The District Ledger

Industrial Unity is [illegible]

The Official Organ of District No. 18, U. M. W. of A.

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APR 8 1912
VICTORIA, B. C.

DISTRICT NO. 18 U. M. W. of A.

An Important Matter Requiring The Co-operation of Every Miners' Local Union

To the Officers and Members of Local Unions, District 18, U. M. W. of A.—

Greeting:

You are doubtless aware that the Government of Alberta have appointed a Commission to make enquiries into and concerning the Mining Laws of Alberta, and to embody in their report thereto any amendments to the existing law regarding the operation of mines for coal or any mnierals which they may consider necessary. The Commissioners appointed to make such investigations are J. T. Sterling, W. F. McNeil and W. B. Powell.

I am fully aware of the importance of this appointment and recognize the possibilities which may be achieved for the benefit of the mine workers through the agency of this Commission, but I desire to ask each and every member of our organization for their assistance in this matter, and would kindly request that each Local would appoint a special committee for the purpose of collecting information and promoting views which will enable the Commission, when reporting to the Government, to bring about amendments to the Mines Act that will be of material benefit to the miners of Alberta.

I would kindly ask you to take up this matter as early as possible and forward to me, Box 60, Coleman, any suggestions which you may think will assist in carrying out this important work.

Yours faithfully,

W. B. POWELL,
Pres. Dist. 18, U.M.W. of A.

British Miners Favor Continuing Strike

Leaders of the Men Advise Return to Work and are Heeded--- Army in Readiness

LONDON, April 4.—The great coal strike in Great Britain is drawing to a close. Latest despatches to hand state that the men by a majority of 19,000 voted against resuming work. In spite of this, however, the leaders are urging the men tto return to work Their reason for this, it is said, is because owing to pressure of circumstances and the distress now prevalent, will compell men to accept the minimum wage as outlined in the government's bill.

LONDON, April 3.—All the miners in the northern counties of England and a portion of those in Scotland, have followed the fighting leaders of the miners of Lancashire and declared against the resumption of work in the pits until the minimum rate of wages has been definitely fixed. This will give a majority of miners in the United Kingdom in favor of continuing the strike, but it is expected that the Federation will nevertheless declare it to be terminated.

The result of the ballot among the miners shows that the government's minimum wages act has not appealed to the men who want the principle of a minimum daily wage translated into a fixed daily wage.

Some of the district boards which are to settle the local rates of wages have been appointed, but they have not been able to decide upon their chairman, so these appointments will have to be made by the government.

The number of miners working in the pits is increasing daily, but not rapidly. Upwards of 1,000 are now working in Northern Wales coal fields which is double the figure of yesterday.

LONDON, April 3—(Special cable) Government officials and commercial circles were aghast at noon today when it was learned that the optimistic statements of the miners' union leaders that the miners would carry the proposition to return to work by a 3 to 2 vote, were not only unfounded but that the men had voted not to go back.

Balloting ended tonight, and the complete result will be available early to-morrow. Conservative labor leaders are greatly troubled over the stand adopted by the men. They are satisfied that the maximum concession has been made that can be secured by law and they believe the government is determined if the union men will not return to work on their own initiative to bring into action every resource of the government to end the strike

Military Activity

This belief was strengthened by the activity in military circles this afternoon, when it became apparent that the proposition to return to work was in danger of defeat. Great troop trains were got into readiness for instant departure. Engines were attached and baggage cars loaded down with camp equipment and supplies.

The big transport automobiles of the engineers were fitted out, and it was stated that all of the fighting force in Great Britain is ready on a given signal to move to the coal districts. Premier Asquith has made it plain that if the men will not return to work, he will send plenty of soldiers to the mines, so that the owners can make good their boasts that they can operate with non-union men if protected.

FRANK MURDER CASE

MACLEOD, Alta., April 2.—People flocked to the Macleod court house this morning to hear the murder case that is the subject of everybody's conversation. The little court room was crowded and when Fritz Eberts, the German who is charged with the murder of George E. Willmett, constable in the Northwest Mounted Police, at Frank just four years ago was brought in, there was a hum of conversation that portrayed the intense public interest in this remarkable case.

Eberts, with another man named Jasbec, is charged with the crime.

It is just four years ago since the people of Frank were startled by the discovery of the dead body of Geo. E. Willmet, a young constable in the N. W. M. P. force. There was very little to indicate in what way Willmett came by his death. It was clear from the blood and the gaping wound in his neck that he had been shot by a gun, but there was very little to prove the identity of the parties who had snuffed out the life of this constable. Willmett was in civilian clothes when he was murdered. He was an Englishman, 22 years of age.

The police worked on everything that could possibly be interpreted in the nature of a clue, but there was always the same unsatisfactory result. Several months ago there were whisperings that the police were again on the track of Willmett's murderers. Those who thought the police were baffled began to revise their judgment and when it was announced that two Germans, one named Fritz Eberts and the other named Jasbec, had been arrested, interest in the murder case that had attracted the attention of three provinces was again revived.

Eberts is charged with taking the life of Willmett and has been placed on trial first. Jasbec, who is the star witness against Eberts, will be tried later.

MINERS BURIED ALIVE

SHEFFIELD, England, March 29—Fourteen miners were buried alive today by the falling of the roof of a quarry near here where they were working on an outcrop of coal.

C.N.R. LABORERS OUT ON STRIKE

KAMLOOPS, March 30.—Dissatisfaction among the men engaged in construction work in the C. N. R. camps from Savona to Lytton culminated yesterday in the men going out on strike. They demanded $3 for an eight-hour day and board to be provided for $5.00 weekly. The present scale is $2.50 for a ten-hour day and board at $6.00.

Placards giving notice of the strike Placards giving notice of the strike have been posted all through the city and district appealing to laborers to abstain from going to work in the camps. Contractors say that it is possible if the strike continues to hamper their operations they may appeal to the government for permission to obtain and employ Asiatic labor on their contracts, if they are to finish their work within the time stipulated, although the work all along the grade is remarkably well advanced.

TRANSPORTATION IN TORONTO TIED UP BY STRIKE

TORONTO, April 2.—There is a complete tie-up in transportation to and from the railway freight sheds here to-day as a result of a sudden strike of the employees of the three big companies that ordinarily handle the heavy freight. Without any warning the whole of the men stopped work this morning shortly after their arrival at the stables and as a result the downtown warehouse district has an absence of traffic that makes it resemble a holiday

The men out number 326 in all, and the teams idle are: Hendrie & Co., 100; The Shedden Co., 85; The Dominion Transport Company, 19.

NEW SOUTH WALES AIDS DISTRESSED MINERS

LONDON, March 31.—In response to representations made by the New South Wales Agent-General in London calling attention to the great distress prevailing here in consequence of the strike, Premier McGowan has cabled authorizing the purchase of food to the value of £1,000 for immediate distribution. Other contributions are forthcoming.

TURTLE MOUNTAIN IS THREATENING

FRANK, Alta., March 29—This afternoon large rocks started to roll down the sides of Turtle Mountain and striking the miners' cottages, crashed through the roofs to the floors below. Fortunately no one was injured as the places were empty. While these rocks came from the west of the danger zone, it is recognized that the fissures in the mountain top are widening. Dozens of families and a few merchants have moved to other points.

This week, fearing a repitition of the slide of nine years ago, when 92 persons were buried 32 feet under the mud and rock, the Federal government notified the Provincial government of Alberta that the district is unsafe, but the latter is slow to act not wishing to force the abandonment of $3,000,000 worth of mining machinery, buildings and workings.—News Advertiser, Vancouver.

THE ISIS

Judging by the large audience that nightly visit the Isis, the Fernie public have certainly got hold of the moving picture habit. They appreciate a good show when they see it, and this popular picture house deserves well of their patronage. Pictures seen here can always be relied upon as being clean, instructive and amusing. In addition to these good qualities the three-piece orchestra deserves credit for its harmony and catchy music. In fact the Isis is an ideal spot to spend an hour or so, both for adults and children. The programme for tomorrow and Saturday (afternon and evening) will contain excellent views of the world's championship wrestling match between Gotch and Zbyszko, the Gaumont Graphic, "Brother Bob's Baby," "Fun on Board U. S. S. Vermon," and "The Cross."

MINER KILLED AT CORBIN

CORBIN, April 3,—Joe Porfetto, an Italian, was killed in a cave-in yesterday. He leaves a wife and child in Italy. The deceased has been around here for some years, the last two of which was spent in Corbin. He was admittedly one of the best practical miners here. The inquest held last night brought in a verdict of "Accidental death."

The funeral took place this afternoon in Fernie. The body was brought here by the Italian Society. Father Michel conducted the service.

SAY MINES WILL REST

Lack of Orders the Cause for Shutdown--Fernie Not Yet Affected

Lack of market will probably result in a number of the mines in District 18, United Mine Workers of America, taking in all Alberta and the Crow's Nest Pass mines in British Columbia down to Fernie, closing down for some time this summer.

Already the closing down has commenced. On Monday the mine at Bankhead was closed for one month, and the miners in that town are now out of employment. Lack of orders is given as the cause for the shutting down of the work, and it is said that other mines will be forced to follow the example of the Bankhead collieries.

Coming so soon after the long strike with the miners still in debt to the company and stores, the closing down will entail more or less hardship, but the younger men and many of the men whose homes have been in the camp for years, are already leaving to take up homesteads or take work on the railroads and irrigation construction works.

The closing down of the mines, in general, will probably be a boon to the irrigation and railroad contractors, as a dearth of men was feared on this kind of work this summer.—The Calgary News-Telegram.

(And this after the "Prosperity" bug that Ross supporters have been peddling around! Oh, dear! But the consolation is to be gathered from the last paragraph—you will be able to get work on the railroad construction. Those little two-by-four would-be capitalists, who have not sense enough to understand their class interests might read, mark, learn and knock it into their heads—if possible.)

DEAD SET ON THE SOCIALISTS

Hot Municipal Fight is Being Waged in Milwaukee Today.

MILWAUKEE, Wis., April 2.—The greatest struggle for votes in years began in Milwaukee this morning at six o'clock when the polls opened for election of the municipal ticket boards of aldermen and delegates to the republican and democratic national conventions.

Non-partisans are endeavoring to displace the Socialist administration and followers of President Taft and La Follette and Wilson and Clark are fighting for representation at the National conventions. A big vote was polled in the early hours and a new record of ballots was anticipatel Polls remain open until 8 o'clock.

LATER.—The Socialist Mayor Seidel was defeated.

CROWS NEST FOOTBALL

League Organized--Lots of Cups for Competition--Early Start

A meeting of this association was held in Coal Creek on Saturday last, representatives being present from Bellevue, Coleman, Michel, Fernie and Coal Creek.

The Calgary Brewing Company, through Mr. G. Clair, of Coleman, offered the association a silver cup for competition by the clubs of the Pass. This was gratefully accepted, and the association decided to offer this new cup as the trophy to be held by the winners of the League.

The Liphardt Cup, which has since the institution of the Association been regarded as the League cups will be competed for by the Juveniles of the Pass under the jurisdiction of the Association. This competition will be on the cup-tie principle, and it is expected that all the towns in the Pass will enter a team. The draw will take place in Michel on May 18th.

It transpired at the meeting that the League for the ensuing season will consist of but five clubs, namely—Fernie, Coal Creek, Michel, Coleman and Bellevue.

The first game of the season will be played on May 4th. The following is a list of the fixtures arranged. Games to be played on the ground of the first-named clubs:

May 4.—Coal Creek vs. Coleman.
—Michel vs. Fernie.
May 18.—Michel vs. Coleman.
—Bellevue vs. Coal Creek.
May 24.—Coleman vs. Michel.
—Bellevue vs. Fernie
June 1.—Coal Creek vs. Fernie.
—Bellevue vs. Coleman.
June 8.—Coal Creek vs. Bellevue.
—Fernie vs. Michel.
June 15.—Fernie vs. Bellevue.
—Coleman vs. Coal Creek.
June 22.—Fernie vs. Coleman.
—Coal Creek vs. Michel.
June 29.—Coleman vs. Bellevue.
—Michel vs. Coal Creek.
July 6.—Fernie vs Coal Corek.
—Bellevue vs. Michel.
July 13.—Coleman vs. Fernie.
—Michel vs. Bellevue.

The club colors for the coming season will be as follows:

Fernie—Green with white knickers.
Coal Creek.—Red and white.
Michel—Blue and white.
Bellevue—Green and white.
Coleman—Red and white.

The draw for the Fort Steele Brewing Co. Cup will take place at Michel on May 18th. The next meeting of the association to be held there on that date.

One important action taken by the association at this meeting was the decision to forbid betting by any referee or linesman on any game in which he is actively participating. Anyone found guilty of this practice will be suspended and forbidden to take any further part in the game in this district.

Clubs will, in future, be held responsible for the care of the various cups while they are in their possesion, and the Association will take up the question of insurance at their next meeting. With the various cups now open for competition, football in the Pass is receiving every encouragement, and all lovers of the game are assured of some good rousing games during the coming season.

CITY COUNCIL HOLD A BUSY SESSION

Mayor Bleasdell Given a Month's Leave of Absence—Supt Hammond Resigns

Two meetings of the City Council were held since last going to press—one on Friday night and another on Monday.

At the first meeting Dr. H. Anderson reported that the jail was insufficiently ventilated, and the matter was referred to the Works and Property Committee for investigation. Other business transacted was:

A letter from Harry Wilkes resigning his position as assistant fire chief was read, but at Monday's meeting it was decided to give Mr. Wilkes an increase of $10.00 a month and his resignation was withdrawn.

John Brown, engineer, got an increase of $10.00 a month. He had a reduction in salary last month of $10 and this now evens matters up.

Accounts were received from the Fernie Hotel and Mrs. Smith in connection with expenses incurred during the recent quarantine, but the Council refused to recognize any liability in this matter

A resignation was read from Supt. R. Hammond of the Light, Heat and Power Department, to take effect on April 30th. We understand that Mr Hammond intends making his home in Edmonton.

Mrs. Dewsbury sent in a claim for damages in consequence of having slipped on the sidewalk by the Canadian Bank of Commerce and sustained injuries. Legal advice was taken and Council advised not to accept liability.

Magistrate Whimster applied for an increase in salary, but the Council could not see its way clear to grant it.

A grant of $50.00 a month to date from January 1, 1912, was made to the City Band, and in consequence the band is to turn over their instruments, music, music stands and uniforms to be the property of the city.

The Mayor was voted $1200 a year.

On Monday Mayor Bleasdell was granted a month's leave of absence. Mrs. Bleasdell's health is not of the best and the Mayor will spend a holiday with her in Rochester, N. Y. During his absence Ald. Broley will act in his stead.

Estimates of the School Board amounting to $16,000, were accepted.

It was decided that all persons whose property is on the sewer system must have sewer connected by Aug. 1, 1912.

The Council will take no action in extending the water to the Fernie Annex Extension.

The city is desirous of making a road through the Elk Lumber Co's property, but that company has refused to give the right of way, and as a consequence the city will seek the law courts to compel the company to do so.

Certain sums of money were granted for the kalsomining of the City and Fire Hall.

THE CROW'S NEST PASS COAL CO.

Why This Great Corporation is Not Now Paying Dividends to Its First Shareholders

When Elias Rogers, of Toronto, president of the Crows Nest Pass Coal Company, Ltd., appeared before the Tax Commission to ask for relief from taxation on the ground that the mines were not paying, he was very pointedly asked whether that condition was not due to the present management?

Correspondence to hand endorses the recent comment we made on the connection of the Great Northern Railway Company interests with the Crow's Nest Pass Coal Company, and the suggestion is made that a thorough investigation should be made of the whole business, to be undertaken by the Government. It is pointed out that with its immense assets the Crows Nest Pass Coal Company should be one of the soundest and best investments on the market, paying steady dividends. Its present condition, with non-dividend and unquoted stock, under Great Northern Railway control, is compared with the sound standing of the stock and its dividend standard under Canadian management. Our correspondents give instances of families whose savings were invested in the stock under the belief that it should have been as sound an investment as government bonds, and a steady dividend-payer, only to find their investments in this company bringing them in practically nothing and their interests sacrificed for the enrichment of a foreign corporation.

We have pointed out in previous issues how the Great Northern Railway system has taken the mining industry of South Kootenay and Similkameen by the throat, and Canadian investors in the Crows Nest Coal Company are suffering from the same outrageous policy. British Columbia coal investments ought to stand in the front rank and nothing has done more to inure them than the manner in which the Canadian shareholders in the Crows Nest Pass Coal Company, Ltd., have been treated since this foreign railway corporation got control of its affairs. We have on the statute books of British Columbia a law drafted on the lines of the British Companies' Act to secure to the shareholders as a body a square deal. They are not getting it in this case, and it is high time the Legislature and the Government asserted the principle that no foreign corporation shall use the natural resources of the province for its enrichment at the expense of, and injustice to, our own people.—The B. C. Mining and Engineering Record.

Bituminous Miners Take Referendum

Anthracite Miners to Confer With Operators on 10th---Hopeful of Peaceable Settlemeut

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., April 1.—With only one or two exceptions the suspension in the coal mining industry of the country, which went into effect at midnight last night when the wage contracts between the members of the United Mine Workers of America and the bituminous and antharcite coal operators expired, was general today and approximately 400,000 miners are out of work. The country will miss more than 1,000,000 tons of coal and the miners are out about $1,000,000 in wages.

President White, of the miners, before starting for his home this afternoon, said that he expected the bituminous men to ratify the Cleveland agreement and return to work probably by April 20. He also predicted a speedy adjustment of a wage contract in the anthracite field when the miners and operators meet in Philadelphia on April 10. The ballots for the referendum vote on the bituminous agreement are being prepared in the national headquarters here and it is believed that they will be here April 15th.

THE NEW AGREEMENT FOR BITUMINOUS WORKERS

Five Cents Increase for Lump, Three Cents for Other Coal—Increase For Day Labor

CLEVELAND, Ohio, March 30. A sub-committee to which the operators and miners' conference had referred a compromise offer by the miners, said it had agreed to the settlement and the terms were being drawn up.

The terms as given out provide for increases in pay to the miners as follows: Five cents a ton for mining lump coal, 3 cents a ton for mining all other coal, a 5.26 per cent increase for men paid by the day.

E. A. Cole, representing the operators, and H. M. Taylor, representing the Illinois operators, said shortly before midnight last night that all the operators' of western Pennsylvania, Ohio, Illinois and Indiana had agreed to grant the increases.

They said the agreement would be the basis for making new wage scales for bituminous miners in other states.

RECOGNITION OF UNION DEMANDED

PHILADELPHIA, Pa. April 2.—Sentiment among the workers in the anthracite region seems to be crystallizing in favor of prolonging the layoff until the operators grant recognition to the union. At a meeting held today in Nanticoke, near Wilkes Barre, 1,000 miners, mostly Poles, declared that they would not accept a 10 per cent increase unless it was accompanied by union recognition. When one of the speakers announced that President Baer had said that the miners were not strong enough to strike, a score of workers jumped to their feet exclaiming, "Well, we'll show him."

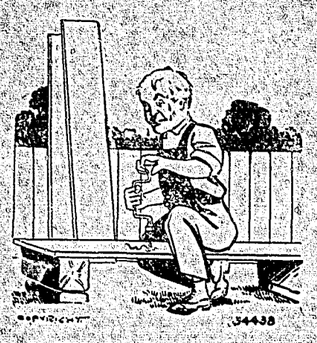
Both operators and miners, however, seem content to await the result of the conference to be held in this city on April 10 and none of the large companies made any attempt to work their breakers today.

NEGLIGENCE CAUSE OF MERRITT DISASTER

Investigation to Be Held

VICTORIA, B. C., March 29.—Premier McBride has taken cognizance of the verdict returned on Thursday by the coroner's jury which has been investigating at Merritt the circumstances attending the recent disaster at the mines of the Diamond Vale Coal Company, near that city. The jury in its finding held that the accident was occasioned by neglect of prescribed precautions on the part of the company, and further held the local inspector blameable in his not having posted, or seen to the posting of certain notices which are called for by the provisions of the Coal Mines Regulations Act. On Monday next the question of these serious charges will be taken up by the minister the department having determined upon the most searching investigation of the disaster, with a view to ascertaining if responsibility therefore is chargeable to neglect or non-compliance with any of the provisions of the law, and if so upon whom blame rests. It is expected that Chief Inspector Graham, who was despatched to Merritt immediately after the accident, will be back the first of the week to report personally and directly to the minister.

KENNEDY & MANGAN



s a Beastly Bore

don't you know, to be compelled to work with some lumber. It is full of knots or knot holes, the grain doesn't run straight and there are all kinds of trouble.

It Isn't Our Lumber

that works that way. Give us your next order and you'll find it an actual pleasure to work even in the hottest weather.

OFFICE and YARD, McPHERSON AVE., OPP. G. N. DEPOT, FERNIE

Out of the Depths

—I—

It was said of olden time:

"He hath put down the mighty from their seats and hath exalted them of low degree."

But in the present days, "God helps those who help themselves," and not until those of low degree raise themselves do the seats of the mighty shake and quiver and threaten to topple.

Out of the black darkness of a thousand hideous coal pits the miners of England have risen, a million strong, lifted themselves literally out of the bowels of the earth, and confront their exploiters, the mighty ones of the land, who, astounded by the grimy apparition now tremble in their seats, and in panic fear endeavor to placate the monstrous earth-gnome their oppression and exploitation has called forth from the depths of the pit.

Gone is their arrogant assumption of superior ability, gone their pride of intellect and assurance of domination, vanished is the hope of exorcising by force of arms the terrible Labor genii they have called into such menacing being by their enchantments and incantations.

With folded arms, this tremendous apparition, earth-stained and grimy with the ill-requited toil of centuries, with pick, shovel and crowbar lying idle at his feet, awaits what his erstwhile masters may decide.

They have called him, and he waits. And the world of industry waits with him.

For in a thousand mills the noise of the looms is stilled, and the wheels have ceased to revolve; on a thousand iron roads the mighty engines stand cold and idle; in a hundred harbors the giant steamships lie motionless at the docks or swing with the blind tide aimlessly at their moorings; in a thousand warehouses a million bales lie immovable—and Labor waits.

And the mighty ones who have exalted themselves and who have lived in pleasure on the earth and been wanton, who have nourished their hearts as in a day of slaughter, and kept back by fraud the hire of the laborers:

Their gold and silver is cankered and their riches corrupted, and the rust of it is as witness against them and eateth their hearts as it were fire:

And Labor waits.

And in their high council chambers there is wonder and affright, and babbling of tongues and vain repetitions. And the high priests and the rulers and elders are confounded and know not what to do.

For in their fears and anguish they are taking the holy vessels in the Temple of Mammon, their eternal laws of supply and demand, of wages and competition and freedom of contract, the sacred parchments which were written for them by their wise men that their kingdom might endure forever, and casting the fragments of them as a peace offering at the feet of the grimy giant who waits outside.

Though he asked them not, they offer unto him a "minimum wage" as a concession to his power: Not without much confusion and searching of hearts among themselves, for as a strong man armed they have kept their house, and now they fear that a stronger than they shall overcome them and rend from them their spoils and their place shall know them no more.

And while the exploiters and oppressors of other lands look anxiously and fearfully for the outcome, knowing that in the fullness of time they, too, will be confronted with the same menacing apparition—

Labor waits with folded arms—considering, deliberating.

For he is beginning to understand his erstwhile masters, their deceit, treachery, hypocrisy and cunning; the innumerable times he has been deceived by their false promises; their gifts of Dead Sea apples that have turned to dust and ashes in his mouth; their cruelty and vengeance in former years when they deemed him helpless; their present hypocritical whining anent the sufferings of the poor, and their sudden solicitude for the "humanity" they have heretofore exploited and defrauded and trampled under their hoofs.

He is wary of their promises—and he waits.

It is their move.

Down in the darkness of the mine, toiling, sweating, dying in heat and cold, racked with disease and tormented with hunger, he has been brooding upon these things, while his labor sent the national lifeblood coursing through the arteries of industry and production, and upon his shoulders was being borne the burden of the world—the world which his oppressors deemed their rightful heritage and which is now quivering and crumbling underneath them as the result of his arising: Just as nineteen hundred years since it is recorded the earth was shaken and the veil of the temple rent in twain as a portent of another resurrection that was to come.

For Labor has arisen, and his arising is rending the evil of the Temple of Mammon, of the money changers, and threatens to topple the mighty ones of earth from their seats.

He may know not to the full the purport of his own arising; he may, perhaps, through some slight concession, be temporarily sent back in sullen satisfaction to the pit whence he has digged himself, after digging for centuries for others; he may not as yet understand to the full his own power, nor formulate all his heart desires; but he is learning; he is acquiring knowledge; even in the dark and hideous coal pit, the partial light of Socialism has found its way to him, and when he stands in its full blazing beams he will know to the uttermost what he demands, and why, and realize he has the power to take, if any dare refuse.

Ignorant he may be, but he is acquiring knowledge. Labor, the Caliban of modern society, is learning his letters. Ugly, misshapen, monstrous as he may appear to the cultured aristocrat and the exploiter who has usurped the "divine right" of the old kings of earth, he is yet the work of their hands, he is what they have made him in the past, and the measure they have meted out to him he will in turn mete to them. For he is the child of Capitalism, and the heir apparent, slowly and painfully acquiring the knowledge of his heirship, and his heritage, the earth. That earth, on which for centuries e was deemed, and so deemed himself, a beast of burden, is his, when he has acquired full knowledge of his possession thereof. His claim will then be his title, and none can question it.

The knowledge he now lacks is possessed by his masters. Well they know his arising means the beginning of the end for them. And right well do they know that though they may persuade him back to the pit with large promises and meagre concessions, he will arise again and again, ever mightier than before, and others with him, finally comprehending his full wants and their powerlessness to resist his demands. That when he and his fellow toilers, those who load the great ships and go down to the sea in them, those who move the wheels on the network of iron roads, those who slave in factory, mill and workshop arise in unison as he has now risen. Labor will not wait the decision of its exploiters. He will take instead. The waiting time will have been spent.

But for the present, while the giant Labor is waiting, he is thinking also, and his thoughts are accumulating the knowledge which is power—power, the one thing needful.

Their wailing moves him not, nor does his ear attend to the babbling of the chief priests and the wise men, the prayers of the churches, the vain repetitions of the royal counselors and parliamentary intriguers, the dreary platitudes of the writers, and the pleadings of the "humanitarians" who rebuke him for his idleness, and the starvation of millions who suffer from his abandonment of toil. These things are of small account. The starvation of tens of millions never before disquited his advisers, while he toiled and also starved. He is thinking now of weightier matters, and even starvation is of no immediate importance. It has been borne so long in the past that a trifling increase now is of no great moment. Labor though waiting and apparently idle is busy in another way—busy thinking. It is unusual and unaccustomed activity, and he must be given time. He will take time anyhow. And while he meditates, let his advisers for the time being present what they have to offer him, and he will consider that also. There is no hurry. Great issues, such as this, need deliberation. Therefore, Labor waits.

The time is not yet arrived to put his house in order. When it has arrived, his first task will be to clear his advisers out of the premises.

* * *

In one of his most beautiful poems Victor Hugo shows us the Satyr of Mount Olympus, rising, hairy and black, into the proud assembly of the gods. They greet him with revilings. He responds with a song of defiance. Mercury gave hi mhis flute. Apollo subdued, reaches out to him his lyre The revolutionary song rises like an increasing shout to the vault of heaven, and the singer in his trun expands. The immensity of space enters into this black form; it is the entire world which rises and overthrows the throne of Jupiter.

Is not Socialism the Satyr of the Legend of the Centuries? At first, feeble like him, covered with mire, and hairy, despised when he appears. Later, they fear him when he begins to grow. But behold him growing still! He seizes the flute of Mercury; he grasps Apollo's lyre; he gathers to himself all the powers of art, all the arms of science; he rises before those who thought themselves immortal, and soon, his foot upon their throne, in the fullness of his power, he in his trun will cry to them.

"All must give way! I am Pan! Jupiter, sink to thy knees!"

* * *

And now is the curtain arising on this Legend of the Centuries, and already there are fear and trembling and perturbation among the old gods of the Capitalist Olympus." Black and hairy, the Labor Satyr has risen before them from the bowels of the earth, a million strong, ever expanding and growing ever mightier. He waits but though as yet only mutely challenging the British gods of capitalism, his assumption of the world form is anxiously an dfearfully looked for by the plutocratic gods of other lands, especially those of America, Germany and France. What shall they say to him when he appears in the fullness of his strength? Or rather, what shall he say to them? Shall we not again hear the echo of the words of the Pagan myth, the announcement: "All must give way! I am Labor! I am the World, and the world is mine!"

For this great British uprising is the cloud, once no greater than a man's hand, that now appears as a shadow portending the dusk of the evening of the old capitalist gods. The first great battalion mustering for the storming of Mount Olympus, the advance guard of the gathering hosts of Labor, the final conqueror of all.

Labor is arising. Those of low degree are emerging from the pit, and their arising is shaking the foundations of the old order of the world, and toppling the seats of the mighty, who imagine themselves forever lords of the earth and of their fellow men.

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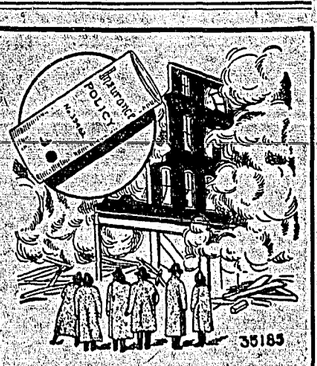

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On Which Side do You Stand After Reading This, Mr. Worker

By Allan L. Benson

(This article is abridged from Pearson's magazine for April, and is written by Allan L. Benson, author of "Socialism Made Plain." Get the magazine and read the article complete. Also show it to your neighbor.)

The occupation of the scarlet woman is said to be the "oldest profession." If so, the robbery of man by man is the oldest trade. It is as old as the human race. It had its origin in the difficulty of producing enough of the material necessities of life.

The earth was lean. Man was weak. Never was there enough food for all. Many must suffer. Some must starve.

What wonder that man robbed man? Self-preservation is the first law of nature.

But what wonder, also, that the robbed should resist those who robbed them? The robbed, too, have instinct of self preservation. They too, want to live. All through the ages they have fought for the right to live. By the sheer force of numbers they have driven their exploiters from pillar to post. Again and again they have compelled their exploiters to abandon one method of robbery, only to see them take up another. And, though some men no longer own otherer men's bodies, some men still live by the sweat of other men's brows.

The question is: Must this go on for ever? Must a few live so far from poverty that they cannot see it, while the rest live so close to it that they cannot see anything else? Must millions of women work in factories at men's work, while millions of men walk the streets unable to get any work? Must the cry of child-labor forever sound to high heaven?

No man in his senses will say that this situation must always exist. Human nature revolts at it. The wrong of it rouses the feelings even before it touches the intellect. Something within us tells us to cry out and to keep crying out until we find relief. We have tried almost every remedy that has been offered to us, but every remedy we have tried has failed. The hungry children are still with us. The hungry women are still with us.

Your Republican insurgent recognizes these facts and says something is the matter. Your Democratic insurgent also recognizes these facts and says something is the matter. But if you will carefully listen to these gentlemen, you will observe that neither of them believe much is the matter.

Socialists differ from each of these gentlemen. Socialists say much is the matter with this country. Socialists say much is the matter with any country, most of whose people are in want or in fear of want, and some of those people are where want never comes or can come. Some such conditions might have been tolerated a thousand years ago. Socialists will not tolerate them today. They say the time for poverty passed when man substituted steam and electricity for his muscles and machinery for his fingers.

But poverty did not go out when steam and electricity came in. On the contrary, the fear of want became intensified. Now, nobody who has not capital can live unless he can get a job. In the days that preceded the steam engine, nobody had to look for a job. Everybody owned his own job. The shoemaker could make shoes for his neighbors. The weavers could weave cloth. Each could work at his trade without anybody's permission, because the tools of their trades were few and inexpensive.

Now, neither of them can work at his trade, because the tools of his trade have become numerous and expensive. The tools of the shoemaker's trade are in the great factory that covers, perhaps, a dozen acres. The tools of the weaver's trade are in another enormous factory. Neither the shoemaker nor the weaver can ever hope to own the tools of his trade Nor, with the little hand-tools of the past centuries, can either of them compete with the modern factories. The shoe trust, with steam, electricity and machinery, can make a pair of shoes at a price that no shoemaker, working by hand, could touch.

Thus, the hand-workers have been driven to knock at the doors of the factories that rich men own and ask for work. If the rich man sees a profit in letting the poor men work, the poor men are permitted to work. If the rich men cannot see a profit in letting the poor men work, then the poor men may not work. Though there be the greatest need for shoes, if those in need have no money, the rich men lock up their factories and wave the workers away. The workers may become tramps, criminals or maniacs; their wives and their children may be driven into the street—but the rich men who closed their factories because they could see no profit in keeping them open—these rich men take no part in the responsibility. They talk about the "laws of trade," go to their clubs and have a little smoke, and, perhaps next week give a few dollars to "worthy charity" and forget all about the workers.

Now, Socialists are extremely tired of all this. They say it is all wrong. Not only do they say it is all wrong, but they say they know how to make it right. They do not propose to do any small job of tinkering, because they say that if small jobs of tinkering were enough to cure the great evil of poverty, we should have cured it long ago. They say we have been tinkering with tariffs, income taxes and the money question for a hundred years without reducing either want or the fear of want. By this, they mean that we have never cut the tap root upon which robbery grows. The serfs cut off the tap root when they threw off chattel slavery, but another tap root has grown and we have not yet discovered where to strike.

The Socialists say they know where to strike.

Socialists observe past and present industrial life and thereby forecast the future. Paradoxically, then, the Socialist remedy is not a Socialist remedy. If it is anything, it is the remedy that evolution is bringing to us. Socialists see what evolution is bringing and proclaim it, much as a trainman announces the coming of a train that he already sees rounding a curve.

Let me tell a story to illustrate this point:

Seventy years ago, Socialist writers predicted and accurately described the trusts as they exist today. Nobody paid much attention to the predictions or the descriptions. Nowhere in the world was there a single trust.

Nowhere in the world was any one thinking of forming one. The first trust was not formed until almost 40 years later.

The trusts were predicted because the steam engine had been invented and brought with it machinery. The invention did not mean much to most people. It meant everything to these early Socialists. They saw its significance. They saw that it meant a transformed world. Never again would the world be as it had always been. Never again would the amount of wealth that man could create be limited by his weak muscles. Steam and machinery had come to do not only what he had been doing, but what he had never dreamed of doing.

The only lesson that the rich men of the day learned from steam was that it meant more money for them. The rich men of the day, by the way, were in need of a new method of exploitation. Serfdom had just gone down in the Napoleonic wars, and some men were no longer able to exploit other men by claiming to own the other men's bodies. Exploitation, through the private ownership of land, still continued, it is true, but a man who is working by hand cannot be much exploited because he cannot make much.

What I means by this is that he cannot be exploted of many dollars. Of course, he can be exploited of so great a percentage of his product that he is left starving, but the man who exploits him will not be much richer. That is why there were no great fortunes as we now know them in the days before the machinery age. Wealth was too difficult to make.

But to return to our story. The invention of the steam engine gave the rich man of the early eighteenth century the opportunity of which they stood much in need. Factories cost money. The workers did not have any. The rich men did. The rich men built factories. That is to say, they thought they were only building factories. As a matter of fact they were taking over from the hands of evolution the poor man's tools. Never again were working men to own the tools of their trades. Their tools had gone down in the struggle in which the survivors must be the fittest.

All of this the early Socialists saw or reasoned out. They saw the rich men of the day building factories.

They saw those who were not quite so rich joining together to build factories. Little co-partnerships were springing up all over the world. Everybody competed with everybody else in his line. Manufacturers multiplied, and it became the common belief that "competition was the life of trade."

The early Socialist writers who predicted the trusts did not believe competition was the life of trade. They believed the inevitable tendency of competition was to kill itself. Their reasoning took this form:

"Manufacturers engage in business not because they want to supply goods to the public, but because they want to make profits for themselves.

"Inasmuch as the question of who shall make the profits depends upon who shall sell the goods, manufacturers will compete with each other to sell goods.

"Manufacturers will be able to compete and still make a profit so long as the demand for goods far exceeds the supply.

"But the demand for goods will not always far exceed the supply. The opportunity to make profits will tempt other capitalists to create manufacturing enterprises. The market will become glutted with goods, because more will have been produced than the people can pay for.

"Competition among manufacturers will then become so fierce that profits will first shrink and then disappear.

"Manufacturers, to regain their profits, will then cease to compete. The strongest will buy out or crush the weakest. Monopolies will be formed, primarily to end competition and save the competitors from themselves, but, having been formed, they will also be used TO ROB THE PEOPLE."

Mind you—this reasoning is not new. It is seventy years old. It sounds new only because it has so recently come true. Nobody whose eyes are open now believes that competition is the life of trade. The phrase has died upon the lips of the very men who used to speak it. The late Senator Hanna was one of the many who used to believe that good trade could not be where competition was not. But, when the great trust movement of 1898 was under way, Senator Hanna said: "It is not a question of whether business men do or do not believe in trusts. It is a question only of whether business men want to be killed by competition or saved by co-operation."

However, the existence of the trusts is ample verification of the Socialist prophecy that they would come. And the trusts came in the way that the early Socialists said they would come.

No Socialist ever has or ever will find fault with a trust simply for existing. Socialists take this position.

It is flying in the face of evolution itself to talk about destroying or even effectually regulating the trusts.

Private monopolies cannot be destroyed except as green apples can be destroyed—by crushing them and staying the evolutionary process that, if left alone, will yield good fruit.

Socialists say that the processes of evolution should go on. What do they mean by this? They mean that the good elements of the trust principle should be preserved and the bad element destroyed. What are the good elements? The economies of large well-ordered production, and the avoidance of the waste due to haphazard, competitive production. And the bad elements? The powers that private monopoly gives, through control of markets and governmental policies, to rob the consumer.

Socialists contend that the good can be saved and the bad destroyed by converting the private monopolies into public monopolies—in other words, by letting the government own the trusts and the people own the government. This may seem like what Mr. Taft would call a "patent nostrum." It is nothing of the kind. It is no more a patent nostrum than the trusts are patent nostrums. Socialists invented neither private nor public monopolies. Socialists did not kill competition.

Competition killed itself. Socialists simply were able to foresee that too much competition would end all competition and thus give birth to private monopoly. And, having seen thus far they looked a little further and saw that private monopoly would not be an unmixed blessing. They saw that under it robbery would be practiced in new, strange and colossal forms. They knew the people would not like robbery in any form. They knew they would cry out against it as the are crying out against the trusts today. And they believed that after having tried to destroy the trusts and failed at that; after having tried to regulate the trusts and failed at that, that the people would cease trying to buck evolution, and get for themselves the benefits of the trusts by owning them.

This is the gist of real Socialism, the very core—public ownership of the trusts combined with public ownership of the government.

WORLD'S COAL

A general report on the coal production and consumption of the principal countries of the world, issued by the Board of Trade, shows that the output of coal in the five principal coal producing countries in 1910 was as follows:

United Kingdom	264,433,000
Germany	150,372,000
France	37,254,000
Belgium	23,532,000
United States	447,837,000

In each of these countries, with the exception of the United Kingdom, the production in 1910 exceeded that of any previous year, their aggregate being 923 million tons, or an increase of 42 million tons on the output of 1909, and 27 million tons more than in 1907, when the highest previous total was reached.

Except in the United States and Germany the increases were small, the former country accounting for over 36 million tons, and the latter for four million tons of the increase over 1909.

In the United Kingdom the output in 1910 fell short of that of 1907 by nearly 3½ million tons. Of the remaining countries included in the tables, Russia alone had a production exceeding 20 million tons. The total known coal production of the world (exclusive of brown coal or lignite) in 1910 was about 1,035 million tons, of which the United Kingdom produced more than one-fourth. As compared with its population, the production of coal in the United Kingdom, which amounts to nearly six tons per head, still surpasses that in the United States, where it is under five tons per head.

The average value per ton has increased considerably in each of the European countries mentioned during the last 25 years. The output of coal in the principal parts of the British Empire in 1910 was:

British India	12,047,000
Australia	9,759,000
New Zealand	2,197,000
Canada	11,425,000
South Africa	6,436,000

In 1910 the production of coal in Canada, New Zealand, and South Africa was larger than has been recorded for any previous year, being over 2,000,000 tons more in Canada, and nearly 1,000,000 tons more in South Africa than in 1909.

In India and Australia the output last year has only been exceeded by that of 1908. In British India, South Africa and Australia the average value of coal produced was lower, and in New Zealand and Canada higher in each of the years 1907 to 1910 than in the Mother Country.

With regard to the number of persons employed in the coal mining industry a far larger number is employed in the United Kingdom than in any other country. In 1909 the number of persons employed in coal mining above and below ground in each of the principal producing countries was as follows, viz:

United Kingdom	992,300
United States	666,666
Germany	613,200
France	187,200
Belgium	143,000

The total consumption of coal in the United States is now considerably more than twice as great as that in the United Kingdom, which has the next largest consumption. The consumption of coal per head in the United Kingdom was 4.01 tons, against 3.99 in the preceding year.

A return showing the quantity of coal consumed for locomotive purposes by the railway companies in the United Kingdom shows that the amount of coal so consumed was 12,472,479 tons in 1910, as compared with 12,379,615 tons in 1909, and 12,403,363 tons in 1908.

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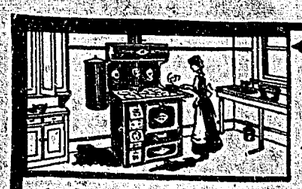
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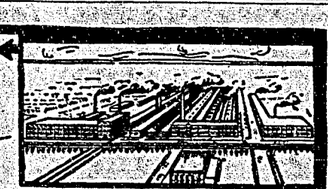
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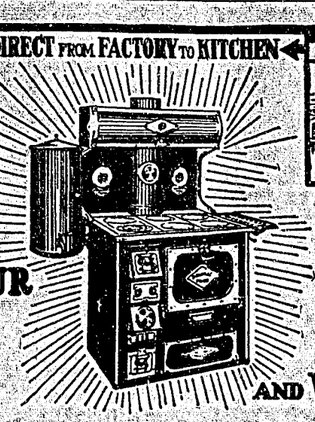
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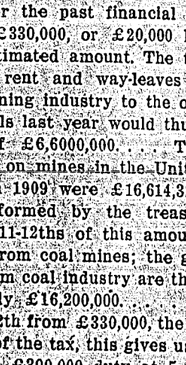
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Tells of Coal Trade Profits

A clear understanding of the profits made in the coal trade would, I venture to think, be of interest to the public at the present times, writes Sir Arthur B. Markham in the London Daily News. Owing to the courtesy of the Chancellor of the Exchequer I am now able to state with a fair degree of accuracy what these profits are. The mineral rights duty imposed a tax of 5 per cent on mining royalties, rents and way-leaves, and this tax the treasury estimates will for the past financial lear produce £330,000, or £20,000 less than the estimated amount. The total royalties, rent and way-leaves paid by the mining industry to the owners of minerals last year would thus be the sum of £6,6000,000. The gross profits on mines in the United Kingdom in 1909 were £16,614,322, and I am informed by the treasury that about 11-12ths of this amount is derived from coal mines; the gross profits from coal industry are thus approximately £16,200,000. Deducting 1-12th from £330,000, the total proceeds of the tax, this gives us approximately £300,000 duty at 5 per cent, arising from coal (no increment duty the commissioners say in their report, has yet been levied). The landlords thus received last year a capital sum of approximately £6,000,000 from coal royalties.

Sixpence a Ton

The output of coal for 1910 was 264,417,588 tons; in 1909, the output was practicalyl the same, 263,774,312 tons. The gross profits derived from coal mines, I have already shown, amount to £15,200,000. From this sum the royalties paid to the landlords have now to be deducted. We now have a gross profit on the working of coal mines of £9,200,000, which on the outputs above stated represents an average gross profit of approximately 8 1-4d. per ton of coal raised.

A coal mine is a wasting asset, for when the minerals are exhautsed the plant has no value other than for scrap purposes. The usual practice is to charge 2d. per ton against working costs, to provide a sinking fund for this redemption, in some cases this amount has to be from 3d. to 4d. per ton where, owing to water or faults, a heavy capital expenditure has been incurred. Colliery companies thus pay income tax, not only on their profits, but on their capital expenditure. The net profits made in this industry are thus, on the aver ge about 6 1-4d per ton. The gross profit of 8 1-4d cannot be questioned as being an under-estimate, for in the government returns under mines are included profits arising from hundreds of thousands of wagons employed in the industry, profits from iron and steel works, foundries, brick and tile making, and many other like trades.

An average profit of 6d. per ton is, therefore, a conservative estimate.

"Mr. G. Richardson, the labor member for Whitehaven, and Mr. Arthur Walbank, of the firm of John Walbank, chartered accountants, Newcastle-on-Tyne, have recently jointly published a book entitled "Profits and Wages in the Coal Trade."

Messrs. Richardson and Walbank state that the profits derived from mines for 1909 were £16,614,322, that in this year 997,708 persons were employed in mines, and that 5s. per week can be added to the miners' wages all round, and still give a profit to the capital sunk in the trade of 3 per cent per annum on the average.

Some rich business men have formed an organization the avowed purpose of which is to fight "Socialitsic heresies." It is reported that a noted instructor has been forced to resign from the faculty of an eastern university because he believed in Socialism. It is certain that a preacher was asked to resign from a Fifth Avenue church (in New York) because he preached Socialism. The Marquis of Queensbury recently said that England had been saved from a revolution by semi-Socialism. Socialists hold the balance of power in the government of Germany, and German Social-Democrats are credited with having prevented a war last summer between England and Germany. And in our own country Socialism is increasing astonishingly. Well-informed men expect two million Socialistic votes at the next presidential election.—Editor, Pearson's Magazine.

Here are six of the new Spring Styles in Fit-Reform Suits and Overcoats.

They are marked by a delightful simplicity that distinguishes the truly elegant.

Every style is a Fit-Reform creation—every pattern is exclusive with Fit-Reform.

Fit-Reform
The Crow's Nest Trading Co.

533

The District Ledger

Published every Saturday morning at its office, Pellat Avenue, Fernie, B.C. Subscription $1.00 per year in advance. An excellent advertising medium. argest circulation in the District. Advertising rates on application. Up-to-date facilities for the execution of all kinds of book, job and color work. Mail orders receive special attention. Address all communications to The District Ledger.

H. P. NERWICH, Editor.

Telephone No. 48. Post Office Box No. 380

ARE WE DOWNHEARTED?—NO ! ! !

NOW that the heat of the campaign is o'er we can take stock of the situation and our environments. In more closely perusing the election figures it will be found that the Socialist party has gained close upon two hundred adherents since the bye-election in 1910. If the vote be further analysed it will be seen that the gains are even still greater. The Socialist candidate in 1910 was J. W. Bennett, a man well-known in the Pass and one who is popular with all sections of the community and consequently must have received a large "personal" vote. Davidson, on the other hand, is a stranger in this part of the country, and had to rely solely upon the principles he stands for. Another matter which must be borne in mind is that the time the voters' lists were last made up the district was in an industrial turmoil, and little heed was given by the man on strike to politics. Since then also, many of the workers have, through force of circumstances, been compelled to move elsewhere in seach of that inevitable "job." And yet another instance that militated against the Socialist candidate was the fact that the Liberals in this election fully realied their own class interest and allied themselves with the Conservatives. We do not regret this, but on the contrary rejoice that the distinction between capital and labor in this riding is complete, and that the fight between these two opposing interests is a straight one. The Liberals, sooner or later, had to be driven into the Capitalist ranks, and that it came "sooner" makes it all the easier for us to achieve our end. In these circumstances it is not surprising that the Conservatives are for the time being our masters. The business element voted for what they considered "prosperity," and we shall see how soon they will get it. Perhaps they will realize before another election comes to pass that a country is prosperous only when the mass of its inhabitants are contented. Roads, trails and bridges constructed as they are by the worker for a miserable pittance, does not necessarily mean prosperity. The average workingman does not earn sufficient to enable him to ride on the roads he builds for Mackenzie and Mann, and the rest. He however, gets the privilege of "hitting the ties" he lays down.

That not all workingmen realize their own precarious condition is only too true. It is unfortunate that the man whom it concerns most—the lumberjack, the railroad construction man—is blind to his own interests. Truly "none so blind as those who will not see." But, give them a few years of McBride's "Prosperity" and their eyes will be opened. When they look upon the thousands of miles of railroads they have built, when they look upon their own handicraft all around them, and when they look into their own empty pockets and see what "great benefit" this "Prosperity" has been to them, they will exclaim, "What fools we are!"

On the other hand, the vote of the miners has been most satisfactory. Fernie, Coal Creek and Michel have done exceedingly well. That Fernie should turn up a Socialist vote within eighty of the Conservative candidate is most gratifying. The odds against us in this city with its large business element, and still more "influential" hotel vote, is enormous, and the miners' vote must have, therefore, been pretty solid to make up the 368 cast for Davidson. This is but another proof that where man are given the opportunity of getting together, viz., in the large camps, the seed and germ of Socialism finds a welcome resting place. It is only in the isolated districts far away from all cvilization that darkness still holds sway. Yet, light must eventually penetrate even these remote parts.

EARLY CLOSING

FROM time to time the question of an early closing day for the benefit of those working in stores and offices is broached, and in Fernie it has been advocated on more than one occasion. If we are not mistaken a prominent pastor of one of our local churches took up this question from the pulpit some time ago. However, it does not appear that anything has been done by those mostly affected to ensure the granting of this privilege from the merchants of this city.

The warm weather is now upon us and though we do not for one moment doubt that the employees of the various stores in this city are imbued with what Lafargue calls the "passion for work," still there is no gainsaying the fact that a little more leisure than they now get would be beneficial.

In other parts of the Dominion the merchants have seen fit to fight their employees on this question. In this part of the country where the proprietor or manager of a store is himself a worker it should need no great amount of reasoning to demonstrate the benefits accruing both to himself and his employees devoting half a day each week to recreation. So far as profits are concerned there is nothing to be lost if the merchants will make a mutual arrangement amongst themselves to close down for this short space of time each week.

Some little time ago this matter was thrashed out in Nelson, and the merchants there, with but one exception, agreed to an early closing day during the summer months. In most civilized countries this matter has been settled for some time, but here in the West it is surely about time we began to realize that life is not altogether made up in dollars and cents.

"All work and no play" seems to be the motto of a great many of the business men of the Western country. The clerks have no organization through which they can make any demands for consideration, but there is little doubt that if they make their requests known all fair-minded citizens will support them. The customers of the various stores do not need any persuasion to arrange their purchasing to suit what arrangements can be made along these lines. Perhaps after all the best way would be for the City Council to pass an Early Closing By-law, it such is in their province, which would doubtless receive the support of the merchants themselves, as well as others interested in the welfare of those whose work is confined to offiers and stores.

"SUBSIDARY COMPANIES" AND THE IGNORANT (?) WORKING MAN!

On our front page we reproduce a cutting from the "B. C. Mining and Engineering Record" which, according to our thinking makes excellent reading. From this cutting we learn that the President of the Crows Nest Pass Coal Co. has been squealing about his taxes and applying for relief. Last year the mine workers of this company were asking for relief; and towards the end of that struggle—the strike—a remarkable article appeared in our contemporary, and which had every appearance of being "inspired." In the course of that article the following sentence occurred: "They have been filled up with rot as to the concealment of profits through the operations of 'subsidary companies,' . . . . . For our part we cannot help thinking what a number of people are willing to be "filled with rot," and we presume that they are not all ignorant (?) miners.

We are not out criticizing individuals or even the present management of the mines, but we are out to say that no man, be his politics or creed what they may, would venture to assert that the Crows Nest Pass Coal Company has not been managed with anything approaching sanity—and this is not too strong a statement. No business venture can afford to run on the lines this company has been run and hope to pay a divident—and this quite apart from the juggling of "subsidary interests." The statement made by the present manager before the Conciliation Board in Fernie is one (if true) that qualifies the management for New Westminster or some other Government place of detention. The B. C. Mining and Engineering Record's comment about the shareholders getting a square deal is pathetic when we compare some of the statements that have from time to time eminated from the officials of the C. N. P. C. C. of how this company was "up against it"—absolutely the most unfortunate concern in the west! And some of the mineworkers in Fernie and Michel who are "waiting" for their job will endorse this statement. But still the game goes on, and NOW—NOW we are in for "prosperous" times—but 'tis passing strange that Elias Rogers, of Toronto, thinks otherwise. Perhaps the government will take a peep at things as the B. C. Mining and Engineering Record suggests?

EDITORIAL COMMENTS

The Socialist vote in the Fernie riding grows in spite of all the opposition and the tinkering with the voters' list.

* * *

The capitalists of this province have as good as told the Liberal Party that "there is no room for him in the inn."

* * *

What did it cost the Conservative Party to contest the Fernie Riding? Address replies to P. O. Drawer 380, City.

* * *

The vote in favor of church union is not very acceptable to those who thrive on the differences on religious questions. It's an economic question after all.

* * *

The comment from various newspapers in the Province on the result of the political campaign shows up the mental prostitution of the press in this part of the Dominion.

* * *

The McBride Government keeps its political machine well oiled for election purposes, that's why you don't hear many Conservatives shouting about the triumph of their principles. Their convictions are by no means very convincing.

* * *

The next session of the B. C. Legislature will demonstrate to the workers of this province that the interests of capital are represented by 40 Conservatives and the interests of the working class by two Socialists—the class division cannot be hidden.

* * *

We would draw the attention of our readers that every British subject paying his road tax of $2.00 is entitled to be placed on the register at the City Hall. For this purpose he must make his application in person. The inconvenience is but little, and the benefits that may accrue from a solid workingmen's vote are many and great.

* * *

"That the most gratifying feature of the campaign was the manly fashion in which Mr. McBride stood up to the Socialists" (The Week, Victoria.) As for example in Greenwood, when the Premier descended to abuse when the Socialist candidate requested the privilege of using the Conservative platform.

* * *

Those who voted for Ross and Prosperity will be anxiously awaiting developments. Some of these hopefuls do not know how it is coming, but if they cannot get a slice for themselves, they will be content that the rest of the people get some share, even if it is only $2.50 per day on a railroad construction gang.

* * *

The enthusiastic meeting held by the Socialists in the Basement of the Miners Hall on Sunday evening last is sufficient guarantee that the work of preparation for the next political campaign is started off in no uncertain manner. We are in the game to win, and behnd us we have the intelligence of those who produce the wealth of the world.

* * *

We had a remarkable suggestion from a gentleman who thinks he has solved the whole social problem, and his suggestion was that all Socialists should get into a new country and start (we presume he meant) on the communist principle. He thought this would be a great way of letting them "experiment." For the edification of that gentleman, and many more like him, we would state that Socialists—and when we say Socialists, we know that we are talking about the workers—have no intention of leaving the capitalist class an open field; and further, the capitalist has no intention of losing an opportunity of exploiting the worker by allowing his to depart into "a far off land" and dwell therein. Under the present system the capitalist cannot do without the Socialist and the Socialist cannot do without the captalist—and therein lies the kernel of our efforts to destroy the present capitalist system. We are the many—the workers; they are the few—the drones.

APPEAL FOR AID

Indianapolis, Ind., March 29, 1912

To the Local Unions, United Mine Workers of America, Sister Craft Organiations and the Public in General,

Greeting:

On Thursday, March 21st, 1912, a terrible disaster occurred at McCurtain, Okla., wherein eighty-four of our members lost their lives, leaving behind them nearly 300 women and children dependents.

There is no language that can fully and adequately describe the heart-rending scenes at this once prosperous and progressive village. A generous and sympathizing public has responded promptly for the present relief of the sufferers.

The details of the methods of distributing relief for the permanent welfare of the needy, have not yet been fully decided upon. There will probably be a joint committee of interests, *selected for the purpose* of taking full charge to see that the funds are used properly and for those who may be in need now and in the future.

We are of the opinion that a permanent fund should be created for the purpose of taking care of our people. We would suggest that all moneys contributed or donated for the relief of the sufferers at McCurtain, Okla., be forwarded to Edwin Perry, International Secretary-Treasurer, 1106 State Life Building, Indianapolis, Ind., and the amounts received will be receipted and acknowledged weekly through the columns of the United Mine Workers' Journal.

With the hope that organized labor and the general public will respond to this appeal promptly and as liberally as their means will allow, we are,

Respectfully yours,

JOHN P. WHITE, President,
FRANK J. HAYES, Vice-President,
EDWIN PERRY, Secretary-Treasurer.

VOTES FOR THE WOMEN

WHY I WANT WOMAN SUFFRAGE

Part of an Article in Collier's Weekly for March 16.

By Frederic C. Howe

Long habit has made men think in terms of dollars. Long habit has made women think in terms of husbands, children and unborn babes. Men vote the terms they think in. That is what the women did in Colorado. They voted in terms of the home.

I want a civilization in which one-half the people will vote in terms of humanity rather than in terms of property.

I want to live in a world that is free from the law-made privileges that beget the poverty from which we all suffer; free from the terror of hard times, of lost jobs, of periods of sickness and accident almost as fearful as death.

I want to live in a world where one hundred warships, costing $200,000,000 will not be proudly paraded before a city too poor to feed its hungry school children; to live in a world where the opinions of long-dead grandfathers inscribed in constitutions will be of less consequence than the mangled arms and limbs and the destitute women and children of our factory workers; where breaker boys will not be permitted in coal mines, where it will be criminal to place little children in canneries, chemical vats, glass mills, or phosphorus facfories.

I want to live in a city where the daily wages of women and girls will support life; where the lost job means something other than the street or starvation. I want o live in a country where prostitution will not be the price we pay for our bargain counter economies; in a country where the doors of the prison will open outward for those who have become tangled in the machinery of the modern industrial world.

I want to live in a world that hates these things, hates them so thoroughly that it will abolish them.

I want to live in a world that thinks of its people rather than of business of consumers rather than producers, of users rather than makers, of tenants rather than owners; in a world where life is more important than property, and human labor is more important than property, and human labor more valuable than privilege.

As women are consumers, users, and tenants, rather than producers, makers and owners, I have hopes for a society in which women have and use the ballot.

I want woman suffrage because I believe women will correct many of these lawmade wrongs that man has made. For women will vote in terms of human life rather than in terms of special privilege.

Men might continue to vote for the hunger taxes on all that goes on to the table. Men do not know how many dollars are taken from the weekly pay envelope because of the tariff.

Woman will know.

And when she learns that the price of sugar behind the tariff wall in New York is twice what it is in Hamburg and London, she will want to save her share of the $150,000,000 that experts say the tariff exacts from all of us for the benefit of the Sugar Trust and planters and beet sugar growers.

Women with babies will think more about the prohibitive cost of woolen blankets, underwear and clothes than men do. She knows what it is to pay monopoly prices for woolen goods which turn out to be shoddy or cotton; knows the cost of sickness and industrial accidents to those she holds dearer than her life. Woman will have to be shown that wages at $7 to $9 a week for a man and $3 to $6 a week for a woman, with from 20 to 100 per cent dividends for stockholders of textile mills, is really protection to American labor.

Woman does not know the meaning of "bulls" and "bears," of "long" and "short," of stocks and bonds. She will not tremble when Wall Street threatens to close the banks and the factories if its privileges are disturbed. She may get hysterical over dirty streets, inadequate schools, crowded street cars, and monopoly prices, but she will not be terrorized by the scare headlines of a subsidized press.

Women read the foolish gossip of the fashion page, but they do not read the foolish gossip of the stock market page They may vote in ignorance, but at least they won't think themselves wise when they merely vote *the opinions of those who control the agencies* for making false public opinion.

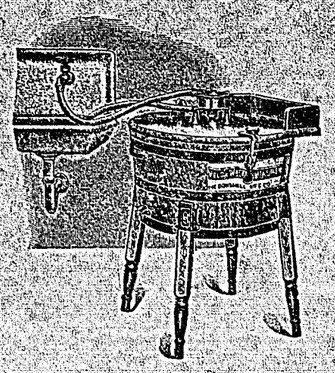
Women will have to be shown.

SWEDISH WOMEN GET THE FRANCHISE

STOCKHOLM, April 2.—The Swedish government introduced a bill into parliament today extending to women the parliamentary franchise and the right to stand for election to parliament on the same conditions as men.

Women whose husbands have not paid their taxes for three years are excluded from the vote.

The Eady Sits and Sews while the Washer goes



Get a Water Motor Washer and Be Happy

J. D. QUAIL

Hardware FERNIE Furniture

The ISIS

People's Popular Picture Playhouse

Brother Bob's Baby
Comedy

Troublesome Picture
Comedy

Fun on Board U.S.S. Vermont

The Cross

Gaumont Graphics, Nos. 94 & 96

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Gotch-Zbyzko
World's championship wrestling bout at Chicago, Ill.

Free to Lady Patrons--Beautiful Silver Spoon
For two coupons, issued Tues., Thurs., & Sat. Matinee

Coming--East Lynne
Two Reels—A Drama

C. E. LYONS
Insurance, Real Estate and Loans

Money to Loan on first class Business and Residential property

W. M. JEFFRIES
Jewelery Repairing a Specialty
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High class selection of
Watches, Clocks and Novelties

PRICES TO SUIT THE TIMES

Special Sale of Flatware

Bone-handled Tea or Dinner Knives, at $1.25 per half doz.
1835 Wallace Bros. Tea or Dinner knives, $2.00 per half doz.
½ Doz. only Dinner Knives, best plate, $1.75
½ Doz. only Toronto Silver Plate Tea Knives, $2.25.
1847 Rogers' Bros. Dinner Knives, $2.00 per half doz.
Rogers' Best Plated Table Spoons at 45c. each.
Wm. Rogers and Son Table Spoons $1.75 per half doz.
1847 Rogers' Bros. Table Spoons, $2.75 per half doz.
1847 Rogers' Bros. Dessert Spoons $2.50 per half doz.
Tea and Dinner Forks, best plate, $1.75 per half doz.
Wm. Rogers' and Son Dinner Forks, $1.50 per half doz.
Wm. Rogers' and Son A1 Tea Forks, $1.75 per half doz.

A. C. LIPHARDT, JEWELER

Try a District Ledger Ad.

News of The District Camps

CORBIN NOTES
By "Warbler."

Things apparently are going to "boom" in Corbin, and the mine is working fairly steady this last week or so. We hope it will not prove a flash in the pan, for the men certainly will not kick on a little steady work now. Guess it will all go to Uncle Sam, though.

It is with regret that we have to chronicle the death of an Italian brother who was killed by a fall of coal on Tuesday morning. He leaves a wife and child in Italy.

Mr. G. W. Pellan, the popular tipple boss, hopes to celebrate the occasion in the near future. The future Mrs. Pellan is a real "beaut," and George will, if looks count for anything, have no future regrets.

The weekly dance passed off O.K. Everyone appeared to be in good trim, and it was gratifying to see such a splendid muster of ladies. The music was good and the "Old Grey Bonnet" had a warm old time, fairly had the stuff kicked out of it.

The farewell dance to Mr and Mrs. Hugh Bell and family takes place on the evening of the 3rd. The ladies of Corbin have the arrangements in hand so that success is assured. About 80 invitations are out and everyone is looking forward to a good time.

Do you see any green?

It is said that the lates craze in Corbin is physical culture, and in the near future we expetc to provide the athletic world with a full-fledged champion. It may be inopportune to mention names just now, but I may say that this aspirant, although at a disadvantage intellectually, evidently realizes the possibilities which lie concealed in his manly frame, and with a view to developing his dormant sinews has hit upon a method as amusing as it is unique. One would think that a pit boss would look for something easier to manipulate in the pursuit of his favorite hobby than a 14 ft. collar. But I am informed that this particular pit boss is rapidly acquiring the habit of sending home the timber packers and doing the job himself. This is great dope for the biceps, so they say, but naturally, for one so unaccustomed to "manual" is too laborious to follow regularly.

Needless to say there is a marked improvement in his physique since he went into training, and we all sincerely hope that this strenuous and continued exercise will have no disastrous effect on his general health, but that one fostering such noble ambitions may meet with no obstacles in the attainment of success.

FRANK NOTES

Miss Mushkat lady speaker of the Socialist Party, has been in the Pass this week On Monday night she delivered an addresse in the Blairmore Union Hall, on "The Class Struggle," in which she pointed out the cause of the struggle between the working man and the capitalist. What puts money in the hands of one takes it out of the other, and thus it cannot be expected that a government representing the money men would legislate in favor of something that would check capitalism. She also spoke there on Tuesday night, and is expected in Frank on Friday night.

Walter Wrigley, an old timer in Crows Nest Pass, spent part of the past week renewing old acquaintances in town. He left on Tuesday for the Pocohontas, his home at present.

Another runaway in town this week Mr. Hanley, driver for Thomson, of Blairmore, left his horse near the station, and the next thing he saw was the horse going down Main Street with the waggon seat on the end of the lines, all the rest was left at the station. After running around town furiously, the horse was caught, and no damage of any consequence was done.

A. S. Blais, who has been among the popular business men of Frank for some time, has bought out J. Raynor's business, of Bellevue. He took it over last Monday morning. For the present it is being managed by Mr. W. W. Scott We wish Mr Blais every success in his new enterprise and regret losing him from town, as he has taken a great interest in everything belonging to the welfare of the town. At the present time, and for the past two years he has done good work on the school board and it is on account of their untiring efforts that we can boast of one of the best and most modern equipped school buildings in the Pass.

Misses Mary Simpson and Lilian Thomas spent Wednesday visiting at Hillcrest.

Mr. Andrew, scale inspector for the C. P. R, spent Sunday last in town

Mr Henderson, head manager of the Frank Lime Works, has been in town for the past week looking after the interests of the company.

A. A. Muller, manager of the Keystone Cement Works, left for Paris last week.

Mr. Thomas, of Lille, has bought out Mar On's Store at Blairmore and has already opened up business there.

Born, to Mr and Mrs. R. McGowan, on Saturday, the 30th inst, in Calgary, a son.

Mr. L. W. Kribbs and Mrs Kribbs have moved to Blairmore.

Mr. Bonamica has moved away from town.

While travelling on an engine between here and Crows Nest, on Monday morning, one of the firemen of a local switch crew got badly hurt, coming past Blairmore Station. Owing to some signal being given him he jumped off the engine on to the platform with the train going at full speed. He tore the heels off his shoes and got a bad cut on the head. When picked up he was unconscious, and was taken to Lethbridge Hospital.

Tony Poch has left P. Burns' butcher shop owing to the slackness in business.

The Union Bank of Canada, which has had headquarters here for several of the Pass branches, closed down on Saturday last and on Monday moved its staff and goods to Bellevue where they have opened up.

WILL LIGHT GREAT TORCH IN COAL MINES

To Burn Coal In Mines

LONDON, March 31.—Sir Wm. Ramsay in a speech last night announced that an experiment was likely to be made in the way of carrying out the suggestion made by him at the opening of the Smoke Abatement exhibition, that an ideal state of things would be to have retorts in the bowels of the earth to produce gas for power.

"I firmly believe," he said "that something will be done in the way of not raising the coal by letting it remain underground, burning it there and taking off the gases. I have been in communication with a large colliery proprietor, and he is going to give me a chance of making an experiment on a very small scale.

"If this succeeds, a candle may be lighted in England which will not be extinguished in our time."

Electric Restorer for Men

Phosphonol restores every nerve in the body to its proper tension; restores vim and vitality. Premature decay and all sexual weakness averted at once. Phosphonol will make you a new man. Price $3 a box, or two for $5. Mailed to any address. The Scobell Drug Co., Cleveland, Ohio.

For Sale at Blesdell's Drug Store

MISS LOTTIE GRAY and G. PHILLIPS who appeared at the Coal Creek masquerade, March 18, as "The Ledger Belle," and "A Boost for Davidson," respectively.

HOSMER NOTES.
By "Antibillrosser."

The funeral of the late Robert Doyle took place at Fernie on Friday last. The cortage left the Catholic Church at 3.45, and was followed by Mr. T. Doyle (brother), Mr. J. McKelvin, Mr. T Nansen, Mr W. Lynch, Mr. W. Simmonds, Mr T. Uphill (Gladstone Local) and the officers and members of the Hosmer Local also, followed the remains to the graveside to pay their last respects to our departed brother. The Rev. Father O'Neil officiated. The funeral arrangements were in the hands of Mr. F. A. Cornet, Hosmer

Just to keep up the excitement the boys are starting a billiard handicap of 200 up, and to give the "I can't play very wells" a chance there is a handicap of 110. The first prize is a meerscham pipe, the second prize a gold-mounted briar pipe.

Don't forget the Knights of Pythias grand masquerade ball on Monday, April 8th. Prizes for the best dressed lady, the best dressed gentleman, and the best comic costume.

Mr. Arthus Smith, of Fernie, is the new foreman of the coke ovens at Hosmer.

On Thursday last the Knights of Pythias met in the Odd Fellow's Hall when the knights presented R. W. Rogers wtih a gold emblematic tie pin.

The adjourned inquiry into the death of Robert Doyle was held in the Opera House on Monday, April 1st, at 1 p.m. and adjourned again at 7 p.m., the jury bringing a verdict that he met his death from injuries received whilst making a flying switch and that no blame can be attached to any party or parties connected therewith.

Mr. S. Hopkins has left the employ of the Hosmer Industrial Association.

On Monday a surprise party was held at the Pacific Hotel, when Mr. Fred Oates was the recipient of a hand some gold watch, presented to him by the employees of the Hosmer mines. Mr. Brookes, in making the presentation, wished him the best of good luck in his new undertaking. Mr. Oates in responding thanked one and all for their good wishes and asked to be excused a long speech as his heart was too full to express himself. After the presentation an enjoyable evening was spent.

The summer weather we have had the last week is melting the snow fast, and it is mud everywhere. On monday P. Burns' rig was being driven up Main Street when one of the wheels sunk up to the axle in mud, and it was only after a struggle it was recovered. (Our correspondent does not say what was recovered, the wheel or the cart.)

Another incident occurred on the front street. A couple of lumberjacks were up to the knees in making the town. The roads are in great shape and we hope to see some of Ross' 'prosperity" at work on them soon—and let it be soon!

On Tuesday Mr. Fred Oates (and family) left on the freight for his ranch at Mosquito Creek, Arrow Park.

Harry Hutson left Hosmer on Wednesday on a hunting trip.

HILLCREST NOTES
By "Concertina Joe."

Mr. J. Montelbetti, a prominent business man of Blairmore, was a visitor in town this week. Mr. Montelbetti would like to start up business here.

Mr. J. W. Pinkney, coroner of this part of the district, was in town this week and reported trade bad in that line, which speaks well of the district.

A prominent Nova Scotian sent a present of fish to a certain young lady in town this week. She could not make out why they sent fish to her, as she was not a fisheater, but a native of Spud Island. But next day she was the recipient of a selected B. C. spud which weighed 2¼ lb. and she was overcome with joy at the beautiful token of the "Ould Countree."

The Saturday dance was not as well attended as usual as a lot of the ladies were tired owing to the dance held on Wednesday night. We are pleased to know that it was sore feet that was the cause, as that is a lot better than soreheads, which it is reported are quite prevalent these days.

Mr. Simon Dixon, an old Fernieite, was a visitor to our town this week and was high in his praises of our village.

Mr. Teddy Clough, of the hotel staff, was a visitor to Michel last week. He was pleased to return.

While participating in a whist party which was given by Mrs. H. Cunningham, Union Hotel, Friday night, Mr. George Brown was struck ill with inflamation of the bowels, but we are pleased to say that he is rapidly recovering.

Mrs. Tom Morris was up here spending a few days, the guest of Mr and Mrs. Warn, of Landbreck.

Mr. John McPhail was here from Blairmore, Monday, giving instructions to Jimmy on the race between him and the man from Wigan. Jim was a sure winner, but the Wigan man grabbed him and prevented him from running, which resulted in both of them losing—and the lady went home herself.

Mr. Bailey, the master mechanic, who left with his family for the coast, had an enjoyable time on Saturday night, which will help him to always remember Hillcrest.

Paperhanging is quite an art, Jimmy. Why not learn it when you have a good chance.

The mine is working every day, which makes everything hum around here—the real estate men, business ness of all kinds flock in here daily, and everybody says: It's a Hummer of a Town—Watch it Grow!

Two prominent young men bought three kegs of beer the other day. One was drunk, and the other two are being kept until the 16th of this month when they expect to have a birthday party. They keep them under the bed in case of burglars.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS

J. V. J.—Owing to going to press early this week your letter is held over until next week.

BELLEVUE

Mr and Mrs. McNeal left Bellevue last week.

Mr. Dan Davidson, of Fernie, came in town last week and will reside with Mr. Turner, of Bellevue.

Mrs. George Goodwin, Andrew Goodwin, Watts. Goodwin, J. Turner, G. Cousins and A. Noble, went up to Fernie last Thursday for the purpose of registering their votes at the B. C. election.

Mr. J. Cousins is expecting his wife and family down here this week and will take up his abode in the house formerly occupied by Mr. George Bateman.

Will Christie left for Calgary last week.

Mr. Percy Andrews, scale inspector for the C. P. R., was in town last week ed and officiated at the organ at the Methodist Church on Sunday evening last.

The record for the last month at the pool-room for the game of bowls are held by Mr. Will Patterson and Fred Chappell. Mr. Patterson for ten pins, score 215; Fred Chappell, five pins, score 58.

Ted Coupland went as representative for the Bellevue Football Club to the District League meeting held at Coal Crek on Saturday last.

The first shoot of the Gun Club was held on Wednesday last. A good time is anticipated by the gun lovers this season.

A public Socialist meting will be held in the Socialist Hall, Bellevue, on Saturday, to be addressed by Miss Mushkat, the subject will be "Modern Slavery." Time, 7.30.

The Rev. W. H. Irwin preached on Sunday night on the subject of "The Remedy for Poverty," being the last of a series of five sermons on Poverty.

The music was rendered by Mr. Andrews at the organ, Mr. G. Goodwin (cornet, Mr. L. Goodwin (trombone), Dave Davison (baritone). Next Sunday being Easter Sunday there will be two services, morning and evening. Subject for morning: "Consider the Lilies"; evening: "The Resurrection Life." The sacrament will be administered at the morning service, and a vote will be taken by the members on the union of the Methodist, Presbyterian and Congregational churches.

The Athletic Club held a general meeting in the Southern Hotel on Sunday night, which was presided over by Mr. J. R. Macdonald. They decided to amalgamate all the sports again, and to be ruled over by one special committee, and a committee for each sport.

The store of Mr. J. Raynor is now in the hands of Mr. Blais. Mr. Scott is manager for the present.

The window of J. J. Walters store was broken last week and a pair of gum boots stolen. Some cunning individual is thinking of the rainy season.

THE SOCIALIST VOTE

The number of Socialist votes cast at Provincial elections just as was about ten thousand, of which six thousand were distributed amongst the five Socialist candidates in Vancouver. Outside of that city, Fernie gave the Socialist candidate the largest.

CLERGYMAN AT SOCIALIST POLITICAL MEETING

NELSON, B. C., March 30.—Rev. A. E. Smith, pastor of Trinity Methodist Church, received a tremendous ovation from the Socialists at a meeting Wednesday in the interests of A. W. Harrod, Socialist candidate here. He declared that although many might be surprised to see a preacher on the political platform, he considered he had a perfect right to express an opinion on matters of public interest. He spoke at some length on the tenets of Socialism, and drew a parallel with woman's suffrage, arguing that Socialism and the enfranchisement of women were certainties in future.

Although Ald. Austin's statement on Sunday night, that Mr. Smith had got into hot water with the congregation for taking the platform on behalf of the Socialist candidate was not denied by prominent members of the church today, there was a general tendency to avoid discussion of the subject.

WOMEN ENFRANCHISEMENT BILL DEFEATED

LONDON, March 31.—By a vote of 222 to 208 the House of Commons tonight rejected the Conciliation Bill on its second reading. This measure aimed at conferring the right to vote upon every woman possessed of the household qualification, and would enfranchise one million women.

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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. Thos. Uphill, 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.

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

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Fire Damp Investigation in Mine with Safety Lamp

An Interesting Presentation and Discussion of the Subject by British Mining Men

At a meeting of the Yorkshire branch of the National Association of Colliery Managers held at Barnsley, England, on March 2, F. K. Cartwright read a paper entitled, "A Few Notes on Gas Caps, and a Simple Way of Estimating the Percentage of Firedamp in Mines."

At the outset he said he confined himself to the ordinary safety lamp as being more important for everyday use than any of the more delicate gas-testing devices. During the last few years considerable time and effort had been spent in various quarters in studying the effect of known per centages of gas on the flame of the safety-lamp. It had been shown how different oils and different lamps in the same mixture had given different results, and from curves and tables the many heights of caps produced under their altering circumstances. All these results presumably were based on a standard flame of about 1-10 inch high. This information, though extremely interesting to the student, appealed to him as being confusing to the average colliery official or deputy, and he endeavored to find out if possible the cause of such differences. After making many tests and carefully observing the conditions as to type of lamp, kind of oil and wick, shape of wick tube, etc., all of which might affect the result, the conclusion arrived at was that in all cases the caps given varied with one important factor, and that was the width of the base of the testing flame, and provided a truly adjusted testing flame was prepared—by that was meant not one of any definite character or class—the height of cap given in all cases bore a definite relation to the width of the base of such testing flame as follows:

1 per cent gas in air, cap equal to ½ in. width.

2 per cent gas in air, cap equal to 1 in. width.

2½ per cent gas in air, cap equal to 1¼ in. width.

3 per cent gas in air, cap equal to 1½ in. width.

4 per cent gas in air, cap equal to 2 in. width.

The height of the cap was measured from the top of the bright blue zone of the testing flame upwards.

The illuminants experimented with were colza, mineral colza, paraffin and Wolf naphtha, and in all cases the relative height of cap for width of testing flame was the same.

If instead of working to any specified height, the character of the flame was aimed at and the width of the base noted, comparable results should be obtained. The character or class of flame should be one which, though possessing no appreciable illuminative power, was just on the verge, as it were, and if raised the smallest amount would then give light. If the flame possessed illuminating power, even though small, it was difficult to compare it with another flame possessing what might be supposed to be equal light-giving properties. The reason for emphasizing this point was because it was no uncommon thing to try and reduce a lamp flame to the necessary non-luminous condition for the purpose of testing for gas. When the flame instead of being right across the wick, travelled to one corner or to a high place in the wick, the flame might be very low, but it would still possess too much light to represent a true testing flame.

If any lamp was standardized with a certain oil, and wick well trimmed specially for testing and a good non-luminous flame was obtained, the full width of the wick and the caps produced, taken as a base or standard for that lamp, these would be inaccurate, if at any time the testing flame obtainable was not so complete as when standardizing. This fact, coupled with the desire to do away with the necessity of remembering all the different standardized caps for certain lamps burning various oils, led him to believe that if a standard of comparison could be devised, and some ever-present base of measurement obtained instead of comparing them with any common standard measurement, matters would be greatly simplified. To compare a length or breadth laid side by side, as it were, should be much easier than comparing either with a standard that was not present and could not be memorized.

He suggested that the constant proportion of height of cap for width of testing flames was caused as follows: the testing flame being brought to one character, irrespective of height or width, possessed a certain proportionate temperature, and so brought within the range of the heated area a corresponding area of gas, which, on burning, gave a proportionate cap. In preparing flames of definite height with different illuminants the results were not the same, the more volatile oils giving a brighter flame than the heavier oils. It would appear that this extra brilliance was caused by higher temperature, which would give a larger cap; but if all flames were brought to one condition comparable results would accrue. Widely varying results had been obtained as regarded heights of caps, but in each case had compared with the foregoing rules.

To verify matters further, three lamps, burning the same illuminant and exactly alike except for the wicks, which were ¼ inch, ½ inch, and ¾ inch wide respectively, gave corresponding heights of caps. Taking two Wolf lamps alike as before, one well-trimmed wick giving testing flame across the full width of wick, the other badly trimmed, only allowing of a narrow flame of the necessary character, gave caps of different heights, but having the same relation to width of flame. From these facts it would appear that there was for each percentage of gas present a corresponding angle of ascentation; and given a flame of similar character, but of different width, the same angle being produced by the gas in each case, a greater or less cap must result proportionately.

In the experiments wherein one lamp was gauged against another they were in the chamber together, so that they existed under exactly the same conditions. The naptha lamp showed a full cap in air, which had the effect of making the 1 per cent cap rather longer and more distinct, but when 2 per cent or upward was present no difference was noticed.

The proportionate measurements were as judged by the eye, and not measured mechanically, the former being the more practical and suitable for everyday use.

Discussion

John Gill thought Mr Cartwright's paper had come at an opportune time, seeing that they were approaching what many people regarded as a severe change. Mr. Cartwright's tests had all been done in a chamber, and the question to his mind was: How did the chamber compare with actual mine conditions—was the temperature in the chamber taken into consideration? The temperature had a lot to do with the actual cap. He should also like to know whether the wicks were flat or round. If they were to take everything that had been said as correct, they would see, as soon as they put their lamp up into a hole they would often be deceived. He had tried with several lamps lately, and he agreed that there was a great difference indeed. The lamp that gave the best results apparently, and yet the one that was most likely to deceive them, was the lamp burning spirits. He had also tried the ladder test, but found it objectionable. They could not keep the lamp truly vertical and he often lost his light. With colza lamp he had had more difficulty than with the paraffin or spirit lamp, but in all cases he found that they must allow a certain time for the lamp to cool before they got anything like a fair cap.

Mr. Cartwright said the chamber temperature had not been taken into consideration in his tests, because every time a test was made a fresh mixture was prepared and the chamber was at the ordinary normal temperature of the room, but the lamps had been allowed to burn,and were burning, during the time of changing the mixtures and of clearing out. With regard to the temperature of the wick, he had not been informed of any method whereby they could actually measure the temperature in so small an area as they would get in the testing flame. They were told, however, that the greater brilliance of the flame was caused by the higher temperature of the incandescence of the carbon particles, and providing they kept down the incandescence to an equal degree he was inclined to think that the temperature of the flame itself would be the same. Apparently the results were the same, whether a round or a flat wick was used. That had held good in all his tests, providing the same character of flame had been prepared. In a flat wick one expected, if it was well trimmed, to get flames something approaching the width of the wick tube. The comparative temperatures produced by the flames seemed to hold good, as far as his tests went.

Mr. Kyle said he had at his colliery several lamps with a special fitment which would test to ¼ and ½ per cent, and he would be pleased to bring one or two and demonstrate how they acted in the chamber. The arrangement was one of aluminum wicks brought down into the chamber, which destroyed all luminosity. He had had it working for several months, and it was very satisfactory. He had noticed that a gentleman in the north of England had an arrangement something similar, only he used copper wire instead of a disc. No doubt the temperature had a great deal to do with the results, and often, in his own examinations, somewhere near the pit-bottom, the size of the cap was quite different. Where they got the greater temperature they got a much larger cap.

J. Gill said if everything depended on the temperature the conditions in the chamber were not at all like the conditions in the pit for in the chamber the atmosphere was still and the lamp was still. He would like to ask Mr. Cartwright the conditions of the chamber, and how he got his mixture.

Mr. Cartwright said the stillness of the atmosphere in the chamber could easily be obviated. He had only dealt with two chambers. In one the atmosphere had never been still; in the other it had been still when necessary or desired, but it could be mixed about. He took it that every careful examiner in a pit desired to keep his lamp as still as possible, within all practical reason The chamber was one of the well known Clowes type. For actual measurements of percentages he thought this was preferable to any of the other classes, because they could vary. He had experimented, in company with others, at Leeds with the well known type of apparatus there, and many times they had differing results. He had used coal gas up to 4 per cent.

J. Brook said he had made tests with an ordinary Marsaut lamp, placed alongside another Marsaut in which was a deflector—a brass rim inside the bonnet. He had put these lamps in a small quantity of gas just at the ripping edge, in a high cavity. With the ordinary Marsaut they could scarcely detect any gas whatever, but the one with the brass rim showed ⅝, or maybe nearly ½ inch. This was a puzzle to him. He had also noticed that the light in a paraffin lamp would be continually flickering, while the Marsaut was quite steady. The latter showed no sign of gas, but on the top of the other he could detect the cap again showing a great difference.

L. Dobinson said people could be easily deceived in imagining gas where there was none, in consequence of the high temperature. If they had a reduced flame the temperature had something to do with it again.

Very often, when they could not find any show of gas on the pricker and lifted the flame gently and brought it back again, between the one and the other they might see a shadow of what they might indicate as gas; but some of the small percentages that were spoken of as given quantities of gas were not quantities at all. They were really the oil gas that was arising. The way to deal with all this diffusion of gas was to have plenty of ventilation, and then they got a condition of affairs where they had either pure air or pure gas. In a ripping lip he always found that he either got gas or none. There was no diffusion anywhere because it had not had time to diffuse or mix up. He contended that if they had any show of gas at all in a return they wanted some more air. There should be an enlargement of some air road, and a greater quantity of air put through. There should be no diffusion of gas in a well-ventilated mine—they should have either pure gas or pure air. To his mind, although this was contrary to all people's ideas—the old-fashioned Davy lamp was the finest for gas testing. The lamp that went out most quickly was the proper one to put in to the hands of a workman; but he did not consider the most perfect lamp for going out was the best for an official in testing for gas, because he might be left in the dark miles from anywhere.

Mr. Cartwright had no doubt that the Davey was an ideal lamp for finding gas in large proportions; but he feared that the Coal Mines Act was asking for something more than merely finding gas or air. He also thought it was generally accepted that gases when once diffused would not undiffuse in any moving air. In the case of gas found in a high cavity he was inclined to think it was created there. It was on coming in contact with the air, where it diffused, that it became at all inflammable or explosive. Undoubtedly pure gas would put the lamp out as well as anything else, there not being sufficient oxygen to support combustion.

Mr. Elce differed much from Mr. Dobinson as to the advisability of testing with a Davy lamp in these days. He had been in pits which he would strongly object to go down with a Davy lamp. The lamp in use at his pit was a Thornoburry, and he had also used the Marsaut, and found no serious difficulty with either.

Mr. Dobinson said that in these enlightened days he would not advocate the Davy lamp except in the hands of certain people. Neither did he speak of the skeleton Davy, but of one that was bonneted, the same as the other kinds. He would not allow workmen to have the Davy lamp. If he went into mine to examine for gas alone, and was only allowed one lamp, he would take a Davy. Some people carried two lamps, one for testing and one for light.

G. H. Barraclough did not follow the president in saying he would not like to go into a pit with a Davy. If he knew a pit that was not fit to take a Davy in it would not be fit for him. With a Davy they could test a less quantity of gas than with any other lamp, but it needed to be in the hands of an experienced man. So far as lamps to put in overbody's hands were concerned they had lamps today that were better than the Davy, both for testing for gas and for light.

Thomas Gill said he was one of the old school, and had used the Davy lamp as much as most people. He had every confidence in it at the time but not now. Now he used the Marsaut, and could test to a small quantity with it. He used colza oil or a mixture. He had a patent way of his own, which he had used about 26 years, which was a small magnifying glass, and he could test down to less than 1 per cent. He believed his was a good way. The Davy lamp would not do in a case like they had at his colliery the previous week.

They had a sudden outburst of gas in the Robroyd Silkstone seam, and it put out 19 lamps in a short time. It fouled the places right away from the intake end of the longway face to the return, about 1,150 yards, and backed on to the gates and pony levels and 2,000 yards of return after leaving the face. Four hours later thay got nearly 3-4 inch of cap in the main return at the pit bottom. He did not think a Davy lamp would do very well in that.

Mr. Brook described a test in which he took a Davy lamp, along with an ordinary Marsaut, to a high cavity where there was a small quantity of gas. He put the two lamps as nearly on one level as possible. On the Davy lamp he had 1 inch cap—elongated flame—while on the Marsaut he could scarcely detect it at all.

J. Gill said that when they talked about pits without gas they might as well talk of the atmosphere without air. Such a thing, to his mind, was not possible while there were coal seams. The Davy lamp was good, but would not stand the test. From Mr. Dobinson's description, his Davy was not a Davy, but was enclosed in a glass shield. One of the difficulties of practical men, when they went into these chambers, was that they were looking at their lamps through a second glass, and there might be some thing in it with some of their eyes, though he did not want to split hairs. He could not see how it was possible to get a gas cap in an ordinary Davy lamp that filled all round—filled at the bottom and everywhere—with the small quantity of gas that they could get in a lamp that filled slowly from the top like a Marsaut. He thought a deputy ought to have a lad with him, so that if he did get into the dark he was not without a light.

Mr. Dobinson said he thought it very proper to have a very safe lamp, particularly in a mine that had outbursts of gas; for in the best managed collieries an outburst of gas might put out the whole train of lamps on its way till it got to the return. Therefore they wanted the best bonneted lamp, double-gauze, hermetically sealed top and bottom, to prevent any ingress of air or gas. He would rather go into a mine that was reported to have a lot of gas, because they knew care was taken, than into a mine reputed to have no gas; he considered that a source of danger. Even in mines that were said to have no gas the use of the best bonneted safety-lamps should be made compulsory.

The talk about the Davy lamp was by the way. It was not to be discarded as a lamp, and he maintained that it was quite safe to take into a mine.

T. Gill wished to add to what he had said about his lamp that Mr. Wilson, the inspector, took it to Leeds, and used it in the same way as it was used in the pit, and sent word that the results were as follows:

Gas, 2 per cent; cap, ⅝ in, very faint.

Gas, 3 per cent; cap, ⅝ in.

Gas, 4 per cent; 1¾ in.

Gas, 5 per cent; cap to the top of gauze.

Gas, 1 per cent; cap, ⅝ in., very faint, but no tip.

Mr. Cartwright, touching on Mr. Gill's remarks about looking at a lamp through a second glass, quite agreed that it was inadvisable to split hairs, because some of published evidence as regards the height of caps had undoubtedly been supplied by most accurate measurement from photographs. Apart from their educational value, he doubted whether minute measurements were of a great deal of service to them in the pit. If a lamp was in good condition and well cleaned, and if the glass of the chamber was also well cleaned, he thought the view obtainable was quite equal to that of any ordinary safety-lamp that had been round a pit for six to eight hours. No matter how good a lamp was, he thought the glass got obscured. At least forty students, who happened to be in his charge, had criticised the work and the result was quite satisfactory to him.—Coal and Coke Operator.

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NOTICE All letters from Canada must be addressed to our Canadian Correspondence Department in Windsor, Ont. If you desire to see us personally call at our Medical Institute in Detroit as we see and treat no patients in our Windsor offices which are for Correspondence and Laboratory for Canadian business only. Address all letters as follows:

DRS. KENNEDY & KENNEDY, Windsor, Ont.

Write for our private address.

The Original and Only Genuine

Beware of Imitations Sold on the Merits of Minard's Liniment

Fernie Dairy

FRESH MILK delivered to all parts of the town

Sanders & Verhaest Brothers. Proprietors

Livery, Feed and Sale Stables

First class Horses for Sale.

Buys Horses on Commision

George Barton Phone 78

SINGER SEWING MACHINE CO

WM. BARTON

Agent Fernie Branch

Pellatt Ave. North

Fernie-Fort Steele Brewing Co., Ltd.

Beer and Porter

Bottled Goods a Specialty

L. E. McDonald

HORSESHOEING

GENERAL BLACKSMITHING and CARRIAGE BUILDING

Express and Delivery Wagons a Specialty

ADVERTISE IN THE LEDGER

CLUB Cigar Store

W. A. INGRAM

Wholesale and Retail

Tobacconist

Barber Shop

Baths

Shoe Shine

Billiards and Pool

Coffee and Sandwich Counter

Hazelwood Buttermilk

Victoria Avenue

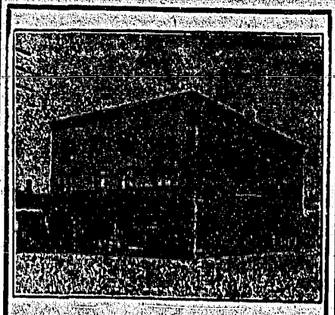
FERNIE, B. C. Phone 34

Passburg Hotel

You're always welcome here

Clean Rooms, Best of Food and every attention

THOS. DUNCAN Passburg



Coleman Hotel

W. H. Murr - Prop.

SHERIDAN LIVERY

Elko, B. C.

As I am continuing my late husband's business, I would ask for the continued patronage of all old customers, and respectfully solicit the trade of all.

Best of Rigs and Horses

Phone No. 19

MRS. A. SHERIDAN

The Fernie Steam Laundry and Dye Works report business improving all the time. They are making a reduction in prices on Dyeing and French Dry Cleaning for the spring trade. Also a cheap monthly laundry rate for all bachelors will be given. A trial is all they ask to convince you they are O. K.

Italian

SULLO SCIOPERO DI HARTFORD

Breezy Hill, Kans.

Voglio anch'io dire la mia sullo affare di quei due emeriti crumiri che rispondono al nome di Angelo Tisot e Pietro Darigo, che, soli fra 150 minatori, prestarono la loro opera di traditori in favore di quella compagnia mineraria, con l'evidente scopo di rovinare lo sciopero, di tradire cioe se stessi e tutti i compagni di lavoro.

Questi due crumiri, dopo aver lavorato diversi giorni da soli nella miniera, impauriti dalla piega minacciosa, che andavano prendendo gli eventi, temendo che qualche scherzo capitasse alla loro pellaccia, dovettero lasciare il lavoro, nolenti, e far causa comune cogli scioperanti.

Gli unionisti di Hartford, forse in considerazione dell'incoscienza dei due crumiri, furono troppo indulgenti verso i medesimi. Si limitarono ad applioppare a ciascuno dei due $10 di multa.

Avrebbero dovuto marchiarli conferro infuocato, per designarli per sempre allo schifo ed al disprezzo di quanti untrono sentimenti di solidarieta, di dignita e donesta.

Questi due sconsigliati dovrebbero abbandonare i campi organizzati dove non si puo lavorare piu di otto ore al giorno e recarsi ad Iron Mountain, Mich., dove i minatori scioperano per lavorare di piu di quanto le compagnie loro permettano. Lassu si troverebbero nel proprio naturale ambiente, con dei compagni degni di loro.

Lassu, nel Michigan, potranno viepiu esplicare le loro energie e le loro molto limitate facita intellettuali, praticando e propagando le loro cattolicissime e crumiresche opinioni, conseguendo la meta agognata; qualche sprezzante sghignazzata sul muso da parte dei direttori di miniera e quello che piu importa pei due galantuomini, specialmente per Angelo Tisot che conosco personalmente, la benedizione del prete!

Vadano, vadano in qualche campo disorganizzato dove potranno rinsaldare i loro cattolici propositi ed acquistarsi il Lavoro Eterno.

CRUMIRI!

Pittsburg, Kans.

C'e una sola specie di bestie che non patiscono l'aria cattiva i crumiri!

Nello scorso dicembre, nella miniera N. 20, per criminale negligenza della compagnia un minatore peri per mancanza d'aria ed una diecina fecero tale un'indigestione di aria cattiva che se la sentiranno per le costole per un po' di tempo. L'ispettore delle miniere per lo stato del Kansas fermo i lavori finche la compagnia non si sentira disposta a mandar aria sufficiente per tutta la miniesa. Il giorno dopo il disastro due individui di lingua italiana si recarono alla miniera a "drillare" ed a "tumpare" dei colpi. Cosi averebbero avuto lavoro a volonta pel giorno in cui la miniera sarebbe stata ventilata. Dopo due giorni riferirono ai comitati della miniera sul lavoro fatto. Dopo avere investigato, colla testimonianza di due minatori che videro coi loro proprii occhi a "tampare" i colpi, abbiamo fatto rapporto all'unione locale com'era nostro dovere di comitati. Il risultato fu che a maggioranza dei comitati, animati dalle loro naturali tendenze, mettendosi sotto i piedi l'articolo 15, della costituzione distrettuale, hanno fatto il saluto dell'armi agli amanti del lavoro, dando loro l'opportunita diventare, un giorno o l'altro gli eroi di qualche altra esplosione.

Personalmente, io, dopo aver fatto il mio dovore di comitato, domandai al boss un'altra piazza, in sostituzione di quella vecchia finita. Il boss, naturalment, mi rispose picche, ed io ho dovuto prendere i miei ferri e partire. Ho lasciato mezzo dozzina di compagni unionisti ai quali toccherà la stessa sorte toccata a me. Dovranno alzare i tacchi per lasciare il posto a quelli che non patiscono l'aria cattiva o i pericoli.

THE PICTURE HOUSE OVER THE WAY

(Dedicated to G M. Miller, owner and manager of the Isis Theatre, Fernie, B. C.

The days are now getting longer,
The winter is nearly all in,
Is really a puzzling thing.

Now, give me attention one moment,
Your troubles I'll soon smooth away,
You'll bless then the man who told you
Of the Isis—just over the way.

Why should you go to the Isis?
The answer is simple and plain,
Because the show is more than a good one
And I know that you'll go there again.

There's fine music to hear at the Isis,
Good pictures to see on the screen,
"Nothing except the best features!"
Say all of our patrons who've been.

So don't waste your spare time any longer
In an aimless, useless way,
But take in the programs shown nightly,
At the Isis—just over the way.

H. G. Thompson.

Electric Restorer for Men

Phosphonol restores every nerve in the body to its proper tension; restores vim and vitality. Premature decay and all sexual weakness averted at once. Phosphonol will make you a new man. Price $3 a box; six for $5. Mailed to any address. The Scobell Drug Co., St. Catharines, Ont.

For Sale at Bleasdell's Drug Store

A LEGISLATIVE PROGRAMME

By Winfield R. Gaylord

A Socialist legislative program is not a set of planks on which to walk into office. It is a pledge of effort to be made; a guide board and a safeguard for elected officials; a beacon casting beams of promise into the futuer for those on the firing line; and a warning to the foe, of that which is to come.

Municipal, State National and International

And in view of this, together with the world-wide scope of the Socialist movement, a Socialist legislative program must be many-sided. It links the municipal with athe international ideal, and works and fights for these with weapons and tools furnished from the armory and shop of state and national forces.

In the United States the state is the unit of soverign power, and the practical program builder will lay his plans accordingly, so that men called to positions of power may not be misled into wasted efforts. It is the state that gives laws to the municipality or county, on the one hand; on the other hand it is through the united action of states that the federal government is made up, modified and controlled, and policies that reach into the international fields are finally shaped by the net result of interstate struggles.

Immediate and for the Future

A Socialist legislative program must have immediate bearings upon the immediate and pressing needs of the city life, answering the cries that rise from appalling labor conditions; seeking to remedy the lamentable and unwilling ignorance of the working class and to enlarge its future by education of its children of to-day; and trying to safeguard its life by all possible improvements of purer food supply, better housing and saintary conditions and strengthening the labor organizations.

But all of this immediate work is only considered as a digging of ditches and laying foundations for a Future Structure, and this also must be outlined in a proper legislatice program. The reconstruction of constitutional provisions to meet approaching economic changes; the framing of legislative enactments which are certain to be killed by the dominant parties while the Socialists are in a minority, but which are also certain sooner or later to be taken up by these parties and placed in their platforms. Illustrations of this later process are to be found in the demand for Home Rule for Cities, Workmen's Compensation for Accidents, and Initiative and Referendum found for many years in the Wisconsin Socialist-Democratic platforms, now at length adopted also by both old parties, and likely to be enacted by them this year (1912) into laws.

Critical and Practical

First of all, historically, the Socialist is a critic. And upon his first advent into the legislative halls he will discharge one broadside after another, in the form of Memorials to Congress, Resolutions of Protest, etc., about the Moyer-Haywood case; demanding an investigation of the Warren case; calling attention to the gag law applied to postal clerks; asking for the abolition of the United States Senate; demanding the cancelling of extradition treaties with Russia and Mexico, and protesting against the appointment of Supreme Court Judges by the President. His shafts go home, though seemingly buried in ridicule.

But mere criticism never picked any apples, and so the Socialist legislator must get busy and tell what is the matter with the existing child-labor law. He must say why women should not work over ten hours. He must show how to save workingmen's lives in the construction of high buildings, and the proper method of safeguarding dangerous machinery.

Obstructive and Constructive

A very useful instrument for the Socialist legislator is a hickory bound edition of the big stick. He can "swat" many a bad bill, and by his practical knowledge of the common life and its conditions, make ridiculous and defeat the proposals both of corporation lawyers and well-meaning reformers. He must learn what legal phrases mean, and cultivate a keen scent for "okes." And when he starts after any proposition he must carry a hot rake and a spiked club.

But that is not building for the future—the principal work of the Socialist. So he must spend the midnight hours in constructive work. His imagination must be exercised in trying to make a legal scaffold for the new social structure which the working class is trying to build. A plan of city-building; a tenement house law that will mean something to the women-folk that spend their lives in cities—and which can be enforced. A big plan for a state board of public works that will suggest to tired workingmen as well as to blind-eyed capitalist lawyers and politicians how near we are to taking over and operating the natural resources and mechanical monopolies of today—once we get a few more agitators in the legislature.

Political and Economic

The Socialist party is a political organization, exists for political action and so its representatives must guard what political freedom and privileges the working class may have, while they strive to enlarge these year by year. An attack upon the Milwaukee organization this year aims to establish alleged "non-partisan" election [illegible] an artificial majority, thus eliminating the party name and the fight for principles. This means WAR,—war for very existence as a political party.

Socialism must come first in cities, and an absolutely essential part of the political program is the achieving of home rule for cities, giving them power to solve their own problems, without having every little lawyer, country doctor, and retired farmer who may have been elected to the legislature "butting in" on problems of which he can know next to nothing, and against whose proper solution he retains an unavoidable prejudice. The ballot must be safeguarded and purified. Elections must be made a more perfect means of expressing the people's will. And the whole political suit of clothes called "form of government" must be remodled to fit the existing and transforming economic, industrial, commercial and social body that pulsates with human life.

But the Socialist program writer and political architect cannot be a mere politician or constitutional lawyer. He must be an economist who works in his laboratory every day, and keeps his pulse on the thrilling body of the humanity whose servant he aims to be. Through the labor organizations he learns the problems of the shop, the mine, the mill and railroad, and denies no demand for a loosening of the social economic fetters binding human limbs. From the Farmers' Union he learns how the middleman, the transportation companies, and the machinery trusts lay violent hold on the food supply—and the Socialist legislator must work out the solution of how to get men to co-operate in field, in factory, in forest and shop, to the end that there may be more and better food, more and better clothes, more and better houses. Not food in cold storage, either, nor clothes stacked up, moth-eaten, nor houses standing idle on the hill while women wander miserable in the river wards

Development of the Socialist Legislative Program

With the growth of power for the Socalist party will come a very natural and inevitable development of its legislative program.

That which was at one time immediate, as soon as his opponents take it up, becomes a matter of relative indifference. That which he formerly "demanded" he now assumes as a right. Things which were distant ideals begin to approach near enough to show definite outlines, and to require some closer hewing of detail.

But, even in states like Wisconsin, where the "progressives" are most of all rampant and unashamed, there will stand and always be a distinctive note between the program of the Socialist and that of any other party. Progressives who are not Socialists represent the middle class—not the workers. The middle class has always been willing to use the workers to get things necessary for "business"—and then betray them. But when it comes to getting off the backs of the working class, or providing that the people shall own in common and democratically manage those things on which the common life depends—they are "not ready to go to that extreme."

Regulate or Own

And here is where the firing line will be for some time to come. The progress—"if"— movement will offer palliatives, vying with the immediate program of the Socialists. They will even look for larger political liberty, hoping that the working class will help the little business man pull chestnuts of competition out of trust-built fires. And as a reward they will offer to "regulate" the public utilities.

None but the working class dare attempt to finally solve the unemployed problem; none but the Socialists dare propose to guarantee education to every child; none but he can propose that the profit system be abolished, without proposing suicide for his class.

And so this part of the Socialist program, while it will be realized locally and piecemeal by its opponents, can never be granted by them as a final and complete solution until they are ready to turn in and accept the whole position of the Socialist legislator.

Then we shall have started on another stage of civilization, and the agitator who is still alive and not turned "Conservative Socialist" will lift his face toward other and still larger questions and evolve another programme that will not be merely Socialist, but something greater still.

SYNOPSIS OF COAL MINING REGULATIONS

COAL mining rights of the Dominion, in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, the Yukon Territory, the North West Territories and in a portion of the Province of British Columbia, may be leased for a term of twenty-one years at an annual rental of $1 an acre. Not more than 2,560 acres will be leased to one applicant.

Application for a lease must be made by the applicant in person to the Agent or Sub-Agent of the district in which the rights applied for are situated.

In surveyed territory the land must be described by sections, or legal sub-divisions of sections, and in unsurveyed territory the tract applied for shall be staked out by the applicant himself.

Each application must be accompanied by a fee of $5 which will be refunded if the rights applied for are not available, but not otherwise. A royalty shall be paid on the merchantable output of the mine at the rate of five cents per ton.

The person operating the mine shall furnish the Agent with sworn returns accounting for the full quantity of merchantable coal mined an dpay the royalty thereon. If the coal mining rights are not being operated, such returns should be furnished at least once a year.

The lease will include the coal mining rights only, but the lessee may be permitted to purchase whatever available surface rights may be considered necessary for the working of the mine at the rate of $10.00 an acre.

For full information application should be made to the Secretary of the Department of the Interior, Ottawa, or to any Agent or Sub-Agent of Dominion Lands.

W. W. Cory,
Deputy Minister of the Interior.

N.B—Unauthorized publication of this advertisement will not be paid for.

THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

SIR EDMUND WALKER, C.V.O., LL.D., D.C.L., PRESIDENT
ALEXANDER LAIRD, GENERAL MANAGER

CAPITAL, - $10,000,000 REST, - $8,000,000

DRAFTS ON FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Every branch of The Canadian Bank of Commerce is equipped to issue drafts on the principal cities in the following countries without delay:

Africa	Crete	Greece	New Zealand	Siberia
Arabia	Cuba	Holland	Norway	Soudan
Argentine Republic	Denmark	Iceland	Panama	South Africa
Australia	Egypt	India	Persia	Spain
Austria-Hungary	Faroe Islands	Ireland	Peru	Straits Settlements
Belgium	Finland	Italy	Philippine Islands	Sweden
Brazil	Formosa	Japan	Portugal	Switzerland
Bulgaria	France	Java	Roumania	Turkey
Ceylon	French Cochin China	Malta	Russia	United States
Chili	Germany	Manchuria	Servia	Uruguay
China	Great Britain	Mexico	Siam	West Indies, etc.

The amount of these drafts is stated in the money of the country where they are payable; that is they are drawn in sterling, francs, marks, lire, kronen, florins, yen, taels, roubles, etc., as the case may be. This ensures that the payee abroad will receive the actual amount intended.

FERNIE BRANCH A233 L. A. S. DACK, Manager.

BANK OF HAMILTON

Head Office HAMILTON

CAPITAL PAID UP.....$ 2,870,000
Reserve and Undivided Profits..... 3,500,000
Total Assets..... 44,000,000

It is not in its power to purchase that the greatest value of money lies. The feeling of independence, and of security against the effects of adverse fortune that a reserve fund gives you, is infinitely more satisfying than the passing gratification which you would obtain by spending it.

Small amounts—which you will hardly miss—deposited regularly, will gradually, but surely accumulate to a sum large enough to insure against the effects of business reverses or loss of employment.

J. R. Sloan, Agent

Imperial Bank of Canada

HEAD OFFICE, TORONTO

Capital Subscribed ..	6,000,000	Capital Paid Up	5,996,900
Reserve Fund	5,996,900	Total Assets	72,000,000

D. R. WILKIE, President HON. ROBT JAFFRAY, Vice-Pres.

BRANCHES IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

Arrowhead, Cranbrook, Fernie, Golden, Kamloops, Michel, Moyie, Nelson, Revelstoke, Vancouver and Victoria.

SAVINGS DEPARTMENT

Interest allowed on deposits at current rate from date of deposit.

FERNIE BRANCH GEO. I. B. BELL, Manager

The HOME BANK of CANADA Original Charter 1854

How to Get Along in the World

The young man who has read any book dedicated to the subject: "How to get along in the world," will have noted that the greatest stress is laid on the habit of industry and the habit of saving. He is instructed that by industry he earns, and by saving he builds up—builds up not only his resources, but his character and business instinct as well. The first step towards getting the saving habit is to start an account with one dollar at the bank.

Head Office TORONTO

Branches and connections throughout Canada

J. F. MACDONALD, Manager. Fernie Branch.

WHEN Winds Are Nippy here is the toilet lotion that typifies the true perfection of all toilet applications.

Sweet, dainty, not greasy, and of extra special value in the care of the skin.

After a walk or an auto ride BENZO ALMOND CROWN cleanses the pores, restores the circulation removes all of the ill effects of the wind.

Never hesitate or fear to go out for an enjoyable "constitutional", or to take healthful outdoor exercise because BENZO ALMOND CROWN will always take care of you even if you have on extremely delicate or sensitive skin.

Ladies appreciate it. 25c a box at

Bleasdell's Drug Store

Dr. Kelley Cures Diseases of Men

By Modern Methods

"606" for Blood Poison

Special treatment for other diseases of men. Nervous Weakness, Varicose Veins, Hydrocele, Blood and Skin Disorders, Sores Ulcers, Kidney, Bladder and Rectal Disorders, etc., and Contracted Ailments. Prostate Gland Inflammation, Old Chronic Conditions.

Museum of Anatomy

In this Great Museum is shown by life size models, monstrosities, normal and abnormal conditions of the various parts of the body. Illustrating fully both acute and chronic diseases of men.

Free Consultation and Advice

MY MOTTO: QUICK, LASTING GUARANTEED CURES AT MODERATE COST.

Expert Medical Examination Free. Free Examination of Urine when necessary. Consult Me—FREE. Don't Delay; Delays are dangerous. Call or write. Free Book, Everything confidential. Hours: 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Sundays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Dr. Kelley's Museum, 210 Howard, Spokane

List of Locals District 18

NO.	NAME	SEC. and P. O. ADDRESS
20	Bankhead	F. Wheatley, Bankhead, Alta.
481	Beaver Creek	P. Caughton, Beaver Creek, via Pincher
431	Bellevue	J. Burke, Bellevue, Frank, Alta.
2163	Blairmore	B. J. Chase, Blairmore, Alta.
949	Burmis	Jos. Derbyshire, Burmis, Alta.
2227	Carbondale	J. Lonsberry, Carbondale, Coleman, Alta.
1887	Canmore	N. D. Thachuk, Canmore, Alta.
2633	Coleman	W. Graham, Coleman, Alta.
2877	Corbin	R. Jones, Corbin, B. C.
1126	Chinook Mines	P. Kelly, Diamond City, Alta.
2178	Diamond City	Albert Zak, Diamond City, Lethbridge.
2314	Fernie	Thos. Uphill, Fernie, B. C.
1263	Frank	G. Nicol, Frank, Alta.
2407	Hosmer	W. Balderstone, Hosmer, B. C.
1053	Hillcrest	J. O. Jones, Hillcrest, Alta.
574	Lethbridge	L. Moore, 604, Sixteenth St., North Lethbridge.
1189	Lethbridge Collieries	Frank Baringham, sec., via., Kipp, Alta.
1233	Lille	W. L. Evans, Lille, Frank, Alta
2329	Maple Leaf	S. Parker, Maple Leaf, Bellevue, Alta.
2334	Michel	M. Burrell, Michel, B. C.
14	Monarch Mine	S. Moorcroft, Monarch Mine, Taber, Alta.
2352	Passburg	J. Kluscarits, Passburg, Alta.
2589	Royal View	Thos. B. Fisher, Royal Collieries, Lethbridge, Alta
1959	Taber	A. Patterson, Taber, Alta.
102	Taber	J. Cooper, Taber, Alta.

The Ledger for Job Work

Easter Greetings to Our Host of Customers

Smart Tailored Suits for Women

Smart tailored Suits in American styles in blue, grey, brown, black and white stripes and fancy tweeds, prices ranging from **$16 to $37.**

Latest styles in long Coats in fancy tweeds. plain serges and panamas with silk trimmings, prices from **$12 to $32.**

Children's Fancy Coats in black and white check with red trimmings, Copenhagen blue and navy, from **$5 to $7.50.**

Tailored Silk Waists to match suits in blue, white and black stripes and Oriental designs, prices from $4.00 to $7.50.

Fancy Muslin and Linen Waists with Torchon trimmings from **$2 to $5.**

Ladies' Kid Gloves, best quality in brown, grey, navy, black and chamois, from $1.25 to $1.50.

Dutch and Linen Collars and fancy Jabots in all the new styles.

Fancy Bags in Leather, Velvet and Chamois, from **$1.25 to $7.**

We have an etensive classy line of men's ladies' and childrens' Shoes. See our window for Easter bargains.

Inviting Groceries that will taste good at the Dinner Table

SATURDAY SPECIALS

Turkeys, per lb.	35
Chicken, per lb.	.25
Cranberries, per lb.	12½
Johnathan Apples, per lb.	.10
Navel Oranges, per doz	.20 to .60
Lowney's Cream Chocolates, per lb.	.35
Eggs, 3 dozen for	1.00
Bananas, per doz.	.40
Lettuce, per lb	.40
Celery, per lb.	12½
Cauliflower, per lb.	12½
Tomatoes, per lb.	.20
Lowney's Cocoa, ½ lb. tins	.20
Mixed Nuts, per lb.	.20
McLaren's Cheese, small pots	.25
Quaker Oats, 5 lbs. with china	.25
Tiger Brand Pineapple, 2 tins	.35
Table Figs, 2 lbs.	.35
Ontario Honey, 1 lb. pots	.30
Wild Rose Honey, 2½ lb. pot	.70
Comb Honey, 2 lb for	.45
Crosse and Blackwell's Jam, 2 lb. bottles	.40
Tuxedo Jelly Powder, 4 for	.25
Ham and Bacon, per lb.	.20
Boiled Ham, per lb., sliced	.35
Sherriff's Marmalade, 4 lb. tins	.60
Olive Oil, ½ gal tins	1.25

Men, Your Easter Suit is Here Ready

Every man likes to have a new suit for Easter. We have anticipated the wants of every build, tall, short, thin or stout, and we can fit you in colors or blues and blacks. We are showing the 20th Century Brand garments in tweeds or worsteds. The 20th Century Brand is a guarantee of Fit, Style and Workmanship.

A STYLISH SPRING OVERCOAT

Light tweed Coats are becoming very popular, greys, fawns and browns being particularly strong. These are hand-tailored garments and are extremely dressy. We are showing the coats in cloths to match suits we have in stock.

A NOBBY HAT

Our Hat Department is full of new and natty shapes in men's soft and hard hats. We have the cream of American and English productions. If you want a hat that is the newest style and newest color see us.

A SWELL TIE

Every new feature in the tie world will be found in our stock. New fancy flowing-end Ties in a large assortment of colors. New bordered-end Ties to be worn without vest. Plain Poplin Ties in all shades in both close and loose ends.

A CLASSY SHIRT

Have yo useen our new Silk Shirts with soft collars to match? Beautiful shades and combinations, including fawn, white, pale blues and greys. Soft front negligee Shirts in pique, gingham and cambric in new shades and designs with cuff attached made in coat style, any size from 12 to 18.

See Our Window for Some of these New Novelties in Shirts, Ties, Hats

TRITES-WOOD COMPANY, LIMITED

Ross' Majority Reduced

Official Count Makes it 304

Fernie Electoral Division

Polling Station	Ross	Davidson	Spoiled
Fernie	114	80	3
Fernie	130	103	3
Fernie	148	129	5
Michel (Old)	77	135	4
Krag	33	3	
Dorr	12	1	
Sparwood	7	4	
McDougall's	24	3	
Galloway	11	6	
Corbin	35	28	
Morrissey	11	1	
Jaffray	55	7	1
Hosmer	92	40	
Coal Creek	77	149	5
White Spruce	10	1	2
Bull River	9	4	2
Gateway	7	2	
Harmers	4	4	1
Crow's Nest	33	11	
Baynes Lake	33	1	2
Waldo	38	4	
Flagstone	2	1	
New Michel	39	39	3
Elko	56	5	
Fruitlands	10	2	
	1067	763	31

Here and There

The regular monthly meeting of the Ladies' Benevolent Society will be held at the home of Mrs. F. C. Lawe on Saturday, April 6th.

The regular monthly tea of the Ladies' Guild of Christ Church will be held at the home of Mrs. Dack at 3.30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 10.

The Ladies' Guild of Christ Church will hold a handkerchief bazaar and delicatessen sale in the store formerly occupied by McBean, on Saturday, April 13.

MINING EXAMINATIONS

Examinations will be held for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd class certificates of competency under the provisions of the Coal Mines Regulation Act, at Nanaimo, Fernie, Cumberland and Merritt, on the 7th, 8th and 9th days of May, 1912. Commencing at 9 o'clock in the forenoon. For further particulars apply to Tully Boyce, secretary, Nanaimo, B.C.

Appropriate Easter services will be conducted in the Baptist Church on Sunday, the Pastor, Rev. D. M. Thomson, having charge morning and evening. Special singing at the evening service.

On Good Friday evening, a beautiful cantata, entitled "Under the Palms," will be given in the Methodist Church. The choir will consist of over 50 voices. This promises to be the treat of the season. The admission will be 50c. and 25c.; performance commencing at 8 p.m. Don't fail to hear this.

Knox Presbyterian Church on Easter Sunday will be given entirely over to music. In the morning the Children Choir will take charge of the service and in the evening the choir, assisted by that accomplished violinst, M. Destabulb, will give a musicale. The following is the programme: Organ prelude, "Adagio," Mr. J Whitehouse; anthem, "What are These," choir; violin solo, 'Meditation," M. Sestabulb; solo, "Childrens Home," Mrs. Grant; organ voluntary, "Bell Rondo," Mr. J Whitehouse; solo, Mr. P. Hesketh; violin solo, "Meditation," M. Destabulb; solo, "Father Forgive Them," J. W. Quinney; anthem, "Lift up Your Heads," choir; finale march, "March of Priests, Mr. J. Whitehouse.

Mr and Mrs. Pollock and daughter, are leaving for a holiday to California.

A special Easter dinner will be served by the ladies of the Knox Presbyterian Church on Monday evening at 6 o'clock. The price will be 50c. for adults and 25c. for children.

FIRE ON VICTORIA AVENUE

A fire broke out last night at the residence of Pasquale Bombeane, on Victoria Avenue, opposite Letcher's Barn. The fire brigade was notified in good time, and were able to save the building. The damage done was between three and four hundred dollars, which is covered by insurance.

FUNERAL OF THE LATE WM. WHITTLE

On Sunday afternoon last the body of Wm. Whittle, who lost his life at Coal Creek last Friday, was interred One of the largest number of friends and members of the organization followed the cortege, and the District was represented by Secretary-Treasurer Carter. Services were held in the Church of England.

ENGLISH WOMEN WIN IN MUNICIPAL ELECTION

LONDON, March 18.—The greatest success ever achieved at an English election by women was at Birmingham today, where of twelve women nominated for members of the Board of Guardians two were unopposed and nine were chosen.

The only one to fall was beaten by a Laborite.

THE WHITTLE INQUEST

The inquest on Wm. Whittle, who lost his life in a cave-in at No. 1 South, Coal Creek, on Friay of last week, was held in Fernie last night. Coroner Bleasdell and a jury heard the evidence and brought in a verdict of "Accidental death." How many members of the jury were miners?

Fernie Academy of Shorthand and Typewriting

Two Classes Weekly. Tuesdays and Fridays from 7.30 to 9.30 in the evening

Private lessons and select classes by arrangement

Tel. 170 Evenings --- 48A Days

The Big Fire Sale

will continue until

Saturday Evening

McLean's Drug & Book Store Day Tel. 142 Night " 26

Lots in the New Town of

EAST COLEMAN

Will be sold at auction in the town of Coleman, Alberta, Monday, April 22, 1912

Invest Above Ground

In a town whose success is guaranteed by a number of great and growing industries

An investment here, is in my opinion, one of the safest, surest and most profitable that could be entered into.

It is safer than a savings bank, as it is not subject to panic, while the prospective profits are infinitely greater.

It is sure, because as a matter of history, property in towns backed by great industries has always paid its owners handsomely.

The low prices and easy terms offered on EAST COLEMAN lots, give the wage earner an opportunity which has hitherto been enjoyed only by those having large capital.

Lots $50 and upward according to location

For particulars address **Thos. Crahan, New Michel, B.C.**

Offices will be open in COLEMAN before the sale

Classified Ads.--Cent a Word

FOR RENT— Four-Roomed Cottage; ment kitchen, clothes closet, water, sink and electric light fixtures. Situate next block to public school, Pellat Ave. Apply, Wm. Barton.

FOR SALE House, 7 rooms, bath and pantry, connected range; block 47, McAvoy Street. Centrally located. All fenced and painted. $2500, terms. Cheap for cash. Apply, L. G. Evan, Box 123.

FOR SALE, HOSMER PROPERTY, Hosmer, B.C.—Lots 11 and 12, Block 5, Corner Main St., and Third Avenue, 60 by 100 feet; one of the best corners in the city; must sell at once; title first class; what am I offered?—P. McLachlan, Box 324, Prince Rupert, B. C.

S. C. Pure Bred Buff Leghorns' Eggs for hatching; from best pen for $5 per 13. Second pen for $3 per 13. H. D. Wilson, Breeder, Fernie, B. C. 27-t.f.

FOR SALE

PURE BRED BUFF ORPINGTON Hen and 20 Chicks, $6.00.

BUFF ORPINGTON HEN and 15 Chicks, $5.00.

Another HEN and 12 Chicks, $4.50.

Also 150 CHICKS, 2 days old; will sell in any numbers required.

ALBERT DAVIS, Annex Extension, Fernie.

FOR SALE—Three cars first-class baled OAT HAY; price $9.00 f. o. b. Coaldale. This is rich stuff with more feeding value for the money than any other hay. Will send sample.—T. W. Dike, Coaldale, Alta.

FOR RENT—Store in the Eckstein Block. Apply, Cree and Moffatt.

THREE-ROOMED SHACK for Rent or for Sale, West Fernie. Apply this office.

WANTED—PIT BOSS with papers at once for new mine. Good wages to right man. Apply, with full particulars to Mr. Eaton, P. O. Drawer 1675, Calgary, Alta.

Why buy mixtures known as alum baking powder when you can just as well, and at no more expense, get Magic Baking Powder? The ingredients are plainly printed on each package. See if this is on the others. All Grocers are authorized to guarantee that "Magic" does not contain alum.

Shiloh's Cure

QUICKLY STOPS COUGHS, CURES COLDS, HEALS THE THROAT AND LUNGS. 25 CENTS