into thoroughly I have no doubt that the difference between your statement and Mr. Wilson's could be explained in such a way as to discredit neither of you. As the matter now stands, you have each made your statement before the Board. The Board made no pronouncement either way, so that there is no imputation left upon you.

I very much regret that the strike still continues. I wish that both parties would accept my findings, which, while it does not give to either party all that they might desire, seems to me both fair and reasonable. I do hope that soon you will all be at work, and that a better feeling will prevail between the parties. It does seem to me a great pity that reasonable men cannot agree to settle their differences in a reasonable way.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

CHARLES W. GORDON

THOMAS McALLISTER ANDERSON

(Deceased)

Any one possessing knowledge of the antecedents of Thomas McAllister Anderson, who was killed at Laurie, near Revelstoke, Aug. 29th, 1911, by fall of rock, and believed to have worked in Fernie for over a year, is hereby requested to notify THOS. UPHILL, P. O. 361, Fernie B. C

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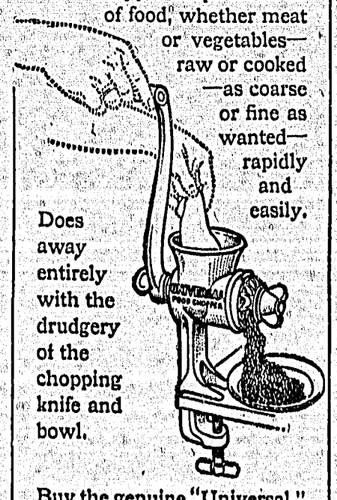

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Ledger Ads Bring Results

News of The District Camps

COAL CREEK BY 174

Born at Coal Creek on Saturday, Sept. 1th to Mr and Mrs. John Drew, a fine son.

Ed. Couglin drove down as far as Olsen last Saturday to inspect the mine horses.

Mrs. Fred Vance, of Fernie, was visiting Mr and Mrs. George O'Brien up here last week end.

Jack Heslop and Frank Coates left here last Saturday for Vancouver Island.

Mr. P. Connal, the Presbyterian minister, left here on Tuesday morning for Vancouver, where he is going into the college for a short while. His many friends up here wish him every success.

The cottages known as Welsh Camp have got moving orders, and several are being moved onto the Chinks' garden. They have been too crowded up together, so some of them being removed will make it more healthy and give more room between the houses.

We had quite a welcome change from the election clap trap on Monday afternoon, when Comrade Fulcher paid a visit to the Club Hall. The pity is that notices were not posted sooner, otherwise there would have been a larger attendance. J. E. Smith occupied the chair, and after introduction the speaker addressed the audience on "The Frauds of Election," pointing out clearly the manner in which the capitalist springs these election issues in front of the people in order to divert their attention from existing evils. The facts laid down by the speaker, from a Socialist standpoint, found favor with the assembly, judging by the applause received. Several questions were asked, and answered satisfactorily. Before closing the meeting, the chairman announced that after the resumption of work the Socialists proposed to start a local up here and invitations were offered to the boys to become members.

The Trites-Wood Store up here has been receiving a coat of Kalsomine this week to brighten it up a little.

Frank Owens, Wm. Partridge and Wm. Adams drove up here from Hosmer on Wednesday.

Ernest Wolford left here last week for his old home in Lincolnshire, England.

Mr. and Mrs Abraham Brown and family are visiting friends in Frank, Alta., this week.

Percy Hesketh is rusticating down at Wardner among the lumber.

District Board Member J. E. Smith left here on Monday afternoon for Macleod.

Mr. A. B. Trites and E. L. Stewart, of Fernie, were business visitors up here on Tuesday afternoon.

Mrs. D. Alton, of Fernie, paid a visit up here on Tuesday.

Tony Spovira, an Italian, was trying to shoot through a steel rail with a rifle on Tuesday evening when one of the bullets split, and a piece came back and entered his thigh. He was taken to the hospital. The bullet was there extracted, and he is progressing favorably.

A little boy named Harold Horrocks was coming from school on Tuesday afternoon when he was bit on the leg by a large dog belonging to Mr. Dave Martin. Whether the boy was teasing the dog or not could not be ascertained. However, poor Wallace was shot.

Things are a little more lively around here again since the trains started running twice a day, but be sure and take your two bits if you want a ride.

MICHEL NEWS

Mr. Burgess of the Imperial Bank and Mr. J. Sewell, of the Trites-Wood Company, are taking a vacation up the Elk River Valley.

Bill Yates returned to town Tuesday from Lewis Creek, where he has been hunting for the last three weeks. Bill has a nice sheep head to show for his trip.

Messrs. Julian and Harries have been making a canvass of the town for persons not on the voters' list, and success crown'd their efforts. There are lots who would like to have taken the obligation, but could not on account of not having naturalization papers.

Hugh McDougall has secured a job with the New Michel Sawmill Company as chief engineer.

The school house is being fitted up with a new heating apparatus.

Miss Maggie Carr left last Monday morning for Revelstoke, where she has secured a position. Must be some attraction for the Michel fair ones there.

Bert Davis and Bill Porter have returned from a hunting trip, bringing back with them good evidence of having had a successful trip. Both have a fine sheep head to show. Bert, more fortunate than his friend, has also a fine black bear.

Mr. Robert Williams has secured a position with the C. P. R. at Wardner as assistant agent.

On Monday night a concert and dance was given by the Michel Football Club in Crahan's Hall. Mr. Murphy occupied the chair and a successful program was gone through. After wards dancing was the order of the night and a very enjoyable time was spent until the lights were shut off.

The Michel Football team are practising hard this week for the final of the Crahan's Cup, which match they expected to come off on the 30th inst.

It does not look as if the game will come off. Bellevue has not consented to meet them yet, and what's more the secretary of the Michel Club is in receipt of a letter from Coleman's secretary stating that they do not intend to let the cup go without having a chance to defend it. Perhaps this is the reason that Bellevue are scared to arrange date to compete for the trophy. The minutes of the last League meeting read as follows:

"That the winners of League and winners of Mutz Cup play off for Crahan's Cup, the same as last year."

Noticing that Coleman are not either why should they want a chance to defend it?

We know it is hard lines for Coleman to lose such a beautiful trophy, but they have got to comply with the laws laid down by the League.

Last year Coleman were the Mutz Cup winners and the Michel the League winners. These two clubs played off for Crahan's Cup and Coleman the cup. Seeing that Bellevue and Michel are winners this time they are the only clubs that can compete for Crahan's Cup. It is now up to the winners of the League and the Mutz Cup to arrange a date to play for Crahan's Cup, failing this we would not blame the donor of the trophy if he were to withdraw it.

HOSMER NOTES.
By "Kritik."

Miss McKosh, of Fernie, spent a few days visiting Mrs. Kendal this week.

Our town is looking quite smart now and decidedly more comfortable with the new sidewalks. An election bluff to begin with, but an infinite improvement to Hosmer.

Mrs. Wright left for Calgary on Monday.

Albert Lund, who has taken a house is fixing it up in classy style, pending the arrival of the all important ornament.

Mrs. Lithauser and daughter left for Montana, where they will join Mr. L. on their ranch.

Mr. Nick Boassolly has taken over the barber shop and dwelling.

Mr. Waters and Mr. Oleson spent a week on the prairie and returned loaded with game.

The ball given by the bachelors on Friday night was a great success and did credit to the young men who undertook to make it so. Music was furnished by the Fernie Orchestra, and was all that could be desired.

Mrs. McMeekin held her millinery opening on Wednesday and all went well and was a huge success.

Mr. G. M. Hedley has sold out his stock, cattle and horses, and leaves for Vancouver in a few days.

A grand social was held in the Methodist Church on Wednesday night, and a very pleasant and profitable time was spent, the only complaint made by the young people is that these affairs are not held often enough.

Hosmer Local Union nominated the following members for the forthcoming election for district office: President, W. B. Powell; Vice-President, C. Stubbs; Secy-Treasurer, A. J. Carter; International Board Member, J. A. Tupper; District Board Member, J. E. Smith.

A number of Hosmer's ardent Socialists were seen straining energetically and wasting vitality on a hand car on Sunday night. Watch developments.

On Friday the little daughter of Mrs Whelan, passed away at the residence of Mr. Pete McDougal after a long illness from complicated diseases. The funeral took place on Saturday. The parents have the sympathy of all.

Mr Steve Slim's children are quarantined on account of scarlet fever.

Mrs. Stockett, Mrs. Nelson and Miss Kelly drove to Fernie on Tuesday.

A recent copy of the "District Ledger," Fernie, official organ of the U. M. W., contains a letter from the Local at Bellevue, giving a list of men who are working in defiance of Lodge instructions, whom they designate as "enemies of organized labor." There are twenty-two listed in all, and amongst them we were rather amused to find the name of Ed. Sutherland, formerly of Cape Breton, whom they call "Pontius Pilate." We presume this refers to our own ..dward S. who was one of the first to proclaim the virtues of the U. M. W. in Westville. How are the mighty fallen! Others in the same category, formerly from these parts, are Wm. K. Munro, Wm. Connors, Joe Reid and Frank McPherson. We congratulate them on their good sense in taking advantage of work when they can get it. It almost looks as if the U. M. W. are in for as big a fight in Western Canada as they had in Nova Scotia. The mine manager at Bellevue, is John R. MacDonald, one of Westville's clever young mining men. Bellevue will be remembered as the scene of a disastrous explosion some months ago.—Free Lance, Westville.

BELLEVUE

"See him smiling! see him smiling! See him smiling just now!

Who? Well! Well! What a question! Ladies and gentlemen, the wearer of that pleasant expression is Arthur Amos, who is rejoicing because of a most auspicious event that transpired on Tuesday the 19th. The mother and the bouncing boy are getting along splendidly, and the father is receiving hearty congratulations upon his new acquisition.

LABOR'S LATEST WEAPON

"The masters show you no mercy. They starve you, they sweat you, they oppress you. Pay them back in their own coin." These are the words of a British M. P., Mr. Keir Hardie, inciting his hearers to a revolutionary strike. They indicate the straits into which labor has fallen in England. Every party in Parliament is well aware of the dilemma. Indeed, Parliament has recently appointed a commission of competent economists to inquire into the condition of the unemployed and the working class and to suggest legislation on time and wages. The labor-leaders, however, have grown disgusted with the insufficiency of parliamentary action; they have even discarded the trade-union system, as too expensive and generally ineffectual. The latest prophet among the discontented toilers in mill, in mine and on the wharf is Tom Mann, whom his adherents have vainly tried to put into Parliament. At present he is president of the International Transport Workers' Federation. He is a Socialist, and author of a book on "The International Socialist Movement." He has recently imported into England the French idea of a general and revolutionary strike.

The trade union is an obsolete weapon against the oppression of capitalism, declares this able and valiant strike leader. The organization of "the master class" made it impossible for local unions of special trades to achieve any good purpose. If the local union ordered a strike, there were thousands from other parts of the country to take up the work which the strikers refused to do. What this labor-leader stands for is "industrial solidarity," which he puts forward with the remark that "trade union methods have lamentably failed," and "even Parliamentary action has not proved effective." To quote his words:

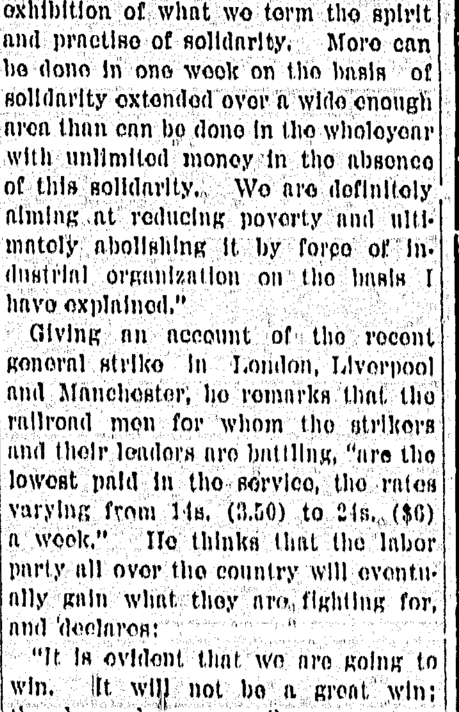
"Industrial solidarity as we use the term means the recognition by the workman that any section of any industry is interdependent upon every other section, and that the growth of modern industrialism has made this absolutely necessary. The progress of this conception is shown on the capitalist limited liability companies to trust and combines."

This solidarity eventually is to bring industrial activities in the labor world to a stop, paralyze transport, and prevent the distribution of food and the manufacture of goods needed by the merchant in filling his orders. It will block the mining of coal and iron. According to Mr. Mann it will then wrest a living wage from the employers and diminish, if not eventually abolish poverty among employees. Thus we read:

"The older movement (of trade unions) relied chiefly upon finance; that there should be no struggle unless there was a big war chest. The modern movement does not depend upon money. It depends entirely upon agreement among the men and the exhibition of what we term the spirit and practise of solidarity. More can be done in one week on the basis of solidarity extended over a wide enough area than can be done in the wholeyear with unlimited money in the absence of this solidarity. We are definitely aiming at reducing poverty and ultimately abolishing it by force of industrial organization on the basis I have explained."

Giving an account of the recent general strike in London, Liverpool and Manchester, he remarks that the railroad men for whom the strikers and their leaders are battling, "are the lowest paid in the service, the rates varying from 14s. (3.50) to 24s. ($6) a week." He thinks that the labor party all over the country will eventually gain what they are fighting for, and declares:

"It is evident that we are going to win. It will not be a great win; the demands are small — merely a reduction of hours to fifty-four a week, two shillings a week advance in wages and the recognition of the union. But this is only the preliminary to more complete solidarity."



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On the breakfast table—in the sick room—for making salads, puddings and other desserts—for a bite between meals, in the lunch box, there is no fruit equal to the famous California "Sunkist" Orange. Being tree-ripened, sound-picked, packed and shipped with the utmost skill and care, it is the most healthful and luscious of all fruits.

Sunkist Oranges are thin-skinned—fiberless—seedless. They fairly melt in the mouth. There is so little waste in serving and eating them that they are truly the cheapest orange you can buy. Every Sunkist Orange comes in a Sunkist Wrapper. Thousands of families will have none but Sunkist Oranges. After you have tried them once they will win you. Please make the trial today. Your dealer sells them. *And don't forget to save the "Sunkist" Wrappers.*

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After you have eaten Sunkist Oranges, you will be glad to know there are Sunkist Lemons, for they, too, are the finest fruit of their kind. Never blemished, marred, decayed, thick-skinned or pithy. Sunkist Lemons contain 50 percent more juice than commonplace lemons, which makes them most economical for kitchen and table use. The "Sunkist" Wrapper identifies them.

FREE Rogers Orange Spoon

Save 12 Sunkist Orange (or Lemon) Wrappers and send them to us with 12c to pay charges, packing, etc., and we will present you with a genuine Rogers Orange Spoon, of beautiful design and highest quality. Begin saving wrappers today. If you desire more than one, send 12 Sunkist Wrappers and 12c for each additional spoon. In remitting, please send cash when the amount is less than 20c; on amounts above 20c, we prefer postal note, money order, express order or bank draft. We will be glad to send you complete list of valuable premiums. We honor both "Sunkist" and "Red Ball" wrappers for premiums. Address

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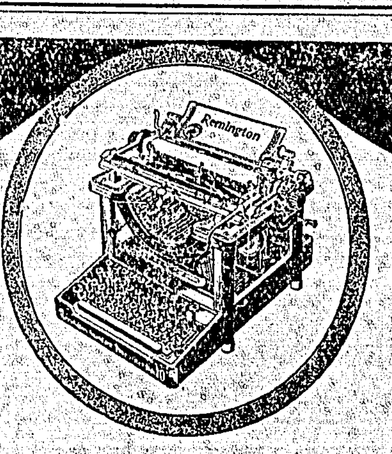

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MAGISTRATE CURED OF PILES & ECZEMA

One of the latest prominent gentlemen to speak highly in Zam Buk's favour is Mr. C. E. Sanford of Weston, King's Co., N.S. Mr. Sanford is a Justice of the Peace for the County, and a member of the Board of School Commissioners. He is also Deacon of the Baptist Church in Berwick. Indeed it would be difficult to find a man more widely known and more highly respected. Here is his opinion of Zam-Buk. He says:—

"I never used anything that gave me such satisfaction as Zam-Buk. I had a patch of Eczema on my ankle which had been there for over 20 years. Sometimes also the disease would break out on my shoulders. I had applied various ointments and tried all sorts of things to obtain a cure, but in vain. Zam-Buk, unlike everything else I had tried, proved highly satisfactory and cured the ailment.
"I have also used Zam-Buk for itching piles, and it has cured them completely also. I take comfort in helping my brother men, and if the publication of my opinion of the healing value of Zam-Buk will lead other sufferers to try it, I should be glad. For the relief of suffering caused by Piles or Skin Diseases I know of nothing to equal Zam-Buk."

Zam-Buk cures ulcers, abscesses, blood-poison, ring-worm, festering or running sores, bad leg, varicose ulcers, sore throats, chapped hands, cuts, burns, bruises, baby's sores, etc. Purely herbal, 50c box, druggists and stores. Refuse imitations.

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Imperfect Kidney Action Causes Rheumatism

Rheumatism with its kindred ailments—Lumbago, Wry Neck, Neuralgia, etc., usually results from lodgments of uric acid in the joints and muscles.

Now the chief function of the kidneys is to properly filter this poison from the blood.

Only when they fail to do this is Rheumatism probable.

Kidney weakness starts in various ways. A sudden chill, after perspiring freely, sometimes settles in the kidneys—or an unusual strain may cause it.

Poisons which should be filtered out of the system are pumped back into the blood, causing Uric Acid, the real cause of Rheumatism, Lumbago, Wry Neck, Neuralgia, etc.

In the early stages Nyal's Stone Root Compound will stop it.

Will start your kidneys working properly so that the Uric Acid is reabsorbed and eliminated.

Away goes your Rheumatism with it.

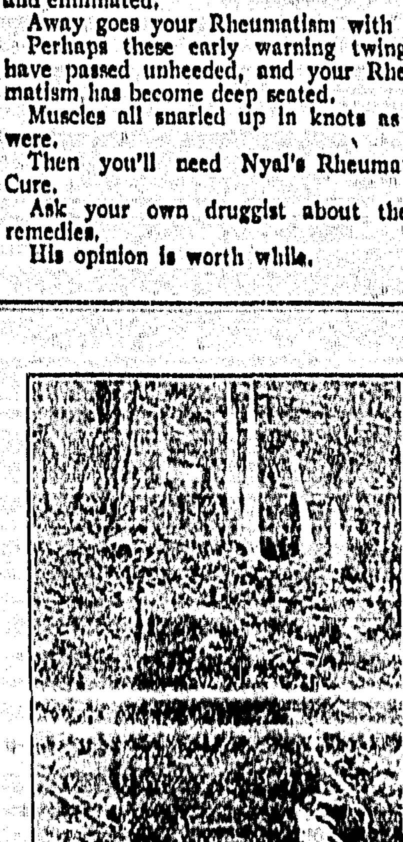
Perhaps these early warning twinges have passed unheeded, and your Rheumatism has become deep seated.

Muscles all snarled up in knots as it were.

Then you'll need Nyal's Rheumatic Cure.

Ask your own druggist about these remedies.

His opinion is worth while.



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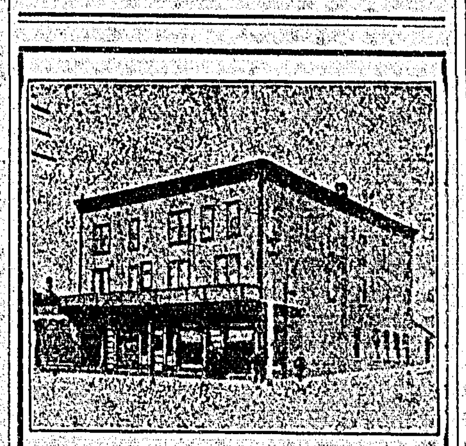

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ONLY SLAVERY

By A. B. Cooper

Take the case of the passing of slavery in our country. Never at any time were the abolitionists more than a little handful of men and women. Their great cry was that slavery must be got rid of or it would destroy the Union. But all the people were against them and would neither listen nor let them speak. They were the most reviled and hated set of people in all the land, and were treated, if anything, even worse than Socialists and labor agitators are treated today. And yet, in time, the nation came to believe what they said. But it was events rather than the words of the abolitionists that converted the North to their cause, the events, however, being in substance just exactly what those pathfinders had foretold. For one thing, the abolitionists had dared to question the virtue and wisdom of the Federal courts. They were continually harping on the "higher law" and flouting the people for their bigoted idolatry of legality. Then came, to justify them, the Dred Scott decision. It elected Lincoln President and it was not long till that famous judgment became a byword of judicial iniquity. And later in the same spirit the famous Proclamation of Emancipation wa shailed as a glorious stroke of statesmanship. By a Emancipation was hailed as a gloriabolition was irrevocably decreed by the same people which a few short years earlier were mobbing and killing people for speaking against slavery. Thus the much hated and mistreated abolitionists were vindicated, and the Northern section found itself entirely on their side, and ever since has been writing their names on the scroll of its heroes. Without any sense of having changed our course, or forced our opinion, but by a spontaneous outburst of pro-slavery, into the new beaten track made by events, and without a hitch or scruple became as much at home in the new situation as if we had never known any other. But notice, here as ever, the pathfinders with their visions and agitations were right from the start, knew what they were about, and whither they were leading, while the rest of the country was just as truly, but all unconsciously, following to the same end.

Thus the pioneers of new thoughts and departures can never at the start, with knowledge of restricted and unscientific as at present, take the crowd with them. The pathfinders sooner than the many catch glimpses of the promised land toward which we are all moving and must go, but until the glimpses have become a great light the minds of the many are so blurred by prejudice and hardened by tradition, that they do not realize until the journey is ended that all the time they have been on the same track of economic necessity as their misunderstood and rejected leaders.

The Class Struggle

The struggle of the classes which constitute the record history of mankind is under way for a long time in the minor experiences of life before the masses on either side realize the true issues, and the goal of the struggle. For example, the fundamental issues of our day are only beginning to dawn on the minds of the majority and by most even yet the feeling is that it is the half-way men, or piecemeal reformers with their unctuous platitudes rather than the uncompromising radicals who are the safe and sane leaders to follow. It is not seen that we are really in the very midst of the advanced stages of a well nigh completed revolution. Our natural and artificial systems are working at cross purposes, and, as always, it is the organic reality that must stay and the old and unworkable legal forms that must pass away. In plain words, we are getting face to face with the issue whether capitalism or collectivism shall be the system of the future.

It proves nothing that to outward seeming the old order is as solid as the earth itself. In life as in science things are often the opposite of what they seem. To its inhabitants the it takes refuge in a mythical middle-ground which all history proves is ever pure illusion. The logic of facts has nothing to do with makeshift's and marking time. Every social system has its birth, growth and decline, but new things and old things are of one piece, and what we call a change of systems is simply a part of the eternal coat shedding process of universal nature. Just as capitalism has ripened into the trusts, so the trusts by the very law of their being, must bring the Co-operative Commonwealth. And for saying this life is made a rough road for the pathfinders. They are treated as enemies of society, bent on destroying vested interests, and every kind of good institution, which things neither we nor all the king's horses and all the king's men could save from change, even if there were no radicals on the earth to what will follow the trusts, as to them we had to, and did become accustomed, and thus again, as usual, find ourselves drifting with the tide, and feeling as always, that we are simply following the same old beaten tracks of social progress. Bear in mind that man and his environment are not two things warring for mastery, but rather two parts of the same reality ever growing in closer accord, and making for struggling humanity, a final natural order of justice, well being and beauty.

The Master Question

But that does not mean that every thing is fair and smooth and happy. Though we are headed for "easy street" mankind is far enough yet from its golden destiny. For all our changes things are not yet right in the world. They are about as bad as they ever were, and so they will continue to seem, until the soul of man has realized better standards. At least we are not losing ground. Things are so shaping up that not only is what the writers call a pleasure economy believed to be attainable, but the ways and means for bringing it about are becoming more and more outlined on our horizons in full sight. The main point is a better adjustment of relations between man and what they produce. When workers and owners shall cease to be two as they now are, and come to be one as it is best and right and most reasonable that they should, then the most serious impediment to permanent good times will be removed. No doubt great changes in this direction are impending, compared with which the downfall of slavery, the enfranchisement of woman, the rise of the trusts, are as dust in the balance. It seems to be more and more plain that the brotherhood of man is the goal to which all past progress is leading. And to-day as never before, there are plain matter of fact voices speaking in terms of science, and even great parties announcing programs, that while they shock and anger the powers and principalities beyond measure, are yet the only voices and the only proposals that are in accord with the logic of altered conditions.

Of truth, then, something will ore long be done. Something we know is always being done, and it is a matter to make us think, that more and more of hard headed and enlightened people, as well as those of more ardent nature, in all countries are talking loud and working hard in favor of the most sweeping institutional and legal changes that the world has yet known.

It is not a new story, but the same old story in the spirit and form of our times. The pathfindors, who are always with us, are telling us of the wonderful discoveries they have made. In times past their kind have always been right, and who shall say they are not right for our period? Just as the trusts came because under capitalism concentration of ownership is the natural law of growth, so the socialization of the trusts, which is the great idea of this age, will come to pass, because it is the only organization of production and distribution commensurate with existing conditions. The issue between producer and product, between man and property, must be decided when the time is ripe, in favor of human life.

The New Civilization

The civilization of our time, the same as all preceding times, when in the throes of dissolution is full of unrest, uncertainty and bewilderment. Our rulers know not what to do, or whither things are going. They would give the world for a new path, if it could be taken without leaving the road we are on. We are the upper and lower order drifting more and more apart, absolutely opposed in interests and aims, and becoming more and more unable to dwell and work together in unity and peace. The class *struggle is on us in full blast. So the* capitalistic reformers are all at sea. *They cannot and do not make things better, and are helpless to prevent* them getting worse. "They are able neither to tolerate the evils from which we suffer nor the remedies we need to cure them. As for the stand-*patters, they give no quarter. Their* is the iron rule of economic absolutism, which never spares nor gives, but always crushes and takes. The rising party holds a better position. It knows what it wants, has a definite goal, the inspiration of ideas, and a practical scheme of organization. Their central idea is that mtaerial poverty must be abolished by the social production and distribution of wealth. The, they contend, is the new road whnch is destined to become the next solid social highway.

This onward movement will be slow or hastened according as the toilers are educated, persistent and determined. When they are strongly marshaled as a class, and go forth to get earth is the biggest thing in the universe. It is not round but flat, stands still and the sun moves, while the bright stars are but little gems hung in the heavens for our delight and wonder. But knowledge tells a different story in whatever direction we carry our studies. We are always finding that we cannot trust appearances. So when we look beneath the surface of social concerns we become aware of facts and tendencies that our existing system does not reckon with, and which show us that system gradually losing all likeness of its original self. the same as happened to the now vanished system out of which it grew. We became aware, in fact, of the evolutionary process, and find ourselves moving along new tracks of change that seem bound to culminate in the ascendency of interest, and classes that have hitherto been subject and exploited. Of course, there must be the decisive event. In the case of slavery it was the war for the Union that ended the slave power. In our case it will probably be the winning by the proletariat of a great strike or sweeping election. Such changes are called revolutions, but really they are the explosions signalizing a completed evolution, or the passing of an old regime. A revolution has indeed been accomplished, but the storm of its end is the smallest part of the story. The main part has been the long struggle and slow growth of a lower rising class, for, and into industrial and political power, and the decline in importance of the former ruling class. Revolutions mean, as they always mean, a new deal in social awards in accordance with actual economic conditions and are "the only price to be paid for making the world happy."

Woman Suffrage

Consider next the movement for giving women the vote. For us it has become an old story that raises no excitement, but it shocked and angered our fathers beyond measure. So again we see that it was not for nothing that the irrepressible pathfinders have been dinning their unanswerable arguments into the public ears for the last fifty years. When first their wild cry was heard they were opprobriously called the 'Shrieking Sisterhood," and with one accord they were told they were asking for strange, unnatural and impossible things. How is it now? Why, in many countries of Europe and in several of our own states women are actually voting and holding office, and everywhere the indications are that the practice will soon be the general rule. The reason is that institutions have their origin in altered social and industrial conditions, and votes for women has become a needful means for safeguarding and advancing their interests. Desires and opinions always go together. The militant tactics of the suffragette mark the acute stage of the transition of women into full-fledged citizens. Opposition to the movement is a spent force, and the vital energy of the situation is embodied in the thought and will of its promoters. Thus without knowing it we have lived through a revolution, and the dreaded new road which the pathfinders have so long been telling of has become our solid beaten track.

The Trusts

It is not difficult with that much greater matter, the trusts. These, too, have had their uphill experiences. They have outlived the opposition of all their many enemies. Grangers, Populists, Bryanites, big stick reformers, prospective legislation, unfavorable court decisions have done their mightiest against the trusts, but their position is stronger than ever, and the end of their sway is not yet in sight. But what of the present attitude of the great body of the people? The unknown and feared has become the known, nothing good and sacred has been swept away, but a new and perfectly natural situation has emerged which, step by step, is organizing a solution which one day will make the "New Nationalism" or "Collectivism" a glorious reality.

So the militant phase of the trust development is now far behind. The trusts have come to stay, are still growing in scope and power, the public has got used to them and finds itself on a new beaten track and going as yet with ignorance and dread, as is always the case, it knows not whither. Not so the pathfinders. These are mindful that a day will come when the trusts must be rightly reckoned with. According to these people the trusts are serving a good and necessary purpose. Two things the trusts are bringing about — first, the perfect organization of production and distribution by means of capitalism, and next an industrial and political Socialism among the workers The two at last will become one.

But as yet the majority does not accept the saying of the pioneers that the people must own the trusts, or the trusts must own the people. Rather the rights and benefits that belong to them, things will come their way by leaps and bounds. If they were united industrially and politically as the owners are united, they could win even now nearly all the elections."

Not the Past, but the Future.

For the masses there is no good old past. It has been their prison, and its only story for them is of their woes and wrongs. There are no good old things for the poor and lowly, except the leaders and teachings of Golden Rule gospels, which in all ages have kept alive the idea of their deliverance. The only hope of the workers is that they may succeed in getting together and emancipating themselves. The oracles of authority and their economic masters would keep them down forever, and they must follow the pathfinders of these times or the world in its fullness can never be theirs. Once they are minded to help themselves they can set progress marching at a lively rate. In every country and government the workers are everything, for themselves they are nothing. If they will they can soon turn the tables completely Unity, organization and set purposes on the industrial field and in politics will make the producers of wealth invincible in short order. From the workers must come the socialization of humanity; they alone can destroy the garb and greed of capitalism, and its crowning wickedness of a leisure class with its swarm of "unwholesome parasites," its insufferable uppishness and parade, and sordid saturnalias of pleasure, politics and business.

In the world of mind the new regime is already here. Apart from the new faith and the ne wphilosophy there is no progress for the future. The old traditions and institutions are empty shells. This means that the real revolution is over. Only its technical parts remain to be carried out. Thus the general consciousness is not far from ready to pass smoothly from an old to a new beaten track of legal and governmental forms and procedures, the main result of which will be the securing to all full equality of opportunity, so that no longer shall one set of people live at the expense of another, and the present monstrous system made up of a few 'lords of bread" and a vast multitude of "slaves of bread" be utterly and forever abolished.

This will not be a land of nowhere, as seems so certain to the spokesmen of the old dispensation, but the solid land of modern hopes and thoughts and interests. A land full of inducements and opportunities for the pathfinders in every direction. A land which will give the freest scope for the best self of every one, and where the paths followed will not be the old ones of ignrance and evil, but the new ones of light and promise.

If such a land is not to be and only the land of the past and present is possible, then life is not worth living, and the pessimistic gospel of despair is the highest truth.

But nature, or the laws of evolution, as manifested in the soul of man, in will and hope and intelligence is against this darker view and never lets die the belief that the ills of life are curable, and that welfare and happiness is the earthly destiny of man. Corrupt and evil systems have ever perished; their very disharmony bespeaks their end: all history is but the record of their downfall, and of the rise of something better from their ruins. Already the pathfinders, those inspired heralds of the truth, are telling in trumpet tones as never before, that in knowledge lies salvation, that it is the only light that will break the hold that organized wealth and other despotisms has upon the people, and that artificial inequality of well being is man-made, and by the same power can and will be abolished. And finally, we are beginning to spell out on the wall a great handwriting of the coming doom of a present wornout system, and the sign posts are seen of the new and solid road which leads straight to the economic independence of the workers and which will be their gift from the heavenly powers in the day when they have mustered their might to overthrow the ruthless and devouring system that blocks their way.—N. Y. Call.

Death After a Scratch.

Morris Quatzam, an eleven-year-old Windsor boy, fell off his bicycle and scratched his wrist. He thought nothing of the injury, but blood poison set in and he is dead.

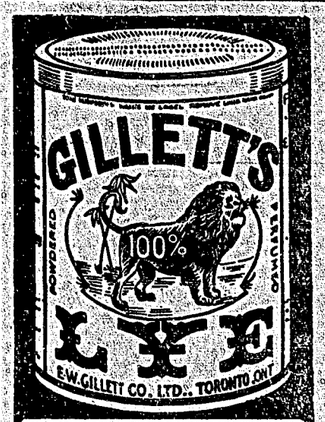
Such incidents as these—by no means infrequent—ought to make people realize the danger that may lie even in the smallest flesh wound.

Take a simple illustration. When a knife, a rusty needle, a splinter of dirty wood, a barbed wire fence, or a thorn, scratches the hand, the latter is inoculated with germs, of which the air about us is full.

The way to avoid serious results is to cleanse the wound and apply Zam-Buk. Zam-Buk is a powerful, yet painless germ-killer, and when applied to the broken skin is absorbed into the tissue, instantly destroying the germs that spread disease and stopping the pain and smarting. That is why Zam-Buk is so popular with children.

The flesh thus soothed and purified, the wound is made perfectly healthy, and all poison and germs of festering removed. Having done this, Zam-Buk then proceeds to heal the wound or sore, and new healthy tissue is built up in a quick, painless and perfect manner.

Zam-Buk must not be confused with ordinary ointments. Zam-Buk is a unique preparation, possessing antiseptic, soothing and healing qualities that are not to be found together in any other preparation. It is not only a unique healing balm, but it is also a skin food. For all skin diseases and injuries—cuts, bruises, burns, eczema, chafing, ulcers, ringworm, etc., it is without equal. It is also used widely for piles, for which it may be regarded as a specific. All druggists and stores sell at 50 cents a box, or post free from Zam-Buk Co., Toronto, for price. Refuse harmful imitations.



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COMMUNICATED

Department of Agriculture,
Victoria, Sept. 7th, 1911

To the Editor,

Sir,—I would ask you to kindly, through the medium of your paper, inform potato growers in your district that the Provincial Government has decided to make a display of potatoes at the American Land and Irrigation Exposition to be held at Madison Square, New York, November 3rd to 12th. Mr. Aschel Smith of Ladner, has been appointed commissioner to arrange for the collection and preparation of this exhibit, and will also accompany it to New York.

The preparation of the exhibit will be undertaken at New Westminster, from which place the exhibit will be shipped to New York. In order to allow latitude to Mr. Smith, who will have charge of the preparation of the exhibit, it will be necessary that he receives at least fifty pounds of carefully named and selected potatoes, and these potatoes must be chosen having reference to smoothness of skin, uniformity of size, and flushness of eye, and absolute freedom from all scab or blemish, and all potatoes must be received in New Westminster not later than October 14th.

It is desired to make this exhibit as comprehensive as possible. The Stillwell Trophy Award, value $1,000, will be given by the exposition to the best collection. It is the desire of this department that a big effort be made to capture this trophy. This can only be done by the co-operation of the growers. The exhibit will be made up of as many varieties as possible, and not less than half a bushel of each variety. The yield of each variety per acre, which acre must be officially surveyed, must be sworn to by the grower and attested by two more reputable witnesses. Officials appointed by this department will be considered sufficient authority in surveying the land from which potatoes are taken. Arrangements are being made for two or three men to cover the whole of the province, and visit the growers who wish to compete, in order to officially measure the ground from which the potatoes are taken.

Any potato growers in your district who are willing to assist the department in making this exhibit, are requested to communicate immediately with Mr. Aschel Smith, Ladner, B. C.

The winning of this trophy will mean a great deal to the district in which the potatoes are grown, and I trust that we may receive the hearty co-operation of all the potato growers, in order to make the exhibit a success.

I have the honor to be, sir,
Your obedient servant,
WM. E. SCOTT,
Deputy Minister.

THE LEMIEUX ACT

The Lemieux Act, which is now getting the attention the world over as a notable attempt in Canada to hold the balance even and help toward minimizing of industrial disputes, had a close shave to being repudiated by the organized workers of the Dominion as represented in the Trades and Labor Congress at Calgary last week.

The Miners, who had a large vote in the Congress, have no patience left for the act and the manner of its administration. It has been their experience that the act can be made too flexible for the convenience of the employing class, and vexatious and barren for the working class. The best organized of the railway trades were also almost unanimous in their desire to tie the tin can to the Act.

It appears to have been only the strength of the principle of conciliation and arbitration and, furthermore, the undoubted beneficial results which have been achieved by the industrial underdog that saved the act from condemnation.

After the main motion had been disposed of, this further resolution received unanimous endorsation at the hands of the best congress of labor that has ever assembled in the Dominion:

"While this Congress still believes in the principle of investigation and conciliation and while recognizing that benefits have accrued at times to various bodies of workmen under the operation of the Lemieux Act, yet in view of decisions and rulings and delays of the department of Labor in connection with the administration of the act and in consequence of judicial decisions like that of Judge Townsend, in the Province of Nova Scotia, determining that feeding a starving man on strike contrary to the act is an offence under the Act. Be it resolved that this Congress ask for the repeal of the Act."

The circumstances related in the memorial which has been forwarded to the Minister of Labor by the Machinists and Boilermakers of the Grand Trunk Pacific in the west, indicate very strongly and justly where a great deal of the trouble lies. It is intolerable that a law shall be handled in the manner set forth. The official assumption must be that the employees are in the wrong and making trouble for exercise, and therefore every subterfuge may be resorted to to assist the company in shelving their request or finally beating them out. For this purpose the machinery provided for in the act is kept inoperative so far as the railway company is concerned, while at the same time, it operates to restrain the men from taking the ordinary steps to secure attention to their demands or requests. Organized labor will not stand for this for any length of time, and in some cases the period of grace has already expired.

This strongly-worded protest from the workers of the G. T. P. will now reach the hands of a Minister of Labor who is on the eve of vacating that office. His successor, whoever he may be, may be well assured that the grievances there outlined have been fostered outside of the scope of the Act, but that they must be remedied and the equality of treatment of each party to a dispute as provided for in the act must be restored if that measure is to be anything better than a trouble maker in the future.

Dr. de Van's Female Pills

A reliable French regulator; never fails. These pills are exceedingly powerful in regulating the generative portion of the female system. Refuse all cheap imitations. Dr. de Van's are sold at $5 a box, or three for $10. Mailed to any address. The Scobell Drug Co., St. Catharines, Ont.

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FERNIE UNION DIRECTORY

Lizard Local General Teamsters No. 141. Meets every Friday night at 8 p. m. Miners' Union Hall. W. A. Worthington, President; E. J. Good, Secretary.

Bartenders' Local No. 514: Meets 2nd and 4th Sundays at 2.30 p.m. Secretary J. A. Goupill, Waldorf Hotel

Gladstone Local No. 2314 U. M. W. A. Meets 2nd and 4th Thursday Miners Union hall. D. Rees, Sec.

Typographical Union No. 555. Meets last Saturday in each month at the Ledger Office. A. J. Buckley, Secretary.

Local Fernie No. 17 S. P. of C. Meets in Miners Union Hall every Sunday at 7.45 p.m. Everybody welcome. D. Paton, Secretary-Treasurer.

Amalgamated Society Carpenters and Joiners:—Meet in Miners Hall every alternate Thursday at 8 o'clock. A. Ward, secretary. P. O. 307.

United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners.—Local 1220. D. J. Evans, President; F. H. Shaw, Secretary.

The Week's News for Our Foreign Brothers

NEL REGNO DEI LUPI

Una Visita al Giardino Zoologico di Roma

Il piu significante episodio d'una mia recente visita al Giardino Zoologico di Roma lo colsi dinanzi all'abitazione dei lupi, che e — dopo quella dei leoni, delle tigri e degli orsi bianchi — una delle piu belle.

Una catasta di marmi e di sassi gettati la con intelligente disordine costituisce la montagna bianca e rocciosa coi suoi antri, con le sue anfrattuosita, che sono il naturale soggiorno delle belve.

Anche qui un canale artificiale, largo e profondo, assicura il pubblico contro gli eventuali salti capricciosi dei lupi. Pei quali e stata costruita, nello spazio loro riservato, una larga vasca d'acqua che consente loro di risciacquarsi ogni tanto e resistere per tale guisa ai calori asfissianti della stagione.

Ora, nella famiglia dei lupi, era avvenuto questo; che la vasca, non essendo molto ampia, e non potendo trovarvi tutti posto adeguato, dovevano rassegnarsi d'entrarvi uno alla volta per turno.

Ma anche tra i lupi ci sono i prepotenti, gli egoisti, gli invidiosi. . . . come proprio fra gli uomini. E difatt il lupo piu grosso, un bel campione asiatico, dal mantello bronzo rame, dal muso allungato, dall'occhio sanguigno, dalle zanne muscolose, aveva insaturata nella artificiale montagna questa piacevolissima usanza; si sdraiava, lui solo nella vasca dall'acqua freschissima e limpida, e quivi rimaneva per tutta la giornata, dibattendosi e rituffandosi con l'avidita di un assetato.

Gli altri sette lupacchiotti, perche erano piu piccoli e piu deboli di lui, dovevano rassegnarsi a rimanere rintanati negli antri, o spasimare sul marmo scottante, correndo su e giu con rabbiosa irrequietudine. E se uno di loro osava accostarsi e allungava nell l'acqua un po' di zampa febbricitante, ilpadrone dell'acqua, egoista e prepotente, si rizzava con un ghigno minaccioso e terribil che metteva spavento al povero lupacchiotto arso dalla caldura.

La scena si ripeteva regolarmente tutti i giorni e si svolse anche sotto ai nostri occhi, ma questa volta ebbe una soluzione nuova, che impressiono — gli stessi guardiani.

Erano circa le tre pomeridiane, e in quell'immenso recinto adiacente a Villa Borghese, ancor povero di piante e di piante e di verde, un sole bruciante avvolgeva tutto in una sola vampata immensa. La folla cercava protezione all'ombra dei rifugi elevati per le bestie, e sostava lungamente dinanzi a quelli che erano piu flagellati dal sole.

Il lupo asiatico era signorilmente sdraiato nella vasca dall'acqua, sempre rinnovantesi, col muso acuto in alto per respirare. Gli altri, che non avevano piu un angolo protetta dalla canicola, si aggiravano piu inquieti e rabbiosi del solito. Quando uno di loro si fermo risoluto dinanzi alla vasca, come deciso ad un atto eroico. Gli altri stettero fermi sparsi attorno a guardare.

Il pluo grosso pareva non badasse a cio che avveniva. In fondo egli sapeva che tutti quei suoi simili piu deboli di lui non avrebbero mai osato contrastargli il possesso assoluto, dispatico di quella felicita. Ma il piccolo lupacchiotto dal pelo rossigno era deciso a tutto. S'avvicino cauto all'orlo della vasca; guardo lungamente attorno a se quasi per invocare la solidarieta degli altri, poi lentamente si lascio calare nell'acqua. Il lupo maggiore parve offeso di tanta temerita; si trasse verso la sponda opposta, spicco un salto e,mandando un ululato spaventevole si precipito sul lupacchiotto minore che aveva osato sfidarlo cosi. E lo azzanno e lo morse e gia stava per finirlo, quando accorsero gli altri in difesa del piccolo compagno che tvova osato per tutti.

S'impegon una mischia che poteva davvero dirsi feroce, si vedevano quei denti aguzzi penetrare nelle carni delle fiere, facendole sanguinare, ma, un momento dopo, si vide il lupo maggiore, sanguinolente e malconcio, rifugiarsi nella sua tana. La battaglia era perduta; la sua dispotica signoria sul dritto dell'acqua era vinta.

Da quel giorno i lupi del giardino zoologico di Roma hanno rimesso in vigore il principio comunistico dell'uso collettivo di quella vasca dall'acqua limpida e freschissima, e ci vanno per turno tutti, trovandovi protezione e

Questa, che non e favola, ma audifesa contro gli eccessi della stagione. tentico episodio di vita animale, spiega e dimostra qualmente. — Amilcare Storchi.

EUROPEAN LABOR AFFAIRS

Clearer Industrial Outlook—Threatened National Miners' Strike Postponed—Annual British Trade Union Congress and Its Important Discussions—British Bartenders United—Railwaymen to Refuse to Work with Non-Unionists.

LONDON, Sept. 8, 1911.—The immediate crisis in the coalfield affairs of the country has collapsed. The unofficial conference which it was proposed to hold at Cardiff today in connection with the suggested promotion of a strike policy in South Wales, for the purpose of securing a guaranteed minimum wage for all colliery workers, has been cancelled. At the mass meeting of the workmen employed at the collieries in the neighborhood of Porth Glamorgan, it was resolved to appoint a strike committee empowered to take steps to act on the lines of the railwaymen and seamen. In accordance with the instructions of the meeting, all the lodges of the South Wales Federation were circularized and a manifesto was issued. About two-thirds of the replies received were, it is stated, favorable to the convening of an immediate conference.

The committee, however, has decided that replies received were not sufficiently numerous to justify the conference being called, hence its abandonment.

Mr. William Abraham, M.P. ("Mabon"), president of the South Wales Miners' Federation, in a letter on the proposed conference, declares that to persuade the South Wales miners "to engage in an immediate strike" would be a mistake. He implores the South Wales miners "to do nothing so rash useless, and disastrous to yourselves and to the South Wales community at large." Such an act as was suggested would, he says, be likely to isolate the Welsh coal field from all others in the country, and leave its workers without participating in the general movement that the Miners' Federation of Great Britain has taken in hand. Coal is at present from one shilling (24 cents) to 36 cents dearer than in a normal year at this period.

The first British Trade Union Congress was held in 1868 and it took its rise in Manchester, which, in the middle of the nineteenth century, as now, was much given to setting rolling these snowballs which came to big things. It was the Manchester Trades Council which conceived of the Congress as a plan to vindicate the ways of trade unions to the world, and the various societies were invited to join in a conference and to send their acceptance of refusals to W. H. Wood, of the Typographical Institute, Manchester. The Trades Council had in view something a good deal more academic than the modern Congress. They were strong on the preparing and reading of "papers," and they thought the conference would assume the character of a set-to on sociology such as we would expect nowadays from the Economic Section of the British Association. The Congress was held on the Tuesday in Whit-week of 1868 at the Mechanics' Institute in David Street, Manchester, and was attended by 34 deputies, representing 118,367 trade unionists. The delegates at Newcastle-on-Tyne this year number 521, and they represent a constituency of 1,662,133. The 34 deputies in 1868 were busy for most of the time until the following Saturday on what one might call first principles, and the opening discussion was on "Trade Unions, and Absolute Necessity," a title which was in itself an admission that trade unions did not feel themselves too secure.

President Mullins at Newcastle, in the course of his inaugural address before this years' Trade Union Congress said there was one significant phase of the doings of he year that called for special comment. During the last few months the country had been staggered by a general labor unrest, culminating in a series of strikes affecting the transport and railway workers. Practically all had been successful in securaing advantages hitherto denied to them. Nobody knowing what it means, enters upon a strike lightly; but, just as certainly, no trade unionist could think of giving up the right to leave work if he believes there is just call to do so. Of late years the policy in regard to wages and working conditions had been in favor of mutual agreements. Boards of Conciliation and the like. It could hardly be said that they had altogether commended themselves in actual working to organized labor. Looking back at the attitude taken up by the railway directors in the recent strike, one would think, said the President, that we were back in the feudal days. The supreme folly of any body of employers arrogating to themselves the right to not only dictate their own policy but to tell powerful trade unions that they decline to officially recognize them is almost beyond belief.

The Workmen's Compensation Act is the subject of seven resolutions from various trades. The General Union of Operative Carpenters and Joiners has a resolution expressing the opinion that the time has arrived for the appointment of a Commission to inquire into the working of the Compensation Act as to its effect on unemployment, especially as it affects work men advanced in years, through the higher premiums required by the insurance companies, and that it be an instruction to the Parliamentary Committee to urge upon the Government the necessity of immediate action being taken in the interest of the workmen generally.

There are five resolutions relating to coal mining, the most important being one from the Miners' Federation, asking for the introduction of a clause in the Coal Mines Bill for the abolition of unskilled labor in mines. This obviously foreshadows the intention on the part of the miners members in Parliament to reopen this question on the repoort stage of the Bill in the autumn session.

—The Voice, Winnipeg.

R. P. Pettipiece, the secretary of the Trades Council of Vancouver, summarizes the recent session of the Trades and Labor Congress as follows: Coast delegates have returned from the Calgary convention of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada and are enthusiastic over the events of the week in Canada's labor parliament. Much to the surprise of all there were some 150 delegates present, making it one of the biggest conventions on record. A number of questions were dealt with of interest to organized labor throughout the Dominion, official reports of which will be available in the course of a week. Jas. C. Watters, president of the B. C. Federation of Labor, Victoria, was elected president of the Congress over President Wm. Glockling by a vote of 89 to 59, a majority of 30. Fred Bancroft, of Toronton, defeated Gustav Francq, for the vice-presidency by a narrow margin, and Secretary-Treasurer P. M. Draper was re-elected by acclamation. Wm. Glockling was elected as fraternal delegate to the American Federation of Labor convention which meets at Atlanta, Ga., in November, over J. Bruce, a Toronto Plumbers' organizer, well known and liked in the west. A meeting of the executive council is likely to be called at Ottawa in the course of a few weeks, when it is more than likely that the policy of keeping a representative permanently employed in the interests of the Congress will be concurred in. In short it will mean that President Watters will work in Ottawa during the sessions of the House, and between sessions put in his time where most needed. Negotiations are to be opened with the British Trades Union Congress looking to a closer federation of forces with the old land, including an exchange of fraternal delegates. The futility of begging for legislation from either of the old party representatives of the employing class was pretty well emphasized at the convention. The idea, however, that still another labor party should be formed was turned down, and the inference must be that the International Socialist Party will fulfil all requirements. Though the western delegates had the power to do a lot of things had they so decided no radical changes were made in the existing constitution of the Congress. The next place of meeting chosen was Guelph, Ont.—The Voice, Winnipeg.

NORWAY HITS AT ANTI-MILITARISTS

CHRISTIANIA, Norway, Sept. 15.—Following the nation wide lock-out and strikes here the government through a general court martial, today handed down sentences against nearly two hundred soldiers who had revolted against the intolerable conditions prevailing in the army under military law.

The immediate cause of the outbreak for which the men have thus been sentenced was the brutal penalties imposed on soldiers for the petty, every day breaking of the military code. Dissatisfaction has been growing for long in the army, and a series of brutal sentences brought it to a head.

There is, however, no doubt that the Socialist propaganda is immediately responsible for the revolt. They have secured great influence over the rank and file, and the army is honeycombed with dissatisfaction, following the use made of it against the locked out workers recently.

Today 139 of the soldiers were sentenced to twenty-four days' arrest; two were sentenced to twenty-five days arrest and fourteen were sentenced to twenty days' confinement in barracks.

The infliction of these sentences merely confirms the discontent of the men, and the Socialist agitation among them continues unabated. The government begins to fear that should the workingmen again come out the army would refuse to obey if ordered to shoot or charge.

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CANAL FORCE TO OPEN ALASKAN COAL FIELDS

Army Officers Favor Unique Scheme to Work Government Mines

An army officer of Panama has written the following letter containing a suggestion which is of the timeliest interest:

"Culebra, Canal Zone.—I make this suggestion. Briefly, it is to utilize the organization, personnel and equipment, that the government has on the Isthmus to open up the Alaskan coal field.

"We have here, I believe, the most efficient working organization that the government possesses. The Panama Canal has been done on business principles. The work has been accomplished with both speed and economy.

To Open Up Coal Fields

"The methods employed here in the housing, feeding, treatment and payment of employes could be adopted there—the organization for this construction job would serve in Alaska.

"The construction of the canal has afforded a fine training school for the five thousand Americans on the job. No other construction job in the world has ever offered as broad and varied a field of work.

"The personnel includes every class of construction men, dredge and steam shovel men, locomotive engineers and conductors, drill runners, track foremen and all classes of mechanics and artisans.

"The men on the job today represent a 'survival of the fittest,' as there has been a constant process of elimination for the past three years. The end of the canal work is in sight, and a number of this personnel would welcome an opportunity in Alaska.

"The commission has assembled on the isthmus a plant which in point of completeness no contractor could hope to duplicate. It is modern in every respect and it covers every branch of construction work.

"It has been well kept up and is in good condition. Some of it is being retired from the service now, more will be retired within a year, and the bulk of it will be available within two years.

"It covers everything necessary for harbor work and terminals and for railroad construction. There are hand and shop tools to equip shops and rolling stock to equip the railroad after it is completed.

"There is an all-water haul from Panama Canal to Controller Bay and transportation charges would be small.

Believes Plan Is Feasible

"I believe that the plan is feasible if the Government does the work and utilizes this personnel and plant, it can solve the Alaskan problem quickly and cheaply. ARMY."

Well said. Feasible? Certain!! Necessary? As necessary that Uncle Sam should take charge of opening up the Alaska coal fields as that he should take upon himself the building of the Panama canal—that is, if the people of the United States are going to get any benefit out of this great territory which they bought with their own money.

On the other hand, if Uncle Sam bought Alaska for the few, let the Morgans and Guggenheims go to it.

STATE OF OHIO, CITY OF TOLEDO, } ss.
LUCAS COUNTY, }

FRANK J. CHENEY makes oath that he is senior partner of the firm of F. J. CHENEY & CO., doing business in the City of Toledo, County and State aforesaid, and that said firm will pay the sum of ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS for each and every case of CATARRH that cannot be cured by the use of HALL'S CATARRH CURE.

FRANK J. CHENEY.

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence, this 6th day of December, A. D., 1886.

{ SEAL } A. W. GLEASON, NOTARY PUBLIC.

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No.	NAME	SEC. and P. O. ADDRESS
20	Bankhead	F. Wheatley, Bankhead, Alta.
481	Beaver Creek	P. Gaughton, Beaver Creek, via Pincher
431	Bellevue	J. Burke, Bellevue, Frank, Alta.
2163	Blairmore	B. J. Chase, Blairmore, Alta.
940	Burmis	Jos. Derbyshire, Burmis, Alta.
2227	Carbondale	J. H. Hyslop, Carbondale, Coleman, Alta.
2337	Cardiff	J. Poole, Cardiff, Alta.
1378	Canmore	N. D. Thachuk, Canmore, Alta.
2033	Coleman	W. Graham, Coleman, Alta.
2877	Corbin	J. Twigg, Corbin, B. C.
1126	Chinook Mines	Wm. Forsyth, Diamond City, Alta.
2178	Diamond City	Charles Orban, Diamond City, Lethbridge,
2214	Fernie	Thos. Uphill, Fernie, B. C.
1263	Frank	G. Nicol, Frank, Alta.
2497	Hosmer	W. Balderstone, Hosmer, B. C.
1058	Hillcrest	J. O. Jones, Hillcrest, Alta.
574	Lethbridge	L. Moore, P. O. Box 113, Lethbridge
1189	Lethbridge Collieries	Frank Baringham, sec., via., Kipp, Alta.
1233	Lille	W. L. Evans, Lille, Frank, Alta
2329	Maple Leaf	M. Gilday, Maple Leaf, Bellevue, Alta.
2334	Michel	M. Burrell, Michel, B. C.
14	Monarch Mine	Horace Woodield, Taber, Alta.
2352	Passburg	Wm. Cooke, Passburg, Alta.
2589	Royal View	Thos. D. Fisher, Royal Collieries, Lethbridge, Alta
102	Taber	William Russell, Taber, Alta.
1959	Taber	A. Patterson, Taber, Alta.

The District Ledger

The Paper that gets there

¶ Advertising that advertises is the sort desired by persons seeking publicity for their wares.

¶ Selecting the medium is important—the publication that reaches the people — the wage-earners— should appeal to the discriminate purchaser of space.

¶ Its an easy matter to acquire space in a paper but its another point to get adequate returns from the outlay.

¶ Advertisements that sell goods are the ads that change often and make interesting reading from time to time, giving facts and figures.

¶ Any arrangement of type matter and words in a paper is not advertising. A well written and neatly displayed ad is a source of information that will not be easily passed undiscovered. Discover your business with the use of Printers Ink.

¶ Get acquainted with your customers, meet them weekly through the columns of this paper, gain their confidence through doing as you advertise to do and when you do this you have gone a long way towards being a success.

¶ Let the new comers know who you are and advertise your business.

¶ The District Ledger has the largest circulation in the Pass and should be your special medium to tell your weekly story. Just try--can't tell until you try.

Complete Job department

Address all communications to

The District Ledger

The Crow's Nest Trading Company, Ltd.

The Store of Good Values

Special Grocery Values

FOR SATURDAY AND MONDAY SELLING

Let us reduce your cost of living, and at the same time supply your table wants with the highest grade of food products procurable.

Ogilvie Cream Rolled Oats, 8 lb. bags	30c.
C. and S. sealed Blend Coffee, 1 lb. tins	35c.
Dominion Parlor Matches, 12 boxes to carton, each	20c.
Fancy Table and Cooking Apples, 5 lbs. for	25c.
5 lb. Tins Table Syrup	25c.
Canada First Cream, 20 oz. tins, 3 tins for	25c.
C. and B. Jam, 1 lb. sealed tins, each	15c.
Quaker Brand, Corn, Peas and Beans, 5 tins for	55c.
Common Clothes Pins, 5 dozen for	10c.
Sunlight and Lifebuoy Soap, 6 bars for	25c.
Colgate's Toilet Soaps, regular 40c to 50c. per box	25c.
Blue Ribbon Ceylon Tea, per lb.	35c.
Toilet Paper, Oval and Flat, 5 pkts. for	25c.
Sherriff's Jelly Powders, 4 pkts for	25c.
Canadian Sardines, 6 tins for	25c.

The W. R. McDougall Shoe Stock purchased at sixty cents on the dollar, and selling now in many instances at less than wholesale cost.

Here and There

Norman Broley was in from New Westminster last week.

E. J. Dicker was down from Cranbrook for a couple of days last week.

Mrs. Howard Marshall, who has been seriously ill at the hospital, is rapidly recovering.

Several familiar faces came in from outside points last week to cast their ballots in the late election.

Travel over the G. N. to Vancouver and New Westminster. Return fare $24.25. Selling dates Sept. 30th to October 5th. Return limit Oct 10.

Dr. Wriglesworth, who left here a few weeks ago, is now settled in Vancouver, having opened up office in a prominent block on Pender Street.

Rev. Easterbrook, of Summerland College, is expected in Fernie for evening next when he will address the Baptist Church people and review the work here.

Last Sunday evening the Rebekah Lodge I. O. O. F. attended divine service at the Methodist Church. Rev. Dimmick preaching an appropriate sermon. A good number of brothers and sisters were in attendance.

Ed. Fulcher, Socialist candidate in the recent election in the Macleod constituency, addressed a meeting of about two hundred in the basement of the Miners' Hall on Sunday evening, and was listened to throughout with keen attention. The number of questions asked by non-Socialists at the conclusion of his remarks shows very strongly that the desire to know the why and wherefore of present conditions is growing apace, and that the apathy which has so long characterized the attitude of the workers will, so far as this section of the country is concerned, soon be limited in its proportions. The discussions of the live topics of the day although there may be divergences of opinion, are highly beneficial from an educative standpoint, as it is only by an interchange of ideas that an understanding of the action to be taken can be acquired.

There were several additions to the party membership, among whom were some of the gentler sex.

On Monday Fulcher spoke at Coal Creek, and on Wednesday he proceeded west to the coast, but will speak at various places en route.

Mr and Mrs. John Brown arrived back in Fernie from the East during the week.

Special rates to Spokane over the G. N. Railway, Sept. 30th to Oct. 5th. Return limit Oct. 7th.

A. Pizzocolo has been awarded the I. C. S. Diploma, having completed the Complete Electrical Engineering course. This is the third I. C. S. Diploma to be awarded between Fernie and Coal Creek during the past week.

Herman Myer, the cold storage expert for P. Burns and Co., Ltd., will leave on Saturday for a trip to the "Vaterland" to spend a three months' vacation among the scenes of his childhood.

A CHALLENGE

New Michel, 29th Sept., 1911

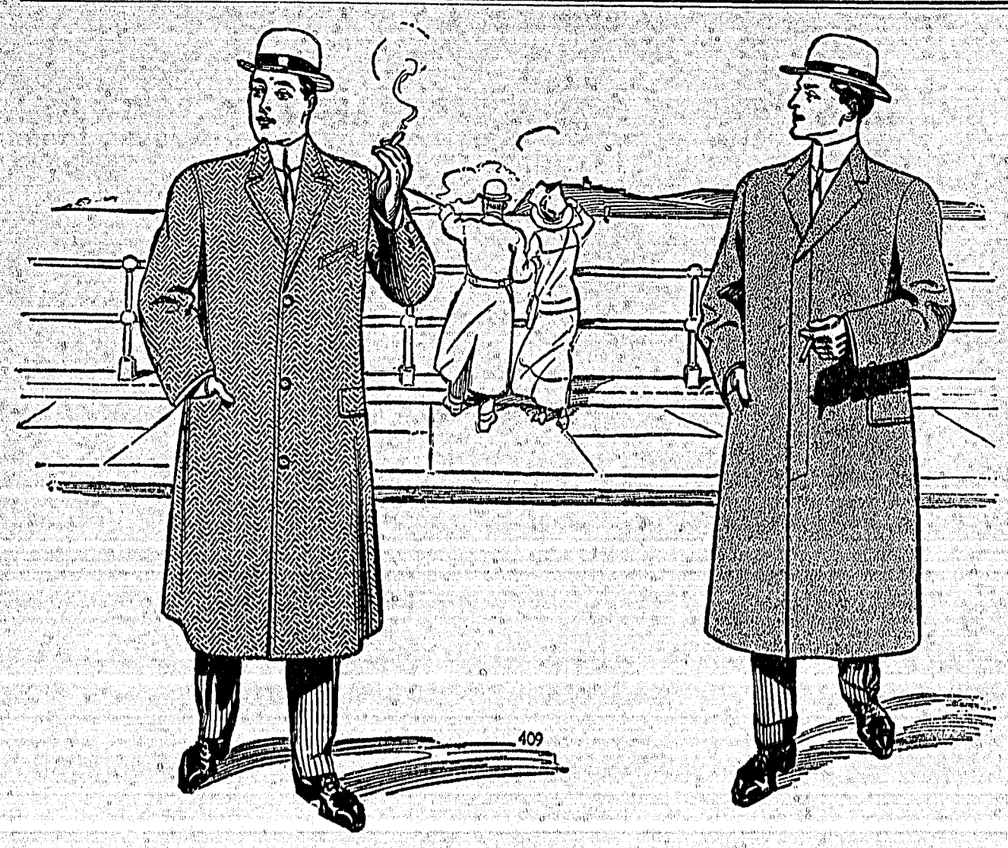
To the Editor, District Ledger:

Dear Sir,—Will you kindly insert the following in your valuable paper:

"I, Charles Carver, am willing to meet any man in Canada in the Welter Weight class. I have inserted this challenge in both Western and Eastern papers, and so far have failed to get any replies to my challenge. Failing to get any to the above I shall lay claim to the Welter Weight Championship of Canada."

Yours truly,

CHARLES CARVER



Get ahead of the other fellow—be the first to wear new Fall Overcoats.

Jack Frost will soon be tinting trees and painting cheeks and noses.

Weather changes come quickly in Canada. You know that colder weather is certain to be here soon. There's no advantage in putting off buying your heavier Suits and Overcoats. There is every advantage in making selections right now.

Fall styles are fixed. Variety is at its height. Extra exclusive patterns are here. And you will have first choice of all the beautiful fabrics and rare weaves that Fit-Reform selected from the leading mills abroad.

Fit-Reform

The Crow's Nest Trading Co.

STEEL TRUST AND ITS NEFARIOUS DOINGS

An incident occurred in this city recently that throws a brilliant flash light on the methods that are being pursued by the Steel Turst to victimize the McNamara Brothers and destroy the iron workers and all organized labor if possible.

One C. H. Patterson, a "guard" in the employ of the garment manufacturers, was arrested recently by Detectives Soukup and McGuinness upon the charge of carrying concealed weapons. While the charge is technical in a sense, behind it lies a plot that is far-reaching.

The information upon which Patterson was arrested was furnished by John Sullivan a Pittsburg glass worker, who informed the police that Patterson is in the employ of the Woodward Detective Agency of Pittsburg. Besides acting as "guard" for the garment manufacturers for big money, it appears that Patterson was assigned to do a job on the side of killing or maiming P. J. Smith, business agent of the Bridge and Structural Iron Workers, who has given the Steel Trust considerable trouble in calling successful strikes against the octopus.

Sullivan declares that Patterson had been offered $150 to "get" Smith, and that he had promised him (Sullivan) one half of the amount to assist him. Patterson called at Smith's home on E 38th street on two occasions to identify the latter and Smith accused him of being a thug to his face, which Patterson denied, claiming that he was looking up some iron workers.

While Patterson awaited an opportunity to slug Smith, a certain H. H. Bold, supposed to be a go-between for the Steel Trust, arrived in Cleveland from Pittsburg and conferred with Patterson in the Hollenden. Sullivan says that Patterson, in arranging the plans to attack Smith, stated that in case either was caught by the police to immediately summon the law firm of Squires, Sanders and Dempsey, who would furnish bail in any amount and which could be forfeited rather than have the case come to trial.

Sullivan obtained a letter from Patterson, which was written from Pittsburg by Bold, and when Patterson was informed by Detective Soukup that he had possession of the letter, the prisoner admitted that if such was the case the police "know all."

The following is the letter from Bold to "C. H. P." who seems to have been too slow in carrying out his part of the criminal conspiracy to please the writer:

"Pittsburg, Pa., Aug. 22, 1911

C. H. P.

Dear Sir,—Enclosed find twenty-five dollars ($25.00). As you do not state what sum you need this will pay for necessities until you get away, when by wiring me, I will send the same by wire.

I trust this will be the last letter I will receive from you until this is completed. I thought we had understood each other when in Cleveland, also on writing last letter. If you have cold feet and don't want to go through, say so, but do not stall around for the balance of the summer. However, if you decide upon the latter, don't look to me for any favors in the future.

Yours very truly,

H. H. BOLD."

A stenographic report of the entire proceedings in Police Court will be prepared by the iron workers in the Patterson case, which has not been concluded as the Citizen goes to press.

The testimony taken at the trial will doubtless be printed in pamphlet form and distributed throughout the country to give the people further proof of the damnable plots that are being hatched by the billionaire trust to crush the working people and drive them into abject slavery.—Cleveland Citizen.

LABOR NOTES FROM AUSTRALIA

A plaint was filed in the registry of the Commonwealth Arbitration Court in Melbourne recently by the Australian Tramway Employees' Association, an organization which includes, besides the greater part of the employees in the Melbourne Tramway and Omnibus Company, the employees in the different tramway services throughout Australia. The respondents cited in the plaint are the Melbourne Tramway and Omnibus Company, the North Melbourne Electric Tramway Company and the Prahan and Malvern Tramways Trust; Meeklin and Thomas, Northcote tramway proprietors; the Electric Supply Company of Victoria, Ballarat; the Hobart Electric Tramway Company, the Adelaide Municipal Tramways Trust, and the Brisbane Electric Tramway Company. The plaint asks for a general increase in wages in all branches of the tramway service and for alterations in the hours of work. It is not likely that the hearing of the plaint by the Arbitration Court will be reached for two or three months.

The Melbourne Wages Board for the furniture trade has reached a determination which will shortly take effect. The increases in wages range from 2s. to 4s. per week. They will mean an advance in the wages bill of £8000 a year.

A wages board award was made available in Sydney early this week which may have the effect (says a Sydney message) of raising the minimum wage of unskilled laborers in constant employ from 7s a day, as laid down by Mr. Justice Higgins in the Federal Arbitration Court to 8s. The Government railways and tramways (interlocking department) board, of which Mr. Walter Edmunds is chairman, has provided that after Wednesday the basic wage paid in the interlocking department of the railway service shall be 8s. a day. The Amalgamated Railway and Tramway Service Association, which conducted the case for the employees, claimed 9 a day, and the general secretary of the union (Mr [illegible] P.,) says:

"Though the award is not all we asked for, it is a considerable advance on existing conditions." The likelihood of wages of laborers generally being increased will depend on the success of several appeals to the Industrial Court which the Railway and Tramway Service Association has decided to make as the outcome of the interlocking award.

Strong feeling was evinced at the last meeting of the Victorian branch of the Engine Drivers and Firemen's Association as a result of the recent decision of the High Court in deciding that the organization was not one that was capable of being registered under the Federal Arbitration Act seeing that members were not connected with any particular industry, and it was resolved that the branch communicate with the Federal Council of the association with the view of having a secret ballot on the question of whether those affected by the decision of the court should go out on strike. It was pointed out that about 700 engine drivers, firemen and greasers were directly affected by the judgment, and that it had also had the effect of invalidating agreements filed with the registrar, by which from 1500 to 2000 members were protected in matters of wages and conditions.

The motion was lost. It was then proposed as a separate motion: "That members of the Victorian branch of the association 'down tools.'" The secretary moved as an amendment—the motion stand over for a fortnight and that the secretary of the Chamber of Manufactures be written to with the object of endeavoring to get the employers to meet in conference to consider a proposal that the proposed award of Mr. Justice Higgins be embodied in the determination of the wages board now in session."

The report of the committee appointed to devise a scheme for closer organization of unions was presented to the Melbourne Trades Hall Council recently. The recommendations included the following proposals:

"That the Trades Hall constitution be amended to empower the council to control and finance strikes, and to secure a more efficient consolidation of unionism by grouping the unions into families of allied trades or occupations. For defence purposes and delegation on the council, unions be grouped as follows: Class A.—Primary industries; Group 1, agricultural horticultural pastoral; Group 2, mining and quarrying. Class B.—Manufacturing industries; Group 1, metal trades; Group 2, building trades. Group 3, wood workers; Group 4, textile workers; Group 5, provedoring; Group 6, licensed trades; group 7, printing and allied trades; Group 8, leather and rubber workers; Group 9, chemical industries. Class C.—Group 1, commercial; Group 2, transportation; Group 3, public servants; Group 4 domestic; Group 5, recreative. Each union in a group shall annually elect representatives to form a group executive upon the basis of one for every 250 members (or portion of 250) in the union. All general trade disputes must be referred by the union concerned to the group executive, and should it be unable to effect a peaceful settlement, the matter must then be referred to the council, which shall be the only body empowered to proclaim a strike. The council shall be composed of representatives from the various groups, who shall be elected annually by the votes of the whole of the financial unionists in the group voting as one electorate. Groups shall shall be entitled to one representative on the council for every 500 financial members. The council shall establish a strike fund, to which every affiliated union shall contribute. When a strike has been declared the council shall have absolute control, and may call out any unions or individual members it deems necessary to bring the strike to a successful issue."

The report was ordered to be printed and distributed amongst the unions. It is to be considered at a meeting of the council six weeks hence.

WORKINGMEN DISFRANCHISED

Peculiar Decision of English Judge Regarding Taxes and Rent

LONDON, Sept. 28.—Thousands of English workingmen will lose their votes as the result of an amazing decision of the Court of Appeals, which was rendered a couple of months ago, but the effect of which was not realized until last week, when 3,000 voters in the town of Newport were struck off the register in accordance with it.

Of course it is known generally that manhood suffrage does not exist in England, but under comparatively recent extensions of the franchise the law is that everyone who exercises independent control over a house or room worth a rental of $50 a year may vote. Under the previously accepted interpretation of this law lodgers who occupied a room of this value and had a latchkey could vote, persons of this class being known as "latchkey voters."

Now all this is upset by the new decision which turns on the interpretation of the words "independent control" and on the system by which local taxes are collected in England. In most cities of America the local taxes are paid by the landlord, who adds them to the rent he collects from the tenant, and probably the majority of American town dwellers go through life without ever meeting the local tax collector. In England most middle class householders pay their own local taxes, but most working class dwellings are let at "inclusive" rents, which means that the landlord pays the local taxes. The court decision which is causing so much trouble at present, rules that all persons who pay "inclusive" rents cannot be held to exercise independent control of their houses, and are, therefore, not entitled to vote.

This at one stroke disenfranchised thousands of working class householders, but the Newport interpretation of the ruling carries the disfranchisement a step further. Practically every working class householder in England has one or more lodgers, who have been qualified as "latchkey" voters. The Newport revision judge has ruled that as the holder of an "inclusive" house does not exercise independent control himself, he can not transmit it to his lodger, and so the lodger, too, loses his vote.

So far no estimate has appeared of the total number of men who will be deprived of their votes by this decision. Newport has a population of 78,000, and 3,000 of its citizens lose their vote. Any calculation based on this proportion would be misleading, however, for Newport is an industrial town, and the proportion of such cases would be much lower in the country, and in some other towns, where the renting conditions are different. In London, for instance, thousands of workmen live in tenements owned by the London County Council, or by the local borough councils, and in these cases the rent and taxes are collected weekly, separate receipts being given for each. It is probable that in these cases the courts would decide that the municipal tenant exercises independent control, although his next door neighbor, paying exactly the same sum in the form of rent, and receiving only one receipt, would be disfranchised.

The situation is so serious, however, that it is likely a bill will be introduced when parliament reassembles to regularize the position of the "inclusive" rent payers. This is all the more likely, as the Liberal party, which is in power now, would suffer more than the Tories if the present state of affairs were allowed to continue.

A Grocery List

That is choice and at prices that demands notice

Keen appreciation is shown in response to our advts., and no wonder, when goods are so lowly marked.

10 Piece Toilet Set, decorated in sage green or blue; regular price $4.00. Saturday Special	$2 75
Aylmer Pork and Beans, 1 lb. cans, 3 cans	25c.
Whole Pineapple, 2 lb. can	20c.
Whole Pineapple, 2 lb. can	20c.
Gold Standard Assam and Ceylon Tea, lb.	35c.
Gold Standard Assam and Ceylon Tea 3 lb. Caddy	90c.
Fine Blend of Pure Coffee, per lb.	25c.
Pure Cane Sugar, 20 lb. sack	$1.35
¼ Sack Five Roses Flour	85c.
Large White Onions, 8 lbs. for	25c.
Crosse and Blackwell 4 lb. tins Raspberry, Black Currant or Strawberry Jam	65c.
Lobster, finest brand, 1 lb can	40c.
Imported French Peas, can	15c.
Wild Rose Pure Honey, pint jar	30c.
E. D. Smith's Tomato Catsup, pint bottle	25c.
Manzanilla Olives, gal.	1.00
Malta Vita Breakfast Food, 3 pkts.	25c.
Choice Canadian Bacon, per lb.	25c.
Fancy Creston Tomatoes, 3 lbs. for	25c.

TRITES-WOOD CO.

Limited

Joe Falvo

Shoemaker

General Repairer
New Work
warranted

Carosella's Store

Second Hand Furniture Store

VICTORIA AVENUE N.

Highest Prices Paid

For Secondhand Furniture, Stoves, Tools, etc., also Ladies' and Gentlemen's Cast-off Clothes.

Two-chair Barber Outfit for Sale.

G. RADLAND, Prop.

Livery, Feed and Sale Stables

First class Horses for Sale.

Buys Horses on Commision

George Barton Phone 78

Here it is, Waiting for U

REPRESENTATIVE wanted at once for work in your locality. Will guarantee $2.00 to $3.00 per day. Opportunity to advance rapidly. Will pay liberally for spare time. Work no difficult. Experience not required. International Bible Press, Toronto, Ont.

TO RENT—Two rooms suitable for man and wife. Apply, Jos. Leonard

TO RENT—Two roomed plastered House Apply, Robt. Wright, West Fernie. ..8—3tp.

FOR RENT—Three-roomed shack, unfurnished or partly furnished, as desired. Apply "R," c.o. Ledger Office.

FOR RENT—Six-Roomed concrete block house. Apply, Wm. Minton, Annex. 6.tf.

WANTED—A Housekeeper; apply John Murray, West Fernie. 2t.