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VICTORIA, B. C.

The District Ledger

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

Vol. IV., No. 44 — THE DISTRICT LEDGER, FERNIE, B. C., JUNE 3, 1911. — $1.00 A YEAR

BOARD RESUMES INQUIRY NEXT WEEK

Will Gather at Coleman | Coronation Day in Fernie | Chief Clerke to Vernon

The Nova Scotia Settlement?

So much speculation is rife regarding the situation in Springhill, Nova Scotia, owing to newspaper reports and doubts expressed regarding its accuracy that we wired for information and had expected a reply before going to press but the party to whom the telegram was sent is reported to be out of town.

We have every reason to believe that there is an element of the grapevine strongly in evidence in the press statements for the reason that local papers from Springhill under date of May 25th make no more than passing comments on the strike and it is hardly to be expected that a matter of so important a character approaching would not have been given more prominence. Again several representatives of the strike committee were away when this alleged settlement was reached, hence all things considered we would suggest that no hasty conclusions are arrived at, but that judgment be suspended until such time as we can get news of an authoritative character, which will be published in full as soon as received.

A CLOSE SHAVE

There is not the slightest doubt that in any other community where there is such a plenitude of big game, hunting would be well exploited by those who looking for features to attract outside sportsmen, but here in Fernie the capturing of huge grizzly bears has been so frequent recently that familiarity breeds indifference. The latest report of a hunting expedition comes from the two principals who are proudly displaying a magnificent pelt and head of a monster silver tip as mute testimony to their prowess as Nimrods.

Harry Martin, armed with a Mauser 43, accompanied by T. Atkinson carrying a 45.70 Winchester, started out early on Thursday morning in quest of big game, and when some six miles from town and about 10 o'clock they espied three bears, but carefully noting their location, in order to obtain a more advantageous point of vantage, made a wide detour to get to windward of the brutes, and so carefully did they carry out their plans, reached within about 50 yards before their presence was discovered, and as one of the animals turned, both sportsmen discharged their rifles, wounding one, which, together with another of the trio, scampered to cover, but the she-bear (the other two were males) did not show any great haste and Martin fired, striking her just below the neck, when with a howl of rage and fury the wounded animal made a rush for her assailants, quick as she was the trusty rifles of both Atkinson and Martin were quicker, their bullets finding lodgement in her heart, and with a last groan fell dead at their feet. This is the first experience for T. Atkinson and both he and Martin are justly proud of their achievement, and intend to continue this hair raising pastime until the time arrives to follow the more prosaic daily grind of wielding pick and shovel at the coal mines.

Mr. Turner (popularly known as Chris) paid a short visit to the city this week on business. He hired a few men for the Ross-Saskatoon Lumber Co for whom he is agent, and left again by this morning's G. N. train for Waldo. Our correspondent was glad to notice that he is looking much younger than he used to do. He says Mac is a fine fellow. Knowing that gent, our correspondent believed that, but is still of the opinion that Mac is same as usual, an 'orrible Cra— We hope he won't see this, however.

1,247 MINERS STRIKE IN IND.

TERRE HAUTE, Ind.—The expected strike of miners employed in the W. S. Little mines of Pike County, and the Wabash Coal Company mines in Vigo County, was called last night and 1,247 men are idle.

Argument over places in a mine operated by a Little Company brought about a fight between a miner and a mine boss severa lmonths ago. The miner was discharged, and his union demanded that he be reinstated. The company refused and the strike resulted.

WHERE LAUGHING IS ILLEGAL

English law is occasionally subject to criticism, but for real comedy we are a long way behind Germany.

In Berlin recently an iron worker was sent to prison for a week because he laughed. Going along the street he saw a merry-maker being chased by a particularly stout policeman, and the sight tickled him. He was promptly hauled before the court for scandal.

Another man attempted to get into a moving train, and fractured his leg. After six months in hospital he was discharged, cured, when the State Railway Department at once prosecuted him for breaking their regulations. The law-and-leg-breaker was fined $1.25.

Stepping into an omnibus a man trod on the foot of a lady, who was so annoyed that she said he walked like a hen. She was fined $5 for using this term of reproach.

Claire Waldoff, the Berlin singer who is coming to London for the coronation season, outwitted the police, however. She was warned that if she sang any of her songs on Easter Sunday there would be trouble. But the announcement was made that Claire Waldoff would positively appear. She did—so did the police. And she sang—the German National Anthem!

The promised prosecution did not take place.

CHAIRMAN GORDON CALLS FOR BOARD

To Convene in Coleman on Tuesday, June 5th--Here's Success

President Powell when in Coleman on Thursday received a telegram from Rev. C. W. Gordon, chairman of the Conciliation Board, that he would arrive on the passenger train from the East on Tuesday morning, June 6th, and as soon thereafter as possible the deliberations would be resumed. Witnesses will be examined and all information elicited that can be regarding the affairs that have prevailed in the Coleman camp.

The local members of District 18, together with the executive, are busily engaged gathering the necessary data to present at this forthcoming session and it is expected that International Board Members Diamond, Garner and Purcell will be on the ground to take notes for the purpose of reporting same to International headquarters.

AL. G. BARNES' CIRCUS

The ordinary boy who does not consider that summer has arrived until a circus strikes town is now satisfied that it will soon be in order to disport himself at the old swimmin' hole, as Tuesday last Al. G. Barnes' Circus and Trained Animal Shows reached Fernie and gave two performances.

This well known aggregation is now regarded as a yearly visitor and each time is better than the previous s'ay. The side show attractions which are of doubtful merit have been practically eliminated, and in lieu thereof more trained animals have been added.

In the morning the usual street parade wandered through the streets to the delight of the small boy and girl, headed by an automobile carrying in front a siren with a doleful dirge sound replacing the ear splitting calliope.

The first performance at 3 o'clock was well attended, but the evening's entertainment was greeted with plaudits by a bumper house, and visitors were seen amongst the crowd from Wardner, Jaffray, Fort Steele, Hosmer Elko, Flagstone, Cokato, Olson and other points of lesser importance.

There was one incident in the after noon that was not on the program, the grizzly bear, after doing his stunt probably sensing that he was in the vicinity of his old haunts, for a brief period escaped from his keeper, and what might have been a panic was averted by the ready wit of two clowns who yelled out "A cow has broken loose." It was amusing to note the agility of the adipose gentleman in charge of the trained dogs who was in somewhat unpleasant proximity to the monster of the mountains. Quiet was quickly restored and probably many at the lower end of the tent never realized what had taken place.

The dogs are clever, the horses ditto, the lions, etc., show great patience has been displayed by their trainers, but the climax of training is demonstrated by the marvellous balancing and other tricks of the two seals.

Two small lion cubs, born in captivity, came in for a great share of attention from the ladies and children. Two other cubs, young grizzlies, which Mr. Barnes added to his collection, were purchased from Mr. Severlux, of Hosmier, and these, no doubt, will take up a course of practical education preparatory to a return visit to the vicinity of their former home next year.

Mr. Barnes is to be congraculated on the clean show he presents and is worthy of every patronage.

Below we append a letter which is self-explanatory:

Editor, District Ledger:

Dear Sir,—I wish to extend to the Fernie Lodge of Odd Fellows my sincere thanks for the use of their lots during my stay in your city, and to the business men and citizens, officials for their many courtesies received at their hands.

I am enclosing herewith a pocket book which was found in the main tent and delivered at my office by one of the attendants during the performance Monday night.

Very truly yours,
AL. G. BARNES.

WIVES OF IRWIN MINERS JAILED

Political Thugs Outdo Their Own Record to Crush Strike

GREENSBRG, Pa—A new chapter of cruelty has been added to the industrial war which has been waging for more than a year in the Westmoreland coal region.

The coal barons and their political officeholders have beaten their own record. After their bitter persecution of men with club and gun, they have started a war on the women and girls of the camp, thinking that that will bring the determined strikers to time and drive them back to their picks.

This new method of persecution was started recently, when nine women and girls of Westmoreland City, wives and daughters of striking miners, were locked up in the county jail to serve sentences of twenty days each on the charge of "disturbing the peace."

Some of the women are mothers of seven and eight little children, many of them babies fro ma few months old to a half dozen years. Others are thinly clad and poorly fed girls of 15. Not one had a cent to pay the fines imposed upon them, and the political flunkeys knew it, hence they must spend three weeks behind the bars.

Others may join them, for the bloodthirsty thugs, hiding under the cloak of law and authority, know no bounds in their efforts to serve their masters. This is not the first time the miners' women have been attacked and jailed, but this is the first wholesale imprisonment of them.

The increased bitterness toward the women of the strikers is due to the fact that these women have been the staunchest supporers of their husbands, fathers and brothers in the struggle. They have insisted that there be no let-up until the bosses grant them concessions, as the wages paid before the men walked out were not enough to keep their bodies and souls together.

This the women knew, and they realize that the men might as well starve in the tents on the hillsides in the open as starve working themselves to death, with the added danger of accidents below. Some of the bosses blame the women because the men have held out this long.

The imprisonment of the women and girls will not break the strike, however. The babes in the tents may suffer from lack of attention but the conflict will go on. It is realized by the miners that if they are defeated in this conflict their lot will be made more miserable than before.

Food and clothing are coming in to the miners and their families daily from different parts of the country, but many of them are still ragged and without shoes.

This history of the struggle of the coal miners in the country has never presented a more terrible spectacle than has this strike of the 30,000 unorganized men in Westmoreland County.

APPRECIATION

To the Officers and Members of Gladstone Local and other organized bodies
Fernie, B. C.

Gentlemen,—In severing my connection with the city police force as its chief I feel that it is not out of place to pay a tribute to the excellent co-operation that I have received from the members of organized labor during my stay of three and a half years in your midst.

More especially is this noticeable at the present time, when the mines are idle, and consequently many men are without occupation and supposedly more likely to commit breaches of the law, that the gaol is absolutely without an occupant either provincial or city. Such a state of affairs is most praiseworthy and I would ask for my successor the same courteous treatment that has been extended to me so that the reputation of this community so justly earned may continue to be retained.

Again thanking you and wishing you every success,

I am, yours truly,
R. N. CLERKE,
Chief of Police.

OHLAS KUVAM SLOVACI

Drahi Slovaci oznamujem vam že som bol upovedomeni nasim vela Ctenim Redaktorom tojest od District Ledger kteri zas luhuje velkoj pohvali od nas Slovakoh bivajucih na tej okolici Ja vam oznamujem skerz tej pričini že naš spolu boojovnik Editor mna poziadal abi som zbudil uvas robotnickeho bojovneho ducha čo stim nam dava priležistost každeme vernemu Slovakovi co udovi tej organizaci abi zmo oj mi Clovaci brali ucast v boji proti pažravemu Kapitalu tojest abi zmo kteri zmo Shopni pera dopiso vali anaš narod povzbudzovali a poučvali Jak mame pracovat zavlatsi kus hleba Stim nam davaju jednu Stranu u ih časopise abizmo jmima li priležitost sa vzdelavat tak stim drahi Slovaci kteri ste shopni pera dopisujte doneho abi zmo aj mi Slovaci mali kus tej latki dočitana vas oddani pracovnik za robotnicku stranku obzrite 7 stranu utim časopiše.—"M."

Crowds Coming to Fernie, 22nd

A public meeting consisting of the Council, Board of Trade and representatives of the Athletic Association for the purpose of devising ways and means to celebrate in a fitting manner Coronation Day, June 2.

Alderman S. F. Wallace in the chair.

After considerable general discussion it was decided that the Athletic Association, Board of Trade, and City Council should each donate $200 as the nucleus of a fund to be used for expenses incident to carrying out the programme. The Athletic Association takes full charge, assisted by members of the two other bodies for the complete arrangement of all matters pertaining to this event which it is confidently expected will surpass any previous celebration held in the Pass.

The first feature is to be a street parade consisting of all societies, fraternal and industrial, and this to be followed by a royal salute affected by shooting off twenty-one sticks of giant powder—from some place of safety.

There will also be symbolical floats, processions of school children, fire brigade, etc.

We will give more details of this forthcoming celebration in our next issue, when the committee have more fully outlined the order of the days events.

FERNIE vs. BLAIRMORE

The Intermediate baseball team chaperoned by James Mitchell journeyed to Blairmore on Wednesday and returned on evening's local with a result that was somewhat disappointing—the score being 12—5 in favor of Blairmore. A rattling good game was played up to the seventh innings, when honors were equally divided, but subsequently the local boys fell to pieces resulting as above.

MORE ATHLETICS

In the rear of the Methodist Church bordering on Pellat Avenue, there are signs which might lead one to suppose that an agricultural experiment was in course of development as the hoe, rake and spade, etc., are much in evidence. No this is Wes Owens and his assistants at work preparing a site for the indulgence of the members of both sexes affiliated with the Y. M. A. A. should be Y. M. and W. A. A.) to indulge in basket ball, lawn tennis, etc., during the summer months. We expect that just as soon as it is finished that this will be another nightly attraction for people of Fernie to enjoy.

BASEBALL

W. A. Ingram of the Club Cigar Store is leaving no stone unturned in his efforts to promote the best interests of the game and on Sunday next the boys will journey to Waldo where it is confidently expected a great struggle for supremacy will take place.

Blairmore team is scheduled to come here to play a return match on Sunday, June 11th, when every nerve will be strained by the local ball tossers to retrieve their laurels.

	R.	H.	M.
Tacoma	5	14	0
Portland	4	9	0

Batteries: Annis and Burns; Archer and Harris.

	R.	H.	M.
Seattle	8	0	1
Victoria	1	6	2

Batteries: Skeels and Shea; McCreery and Devogt.

	R.	H.	M.
Spokane	1	5	7
Vancouver	9	10	1

Batteries: Schwenk and Hasty; Gates and Shea.

LADIES' AID TEA

The afternoon tea of the Ladies' Aid of the Methodist Church will be held at the home of Mrs. Wilkes, Pellatt Avenue ,on Tuesday, June 6th, from three to six o'clock.

"THE BARRIER" TO-NIGHT

Usually theatrical notices given in advance are of a couleur de rose tinge because the press agent is more interested in nicely worded literary write-ups than judicious criticism, therefore the reports subsequent to appearance are of more worth as to the merits of the cast of a play, consequently in order that our readers may form a more correct appreciation of "The Barrier" which holds the boards at the Grand Theatre to-night, below is the Nelson News report of this dramatization of Rex Beach's novel of like name.

"At the opera house last evening a crowded audience found 'The Barrior' as a whole well worth seeing. The play is a dramatization by Eugene Presbary of Rex Beach's well known novel of the same name, and there is ample opportunity throughout the five acts for most effective work, plenty of humor and pathos set off by grim little touches of tragedy and the finale is extremely satisfactory. The company last night was well balanced and every line and situation was made to tell.

"Miss Helen Barham, 'The Barrior' in the leading role of Necia, showed herself an actress of marked magnetic personality. The lady has younth and great personal attractions to back up her acting, and she easily captured the house last night and well won the warm applause given her during the evening.

"Easily the best character was George Cleveland's 'Poleon Doret,' a flawless and most finished presentation of the French-Canadian trapper and voyageur at his best. Mr. Macgregor, as Captain Burrell, was satisfactory, while Miss Colvin gave an effective portrayal of the Indian woman, Aluna. Mr. Colvin, as 'No-Creek-Lee' caused much laughter. There are still plenty of No-Creek-Lees hereabouts to make the character a familiar one. The rest of the company gave excellent support and the whole play provided a very pleasing entertainment, well presented."

Strenuous Days, These

In consequence of the present idleness at the mines so materially decreasing the clerical work the Crow's Nest Pass Coal Co. are compelled to dispense with the services, at least, temporarily, of a number of the members of the staff, thereby giving another concrete illustration of the fallacy of the "identity of interests" bug with which so many wage-earners so fatuously believe in and need arguments of this character to demonstrate the truth of Puck's saying "What fools these mortals be."

Some of those effected will not be let out entirely but transferred to the Engineering Department under Mr. Roaf, as we understand that it is intended to prosecute considerable exploratory work in anticipation of the resumption of mining activity in the camps of the above company.

The purchasing department, as at present constituted, will be dispensed with and be incorporated in one of the other departments.

FERNIE LODGE OF I. O. O. F.

On Wednesday night the election of officers for the ensuing term of Fernie Lodge No. 47, I. O. O. F., took place when the following were chosen to administer the affairs of the fraternity

N. G.—Thomas Robertson.
V. G.—J. W. Quinney.
Rec. Sec.—John Gorle
Fin. Sec.—Robt. Dudley.
Treas—I. E. Covert.

The appointive officers will be named at the first regular meeting in June and the installation ceremonies will be performed by District Deputy N. G. Dr. Wrigleswortb at the first meeting in July.

The Grand Lodge of Odd Fellows meet in Cranbrook on the 14th inst. when it is expected that a large contingent of local members will attend.

BE READY FOR THE CENSUS MAN

The census men have begun their labors and it is to be hoped that all citizens will render them every available assistance as they can rest assured that all information will be treated as strictly confidential, and therefore there need be no reason for hesitancy in answering the questions asked for on the prescribed form.

FEARFUL FIRE AT SILVERTON

Fire at Silverton, B. C., on Slocan Lake, 62 miles from Nelson, caused the death of five men and a number of others were injured, and $25,000 damages done.

Fire escapes! Fire escapes! Fire escapes! "An ounce of prevention better than a pound of cure." When registering at a hotel always ask for the way to get out in case of emergency.

"Gosh darn it! ..Why didn't Laurier stay home and finish his work."

This is Some Record, Eh

This Friday morning on coming to the office we called in upon the Chief of Police to see if he had any items of news in his department. He replied that if we would accompany him that he would show us a most extraordinary condition of affairs. Wondering whether some new specimen of the genus hobo had been captured or there was some improvement to be noter in the inner appointments, we accompanied him down one aisle in which every door was wide open and nothing but cell furniture visible. Proceeding along until we had looked into every barred room there was not even a mouse visible, and the municipal Lodging House is without a single prisoner, either provincial or city!

(Guess you might have given the Chief a last chance, Mr. Editor).

CANADIAN MIDDIES MUTINY AND DESERT-UNDERFED

OTTAWA, Ont.—Commander Roper, N. N., of the naval department, was seen regarding charges made by Francis Carney to the effect that naval men were underfed and the result was that thirty had deserted and a mutiny had taken place on the Rainbow "I am glad that Mr. Carney has made these charges' said Commander Roper with a smile. It shows that people are beginning to take a litle more interest in the navy.' "Is there any truth in the report that the men are underfed?" asked the reporter.

"About that I shall let you judge," replied Mr. Roper. "They have cocoa and biscuit when they rise at 6 o'clock breakfast at 8, dinner a 12, tea at 4.30, and supper at 7. All meals are good, substantial ones."

CHIEF OF POLICE RESIGNS

Robt. N. Clerke, chief of police, has resigned and will cease duties in that capacity in Fernie on the 13th to take a like position in Vernon, B. C., where his many friends feel confident that he will be equally as successful as his term of office has been here.

His successor has not yet been definitely decided upon, although there are well-known citizens aspirants to the vacancy.

Richard Bowen is acting chief at present and Tom Beck is the policeman on the beat.

What Are YOU Worth From the NECK UP?

It is estimated that the average man is worth $2 a day from the neck *down*—what is he worth from the neck *up*?

That depends entirely upon training. If you are trained so that you plan and direct work you are worth ten times as much as the man who can work only under orders.

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Show-Card Writer	Structural Engineer
Window Trimmer	Structural Draftsman
Civil Service Exams.	Contractor and Builder
Ornamental Designer	Foreman Plumber
Mechanical Engineer	Civil Engineer
Mechanical Draftsman	R. R. Construction Eng.
Foreman Machinist	Surveyor
Electrical Engineer	Mining Engineer
Electrician	Chemist
Power-Station Supt.	Bookkeeper
Architect	Stenographer

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PURSUING FEDERENKO

Russian Government Makes Desperate Effort to Get Hands on Fugitive

OTTAWA May 23—Savva Federenko the Russian fugitive who was arrested in Winnipeg last December, after being tracked many thousands of miles by Russian detectives, and who was released by Judge Robson at Winnipeg, on the ground that the extradition law had not been complied with, will soon again be an international figure. The Russian government was not satisfied with this outcome. An appeal was taken to the imperial government against this alleged interference of Canada with Russian rights under the extradition laws.

The colonial office has communicated with the government here suggesting that the case be reopened and with the co-operation of the Canadian government, which has no desire to do any injustice to Russia. The whole matter will now be referred to the Privy Council at London for decision as to the legality of the release of Federenko by the Winnipeg court. Meanwhile, unless the Russian detectives have kept track of him, his whereabouts are now unknown.

ALIEN LABOR ACT CASE IS DISMISSED

Evidence in Case Against A. B. Hart Failed to Show Breach of Law

Mr. A. Carlson and Mr. S. Alexander, carpenters, were complainants in an action brought in the County Court recently against Mr. A. B. Hart, foreman for Messrs. Smith and Shorbourne contractors, alleged a breach of the Alien Labor Act.

The action was brought claiming the $500 penalty under the act on the grounds that the defendants had imported workmen from Seattle.

The case was heard before Judge Grant and the evidence submitted by the defense went to prove that the men who it was alleged were brought in for the purpose of starting work here, had been in the city about ten days before they were employed by the defendants. It was also brought out that although the men had come here through a visit paid by Mr. Hart to Seattle, they had practically made the move on their own initiative, after having been informed in Seattle by a man who had been talking with Mr. Hart that there were plenty of work to be obtained in Vancouver. The action was dismissed on these grounds.—Vancouver Province.

Labor Unions Cursed Again by Capitalists

"Workingmen Never Amount to Anything,' Says Labor Hater—Croker Puts Fire Murders Right Up to Employers, Who Keep Mum.—$100,000 Suit Against Kirby is Reported.

It is reported that John A. Kirby, president of the National Association of Manufacturers, celebrated as a union eater, is to be sued for $100,000 by President Lynch, of the International Typographical Union.

The suit is said to be directed against Kirby by Lynch personally.

The details, so far, have not been learned.

Kirby's latest attack on organized labor was made recently when the called labor leaders 'tarantulas," declared the Los Angeles Times was destroyed by criminal labor unionism and asserted that dynamite and bludgeons are not the only weapons employed by the American Federation of labor.

The goods were not as advertised at the moring session of the National Association of Manufacturers. Senator Nelson W. Aldrich did not speak. He was billed to speak in explanation of his patent panic extinguisher, but sent in word that his throat was very sore, making it impossible to appear He said he might possible come around and utter a few well chosen remarks in the afternoon.

With Aldrich eliminated, the features of the sesion became these:

"Colonel" Anthony Ittner, of St. Louis, declared that any business man who would sign a closed shop agreement with a labor union ought to have his place blown up with dynamite, or some equally expansive explosive.

A remark along those lines would put a labor unionist in jail in the piping times of Taft and kidnapping, but the "Colonel" banged the board and spoke right out in meeting. He was mad, or appeared to be, and the way he waved the flag and the free-born-American citizen stuff was a shame when you come to hear that he didn't get a hand on those passages.

You understand this was the second day of the convention and the very best American flags get frayed in time.

Croker Blames Capitalists

Ittner said he had been in business fifty-two years and had not been "under the domination of a labor union for a single hour during that period.

The other feature was ex-Fire Chief Edward F. Croker.

Croker told the manufacturers that the employers of labor made it impossible to get adequate fire protection in New York City., and that the Triangle fire horror made him sick and ready to quit after twenty-seven years in the service. Croker spoke but a few minutes and then called for questions.

The questions put to Croker were of a rather perfunctory nature, and his replies were right to the point, frequently being composed of one word, "Yes," or "No," Croker said:

"I have found that employers are very neglectful of the lives of their employees. They are all after the almighty dollar, and the safeguarding of human life is of minor importance to them.

"I hold the belief that factories should be safeguarded against the dangers of fire at least as well as are places of amusement. The men and women who work go into factories because they are forced to do it, and should be protected by every possible means against losing their lives in fires Persons go to theatres and other places because they want to, yet we find that they are much better protected against the dangers of fires."

Croker Keeps Cool

One of the sub-captains of industry asked Croker if he did not think that in factories where fire drills were practiced persons were in the habit of setting fire to the place just to see the employes march out. Honest, he did.

Did you ever scan the jaw of Croker It's the kind of jaw which keeps wheeling slowly around like a big gun in a turret, like it was looking for somebody looking for trouble? When the captain of industry rid his soul of that piercing query Croker's chin came around until that industrial captain was looking straight down the barrel of it.

"Never heard of such a thing until now," he said.

Then the chin went out range finding and everybody felt that something foolish had happened.

Croker said when he reported a building to be a fire trap the Corporation Council of the city began proceedings, sometimes, and then it took perhaps two years before the case came to trial, no change being made in the fire trap meanwhile.

A little beam of celestial intelligence penetrated the Waldorf-Astoria when Croker insisted that every building should be thoroughly and regularly inspected by the proper officials. A fat little German manufacturer, who seemed out of place in that place, got up and began to talk like Joe Weber. Except for the Joe Weber part this is what he said:

Five Dollar Bill Joke

"Insbectors!' he blurted, 'I haft hert of insbectors since I can remember. They come und they go. insbecting everything, and the boilers keep plowing up and buildings keep burning down. Vhy is dat, hey? Ven the insbector comes a $5 bill vill send him away again. You had bedder look oud, Mr. Croker, for the $5 bills."

And just as though the inspectors had been caught giving themselves $5 bills and going away satisfied, leaving the employers unscathed, the manufacturers gave a glad whoop of laughter.

Croker simply gazed at the German in silent understanding.

RECIPROCITY

The Democrats in congress are pushing reciprocity through the house. Well and good. The middle class is duly thankful for small favors.

The worker who has nothing to sell but his labor power will not be benefitted.

Labor remains unprotected. Reciprocity is only for those who are in business; who own something; who have factories and mills; who employ labor.

Probably the COST OF LIVING WILL BE REDUCED. In fact the railroads and other big interests are favoring reciprocity because it is to reduce the cost of living so that they CAN REDUCE WAGES.

The simple-minded American working man vainly imagines that the "battle of the giants' now going on in Washington is for his benefit.

It's not at all for him. It's for the big interests. He dropped out of the running after he "voted" last November.

It is only the propertied class who are interested in what congress does. —Chicago Daily Socialist.

FINANCIAL POWER TO CHECK WARS

Mr. James Speyer, of the European banking house of Speyer and Comapny addressed the National Peace Conference at Baltimore last week and spoke on "International Finance as a Power for Peace," dealing first with the influence of international investments in times of peace. Taking up the question of what should and could be done in time of war by first-class powers, he said:

"We find to-day in Europe that in times of peace certain governments will not allow their bankers to take and place foreigns loans in the home market unless the purposes for which the loan is to be used are known and approved, and at least part of the proceeds are used by the borrowing nation for expenditure in such home markets for the benefit of the loaning nation.

"Now," sair Mr. Speyer ,"If such supervision and control of the bankers already exists in time of peace, it does not seem a wide flight of imagination to suggest that the great powers might agree to exercise such control in times of war between three parties, and to maintain in future, what, for want of a better term might be called 'financial neutrality.'

"In case two nations went to war without first submitting their grievances and differences to arbitration or judicial settlement at The Hague, why should the other neutral powers not bind themselves not to assist either of the belligerents financially, but to see to it that real neutrality was observed by their banks and bankers? There is little doubt that this could be done. If no financial assistance could be obtained from the outside few nations would, in the face of this most effective neutrality of the other powers incur the peril of bankruptcy. Some would certainly last a much shorter time.'

(Ed.—And when, in like manner, the workers realize that it is they who supply the human flesh and blood that must be mutilated and split we may consider that we are fast approaching the time when war ,having been found too expensive both in men and money, that it will be declared highly immoral and they, who have prayed loud and long to the God of Battle for victory, will be vociferous in condemnation of bloody and inhuman strife as a blot upon our civilization, a relic of barbarism but—the time is not yet ripe for such drastic utterances and will not be so long as the financial masters see fit to support the army and navy with its stipends for chaplains and other ministerial gentlemen.)

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MINERS TO ASK U. S. TO STEP IN

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Federal intervention in the famous Westmoreland county, Pa., soft coal strike, which has been in progress for fourteen months, is to be demanded by Representative Wilson, of Pennsylvania, chairman of the labor committee in the house.

It is expected steps will be taken similar to those by which President Roosevelt terminated the anthracite strike. If President Taft does not act the matter will be pushed in congress by a bill to authorize federal inquiry.

TOUR OF CORINTHIANS

London, Eng.—England's champion amateur football team, the Corinthians will visit Canada in July. The number will include seven international players.

JOBLESS' DESIRE TO WORK SHOWN

Only One Per Cent of Idle Won't Toil, Says Expert

Answering the argument advanced by uninformed people, who urge that the unemployed do not want to work, William Kent said.

O'Neil Authority

"The best authority in Chicago about the willingness or unwillingness to work on the part of the unemployed is James O'Neil, the national secretary of the eight organizations of migratory laborers in the Brotherhood Welfare Association, who has studied this question for years and who has been the executive officer of the B. W. A. for the last sixteen months, coming in contact with about 25,000 to 30,000 unemployed men in the course of the year.

"Speaking about the unemployed Mr. O'Nell said: 'Only one per cent of the unemployed would absolutely refuse to work under any circumstances, either because the individual in question is lazy, unable physically or mentally, vicious, or because of lack of incentive

Chance is Denied

"'He sees that he never has been able to get ahead, and he knows that under the present circumstances he is doomed to utter poverty. He can find no way of changing these circumstances. At least he knows of none Work being only temporary, he realizes that he will be eventually out of his job anyway and be where he started from. The final result is utter discouragement at any future prospects."

CAPITAL INVESTED IN CANADA

Foreign Capital

By Fred W. Field

At least $139,589,650 of foreign capital has been invested in Canada. The following is an approximate estimate:

France	
Manufacturing and industrial development	$ 8,500,000
Lands and mines	8,750,000
Loans on mortgages, etc.	30,000,000
Canadian industrial and railroad securtes	22,250,000
Municipal and school bonds	1,250,000
	$70,750,000
Belgium	
Western mortgages	$ 3,500,000
Purchase of western lands	2,225,000
British Columbia fruit lands	950,000
Canadian railroad securities	5,000,000
	$11,675,000
Germany	
Western lands, mines and mortgages	$ 8,000,000
Western coal lands	5,000,000
British Columbia coal lands	3,500,000
Canadian railroad securities	9,000,000
Investments in beet sugar industry	1,225,000
Investment in railway to tap coal lands	4,000,000
	$30,725,000
Holland	
Western land and mortgages	$ 3,000,000
Canadian railroad securities	8,000,000
	$11,000,000
Russia	
Doukhobors' land investment in British Columbia	$ 1,500,000
Turkey	
One bank's investments in Canadian railroad and government bonds	$ 3,000,000
Foreign of Canadian Bank Shares	
In chartered banks	$ 1,439,650
Dresdner Bank's holdings in Sovereign Bank	2,000,000
In chartered Banque Internationale	7,500,000
	$10,930,650
Grand total, foreign investment	$139,589,650

EMPLOYERS IN BRITAIN WILL DEDUCT WAGES

Manufacturers Say That They Will Not Pay Part of Premiums In Lloyd-George Scheme

LONDON, May 20.—Large employers of labor in Great Britain are gradually letting the news leak out that if Chancellor of the Exchequor Lloyd-George thinks they are going to pay part of the premiums to insure their employees against involuntary idleness or illness, as contemplated under his state insurance plan, he is mistaken. It appears now that they intend simply to reduce wages by the amount of the premium they will have to pay, so that the insurance will cost them nothing.

G. D. Hunter, the big shipbuilder, put the employers' case very neatly, and diplomatically when asked if the insurance scheme would affect wages.

"If we cannot get increased prices it may do so," he said. "In the case of large sums the masters would have to take it into consideration in agreements as to wages. I am quite in favor of the proposals, however."

(Ed.—Such opposition on the part of the manufacturers is only what might be expected as it would be anathema to contemplate, even for a moment, the idea of reducing the percentage of profit on their wares, hence, as it is difficult to obtain higher prices than the competitive market permit, there is only one other source from which the premiums can be extracted and that the wages of the employees. By expert systems of accountancy it is always an easy matter for employers to show a decrease in profits, therefore, for them to accept any diminution is an unthinkable proposition.)

The Original and Only Genuine

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August 6-11.

ANOTHER LEMON HANDED TO THE WORKERS

The Western Federation of Miners and the United Mine Workers of America, respectively and jointly, of this province have just had another lemon handed to them. This time at the hands of the members for a miners' constituency (Fernie), W. R. Ross. That is to say, Mr. Ross, as walking delegate for a coal company, punched the Workmen's Compensation Act full of daylight and succeeded in securing a decision over the coal diggers which deprives foreign dependants of any compensation for the loss of breadwinners As a sort of reward for this discovery, Premier McBride at once made the lawyer in question a cabinet minister of the government. However, the end is not yet, and Mr. Ross may yet get his measure taken. The joint executive boards of Districts 18 and District 6, have decided, upon the advice of the Clarence Darrow of Canada, Mr. S. S. Taylor, of Vancouver, to appeal the case to the privy council. It will scarcely be necessary to point on the far-reaching effect of this decision, not only regarding what may be termed "foreigners,' that is, alien dependants, but also with respect to dependants who do not actually reside within the confines of the province; since it is to be supposed that the objection raised by the respondents would be interpreted to mean even British subjects. It simply means that a wageworker may come to British Columbia fully determined, after he shall have got together a little stake, to bring his family to him, but should he be blown to atoms or smothered to death meantime his widow and children must go without recourse. If such is the workings of the much-heralded Compensation Act, let the Krzuz appeal be at once submitted to the highest tribunal in England. Meantime there is need for action on the part of organized labor throughout British Columbia, as well as Alberta and Saskatchewan, where the Compensation Acts are all about the same. No effort must be spared to first win the appeal and set about to so amend the law that it will not require the services of a lawyer to interpret it—R. P. P., in Vancouver World.

FATHER VAUGHAN ON RACE SUICIDE IN ENGLAND

In a recent sermon Father Vaughan said some pointed things on the question of race suicide. He warned his hearers not to try to dodge nature or cheat God. He again held up the poor as an example to the wealthy and fashionable crowd who hung upon his words. He told of a parish in the East End, very dear to him, where there are five hundred families and some 2,100 children, the brightest, happiest lot it is possible to meet. But for the poor this sin of England would be more apparent than it is. He said the time was drawing near when England could not face her God if she met Him on the way. The true wealth of a nation is her children. What is the good of a whole fleet of Dreadnoughts if there are no growing men to serve on them? The voice of his country might yet be heard in Rama, weeping and lamenting because her children were not. These were the impressive words with which Father Vaughan left the pulpit.—Western Catholic.

(Ed.—Napoleon I. is credited with having said that woman's chief function was to act as brood-mares to supply fighting material for the French army, but now we have the widely celebrated disciple of "the Prince of Peace" calling attention to the fact that if race suicide continues whence are to come the food for powder to man Dreadnoughts. "Consistency thou art a jewel.")

Striking miners of Wales not only refused to pay rent to the companies in whose shacks they live, but also invaded the uncultivated land of neighplant vegetables. The government sent a company of soldiers to dispossess the miners, but the military fellows rebelled and some threw away their guns while others permitted the miners to seize them. Now the noble personages are a bit fearful that the other workers are likely to imitate the miners and seize land and refuse to pay rent.

CITY ENGINEER RESIGNS

PORT ARTHUR, Ont.—Refusing to be governed by an order of the city council that all city employees punch a clock on going to and leaving work, City Engineer Antonisen has resigned.

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From the Coal Pit to Premiership

Two Leading Laborites Who Swell The Coronation Festivities

By Alaister J. Scott

Amid the mediaeval pomp of the Coronation ceremony the figures of the Empire's two Labor Prime Ministers will stand conspicuous among the titled throng assembled to do homage to the new crowned king. Half a century ago the complete dominance of labor in the affairs of state in any part of the empire was almost inconceivable, but the presence of Mr. Fisher, the prime Minister of the Australian commonwealth, and of Mr. McGowan, the Prime Minister of New South Wales, at the great ceremonial of the enthroning of the Emperor of all the Britons, is a significant testimony to the enormous progress which the spirit of Democracy has made among the Anglo-Saxon race. Mr. McGowen has already reached London, and Mr. Fisher is expected within the next few hours. Motherland will have ample opportunity of forming an opinion of the men who have risen from the fitting shop and the coal mine to control the destinies of the most progressive of Britain's overseas dominions.

Both are Scotsmen—Mr. Fisher by birth, breeding and parentage, Mr. McGowen by a father who was born north of the Tweed, but who sought fortune first in Liverpool and afterwards in the then unexploited possibilities of New South Wales. Mr. Fisher's story is one of the romances of the labor movement. He was born in the little Scottish village of Crosshouse, near Kilmarnock, in 1862, and got all the education that the parish school had to offer. His father was one of the poor but independent type of Scotsmen who held advanced ideas about the rights of man, and though young Fisher had, early in his life, to go to the mine to aid in increasing the family budget, he pursued as many Scottish miners do, a course of progressive self instruction, which afterwards proved to be the basis from which he was to climb to the controlling position of the great Commonwealth of Australia. From pit-boy he graduated to the better-paid positions in mining, and in his diggings in the bowels of the earth he had as a companion Mr. Keir Hardie. Fisher was something of a leader amongst the Ayrshire miners, and at a strike in 1884 he was responsible for formulating the demands of the men. His force of character brought upon him the ill-will of the masters, and when the strike was settled he was refused employment. Then it was that he took the decisive step of emigrating to Queensland, and after eight years in the rough and tumble of colonial life, he entered the legislature of that state in 1893. His promotion was rapid. He joined the famous Dawson Ministry as Minister of Railways, and since the inauguration of the Commonwealth Parliament he has continuously held in it a seat for the State of Queensland. His powers of administration and organization were brought to the fore during his tenure of office as Commonwealth Minister for Trade and Commerce. He was early mapped out for the leadership of the Federal Parliamentary Labor party, and when it assumed the ascendancy in 1908, he became Premier. In 1909 and 1910 he was in opposition, but a year ago he was once more given the control of the government of Australia. The whole course of his career, from pit-boy to Premier, is a splendid testimony to the tenacity of the Scot, the personality of the individual, and the vitality of the Democratic movement which he represents.

Mr. McGowen's life story is full of picturesque detail. His father came from Scotland to Liverpool where he married a Manchester woman who once worked in the mills. She is still alive, and but for her great age would have accompanied her son to the old country at the present time. Mr. McGowen's father went out to Australia in the fifties of last century, and worked at bridge building on a New South Wales contract job. He decided to stay and sent for his wife, who set out in the sailing ship Western Bride to rejoin her husband. Somewhere in the vast bosom of the Pacific the ship lay becalmed for several days, and during that time the present Premier of New South Wales was born. At the very hour of his birth a favorable breeze sprang up which carried the Western Bride to her destination in a short three weeks. The skipper's name was Captain Sinclair, and after him the ocean babe was christened. As a child born at sea under the British flag in a ship belonging to the Port of London, Mr. McGowen's birth was registered at Stepney. And now comes a very curious coincidence. Since he landed in his mother's arms at Sydney fifty years ago, Mr. McGowen had never been out of Australia until he left to take part in the Coronation celebrations, and his voyage coincided with the taking of the census. Out on the Indian Ocean he was counted as a British born subject, and again the fact falls to be recorded at Stepney. Mr. McGowen followed his father's trade of boiler maker. He is a great rugged, strong-featured bronzed, heavy-moustached colonial, and his shaggy hair is just lightly tinged with grey. Twenty years ago he was returned to the New South Wales Parliament for his present constituency of Redfern, and since then he has played a prominent part in the advance of Democracy in New South Wales. He has all the enthusiasm of the successful settler for the land which, but for the accident of a few brief weeks he could have claimed as his native soil.

LABOR — DEFENSIVE AND AGGRESSIVE

By Jos. E. Cohen

No one need expect that the McNamara brothers will receive anything approaching fair play unless the labor unions and Socialist party keep up an agitation as continuous and unremitting as that in the Moyer-Haywood case.

Nor should it be expected that the McNamara brothers will be permitted to slip through the hands of the Manufacturers' Association if it is possible whether by fair means or foul to hang them.

And this, even though the Manufacturers' Association knew that the two men are entirely innocent of any crime whatever.

That is to say, the manufacturers feel resentment enough against any able labor leader to smirk at the prospect of seeing him mount the gallows. But for a reason stronger than that.

The Manufacturers' Association is organized to disorganize the labor unions, and to keep the working class in subjection.

And, it can be said in sorrow, labor unions are too often organized with no other than the timid notion of defending themselves against encroachments of the employers.

There are some associations of working men, notably among one class of engineers, whose constitution forbids them to strike.

Still others and their number is all too large, are prohibited from rendering financial support to other unions on strike, let alone going out in sympathy.

The working men of such unions have a weary way to go before they size up to present social conditions enough to keep from being used as cannon food in the labor war.

But more ambitious labor organizations are too prone to devote the greater part of their energy to defensive tactics.

It cannot be said too often that the fight for McNamara brothers must be waged relentlessly.

And the Socialist party, together with the labor unions, should continue to lend their support and encouragement to the liberty-loving Mexicans.

But this does not exhaust all the important work to be done by the Socialist party anl labor unions.

It is well enough to meet the blows of the enemy, as for example, when they sought to hang Moyer, Haywood and Pettibone, when they sought to jail Fred Warren and suppress the Socialist and labor press; when they seek to hang the McNamaras, and when they seek to entrench the despotic rule of the trust magnates whose puppet Diaz is.

But it stands to reason if the enemy can forever draw all the fire of those battling for the working class by such means, then the chances for improving the lot of the toilers are slim indeed.

For the enemy has the resources, in money, men and brains, to concoct such deals as the McNamara affair, as often as need be. And there are too many examples in history of the shrewd manoeuver of engaging in a foreign imbroglio to detract the attention of the people from disaffection at home.

If the labor unions permit themselves to do nothing but mark time, to show a bold front when they are threatened with a reduction of wages or the opening of their closed shops, but to go no farther, then they are sure to fall to pieces.

For where there is no growth, decay surely sets in.

On the other hand, the Socialist party must everywhere take the position that it has its work cut out for it, right here now, not only when we come into Socialism.

To roll up the Socialist vote, to capture every outpost however small it be, to enter every campaign with the avowed aim of carrying the election—that is the spirit that should animate the Socialist party.

And, between elections, not only to carry on the work of education and organization along the old lines, but along the new ones of participating in every progressive movement looking for better social legislation, relief to labor, advancement in general—that should be the purpose of the Socialist party.

It is just in this practical work that the sharply defined identity of the Socialist party would stand out most uncompromisingly.

Just to the extent, too, would labor be choosing its own battlefield instead of meeting the enemy in the bloody angle selected by it.

DID SECRET POLICE PLAN LONDON SIEGE?

Finnish Professor Makes Startling Accusation Against Russian Officials

LONDON.—Did Russian secret police plan the recent Anarchist siege in the east end of London and other acts of violence in which the activity of aliens has led to the introduction of restrictive legislation in the house of commons? That is the startling suggestion made by Professor John Dover Wilson, formerly at the University at Helsingford ,Finland.

Professor Wilson believes the Russian police want to discredit the Russian revolutionaries in foreign eyes Then, they argue, Russia can handle them as she chooses, without protest—and foreign doors will be shut against them even where a refuge has hitherto been available.

In the east end fight a certain "Peter the Painter" became famous not merely by his actions, but by his success in escaping. Professor Wilson suggests that he may be Unkarin Polka, a secret Russian agent from Finland. To those who say this is impossible he retorts, "If he were a member of the Russian secret police he would have the greatest ease in escaping detection. As an accredited agent from St. Petersburgh he has possibly been long in touch with the British police. It is even conceivable that he was good enough to offer his services to Scotland Yard for the purpose of tracking himself down. The infamous Azef managed for four years to act at one and the same both as head of the Social Revolutionary party and as chief of the Russion secret police.

If the professor is right, the Russian police seem destined to succeed in their plot, for out of their two bills before the house of commons will come a measure hedging England against alien arrivals in a way previously unknown. All British politicians disclaim any intention to hinder the immigration of political refugees fleeing from tyranny. But the suggested legislaton makes the possession of money a necessity for admission—and political refugees are nearly always penniless. Their record is also to be scrutinized, and the St. Petersburg police will supply concocted "evidence" of undesirability readily enough.

HELEN BARHAM, in "The Barrier," at the Grand Theatre on Friday night

Attacks Fire Loss in Mines

Many Catastrophes Could be Averted Says U. S. Engineer

NEW YORK,—Failure to appreciate the seriousness of mine fires and a lack of adequate fire protection have resulted in the loss of hundreds of lives and the destruction of millions of dollars' worth of property in the last few years, according to a statement made at the annual meeting of the National Fire Protection Association to-day by Herbert M. Wilson, chief engineer of the federal bureau of mines

Cherry Holocaust Cited

Mr. Wilson went farther and declared that two of the most serious disasters in coal mines in the last two years, one at Cherry, Ill., in which 262 lives were lost, and in the other at the Pancoast mine, near Scranton, Pa., in which seventy four lives were lost, originated from trivial causes, and ought to have been quickly extinguished without the sacrifice of human life.

"The contact of several bales of hay with a blazing torch of an open miners' lamp,' said Mr. Wilson, "caused the Cherry mine disaster with its great loss of life and a total cost of one million dollars, of which $50,000 a day was spent in direct fire fighting for several days.

"The fire in the Pancoast mine killed seventy-four miners, left forty-five widows and 137 dependent orphans. This fire is known to have started in an underground room, presumably from some oil-soaked waste. The fire was not thought serious until it had been burning two hours. The delay was, in a large meausre, responsible for the great loss of life.

Fires Now Raging

"Besides the loss of life, fires have cost much in money. At Deadwood, S. D., $1,000,000 has been spent in fighting a fire in a metal mine. Today fires are raging in coal mines and metal mines in various parts of the country. Some of them have gotten beyond control and have been burning for many years, devouring hundreds of thousands of tons of coal and miles of mine galleries.

"One mine fire near Carbondale, Pa., has burned out such a vast area of anthracite coal in the last ten years as to result in a subsidence of the surface and destruction of surface property.

"Near Summit Hill, Pa., a fire which has been burning fifty-one years is estimated to have destroyed $25,000,000 worth of coal. Near Jobs, Ohio, a tract of coal valued at several millions of dollars has been burning since 1884.

"In some of the deeper metal mines at Butte, Mon., fires have been burning in the old mine timbers since 1899.

"In the Comstock vein in Nevada, thousands of feet of tunnels which had been opened at a great expense are being burned out.

Pleads Fire-Proof Material

"The mining engineers of the bureau of mines have made a careful study of fires in mines, and have reached the conclusion that the introduction of comparatively inexpensive fire-fighting appliances, the adoption of proper regulations and the institution of a reasonable system of fire drills may minimize fires and confine others to a brief period of time with little damage to life and property.

"The engineers of this bureau have had much success in combating mine fires through the use of the oxygen helmet. This is an apparatus that entirely protects the head, and through which air is furnished artificially, thus enabling the wearer to explore the vicinity of a fire under conditions of smoke and gas that would render his approach otherwise impossible. By the use of such an apparatus a number of fires have been promptly extinguished which would doubtless have spread and perhaps extended beyond control.

"Chemistry, through the quick analysis of gases at frequent intervals in the neighborhood of the fire has proved a most useful adjunct in fighting fires.

"It seems almost unnecesary to call attention to the necessity of providing at each mine ample storage of water properly conveyed in protected pipes to possible danger points ,the desirability of using larger amounts of fire-proof material in place of wooden mine timbering or wooden doors, the proper disposal of waste, fire-proof man ways and air shafts, and the use of fire proof material as far as possible in all surface structures within fifty feet to a hundred feet of the main opening to the mine."

MINE OWNERS BUSY

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Independent mine owners of the Pittsburg district recently began a bitter fight before the Interstate Commerce Commission for sweeping reductions in rates on coal to the great lakes.

The Voice of Other Time

From the French of Catulle Mendes . . . By George Allan England

It was in the cellar of one of those vile rum shops where the police permit drinking after all the cafes and wine rooms are closed. At deal tables under the dusty yellow light of the gas jets, weary unfortunates leaned elbow-wise, along with a few customers who had been waiting there all the evening,— the women rouged to their eyes, the men as pale and close-shaven as strolling Thespians.

Our curiosity satisfied, we were just on the point of leaving when "Look there!" exclaimed my companion.

He pointed out to me sitting alone at the end of the room, a very tall stout woman, whose twisted red hair bulged out beneath her feathered toque. More tired than old she must have once been beautiful. Even yet she was striking, because of her milky white skin and large black eyes, deep and steadfast, where stupefaction gave place now and then to some poor remnant of thought. She was no better, certainly, than her neighbors—that could be seen at a glance by the mud on the hem of her skirt and on her shoes—yet, gross as she was, and sitting there heavily with the appearance of a colossal idol, she seemed an exaggerated type almost the personification of an entire species.

Astonished, we drew near her.

In a loud, hoarse voice that dominated the whispered conversations all about, she cried out for us to buy her a drink, and ordered four glasses of gin. These she emptied into a mug still containing a little beer, and gulped the mixture at a single draught after which she began to sing the chorus of a cafe-chantant ditty. Her music was a raucous discord, heavy and mingled with a vulgar whine like the strangled snore of a drunkard.

"All right! All right!" cried she at last, bursting into coarse laughter, and then, waxing familiar, she knit up a little talk with us

'Not one of 'em can drink as much as me,' she boasted. "A bottle of brandy on top of a dozen beers—why, that's nothin'! I'm not afraid; I never feel it. I know girls that get pinched every evening, full as ticks; but I can walk as straight as a string every time I leave a place like this. Huh! The poison's nothin' to me!

'But don't you go an' think I drink because I like it! Well, I guess not. I don't like beer, nor brandy, no, nor absinthe, neither; and there's times when I'd give I don't know what just to swallow a glass o' pure water to cool my throat and freshen up my stomach. If I drink it ain't to be amusin' neither. It's biz that's all, I give what's bought and no more. Have I got to be jolly? Have I got to crack jokes an' make 'em laugh besides? Well, I guess not! Do they think they're giving me a good time? No, sir! And if I've got the trick of loadin' up on 3-cent stuff, there's another reason, and it ain't nobody's funeral neither!"

She spoke in a low voice, now, as though, frightened with sad thoughts, then, turning half aside, she took her head between her great fat hands and bent it left and right, rocking her forehead as one rocks a sick child. At length, without our having questioned her, she went on, still looking away:

"Yes, there's another reason. If you want to know. I'll tell you, but let me explain one thing first, that it ain't no picnic, this life I'm up against, day an' night an' all the time. It's a k'nd of amusement I could get along without, all right, all right. It was mighty rough, at first. When I began walkin' the streets, good Lord! I wanted to jump out o' the window, for a while. But what the devil! You've got to eat, anyhow. When you get down where I am, there's no way to get up. My, but the gutter mud's sticky, though! So then, I got used to it, and little by little. If I had money, lots o' money, and a house and all—why I wouldn't know what to do Guess I'd feel queer, not bein' wet by the rain, spattered with mud, blowed about by wind, hustled by swells an' cops. All told, I've picked my choice, an' if it's that way so much the worse. That's the way things is, anyhow.

"But there's one thing I never can get used to. I've got to speak to folks, ain't I? Well every time I speak—I can't help feelin' my heart break, just like I was a-goin' to die. I have a terrible time not to cry out all the tears that's in me. Oh, it's not 'cause I'm ashamed—I ain't no such fool. It's just because o' my voice.

"You see, when I'm good an' rested, my voice ain't hard an' thick, same as now. It's just the opposite, and mighty sweet, almost as pure as it once used to be, when I was a little girl at home in the country. That old voice of mine kills me. I recognize it, and it tells me over again the things I used to say. I remember the house, my father an' mother, an' the little sisters—the ones that didn't come to the city, but stayed home an' got married. And then it makes me think o' the little times I used to have with the blacksmith's son—a handsome feller he was, yet, indeed who used to kiss me good an' squeeze me in his two arms, for fair, an' I loved him, too. Oh, it makes me crazy to talk, now with the same voice I used to say 'Good morning' to my mother, or promise that boy I'd never leave him. I try to speak easy so as not to hear or else to laugh out loud when I talk, but it ain't no good. I can hear it just the same, that voice o' mine. I hide my face in my hands an' move on, afraid of hearin' it."

With a sob, her eyes full of tears, the miserable slum girl broke off.

About us, nobody was paying any attention to her despair; doubtless the people thought her drunk.

At last she added, slowly,

"That's why I drink as much as I can hold. Absinthe makes you hoarse and so does gin. After drinkin' my voice ain't got the same sound that it had before at all. So, by swallowin' all sorts of things to burn out my throat and dry it up, I'm hopin some o' these days I won't hear my other voice at all, on the street—that other voice o' mine that said 'Good night' to my mother, and to' dmy first sweetheart I loved him with all my heart."

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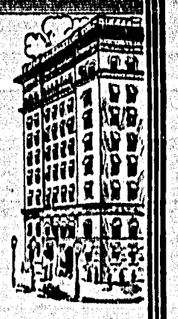

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J. W. BENNETT, Editor.

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THE BUBBLING OF THE CAULDRON

THE threatened suspension of work beginning next Monday of all the trades in the city of Vancouver is symptomatic of labor's growing pains prevalent throughout the industrial world.

Look where we may—in monarchical England, republican France, military autocratic Germany, barbarious Mexico, Trust controlled $dom, phlegmatic Denmark, archaic China—we find striking evidence of the bitter struggle engaged in between the buyers and sellers of the most important of industrialism's essential commodity viz—Labor power.

The days of individual bargaining, contemporaneous with the handwork period of history at which time it was impossible to be otherwise, have for all practical purposes passed away and any attempt to revert to them is certain to create anarchy with all of the evils that follow in its wake.

When the individual factory came into existence with it as a corollary came the craft union movement and despite opposition and repeated setbacks finally flourished so wonderfuly that consequent upon the division existing among the employing class it made such progress until about 1888, one may say that the Golden Era of Trade Unionism was reached.

This state of affairs naturally stimulated the employers to take such measures as would best conserve their interests and by associated effort successfully combat what they deemed the unreasonable demands of the working class.

The balance of power, so to speak, swung over to the masters' side and victory perched upon their standard as instanced by the defeat of the Knights of Labor movement, the A. R. U. in the United States, the U. B. R. E. in Canada, and the more recent collapse of the railroad strike in France. These repeated failures (if such they may be termed) taught valuable lessons, forcing upon the members of craft organizations the imperative necessity of adopting more effective methods of resistance, hence the merging of men employed in one industry into a compact body to the end that they could make a better bargain in the disposal of their physical and mental energy. The constantly increasing growth of the widening sphere of influence of industrial unionism connotes this fact.

However, there still remains a large number of men with the memories of previous successful conflicts uppermost in their minds blinded to the reality that the "world do move" and likewise hypnotised by the sophisms of the leaders, (!) strong in their conceit of "sanity and conservatism" loth to relinquish the reins and fruits of office who stubbornly persist in their advocacy of what was good enough for grandfather is good enough for me fallacy with such limpet clinging tenacity that only the club of economic pressure will cause them to change views on the subject.

This steadfast adherence to a waning policy has been productive of some ridiculous incongruities that must have been a source of merriment to those members of the master class endowed with an ordinary quota of the sense of humor.

The inviolability of a contract became such an obsession that the curious spectacle has been and is by no means uncommon of members of one organization ever ready to wreak summary castigation upon any individual who would dare to replace them when on strike, working complacently with those scabbing upon their colleagues in another department.

In order to illustrate the situation more clearly will tear a leaf from the book of personal experience. There was a railroad strike on (never mind what company) of the members of the B. and R. T. (Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen), scabs had been obtained and the other union men of the motive department, although it must be confessed with a certain amount of reluctance and bad grace, faithful to the terms of their sacred contracts which all had nearly a year to run, were working steadily in the discharge of their duties flattering themselves that they were staunch and true union men and would have bitterly resented any criticism even hinting otherwise. A car of merchandise was picked up at a wayside station from a spur or siding and the renegade brakesman had given the high sign to the engineer to back up, this was done with such a vehement jerk that the unfortunate man's hand was pinned between the drawheads. He uttered a yell of agony, when the man at the throttle jumped down from his cab and noting what had happened shouted to the imprisoned victim: "It serves you right, you —— scab!" then returning without haste to his post, released the man whose hand was rendered permanently useless by the accident. What was the moral difference between these two individuals? We think it would require a telescope with a lens as powerful as the one in Lick's Observatory to detect it, it was merely a distinction—one was doing directly what what the other was doing indirectly—i. e., aiding the railroad company in its efforts to resist the concessions requested. Employers alive to their own interests and wise to the significance of "Divide and Rule" by figuratively patting on the back the members of an organization, tickling vanity by complimenting them on their superior intelligence (!) hav not usually experienced any great difficulty in having contracts signed by the various organizations all expiring on different dates.

Slowly the blinkers of retrogression are falling from the eyes of the supporters of craftism with its castes almost as numerous as those of India and now some employers seeing their POWER assailed are loud in their praises of trade autonomy, while vigorously attacking every effort to widen the scope of organization by the merging of men regardless of their craft distinctions into one union but the decadence of the "pure and simple is becoming as noticeable as industrialism is growing.

Many of the more farseeing ones are no longer flirting with the craft organizations, because they recognize they will soon be like the dodo and have now thrown down the glaive of combat and proclaimed the slogan of the open shop.

The Vancouver situation is simply a local emphasis of the above assertions. Perhaps some of the craft organizations working under unexpired contracts may be forbidden by their presidents conformably to constitution to go out on strike. The men may do this at the present juncture, but sooner or later force of circumstances will compel them either to make drastic changes in their laws or else decide that their observance is tantamount to industrial suicide, hence in a struggle where their very existence is jeopardized, adherence to formulas will be ignored.

These world-wide conflicts should convince the most sceptical and dullest of comprehension that there is a wide diversity of interests between buyers and sellers, hence the former will do all they can to purchase in the cheapest market, therefore, divested of all metaphysical blarney about the inalienable rights (!) of the individual, in plain language the open shop spells unit bargaining, a most desirable consummation to be worked for by the buyers, on the other hand, the seller also knowing there is strength in numbers, band together, to obtain for the individual by collective bargaining the best possible price in wages for his wares.

The buyers of this perishable commodity—Labor power—feeling themselves well entrenched, confident of success, start out on their open shop campaign. An evidence of this determination is the declaration in Vancouver by the electrical contractors on the 30th ult. of the plan they propose to adopt hereafter towards the electrical workers. The firms who have agreed to this policy are the Stanton Electric Co., Cope and Son, Mather, Yuill and Co., the Electric Construction Co., Rankin and Charill, Sims, Cruikshank and Co., Hill-Hoffmeister, N. Lang and Co. An illustration that human nature does not change but its manifestations do consequent upon the change in its material interests, among those mentioned are men, who when as workingmen were sellers of labor power, were strong believers in the principle of collective bargaining, and regular dues paying members of their respective craft organizations. They still believe in co-operation by allying themselves with nominal competitors, but decry it in perfect unison when the sellers group themselves together.

These skirmishes between the two contending parties will continue with varying results until the real and only true factors of production and distribution (physical and mental energy applied to natural resources) have the conviction forced upon them that only by collective ownership can the derived factor be eliminated. The mental revolution that must ensue before this is accomplished will pass through the varying intermediary evolutionary processes with speed dependent upon the dissemination of knowledge among those concerned. Each succeeding cycle of the travail of labor marks a nearer approach to the delivery of the proletariat from the bondage of wage slavery with all its concomitant evils.

COLORADO'S CHEAP CONVICTS

THE state of Colorado has discovered that roads can be built much cheaper by convict labor than "free" workers. The convicts are dressed in kharki and look like ordinary workers from which the casual visitor could not distinguish them unless perchance they might as a whole be a little more tidily dressed than the ordinary "free" man who does not enjoy the benefits of paternalism and is forced to sell his labor power in competition with his fellows, but may likewise get a few more cents than the normal figure by throwing his vote into the hopper when he secures his job. Careful figuring shows that 20 per cent is saved, hence it is highly "moral" that these men should be employed at useful labor and by so doing keep them from evil, incidentally, of course, saving the taxpayers of the community a considerable item of expense as against the employment of "free" men. The high cost of living is also overcome because by buying in large quantities on a wholesale basis the cost per man is 36 cents a day and he is reported to be furnished with enough "fuel" to perform the harder work of active labor satisfactorily, in fact in the penitentiary 12 cents a day is the sum spent to keep the ordnary day boarders.

Perish the thought that such an "infamous" state of affairs should be included in the Reciprocity arrangement if consummated, or there will be another block in the wheels of up-to-date progress in B. C. especially as the introduction of convict labor in contradistinction to "free" labor would compel the political parties to look elsewhere for those freeborn individuals whose employment as road builders is, in many cases, dependent upon their ability to deliver the goods at election time.

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Letters To The Editor

The editor is not responsible for articles that are sent in.

Editor, District Ledger:—

Dear Sir,—There is a man making statements about my character which are false and I will give $10 to Gladstone Local if he can prove his words. If not, then as a workingman who believes in fair play he ought to shut up.

GEO. KELLY.

COAL CREEK BY 174

The Coal Creek Football team managed to pull off a draw at Michel last Saturday amidst great excitement.

Coleman will be the visiting team up here on Saturday. The following is the Creek line-up: T. Barnes, goal; P. Hesketh, T. Oakley, backs; J. Sweeny, Wm. Parnell, Barr, halves; Booth, O. Joison, Manning, P. Joison, H. Hartwell, forwards. Reserve, J. Mills. Referee, J. Wilson, Fernie.

Turn out in crowds and boost for the home team.

The board of management of the C. C. L. and A. A. intend holding sports etc., for the children residing in Coal Creek on Coronation day. More particulars later. Subscriptions for the above will be gladly received by the treasurer, Robt. Johnstone.

Miss Hunt, the assistant postmistress left here last week for a trip to Strathmore, Alta.

District Board Member Smith was down at Michel a few days this week on business.

Robt. Spruston and Miss Edith Wright of Michel were visiting friends up here this week.

The third supply of provisions were distributed out up here on Wednesday Mr. Dave Paton, of Fernie, was in charge of the car.

Robt. Ewing and Ed. Caulfield are now rusticating in Cranbrook.

The Barnes' Circus drew quite a crowd of Creekites to Fernie on Tuesday.

The musical service given in the Methodist Church on Tuesday evening was very much enjoyed by the congregation. The Rev. E. L. Best, the late pastor, left on Wednesday morning for Kimberley to take up his new duties.

The first concert given by the C. C. Male Voice Choir in the Club Hall last Monday evening was a decided success, every item being greatly appreciated by a fairly good attendance. Mr. Jno. Shanks acted as chairman and in a few opening remarks stated that this choir had started just for the purpose of giving entertainments about every two weeks to give a little enjoyment to the women and children up here. The following is the program of the first effort: Selection from the Bohemian Girl, Mr. C. Percy; chorus, by Choir, In the Evening by the Moonlight; Chairman's remarks; chorus, by choir, Come Where the Lilies Bloom; song, Eileen Aroon, J. McMillon; comic song, They Found Me, Robt. Billsboro; song, Toilers, G. Smith; song, Island of Dream, Robt. Samson; descriptive song, That's How He Shows His Love, W. R. Puckey (encore), song, Just as You Are, Dan Oliver; song, Anchored, Percy Hesketh; chorus, by choir, Comrades in Arms; song, Mary of Argyle, Robt. Samson; song, Asleep in the Deep, W. Birkett; comic song, Encore One Polka, W. R. Puckey (encore); duet, Sweet Adeline, Geo. Smith and Joe McMillon; song, The Admiral's Broom, P. Hesketh; comic song, The One Legged Family, R. Billsboro (encore); pianoforte sketch, C. Percy (encore); song, Good Bye, Sweetheart, D. Oliver; song, Sailor Boy, Joe McMillon; final, God Save the King, choir. Mr. C. Percy, conductor. The choir deserves every encouragement for providing these interesting concerts.

Mr. W. R. Wilson paid a short visit up here last Saturday afternoon.

Mr. Tudhope, who for the last few months has had charge of the C. N. P. Coal Co. warehouse up here, moved to Fernie last week to take up a similar position with Mr. Quail.

Mr. H. Ross, the manager of the Trites-Wood Co. store up here is away on a two weeks' vacation visiting Winnipeg.

Mr. Cecil G. Hannan, from Walsh, Ontario, will commence his duties at the Methodist Church on Sunday next June 4th, holding services both in the morning and evening. This gentleman succeeds Mr. E. L. Best transferred to Kimberly, 19 miles north of Cranbrook.

The peasant who digs the earth performs a kind of labor in appearance more modest, but just as necessary useful and meritorious as that of the the workman who builds a locomotive, of the mechanical engineer who improves it or of the savant who strives to extend the bounds of human knowledge in his study or laboratory.

The one essential thing is that all the members of society work just as in the individual organism all the cells perform their different functions, or less modest in appearance. For example the nerve cells, the bone cells or the muscular cells—but all biological functions or sorts of labor, equally useful and necessary to the life of the organism as a whole—Enrico Ferri.

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Haraware J. D. QUAIL Furniture

"SALADA"

News of The District Camps

COLEMAN NOTES BY 22

Coleman vs. Frank

Frank won the toss and at once commenced to press, which resulted in a corner. After the goal kick Coleman secured the ball and some fine passing followed, Holmes putting in a fine shot from the goal line, which meant first blood for Coleman. Some fine play was then witnessed in mid-field, neither side having the advantage, the backs put in some grand long kicks, McQueen being the star. To show the advantage that Coleman had me might mention that McDonald never handled the ball in the first half, and only twice in the second. Roughead, Hunter and Fraser certainly played a fine game. There was also a great improvement in the forward line. Jenkins, though fleet of foot is weak in the shooting part; Barnes and Killock played a fine combination game. Frank have to be thankful for a good back, for had it not been for him the score would have been 5 goals, as the goalkeeper was too anxious to be in the forward line.

It would be better if the referee remembered that his decision is final, not the bystanders. Comments were fast and furious on the field. The game finished—Coleman, 1; Frank, nil.

The Coronation Sports promise to be a great hit as the committee are working like slaves—which will do them good.

The Eagles dance was a huge success last Friday, a large number of patrons asked if it could be continued weekly instead of fortnightly, which was granted.

The bridge and road in Fourth St. is now completed, making a great improvement.

It is reported that the Coleman miner has ceased to exist owing to slack time. (Alas, too true!)

Owing to the increase of business the Eastern Township Bank have extended their premises by adding one more room. E. Disney has the contract.

Goodeve Hardware Store have opened their new premises.

Mrs. W. Graham has returned to the lakes having spent a good time with her old friends.

Ike Thomas is now out of the hospital, the bullet has not been taken out owing to the fact that no X rays being procurable. He reports that he has no pain, nor does he feel anything the matter. We hope he will remain so.

Coleman journey to Bellevue on Saturday, kick off 4 p.m. The Local leaves 11.30; return 6.30 Bellevue—lots of time to see a good game as Bellevue intend to win, so does Coleman. The last game was a draw—we hope it will also draw a crowd to see the tussle.

HOSMER NOTES.
By "Kritik."

Mrs. Musgrove, accompanied by her sons, Jack and Edward, left on Monday for Portland, Oregon, where they will spend two months visiting Mrs. Musgrove's mother, Mrs. Stone. They will be in time to witness one of the West's greatest exhibitions, the Rose Carnival, which takes place on Monday, June 3rd.

Mons. Severiux killed a silver tip she bear and captured her three cubs on Friday last and disposed of two of them for a good figure to the Al. G Barnes Circus.

Saturday visitors to Fernie were Mrs Spencer and Sarah, Mrs. Cole and Miss Mcgregor.

Jerry Shanahan visited the city by the lake—Nelson—last week and spent several very enjoyable days there.

Visitors from Fernie Saturday and Sunday: Mr. ands Mrs. Sam Rouleau and Mrs. Lake.

Mr. James Falkner and Miss McLaughlin drove over from Fernie Sunday last and were the guests of Mr. Sam Hartley.

Mr. and Mrs. Oleson and Mr. Armstrong of West Fernie spent Sunday at camp No. 3.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred G. Waters spent several days in Pincher Creek last week visiting friends.

Mrs. Musgrove met with a peculiar and painful accident Thursday week. While playing with her son Harold she had the misfortune to break a finger.

The social held in the Oddfellows' Hall on Friday last by the ladies of the Presbyterian Church was a complete success in every way—socially, financially and numerically.

Twelve children of the Catholic Church received First Communion Sunday last when a very impressive sermon suitable to the occasion was preached. The holy edifice was beautifully decorated with flowers and evergreens and the sweet faces of the communicants wearing white vells and wreath crowns made a picture that will be long remembered by those present. An unfortunate accident happened, but fortunately it was not attended with very serious results, although it was decidedly painful for the little victim. One of the girls while holding a candle allowed the flame to come too close to her veil and in a flash the filmsy material caught fire, scorching the child's face and singeing her hair. We are pleased to state that the burns were only superficial.

Mr. Moran has returned from Invermere and once again taken up his duties at the Pacific Hotel.

Mr. Adolphe Cyr, of Pincher Creek, brought in a large bunch of horses last week to be used at the Elk Lumber Company at their camp.

Mr. Frank Owen left for Lille, Alta., a few days ago to attend to matters of a private character which we hope may be satisfactorily adjusted and the suspense ended.

Misses Boone and Ritchie made a business trip to Fernie Monday.

T. Roberts, the new incumbent of the Methodist Chuch, arrived on Sunday to take up his station here vice Mr. Epy who has been called to Creston.

Mr. B. F. Lester, our former local newspaperman dropped into town Tuesday and was warmly greeted by his many friends who all wish him success in his new field of activity in Alberta's captal city.

Mrs. Dunbar's aunt, Miss Dyson arrived from England on Saturday on a visit to her niece.

So large a number were anxious to attend Barnes' Circus in Fernie on Tuesday that the train did not wait long enough to allow them to board it and some, we believe, were disappointed. There were nearly 100 tickets sold.

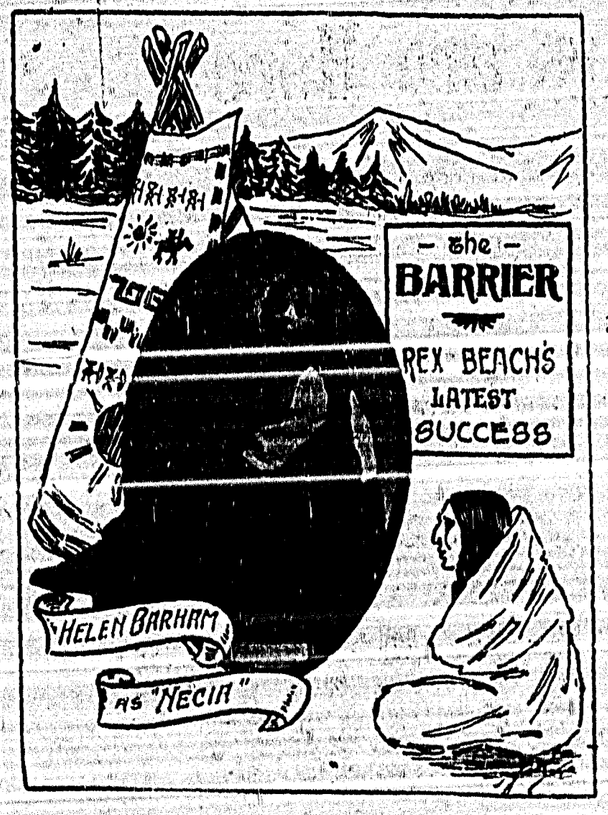
Mr. and Mrs. Waters, accompanied by their children, are staying at the Napanee in Fernie in order to enjoy the many galeties that the the feature of enjoyment this week.

Mr. Sam Snell is taking a well-earned vacation visiting the sights of Oleson, and we understand has already been seen in conversation with the Mayor of that thriving burg, leading to the supposition that he is possibly thinking of purchasing town lots.

Little Louie Jarvis is very much improved.

The famous Water menagerie has recently added a huge specimen of Wisconsin's symbolic animal—the badger—and a pair of blue geese.

Mrs. James Madison, sister of Mr. Lawson arrived from England after a very disagreeable experience owing to her child having contracted measles and compelled her to be quarantined for two weeks in Quebec.



MICHEL NEWS
By "Krimea."

On Saturday last Michel Football Club played their second league match when Coal Creek were the visitors. The fixture was an attractive one, and this, together with the fact that keen rivalry has been established between the clubs, was the means of drawing a large crowd to witness the game.

Michel were without the services of the Rev. George Millett, their crack centre, T. Jackson taking up the position.

Michel—J Raynor, goal; Sam Morris and H. Evans, backs; Jack Ferguson (capt.), W. Jenkins, J. Watson, halfbacks; Tom McGovern, F. Beddington, Tom Jackson, Harry Brown, S. Weaver, forwards.

Coal Creek—T. Barnes (capt.), goal; T. Oakley, Percy Hesketh, backs; J. Sweeny, W. Parnell, J. Barr, halfbacks; Booth, O. Jolson, Ashcroft, Pete Jolson, Hartwell, forwards.

Referee: James Wilson, Fernie.

Michel won the toss. Ashcroft kicked off towards New Town and soon had the forwards in motion, Hartwell receiving, but was not allowed to go far, Ferguson soon had the measure of his man and sent along to Sam Weaver, the latter dashed in and scored a fine goal, but was ruled off-side. After this Michel team kept up the attack strongly, but Barnes, the visitor's custodian, was safe. Coal Creek were kept busy defending for the best part of the first half, but the attempts of the Michel forwards were like a child trying to break into a burglar-proof safe. Only once were they like scoring, and that was when Jim Watson, the left half, sent in a long drive which hit the cross bar, and from the rebound Jackson shot wide. From the goal kick Coal Creek forwards got away on the left for the first time after 30 minutes' play, Pete Jolson finding the net, it was a soft point, a gentle kick only being needed to put the ball in a gaping net, which Raynor whose mistake it was, had left in an attempt to gather a shot from Hartwell. Michel tried had to equalize, but could not get passed Barnes, who was seen at his best between the sticks.

Half-time—Coal Creek, 1; Michel, nil.

Michel set to work in real earnest on the restart, and a shot from Beddington tested Barnes. Before Coal Creek could get clear, they were again called upon to defend. Brown putting a dropping shot in, and Barnes, in trying to clear it, slipped and fell; Jackson dashed between the backs, headed into the net and equalized amid wild enthusiasm. The Creek after this got away on the left, but Hartwell shot wide. From the goal kick Brown received and gave a fine opening to Jackson, who found the net again, only to be pulled up for off-sides, and the free kick gave the Creek boys relief. Ashcroft and O. Jolson came into prominence with a delightful burst that troubled the home defence and a corner was forced. Hartwell took the kick and placed it right across the goal mouth, Raynor putting it over the bar giving; then another corner, this time Moore got it safely away, and once more the homesters took up the aggressive. Beddington shot, hitting the cross-bar, and from the rebound Jackson once more found the net, giving Michel the lead. The Michel half-backs were playing a fine game and it looked like Michel would keep the lead they had obtained, but a few minutes from time H. Evans through a miskick let Booth in on the right wing, the latter centering the ball, Raynor running out of his goal and trying to get the ball away when two of the defenders were ready to clear, and the visitor's left wing dashed in and shot into an open goal, equalizing in the last minute.

Final score—Michel, 2, Coal Creek, 2.

The F. O. E. gave a banquet at the Great Northern Hotel last Thursday night in honor of Mr. G. B. Steadman Past Worthy President. About fifty members being present to pay their respects to the guest. After justice had been done to an excellent repast which had been provided for by Mr. and Mrs. Alex. McCool, the following toast list was satisfactorily rendered: "The guest of the evening" was proposed by the chairman, and heartily responded to by all. Then came the toast "To our Host and Hostess" which judging by the way it was responded to showed that every one appreciated the way in which they had catered to the wants of those present. The following musical program was then gone through:

Song, W. Ridley, In the Shadow of the Pines; song, J. Barnes, On the Road of Life; song, J. Oakley, Firemen's Dream; song J. Massotti, Italian song; song, T. Parsons, Wont You Buy My Pretty Flowers; speech, Sid Bert, Why I am an Eagle; song, W. Savage, Theres' Nothing Too Good for the Irish; song, Alex. Almond, Don't Go Down the Mine, Daddy; song, Dan Howcroft, Will You Come to Canada; song, J. Morris, Ring Down the Curtain; comic song, J. Barnes, Shaking Me Up and Down.

After the program, which had been thoroughly enjoyed by everyone, the President, Mr. J. Marsh, on behalf of Aerie No. 1864, presented Mr. G. B. Steadman with a Past Worthy President's Jewel. The President in making the gift said that it gave him much pleasure in doing so, knowing that it carried with it the good wishes and esteem of every member of the Aerie. Mr. Steadman, in reply, said that he thanked them all for their kindness and appreciated the manner and present made him. While in office he had only tried to do what every good Eagle should do, that was to attend meetings regularly. He regretted very much that there were those who joined solely for the benefits derived from the order, this was not right, it was up to every member to attend meetings and make the order a success.

After having sung, For He's a Jolly Good Fellow, one of the most enjoyable evenings ever spent came to a close.

District President Wm. Powell and International Board Member M. Purcell, and Wm. Diamond, addressed a large and attentive meeting of Michel slaves on Monday afternoon, the 29th. The result was that after hearing the above gentleman, a more determined spirit prevails amongst them.

A hard time ball and supper was held in Lockhart's Hall on Monday night, there being 60 couples present. Music was provided by Messrs. Almond Littler and Bastain. Thanks are due to those who gave their aid in the making of so enjoyable a time, also to Mr. Joe Hallsall, better known as "Cigarette Joe," for being the instigator thereof.

We are sorry to learn that Wm. Ridley had to shoot his famous bitch Nell. It had been run over in such a manner as to make recovery impossible.

Mark Branch, J. Graham and Tom Martin are visitors here from Coal Creek.

We learn that the reason why Geo. Millett did not play for Michel against Coal Creek was that he was attending a birthday party of Nat Evans, of Corbin. If Nat's parties are like they used to be it is quite possible that George won't be able to play against Frank on the 10th. Look out Nat, or the club will descend on you. "Happy returns!"

ETCHINGS

Are Socialists Sufficiently Criminal?

Mr. Davey Goldstein, our only escaped Socialist, has been in these parts againg shocking his unsophisticated ready hearers with a recital of the personal shortcomings of the Socialists. He has managed to round up about a score of what he believes to be transgressions committed by these Socialists, and he thunders them forth as horrible examples of what Socialists are, and as warnings to his hearers as to what they may expect from Socialists. In an organization the size of the Socialist party, and with the large number of voters and sympathizers the party has, it is rather a slim list Davery has scraped together, but being one of the pure persons himself to whom all things not financially contributory to him are impure, he unhesitatingly casts not only the first stone, but he has ready a little pile of other stones to cast.

The lynx-eyed Davery has detected a few spots he considers reprehensible and he magnifies them, and points to them with index finger trembling in horror. But for all his willingness he haos onl yao few cases. Out of the tens of thousands of Socialists he has only a few cases. Out of fitted his plan of shocking his fellow religionists. Actually considering his list and even accepting his distortions and exaggerations, the only possible conclusion is that Socialists are a dreadfully commonplace lot of individuals and so law-abiding that it is only a dull case that can be made against them.

Davery is being exploited by, or is exploiting—for he knows how to make money out of his righteous indignation—a German Catholic organization. The members evidently approve of his methods, or else they find them profitable. However, if his methods are right it is easy to turn them on the Catholic Church, and through the sins and the crimes of persons who are or claim to be members of the church, bring a wholesale indictment against it. But what a howl there would be if any organization should pursue this method! Suppose the following items, from last weeks news, were handled in the way Davery employs:

"Magistrate Tighe, well known Catholic, commits suicide."

"Dan O'Reilly, well known Catholic lawyer found guilty of receiving stolen property and of being the confederate of thieves.

"Frank Heidmann, well known German Catholic, executed for the atrocious murder of a little girl.

Any such method would be considered so dastardly that it would arouse general reprobation.—N. Y. Call.

Yet it is precisely what Davery Goldstein is doing. It is precisely through such methods that he makes a fat living. The shame and disgrace that attach to the organization that hires him to do it are so deep, so black, that they actually amount to premeditated, wholesale bearing of false witness against their neighbors.

The attention of the Catholic papers and the Catholic priests is therefore directed to this matter. They have been loud in their protests against the escaped nun and reformed priest. Yet without hesitation they use these same methods. It is equivalent to setting the seal of approval on the use of poisoned weapons.

Then that intelligence which the church is supposed to possess is decidedly brought into question on considering the absurdity of the charges brought by Davery. If ever a gold brick was sold and resold to a gullible public it is in this instance. When the total of his charges is found, those who have listened would actually be forced to the conclusion that the Socialists must be a crowd of saints if with their numbers, a willing and unscruplous man cannot find any more instances of shortcomings. With all their experience in human depravity, surely the pastors should be impressed by the meagreness of the tale Davery has to relate.

Socialists do not seem nearly criminal enough to suit their neighbors. That is the reason charges have to be invented against them.

CORBIN NOTES
By "Sweet 16."

Windy Williams, of Michel, has turned up in Corbin in his new role of Fire Warden.

Nota bene—The B. C. Government always rewards its faithful supporters.

Lewis Stockett, President of the Western Coal Operators' Association, visited Corbin this week.

Quite a few of the boys have been out bear hunting during the past week and although Mr. James Ryan, of the Flathead Trading Co., reports a roaring trade in ammunition, we have seen no bear meat so far. What's the use of havng a Big Game club here anyway.

Mr. Cummings, Provincial Surveyor, accompanied by that famous hunter George Lucks, left for the Flathead on Wednesday morning. Judging by the amount of ammunition George carried the strikers should be well supplied with bear meat when he returns. We don't think.

Nat Evans celebrated his birthday last Friday by giving a pink tea. The host was tastefully attired in a brown shirt and blue pants and a delicate navy silk round his swan like neck. Hobo Jones and Jack Twigg assisted in pouring the tea. A very pleasant little time was had, and the exhilarating effects of the tea was manifest in the countenances of the guests.

Dick Jones has returned greatly improved in health by his sojourn at Blairmore Sanatorium.

The coal company are doing quite a lot of prospecting around their new seam with a view to getting the steam shovels started at an early date.

A supper and dance was gived by Mr. James Wade last Saturday night on the occasion of his leaving to take up a position at Arrowhead. Jim will be greatly missed on account of his genial disposition, and we hope he will find more scope in his new sphere for his undoubted executive ability. Mr. Paxton, from Hillcrest, is now cutting the pork chops.

The boys are taking advantage of the idle time to clear a piece of land for recreation purposes. The Coal company granted the land and kindly gave them the use of two teams of horses to assist in the work. If things go all right we will soon have both a baseball and a football club here.

Billy ought to make some headway now that he has a clear field. Go in and win, Billy.

'Twas a Famous Victory

How have the mighty fallen; tell it not in Spokane; publish it not in the New York press lest the All American Baseball team of Corbin take to the tall timbers.

A baseball match was played here on Tuesday night between the British and Americans, in which the Americans were beaten to a finish by a score 19—14. The only redeeming features of the American's play was the excellent catching by Tony Palloto and the almost superhuman outfield work and base running performed by J. R. Hill. Timed by 3 stop-watches, Mr. Hill covered the distance between 2nd and 3rd base in the incredible time of 29 3-4 seconds or one yard inside even time. Jim Ryan, the American captain, has serious intentions of importing a few of the Chicago White Sox to even up matters.

INFORMATION WANTED

Anyone knowing the whereabouts of one John Foster, who left his home in Wigan, England, about eight years ago please notify Chas. Martin, Pres. No. 201 and full particulars will be sent to him.

His brother was killed in the explosion at Bolton, England, 26th of Dec. 1910, and his father died the same day.

Yours very truly
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The Ledger for your Job Work

Cutting Down the Coal Bill

A wagon load of Black Magic rumbles slowly along and unimaginative passers-by do not even turn their heads They would see in it merely a load of coals as if that lessened the wonder of the fact that each lump contains a force potent enough, if released, to raise its weight a sheer two thousand miles above the earth's surface against the pull of gravitation. Or to put it in another way, a lump of one pound, smalled than a man's fist, would equal the full day's work of a heavy draught horse, or would do as much work in one minute as could twenty-six hundred strong men, or would move a heavy train of eight cars including sleepers a distance of 880 feet.

Even as it is, the trolley cars are whizzing past with their tons of human freight, and, tracing back the power which propels them, it is found at last in the lumps of coal burning beneath the boilers of the power house. The electric lights begin to twinkle and each successive globe or bulb tells its individual tale of similar lumps. So do the gas lights, although the process is dissimlar, while the heat of the radiators and the speed of the elevators lie also in that wagonload.

Nor is this half the story. The dinner anticipated by each of the busy passers-by is now cooking upon stoves which feed from such a wagon, their clothes were woven upon power looms dependent upon it. The very coins in their pockets through it were smelted and stamped. While by far the greater part of all the objects about them were possible by it. It is hardly too much, therefore, to say that comfort prosperity, material civilization and, in a sense life itself are locked up within that wagon-load, as witness the public dismay which attended the progress of the great coal strike—

But now comes a curious fact. This substance of infinite importance, affecting the daily life of every man, woman and child in the United States, is bought with less intelligence by its consumers than is almost any other commodity of commerce. Can a man be imagined buying stocks without inquiring what the stocks represent, or a housekeeper ordering a basketful of groceries and not seeking to learn the contents of the basket? Yet something rather like this takes place when the average buyer exchanges his cash for a ton of coal. Coal is coal he thinks—and sometimes it isn't!

Ten or twelve years ago the government commenced to investigate facts which had long been known to science and soon dry chemical formulas, translated into the popular language of dollars and cents took on new life and interest. The government accordingly ceased buying coal as coal and began to buy it as heat. Next some concerns in Baltimore followed suit and from these the idea spread to certain large consumers in New York, Chicago and other cities. But ideas spread slowly against human inertia. Chicago has indeed applied it to a large proportion of her pints, but other cities are more backward and the individual householder has not in general even heard of such a thing. Buying coal as heat means buying coal upon analysis which is an utterly foreign thought to ninety-nine out of a hundred citizens, and yet it probably wants but popular education upon the subject for public opinion to bring about "pure fuel' legislation as was recently the case in the "pure food" law.

But to return to the wagon and its contents—the average buyer, hoping that the dealer may not have shortened the weight more than the anticipated eight to ten per cent. pays his bill with characteristic meekness. He realizes that much of the bulk and weight which go into his fire come away again in the shape of ashes and clinkers, but this occasions no surprise. It also wa santicipated. It needs must be. However, commercial science now steps in with a contradiction of this statement. It does not need to be in any such proportions as have hitherto obtained, unless the buyer pays the lower price of an inferior grade. How is he to discriminate? Not by the appearance for even an expert can judge very little by eye alone. Here are two specimens of common anthracite differing little in looks, and yet one of them contains forty-one per cent of ash and the other but nine per cent—to state an extreme case. In other words the latter contains 1820 pounds of combustible fuel to every ton and the former but 1180 pounds Here then are two grades sold at the same price, looking substantially alike, yet one of them exceeding the other in full value by more than fifty per cent. Furthermore, the poorer coal produces four and one-half times the bulk in ashes of the better, meaning corresponding trouble and expense in handling, together with greater wear upon the fire-grate and a more frequent stoking of the fire. To say that a consumer must pay the same price for both grades seems almost as absurd as for him to pay a uniform price per acre for land without reference to its location or character, and yet while the example cited is extreme, it and its lesser variations are the every day facts of the ocal trade. How then is he to discriminate? By scientific tests. Samples are taken from various parts of the coal pile, heaped together, mixed and "quartered,' i.e., separated in four divisions by a shovel drawn in one direction and then a cross direction. One of these quarters is again mixed and again quartered until a small but representative sample of the entire pile is secured, which is thereupon thoroughly pulverized.

In this condition a quart jar full of black flour which may stand for many tons of coal, passes beneath the determining fingers of science. First a carefully measured portion is placed in a small crucible over a powerful Bunsen flame and is speedily reduced to a pinch of ash, pearl gray, golden brown, canary yellow, terra cotta or any of the delicate inter shades which speak to the experienced eye of the varying conditions attending the evolution of coal beds from the vegetation of an infinitely remote period.

The ash-content thus determined in quantity and character, it is carefully tabulated, indexed and field away in a cabinet for future comparison with other coal from the same source. Meanwhile the calorimeter comes into use. It is not sufficient to learn the degree of incombustible material or ash for the positive heating ability of the combustible portion is a still more vital point, together with the detection of sulphur or other impurities.

These two facts made matters of record the secret of the coal pile is read, no very complicated matter scientifically considered, although one requiring experience, equipment and exquisite care, for a small error multiplied by tons soon becomes a serious matter.

It is, of course, inevitable that there should be a certain percentage of ash due to the conditions existing in the formation of the coal beds. It is also to be expected that this percentage should vary materially in different veins, but it is highly illogical and absurdly bad business for the consumer to pay as much for the poor grade as for the choice. Coal is to-day as already stated, part of the production cost not only of food, heat, light and transportation, but also of most manufactured articles. Cheaper coal means cheaper living at a hundred points. The difference between a successful business and an unsuccessful business may often lie in the coal bill and a manufacturer who has studied the problems of labor, of improved machinery office systems, etc., often partially realizes this to the extent of experimenting with various combustion devices, without attacking the still more vital question of the coal itself.

Mr. W. S. Gould, New York, a leading authority on the subject, in conversation with the writer cited the instance of one large plant which decided to secure a laboratory test of its fuel and discovered that it ran as high as forty-one per cent of incombustibles. Complaint was made to the dealer, who repeated the complaint to the mine operator and the result was seen in the next shipment tested, the proportion of ash being reduced to fifteen per cent. at which point it has been kept by frequent tests ever since. As the plant in question consumes about 70,000 tons a year such a saving of twenty-six per cent in fuel value has been equal to a total of 18,200 tons, which at $2.50 a ton would amount to $45,000.

A saving of $45,000 in a single year in a single commodity is hardly negligible in any plant. The delinquency in this case was an exceptional one, but it is claimed that any consumer should be able to save at least ten per cent on the commercial run of coal when purchased upon the heat basis.

The need for such remedy is partly chargeable to the carelessness on the part of the operator and dealer, which the unsuspecting credulity of the purchaser is apt to encourage, and partly to a deliberate purpose to take an extra profit. Coal men not uncommonly work in from ten per cent to twenty per cent of slate and one of them naively entered the claim that fourteen per cent was allowable. Had his customer paid fourteen per cent of the coal bill with counterfeit money his view of privilege might have changed, for slate is not an inherent part of coal ash and many be mechanically separated at the mine. Moreover, it clogs the combustion and causes clinkers which often contain large lumps of unconsumed carbon at their centres. Occasionally there are submitted great, gray clinkers resembling pig iron which upon being broken open porve to be little more than unburned coal covered with a hard glaze from improper combustion. Such trickery often results in a much greater loss of heat to the consumer than merely the proportion of adulterant, to say nothing of the harmful effect upon the furnace, and the added labor of stoking and ash handling. With scientific scrutiny of the fuel purchases it is probable that the coal trade would be inspired with the conception of honesty as the best policy quite as strikingly as have the food packers since recent legislation upon the subject.

In many instances too, their own more immediate interests would be conserved for they are by no means to be classed sweepingly as dishonest. One recent incident will illustrate. A dealer supplied upon strict specification a certain coal which had an exceptional reputation for heating quality and freedom from sulphur. Almost immediately the plant discovered such difficulties in its fires that a sample was sent for laboratory test and found to contain an unusual percentage of sulphur. Investigation showed that the mine had unknowingly run into a vein carrying this excess of sulphur, obviously a desirable fact for the operator of a high grade mine, with its reputation at stake to learn of. In another case a test proved that inferior coal had unwittingly been substituted for another famous product and again a reputation was saved through prompt knowledge. In both of these cases visual inspection was valueless since it is a proved fact that rusty, unprepossessing lumps may—or may not, as the case may be—contain a higher value than the shining jewel-like pieces of other runs.

All of the foregoing refers, of course, more especially to the larger consumers, for the average householder with his purchase of from five to twenty-five tons per year could hardly afford the relative expense of frequen ttests. And yet there is no more reason ethically considered, why he compelled to pay a high price for an impure commodity than in the case of the plants. The remedy must come as most remedies do, through education, popular demand, the joint action of communities and perhaps ultimate legislation, unless the coal trade is wise enough to render such action unnecessary by complying in advance with a clear public right—the right to know what it is buying. In other words, as a newspaper recently said, it should be made "a finable offence to sell coal without an analysis label or with a false one."—Technical World Magazine.

The darkest corner in Austria has been invaded by Socialism. There is more illiteracy, religious bigotry and superistition and racial hatred in Bukowina than in any other section of Europe. Yet the Socilist party have just elected a member to the Legislature and polled 10,000 votes. They are uniting the Polish, German and Ruthenian and Roumanian nationalities.

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The Globe and Its Proprietary

"The Fly in the Editorial Ointment."

The Toronto Saturday Night has been publishing a series of articles on 'Toronto's Millionaires.' On March 18 last, the subject was the controlling proprietor of the Globe, Robert Jaffray. Co-operators will be interested to know that Robert learnt the grocery trade in Edinburgh. When he reached man's estate he migrated to Canada. In that he was wise. The period was the inception of the great economic awakening of the common people of Scotland. The toiling workers were beginning to realize that they might themselves just as well distribute, by Co-operative effort, the necessaries of life as to allow a small army of unnecessary distributors to tax them for the convenience. The "profits" saved would buy more shoes for little Duncan, better clothing for Angus, and nice dresses for Mary. They would, too, provide the means of a much needed rest and change of air for the 'guid iwfe.' Pianos and better educational opportunities could thereby be furnished for the youth. Workingmen would, too, be able to accumulate something for the inevitable rainy day or sickness in the family and keep the hungry wolf from the door.

Since Robert Jaffray left Edinburgh millions of dollars have been saved by co-operation to the toiling workers of the Scottish capital. If Robert were to return to Edinburgh to-day he would probably find that the grocery trade the great St. Cuthbert's Co-operative Society has not got is not worth having. It not only feeds 200,000 of the citizens of Edinburgh, but it is supported by the best of the population, the thrifty, self-respecting, sober and intelligent section of the working people.

Robert Jaffray, on his arrival in Canada, started on his own account, as a grocer, on Yonge Street, Toronto. He is "shrewd and genial,' so Saturday Night informs us, just the two qualities necessary to the making of the millionaire distributor. "Shrewd" to watch and take advantage of every dollar-making opportunity and "genial" to attract the trade of and to favorably impress the people whose industry made the dollars he now enjoys.

The customers who came into the store for the dozen of eggs or pound of butter did not employ Robert at an equitably assessed remuneration for the value of his services, as in the case of the manager of a Co-operative Store. It is for that reason that successful Co-operative managers never become millionaires. The customer received by the private trade with the smiling countenance and gracious manner is just a subject for "profit." Profits made and saved from "buying cheap and selling dear" (the essence of the business of a private trader) enabled Robert to employ his surplus capital in various enterprises to the profits of which, for Jaffrays advantage, directly or indirectly, the weary toilers on the land and in the mines and factories of the Dominion are daily contributing a considerable portion of the wealth they produce.

The genial Robert is, we are told by Saturday Night, a director of The North American Life Insurance Company, Toronto General Trusts, Dovercourt Land and Securities Company, Central Canada Loan and Savings Co., the old Toronto Incandescent Electric Light Co., the Canadian General Electric Co., the Imperial Bank, the Toronto Board of Trade, the Temiskaming and Northern Ontario Railway and the Crow's Nest Pass Coal Co. where, we may say in passing, a struggle is at this moment on between exploiters and workers to decide how much of the value of the wealth the latter extract from the earth they shall be permitted to retain).

At this point the writer in Saturday Night, notwithstanding his enthusiasm, seems to have got tired of the enumeration of the various channels whereby the genial Robert can, without any appreciable personal effort of his own, attract to himself and enjoy the produce of other people's labor. It concludes the catalogue with the statement, "these and a few others are the things in which Senator Jaffray has become identified as a citizen of Canada."

Our contemporary is good enough to inform a curious and interested world that "no other Senator in Ottawa can pack pork in the old-fashioned way like Robert Jaffray.' Robert has probably other old-fashioned ideas also. One of them, no doubt, is that Co-operators are troublesome and meddlesome people who, in the future, want to do for themselves and their own advantage what the Jaffrays of the past have done to the impoverishment of the workers and the enrichment of the exploiting few.

Human character is not the creation of a moment. It cannot be changed by any violent, volcanic or revolutionary action of the mind. The development of character is as steady and consistent as the development of the physical or intellectual powers of man. It would be as easy for the Ethiopian to change his skin and the leopard his spots as for an octogenarian who has had the trade instincts of a "grocer" and the profit hunting ambitions of a capitalist, developing for a period of sixty years to automatically espouse with honest enthusiasm the cause of the common people in this Co-operative movement. Per contra the habits of mind which forty years service for the good of humanity his fellow-Scot William Maxwell has developed, would make it just as impossible for that distinguished Co-operator in the evening of life to place his far greater executive qualifications at the disposition of the predatory crowd of capitalists.

Now a grocer's shop seems to be a peculiar training for a successful journalist. Journalists, we are told, are born and not made. That was in the "good old times.'

Just as, a century ago, a manufacturer really did do something in the manufacture of the articles he sold, so the owner of the means of production of a great public journal did something in the production of the journal. Time have changed. In both cases the actual producers, including manual and brain workers, are now compelled to respond to the crack of the whip of what is really an authority alien to the industry, the capitalist owner.

We gather from "Saturday Night" that the Toronto Globe is "one of his (Robert Jaffray's) comparatively later concerns." His control is so minute and effective that according to our contemporary 'whenever he is in town he signs ALL cheques.' The hired brain workers of the Globe, naturally cannot exist without those "cheques." The man who signs the cheques is the omnipotent authority in any business. Is it, fellow-co-operator, an unreasonable deduction that the man who signs the cheques of the leader-writers on the Globe staff is just as likely to have a word to say on the subjects upon which they write? Is it not likely that the "hot" and "cold" policy of the Globe towards the Co-operative movement *is an indication of an internal struggle* between on the one hand the man with the retail merchants instincts and who signs the cheques and on the other the professional journalists whose business it is to cause and, in the interests of pure journalism, to reflect public sentiments?

Robert Jaffray is not the only man on the board of the Globe who is in a position to direct the pens of its leader writers. Hugh Blain, another directors, has many thousands of dollars of reasons why he does not like the prospects of Co-operative Bills becoming law, and the great Co-operative movement being developed in this country. The viewpoint of that gentleman is of the "grocer" also, but not of the 'pound of butter' and "dozen of eggs" type of his friend Robert. Blain is of the "wholesale' variety. As the wholesale cost of distribution would, under co-operation, be reduced from 15 to 2½ per cent., the public spirited Hugh really does not see what good could come of the small investor, the poor, innocent workingman, supplying the funds to bring about such a state of affairs. Hugh Brain was recently, and probably is still, president of the wholesale grocers combine of Ontario. That combine effected an arrangement with the retailers and manufacturers whereby no retailer should be allowed to buy direct from the manufacturer. He must be compelled to pay the wholesalers "rake-off' of 15 per cent. whether or not such a service became necessary; the consumer of course ultimately footing the bill.

Still there is another gentleman on the Board of the Globe who has shown considerable interest, of a kind, in the Co-operative movement. Although by training he is a school teacher, he is, by profession a "liberal' politician. We refer to a gentleman with two handles to his name, Hon. Sir George W. Ross.

The Co-operative Bill which passed the people's house by acclamation received its quietus in the Senate by a majority of one vote only. This was through the activity and misrepresentation of Ross, who told the Senate that Co-operative Societies contemplated by the Bill could be incorporated by any five persons in Ontario on the payment of a fee of one dollar, a statement which he did not and could not, when challenged, substantiate. That misrepresentation of fact secured the defeat of the bill. At the time it cost $125 in Government fees to incorporate such societies in Ontario although, thanks to the skill and statesmenship of Hon. J. W. Hanna, the Provincial Secretary, and through the persistent agitation of the Co-operative Union of Canada, they have since been reduced to $10.

The circumstances reviewed in this article demonstrate the truth of the view taken by this journal last month, in its articles on "The Press and the People.' Co-operative societies in production, distribution, housing and finance are being developed all over the world to fight massed capitalism. *In order to preserve the channels of* public opinion pure and undefiled, the insatiable ambitions of capitalism will eventually compel the people to organise the public press on a co-operative basis also.—The Canadian Co-operator.

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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.

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The Week's News for Our Foreign Brothers

Des journaux ont récemment dit que le gouvernement canadien, afin d'encourager ici l'immigration de jeunes filles de Grande-Bretagne, y annonce que les cultivateurs de l'ouest désireux de se marier sont fort nombreux, mais qu'il y a disette de femmes dans cette région. On s'imagine si un tel boniment provoque l'émigration de groupes considérables de jeunes Anglaises, Ecossaises ou Irlandaises vers les provinces de l'ouest.

M. Doherty a voulu savoir aujourd'hui s'il est vrai que le ministere se fait ainsi agent matrimonial. "Cela manquerait de bon gout!" dit-il.

M. Oliver, du ministere de l'Intérieur, est du meme avis. Jamais le gouvernement canadien n'a fait cela, affirme-t-il. Si quelques agents d'immigration agissent de la sorte, il les blamera, mais il n'en connait pas encore. Tout ce qu'ils sont autorisés a dire, c'est que le Canada a besoin de domestiques.

La Chambre, un peu plus tard, parle de nos relations avec le Japon. Du mariage au Japon il y a loin; mais nos députés, une fois en air de travailler, s'attaquent aux sujets les plus disparatés. C'est ainsi que les Communes décident de prolonger de deux ans la clause de la nation la plus favorisée que nos lois accordent aux marchandises japonaises, en vertu de l'ancien traité anglo-japonais, qui expire en juillet prochain, et qui s'applique aussi au Canada. La nouvelle entente anglo-japonaise n'a pas encore reçu l'approbation du Canada, mais les deux pays—Canada et Japon—ont décidé de continuer, de juillet 1911 a juillet 1913, leurs relations commerciales actuelles. La discussion de cette entente spéciale sert de prétexte a une couple de députés de la Colombie Anglaise pour faire de longs discours a ce propos.

M. Rodolphe Lemieux, tandis que le consul japonais est dans la tribune du public, défend contre MM. Burrell et Goodeve, l'immigration japonaise, au disque d'etre décoré bientot de l'ordre du Soleil Levant ou de l'Etoile du Matin Clair.

Il n'y a pas que le Japon a recevoir un traitement de faveur. Le Canadien Nord est aussi privilégié. Le gouvernement,—est-ce l'approche des élections qui le rend aussi soucieux que cela des affaires de ce chemin de fer?—lui témoigne une sollicitude a nulle autre pareille. Il lui promettait hier de garantir le paiement d'un emprunt de trentecinq millions pour parfaire sa voie ferrée, de Port-Arthur a Montréal.

Aujourd'hui, M. Fielding donne avis d'une résolution ou le gouvernement s'engage a garantir jusqu a concurrence de trois millions cent cinquante mille piastres ($3,150,000) un nouvel emprunt du Canadien Nord. Celui-ci va construire d'Edmonton, Alberta, jusqu'a Strathcona et a la riviere Brazeau, une nouvelle voie ferrée, longue de cent cinquante milles. Le gouvernement garantira un emprunt fait a ce sujet, pour un capital de treize mille piastres du mille, pour le premier tiers de cette voie, et un capital de vingt-cinq mille piastres du mille, pour les deux autres. Il garantira de plus le paiement des intérets. En retour il aura une premiere hypothoque sur cette voie, sur le matériel roulant, les gares et les propriétés du Canadien Nord, le long de cette nouvelle ligne. Cette loi rencontrera certes de l'opposition. M. Fielding l'a prévu, et c'est pourquoi la Chambre n'etudiera cette mesure que vers la fin de juillet prochain.

Ce matin, le comité d'enquete dans l'affaire Oliver s'est réuni. Il a entendu la déposition de M. Young, le géographe en chef du ministere de l'Intérieur. Il évalue a huit piastres de l'acre la valeur minimum des terres cédées au Canadien Nord par M. Oliver. Cela fait tout de suite un cadeau de cinq millions et demi au Canadien Nord. M. Young prétend que le ministere de la Justice, consulté a propos de cet octroi, a répondu que le gouvernement avait le droit de substituer aux terres a choisir dans le Manitoba, des terres de la Saskatchewan, en dépit de l'arreté ministériel de 1897 ou l'on décidait que si la compagnie ne trouvait pas de terres dans le Manitoba, elle n'aurait pas droit d'en choisir ailleurs.

"Mais, a risposté M. Meighen, avec raison, cet avis du ministere de la Justice ne signifiait pas que le gouvernement était obligé de remplacer les terres du Manitoba par un bloc d'égale importance, sis dans la Saskatchewan."

C'est la l'un des aspects les plus graves de cette affaire, dont le comité a remis l'étude aux premiers jours d'aout prochain.—Georges Pelletier, "Le Devoir."

Drahi Slovaci ja čo majner us dvacat rokov pracoval som kde bulnarod z organizovani pracoval som kde nemala Unija pristupu ta poznam drahi robotnici ze nam potrebnoi nevihnutne abi zme buli zviaszani vsetci jedon viazoz co bi nam dodavalo velkej sili ale Bohu zial je este dost nevedomosti medzi nami pojedni si mislite jak to som us pocul ze unija nestoji za nie ze kde net unija taže taki plat dostavaju Jak aj mi tojest pravda ale kto vibojoval ai ih polepseni mi organizovane robotnictvo drahi robotnici bulo to omnoho horsie jak bi zme jestvovali bez organizacij vezme na predok ai nasin utlačovateloh že sa organizuju do vselijakih trustoh obhodnici taki maju svojo organizacije prečo nas štrajk tojest stavka tak dluho terva zviatsa zme si sami na pričine že davame najavo kopanyom že zme vsetci nezorganizovani po druhe je medzi nami dost takih kteri kteri sa hodia ponukat za stavko lamačov čo stim lem kompaniju povzbudzujeme tak tie kompanije znajuže zme na slabih zakladoh Stim prosim drahi Slovaci stupujte do nasej organizicij a pracujte pri tihosti abi kompanija si nemislela že zme slabi ale abi videla unas silu stim prosim vas slovaci abi ste si svoje meno statocne deržali abi ste slovenski narod nepospinili po druhe prosim že bi stesa hlasali na meno Slovak nie slav bojeto nemo slav vsetkeho Slaviansketo naroda naše ale je Slovak v. buducnosti viacej nateras dost. Stim este hce n podstknut Drahi Bratia avas, upomenut ze čo wiatsina Slovakoh na tej okolici bwajuci mame si jak najviatsej pohvali vidobit a oto sa starat abi zme mi slovaci buli všade zastupovani co viatsina ja mislim že mi mame tak človeka suceho do uradoh jak aj druhe narodi mi tuna Passburg dost pri tihosti žijeme čo mislim je omnoho lepsie jak bi zme mali vzburi jak bude niečo noveho nezabudnem vam oteni citatella cznamit vas spolu pracovnik.—"M."

FANTINE

By Alexander Irvine

A butterfly girl, was poor Fantine of Victor Hugo's masterpiece. She played with life as a child plays with soap bubbles. Then all of a sudden the colors changed and Fantine found herself a pariah. A few years after she withdrew from society and we find her trudging along a country road with her little girl. They stopped at an inn to rest. The landlord and his wife consented for a consideration to keep the child the while the mother went on to find employment. She went to work in a factory and sent a weekly letter to the innkeeper at Montfermeil.

fellow working woman—"a monk's widow"—became curious about this correspondence and was not satisfied until she learned all about it.

Soon the factory hummed with the gossip that Fantine "had a child." The disgrace resulted in the loss of her job. She was in debt for a few sticks of furniture. The dealer threatened her with arrest. She was in debt to her landlord—"You are young and pretty, and you can pay," he said. She got more work at twelve sous a day—the keep of her child cost her ten. An old woman, a fellow tenant, taught her the costof living in misery. "Back of living on little, there is the living on nothing. These are two chambers, the first is dark, the second is black."

If we could only get at the facts we would learn that there is more genuine love in a city block among the poorest of the poor than within the lids of the charities directory.

Marguerite, the little old neighbor, shared her life with Fantine and gave her lessons in the fine arts of desiring little and thereby making poverty equal to riches.

The guardian of her child was an unmitigated scoundrel. He pressed, harrassed and threatened her. The twelve sou a day job went the way of the other. There was neither food nor fire nor clothing.

To a quack dentist she sold her beautiful teeth, to a dealer in hair goods she sold her wealth of auburn hair. The few Napoleons satisfied for a time her creditors—for a short time. Then down at the edge of the blackness of despair she sold her virtue for bread—bartered the life of her soul for the life of her body. Then she entered that army of shame recruited and sustained by society.

Only one in a million ever escapes from it and even those we brand and avoid.

That is Victor Hugo's nineteenth century picture of society making a prostitute. Let me give you a twentieth century picture.

A young woman came to New York city not long ago and began to find a market for her labor power. She travelled the same Via Dolorosa that thousands of weary girls had traveled before her. Yes, there were places where she might have found a shelter, but they were accidents and incidents. If she had been a wizard she might have found them, but wizards are seldom out of work.

When her money was gone she starved and walked the streets. Things became desperate. She ran the gamut of the employment agencies. She disposed of one little item of respectable wearing apparel after another until she looked shabby. Finally she was directed to a "Door of Hope," one of those places organized by private philanthropy to pick up some of the thousands whom society has destroyed.

"My dear," said the kind matron, "this is a home for fallen women!"

"I am homeless, hungry and without work; could one be fallen lower?"

"Yes, lower," the matron said.

Three months afterward there came a blear-eyes disheveled human to that same "Door of Hope," and was received by the same matron. "You don't remember me," said the applicant.

"No."

"I was not eligible some months ago—I am eligible now; Im a fallen woman!"

Victor Hugo said of Fantine:

"And listen! I declare to you that if all is as you say—and I do not doubt it—you have never ceased to be virtuous in the sightof God!"

I say of this twentieth century girl: Civilization robbed her of a living—made her a prostitute and then spat upon her and abandoned her—Civilization said she was "a fallen woman"—Civilization lied—she was knocked down!—Coming Nation.

MIRACLE AND NEWS

Interest in the heresy trial of the Rev. Dr. William Grant, before the judicial commission of the General Presbyterian Assembly, now in session at Atlantic City, grows more intense as the facts in the case come out. Mr. Grant is charged with saying there is no devil, that Ananias and Sapphira probably dropped dead of heart disease, that Jonah was a myth and Eve was probably never tempted. He doubts that the rod of Moses was turned into a serpent, and that Jesus climbed to the topmost pinnacle of the Temple of Jerusalem. As all these ideas have been held sacred by his predecessors in the church and by many of his contemporaries, it is no wonder that Mr. Grant has been called to account. But to-day it would require a newer and greater miracle and one witnessed by countless people to convince millions that the miracles of the Old and New Testaments were really such, or that they amount to anything.

At the same time it is interesting to look over the list rejected by Mr. Grant and then consider some of the items in the day's news.

First, in the great aviation meet held in France, Pierre Vedrine flew from Paris to Angoulemo, a distance of 279 miles, in 223 minutes. It takes an express train, without stop, 318 minutes to make the same distance. It is not recorded that Mr. Grant cast any doubt on the chariot of fire that bore Elijah to heaven, or if not to heaven, at least skyward. Yet here in our time is an actual scientific event that really equals most of the miracles, and in the light of public opinion of say fifty years ago, would have been looked upon as utterly impossible.

Mr. Grant has doubted the passage ACROSS the bed of the Red Sea. Daily hundreds of thousands of New Yorkers go UNDER the beds of the Hudson and East Rivers. To us it is now a commonplace thing, happening every hour of the day, and the modern mind finds it difficult to attribute supernatural influence to an event recorded as having happened only once.

It is still three years to the centennial of the first locomotive constructed by George Stephenson, and we but recently celebrated the sailing of the first steamship on the Hudson. Get a passage to Europe can now be made in less than five days, and a trip across the American Continent takes no longer. Europe can import frozen meats from Australia, and America can import fruits from South Africa.

Where crops fail in one section of the world there is always another that can speedily supply what is needed. Furthermore, skilled and daring workers can build in a few months structures of steel and stone that are really more wonderful than the pyramids that took years to pile up, and modern skill can harness the power of a water fall and send it hundreds of miles through wires there to produce light or to drive trolleys.

These are not miracles. They are results of social energy scientifically applied. They are accumulations of social knowledge and the sum of this knowledge swells daily.

Yet there is a miracle—the miracle of human stupidity.

In spite of the fact that all this knowledge is social and the work is socially performed, a few men are permitted to grab the profits. In spite of the ease with which good buildings can be reared, hundreds of thousands of workers live in squalid tenements or hovels. Though enormous quantities of food are raised, and enormous quantities destroyed because there is no market, countless people both in this and other countries are slowly starving—because there is too much to eat. Is that not a miracle?

Society, in its organized working force, the force that evolves all these wonders, has reached a wonderful state of efficiency and productivity. There is no task, from sending a heavier than air machine flying at the rate of over a mile a minute, to constructing a 900 foot vessel, that cannot easily be accomplished. Mesages can be sent through wires or without wires. Light and heat force can easily be transmitted. Yet the vast bulk of society benefits but little from all these things. The vast bulk of society devotes its energies, its intelligence and its inherited social skill to amassing fortunes for a few individuals who appropriate but do not toil, who enjoy but do practically nothing to bring into existence the things they enjoy.

Even if the old miracles actually occurred, they would be considered rather tame affairs compared with some things done by modern society. But the greatest of the miracles of today is that the producers of all the modern wonders steadfastly refuse to profit by them. They starve and freeze and choke. But they will not take that which belongs to them. They willingly risk any danger in their work. But they are afraid to demand what belongs to them. Their courage in creation is endless, and their cowardice in administration is also endless. Had human conceptions of government and of social rights kept pace with the mechanical advance, earth could easily be that paradise of which so many people in the Bible spoke and dreamed. The miracles have been equalled. The enjoyment of the mean be gained only through Socialism.—TU.

JOHN MITCHELL ON LABOR'S SAFETY

Former Miners' Chief Discusses Accidents at City Club.—Declares 535,000 Toilers in United States Killed or Injured Annually Through Insufficient Protection — Favors More Nonpolitical Factory Inspectors.

"The force of factory inspectors should be increased, and they should be removed from the influence of politics," said John Mitchell, former president of the United Mine Workers of America, Thursday of last week at a luncheon tendered him by the City Club of St. Louis.

"The Problem of Industrial Accidents" was the subject of Mr. Mitchell's address. He was introduced to the City Club by its president, Frank P. Crunden. Three hundred and fifty members were present.

"Workingmen," said Mr. Mitchell, "do not desire compensation for an injury, but they desire every safeguard against the possibility of injury may be provided by law rigidly enforced.

"Workingmen should be paid for all injuries by their employers, whether it be the employers' fault. It is inhuman to deny laboring men a compensation for an injury immediately after the accident occurs. The United States is the only civilized nation in the world the laws of which are so constructed that an injured workingman must prove his employer's negligence to fix the liability and obtain damages.

"In Great Britain the injured employe receives one-half of his wages from his employer, and in the event of his being killed his relatives receive the amount of his wages for three years.

"Under this system of automatic compensation it would cost but little more than it now costs the public in the hire of judges to try injury cases.

"For every 1,000 men employed in all European countries but fourteen are killed by accident annually. For every 1,000 men employed in the United States thirty-six are killed annually

"The work of mining in the United States is vastly more hazardous than in Europe, for the miners have less protection from accident and death.

"Machinery should be equipped with every known safety device, and the employer should be held liable in case of accident—that would minimize the slaughter of laboring men in this country.

"This is the best country on earth—but our people do not understand the gravity of this situation. The American people are as generous as any, but they have not deeply thought out this question of affording safety to those who toil in our great mines and factories. When they are made to understand, they will arise and demand a greater protection for the toilers.

"There are 100 accidents each day in this country, occasioned by a lack of proper protection to the toilers. Each new invention is calculated to increase the number of accidents. There are 535,000 workingmen either killed or mained in the United States each year. In the United States there are nearly three times as many toilers killed and injured annually in proportion to the number employed as there are in any other country.

"Systematic efforts both state and national, should be made to furnish better protection from injury and loss of life.

"During 1910 the insurance companies of this country paid out 43 per cent of their premiums for injuries and loss of life. This fact is a reminder that something should be done to afford the man who toils better protection."

Closing his address, Mr. Mitchell made a fervid appeal to the members of the City Club of St. Louis to lend their aid in the adoption of such measures by the Missouri State Legislature as will insure to laboring men a greater measure of safety and protection than they have now.

MOTHERS UNWISE

When They Become Slaves to Their Children—Some Common Mistakes

There is no denying the fact that many mothers work much harder than they are able, says a well-known woman writer. Sometimes it is the fault of unfortunate circumstances, but often it is the fault of the mother herself. When a mother is compelled to work beyond her strength to keep her family comfortable, she is, indeed, deserving of sympathy; but when she elects to make a slave of herself that her children may be brought up in idleness, why, that is another matter.

A woman who was compelled to take in washing to support her family came to the superintendent of a city school and requested that her little daughter should not attend the cooking class. She stated that she, herself, had always had to work hard, that she had never had a chance for education or accomplishments, and that she intended that her daughter should have an easier life. She intended she should be a music teacher and she did not want her even to know how to cook or do housework.

It seems that the little girl had no talent for music and that she did like cooking and housekeeping, and yet this foolish mother was trying to make a musician of this child, and was unwilling that she should even learn the common things that every girl needs, sooner or later, to know.

But many other mothers are just as unwise in their own way, and mothers of grown daughters at that. They will toil at the sewing machine day after day, making pretty, fancy gowns and lingerie, and they will stand at the ironing board hour after hour ironing the summer finery, their daughters in the meantime doing the lily of the field act in the way that pleases them best.

I have known mothers to work in the kitchen all day preparing viands that their daughters might entertain their friends to an evening spread, and then stay in the kitchen and help serve, even going to the length of effacing themselves in out of the way places if a guest happened to pass their way.

Now this never would have happened if these daughters had been brought up properly and taught that they had duties to perform, not only for themselves, but for others, and that mutual helpfulness and mutual thoughtfulness was a law of the household that could not be ignored by any member of the family.

It is no credit to any mother to make a drudge of herself when she has boys and girls old enough to assist in the household tasks. Even when the children are in school they should have their little tasks morning and evening, and during vacation they should be required to attend to a certain part of the household labor, and do it well. It is no kindness to children to bring them up in idleness, instead of teaching them to do well and willingly the things that they will, in all probability, have to do.

TEN MOTTOES FOR GIRLS

The Women's Imperial Health Association of Great Britain has issued a series of pamphlets, one of which, addressed "To the Girls of Great Britain," contains the following ten rules of conduct:

1. The future of our country is in your hands.

2. Look your best by all means, but be your best also; the first attracts to begin with, but the second produces the most lasting effect.

3. You must obey the laws of hygiene, respecting fresh air, exercise, good food, cleanliness and suitable clothing. A healthy girlhood is the best foundation for a happy life.

4. You must know about cooking, housekeeping and domestic economy.

5. You must learn about the feeding and care of children; this knowledge does not come by instinct, as many suppose.

Remember that home-making is the most dignified and important profession in the world.

7. Attend if you can "continuation classes" in personal and domestic hygiene, including a knowledge of the fundamental facts of life. You can be innocent without being ignorant.

8. Practise housekeeping and domestic hygiene in your own home, remembering that a good daughter makes the best wife.

9. Choose the best companions and read the best books you can find.

10. Accept only the best men as your husbands, paying as much attention to their character as to their personal appearance.

AN IMPORTED CHAPEAU

Among the host of pretty chapeaux sent from across the water, this one may be copied with good results at considerably less than the model is marked. The crown is of purple silk ribbon, cleverly draped to a large brim of gray straw braid. A bunch of pink roses is artistically arranged at left side and the brim is lined with pale pink silk.

BLUE IS POPULAR

Blue of the shade termed "Royal" will probably be the color mostly worn this summer. It is not particularly becoming except to the lucky possessors of fair hair, blue eyes, and clear skin, but navy and cloudy blue can be worn more or less successfully by everybody.

DUMB ANIMALS

Some Queer Habits of Cats, Mice, Flies, Snakes, Goldfish and Sheep

A fly on a window pane will crawl to the top, fly back to the bottom and crawl up again. This order is seldom reversed. Why, no one knows. It is on record that a fly crawled up a window pane thirty-two times, returning each time a-wing.

Hens scratch for food with the sun behind them, the reason being that the rays reflect on the minute particles. A blind hen will pick grain and not miss a kernel

Cats seldom lie with their feet to the fire. Usually they lie on their left side. Dogs lie with their forepaws to the fire.

A mouse will ignore a food supply sufficient for a meal and run great risks to nibble at a wholesale supply. It will hide at the source of food supply and not depart therefrom until actually disturbed. It is not true that a mouse runs to its hole at the first alarm.

Find a harmless little snake the length of a lead pencil and provide a box for it in the house, visit it daily, and at the end of three months it will crawl to you for food.

Goldfish usually swim around a globe to the right. They can be taught to take a fly out of the hand in six weeks' time. The presence of other fish in the globe is generally ignored by goldfish. Drop a piece of chip on the surface of the water and it will frighten a fish.

Sheep spend more time grazing than do cattle and horses. Sheep will eat for twelve hours out of the twenty-four.

DRY PICKED POULTRY

A Series of Recent Experiments in Cold Storage

Canadian exporters of poultry should be interested in a recent series of experiments in connection with the cold storage of poultry, which have shown that the method of scalding chickens by plunging them in water just below boiling point to facilitate the removal of the feathers affects the keeping quality of the prepared birds. This method in the past has been very commonly practised by exporters of poultry in the United States and other countries. The experiments under review revealed the fact that deterioration is greater in the case of scalded fowls than in those that were dry-picked, and the bacteriological examination proved that the number of bacteria was increased when the birds were drawn before being placed in cold store. Dry-picked birds in good condition, promptly stored and kept for three and six months, are stated to have been hardly distinguishable from freshly killed fowls.

NOT AN IDLE DUKE

Norfolk Has Charge of the Coronation Preparations

One duke at any rate cannot be accused of leading an idle life. This is the Duke of Norfolk, who, as Earl Marshal of England, has practically the whole of the arrangements for the Coronation in his hands. He has opened special offices to deal with the many matters of detail with which he is confronted, and is at work there early and late. The Duke is a particularly fast worker, and has the routine of his department at his fingers' ends, while his memory is little short of marvellous, and he can recall without much effort what was done at the last Coronation.

THE MISCHIEVOUS MATCH

One of the Chief Causes of the Daily Fire Loss

The common match is a Canadian mischief maker. It was one of the chief causes of an average daily fire loss last year of $64,639, or $3.14 per capita. It helped to swell the list of deaths by fire, numbering 256.

OLD ENGLISH GENTLEMAN

Sir Oswald Mosley is a Type of Old Times

A living copy of the familiar figure created by artists to represent John Bull is Sir Oswald Mosley, who is endeavoring to popularize wholemeal bread. And not only has Sir Oswald earned for himself the title of John Bull by reason of his appearance, but also on account of his characteristics. He is a country gentleman of the old school, a keen agriculturist, a great breeder of short-horns, an extensive gardener, and possesses a fine museum of British birds. But he takes to modern pleasures gaily, judging by the fact that he is as keen a motorist as he is a lover of horseflesh. He owns a number of cars and is a prominent member of the Automobile Club. It is because he considers that present-day indigestion and decay of teeth is due to fancy white bread that Sir Oswald is encouraging the villagers of Rolleston, Staffs, of which place he is squire, to use wholemeal bread.

BEAVER IN THE WEST

A strange animal has been attracting the wonder of residents along the banks of the Assiniboine river in the vicinity of Armstrong's Point. The district is thickly wooded, and some mystery surrounded the movements of the visitor. A young man decided to do his part in unravelling its peculiar features, and procured a gun, went out late one afternoon recently, and on sighting the animal burrowing in the snow, shot it in the head. On investigation he was surprised to find that he had killed a beaver.

HUNDRED YEARS WITHOUT STRIFE

Prominent Canadians Speak of the Proposed Celebration of a Century of Peace

Several prominent Canadians were asked for their opinion regarding the approaching celebration of one hundred years of peace between Great Britain and the United States.

Mr. R. L. Borden

"What should be done to celebrate worthily the approaching Centennial of Peace?" asks Mr. R. L. Borden, M.P. "Establish a permanent and effectual disarmament upon the great inland waterways of Canada and the United States. Extend the same principle of disarmament to all the borders between the two countries from the Atlantic to the Pacific. Establish upon firm foundations a permanent treaty

MR. R. L. BORDEN, M.P.

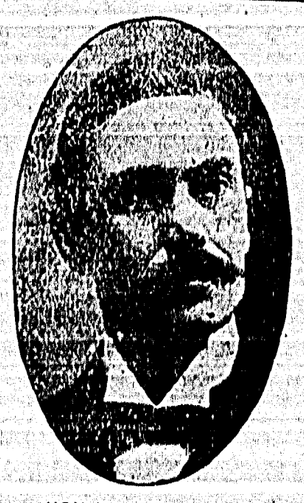
of arbitration between the Empire and the Republic. Proclaim the Centennial of Peace as a day of National Thanksgiving in both countries, and in every city, town and village let the bells ring out their tones of rejoicing and the voice of praise and thanksgiving be heard in all the churches; and in each country erect a stately national memorial consecrated to the splendid memory of one hundred years of peace and to the firm assurance of its enduring continuance."

Hon. F. L. Haszard

"On nothing the important events of the day," said Hon. F. L. Haszard, Premier of Prince Edward Island, "one is struck by the announcement that very soon we will be called upon to commemorate the one hundredth anniversary of Peace between Canada and the United States. To the credit of these two great and growing countries it can be truthfully said that no better example could be set to the world at large than the fact that amidst the many vicisitudes through which they have passed, the utmost good feeling has prevailed. It is true that questions of moment have at various times existed, but resort to amicable methods has always been attended with satisfactory results. Are we not therefore justified in believing that the time has come when the nations of the earth should adopt like means and thus avert the terrible devastation of war with all its baneful results. If our advanced civilization stands for anything, first and foremost our aim should be directed towards the attainment of that much desired understanding between the nations by which all great national questions and disputes will be adjusted by a Peace tribunal. May we not therefore hope that the year 1911, with the munificent gift of ten million dollars in the cause of Peace, by the world's well-wisher, Andrew Carnegie, will see securely laid the Foundation Stone of Peace."

Hon. Walter Scott

"The more I think of the fact the more astounded I become that Christian civilization has failed to put an end to war between nations," said Hon. Walter Scott, Premier of Saskatchewan. "The present spectacle of Europe heaping taxes upon taxes and grinding the faces of scores of millions of the poor to maintain huge



HON. WALTER SCOTT

equipments of war is a lesson for the contemplation of the people of America. Because the proposed celebration of the century of Peace, which has selected with inestimable advantage to both Canada and the United States, may be a powerful means of instruction to all peoples against the stupendous folly of the "mailed fist" method of disposing of international disputes, I most heartily approve the idea of the celebration."

How's This?

We offer One Hundred Dollars Reward for any case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure.

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.

We, the undersigned, have known F. J. Cheney for the last 15 years, and believe him perfectly honorable in all business transactions and financially able to carry out any obligations made by his firm.

NATIONAL BANK OF COMMERCE, Toledo, Ohio.

Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Testimonials sent free. Price 75 cents per bottle. Sold by all Druggists.

Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

List of Locals District 18

Corrected by District Secretary up to April 22nd, 1911

NO.	NAME	SEC. and P. O. ADDRESS
20	Bankhead	F. Wheatley, Bankhead, Alta.
431	Beaver Creek	P. Gaughton, Beaver Creek, via Pincher
431	Bellevue	J. Burke, Bellevue, Frank, Alta.
2163	Blairmore	B. J. Chase, Blairmore, Alta.
949	Burmis	Wm. Sloan, Burmis, Alta.
1378	Canmore	N. D. Thachuk, Canmore, Alta.
2633	Coleman	W. Graham, Coleman, Alta.
2222	Carbondale	G. M. Davies, Carbondale, Coleman, Alta.
2378	Cardiff	L. Huckins, Cardiff, Alta.
2877	Corbin	R. Jones, Corbin, B. C.
....	Chinook Mines	Wm. Forsyth, Diamond City, Alta.
2178	Diamond City	Charles Orban, Diamond City, Lethbridge.
2314	Fernie	D. Rees, Fernie, B. C.
1263	Frank	G. Nicol, Frank, Alta.
2497	Hosmer	J. Ayre, Hosmer, B. C.
1058	Hillcrest	J. O. Jones, Hillcrest, Alta.
574	Lethbridge	L. Moore, P. O. Box 113, Lethbridge
1233	Lille	W. L. Evans, Lille, Frank, Alta
2829	Maple Leaf	M. Gilday, Maple Leaf, Bellevue, Alta.
2334	Michel	M. Burrell, Michel, B. C.
2352	Passburg	Wm. Cooke, Passburg, Alta.
2589	Royal View	Thos. D. Fisher, Royal Collieries, Lethbridge, Alta
102	Taber	William Russell, Taber, Alta.
2559	Tuber	E. Brown, Taber, Alta.

LEDGER ADS. For Business

AROUND TOWN

We wish to call attention to the change in the time card of the Great Northern which now goes south from Fernie, leaving the depot at 1.30 p.m.

Canadian Bank of Commerce has opened a new branch at Golden, B. C., so that the gateway town of the Columbia now possesses two banking institutions.

Walter Harwood is now riding about and occasionally walking afoot with a motor cycle which if bumping over rough roads is good for the liver should make him immune from hepatic pains. Hip! Hip! Hooray!

Stanley Norton, who came here from Cranbrook, and has for some time past been in the employ of the 41 Meat Market as accountant, has been transferred to the company's Pincher Creek Branch. During his stay in Fernie he has made a host of friends and though they regret to see him go sincerely wish that he may prosper wherever he locates.

E. M. Turner, of Jamacia L. I. (U. S. A.) is the inventor of a Dictograph which will catch the slightest sound, and so small that it can be readily concealed. A very interesting novel dealing with the possibilities of the use to which this instrument can be put has been written by Edwin Brenholz entitled "The Recording Angel."

A VISIT TO ROME

Mrs. A. Pizzocolo and baby daughter will leave the coming week to pay a visit to Mr. Pizzocolo's parents in Rome, Italy, in order that grandpa and grandma may see their latest arrived relative.

The trip will be made via New York and Naples, this being the most convenient under the circumstances.

HUNNABLE'S SUCCESS IN THE EAST

We are pleased to report that the inventive genius of a local gentleman is receiving unqualified appreciation in the Eastern provinces and his many friends will be glad to learn of the success he is making as shown by the subjoined extract from the Hamilton (Ont.) Herald:

"WONDERFUL INVENTION

"W. Hunnable has opened a head office at 14 East Main treet, where he is demonstrating a new window sash lock that will shortly be manufactured in this city by him. He is the inventor and it is one of the finest invention that has been put on the market for some time. The Hunnable sash lock is attracting the attention of builders and householders, and it is expected that in a short time the factory for the manufacture of the lock will be running full time. By the use of this new scheme a perfect window sash lock is obtained, and while firmly locking the window at the same time it allows of the easy raising or lowering of top or botton portions to any height. The new lock does away altogether with all box frames, pulleys, cords and weights. The invention gives assurance against outside intrusion and always gives ventilation. Its simplicity and strength mean a good sale of the article, and it can be adjusted by a child.

"THE ISLE OF SPICE."

A very fair house greeted B. C. Whitney's musical comedy, "Isle of Spice' at the Grand Theatre on Wednesday night and we can say that if it comes again when conditions are different to what obtain at present owign to the suspension of work at the coal mines, and consequent financial stringency, that there will not be a vacant seat in the house. It is excellent, clean and wholesome, full of new quips, jokes, and repartee, with not a moments dullness from the raising of the curtain until the Finale is reached.

There is a decidedly Teutonic flavor to the utterances of Konnor, whose name though it smacks of Irish is supposedly Chinese—voice very fair, gestures good. Neither Kamorta nor Teresa have voices of great volume, though they are sweet in tone and the latter would appear to better advantage if she would open her mouth in the solos and duos as wide as she does in the choruses. The duet, "You and I" was exceedingly sweetly rendered by Teresa, but Lieut Katchall was not flexible enough. Bompoka, in the hands of Stanley Felch, was given every point the part affords, and the song in which he takes the lead "The Goo-Goo Man' was given deserved recalls in which the chorus played up to him splendidly.

The "Song of Nations" was likewise catchy, and encores were given.

The two comedians, Slusby and Mickie were simply immense, and like the corpse at the wake, "were the life of the party."

The dancing was marked by grace, but a little more vim in some parts could be added wihout militating against their effectiveness.

Kashon, although somewhat light, was capably pourtrayed by Mr. Wm. Burgess.

The costumes and stage settings were all that could be desired, and to sum up in brief can best do so by saying that it is just as good as anything at present on the road of its class.

COMMENCES JUNE 5th

Attractions galore are booked for Fernie these days and on Monday next June 5th, the Northwest Amusement Co. will make a three days stand here.

Their bill of fare consists of many features, among which are a Baloon ascension, scheduled for 3 o'clock Monday afternoon, an athletic entertainment of 22 acts, and, in fact, a long list of events for the edification and delight of the public.

Personal Note.—I will give voluntarily and without any conditions what so ever, 5 per cent of all moneys received during these three days to the Miners' Union.

H. C. WILBUR, Gen. Manager.

There are 156 people employed, and as they have neither dining or sleeping cars everyone of them goes to the hotels; and not having any horses all draying and teaming will be done by local men.

WHO IS THE GUILTY ONE?

Saturday midnight some miscreant created quite a hubbub and incidentally aroused the just anger of the fire department by turning in a false alarm.

From the appearance of the box it appeared as if the glass in front had been slid out and then but a slight contact had been made as only three sounded instead of 34, as it should have been if properly sent in. It is believed that the mischievous individual must have been disturbed by some approaching foot passenger hence it was deemed advisable to make a getaway. Another evidence of the deliberateness of the act and also that it was thought out cunningly by a brain that was not bemuddled was that the electric light was switched off, presumably before the interrupted alarm was turned in.

CENSUS REPORT

OTTAWA—A bulletin of the Census Office issued recently makes the following report of the crops and live stock of Canada.

The seeding and growing season for the whole of Canada has opened late this year, and the month of April has been marked by hard frosts. But May has been favorable to cultivation of the land, and the rainfall has been sufficient for healthy vegetation.

Fall wheat, which is grown chiefly in Ontario and Alberta, showed an average condition of 82 per cent at the end of April, being 89 per cent in Alberta and 81 per cent in Ontario. In Ontario, however, the April frost were destructive in some regions; and from 12 to 34 per cent of the areas sown has been reported as winter-killed. The central counties, north of Lake Erie, the loss is 10 per cent.; in the northern counties and districts 12.6 per cent; and in the eastern counties, between the St. Lawrence and Ottawa rivers, 15 per cent. For the whole of Canada the area winter-killed is reported to be 21 per cent, and the per cent condition of the growing crop is 82.

About 12½ per cent. of the clover was heaved out by the spring frosts, and the average condition of the hay and clover at the end of April was 89 per cent. Alberta shows better than any other part of Canada, its average being 94½ per cent. Nova Scotia comes next with 93.75; and in Quebec, British Columbia and Saskatchewan the condition is over 90. In Ontario it is 86 and in Manitoba 85 per cent.

The per centage of total seeding completed at the end of April was 21.35 in Quebec; 44 in Ontario, 47 in Manitoba, 47.30 in Saskatchewan, 66.81 in Alberta and 76.90 in British Columbia. Manitoba and Saskatchewan had 70 per cent of the proposed area of spring wheat sown at the end of April, and Alberta and British Columbia 80 per cent. The Maritime Provinces had scarcely made a beginning of seeding operations at the end of April, and in Quebec barely one-fourth of the spring wheat, oats and barley were sown. In Ontario 51 per cent of the spring wheat was in the ground, 44 per cent of the oats and 42½ per cent of the barley.

The report on the condition of live stock is good for all the provinces, being 95 for horses, 92.43 for milch cows, 90.56 for other cattle, 93.32 for sheep and 94.51 for swine. Alberta is below 90 for horses, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta for milch cows, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia for other cattle, and Albert and British Columbia for sheep; but generally the condition ranges about 90 per cent.

"NAKED LIGHT AIR," OR THEY ALWAYS BLAME THE VICTIMS

By Thomas F. Kennedy

They always blame the victims when there is a mine explosion. The first account that reaches the public through the press alleges or asserts, or leaves it to be inferred, that it was caused by some miner opening his safety lamp. If the "crowner's inkwaist" does bring in a verdict placing the blame elsewhere, it is confined to four or five lines in some obscure part of a back page of the paper. So the rest of the working class, whose sympathies are naturally with the miners, believe that most of the mine explosions and fires are caused by careless or ignorant workmen.

That there are stupid, careless, ignorant miners no one will try to deny, but not any more than there are stupid ignorant, careless people in all occupations and in all conditions of life, from the most august nabob to the meanest beggar.

But in firey mines where safety lamps cant be opened by every reckless fool. Indeed, a lamp that any person can open at any time is not a safety lamp at all. The only real safety lamp is one that cannot be opened without destroying it and extinguishing the light. Such lamps were designed in England fifty years ago, and but for them the deep firey mines of the United Kingdom would have been abandoned long ago.

The most fool-proof of these unopenable lamps is the one that can be opened only with a powerful electric magnet, which is kept in the lamp-house outdoors. I do not know how extensively this kind of a lock is used, but I do know that a great many are used in the mines of western Pennsylvania.

But with the most perfect of safety lamps, secured with a ten-horsepower electric magnet, explosions have occurred and will occur in firey mines where the air is stagnant and the gas which permeates the coal and dust which is produced in the mining operations, is allowed to accumulate.

Everybody has seen the fire fly from the end of a stonecutter's pick or chisel. Until the invention of matches fifty years ago, this was the usual method of obtaining fire, striking steel with flint and depending upon the spark to light tinder. The first time you visit a museum examine the old flint-rock muskets, which depended for a spark from flint to explode the charge. Coal itself will cause a spark to fly when struck with steel, but a thousand times worse than the coal are the little nuggets composed of sulphur and other substances called "binders." These struck with steel will often give a spark equal to flint. All bituminous coal contains these little nuggets, some more, some less.

From this it can be seen that every blow struck by every miner in an improperly ventilated, gaseous mine may by producing a spark, cause an explosion. With these millions of chances occuring every day, is there, when an explosion occurs, the slightest excuse for blaming the victims?

It is criminal, lickspittle prostitution for the press to give currency after every explosion to this lie that the victims are to blame. This lie is invented by the real criminals so as to escape the consequences.

But worse than the sparks and what has made the safest of safety lamps mere farces, hypocritical pretenses on the part of the mine operators, is the introduction of electricity into the mines. Anybody with eyes must have seen the sheet of flame that issue from both trolley and wheels of an electric street car. The electric locomotive used in the mines does exactly the same thing all day long. The motors used to drive the cutters in the innermost recesses of many mines, where the danger is greatest, are bound to spark more or less.

No electrical contrivance or current which will give off sparks should be tolerated in a mine where it is necessary to use safety lamps. Indeed, if the miners were all of my way of thinking the world would go without coal and other mineral products until all mines were sufficiently ventilated to allow the miners to work with naked lights. No human being should be asked to work in air in which a naked light will not burn without causing an explosion.

I have often praised Sir Humphrey Davies because of his generosity in refusing to patent his lamp. Still, if a safety lamp had never been invented it would have been better for the miners, because means would have been found to ventilate mines so well that no safety lamps would ever be needed.

There should be a ventilating current in every mine strong enough to carry off all dust and gas which might form explosive mixtures.

Just as long as dust and gas are allowed to accumulate in bodies in mines there is bound to be explosions.

A mule' steel shoe striking a steel rail will cause a sufficient spark to explode certain mixtures of gas, air and dust. Even the hob-nailed shoe of a miner striking a rail may cause it, while the sledges, picks and drills of the miners are producing sparks of more or less volume in all parts of the mine every minute of the day.

I desire to go on record here and now in cold, black printers' ink with a prediction that mine explosions will continue and miners' lives will be sacrificed until there is a ventilating current running through every mine strong enough to carry off all explosive matter.

This would make the operation of all deep, firey mines more expensive. It would require more and bigger fans; more and larger shafts and tunnels. It might cause the abandonment of some extremely hazardous operations.

Of course, all those who set profits above human life will denounce this as impractical, visionary, dreaming. It is not impractical; it is only expensive, and in the long run, when we take into account the destruction of property only, it is doubtful if it is more expensive than the present.

"Naked light air" should be the slogan of the miners in striving for an improved mining code, and not a complicated affair that takes a Philadelphia lawyer to interpret, and which finally can be interpreted so as to jail a few careless miners while the owners of Pancoast Colliery and Cherry get off with the payment of some money to the widows.

COMING FOR 3 DAYS

Commencing on Monday, June 5

Northwest Amusement Company's Attractions

Balloon Ascensions

Athletic Circus, Free Shows

22 Big Acts--All New and Original

Best Show of its kind under canvas. 156 people

No Dining Cars or Sleepers. The money is spent is town. A good jolly crowd

Watch for Balloon Ascension Monday at 3 p. m.

For Sale

22 Acres Fruitland at Elkmouth

Partly cleared and ready for planting out. Good stream of pure water on property. Easy terms. Address A.J.B. District Ledger, Fernie, B.C., for particulars.

Here it is, Waiting for U

FOR SALE—Bargain for quick purchaser—One Acre of land in West Fernie. Apply, Ledger Office. 40-4t

20 Acres of fine Land at $30 per acre, covered with tamarac and cedar. Also one half acre lot, $150. Apply, J. McLaughlan, West Fernie. 40—4t

MONEY TO LOAN—M. A. Kastner Fernie and district for the Colonial Investment Company, and is prepared to advance money on business blocks at a reasonable rate of interest.

FOR SALE—Two English Bull Terriers, two and half years old, $25; or will sell separate; unrelated. W. Parnell, Fernie, B. C.

WANTED—A Dressmaker and a tailoress, just arrived, prepared to do all work in their respective callings. For particulars apply Ledger Office. 40-tf.

TO RENT.—Three-roomed modern Bungalow on McPherson Avenue. Plastered and well finished. Apply, Wm. S. Pearson, McPherson Ave. 40—3t.-n. p.

LOST

On Thursday between Suddaby's Drug Store and Pellat Avenue East, via P. O. and City Hall, a brooch, circular in shape, outer rim of Scotch pebbles, bloodstone and agate, centre silver thistle, amethyst forming flower. Finder please return same to Miss Daniels, c.o. Wilkes' Boarding House, Pellat Ave. 40-t.f.

WANTED—Offers for stumping and clearing lots 6 and 7, Block 59, Fernie Annex. Apply, to L. P. Eckstein. 41-1t

The Crow's Nest Trading Co. Limited

The Store of Good Values

Grocery Specials

Special Grocery values for Saturday and Monday selling, values that cannot be duplicated elsewhere. We save money for others—why not for you?

Reckett's Blue, 3 pkts for	10c.
1 lb. Pkt Ammonia	11c.
Combination Shoe Dressings, white tan, black Ox blood	18c.
2 lb. Tins Preserved Strawberries	15c.
2 lb. Tins Preserved Plums	10c.
1 lb. Glass Jars Potted Game and Meats	15c.
Toasted Corn Flakes, 3 pkts for	25c.
Common Clothes Pins, per doz	2c.
Canada First Cream 20 oz. tins, 11 tins for	$1.00
Royal Household Flour, 100 lb. sacks	$3.25
Royal Household Flour, 50 lb. sacks	$1.65
Mason Fruit Jars, quarts, per doz	75c.
Sheriff's Jelly Powders, 4 pkts for	25c.
B. C. Pure Cane Sugar, 20 lb. sacks	$1.20
Assorted Cake Icings, per pkt.	9c.
3 lb. Pail Pure Leaf Lard	45c.
5 lb. Pail Pure Leaf Lard	75c.
10 lb. Pail Pure Leaf Lard	$1.70
1 Gal. Stone Crocks Mixed Pickles	80c.
Best Japan Rice, 5 lbs for	25c.
Snap Hand Cleaner, 2 tins for	25c.
3 lb. Pkts. Washing Powder	20c.
White Star Vinegar, quart bottles	18c.
5 lb. Tins Table Syrup	25c.
Celluloid Starch, per pkt	10c.

New Potatoes, Cabbage, Strawberries, Pineapple, Bananas, Oranges, Lettuce, Radish, Green Onion, Spinach, Asparagus.

The Rain Coat Season is Here

Is now with us. If you are not well-equipped with a proper wet day garment you will do well to consult us.

A big variety of what is newest in

Women's Waterproofs

Cravenette Coats, in dark Grey and Olive Covert Cloths, made in either seven-eighth of full length; semi fitted backs, stylish collar and a very serviceable coat for any season, $8.75

In Navy and Black, rather light weight, semi-fitting, full lengths, made with the popular 'Presto' Collars, a stylish coat for $13.75

Same style in Grey and Olive Covert effects, $13.75.

Parametta Coat, a reliable waterproof without rubber, full length, semi-fitting, made with military lapel or "Presto" collars, prices $10.50, $14.50 and $18.75.

Rubberized Coats, in Shepherd's Checks, very effective coats, semi-fitting backs, full length, roll collar; price $10.50

In Twilled Silk effects, same styles as above, in Fawns, Riseda and Greys, price $12.50

Same styles in Shadow Stripes, in Navy, Greens and Fawns, at $15.00

Auto Coats; Manish, Tailored Sleeve, broad back, a dependable garment when a genuine waterproof is required. Price $15.00.

Children's Wash Dresses

Another lot of Children's Wash Dresses at prices ranging from 85c. to $2.25. These dresses are particularly well made and thoroughly good fitters, and the prices are such that it pays to buy them rather than make up the goods.

Trites-Wood Co., Ltd