THE

Labor Statesman

Owned by the Vancouver, New Westminster and District Trades and Labor Council

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Department of Labour
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AFFILIATED UNIONS

Street Railway Employees.
Carpenters Union.
Bakery Salesmen.
Journeymen Barbers.
Boilermakers Union.
Steam and Operating Engineers.
General Laborers Union.
Hotel and Restaurant Employees.
Machinists Union 182.
Machinists Union 692.
Musicians Union.
Stage Employees.
Moving Picture Operators.
Journeymen Tailors.
Typographical Union.
Bookbinders Union.
Electrical Workers 213.
Sheet Metal Workers.
Milk Salesmen.
Journeymen Plumbers.
Railway Carmen.
Blacksmiths Union.
Garment Workers.
Plasterers Union.
Bricklayers nad Masons.
Cigar Makers.
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Printing Pressmen.
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Soft Drink Dispensers.
Switchmen.
Theatrical Federation.

CANADIAN LABOR PARTY CONVENTION HERE TUESDAY

An organizing convention of the British Columbia section of the Canadian Labor Party will be held in the Trades Council Hall, 16 Hastings Street East on Tuesday, April the 29th, when the first big step for united political action on the part of the workers of this province will be inaugurated.

Delegates will be in attendance from practically every union in the city and district, as well as from the various labor-political organizations. Delegates from various parts of Vancouver Island and from New Westminster and other eastern points will also be in attendance.

This will be the first of a series of conventions for the organization and nomination of labor party locals and candidates.

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL WHIST DRIVE AND DANCE

The Label League Whist Drive and Carnival Dance held in the Cotillion Hall last Friday night was another huge success. The winners of the whist drive were: First ladies, a pair of flower vases, won by Mrs. Cook, 118; second prize, 4 pound box of chocolates, won by Violet Woodward, 117; booby prize, a large Easter egg, won by Billy Page, of the Carpenters Union, who was playing as a lady, 89.

The gents' first prize, pure amber cigarette holder, won by Walter Hamme, 115; second prize, two boxes of cigars, won by H. W. Watts, managing editor of The Labor Statesman, 113; booby prize, half pound tin of tobacco, won by Wm. Emery, 90.

The last whist drive and dance of the season will be held in the Cotillion Hall, Friday, May 16. Come and bring your friends. Regular prices.

OUR MISSION

The Labor Statesman is owned and controlled by the Vancouver, New Westminster and District Trades and Labor Council. Unions affiliated with this council have subscribed for their members nad have donated to the finances necessary for the production of this paper. Hence the members of these various unions will receive this paper through the mails every week.

This is the first new step for the further unity of the Labor movement on the industrial and political field. Whether your ideas be red, yellow or pale pink so far as ultimate aims are concerned, all of you realize that nothing can be accomplished on the industrial or the political field without unity. And unity means that all of us must give and take, and meet each other half way. When that is accomplished and we stand solidly united for our demands, then Labor will begin to enjoy more of the good things that can be so abundantly produced by labor and machinery. And that is all the labor movement is striving for—a higher standard of living—a greater destiny.

An Ever Grander Realization

The very highest service any organization can render is to help light the fires that show mankind a greater destiny. Mankind will ever march on and ever on as far as it can see, as far as it can glimpse the highest shining peaks of asperation born in the brain of the noblest and the best of the soul-hungry human race. Those who have vision must show the way and in others wake the impulse—this impulse that, like a mainspring, drives mankind on and on to ever grander realizations. Those with awakened vision must rouse in the thousands who sleep, this passion for increasing consciousness; must rouse this holy lust of the human brain for the truth and the beauty and the love of life above the cheap, sordid present-day existence; must rouse this sublime desire for refined expanding life, for the increasing diameter of the soul that delights the artisan, fires the scientist, warms the artist, kindles the heart of the educator, lifts the human clod from the gutter and redeems the human mind from the tyranny of the body and saves the human being from the curse of cheap desires nad the blight of degrading indifference.

Good for the Whole Human Family

That is the mission of this paper and the labor movement. If plenty of attractive and nourishing food, if beautiful and commodious homes and handsome furniture and elegantly excellent clothing, if these things are good for anybody they would be good for everybody. If Art and Science and Literature and Philosophy and the best of Music and Travel and Leisure and an abundance of the good and beautiful things of life,—if these things are good for one set of human beings they are good for the whole human family.

If a wholesome amount of joyous labor, applied to the machinery of wealth production, can provide more than enough to satisfy the best mental and physical desires of the human family, why should we not endeavor to escape from the frigid loneliness of wolfish individualism into the genial sunshine of fraternal collectivism?

Time to Close Up Our Ranks

O, weary friend, brother, sister, in shop and mill and mine and farm, lift up your head and think and dare—dare to read, dare to study the message of the bold, strong fellow-workers who already see just ahead along the path of human progress, the great meadows, the laughing brooks, the cool groves, the waving grain, the gold-topped mountains of freedom and justice and life—the life that means the pleasure of leisure without fear, and work without robbery.

That is the mission of the labor movement. That is why an ever increasing number are rallying to our cause. Every day comes word of new labor victories on the industrial and especially on the political field from all parts of the world. It is now time for us in British Columbia to close up our ranks, increase the strength of our organizations and march forward with our brothers in other countries to a greater destiny.

Labor Party Will Be Active Factor

The Labor Party in British Columbia is not saying much in a publicity way, but it is "sawing wood." The Labor Party has a neucleus of adherents in every constituency and the elimination of the $100 election deposit may bring out more labor candidates than at any other time. A big campaign fund has not been neccessary in the past to elect Labor candidates or run a close contest with old party candidates. In some previous elections Labor has had as many as twenty candidates in the field and after collecting the election deposit and having about $50 or $100 to make the fight on, has either elected their candidate or come within a handful of votes of doing so.

Vancouver and Victoria will, in all probability, have full tickets in the field and plans are under way to have candidates contest Burnaby, New Westminster, North Vancouver, Nanaimo, Comox, Nelson, Prince Rupert, South Okanagan, Slocan and other ridings as well as South Vancouver, Newcastle and Fernie, which are already represented by Labor candidates.

Vitality and Enthusiasm

The forthcoming convention of the British Columbia section of the Canadian Labor Party may add vitality and enthusiasm to the rank and file of the workers. Never before in the history of British Columbia were conditions so favorable to the Labor party as today, with the Liberal and Conservative parties entirely discredited, and the Provincial party a doubtful quantity.

There is every indication that the campaign between these three parties will be simply a mud-slinging and personality abusing contest. This will add to the strength of the Labor party candidate.

Farmers Behind Labor Party

In the country districts, a large number of farmers have always rallied round the Labor candidates and there is no indication that it will not be the same this time. As in the past, some of these Labor candidates may be farmers trying to eke out a miserable existence from the soil.

Workers who are interested in having Labor candidates in their constituency should immediately get in touch with W. H. Cottrell, 166 17th Ave., W., Vancouver, B.C. Chairman of the Canadian Labor Party.

A DUTY FOR YOU

No Labor paper can function properly unless its finances are in good shape. Wealthy corporations are not in the habit of "buying the policy" of a Labor paper, hence we have to rely upon the advertising support given us by local merchants. But we want you to bear in mind that no advertiser or group of advertisers, no matter how big their ads., will be given any consideration, so far as the policy of the paper is concerned. All we ask you to do therefore, is to give them your patronage in exchange for theirs, and TELL THEM WHY. Make a note of these local merchants, point them out to the family shopper, and with this continued support your paper will flourish and prosper and will thereby help Labor to become a power in the land.

Replying to a cablegram from the Trades and Labor Council, to Harry Gale, London, Eng., regarding the payment of fair wages on Spillers elevator, he says that wage scales wlil be taken care of to the Council's entire satisfaction.

All the locals of the Amalgamated Carpenters in the United States have gone over to The United Brotherhood of Carpenters.

The Milk Salesmen and Dairy Employees Union has placed their entire membership on our mailing list and we are looking forward to them to interest their customers in The Labor Statesman.

Have you a friend in B. C. who you think would like to read this paper? If so tell him all about it.

All the members of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters, Local 452, are on our mailing list and are hustling new subs. Go thou and do likewise.

Hundreds of new locals are being formed by the British Labor Party and hundreds of new members are joining the old locals.

Two non-union dairies were recently fined for selling dirty milk. But the consumers who were probably half poisoned with the dirty milk were not reimbursed.

From fifteen to twenty-five new members have been taken into the Carpenters union at the last three or fuor meetings.

The Carpenters complain that union-made overalls are hard to get in the city. Here's a chance for a live garment manufacturing firm.

The Musicians Union in this city is 99 per cent. organized. The one per cent is being chased out of the city.

The Victoria local of the Amalgamated Carpenters have gone over in a body to the United Brotherhood of Carpenters.

The Trades Council is protesting to the Workmen's Compensation Board against the collection of $1.50 per month by the C.P.R. Medical Board from men employed by the Junkins Co. on the B. C. Pier. Under this "Approved Scheme" it is alleged that the Compensation Board does not get all the money collected.

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WINNIPEG CITY COUNCIL AGAINST GOVT. POLICY

WINNIPEG, Man.—While the C.P.R., the C.N.R., and the Dominion Government are touring their agents all through Europe, telling the workers in these countries that there is work for all in Canada and that no unemployment exists, the Winnipeg City Council at their meeting on Monday, April 7th, clearly recognized and gave the lie to the above mentioned agencies in passing a resolution appealing to the employers in the city of Winnipeg to give employment to the unemployed citizens of Winnipeg, and placed themselves on record against the policy of the Dominion and Provincial Governments for bringing thousands of workers into the country while a serious unempolyed situation still prevails. The Council has a Labor mayor and six Labor aldermen.

SOUTH PITTSBURG, Tenn.—More than 250 unorganized men and women employees of the Aycock hosiery mills suspended work rather than accept wage cuts. The new schedule calls for 96 cents where $2 formerly was paid. These workers have asked to be organized.

THE INDEPENDENT PRESS

The late John Swindon, sometime editor of the New York Times, which is among the best of the great American dailies, as a tribute of love and respect was tendered a banquet by his brother-editors. He astonished his hosts, when, in reply to a toast to "The Independent Press," he used the following words:

"There is no such thing in America as an independent press except it be in the country towns. You know it and I know it. There is not one of you who would dare to write his honest opinions, and if he did, you know beforehand that it would never appear in print.

"I am paid $150 for keeping my honest opinions out of the paper I am connected with—others of you are paid similar salaries for similar things—and any of you who would be so foolish as to write his honest opinions would be out on the streets looking for another job.

"The business of the journalist is to destroy the truth, to lie outright, to pervert to vilify, to fawn at the feet of Mammon, and to sell his country and his race for his daily bread. You know this, and I know it; and what folly is this to be toasting an 'independent press!'

"We are the tools and vassals of the rich men behind the scenes. We are jumping-jacks; they pull the strings and we dance. Our talents, our possibilities and our lives are the property of these men. We are intellectual prostitutes."

Perverting the News

This is just as true of Canadian and other British newspapers as it is of the American. In fact, since the inception of the British Labor government, the reports of its activities have been so perverted that the real truth has not been known to this day. And thousands of workers, accepting the reports as true, have condemned the Labor government.

The Labor Party is only in office and not in power, hence it cannot do all the things it would like to do. During the Dockers' strike the daily press condemned the Labor government in the eyes of the workers by perverting the news. But the strike ended, says Dom Dickson, Labor M. P. in the Glasgow Forward, "not by threatening to march the military for blackleg labour at the docks, but by indicating in unmistakable fashion the reimposition of the Profiteering Act of 1918, and of the Emergency Powers Act of 1920. Under the 1918 Act, the power to issue necessary orders and appoint requisite penalties is vested in a food controller, and in addition to the penalty a convicted person had to forfeit to the crown double the excess he had taken. AND THE PROFITEERING FRATERNITY WERE UNDER NO ILLUSION: PROFITEERING ACTS ADMINISTERED BY A LABOUR GOVERNMENT WOULD HAVE BEEN SOMETHING LESS OF A JOKE THAN THEY HAD BEEN UNDER THE COALITION GOVERNMENT.

The Premier's prompt and firm action perturbed the trading sharks, but it brought a sense of security into thousands of poverty-stricken homes.

A Bold Stroke

But Ramsay MacDonald's task was not finished there. Had the strike continued, his job had only just begun. He could not permit the people to starve, and he would not be a party to smashing the dockers in a fight for a decent standard of life. Under the Emergency Powers Act of 1920 he had power to regulate traffic on railways, canals, and ports, in a few days those powers would have been exercised—not in a way acceptable to the die-hards of the industrial world, but they would most certainly have been exercised. The government would have taken over the control of the docks; and the dockers themselves would have undertaken the loading and discharge of goods, THE GOVERNMENT GUARANTEEING THE INCREASED WAGES IN DEMAND UNTIL A DEFINITE AGREEMENT WAS REACHED. This was the bold stroke upon which the Labor premier had decided—a masterly stroke that would have proved to the country that the present administration is lacking neither in imagination nor in courage.

The reason the employers collapsed was just because a Labor government declared:

(1) That is would not allow general starvation;

(2) That it would get the dockers to work and import the necessary foodstuffs, guaranteeing the dockers the two shillings a day;

(3) That it would take over the employers' plant to see that this was done; and

(4) There was no guarantee that the business would ever again go back to the exploitation called "Private Enterprise."

"Lies and Half Truths"

George Lansbury, Labor M.P. and editor of "The Daily Herald" says, "Surrounded as we are by open and secret enemies, who use every unscrupulous device to pull us down, backed by a Press which carries on a day-by-day, in fact, an almost hourly-by-hour, campaign of lies and half-truths we have no means of overcoming, except by means of this one small daily paper assisted by the various weekly editions of Socialist and Labor journals."

"Fair Game"

Ramsey MacDonald, in a recent address to the Civil Service, said:

"I notice, with reference to this burning speculation of Singapore, that one set of newspapers announced to you that His Majesty's Government had yielded to the gentle pressure which the Admiralty had the genius to bring to bear on every Government.

"Having said that for a day or two, they informed you they were wrong, and that something else was in the minds of His Majesty's Government. Discovering that, they did not say they were wrong; they said they had had greater influence on us than on the Admiralty, and that we had changed our views in accordance with their blandishments.

"Governments," added Mr. MacDonald, are fair game for the twistings and turnings of newspaper stunts."

To Damage the Government

The political correspondent of The Daily Herald (Labor) writes: After publishing a fictitious statement about a weakening on the part of the Government "The Daily News" has the effrontery to say that "the danger was over." Pressure had been brought to bear, and the Government was now firmly against the Singapore project! In all this there was not one word of truth. It was printed in order to damage the Government.

Yet there are many Labor men and women who still read the "Daily News" and believe in its benevolence to Labor. They are the more deceived.

It will pay building trade mechanics to look over Kirk's Hardware ad. in this issue.

Vancouver Heights

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Urged Home Bank Failure Investigation

Wm. Irvine's (Labor M.P.) speech, following his motion in the Federal House calling for the appointment of a special parliamentary committee to investigate the Home Bank failure with a view to discovering any weaknesses in the Bank Act, is described by the daily papers as the best speech of his career.

Calgary victims of the Home Bank, through their executive, wired Mr. Irvine expressing their appreciation of his action in introducing the resolution, and congratulating him on the very able manner in which he participated in the debate which followed the introduction of his resolution.

Mr. Wm. Irvine (East Calgary) moved:

That, in the opinion of the House, a parliamentary committee should be appointed immediately to investigate the Home Bank failure, with a view to discovering any weaknesses in the Bank Act which may be amended to prevent a similar occurrence; to devise some means of protecting depositors generally; and to make recommendations as to the possibility of saving the Home Bank depositors from loss.

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LABOR WINS THE ELECTIONS IN DENMARK

COPENHAGEN.—The result of the elections for the Folkething are now clear. The farmers' party, left bloc in the house, lost eleven seats, which were won by the Socialists. The Socialists will form a new government and it is expected there will be a woman minister of commerce.

ARGENTINE PENSIONS

On April 1st a new law went into effect in Argentine, pensioning all who have worked twenty-five years or more. Pensions are provided by means of taxes paid into the state treasury by all workers. The scheme, however, is inoperative at the present time because the government has no money to finance it with. There is also opposition to it from the young element of organized labor and the business interests.

Another Liberal Joins Labor Party

Glasgow: Mr. Craigie M. Aitchison, the well-known Scottish K.C., who on two occasions fought as a Liberal, has severed his connection with the Liberal Party and become a member fo the Independent Labor Party.

Writing to the Glasgow Forward, he said in part:

"It is not an easy thing to change one's political party. If one has taken an active part in its work one becomes so habituated to looking at things from a particular angle that it is difficult to take another point of view. If personal friendships remain unbroken, political ties are severed. Old comradeships give place to new.

"Now that I have taken the step, I confess to having no doubt in my mind that it was a proper step to take. Liberalism is ceasing, if it has not already ceased, to be a live political force, and the Liberal Party today is in a process of visible, rapid, and indeed inevitable disintegration. I do not depreciate the contribution which Liberalism has made to the cause of progress. Political democracy, as we know it, is largely its achievement. But the battle-ground is changing, and the real problem of today is not political but industrial democracy.

The Strength of the Labor Party

If I were asked to state wherein lies the great strength of the Labor Party, I would say that it lies in this; that it draws its inspiration directly from the common people. Its leaders are, for the most part, men who have had no advantages of birth, or education, or fortune, and who have not forgotten the people from whom they sprang. And the rank-and-file of the party are men and women who are directly and daily in living contact with the difficulties, the anxieties, the uncertainties, and, one may add, the tragedies of industrial life.

What Labor Can Do

It is no answer to say that the existing social chaos is merely a temporary and evanescent product of the war. It existed throughout the whole of the nineteenth century, and it points to something inherently and fundamentally wrong in the present economic structure of society.

I am convinced that a great deal may be done by a Labor Government, given an adequate majority and consequent power, to relieve the existing situation until it becomes possible to carry out a larger policy.

"The line of division between Toryism, on the one hand, and Liberalism, on the other," he said, "has become too attenuated to form a clear line of demarcation between the two political creeds. Sooner or later they will become identical."

AMERICAN OIL MEN CANNOT GRAFT HERE

By W. FRANCIS AHERN

(Federated Press Staff Correspondent)

BRISBANE, Queensland.—Big oil interests in America are trying to wreck the operations now proceeding in Queensland for the discovery of oil. This is because the Queensland Labor Government enacted special legislation preventing oil swindlers from starting blue-sky companies and fleecing the people.

Oil has been struck by a company working under the supervision of the government at Oralla in the western portion of the state. Oil and gas are coming up in big quantities. No swindling companies have any say in the matter, hence their wrath.

While the drilling was proceeding, opposition and treachery from rival American oil companies made their appearance. Machinery for the wells was sabotaged or damaged. When certain essential machinery for the rotary drilling plant was required, an open order for the machinery was placed in America while a secret duplicate order was placed through another country. This was done to trip the conspirators.

This forethought was rewarded. The plant ordered openly was tipped overboard in transit to Australia, but the secret order arrived intact, unknown to anyone. The oil rig is now picketed and policed by the government, and nobody except those engaged in the work of drilling is allowed near the operations.

Queensland State Owned Coal Mines a Success

Critics of Nationalization, who are never tired of saying that Nationalization of the Mines would be the first step to the ruin of the industry, do not seem to know that in Queensland the Labor Government has proved that Nationalization pays:

Despite the fact that it sold its output at 25/ per ton below the price charged by the private coal barons, the Queensland state-owned coal mine at Bowen made a profit of £6700 for the last fiscal year. At another state-owned coal mine at Styx River, the output was sold at £2 a ton cheaper than the price previously charged by private coal owners.

The Queensland Labor Government is developing other coal mines in the state, and aims at supplying the state's entire needs from the state-owned mines at less than half the price previously charged by private enterprise.

Under nationalization Queensland can not only pay the miners a living wage but sell coal to the community far cheaper than was done under private ownership.

—E. H., in Glasgow Forward.

NEW YORK.—The east is joining with the west in the national Farmer-Labor convention to be held in St. Paul June 17. Third party state conventions to select delegates for the national meeting will be held in New York and Ohio in May; and probably in Pennsylvania and New Jersey at the same time. The Ohio meeting has been set for Columbus, May 18.

DENVER, Colo.—Newspaper printers have secured a wage increase of $4.50 a week through arbitration. The new scale is $46.50 for day work and $49.50 for night work. The award dates to last September and the printers will receive approximately $20,000 in back wages.

BOSTON.—A 42-hour week, distributed over a five-day week, was won by organized dressmakers after a three-weeks' strike. The workers compromised their 40-hour week demand.

LOS ANGELES.—Web printing pressmen have raised wages $3 a week, with back pay from December 1 last. Improved working conditions are also secured.

A real union man never permits anything but extraordinary causes to keep him away from his union meeting.

St. Louis plumbers are getting $14 a day and East St. Louis plumbers $13 per eight-hour day, according to Chicago officials of Local 130.

WASHINGTON.—There were 158 deaths in the coal mines of this country in February, reports the United States bureau of mines. For each million tons of coal produced in that period the death rate was 2.69.

BLOOMINGTON, Ill.—In an election here to fill the term of the mayor, who died recently, Frank H. Blose of the horseshoers' union won by a large majority. Labor has three representatives on the board of aldermen.

TOPEKA, Kan.—Organized plasterers in this city have raised wages $1 a day.

WATERBURY, Conn.—Garment workers have won their strike for a 44-hour week. Formerly they worked 50 hours. The union shop is recognized, and there will be no wage reduction.

ROCHESTER, N. Y.—Bricklayers in this city have raised wages $1 a day.

WORCESTER, Mass.—Newspaper printers have raised wages $3 a week. The contract will continue for three years. The new rates are $45 and $48 a week.

There is no election deposit. That makes it easier for you to have a labor candidate in your constituency, and to elect him.

Send in the news of union activities.

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AUSTRALIA NEXT FOR LABOR GOVERNMENT

Australia is on its way to a Socialist State. Recent victories of the Labor Party has added South Australia and West Australia to the states already controlled by the Labor Party, which are Queensland and Tasmania. The Labor Party have strong representations in the states of New South Wales, New Zealand and Victoria.

The Labor Party is the largest party in the Federal Parliament, but the old parties form the government. But at a recent Federal election in Dalhousie, the Labor Party candidate won easily and this contest prior to the result, was considered the barometer of public opinion. Now the old parties are certain of defeat at the nearby elections.

The farmers who have their own parliamentary group are beginning to go over to labor. In fact the alliance of the farmer and Labor parties in the recent South Australia election gave the labor party the victory.

PRIVATE PEAT TELLS THEM ABOUT WAR

CLEVELAND.—"Private Peat" revealed war as it is to a large group of Cleveland business men, containing a number of distinguished war profiteers. The Canadian declared: "Our newspapers and even our schoolbooks are saturated with praise for military glory, and are largely silent as to the cost and criminality of it. We who served know war has four elements: tears, filth, wooden crosses, and a degenerating influence," declared the soldier author. "The pupils today are learning that is is glorious, chivalrous and honorable."

Labor polled over 7,000 votes in Vancouver at the last elections, lets make it 10,000 and a clean sweep this time.

SHOPPING PARS.

I love to look in the windows of art stores. I was delighted with the two pictures, A Boy and a Girl. Each picture was attached to a mirror. In my humble opinion they would be much more attractive without the mirror attachment. However, it is worth a journey up Granville Street to see that Boy and Girl.

* * *

I notice a great improvement in the display of hosiery. Insteda of the old short shin model, the (past-the-knee) model is being used in the better class stores. This exhibits to better advantage the exquisite salmon pink stockings. I felt inclined to buy a pair of those fine silks, but upon reflection observed, that they would not be so attractive without the models, so I turned my attention to those dainty little handkerchiefs of French design, named LE FRIVOLE. They are so small yet so chic! I don't know whether a lady will use one or two or three; but they will certainly add charm to the lady possessing one. But they are small! too small for use! But then Art has its own utility, that plebian minds what not of.

* * *

With much money I could have bought many things. Good stylish suits for young men, with pleats in the back of the coat. New hats with a little feather at the back to show that you are a shiek.

* * *

I turned into Con Jones', bought a good cigar, and as I smoked there came back to memory the words of the Psalmist: "Happy is the man who in the smallness of his desire make poverty equal to riches; to whom the skins of the desert are as garments of camels' hair finely wrought.

A two-year agreement at $1.25 an hour has been signed with employers by Chicago units of the United Association of Plumbers and Steamfitters of the United States and Canada.

Half a dozen members can organize a branch of the Labor Party. YOURSELF and five more. DO IT NOW.

LAW AND ORDER (?)

WEIMAR, Germany.—The "law and order" forces of Thuringia, which with the aid of federal German troops secured an electoral victory over the Socialists and Communists in February, are rigorously firing working class representatives who held political jobs under the previous administration—all under the plea of reduction of expenses. They are scrapping social legislation that favored the unemployed, war victims, and widows and orphans.

---

158 MINERS KILLED IN FEBRUARY

WASHINGTON.—The U. S. Bureau of Mines reports 158 deaths from mine accidents in February, 1924. Anthracite mines contributed 40 deaths and bituminous mines 118.

A number of prominent women members of the Labor party have sent a petition to Mr. Wheatley, the Minister of Health, asking him to receive a deputation to state the case for the teaching of birth control at clinics set up under the administration of local authorities.

How many members did you bring into the local? If none— get one; if one—get another.

Mrs. Goodsole—I am soliciting for the poor. What do you do with your cast-off clothing?

Mr. Longsufferer—I hang them up carefully and put on my pajamas. Then I resume them in the morning.

HAMBURG.—The German water front is on strike. In Hamburg and Bremen, the chief ports, all harbor workers have downed tools to preserve the 48-hour week.

"I thought in my simplicity," said Archdeacon Doherty, Anglican bishop of Huron, Ont., "that after the war there would be an international tribunal to bring those guilty of the war to justice. But nothing has been done."

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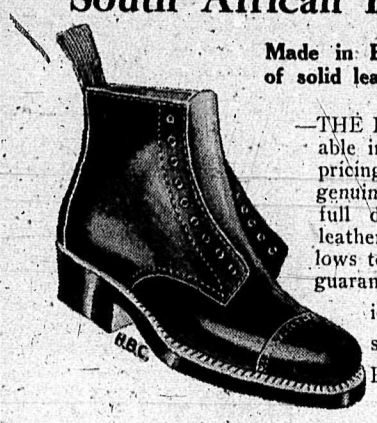

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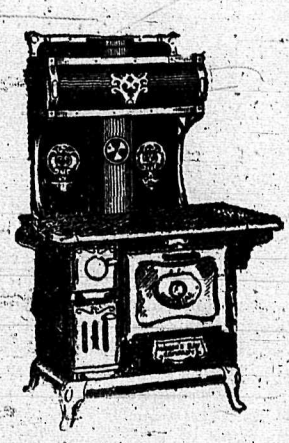

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Phone Seymour 7495

Vancouver, B. C., April 25, 1924.

IN EXPLANATION

Although this is the initial issue of THE LABOR STATESMAN, it is really not the first number. By way of explaining this Irishism it is necessary to take our readers back a few months to the days immediately following the cessation of the Longshoremen's strike. At that time, as a product of the strike itself, a paper had appeared under the name of THE LONGSHOREMEN'S STRIKE BULLETIN, which had left a not inconsiderable impression upon the wage-earners and public generally of this city. In any case, the Executive Committee of The Vancouver Trades and Labor Council of the day, some of whose members had been functioning as a negotiating committee for the disputants in the strike, considered it might be a good stroke of business, from the standpoint of organized labor, if ways and means could be developed for adopting wholesale the lusty though short-lived literary infant of the Longshoremen's strike.

Thus it came about that a paper, carrying the endorsement of The Vancouver Trades & Labor Council, and known as the B. C. Labor Bulletin, was issued. There is no use lamenting over spilt milk. That paper was issued in the throes of the Christmas holiday season, when business is peculiar and everybody is intent upon his or her own celebrating. It had to be suspended. But as a result of that arises now THE LABOR STATESMAN. This little note is by way of assuring all those who subscribed, either for single copies or bundles, or placed advance advertising in the columns of THE BULLETIN that their credits will be duly honored on the ledger of THE STATESMAN.

It has been said that Trade Unions are the natural groupings of the workers. Whether that be open to question or no, it is evident that the Labor Movement, with all tis shortcomings and tendencies to roam amidst the swamps of the past, contains also hopeful features and tendencies to move and look ahead. In any case it must be taken as it is, for what it is. This journal will aim to be a medium for news and views of the movement, will attempt, so far as it is possible, to make its editorials advisory and critical, in the hope that healthy discussion amongst hte workers of thsi city and contiguous territory may develop. By the clash of ideas, the opposing of opinion to opinion, providing tolerance be maintained for the other fellow's viewpoint, progress can be made. In spite of reaction, as we look abroad throughout the world today, we must repeat with Galileo: "And still it moves."

This journal makes no great pretensions to literary style, the grace of Macauley or the descriptive power of Dickens may be conspicuous by their absense. It is a paper of the wage-earner, designed to deal with his problems as they affect him from day to day, and as they are liable to affect him in the immediate and distant future. If the language used can be understood by those for whose consumption it is intended, and if the matter presented be fruitful insofar as helping in the general forward movement of the working class, and in the building up and strengthening of the forces of the Labor Movement, then our object will have been achieved and we will rest satisfied.

In seeking this consummation devoutly to be wished we ask the co-operation of all those who profess understanding with Labor's position and aims to lend a helping hand. For, indeed, the fields are white unto harvest, but the laborers are few.

THE POLITICAL POT SIMMERS

The signs of the times indicate a general election for this Province before the passing of many moons. Party organizers and chiefs are now engaged in stumping the country, repairing their particular political fences, and, taking, as is their wont, an inordinate amount of excess baggage, metaphorically speaking, in the shape of platform planks and pledges.

All the old tricks, and probably one or two new ones, will be made use of for the purpose of leading the great majority of the population, to wit, the working section, not into the promised land, but into the land of promises.

The protagonists of the party that is in, in order to remain in, will descant seriously and solemnly upon the measures that have been initiated by the government of the day and duly affirm that all these things have really benefitted the people and made the burden laying upon the shoulders of the worker somewhat lighter. The party that is not in, in order to get in, will make tellingly effective criticisms of these very same well-lauded pieces of legislation, and all in all a merry time will be had by each as they mutually stir up the mud-pile of each others iniquities.

What all this pish may have to do with the worker we are at a loss to understand, though we have been enquiring for some several years. Nevertheless, experince has proven that the workers will have quite a lot to do with it. When, overcome with nausea at the antics of a group that have held close grip upon the institutional furniture of government, they have sought a change, they have, by means of the suffrage which they possess, proven capable only of changing one set of master's agents for another, different only in that they are robed in slightly different political suits. That the workers have progressed sufficiently intellectually to make a complete change in the direction of their own economic and social interests is to hope for too much. That there exists indications of a changing viewpoint tending in that direction is the only reason for expressing some measure of hope.

The laws of a country, insofar as they are made effective, constitute the rules of the life we have to live. Where the operation of those rules, on the one hand, or the non-operation on the other, effect the lives and well-being of the members of the wage-earning section of society, the question becomes an immediate and vital one.

This journal is not out to dictate any line of action or to lay out any definite political policy, but it might not be remiss to offer here a few observations.

The statute books of this province, as of every other political entity within capitalist society, are laden with laws and acts respecting the conditions under which workers, within such society, shall go to work. To mention a few at random: The Coal Mines Regulation Act, The Workmen's Compensation Act, The Minimum Wage Law, The Factory Act, The Eight Hour Day Act, etc.

These were all put through the legislature by different groups in power at different times. They were all made subject matter for electioneering. Palaver and whangdoodle were disseminated ad lib for the delectation of the astonished multitude by politicians of both old parties; schemes were devised and measures created all for the purpose of assisting labor—to go on laboring to the continued profit of the owners of the machinery of production.

This, then, is what we have to say: In the event of an election coming upon us, keep an open ear for promises made and a ready mind to recall promises unfulfilled; take the measure of the politicoes by paralleling their pledges with their performances, and see how all these things work out when tested in the crucible of your own work-a-day experiences and trials. A proverb worth recalling is: "If a thing is worth doing, do it yourself." If economic salvation is worth anything to the working class then the working class must be capable of appreciating its worth, and, consequently, capable of successfully effecting it.

With the working class the industrial processes of society are a matter of habit through every-day contact; the familiarity which breeds contempt is part of their make-up. But with the processes of government and administratoin the workers are total foreigners. Only by experience, by trial and error it may be, will the working class come to the same hard-headed apprehension of the latter that they have, through the ages, of the former.

Questions and Answers

By "PHILITAS"

This department will be a continuous feature of this paper for the benefit of readers. Fire in your questions on any subject and we will endeavor to answer them. Address this department.

Free Legal Department

By "L"

Laws dating back many centuries are still in force today and the law makers are still grinding out new ones and changing old ones, hence the average man is "at sea" so far as the judicial system is concerned. We will endeavor, through this column however, to answer legal questions that are troubling you. Address this department.

BRITISH LABOR GOVT. MAKING HEADWAY

GLASGOW.—The Unemployment figures are falling; the Gap has been abolished; hopes are high about widows' pensions and removal of restrictions upon Old Age Pensions; Mr. MacDonald is conducting his foreign correspondence with a skill and a dignity and a sane ordered purpose making for world peace, that is without parallel in our modern history; Wheatley's Housing Bill is to come. Outside Parliament people comment upon the meanness of the Tory and Liberal excuses for their obstruction of the Rent Bill; everywhere people are willing to condone and forgive lapses and weaknesses in the Labor Government.

NEW LABOR CONFERENCE IN ENGLAND SOON

—An entirely new labor conference has been arranged to meet in London, Eng., next August. It will be a purely British Empire conference. Heretofore they have always been international, but this one will include British organizations from all the Dominions, and should be a most unique affair. The agenda includes among other things:

Relations of the parties and trades unions within the British Commonwealth to one another; inter-commonwealth relations, political and economic; mainfenance of world peace; migration; racial questions; industrial conditions, and legislation.

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THE NEED FOR PATIENCE

Bob Smilie, the British miners' leader, says: "Now that the Labor party are in office a great deal will be expected from them, but I would like to point out that the wrongs and grievances of centuries cannot be remedied in a few months, even by the most strenuous endeavors.

"The new Labor Government must be given time to turn round and to develop its policy. Moreover, without fundamental changes many of Labor's proposals cannot be achieved without considerable expenditure, and the Labor Cabinet cannot create large sums of money merely by waving a wizard's wand.

It has been a long time coming and it is not here yet, but we are getting closer and closer to the time when all the unions affiliated with organized labor will stand and pull together.

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STATE HEALTH INSURANCE

It is rumored that the B. C. Medical Association are endeavoring to have State Health Insurance legislation passed. It has been suggested that all sick people taking advantage of this free medical attention, must go to, or call in, a regular medical practitioner. If you want to be treated by an Osteopath, Hydropath or by any other than the drug treatment, you will have to pay for it, although you have paid a State Health Insurance tax. It behooves us to object to this one-sided legislation.

The British Labor Party is busy selecting its candidates for the next election.

Patronize our advertisers and tell them why.

"An Industry With a World-wide Market

When an industry is started in a community which supplies only a local market with its commodity it is counted as a great step forward for that community. Not alone because of the labor it employs, but for the new wealth created. Should its market comprise an area of, say five hundred miles in each direction, causing an influx of money from surrounding territories in exchange for its output, it is trebly good for the community. But when an industry is started which has a world-wide market from which to draw profits, it creates a steady stream of new money flowing into that community from all corners of the Globe. Every man, woman and child in that community is sure to receive benefit either directly or indirectly from the enterprise.

Such an industry is the B. C. VALVE COMPANY, LIMITED, of Vancouver. This company was organized by a group of engineers about three months ago to manufacture the B-all C-ontrolled Valve under Canadian Patent No. 233,165. The principle involved is a radical departure from the old style valves in that instead of depending on a grinding movement of seating, the ball falls freely into its seat and is then tightened into place by turning the stem. The valve also is provided with a removable seat which can be replaced at trifling cost in the event of wire-cutting or other injury. The ball can also be replaced, if found necessary, at any time.

Usually, in a new enterprise, it is found necessary to build up a market and create a demand for the commodity, unless similar devices have already done this missionary work. Valves are now in such general use all over the world that the sales campaign of the company will be limited to the simple demonstration that B. C. Valves are better than any others now on the market. The same B-all C-ontrolled principle, covered by the patent, can be used on water faucets as well as every pipe, including the large marine valves. The average dwelling now-a-days has an average of seven faucets, every steam laundry of any size has over one hundred valves, large hotels and office buildings have thousands, every mill, mine, factory, steamship and railroad spends thousands annually. With a thirty per cent. duty on valves of foreign manufacture, it is easy to understand how the B. C. Valve Company, Limited, expects to employ hundreds of men in its plant in North Vancouver, where they recently secured a three-acre site.

The company already has 1,000 stockholders, 90% of which are laboring men who are paying for their shares on a liberal monthly payment arrangement of 10% down and 10% per month. It is reported that the American Company, now manufacturing the B-all C-ontrolled Valve, under U. S. Letters Patent, has a total of 2,400 stockholders of which 2,150 are engineers, plumbers, steam-fitters and employees of saw mills and lumber camps. The old saying—"Where a man's money is his heart is"—explains the immediate demand created for the company's commodity. The company maintains demonstrating rooms at 70 Hastings Street, West, where all types of B. C. Valves may be inspected.

KILLED IN CANADIAN INDUSTRY

OTTAWA, Canada.—There were 1396 fatal industrial accidents in Canada during 1923. The largest number of these took place in the transportation and public utility group, where there were 366 deaths. There were 196 deaths in manufacturing; 193 in logging; 188 in mining, non-ferrous smelting and quarrying; 173 in construction; 129 in agriculture; 60 in public and personal service; 29 in fishing and trapping; 24 in trade, and 38 in miscellaneous.

HOT GERMAN CONVENTION

CASSEL, Germany.—One of the hottest conventions ever held by the German Metal Workers' Union, an industrial organization embracing thirty-four trades and constituting the largest single union in Germany, has just come to an end. The whole administration was re-elected, with Robert Dissmann, member of the reichstag and left wing leader of the Social Democrats, at the head.

Jim MacLaughlin Says Labor Will Win

Speaking at a big meeting in Stellarton, Nova Scotia, J. B. MacLachlin, the miner's leader who was recently released from jail, said:

He had noted with pleasure that the Nova Scotia Legislature were at last going to give the workers some legislation worth while. So far, the only thing the Nova Scotia Government had sent to Cape Breton for the miners was legislation which came on horseback with a good shot of rum under its belt, with a gun in its hand, and naturally the miners did not like this kind of legislation. "I hope they do a little better this session, and that the eight-hour bill will go through. **I know it is only to get your votes, but you will do the voting later on for your own men.**

"Since I came out of the pen there have been four men killed, and I don't know how many with broken bodies. The coal mine owner is getting cheap coal at 14 cents a ton by the blood of the men and the suffering of women and children.

Soldiers to Protect Property

"This is what the Government thinks about it: You know they sent soldiers to Cape Breton to protect life and property. I never saw them protect property. When it comes to protecting life, what did the Armstrong Government do? **Thirty-two men killed in mines last year.**

"They know that that electric machine is the direct cause of the deaths of men and they fail to take any precaution, they not only fail, but are utterly indifferent to the killing of men in the mines.

The Reward of Labor

"The inspection of mines of Nova Scotia would be a farce were it not such a terrible tragedy," he said. Mr. McLachlan spoke of the many mining explosions in Nova Scotia. Since 1917, 335 men have had their bodies broken in Nova Scotia mines.

Concluding, he sadi: "The kind of peace the Company and the Government want is cheap human flesh, and no criticism of the government. The world is rolling in wealth, and yet men are hungry. The workers are telling the governments that things must change. The workers are going to win.

The latest from Old London Town is that the bricklayer and sand-blast man have climbed into society. The Carlton Club, described as the world's most exclusive club, has issued luncheon invitations to the workmen who for the past year have been renovating the front of the clubhouse.

ST. THOMAS, Ont.—Two locomotive engineers were elected to office, one as mayor and one as alderman, by railroad workers in St. Thomas.

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HOW MUSSOLINI WON HIS RECENT VICTORY

ROME—Mussolini's campaign to secure his victory at the recent election was the usual Fascist one. The Opposition parties were not able to hold a single meeting; their candidates were driven from the constituencies, or wounded, or killed, and in one case those who had signed Socialist nomination papers were shot and wounded.

Journalists who have sent an accurate report of such happenings to the Press have been attacked and flogged. No action is being taken over these crimes.

One Socialist candidate was lured into a lane and shot dead.

JAP SOP TO LABOR

KOBE, Japan.—The decision of the new Japanese cabinet to show a more tolerant attitude toward labor organizations is taken as an indication that the militarists are somewhat alarmed at the growing power of the workers and are endeavoring to buy them off with small concessions.

The traffic checker

UNSEEN by the majority of people, at some busy corner there may be noted almost any evening a man with notebook and pencil in hand.

¶ He is checking up the loads carried upon the street cars, so that we can with scientific accuracy make our schedules to suit the public needs.

¶ With his figures charted upon paper we can in a moment tell if this or that service is inadequate and the service can be adjusted accordingly. B. C. Electric service is all founded on such expert data.

BRITISH COLUMBIA ELECTRIC RAILWAY CO.
HEAD OFFICE — VANCOUVER, B. C.
25

Globe Theatre

We are glad to welcome you here and are sure you will enjoy our programme.

For this week we offer an unusual crook drama.

"THE GIRL WHO CAME BACK"

GLOBE

GROSS NEGLIGENCE CAUSES CASUALTIES

(By the Federated Press)

TRENTON, N.J.—Eighteen workers killed and 200 injured by explosion! Oh no, the company was not to blame, it was much more interested in protecting its employees than in piling up profits—at least according to the company officials and capitalist newspapers. The workers who escaped say the company was responsible, do they? Well, that's only red propaganda. . . That was the story of the disaster at the Nixon plant of the Ammonite Co., on March 8.

Now comes the report of Dr. Martin Szamatolski, consulting chemist New Jersey department of labor, declaring that the company was carrying on dangerous operations just before the explosion which were very different from those in progress when the plant was inspected and approved January 1.

"It would be idle to speculate on the true causes of the explosion," the expert reports, "beyond the fact that it was due to gross negligence and violation of the law."

SYDNEY, N.S.W.—Plasterers have decided to refuse to work overtime unless the work is necessary. What is necessary work will be settled by the union. This step is taken by the union because the persistent use of overtime by the employers is breaking down the 44-hour week.

The largest open air swimming bath in the world has been opened in San Francisco. It is 1,000 feet long and 100 feet broad, and will accommodate 10,000 swimmers.

Don't forget our job printing department.
It is more help to the paper.
Get "one more" subscription.
Your neighbor will make "one more."
Get "one more" for twenty weeks.
Boost for "one more" reader.

Have your letterheads printed on union made paper. Order through The Labor Statesman.

EDUCATION AND FARMING

The old tradition that farming could be carried on just as successfully without higher education as with it appears to have broken down under the investigations which were carried on in several states of America.

The Kansas Agricultural College took the initiative and on a questionnaire covering 1,237 farms in that state found that the annual earnings of farmers having a common school education was $422, those with high school education was $554, those with full college course, $1,452.

All succeeding investigation in other states showed practically the same results. When it came to the question of modern conveniences and improvements, the college men are always in the lead by fifty per cent or more.

Perhaps it is the more ambitious men who get the education.

But with the data so widely gathered the conclusion seems clear that education is an advantage in every way.

Man is designed to be something more than a drudge. Anything that enhances the value of his manhood is good and a permanent available asset.

PROTEST FRENCH TRAFFIC IN WOMEN

VILA, New Hebrides.—Another protest has been made by missionaries in the New Hebrides against the traffic in women countenanced by the French government authorities in the islands.

It is alleged that the French enlist labor for the plantations by using single women as decoys. These women are taken to the plantations and "married" to a man to defeat the island regulations, and are then allotted to the men at the will of their employers or are given to the laborers without further protection.

TEACHERS GET PAY BOOST

SAN FRANCISCO.—Salary increases of $200 and upward have been ordered for teachers and supervisors in the San Francisco public schools.

Too Many Stone Memorials --Miss MacPhail

Under the heading "Public Works, chargeable to capital," $600,000 has recently been voted to be expended almost entirely for the completion of the tower of the Parliament Buildings, Ottawa, with its memorial chamber. During the discussion, Mr. J. S. Woodsworth, (Labor) moved in amendment that the item be struck out. Miss MacPhail (Progressive), in seconding this amendment, said:

"I want to say one word in support of the motion to strike out the whole item of $600,000. I am against the principle of a memorial chamber. I know that is not a popular attitude to take, nevertheless that is my view. I think we have too many stone memorials throughout this country and not enough sympathy in the hearts of the people for the wrecked humanity that is the living memorial of the late war.

Should Help Desperate Cases

"If this money were spent in helping the soldiers and their dependents; if the Pensions Board and some others were advised to treat the soldiers sympathetically; if the money were put into a fund that would be used to help desperate cases against which the law seems to be almost too hard, it would be more sensible. The people not only want economy, they will have it, and if we do not give it to them they will send people here who will. The whole thing is atrocious and silly, the amount of money that it takes to do Government work. I am against this vote of $600,000."

ALBERTA COMPENSATION ACT HAS BEEN AMENDED

The Farmer-Labor Government of Alberta has amended the Workmen's Compensation Act. The new measure provides for a payment of $35 to widows, $12 to the first child, $10 to the second, $9 to the third and $8 to the additional with a miximum of $90 per month. The scale of compensation to injured workmen has been increased from 55 per cent to 62½ per cent. Strong opposition was put up by the representatives of the manufacturers and coal barons.

BACK TO THE UNIONS

LONDON, Eng.—Big developments towards the expansion and improvement of the trade union movement are afoot.

They include the preparation of a Trades Union Congress charter, a closer relationship between the Congress and the Trades Councils, the inclusion of many unions not yet affiliated to Congress, and another nationwide organization campaign on the lines of last year's "Back to the Unions" campaign.

BUFFALO, N.Y.—A wage increase of 12½ cents an hour has been secured by Electrical Workers' Union No. 41.

More Lives Gone In Scramble For Coal

BOSTON—"Another batch of 24 lives gone in the eternal scramble for coal," says the Boston Herald, in a bitter editorial on the latest mine holocaust.

"About 2500 lives a year sacrificed in accidents at the mines, and nearly all of these in the darkness underground," says the editor, who presents this picture of the usual coal mine tragedy:

"The same scenes repeated again and again as these accidents follow close upon one another; the explosion, the cold grip of fear at the hearts of the women and children in every habitation in the town; the scurrying to the shaft, the awful minutes and hours of waiting, the grim and desperate heroism of the men who defy death in its lair in their frantic efforts to reach, resuscitate, rescue their fellows caught like rats in a trap with hardly one chance in a thousand for life; an order for coffins; an interval of mourning, and then—the resumption of work in the old way, with the old dangers to face and the ever-present dread of disaster brooding over the town.

"And men whose opinions are entitled to respect declare that these explosions ought not to occur; that they are preventable."

STUDENTS CONDEMN SCABS

(By The Federated Press)

CHRISTIANIA, Norway.—Students of the University of Christiania expressed themselves vigorously when they learned that certain of their comrades had enrolled as strikebreakers and were unloading cargo during the lockout and strike of 70,000 Norwegian workers. The students' federation called a general meeting and passed a resolution condemning every form of strikebreaking, and declaring the action of their fellow students "unworthy and a disgrace to the professional classes as a whole."

WASHINGTON.—Inquiry is being made by the Pan-American Federation of Labor, as to whether Secretary of War Weeks deliberately intruded into the political and industrial situation of Porto Rico by sending a telegram to San Juan declaring that he opposed granting the island the right to elect a governor because of the growing strength of the Socialist party there and the possibility of the election of a Socialist governor.

MADE IN CANADA PROPAGANDA

During 1920 the people of Canada paid $100,000,0000 in exchange on goods purchased in the United States. Absolutely no value was received for this expenditure.

By purchasing Canadian-made goods the buying public of Canada are providing steady employment for themselves.

"Best Wishes to The Labor Statesman"

Announcing THE Opening OF THE NEW

AMBASSADOR CAFE

610 SEYMOUR STREET

VANCOUVER, B.C.

On or About May 1, 1924

Dancing Every Evening

TOWN TALK

War on billboards occupied considerable space in one of our evening papers a few days ago.

A few remarks on this very important question will be in line with the title of this column. It will be interesting to the readers of the Labor Statesman to know that this subject is being discussed and activity in displacing the ugliness by beauty is present both in the United States and Great Britain.

In England ugly billboards are fast being replaced by reproductions of great masters. Around and in the city are billboards which are a work of art. These pictures of country and city scenes would be a real inspiration if the beauty was not marred by the advertising of the product manufactured by the firm interested.

"The beauty of the B. C. country-side is a prescious possession, and an advertiser with a few square yards of paper can easily spoil square miles of beauty."

These business houses would do well to study the psychology of the people who make up a country, and couple it with their advertising psychology, and leave a real work of art devoid of any matter foreign to it.

"A space apart from the actual picture can be skilfully placed so as to connect the work of art and source of inspiration to the business interested."

The stock words which are necessary for advertisers to place in a conspicuous place on their billboards, advertising a product which can be bought at the British Columbia vendors of alleged joy-fluids, has become an object of ridicule. The same idea can be made less conspicuous and more attractive by being a little more concise. The proverb of this age is: "Cut out the non-essential."

The ugly billboards are not the only things that marr the beauty of country roads. Empty bottles, papers, tin cans and a host of miscellaneous articles of rubbish which are thrown around by careless holiday makers and others, which cause many accidents.

The elimination of ugly billboards, delapitated buildings and fences is a work well worthy of the support of everyone. A beauty spot is the common property of everyone and not the individual.

Success breeds success, and environment that suggests healthful activity is a powerful factor for development.

OBSERVER.

Over 11,000 people were killed in motor accidents in America last year.

DEATH TO COAL DIGGERS

By Tom Tippett.
(Federated Press Staff Correspondent)

CHARLESTON, W. Va.—Have you ever wondered just why there are so many coal miners killed in our coal mines every year? Hardly a month of this year has gone by without its mine tragedy with many lives lost. Last year there were 2,452 coal diggers killed in the mines, according to the U. S. bureau of mines, and there were many more times that number crippled.

The reason for this staggering death list can be seen in the following want ad now running in a Charleston (W. Va.) newspaper:

WANTED—Experienced Mine Foreman—Married man to live on property. MUST BE ABLE TO PRODUCE LARGE TONNAGE AT LOW COST. Mine located in eastern Tennessee. New operation, completely electrified, ultimate tonnage 1,500 to 2,000 tons daily. Permanent connection for proper man. ONLY MAN WHO CAN PRODUCE RESULTS NEED APPLY.

There you have it in a nutshell. Large Tonnage at Low Cost. It costs money to sprinkle explosive dust or to employ sufficient gas inspectors or a timber gang large enough to timber dangerous tops. But the boss who keeps the "permanent connection" is the man that keeps the production costs down and the tonnage up.

And when the inevitable happens the coal company isn't out anything. Insurance companies take care of damages to blowup mines and they settle for the dead coal diggers. That is, they pay the survivors the meager compensation award if they haven't been able to beat them out of it at court.

HITS MOVIE PICKETS WITH INJUNCTION

BROOKLYN, N.Y.—An injunction against picketing the Garden and Nassau theatres here has been served on the Moving Picture Machine Operators' Protective Union, Local 306, by Supreme Court Justice Callaghan. The injunctoin was granted on the appeal of Rosen Brothers & Co., owners of the two theatres.

From March 1 to November the Canadian Government are allowing a 20 per cent preference on Atlantic passage to British immigrants.

Australia has 20 million less sheep this year than a year or two ago. Watch the price of wool.

GET THE FACTS!

Learn the Truth About the Wonderful Wainwright Oil Field.

INVESTIGATE THE SPECIAL OFFER TO EARLY INVESTORS OF THE CAL-WAIN OIL COMPANY, LTD. (N.P.L.)

Only 50,000 SHARES

Are Being Offered at Half Price

50c. Per Share

Par Value $1.00

USE COUPON BELOW

Fidelity Securities Corporation, Ltd.,
518 Standard Bank Building,
Vancouver, British Columbia.

Please send me further information regarding the Cal-Wain Oil Company, Limited, and the Wainwright oil field.

Name.....

Address.....

BIG DRIVE AGAINST AUSTRALIA UNIONS

SYDNEY, N.S.W.—Throughout Australia the employers are launching a combined attack against the workers. They plan to enforce lower wages and a reduced standard of living. Thousands of workers have been thrown out of employment. There is a general slowing down in industry.

Hitherto the Australian workers have enjoyed conditions second to none in any other part of the world. Wages from a purchasing power point of view were relatively higher than elsewhere, working conditions of the best and the trade union movement was exerting power in the land.

To break down the unions it was first proposed to flood Australia with th eunemployed from Britain who were to be dumped as immigrants. But there was such hostility to immigration that the various governments in Australai were forced to call off or slacken down on the scheme.

The employers have now resorted to the old policy of closing factories and throwing the workers out of their jobs. Behind this lies the hope that after starvation does its work the workers will submit to a decrease of the present wage level.

ALL THE WORLD'S A STAGE, SAY ACTORS

By Ludwell Denny.
(Federated Press Staff Correspondent)

NEW YORK.—Grownig international solidarity among the actors of the world is the interpretation of officials of the Actors' Equity Association, here in explaining to The Federated Press assurances of support cabled by the Actors' Association of England.

"This action by the British union will effectively kill any move by members of the Protective Managers' Association to fill the places left vacant by their proposed June 1 lockout by importing entire foreign companies," said Secretary Frank Gillmore of the Equity.

ODD BITS

By Sydney Warren

To all workers the axiom that "half a loaf is better than no loaf at all," seems obvious. And so a half loaf IS better than no loaf. The error is not in accepting the half loaf under pressure, but loosing sight of the whole loaf in the process. Russia and Germany afford concrete examples of this idea. In Russia the intelligent working class seized power and attempted to establish a Socialist commonwealth but, due to hostile pressure exerted from the outside as well as within the country, the Russian workers were forced to recede from some of their proposals. Before the combined onslaughts of the capitalistic governments of Europe and this continent, they retreated and in a practical fashion accepted "a half loaf as being better than no loaf at all."

In Germany similar action was at one time possible, but the German workers were stultified with a bellicose culture and steeped in the miasma of reformistic politics accepted the advice of their politicians and accepted the half loaf without even visualizing the whole loaf before them.

Today the German workers are being crushed under the heel of the newly-arisen industrial class, who have taken from them many of the paternalistic reforms introduced by the Kaiser's government. The German workers have now lost the half loaf, while the workers of Russia, who held to the vision of the whole loaf and only accepted half of it under great pressure, are gradually getting the other half back again.

Your friend in some other part of the province would like to know about The Labor Statesman. Send him a copy and get one more subscriber.

Angus MacInnis, of the Street Railwaymen's Union, and E. H. Morrison, of Electrical Workers Union, Local 213, have been selected by the F. L. P. as candidates for Vancouver City in the forthcoming elections. Both these unions have placed their entire membership on our mailing list and we hope they will vote solidly for both the men.

AMALGAMATED OIL CO.,

LIMITED (N.P.L.)

CAPITAL, $3,000,000 IN SHARES OF $1.00 EACH

The Directors Are:

The Hon. Sir Charles Hibbert Tupper, K.C.M.G., K.C.; Norman Russell Lang, James Ernest Spankie, M.D., Lt. Col. Guy H. Kirkpatrick, D.S.O., Norman D. Shaw.

The Company's well in the **Flathead Field** is down 2,615 feet and **we are now in the oil.** See the samples in our office. Drilling is continuing, with every indication of successful results at an early date.

For further developments 100,000 fully paid shares are now offered to the public (subject, however, to withdrawal without notice) **at 25 cents per share,** with the right to purchase 5 times as many more at the same price if the well comes in. **This is an exceptionally favorable offer.** The amount already expended on the Company's holdings is approximately $120,000.

In addition to its holding of **12,000 acres** in the **Flathead** (South East Kootenay) **District,** the Company holds leases of considerable areas in the **Fraser Valley** and 2,500 acres in the **Wainwright** and **Sweet Grass** fields in Alberta. The properties were all paid for with shares. No cash was paid.

The Directors have been giving their services without remuneration, and are all large shareholders.

Full information on all points can be obtained at the office.

Phone Seymour 2226

449 PENDER STREET W. VANCOUVER, B.C.

The Workingman's Chance

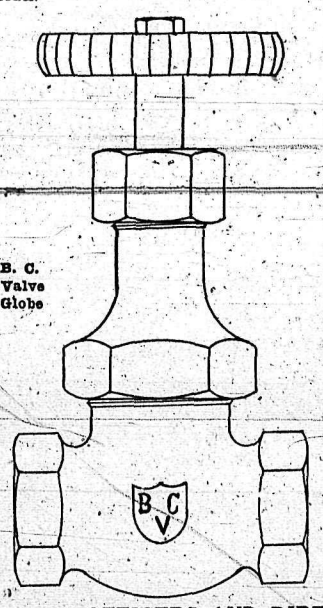
Ten Dollars Per Month Makes You a Stockholder in an Industrial Enterprise Which Shows Promise of Being the Big Dividend Payer of the Decade

VANCOUVER'S NEWEST INDUSTRY

THE B C. VALVE COMPANY, LIMITED, was organized ninety days ago by a group of Vancouver Engineers for the purpose of manufacturing a complete line of valves and faucets embodying the "Ball Controlled" improvement covered by Canadian Patent No. 233,165 issued in August, 1923. The American company, now manufacturing the same valve under U. S. Letters Patent, started its financing campaign about one year ago. WITHIN SIX MONTHS FROM THE TIME THE FIRST DOLLAR WAS SUBSCRIBED, SHARES IN THE COMPANY HAD ADVANCED TO TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS EACH, AN INCREASE OF 250 PER CENT. The American company now has its factory in operation and stockholders are looking forward to huge monthly dividends. Subscriptions for shares in the B. C. Valve Company, Limited are pouring in to the Home Office from far-sighted investors all over the Dominion. TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY SHARES SHOULD PAY SUFFICIENT DIVIDENDS TWO OR THREE YEARS HENCE TO DEFRAY THE COST OF A COLLEGE EDUCATION FOR YOUR BOY OR SUPPORT YOU IN YOUR OLD AGE.

INDUSTRIALS—THE CREAM OF INVESTMENTS

Look up in Moody's Manual the names of the twenty largest dividend payers for the past fifty years on the North American continent and you will find they are "Industrials." Every one of the twenty has returned from fifty thousand dollars up to the original investors for each hundred dollars invested. Check up on them a little further and see what they manufacture. Patented articles which save human life, conserve time, energy, heat, fuel, steam or light. Any article which is an improvement on devices now in general use, not a luxury, but a downright necessity and protected by letters patent, is sure of a world-wide market, even if it is made in Timbuctoo. Consulting equipment engineers specifying valves for a mine in South Africa will send to Vancouver, B.C., or even to Alaska, for something that will save the costly delay occasioned by leaks. The time lost in changing a valve amounts to several times the cost of the valve. Get that fact *firmly rooted in your mind.*



B. C. Valve Globe

ENDORSEMENTS OF B. C. VALVES

"Ball-Controlled Valves give entire satisfaction."
—Bellingham City Water Works.

"I can highly recommend the Ball-Controlled Valve."
—C. J. Vedder, City of Spokane, (Wash.), Boiler Inspector.

"I have never found a valve to equal it."
—J. H. Woodward, Chief Engineer Davenport Hotel Company, of Spokane, Wash.

"Fills a long-felt want."
—Warren, Webster & Co. (Exhaust and Steam Specialists), Camden, N.J.

"The impossibility of the valve becoming disconnected and the ease and cheapness of making repairs are features that should recommend the Ball-Controlled Valve on any job."
—S. A. Sine, Engineer Spokane and Eastern Trust Company, Spokane, Wash.

"Scarcely a plant in the U. S. or Canada that will hesitate to install them."
—Bust Morlin, O.I. (Royal Dairy Products Co., Bellingham, Wash.)

"I consider it the best I have used in 27 years' experience as a steam engineer."
—F. T. Buchanan, Chief Engineer, (Lake Creek Lumber & Shingle Co., Morton, Wash.)

NOTE: Approximately 350 Engineers, Steamfitters and Master Plumbers purchased shares in the B. C. Valve Company, Ltd., after inspecting the working models on display in our Demonstrating Rooms in Vancouver. The Company now has approximately 950 shareholders.

CONSTRUCTION OF B. C. VALVES

The B. C. Valve, by reason of its peculiar construction and improved design, is *far superior to any valve now on the market.* The particular improvement featured by the B. C. Valve is due to the construction of the working parts, which consist of a ball held freely in place and suspended in a removable cage attached to the stem of the valve; thus enabling the valve to be operated in such a manner as to cause the ball, which acts as the closing part of the valve, to rotate freely and effectively and at the same time to constantly change the seating surface thereof, thus preventing wear or corrosion at any one place, while the cage and the spherical shape of the ball insure a perfect alignment on the valve seat at all times, avoiding leaks. By reason of its design and durable quality this valve is also fitted for use in the construction of a *superior faucet for either cold or hot liquids.* B. C. Valve will be constructed with removable seats which can be replaced in case of necessity at trifling cost. A new ball may also be inserted at any time. The replacing feature of the seats and balls makes B. C. Valves practically everlasting.

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

FRED A. BROWN, Mng. Dir. and Foundry Superintendent. Mr. Brown is a Metallurgical and Chemical Engineer of International reputation, the inventor of a special metal which resists the ravages of super-heated steam more successfully than any other known metal on the face of the globe. Mr. Brown's formulae will be used under his personal supervision in all metal products of the B. C. VALVE COMPANY, LIMITED. Mr. Brown served a four-year apprenticeship under Rhodin, the greatest living Metallurgist.

THOMAS BOWLER, Director and Plant Superintendent. "Born in a foundry." His father before him a foundryman in England for 40 years, Mr. Bowler brings to the B. C. VALVE COMPANY LIMITED, a lifetime of experience in valve manufacture. Valve Designer, Valve Pattern Maker, Valve Moulder, an inventor of specialized Valve manufacturing machinery, a craftsman who has made the production of the highest-grade valves a life study. Mr. Bowler is a resident of North Vancouver.

R. I. BARTON, Director and Fiscal Agent. Mr. Barton is attending to the financing of the company. He amply financed the Coy Valve Company, of Chehalis, in eighty-eight days, and made it possible for that company to get on a production basis in the very best equipped Valve Plant west of Chicago in a very few months. *Negotiations are now under* way to secure the services of an executive as Director who is experienced in marketing valves in a world-wide market. Mr. Barton will then resgin, as he was elected only temporarily to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of George C. McClown.

TWO DOLLAR ALLOTMENT OF SHARES

The Board of Directors of the B. C. Valve Company, Limited has allotted fifty thousand shares to be sold at two dollars per share on terms of 10 per cent cash with application *and 10 per cent monthly. Immediately this allotment is fully* subscribed, the price of shares will be advanced to three dollars each. The shares are all Common, fully paid and non-assessable. There are no Founders or Management or Deferred *or Preferred shares to be issued. No Debentures are pro*posed. When dividends are declared all shares participate equally regardless as to whether they were purchased at the present price of two dollars per share or later on at three or *five dollars, as the case may be. Over one hundred thousand* dollars has already been subscribed. More than ninety per cent of our 950 shareholders are working men paying for their shares on the monthly payment plan. A three acre *factory site has been purchased in North Vancouver and* plans are being prepared for the most modern valve and brass working plant in Canada. If you are not already a subscriber use the coupon below and become a shareholder in the cream of all investments—a strictly Canadian industry, as clean as a hound's tooth, and the best opportunity to clean up a snug fortune on a small investment ever offered in the Dominion.

APPLICATION FOR SHARES,

B. C. VALVE COMPANY, LIMITED
514 Standard Bank Building, Vancouver, British Columbia.

Gentlemen:

I hereby apply for and request you to allot me.....
shares of the B. C. VALVE COMPANY, LIMITED, at Two Dollars per share (par value $1.00 and agree to pay you $..... for same, as follows: $.....
(cheque or money order enclosed) herewith and the balance of $..... in nine equal monthly payments of $..... each. In the event this application reaches you after the allotment of 50,000 shares at Two Dollars each is fully *subscribed,* you are to return my cheque and cancel this application.

NAME ..... OCCUPATION .....

ADDRESS ..... CITY .....

Important! Give full name and print plainly. Terms: 10 per cent with application and 10 per cent monthly. No application accepted for less than twenty-five shares. MAKE ALL CHEQUES PAYABLE TO THE ORDER OF THE B. C. VALVE COMPANY, LIMITED.

B. C. VALVE Company, Ltd.

General Offices:

514 STANDARD BANK BUILDING

Demonstrating Rooms, 70 Hastings Street W.

VANCOUVER, B. C.

VANCOUVER UNIONS

Vancouver Trades and Labor Council—President, R. H. Neelands, M.L.A.; general secretary, Percy R. Bengough. Office, 803 Holden Bldg., 16 Hastings East. Phone Sey. 7495. Meets in Labor Hall at 8 p.m. on the first and third Tuesdays in month.

Bakery Salesmen, Local 371—Meets second Thursday every month. Holden Bldg., 16 Hastings E. President, A. Wylie, 4336 Elgin Street; financial secretary, H. A. Bowron, 929—11th Ave. E.

Journeymen Barbers' International Union of America—*Local 120, Vancouver, B. C., meets* second and fourth Tuesdays in each month in Room 310 Labor Hall, 16 Hastings East. President, C. E. Herrett, 71 Hastings Street East; secretary, A. R. Jenni, 728 Hastings Street West. Phone Sey. 1813. Res. phone Doug. 2171R.

Bricklayers and Masons—If you need bricklayers or masons for boiler works, etc., or *marble setters, phone Bricklayers Union,* Sey. 7495 Labor Hall, 16 Hastings East.

United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, Local 452—President, R. W. Hatley; *recording secretary, W. Page; business agent,* Wm. Dunn. Office, Room 808 Labor Hall, 16 Hastings East. Meets second and fourth Mondays, 8 p.m.

Engineers—International Union Steam and Operating Local 844—Meets every Thursday at 8 p.m. Room 806 Holden Bldg. President, J. Flynn; business agent and financial secretary, F. S. Hunt; recording secretary, D. Hodges.

City Firefighters Union No. 18—President, Neil MacDonald, No. 1 Firehall; secretary, C. A. Watson, No. 3 Firehall.

General Laborers Union—Meets every first *and third Monday in Labor Hall, 16 Has*tings East. President, J. R. Hawthorne, 4794 Drummond Dr.; financial secretary, A. Padgham, Joyce Road Post Office, Vancouver, B. C.; recording secretary, G. Tether, 2249, 45th Ave. East, Vancouver, B. C.

Hotel and Restaurant Employess Union, Local 28—441 Seymour Street. Meets first and third Wednesday at 3 p.m. Second and *fourth Wednesdays at 9 p.m.* President, W. A. Colmar; business agent, A. Graham, Phone Seymour 1681.

Machinist Local 182—President, E. B. McLean, 453—6th Ave. W. Secretary, S. A. Boardman, 3388 Parker St. Meets second and fourth Friday at 8 p.m. in Room 313 Labor Hall, 16 Hastings East.

Machinist Local 692—President, Thos. Sills, 1414 Burrard St. Secretary, P. R. Bengough, Office, 807 Labor Hall, 16 Hastings East. Meets on second and fourth Tuesdays in month.

Musicians Mutual Protective Union Local 145, A. F. of M.—Meets at Moose Hall, Homer Street, second Sunday at 10 a.m. President, Ernest C. Miller, 991 Nelson Street; secretary, Edward Jamieson, 991 Nelson St.; financial secretary, W. E. Williams, 991 Nelson St.; organizer, F. Fletcher, 991 Nelson St.

Street and Electric Railway Employees, Pioneer Division No. 101—Meets K. P. Hall, Eighth and Kingsway, 1st and 3rd Mondays at 10.15 a.m. and 7 p.m. President, F. A. Hoover, 2409 Clarke Drive; recording secretary, F. E. Griffin, 447—6th Ave. East; treasurer, A. F. Andrews; financial secretary and business agent, W. H. Cottrell, 166 17th Ave. West, office corner Prior and Main streets. Phone Fairmont 4504Y.

Journeymen Tailors' Union of America, Local No. 178—Meetings held first Thursday in each month, 8 p.m. Executive third Thursday in Labor Hall. President, A. R. Gatenby; vice-president, Mrs. *Dolk; recording* secretary, C. McDonald, P. O. Box 503; financial secretary, P. McNeish, P. O. Box 503.

The Vancouver Theatrical Federation—Meets at 991 Nelson Street, at 11 a.m. on the Tuesday preceding the first Sunday of the month. President, E. A. Jamieson, 991 Nelson St.; secretary, C. H. Williams, 991 Nelson St.; *business agent,* F. Fletcher, 991 Nelson St.

Electrical Workers, Local 213, International Brotherhood—Meets every Monday at 8 p.m. in Room No. 5, 319 Pender St. W. President, D. W. *McDougal, 910 Hastings St. E;* business agent, E. H. Morrison, office 319 Pender St. W.

Lathers, Wood, Wire and Metal, International Union, Local 207—Meets every first Friday in month at 319 Pender St. W., Room 112. President, Sam White, 2754—6th Ave. E.; secretary, J. G. Finlayson, 2635....12th Av. W.

Milk Wagon Drivers and Dairy Employees, Local 464—Meets second and fourth Friday in Labor Hall, 16 Hastings St. E. Business agent, Birt Showler, 1115 Robson St.

Printing Pressmen and Assistants, Local No. 69—Meets every second Tuesday in the *month at 8 p.m.* in Room 213 Labor Hall, 16 Hastings St. E. Secretary, Frank H. Humphrey, P. O. Box 894. Address 4038 Victoria Dr. Phone Fair. 2702R.

DOUBLE TIME AND HALF

The British Admiralty, following trade union pressure, has decided to increase the overtime rates of its industrial employees.

At present, time and a quarter is paid for the first two hours and time and a half afterwards. In future, time and a half will be paid to midnight, after which double time will be paid. For work after noon on Saturday the rate will be time and two-thirds. For ordinary hours on holidays the rate will be double time, and for overtime on holidays double time and a half.

A PREVIOUS ENGAGEMENT

A duchess invited the British Minister of Health and Mrs. Wheatley to tea on a Tuesday.

"My wife," he replied in effect, "doesn't go visiting people she doesn't know. Besides, next Tuesday is her washing day, I think."—W. McCartney in T.P.'s Weekly.

Around the Town

By "QUEDOC"

I speak the truth, not so much as I would but as much as I dare; and dare a little *more as I grow bolder.*

* * *

The Tourist Trade

Four and twenty Yankees feeling very dry
Came across to Canada to get a case of rye.
When the rye was over the Yanks began
to sing,
"To H-OIL with the President, God save
the King."

* * *

Speaking of singing: One of our most popular merchants on Robson Street, on the way home from a select club, as authorized by our genial Government, started to sing *in true Robsonian style,* "It ain't going to rain no more." It being about three a.m. the noise of the street cars had ceased and he was heard to good advantage. A party in the Manhattan Apartments opened his window and painfully asked, "Who do you think you are serenading?" "I ain't serenading," he answered, "I'm broadcasting!"

* * *

It was not a colored taxi. The taxi left the depot, swerved and skidded along Cordova Street, then along Powell Street, eastward. The old lady was glad when she reached her destination. "You frightened me," she said. "It's the first time I've ever ridden in one of these taxis." "You have my sympathy, ma'am," said the driver. "It's the first time I've ever driven one."

* * *

Quite a few members of the various churches in town are asking the news agents what has happened to their copies of "Captain Billy's Whiz-Bang"?

* * *

The Ministerial Association feel somewhat inclined to accept congratulations on the record attendance at churches during Easter.

* * *

However, in his announcement last Sunday the Rev. Mr. Eustace regretted that *money was not coming in fast enough*—but he was no pessimist. "We have tried," he said, "to raise the necessary money in the usual manner. We have tried honestly. Now we are going to see what a Bazaar will do."

* * *

The Vicar of Burnaby: "So you like the country. Are your hens good layers?"

Mabel, fresh from Seattle: "Topping. They haven't laid a bad egg yet."

* * *

Sam had passed through a harrowing experience. He had seen a ghost.

"Ah jes' come out of de cowshed," he said, "and ah had a pail o' milk in mah hand. Den ah hears a noise by de side ob de road and de ghost rushes out."

"Did you shake with fright, Sam?" asked one of his dusky audience.

"Oh don't know what ah shook wid. Ah ain't saying for suttin ah shook at all. But when I got home ah foun all de milk gone, an' two pounds of butter in de pail."

* * *

Spring Shopping on Granville Street

In the window of one of our first-class drug stores there is a splendid exhibition of *fountain pens, travellers samples,* inlaid pearl, gold bands. With one of these, inspiration and ink would flow so freely, I would never stop for thought. I go to purchase, and, I get for my, I think it was 98 cents, a cheap, dull looking thing with a copper point; worth, well anybody can have it for 18 cents. It has been often stated, by those who pretended to know, but never able to prove definitely their knowledge, that any article exhibited at a price must, according to law, be sold at that price. Will our Legal Editor please say if I can get one of those pens, inlaid pearl, gold bands, etc., for 98 cents? If so, and if he will get me one I will give him a dollar; a profit of two cents to him.

FARMER LABOR CONVENTION

The Minnesota Farmer-Labor Party which sent two United States Senators to Washington, has called a convention to take place in St. Paul on June 17, the Federated Party signing the call for the convention. This convention will probably be attended by delegates representing two or three million organized workers and farmers.

ODD BITS

By SYDNEY WARREN

Salvaging Capitalism.

The Dawes Commission has presented the reparations bill to Germany and the bill has been accepted. Many people think this will mean a speedy readjustment of economic conditions, but they are living under a delusion that time will speedily dispel. No matter how large the indemnity set or what steps are taken to collect it, the reparations question is of little concern to the great mass of working people. Reparations were never intended to repay them for their expenditure in blood and suffering, but to make safe the credits advanced by the Allied bankers to the countries of the Allied cause.

Workers must learn that our present economic system functions solely for profit. The prosperous country today is the one that sells its surplus labor products at a profit abroad. The country selling must have what is known as a "favorable trade balance"; in other words it must sell more goods than it buys back. The country which buys more than it sells is forced to pledge credit for the difference. The United States loaned money to England on English credit, and England borrowed to France and Italy, who in turn financed the lesser Allied countries in militaristic ventures. It is the credits pledged by the various Allied banking groups that the reparations money will be used to pay.

Capitalism right now is bankrupt. It is waiting for the working class bailiff to tack up the Red Flag and take possession.

* * *

The Loco Master.

Individual salvation is frequently urged upon the worker to solve his economic problems. At this moment there is in Vancouver a revivalist, who, by an admixture of hypnotism and theological bunkum, professes to cure people of their imaginary ills and incidentally to heal himself well. It is a *commentary on the intelligence of the workers* of Vancouver and no intelligent person could witness the actions of the crowds attending these meetings without becoming an adherent of Birth Control.

Capitalism is the very antithesis of Christianity. The present economic system under which we live is a menace to every purpose and programme of the Christ. Any preacher who pretends to offer spiritual salvation to his hearers and yet says not one word to indict an anti-social system which destroys every latent spiritual impulse, is a bare-faced fraud. In the States *Big Business has found the religious revival*ist a valuable ally to keep the workers from doing some clear thinking for themselves. Billy Sunday's campaigns were financed in many instances by the Chambers of Commerce and Employers' organization and Sunday soon learned that Christ believed in an "Open Shop."

* * *

Africa for Fashions.

A new report states that Africa is becoming the ruler of fashions. It is a matter of surprise that we should have to go to Africa for feminine foibles when we consider the fact that we have out-stripped our African brethren in war-time savagery. Capitalism takes its fashions in clothes as it does its culture from the demi-mondes of Paris and the jungles of Africa—and it is tawdry and bestial.

* * *

Mr. Stevens and Democracy.

Hon. H. H. Stevens is of the opinion that the outlook for democracy is somewhat gloomy just now, and states that a recent American army test showed 19 per cent of those examined to be of very low or impossible intelligence, while 70 per cent attained the chewing gum mediocrity demanded. Among the 19 per cent, the Vancouver Centre member avers that there are reds and radicals of all shades, "some of whom showed flashes of genius." In the member for Vancouver Centre we have an ideal type of mediocrity personified. When the longshoremen of this port were on strike last winter, Mr. Stevens was asked to address a joint meeting at which the strikers' demands and the whole history of the strike was to be discussed, Mr. Stevens declined the invitation on the grounds that he was busy teaching a Sunday School class, presumably that Jonah swallowed the whale.

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Canners Are Alarmed; Change Labor Policy

SEATTLE—The cannery trust announces *that it will improve working conditions of* its employees, both in Alaska and along the Pacific coast.

The trust is supreme in Alaska, but despite this power it is frightened at the publicity given its black holes where the people's food is prepared under most revolting conditions. Federal grand juries in Alaska have arraigned these working con*ditions, and Delegate Sutherland,* representing the territory of Alaska in congress, has exposed other tactics of the canners.

The immorality, the bootlegging, the gambling and opium smoking of diseased Chinamen employed by the canners has been widely advertised, and the trust is getting quick returns from this publicity by the people declaring they are "through eating salmon."

It is this that has forced the canners to make a show of respectability. It is announced that employees will be subjected to medical inspection and no one will be shipped for Alaska who is afflicted with communicable disease o *ruses narcotics.*

Various unions of the Building Trades are negotiating for new wage scales. Del. J. Smith pointed out at the last meeting of the Trades Council, however, that they were all taking their turn to interview the one employers association. He suggested that the Building Trades Council might act as a body.

The Trades Council is enquiring of the City Council, that in the event of the money by-laws carrying, will the work resulting therefrom be done by contract or day labor.

The Government Fair Wage Officer has to take care of disputes in B. C., Alberta and Saskatchewan, so the Trades Council is asking the Government to appoint an officer for each province.

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COAL
THAT IS ALWAYS RELIABLE
Seymour 446
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G. T. P. Dock Foot Main Street

BIG CONVENTION OF C. L. P. IN ALBERTA

A big convention of the Alberta section of the Canadian Labor Party was held in Calgary, April 18th. Delegates were in attendance from the Calgary Trades Council and unions, Calgary branch of the Dominion Labor Party, Edmonton Trades and Labor Council, Edmonton Unions, Edmonton branch of the C. L. P., Lethbridge unions and C. L. P., Medicine Hat unions and C. L. P., Medicine Hat unions and C. L. P., and the U. M. W. A. unions of the Crow's Nest Pass, Drumheller Valley and Brule. The Workers Party was also represented. The labor movement in Calgary has been active these many years. It has succedeed in electing one member to the Dominion Parliament, Wm. Irvine; it has two members in the Provincial Parliament, two members on the city council and three on the school board.

CARPENTERS 452

The regular fortnightly meeting of the Carpenters Local, 452, was held on Monday the 14th. A large attendance was present at this very interesting meeting and 15 new members were initiated. A feature of the meeting was a visit of a delegation from the Amalgamated Carpenters, No. 1 Branch, who spoke on the question of the amalgamation of the carpenters of Vancouver into one union.

The special quarterly meeting will be held on April 28th, in the Trades Council Hall, Holden Bldg. Members are especially urged to attend this meeting and to bring their due books.

WEST VIRGINIA LABOR

By TOM TIPPETT

(Federated Press Staff Correspondent)

CHARLESTON, W. Va.—Organized labor and the farmers in West Virginia will have their independent political party in the November elections. They have their ticket nominated and plan an intensive campaign for their own West Virginia Farmer-Labor party. The independent step is taken here after 16 years of the "reward your friends and punish your enemies" policy.

Resolutions from over 35,000 organized workers were introduced at a special convention of the West Virginia State Federation of Labor, calling for independent action on the political field. The proposition carried unanimously. The resolution declared that complete failure was the result of their 16 years of lobbying for labor measures with the old parties.

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Increasing Armaments

By GEORGE LANSBURY, M.P.
(Editor Daily Herald)

That a Labor Government should feel compelled to increase the amount of money spent on Air armament is regrettable. We regret it deeply; that feeling must be shared by all who know that it is the possession "of means to do ill deeds which makes ill deeds done" and who are convinced that there can be peace among the nations of the world, as there is among civilized individuals, whenever the nations resolve to behave peaceably. To increase our preparations for war—or even to keep them at their present strength—is not peaceable behaviour. Yet we cannot see that the Government, given its circumstances, could possibly have acted otherwise than it has done.

Our Point of View

If the mass of the nation, if even a majority of the nation, shared the knowledge and conviction which we have described, no Government could continue on the old lines in matters of "defence." Unfortunately the nation is not yet favorable to our point of view.

Ministers are compelled in this matter to do what the mass of the nation wishes. No holder of office can act according to his own personal opinions and feelings if they clash with what the mass of the nation thinks and feels. No servant of the People can carry out any policy of which the People are suspicious and afraid.

A False Image

At present the bulk of the British people is suspicious and afraid of the policy of relying in our foreign relations upon goodwill and comradeship, not upon force. It is still under the influence of that image of "the strong man armed keeping his plaace." The Prime Minister knows it is a false image; he said so at Brighton. He will take every opportunity of saying so when he speaks as a private person, not as Prime Minister; he will do his best to draw the people to his way of thinking.

Forcing a Change

The very worst way of drawing them would be to force upon them a change for which they are not yet prepared, which would cause uproar and panic, which would cause the Labor Government to be instantly replaced by one certain to increase armaments to a far greater extent.

"No man ought to hold office," some people argue, "unless he acts in every particular exactly as his conscience dictates."

If that rule were in operation, nobody would take office—nobody, that is, with a conscience. The affairs of the nation would be managed by men without consciences. We should go from bad to worse. As it is, we are going from bad to better. But we cannot do it in one great leap.

BOYCOTT STEAMSHIP LINES

NEW YORK.—At a meeting here, German speaking seamen passed a resolution in favor of boycotting ships belonging to those German steamship lines whose employees have been sentenced to prison because of their participation in the recent strike in English harbors. An appeal has been addressed to American seamen's and transport worker's organizations to support their German comrades in the boycott in United States ports.

BRUTAL CHILD LABOR

Out under a broiling sun in summer, exposed to the cold and dampness of winter, little children are toiling in the fields of Virginia truck farms, unprotected by child labor laws or even school laws. They work as long as fourteen hours a day when they should be in schools and the most of them are paid between five and ten cents an hour. These conditions are revealed in a pamphlet on "Child Labor and the Work of Mothers on Norfolk Truck Farms," just issued by the children's bureau of the U. S. department of labor.

INSIDE INFORMATION

Commenting upon a Sunday paper's reference to "some secret influence which is at present engaged in promoting strikes," "Forward" says this secret influence hidden from the eyes of men is to be found in the dark recesses of underfed human stomachs.

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DON'T READ THIS

When sending in a name and address or a communication, just draw a straight or crooked line and let it go at that. If you want to be sure that we will understand it be sure to splotch some ink all over it. We are marvels at deciphering hieroglyphic's.

The Steam and Operating Engineers are still taking in new members.

IMPORTANT

If you notify the postman or the post office of your new address when you move, they will notify us and you will continue to receive your paper regularly. If your paper should not reach you drop us a post card and give us your OLD and NEW address.

The Barbers Union is negotiating a new wage scale.

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To Union Officials In B. C.

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