Labor Statesman

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Railway Clerks Suspended

Fitzgerald Says Clerks Are to Protect Drivers

President William Green has issued an order suspending the Brotherhood of Railway and Steamship Clerks, Freight Handlers, Express and Station Employes from affiliation with the American Federation of Labor, effective as of January 25, 1926.

The American Federation of Labor convention in Atlantic City last October directed the Railway Clerks to surrender some 4,000 express driver members to the Teamsters.

As stated in last week's issue of LABOR, the Grand Executive Council of the Railway Clerks, meeting in Cincinnati, declined to comply and officially notified President Green to that effect.

In an effort to avert suspension, President Green went to Cincinnati and conferred with the Railway Clerks' grand lodge officers; but when he found they were firm in the position they had taken he issued the suspension order.

Statement of President Fitz Gerald

Discussing President Green's order with a representative of LABOR in Cincinnati, President E. H. Fitz Gerald of the Railway Clerks said:

"I offer no criticism of President Green. We all love and trust him. He had to issue the order in compliance with the instructions of the Atlantic City convention.

"We believe the convention made a serious mistake and we hope that some means will be found to rectify it, because we are in complete sympathy with the objects of the American Federation of Labor and have repeatedly given convincing evidence of our devotion.

Must Protect the Drivers

"But we must protect the rights of our members. The 4,000 workers involved do not want to become affiliated with the Teamsters. They were organized by the Railway Clerks. They have valuable property interests in our brotherhood, many of them holding certificates in our death benefit department aggregating tens of thousands of dollars. If driven out of the Railway Clerks, of course, they will lose their insurance.

"The Teamsters' brotherhood is a splendid organization, but it has had little experience in the transportation industry and, therefore, is not as well qualified as the Railway Clerks to represent the drivers in the all-important negotiations with management.

"In refusing to comply with the instructions of the A. F. of L., our Grand Executive Council voiced the unanimous sentiment of our membership. We are supported by the action of our last international convention held in Kansas City and by the declarations of any number of our local lodges. In addition, our general chairmen held a meeting in Cincinnati last week. The express division of the brotherhood was well represented as was the railway membership. These general chairmen unanimously demanded strict adherence to the brotherhood's announced policy to keep the drivers.

Stresses Belief in Co-operation

"For years the Railway Clerks have co-operated with the other recognized standard railroad labor organizations. We will continue that co-operative effort to the limit of our ability.

"In that connection I want to stress the belief that the new Railway Labor Act will contribute materially to co-operation among railroad workers. More and more we are going to realize that the injury to one is the concern of all and that these great railroad labor organizations can find common ground on which they may battle for the protection of the interests of all railroad workers."—Labor.

Pres. Green Suspends Clerks Union

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6. — Complying with a decision by the last convention of the A. F. of L., President Green announces the suspension of the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks from the American Federation of Labor.

The suspension stands until the clerks comply with the convention decision that they yield control of chauffeurs and teamsters to the Brotherhood of Teamsters. The question has been under discussion for months. As is the usual policy in such cases, officers of the A. F. of L. have made every effort to induce the clerks to maintain the trade union policy.

In explaining the teamsters' position at the last convention, President Tobin of that brotherhood pointed out the provisions of their charter, issued by the A. F. of L., which grants them control over this class of work. This charter was issued years before the clerks' union was chartered.

"We don't want clerks, but we do insist that teamsters and chauffeurs be in one organization," said President Tobin. "You might as well take our charter if you are going to give to every organization a part of the membership that works under the jurisdiction of our international. We come in touch with every trade. We haul lumber to the carpenter, metal pipe to the plumber, paper to the printer, dry goods and shoes to the retail clerks, leather to shoe factories, and we haul to the railroads hundreds of thousands of tons of freight shipped by the express company. We ask jurisdiction over these drivers and chauffeurs. We can not have them here and not have them there; we are entitled to them everywhere or we are not entitled to them at all."

In announcing the suspension of the railway clerks, President Green expressed regret over this lack of accord in the final decision of organized labor's last court of appeal.

South Vancouver Labor Party

The South Vancouver Labor Party held their regular social and dance in the I.O.O.F. Hall, 30th and Main St., on Saturday, February 6th. The Hall was filled to capacity and a very enjoyable evening was the result. Mr. Rutherford was the chief entertainer on the concert programme, keeping the large audience in roars of laughter. Miss Cassie Hocking's presentation of a pianoforte solo was also very highly appreciated. Community songs and dancing with an interval for supper, brought the evening to a close, and all are looking forward to our next which will be held on Saturday, February 20th, under the same conditions with added attractions.

The Party will hold its regular business meeting on Friday, February 19th, in the Horticultural Hall, 43rd and Fraser. All members should be present.

PLUMBERS AND STEAMFITTERS TO HOLD WHIST DRIVE, DANCE

Plumbers and Steamfitters' Local 170 are holding a Whist Drive and Dance on Friday, February 19th, in the O'Brien Hall. Local 170 intends this to be even better than the last, and as all who attended that one voted it a "Humdinger" the one on the 19th will be some celebration. Snappy music, first-class prizes and refreshments, all for: Gents, 50c; Ladies, 25c.

Points in the Water Pipe Enquiry

The question of the quality of the workmanship on the first 4,400 feet of the new Seymour Creek water main was brought to the attention of the City Council at the first meeting of the Water Committee by Alderman MacInnis. MacInnis stated that he had heard various rumors regarding the shop work on the water pipe, and asked that the City Council bring the City Inspectors on this work before the Council.

The Council at that meeting decided that they would not hear any charges unless they were in writing.

At a later meeting of the committee MacInnis filed questions which he asked the two inspectors on the work.

With these questions before them the Council decided to investigate the work on this contract.

The investigation was held by the City Council, the Mayor presiding. Mr. McCrossan, corporation counsel, conducted the case for the Council. It was perfectly clear from the opening question by the city's lawyer that the majority of the Council members were hostile to the person making the charges.

In fact to anyone who was not in the know, it would seem that Mr. McCrossan was prosecuting attorney, or counsel for the city engineer or the Vancouver works. Of course, the contractors, the Vancouver Engineer Works, were represented by their own counsel, but in view of the facts it would seem to have been a useless expenditure. Mr. Farlane, who made the charges, stated that the pipe was not made according to the specifications, and that some pipe left the shop for the field that in his opinion did not meet the requirements of the specifications.

He stated that in the fabrication of the pipes the inner course fitted into the outer course too loosely and consequently in riveting the pipe bulged outward, forming a "bell," which he claimed shortened the life of the pipe.

The witness was questioned closely in regard to conversations he said he had with certain people whose names he did not wish to divulge. The mayor ruled that the names must be given.

Mr. E. M. LeFluffy, water works maintenance engineer, was mentioned.

Mr. LeFluffy was called to the stand and was closely examined in regard to a letter which Mr. LeFluffy had written to the City Engineer in regard to this contract, but he stuck to his first assertion that in this particular contract the city did not get value for their money.

OLE JOHNSON'S ADDRESS WANTED

Ole Johnson is wanted at the office of Bird, Bird and Lefeaux. If he is out of town and this is brought to his attention he is asked to forward his present address.

Canadian Labor Party

Open Forum

ROYAL THEATRE

Sunday, February 14th

8 P.M.

Speaker: DR. W. J. CURRY

SUBJECT:

"Lessons We Have Learned from the Russian Revolution"

DOORS OPEN AT 7:30 P.M.

COLLECTION QUESTIONS DISCUSSION

Old-Age [illegible] Bill [illegible]e Enacted

OTT[illegible]—In an effort to win the supp[illegible] of the workers' representatives in Parliament Macflenzie King's Liberal government recently promised Canada a system of old-age pensions and at least a measure of unemployment relief.

The question of old-age pensions has been before the Dominion Parliament for three years. Last year a special committee recommended a system which would be supported on a 50-50 basis by the provinces and the Dominion government and suggested that a Dominion-provincial conference be called to consider the problem.

Under last week's proposal, the Dominion Parliament will enact a law following the lines laid down in the special committee's recommendations but instead of calling a conference the provinces will be granted the option to participate.

Government Changes Position

Heretofore the Dominion government has disclaimed responsibility for handling unemployment, insisting that the provinces must deal with the matter.

Now the Mackenzie King government is asking Parliament to grant it authority "in a serious emergency, when a grave situation exists, to co-operate with the provincial and local authorities and to bear a share of the relief work or other relief measures which have to be adopted to meet a serious situation of that character."

Several conferences have been held during the past week between the Labor members of Parliament and the representatives of the government in an endeavor to reach a basis whereby the Labor representatives will continue to co-operate with the Liberals.

The first result is the announcement concerning old-age pensions and unemployment. It is also expected that the Laborites will insist on the repeal of the amendments to the criminal code enacted at the time of the Winnipeg general strike in 1919 and which made it possible to arbitrarily deport without trial by jury British subjects charged with political offenses.

"We will give the government reasonable opportunity to bring forward these measures," said J. S. Woodsworth, leader of the Labor party. "If it is not forthcoming, our co-operation will be withdrawn. Then, out they go."

May Reorganize Cabinet

During the coming week it is expected the vote will be taken on the Conservatives' amendment to the address from the throne. If this amendment is defeated, Mr. King's Liberal government will take the position that it has the confidence of a majority of the members of the Dominion Parliament and is, therefore, authorized to continue in power.

This will be followed by a motion to adjourn Parliament for six weeks in order that the cabinet may be reorganized.

Strange things are happening on Parliament Hill. Partisan ties are becoming weaker and M. P.'s are beginning to form groups for the purpose of supporting legislation demanded by the voters.

In this connection the conference between the members from the maritime provinces and the Progressives to discuss maritime rights is highly significant. Nothing definite may result but the conference indicates the extent to which rigid party lines are being broken down.

F.L.P. TO MEET

A meeting of Vancouver branch of the Federated Labor Party will be held on Wednesday evening, February 17th, at 8 o'clock, in headquarters, 319 Pender Street West. All members are urged to be present as important matters resulting from the transfer to the Independent Labor Party are to be dealt with.

I.L.P. Amalgamation of Several Political Groups

For some time past negotiations have been under way tending towards the amalgamation of various political Labor groups in Vancouver, South Vancouver, Burnaby and New Westminster. At a meeting held Saturday, January 30, in S.P. of C. headquarters, Vancouver, delegates were present representing New Westminster Labor Party, South Vancouver Labor Party, and the several branches of the Federated Labor Party of South Vancouver, Burnaby and Vancouver city, all of whom had accepted a manifesto and agreed to amalgamate their forces and are now known as the Independent Labor Party. Provisional officers were appointed and a constitution was adopted which will be submitted to the branches of the Party for approval, to be reported upon at another meeting to be held Friday, February 26th.

Keen interest was displayed on the part of all delegates present, and as the main object of the Party is to carry on an educational and organizing campaign it is intended that work along such lines shall commence immediately.

It was made a part of the constitution that all branches must affiliate wit hthe Canadian Labor Party.

Junior Labor League Expands

The last regular meeting of the Junior Labor League was held at the home of Miss Emma Thorpe, 427 25th Ave E. This meeting was in the form of campaign speeches. All nominees spoke well for the benefit of the Club. With the League still going on the upward climb it is now compulsory to hire a hall as the private houses are getting too small for the number of members that attend the meetings. The main object of this League, is to have a membership of one hundred or more, then you will see things liven up. So we would like all you young people between the ages of fifteen and thirty who are interested in the Labor movement to come along to our next meeting and get acquainted with a real sociable crowd of young fellows and girls.

Look here, folks! Here is something to interest you if you are fond of dancing. The next regular dance of the Junior Labor League will be a Carnival dance and will be held this Saturday, Feb. 13th, in the Elks Hall, 49th Ave. & Fraser St., and we anticipate this to be the biggest and best dance ever run by this organization. A good time is assured to all who attend these dances. The Astors Orchestra will be there with their regular snappy music.

Carpenters to Vote on Five Day Week

A mass meeting of all Union Carpenters has been called for Feb. 19th to vote on the question of the five-day week. At the present time the Plumbers and Plasterers work five days a week all the year round and the Bricklayers work five days a week during six months of the year. It is understood that if the Carpenters are successful in obtaining the five day week, all other building trades mechanics will follow suit.

Empress Theatre Still on Unfair List

The deadlock between the Stage Employees Union and the management of the Empress Theatre still exists. Arrangements are being made, however, for a conference within a few days. The stage employees have a good case and have every confidence of a satisfactory settlement.

Is France Going Fascist?

BY ROBERT DELL, IN NEW YORK NATION

The new parliamentary session has begun in circumstances that cannot be called happy. Since the beginning of last year, France has had in succession four governments and six ministers of finance, and the position of the fourth government and sixth finance minister is far from secure. The franc, which stood at about 18 to the dollar at the beginning of last year, now stands at nearly 27, and no solution of the financial problem is in sight. Every politician with any claims to authority on the subject has his own solution, but none has the courage to propose the first and most essential condition of solution—the stabilization of the franc. For there is no French politician with the courage to face the opposition of certain powerful interests hostile to stabilization, the risk of being obliged for the purpose of stabilization to fall back on the sacred gold reserve og the Bank of France (which at present serves no purpose), or the unpopularity that he might incur in consequence of the economic crisis and the rise in prices that would inevitably follow stabilization.

In reality the French people themselves are more responsible than their politicians for the present situation, the ultimate cause of which is their unwillingness to pay direct taxes or to accept disagreeable but necessary measures. If a minister of finance proposes either, he is promptly overthrown by a Chamber susceptible to popular feeling. What was the real origin of the unpopularity that M. Caillaux so long enjoyed, if not the fact that he was the author of the income-tax and that his income-tax law in its original form, before it was hacked to pieces by the Senate would have made the income tax a reality? M. Caillaux's experiences were not such as to encourage any successor to follow his example. Few men, however, are willing to admit that they are responsible for their own misfortunes, and the French least of all. So, after having made it clear to their politicians that, if they seriously try to put the national finances in order they will do so at the risk of their political career if not of their liberty, the French people put all the blame on the politicians and the parliamentary system.

It is fashionable at present in La France to declare that the parliamentary system is played out and in various quarters—fundamentally opposed to one another in other respects—there is talk of a dictatorship. Since the public became familiar with the famous dictatorship of the proletariat the word "dictatorship," which really means the arbitrary rule of one man, has been used in a very loose sense. It has come to mean any form of unconstitutional government. So the other day a French Socialist orator called on his comrades to establish the dictatorship of the Socialist Party on the ground that, if they did not, a Fascist dictatorship would forestall them.

This sort of talk has perhaps been taken rather too seriously in other countries. I gather that many people believe a Fascist or some other kind of upheaval to be imminent in France. I confess that I see no signs of it. The present political fashion is no new one. There has always been anti-parliamentarism in France, both on the extreme right and on the extreme Left, so long as I can remember, and whenever things do not go well people talk as they are talking now. There is some justification for French anti-parliamentarism. The parliamentary machine has never worked well in France partly because the system of two houses with equal powers is unworkable, more, perhaps, because it requires for its satisfactory working a genuine party system, which France does not yet possess. "En France," said an eminent French man once to me, "il n'y a pas de partis politiques. Il n'y a que des clienteles." (In France there are no political parties. There are only factions.) It would pass the wit of man to define the precise shade of difference in principle that separates each of the ten groups into which the Chamber is divided from every other group. The system works in a vicious circle. Because there are so many groups a French government is usually a sort of political menagerie composed of specimens of each species. And the multiplicity of groups arises from this method of forming a government. A Deputy who would have no chance of office on his own merits becomes immediately ministrable if he forms a group— a clientele— and has a score of votes at his disposal.

The funny thing is that, whenever an attempt is made to develop a genuine party system by methods accepted in England as a matter of course it is denounced as an outrage on the first principles of parliamentary government. If a party expels a member who has put himself up as candidate for some office in opposition to the candidate of his own party and had himself elected by the votes of its opponents, the Temps gets up on its hind legs and lectures the party for its shocking intolerance. If a party meets to decide on what conditions it will join or support a government, or draws up a definite political program, or objects to the inclusion of its political opponents in a Cabinet supposed to be composed of its friends, it is denounced for substituting the rule of "clubs and coteries' for that of Parliament and accused of trying to "exclude Republicans from the Republic." It would be considered quite natural by at least half of the French press that, if two members of the present English Cabinet resigned, Mr. Baldwin should replace them by Mr. Lloyd George and Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, and very wicked on the part of Mr. Baldwin's colleagues in the Cabinet to object.

This being so, I consider it premature to say that the parliamentary system has failed in France, for it has yet to be tried. Nevertheless, this is not recognized by the French public, and perhaps if the present parliamentary chaos continues the French people may sooner or later become exasperated and try something else, but that does not seem to me at all likely in the near future. When one remembers how many abuses much more intimately affecting their daily lives than any political shortcomings the French have patiently endured for generations while swearing at them all the time, one is inclined to think that it may be some time yet before the point of exasperation is reached. I do not ignore the fact that changes in France are usually made by revolutions, because they are rarely made by reforms, and that, when the extraordinary patience of the French is at last exhausted they have a habit of smashing up everything; but at present they do not seem to me to be in the mood for a revolution either on the Right or on the Left.

French dictatorships in the past have been associated with military glory. Napoleon III, it is true, had no glory of his own, but he profited by his name and the tradition attached to it. The poor man's obligation to live up to the name and the tradition in defiance of all his natural inclinations, brought him to ruin. Since his fall France has once been within an ace of a dictatorship, for it is probable that General Boulanger would have succeeded had he not allowed himself to be bluffed and fled the country. He was a poor creature with as little courage as intelligence and had no glory to his credit, but he talked a lot about it and looked very well prancing about in a cocked hat on a white horse. His chief asset was the appeal to la revanche. But that appeal is finished. France has had la revanche and has found it a disillusion. The French are cured of their love of military glory, at any rate for the time being. Far from being in an arrogant mood, they are dispirited and dangerously lack confidence in themselves and their own future. No general is popular or has any prospect of becoming a national hero. There is, it seems to me, not the least chance of a military dictatorship.

Fascism, however, is said to be the danger. The Fascist movement in France, such as it is—and it does not look dangerous at present—is just the old Bonapartism without a Bonaparte or even a plausible substitute for one, for M. Millerand hardly fills the picture. It starts with the disadvantage that it is violently opposed by the Action Francaise, so that the antiparliamentary forces of the Right are divided. And how is a Fascist coup to be brought about? By the army? I very much doubt whether the army could be depended upon for such a purpose, even if the generals could be. Nearly twenty years ago the 17th Regiment refused to fire on the revolting wine-growers of the South although the orders came from the legal government. Such an incident might happen again, especially if the orders came from the authors of an unconstitutional movement for upsetting the legal government. Conscripts object to firing on the civilian population.

I also doubt whether the methods employed by the Italian Fascists during their long preparation for the march on Rome would succeed in France. The French may be patient, but they are also pugnacious, and they would not quietly submit to be murdered and plundered without resisting, as did the more pacific Italians. If the French Fascists began burning down trade-union offices, forcibly expelling municipal councils, and raiding private houses to carry of their occupants, they might easily get the worst of it. Moreover, the Italian Fascists had the King on their side and a government too weak or too complaisant to interfere with them.

I doubt whether French Fascists would have the support of M. Doumergue or whether it would help them much, if they had. They might have a complaisant government but, in my opinion, an attempt to imitate the tactics of the Italian Fascists in France, if not at once repressed by the government, would lead to a civil war, the result of which might easily be unfavorable to the Fascists.

There remains the suggestion of an American newspaper that the Chamber might be dissolved and not re-elected. According to the newspaper in question, M. Doumergue is quite ready to take that course. Again I doubt it. I doubt still more whether as was suggested, the Senate would at once agree to a dissolution of the Chamber for that purpose, if M. Briand or M. Poincare asked for it. The Senate may be conservative, but it is staunchly republican and constitutionalist and the Senators would have a shrewd suspicion that they would be the next victims.

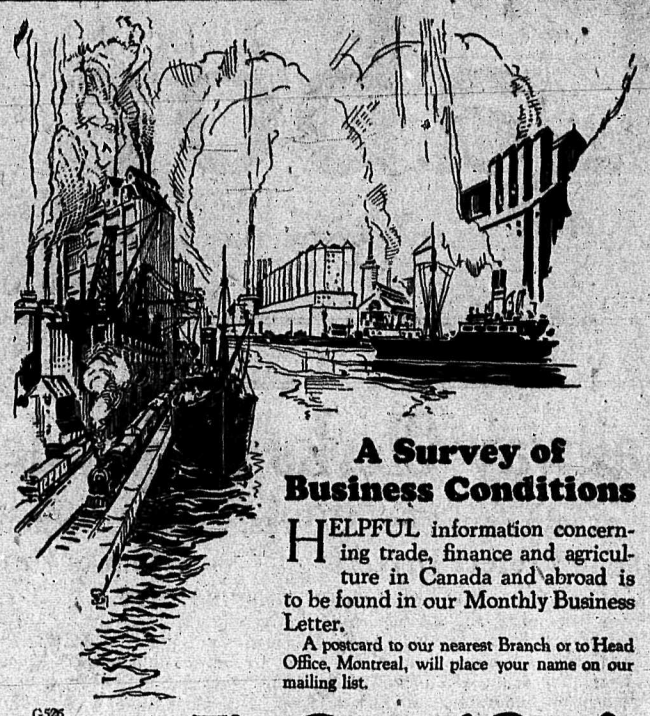
Any kind of dictatorship seems to me unlikely in France unless and until there is a man with the temper and qualities of a dictator and the necessary popularity. So far as I can see there is no such man either among the generals or the politicians, or anywhere. Italy had a Mussolini. France has not even a Boulanger. The two leading figures in French politics not definitely on the Left are M. Briand and M. Poincare. Mr. Briand has a certain popularity, although he has not the hold on the public that he has on Parliament, but nothing could be more alien from his temperament than a dictatorship. He is persuasive, diplomatic, accommodating—a master in the art of reconciling irreconcilables—but he does not remotely resemble a dictator and can hardly have the smallest inclination to play such a part. M. Poincare has perhaps more inclination, but he does not seem to me to have the qualifications. He is first and foremost a lawyer with a rigidly legal mind and has very little perception. Did not M. Clemenceau once say that he knew everything and understood nothing? Besides, M. Poincare is not a bit popular and in fact never was. No Lorrainer is every really popular in France. A French dictator should come from the South. Napoleon was more Italian than French, with the histrionic side to his character that is typically Italian, which a dictator needs in France as in Italy. To use the French term, he was something of a cabotin, as a genius can be. His nephew, who was not a genius, was even more of one and Boulanger was nothing else. There remains M. Millerand, who is positively unpopular and seems to me to be, as Birmarck did not say of Lord Salisbury, a lathe painted to look like iron. Were M. Clemenceau a little younger and had he retained his hold on the popular imagination, I should say that he was the most likely man in France to pull off a dictatorship, but of course he is now out of the question. Apart from his age, it is amazing to see how completely the old Tiger has been forgotten.

On the whole, I should say that an unconstitutional movement on the Left might have more chance than one on the Right. If a Socialist government were in office it might, if it wished, be able to resort to unconstitutional methods with success, at least for a time. But a Socialist government is unlikely to be in office and if there were one it would be strictly constitutional. My belief is that the French will just continue to muddle along.

LABOR BANK CHANGES

New York. — Stockholders have voted to convert the Federation Bank of New York to a trust company.

The bank was established in 1923 by trade unions affiliated with the A. F. of L. The bank's resources exceeded $15,000,000.



A Survey of Business Conditions

HELPFUL information concerning trade, finance and agriculture in Canada and abroad is to be found in our Monthly Business Letter.

A postcard to our nearest Branch or to Head Office, Montreal, will place your name on our mailing list.

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The Royal Bank of Canada

BUYERS' DIRECTORY

BAKERS
Esther Bakery, 3723 Hastings East.
Dr. Middleton's. At all Grocery Stores.

BISCUIT MANUFACTURERS
Dr. Middleton's 852 Hastings East.

BOOTS & SHOES
P. Paris, 51 Hastings St. W.
Sample Shoe Store, 37 Hastings St. W.

BATHS
Hastings Steam Baths, 766 Hastings St. E.

CHIROPRACTORS
Dr. Elmo Marshall, 504 Holden Bldg.
Dr. Bertha Wintermute, 403 Dom. Bldg.

CIGARS & TOBACCO
Mainland Cigar Store 310 Carrall

COAL DEALERS
Leslie Coal Co., 944 Beach Ave.

DANCING
Cotillion Hall, Granville & Davie
Alexandra Academy, Robson & Hornby

DENTISTS
Dr. W. J. Curry, 301 Dominion Bldg.

DEPARTMENT STORES
Hudson's Bay Co. Granville & Georgia

DRY GOODS
A. Hilker & Son, 2425 Main St.

DRUGGISTS
Red Star Drug Store. Carrall & Cordova
Vancouver Drug Stores 12 stores

ELECTRICAL SUPPLIES & CONT.
City Electric. 8th & Main.
Hirst's Electric. 4099 Hastings E.

FLORISTS
Brown Bros., 48 Hastings E.
655 Granville 151 Hastings W

FURNITURE
W. R. Orr, 1163 Granville

FLOUR
Dr. Middleton's Ironized Whole-Wheat.

GENTS' FURNISHINGS
A. Frith & Son, 2313 Main
M. J. Phillips. 671 Columbia, N. West.

GROCERS
H. A. Hill, 3722 Hastings St. E.
A. Frederickson, 26th & Main.
Kirkhams 41 Hastings W.

JEWELLERS
Henry Birks & Son., 710 Granville

MEAT MARKETS
W. Dickinson, 3724 Hastings E.
Kirkhams 41 Hastings W.
Pearson's Market, 26th & Main
Sanitary Market 2513 Main St.

NOTARIES
P. E. Bengough, 803 Holden Bldg.

PLUMBERS
J. C. Colvin 4178 Main St.

PRINTERS
Labor Statesman 803 Holden

REPAIR SHOPS
Cycle's Etc., Robinson's 3917 Main

RESTAURANTS
Bergman's Cafe 324 Cambie St.
Empire Cafe 76 Hastings St. E.
White Lunch 5 Houses

TAILORS
Perry & Dolk 18 Hastings St. W

THEATRES
Broadway Broadway & Main
Pantages Hastings at Carrall
Strand Georgia & Seymour
Victoria 43rd & Victoria Dr.

UNDERTAKERS
Mount Pleasant Undertakers Kingsway & Main
T. J. Kearney, 802 Broadway W
S. Bowell & Son, 66 6th N. West

YEAST MANUFACTURERS
Peerless Yeast At All Grocers

Intl. Co-operatives

LONDON.—"There has been growing steadily and rapidly a trading relationship between the Russian Co-operative Movement and the C.W.S.," said Mr. E. F. Wise, of Centrosoyus, at a conference held by London Co-operative Society recently.

These transactions, Mr. Wise explained, were on a sound business basis. Already Russia was trading with the German, French and Scandinavian co-operatives, and already had relations with Co-operatives in America.

It was a source of great satisfaction, Mr. Wise added, to help the Russian Co-operatives to purchase textiles from the C.W.S. textile mills. They were able to take all the textiles available, and the produce of the mills for the next three or four months. At the present time there were no fewer than 40 million Co-operators in Russia, and the turnover of Centrosoyus for last year was over £40,000,000.

FARM WAGES

Wages for agricultural workers in Middlesex will remain unaltered through 1926. This decision was reached at a meeting of the Agricultural Wages Board recently.

South Derbyshire Miners' Association has under consideration a £10,000 Welfare Fund scheme, for the treatment of pystagmus, and the provision of a motor ambulance.

T. J. Kearney & Co.
Funeral Directors and Embalmers
New Chapel and Parlors
Private Ambulance Service
802 Broadway W. Phone Fair. 3

MUST PAY UNION RATE

Mansfield Corporation has decided to make it a condition, on granting licenses for omnibuses, that the owners shall pay trade union rates of wages to those in their employ.

It is illegal to boycott, but the following are on the

UNFAIR LIST

of the

TRADES AND LABOR COUNCIL

Empress Theatre
Royal Dairy
Crescent Ice Cream

UNION DAIRIES

VANCOUVER
Fraser Valley - - - Fair. 1000
Independent Farm - - - Fair. 3304
Purity Dairy - - - - Fair. 4181

NEW WESTMINSTER
Fraser Valley - - New West. 1445

NORTH VANCOUVER
Fraser Valley - - North Van. 122

If You Want Clean Milk Patronize a Union Dairy

Trades Union Directory

Vancouver Trades and Labor Council—President, R. H. Neelands M.L.A.; general secretary, Percy R. Bengough. Office, 303 Holden Bldg., 16 Hastings East. Phone Sey. 7495. Meets in Labor Hall at 8 p.m. on the first and third Tuesdays in month.

Automobile Lodge 702, I. A. of M. — Meets every second and fourth Tuesday in Room 310 Holden Bldg., Pres., W. W. Hague; business agent, G. S. Hague, 807 Holden Bldg.

Beverage Dispensers Union No. 676—meets first Sunday in month at 2:00 p. m., at 441 Seymour St. President, W. H. Clancy, 1117 E. 10th Ave. Secretary and Business Agent, T. J. Hanofin, 2376 W. 6th Ave. Office: 441 Seymour St. Phones: Sey. 125 and Bay. 1656-R.

Boilermakers and Helpers, Local 194 — Meets first and third Mondays in the month at Holden Building. President, L. C. Campbell; Secretary, A. Fraser, 5079 Ross St. Phone, Fraser 501Y.

Bridge & Structural Iron Workers, Local 97, Int. Asso.—Meets every Monday, Room 804 Holden Bldg., at 8 p.m. President, James F. Burns; Secretary, James Dunn, Box 302 City; Phone Doug. 1939Y.

Building Trades Council, Vancouver—Meets second and fourth Tuesday in Holden Building. President, J. Flynn. Secretary-treasurer, W. Watt.

Bakers' Local 468, Journeymen, of America—Meets first and third Saturdays at 7 p.m. President, H. Hall; sec., T. Rigby, 37 Broadway West, Phone Fair. 5882R.

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, 744 15th Ave. E., Phone Fair. 3631X.

Barbers', Journeyman 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, Fred Dawe; fin. secretary, A. R. Jenni, 723 Hastings Street West; rec. sec., Bert Deprey.

Bookbinders Local No. 105, Int. Brotherhood—Meets second Tuesday in month 804 Holden Bldg. President, F. Milne, 536 Drake St.; secretary, A. H. Hostins, 118 52nd Ave. W.

Boot and Shoe Workers Union, No. 505—Meets in the Holden Building on the first Wednesday of each month. President, J. Turner, 1113 24th Ave. E.; fin. sec., J. Griffiths, 3622 McGill St.

Brewery Workers Union No. 300—meets first and third Wednesday in month in room 313, Holden Building, at 8 p.m. President, Angus McLennan; Secretary, C. Graham, 2219 16th Ave. W. Phone Bay. 3353R.

Bricklayers', Masons' and Tile Setters' Int. Union No. 1—Meets second and fourth Wednesday in the Holden Bldg. President, G. E. Halliday; Secretary, W. S. Dagnall. 1244 20th Ave. E. Phone Fair. 845 R.

Carpenters and Joiners, Amalgamated Society of,—Vancouver 1st Branch meets 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month. President, W. Taylor; Sec. F. Prosser; business agent, J. McKinley. Headquarters, room 35, 163 Hastings St. W.

Carpenters and Joiners, United Brotherhood of, 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.

City Hall Employees' Association meets first Wednesday of each month at 251½ Hastings E., at 8 p.m. President, W. H. Lewthwaite; business agent and treasurer, W. J. Scribbins, 3208 Pender St., E.; Secretary, H. A. Black, 2870 Yale St.

Civic Employees' Union, Local 28 — Meets first and third Fridays in the month at 251½ Hastings E., at 8 p.m. President, R. K. Brown, 252 Charles St.; secretary-treasurer, George Harrison, 1162 Parker St.

Dominion Express Employees, Local No. 15, Brotherhood of—Meets first Friday and first Tuesday alternating each month in Room 810 Holden Building. President, G. M. Payton, 4136 Sophia St.; Sec.-Treas. H. C. Haines, 1919 Kingsway.

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

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

Engineers, Steam and Operating, Int. Local 882—Meets every Wednesday at 8 p.m. in room 806 Holden Bldg. President, W. Hulbert; vice-pres., A. Russell; business agent and financial sec., W. J. Irwin; rec. sec., W. L. Ainger. Office, 306 Holden Bldg.

Fire Fighters, No. 18, International Association of—Meets every month at call of president, at 251½ Hastings E. President, J. Anderson, No. 2 Fire Hall; financial secretary, C. A. Watson, No. 3 Fire Hall.

Floorlayers' Union, No. 1875, U.B. of C. & J. of A., meets 1st and 3rd Thursdays in 310 Holden Bldg., at 8 p.m. President, E. C. Woodward; Fin. Sec., A. Reid; Rec. Sec., W. D. Wilson, 1251 Howe St.

Hotel and Restaurant Employees Union, Local 28—441 Seymour Street. Meets Second Wednesdays at 3 p.m. and last Wednesday at 9 p.m. President, G. Coleman; business agent, Harry Wood, Phone Seymour 125.

Lathers, Wood, Wire and Metal, International Union, Local 207 — Meets 2nd and 4th Mondays in month, at room 299 Holden Bldg. President, Frank Julian, 7594 Ontario; Secretary, Bert Jenkins, 50 45th Ave. E.

Lithographers Union, No. 44 — Meets third Wednesday in month in Room 804 Holden Bldg. President, C. Addie, 217 23rd Ave. E., Phone Fair. 3968Y; secretary, 120 10th Ave. E., Phone Fair. 239X.

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, 1352 Burrard St. Secretary, P. R. Bengough. Office, 807 Labor Hall, 16 Hastings East. Meets on second and fourth Tuesdays in month.

Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen, Amalgamated—Meets first and third Tuesday in Holden Bldg. President, W. R. Walter, 762 Hamilton St.; Sec., W. L. McGregor, 1751 38th Ave., E.

Mental Hospital Attendants' Federal Union No. 35—Meets at Essondale 1st Thursday in month. President, J. A. Gibson, 312 4th St., New Westminster; rec. sec., Will Mackie, Provincial Mental Hospital, Essondale.

Mill and Factory Workers' Union, Local No. 1599 — Affiliated with United Brotherhood of Carpenters & Joiners. Meets first and third Thursdays in Room 313 Holden Bldg. President, Allan Graham; Fin. Sec., H. Brewer; Rec. Sec., B. Holden, 1710 5th Ave. W., Vancouver, Phone Bay. 3123-R.

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.

Molders Union Local 231—International of North America—Meets first and third Fridays in month in room 313 Holden Bldg., at 8 p. m. President, John Maley, 1336 2nd Ave. E. Corresponding representative, J. Pinkerton, 2159 Victoria Drive.

Motion Pictures Projectionist's Union, Local 348 of I.A.T.S.E. & M.P.M.O.—Meets at 991 Nelson St. on first Sunday in each month at 7:30 p.m. President, J. R. Foster, 1161 Granville St.; Secretary, Geo. Gerrard, Box 345. Business Phone: Sey. 3923.

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

Painters, Decorators and Paperhangers Local 138—Meets second and fourth Thursdays at 319 Pender St. W. Business agent, Walter Wilson. Office, room 204 319 Pender St., W. Phone Sey. 3609.

Pile Drivers, Bridge, Wharf and Dock Builders Local No. 2404—Meets every Friday night at 8 p.m. in 112 Hastings St. W. James Thomson, secretary, P. O. Box 320.

Plasterers, Local 89—International Association of Operative, meets first Wednesday in month at Holden Bldg. President, Chas. Keall, 1925 McKay Ave. Secretary, Ed. Williams, 1048 Robson St. Phone Douglas 1928 L.

Plasterer's Laborers' No. 602 International. Meets third Friday in month at Holden Building. President, F. Phillips, 1574, 2nd Ave. W.; Rec. Sec., F. Tait, 289 47th Ave. E., phone Fraser 596L.

Plumbers and Steamfitters, No. 170, International Asso. of—Meets every 2nd and 4th Friday in the Holden Bldg. President, Bert Stinchcombe, 1899 Ogden Ave.; secretary and business agent, W. Watt, 805 Holden Bldg.

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. President, Harry F. Longley, 303 8th St., North Van.; secretary, Frank H. Humphrey, P. O. Box 894, 4038 Victoria Dr.

Railway Carmen of America, Lodge No. 58—Meets first and third Friday in month at Cotillon Hall, Granville and Davie Streets. President, A. S. Ross, 5873 Pr. Edward St.; secretary, J. D. Vullamy, 2215 15th Ave. W.

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, J. E. Smith; recording secretary, F. E. Griffin; treasurer, H. W. Speed; financial secretary and business agent, Angus MacInnes, 3544 Pr. Edward St. Office: corner Prior and Main streets. Phone Fairmont 2150L.

Sheet Metal Workers, Amalgamated, Local Union No. 280—Meets second and fourth Thursday in month in Holden Bldg., 16 Hastings St. E. President, N. C. Smith, 4452 Quebec St.; fin. sec., E. J. Wardrop, 425 15th Ave. E.; cor. sec., A. P. Ashton, 4503 Spruce Street, Burnaby.

Shingle Weavers, Local 17313—Meets second Tuesday in month, in Room No. 2, Labor Temple, New Westminster, and 4th Sunday, 7 p.m., in Room 213 Holden Bldg., Vancouver. President, J. N. Chute, Phone High. 1932Y; sec., W. H. Matthew, Joyce Rd. P. O.

Tailors', Journeymen Union of America, Local No. 178—Meetings held first Thursday in each month, 8 p.m. Executive meets third Thursday of every month in Labor Hall. President, A. R. Gatenby; secretary, C. McDonald, P.O. Box 503. Executive meets third Thursday of every month.

Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Stablemen and Helpers, Local 466—Meets every 2nd and 4th Wednesday, 310 Holden Bldg. President, L. Warren, 1043 Burrard St.; secretary-treasurer, A. P. Black, 519 Hamilton St.; recording secretary, R. Reynolds, 1790 3rd Ave. E.

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; secretary, G. W. Allin; business agent, Lochley Clark, 991 Nelson St.

Typographical Union, No. 226—President, C. S. Campbell; vice-president, R. Gouthro; Secretary-treasurer, R. H. Neelands, P.O. Box 66. Meets last Sunday of each month at 2 p.m., in Holden Building, 16 Hastings St. E.

HERE AND THERE

BY A FLOATER

February the First, was a day of great importance in cosmic history, that is so far as the local journalistic firmament is concerned. On that day the "Sun" went out of its course to make way for the "Star." The "Sun" instead of arising in the morning as it is wont to do will put forth its rays in the evening instead. The "Star" thus takes the place of the morning luminary. The "Sun" hitherto regarded as the greater light of the two will confine its energies to illuminating the darkness of the evening. By that arrangement, we may yet have what the poet would call "an endless day."

But there are other changes also involved. The "Sun" which was formerly retailed for five cents has now lowered itself to earth to the extent of two cents, while the "Star" which commenced to shine as near to rock bottom as one cent has now soared skyward to the monetary distance of five cents. And while the man on the street could formerly see the whole "Province" for five cents, it has come close enough to his vision that he can glance over the same typographical territory for two cents. Were it not for the fact that the "World" went out of business some time ago, it also may have been effected by these changes.

But to the man on the street there are very little other changes visible. To him, the light coming from these luminaries is mostly 'moonshine' anyhow.

* * * *

The investigation that has been going on at the City Hall in connection with the pipeline allegations may for the time being resemble much of a whitewash. It will not remove however, the suspicion from the public mind, that when contracts are involved, there is the possibility of an Ethopian residing in the lumberpile somewhere.

But whatever comes out of the investigation, one thing is certain. Somebody will be the goat. It is generally conceived that civic employees differ from other citizens. They are considered responsible to the official in charge of the department in which they work. But it often happens that should such employee report any irregularities to his department head, he encounters the danger of being dismissed. For that reason many are strongly tempted to choose the way of least resistance. They are rewarded similarly if they report such matters to any other persons, the general idea being that their lips should be sealed.

This was made very apparent by the attitude of the Mayor who has disclosed throughout the proceedings a bias which makes it clear that if anyone is to be the goat it is not going to be the higher-up by any means. The present engineer is going to be sustained, while those who have made the disclosures are to receive the goby. In other words, gag-rule in so far as civic employees are concerned is to be the order of the day. The rights of citizenship notwithstanding, any employees having the temerity to disclose civic irregularities will from now on be directed to the paymasters office. From the workers' point of view the question may be asked, whether or not the Magna Charta is to be enforced in Vancouver. If that historic document does not apply to civic employees as regards their rights as citizens, then the sooner we have another Runimede the better.

* * * *

Premier John Oliver claims that B.C. has been deprived of millions of acres as a result of Confederation. We might add that the province has also been deprived of millions of acres since that time. And by the time his government turns over to American capitalists, the P.G.E. and the land grant that is intended to go with it, there will be many millions more disposed of. Alienation of the natural recourses of the province to land speculators appears for the most part to be the "land settlement" policy of the government.

* * * *

The main argument of the Independent candidate against McKenzie King in the Prince Albert by-election is sound to say the least. He objects to the policy of candidates after being elected to represent a constituency, passing it over to someone else. McKenzie King has run for almost as many different ridings as Premier John Oliver before he became the member for Nelson. The candidate for Prince Albert objects to that constituency becoming the garbage can for the political refuse of other districts.

* * * *

The provincial government has issued the mandate that the Sumas farmers will have to commence immediately to meet the payments on the land. Apparently the farmers there are having a hard time making the land pay the charges levied against it. While there are legal technicalities in the way, it is intended to have these removed as soon as possible so that the government can take the land away from these people "legally." It is quite possible that the government can see another chance to sell some of this land to American hop-growers and are trying to unsettle some of the present settlers in order to have some more land available. Meanwhile, they are circularizing Great Britain for "land settlers." At the same time, the Hon. E. D. Barrow, Minister of Agriculture, has the nerve to say:

"The opportunity for the man who is ready and willing to work on the lands of British Columbia is better than ever it was."

So far as the American capitalists are concerned, the pickings are good, but not so for any of the unemployed around here who are looking for these opportunities.

* * * *

Alderman Angus MacInnes handed a hot one to the members of the city council last week. Somebody said that the employees at the waterworks yard were passing the time away tossing coins. This drew from the Labor alderman from Ward 8, the observation that the employees must have learned the habit from the city council. He did not state, however, to whom the coin was being tossed. We happen to know there is not very much being tossed in the direction of the unemployed. The policy of the present council is to toss the taxpayer's money to the contractors and other beasts of municipal prey. Whenever the contractors say "Let us prey," the present aldermen, with one exception bow their heads in reverent submission.

NEW INTERNATIONAL

As the result of a conference recently held in Paris by delegates from a number of small Socialist parties which at present are unaffiliated either to the Labor and Socialist International or to the Communist International, a new grouping, which calls itself appropriately the "International of the Rejected," has come into existence.

The only party of any size to adhere to this body is the Italian Maximalist Party, and next to it in importance is the Norwegian Labor Labor Party. The four other parties or groups represented at the recent conference are the German "Independents," the French Socialist-Communists, the Russian Left Social Revolutionaries, and a small Ukrainian group.

The headquarters of the new International are in Paris, with Angelica Balabanoff as secretary, and an Executive committee composed of Paul Louis and Letrange (France), Meyer (Norway), and Salvi (Italy).

BRITISH RAIL MEN VOTE TO ACCEPT WAGE AWARD

London.—The second special delegate conference of the National Union of Railwaymen, the principal British rail union, defeated the "immediate strike" resolution by 41 to 36 votes after a speech late in the afternoon by J. H. Thomas. They then voted to accept the arbitration award, previously rejected.

This means there will be no railroad strike and that old employes will continue to get present wages while new men must face a cut.

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EDMONTON HOCKEY CLUB ON THE UNFAIR LIST

EDMONTON.—Failing to adjust the labor trouble at the arena which arose with the discharge of J. C. Watt some time ago, the owners and managers of the Edmonton Eskimo hockey team were placed on the unfair list by the Edmonton Trades and Labor Council at the regular meeting on Monday evening. According to a report presented to the council Mackenzie and Keats have ignored all attempts to adjust the trouble. Watt has been in the employ of the city for some years as a teamster at the arena, but when the city council leased the arena to the Eskimo management, the seniority clause was omitted in accordance with the wishes of the hockey owners, and Watt lost his job at that time. The labor council finding all its efforts of no avail with the hockey owners, passed the recommendation of the executive that all affiliated organizations be informed of their attitude to organized labor, and in addition that all councils in any cities in the United States or Canada where professional hockey is being played be notified of the attitude of the managers of the Eskimo hockey management toward organized Labor in Edmonton.

Dumbells' New Show at the Orpheum

Bright with snappy comedy, with a wealth of color, effective costumes, hilarious moments, and spectacular effects in scenery and lighting, "Lucky 7," the latest and best annual revue of "The Dumbells," will be seen here at The Orpheum, on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday.

"Lucky 7" is full of novelty. Not only are the sketches varied, ranging from "Up the Hill," with its symbolical tableaux to "Red Goes on Leave," a burlesque of life in rest billets, "Us Girls Must Have our Fun," pure burlesque with irresistibly comical verses, and "High St., Africa." The latest in grotesque comedy; but the songs, both feature and otherwise, reveal a contrast and a range not noted in any previous revue.

"Red" Newman has two songs, "Colonel Thingamabob," and "Let's Start the War Again," the latter a rollicking ditty that promises fair to be as popular as "Oh, It's a Lovely War." Al Plunkett is right back in the top of his form with "Whiter than Snow," "Hi, Hi, Ho," a radio number, and "As Long as She Loves me," a sentimental feature, Ross Hamilton has two beautifully staged and set features, "I'm Wonderful," and "Darling, I Love You," in which his voice is heard to the best advantage. Jock Holland and Pat Rafferty in characteristic numbers; Stan Bennett, the same amusing "Johnnie" as ever; Ben Allen and Morley Plunkett in their clever and diverting dialogue and humorous exchanges; Glen Allen, slim and fascinating in feminine impersonation and dances; and Jimmy Devon in fantastic steps, with Capt. Plunkett's jazz orchestra and special inset framed features, all combine to make "Lucky 7" a show that nobody can afford to miss.

THE FAN'S TRIUMPH

Here lies the remains of a radio fan,
Now mourned by his many relations;
He went to a powder-mill smoking a pipe,
And was picked up by twenty-one stations.

The Labor Statesman

Published every Friday, at 816 Holden Bldg., Vancouver, B. C.

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

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J. Sidaway, Editor.

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Phone Seymour 6279

Vancouver, B. C., Feb. 12th, 1926

"LOONEY GAS"

By the addition of tetra-ethyl lead to ordinary gasoline the motive power of the latter is greatly increased and the "knocking" in motors is almost entirely eliminated. Whilst the properties of this lead compound have been known for seventy years it has, until a few years ago, remained but a scientific curiosity. About two years it was first used in a commercial way, the Standard Oil and other gasoline producing companies in the States recognizing its economic value in making one gallon of gas do the work of two, developed an ethyl gasoline, or "looney gas," by mixing one part of tetra-ethyl lead to 1000 parts of gasoline. In manufacturing the lead compound nine lives have been lost, and the mixing and distributing at filling stations caused a wave of protest and indignation in the United States. The immediate effect was the withdrawal of the gas from the market. An investigation was ordered to find out whether the gas was a menace to public health.

The dangers arising from looney gas are: first, inhaling motor exhaust; second, handling engine parts; third, spilling on hands and clothing. Tests made have eliminated the first as a dangerous factor, but the other two are not so readily disposed of, and any development of the industry should be subjected to the closest scrutiny with regard to its effects on those coming into intimate contact with it.

The following extract from the Monthly Labor Review, May, 1925, is self explanatory:

"The danger to repair men from handling engine parts is, however, very real, as an average car would use during a season about 500 gallons of ethyl gas containing 3.3 pounds of lead, so that it is possible that nearly two pounds of very finely divided and poisonous lead would be deposited on the cylinder and the exhaust pipes. It is important that separate work benches should be provided for repair of these parts and that care should be exercised to remove the poisonous lead products from shop apparatus and from clothing and hands. To this end every repair-shop should be provided with hot running water."

The third possible hazard is the danger of the skin absorbing any gas through spilling. The article further states: "It has been definitely proven that there is enough tetra-ethyl lead in ethyl gas to cause poisoning during distribution of the product to consumers but the question is now being studied. The lead is an oily compound which is readily absorbed by the skin and as it is less volatile than gasoline it remains on the hands longer. It is a cumulative poison causing first insanity and then death. . . . . ."

Since the article was written from which the above quotation was taken ethyl gas has been the subject of an investigation the result of which is a "clean bill of health." Evidently this dangerous motor fuel is to be again put upon the market and it behooves those who are liable to come in contact with it to be on their guard. Auto mechanics, and those who handle and distribute the gas should not accept this decision without further enquiry and protest. Even those who claim the gas to be safe advise caution and recommend regulation in its handling; whilst there are competent chemists who still maintain that it is a menace to its users. They claim, with a good deal of logic, that there has not been sufficient use of the new product to establish its possible dangers, and believe that time will show that the economic benefits derived from its use will be more than offset by the dangers to public health.

If any of this gas has been distributed in Canada we are unaware of it. But should the gas be popularized by the powerful oil trusts it is almost certain to reach here. Moreover, even if the new fuel be barred in Canada there would be many American cars come across the border with their engines and other parts coated with dirt and grease impregnated with the poisonous lead compounds deposited through combustion. So that Canadian mechanics would be exposed to a danger, doubly so at times, because they would be unacquainted with its use and dangers. It is therefore necessary to bring to the attention of such workers and others who can exert some influence on the Provincial Compensation Boards and the Federal Minister of Health to take the necessary steps to protect Canadian workers from this danger. Another source of danger is the use of gas for the cleaning of clothes which is a common practice, and the cleaning of tar and paint from hands, and other domestic uses to which gasoline has been put in recent years.

Commenting on the verdict of enquiry the "New York World" says: "The report by no means gives the fluid a clear endorsement. On the contrary, it asks that its sale be carefully regulated; it declares that further investigation is necessary; and it points out that if the use of leaded gasoline becomes wide-spread, conditions may arise involving a much greater hazard. It is plainly desirable that the investigation of such industrial and public risks as this be given funds to keep a close watch on the employment of tetra-ethyl gasoline."

What Others Say

THE DECISIVE ROLE

The more persistently the party press proclaims the terrible dangers which have arisen from the circumstance that no political party has a clear majority in the House of Commons, the more clearly is it demonstrated in the news reports from Ottawa that this very circumstance is the one hope of all progressive-minded people throughout the Dominion.

The King Government, inherently reactionary, has been compelled to add to its program a number of measures of a progressive character, just because it lacks a majority and is dependent upon the votes of the Farmer and Labor members in order to remain in power. For a time, while the issue of the division lobby remained in doubt, the Conservative Party also was prepared to flirt with progressive ideas.

It will be impossible to convince any student of public affairs that any measures in the interests of the great masses of the people of Canada would have received serious consideration from either political party, had it been able to command a clear majority in the House.

The session is not as yet far advanced, and there is some uncertainty as to what may come out of it. But is constructive progressive legislation should result, the public, who read the reports in the daily press, will have no doubt as to the reason for it. Citizens who make a practice of reading Hansard, the official report of proceedings in the Commons, will be provided with the most complete evidence of the value of the decisive role which the Farmer members are in a position to play. —The U.F.A.

ANSWERED

Mr. Lloyd George has had his answer. Mr. Clynes and Mr. Henderson, two of the most responsible of the leaders of the Labor Movement, have exposed the hypocrisy of his speech on the relations—past and future—of the Liberal and Labor Parties; they have brought Mr. George down from the high pedestal on which he so loves to stand; they have corrected his facts and disposed of his claims.

The Labor Party is not open for bargains involving its freedom of action either in Parliament or in the constituencies. It stands as a living and growing force, determined to win within the near future not only office but power. Nor is the Party prepared to modify its principles at the invitation or suggestion of anyone, least of all of a man on whose principles no one can rely.

Whatever may be Mr. George's object in flying this particular kite, he should by now realize that "there's nothing doing." He will have to record this as another of his schemes that did not come off.—Daily Herald.

A BIT OF HISTORY

By MURPHY

In the ordinary course of things life is too short to notice the number of chattering columnists who coin a harlot's dollar by tickling popular prejudices, but occasionally the lie takes a form that compels attention. In the local morning paper for February 5th a writer at the termination of some anti-communist drivel states as follows:

"Although the Communists are at present quiet in British Columbia we should not forget the trouble their predecessors, the I.W.W., caused at Nanaimo in 1913-14." As the Vancouver Island strike of 1912-1914 is so typical of modern financial methods a brief statement of its underlying causes may still be interesting.

The Dunsmuir coal holdings on Vancouver Island consisted of several hundred thousand acres of coal-bearing lands. The area had operating mines at two points—Cumberland and Extension—which would give access to the minerals under possibly one thousand acres each. To make the balance of the area productive would require very large expenditures in other portions of the field. In 1909, a pair of financial brigands, named McKenzie and Mann, bought the Dunsmuir coal interests, paying therefor ten million dollars. These gentlemen immediately took their proposition to the London money market and sold against it a total of fifteen million dollars of guaranteed stock and debentures, paper which, by the way, have the same relationship to an industrial undertaking as a mortgage has to a house. Everything was lovely so far. The "Great Financial Wizards" had gathered in the whole purchase price and several million dollars of profit, and they still controlled the mine. Coming on to 1911 the English bond holders learned that the interest on their money was being paid from capital account and not from the profits from the mining enterprise, and this could not be otherwise for by no possible efficiency nor chance could the mines which gave access to possibly one per cent of the field pay interest on five million dollars more than the extravagant price that the whole field was bought for. But as paying interest from capital account cannot continue for any length of time the bond holders became still more restless, and in the spring of 1912 they sent out a special investigator to discover what was amiss with their colliery proposition. This gentleman fell into the hands of the Provincial Government, who by the way, at that time were virtually the western agents for the MacKenzie and Mann corporation, and after some judicious wineing and dining, was hurried out of the Province with the assurance that while the colliery property was unquestionably a sound proposition, temporarily things were not going as they should owing to labor troubles. At this time the "United Mine Workers" of America had small organizations in each of the coal towns, but there were absolutely no matters in dispute between the organization or the unorganized miners and the owners. When the bondholders' agent returned to England his Victoria explanation failed to satisfy the bondholders, and a more rigid investigation was being planned. At this time the MacKenzie and Mann brigands had something like a hundred and ten million dollars of railroad, industrial and other financial junk offering on the money market, or so uncovered as to be ruinously affected if the unscrupulous quality of the colliery plunder was uncovered, and therefore anything had to be done to put the colliery bondholders to sleep. The natural thing—make the colliery pay—was out of the question. The next best thing was create some real labor troubles, something that could be visualized by the inquisitive bondholders.

During a period of two months the local colliery management made a number of attempts to stir up a fight, but as the mineworkers were not more than half organized they evaded every challenge. At last the gods of good luck gave the management the opportunity they wished. A workman making an examination as required by Statute, reported explosive gas in one or more sections of the mine. This workman was promptly fired. He then started to work at the other colliery, seventy-five miles away, and on the same day that his foreman agreed to increase his wages, because he was making fit in a difficult position, the management ordered him fired again.

The miner's life hangs by a slender thread. Mines blow up and fatten the graveyard because they are filled with gas and the miner knows that prevention must be had by keeping them clear of gas rather than by attempting to control the hundred contingencies that may ignite it. As the miner does not like the graveyard he is a little touchy on this question of gas in the mine, and so a committee was appointed to ask the management for some assurance that the discharged man was not being punished for reporting gas at the other mine. The American gentleman in charge stood in the office doorway and explained that "mineself und Gott" were running the mines and as "Gott" was not taking any very active part he was doing it all, then slammed the door in the Committee's face—and the fight was on. The strike dragged along, but while it was very real in the coal town, it did not mass up to the magnitude that was required to dazzle the English bondholders. So while running the mines with Asiatics, entirely, was admittedly impossible, the Cumberland management fixed up a deal with the Japs and Chinese to scab the mines. This had the desired effect. The hatred for a scab and the natural antipathy for the Mongolian combined to produce some minor breaches of the peace. Immediately the Coast cities were combed and every thug and pug ugly that would accept such work was shipped into the coal cities—as special police. The little town of Cumberland alone had somewhere near a hundred of this type of cattle quartered upon it. Now the thing was beginning to take on the magnitude required. The Vancouver and Victoria dailies played the subject up in proportion to the number of so-called police on the job—a thug with a gun and badge can always be relied upon to create the necessity for a continuance of his service so there was something doing every night. The promoters' interests in the money market required that the definite time in the future and continue its first page importance. In strike should be kept on to some in the meantime the burden of so-called "police" was falling on the provincial treasury. So to distribute the burden differently, prepare for the permanency of the strike required, and keep up its full advertising value, the soldiers were brought in, and with field and machine guns bolted down onto railway cars ready for instant action, and engineers day and night with their hand on the throttle ready to carry the "Seventy-second" division to any point where the unarmed miner might start "the war," the bank clerks and counter jumpers of Vancouver took part in one of he most shameless chapters in the history of British Columbia.

At the end of two years, through the hearty co-operation of the thugs, the militia, the Asiatics, and the then Provincial Government, the miners were defeated. But while the strike had served for eighteen months to protect the collieries manipulators from discovery, before it was over the Canadian Northern Railway, which had been similarly plundered, had gotten into difficulties. When the fight was over, the bondholders took over the property. Since then they have written off ten out of the fifteen million dollars that they lent on the property and today are pinching and squeezing and struggling to pay interest on one-third of their money.

Our press and our business men strain their throats roaring for British capital. When this ten million dollars of British money was being stolen to the ruination of British Columbia credit and three thousand British Columbia homes wrecked and families starved to hide the theft, our press and business men roared themselves hoarse in the effort to damn the miners with the lie that the strike was engineered from and for the benefit of the State of Washington.

Painters Have Gay Evening

Painters Local 138, B.P.D. & P. of A. held the most successful concert of the season on Thursday, Feb. 4th. The Hall was filled with members their wives and friends. At 8 o'clock they proceeded to enjoy the good things provided by the organization committee. Fin. Sec'y Bro. W. Wilson in the chair after a few words of welcome the program started with a piano solo by Mr. Routh, "Annie Laurie," with variations, followed by Irving, who very ably recited "The Lifeboat." The Guitar songs and "Plantation Songs," by Frank Ellis, were well received. The Highland Fling, Irish Jig, and Sailor's Hornpipe dances performed in their respective costumes, were very cleverly done by Misses May Fletcher, Mildred Gill, Ina Finlayson, Peggy Horner, and Louise Brady, pupils of Miss Nettie Nicol, accompanied by Master Homer, brought rounds of applause for encores, which were given. Violin solo by W. Meek, showed this young artist to be unusually talented, his tone, and, execution were perfect in the Classic "Scene de Ballet," by Chas de Beriot, O.P. 100 to the reception given him by those present he replied with "Souvenier," Mr. Narrowway, his accompanist, had the same marked talent. Miss Kirby accompanied by Mrs. Franks, in her soprano solos, "Pale Moon, "The Gipsy Love Song," proved very popular with all and sang "Old Pal" and "Absent," as encores. The mouth organ solo's "Old Melodies" by Bros. T. White, G. Paridis, the old standby Ed. Smith, with his accordion caused another outburst with "Honeymoon March" and the "Slap Dashers Waltz. Mr. Maben very ably sang "Lassie O' Mine," to the big hand given sang "Hymns by the Old Church Choir." Teddy Baines was on deck, his rich voice filling the hall in "Bells of the Sea." For encore he sang "Mandalay." Laughter filled the hall when Bro. Bert Stinchcomb of the Plumbers Local gave a few rib crackers. His humorous sketch, "In a Southern Court," in two acts, and his rendering of Dr. Drummond's Poem "De Stove Pipe Ole," got everyone in the humour for the plentiful supply of cakes, sandwiches, and coffee supplied by members' wives. A vote of thanks for the artists by Pres. D. Hughes and a few impressing remarks brought to an end a perfect evening. Those who have got tickets for the Painters' Dance on Thursday, Feb. 18, at Cotillion Hall are sure of a good time. Those who have not should get them at once for this will be a banner night; there will also be a whist drive with valuable prizes for those who prefer cards. Come and see the business agents "Tango."

Next general meeting is on Thursday, Feb. 11th, report on meeting of Committee with Master Painters re-agreement of 1926.

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The Co-operative Movement in Great Britain

HOW IT HAS SUCCEEDED

A Straight Talk to Trades Unionists, Laborites and Socialists.

By W. H. H. WADDINGTON, Newcastle Upon Tyne, England.

Amongst all the institutions of a reformative and advanced character, none stands out more prominently than the Co-operative Societies of the Old Country.

Those of us who are well versed in history know all about the Reform Act of 1932. Many of us will remember the historical years that followed such as the Old Chartist Movement, started at Manchester. Peterloo is spoken of today as being one of the many fights that has secured a measure of liberty to the people of England, Ireland, Scotland & Wales, that was never expected by its authors. No names stand out more prominently than those of Ernest Jones, Robert Owen, Robert Holyoak, and William Morris. These men together with many others fought in season and out of season for freedom and liberty.

Their motto was **"eternal vigilance is the price of Liberty."** In all their activities however there was always construction in the forefront of their propaganda.

That construction can be seen in the co-operative movement today.

I fully expect that many of our Canadian born friends, of one or two generations down, will be asking, what is this co-operative movement? How does it work? What advantage would it be to us Canadians? The Co-operative movement in Great Britain is essentially the peoples trading movement. True it is a form of Capitalism, but exceptionally benevolent and democratic, and has done much to ease the economic situation of many families, notwithstanding the vast amount of unemployment and financial difficulties of the country.

If Holyoak, Robert Owen, and others could now look at this movement today they would be amazed. Visualize my readers of the "Statesman," a small shop, no larger than the average garage behind one of your houses here in Canada, started by a band of workmen at Rochdale, Lancashire, started it is true for use, and not for profit, and there you have the beginnings of what is today one of the largest undertakings the world has seen.

In the place of that small beginning, there are today huge factories all over the United Kingdom, manufacturing and distributing, almost everything that is necessary for life.

For instance the largest flour mill in the world is stationed at Dunston, on Tyne, owned and controlled by the Co-operative Wholesale Society. Just a mile or two away at Pelaw-on-Tyne we can find one of the finest blocks of buildings belonging to the C.W.S. Herein is a busy hive, printing, manufacturing chemistry, boots, clothing, etc.

Blanford St., Newcastle-on-Tyne, is essentially a co-operative street the great North of England warehouse stands therein; further south we arrive at Manchester, and here again a still larger warehouse occuppying a long block. A few miles away at Middleton, one of the largest jam factories can be found, whilst there is as much soap manufactured at Irlam, on the Heights, in twelve months, as would keep all England thoroughly clean, for at least another twelve months. Another 92½ miles further south one arrives at Leicester and if any person can show me a larger boot factory than can be found at Aylestone Park, Leicester, I shall be surprised. Moreover, it is often asked can the C.W.S. produce as good a quality as their competitors. Emphatically yes. The "Wheatsheaf" Brand has a reputation 'nuli secundus' (second to none) in not only this line but every line. No better evidence can be given than that of ones own personal experience. In the beginning of 1917, I was called upon to take up duty with the Royal Air Force. Amongst my kit or outfit I required what is known as two pairs of flying boots, one pair light weight and one pair of heavy weight. It was true I could get them from a well-known propriety firm in England at £6, 10s. or $32 per pair, but being a member of the Co-operative Society, I placed my order with them. I got the regulation boot for £3, 15s, or $18. 45 per cent. cheaper. And the quality of those high topped boots can be seen today, for I am still wearing them to keep out the rain, that has poured down on your fair city of Vancouver, and the only impression that seems to have been made on them latterly is the effect of trudging through the sands at Point Grey, beachcombing for drifting logs.

If the private trader can beat that for price and quality, well, he is smart. He can, my friends, but he wont. R.I.P. is the private trader's mottor (rent, interest and profit). Someday R.I.P. will be a true interpretation (rest in peace) for these merchants, but only when the people of, not only England but Canada, as well, say "yes, we are ready."

I have but briefly outlined the wholesale society's activities in Great Britain, the retail societies are nearly a federation, or a sectional part of the C.W.S. All over the country nearly every large city throughout the "Tight Little Island" has a large central store with branches all over the various parts of each city. Certain it is to say, that at least 33 per cent. of the trade is done by the Co-operative Societies today throughout the country. Moreover, it has little or no heavy credit system. Yes, my friends the C.W.S. **has started a banking business** and when they did, the financial gangs of bankers, Barclays, Lloyds, London & Westminster etc., all one crowd trading under different names to deceive the people, did their worst to stop the C.W.S. from entering this domain of revenue, but they failed in a measure, and whilst it is carried on in a modified form, it will not be long before the C.W.S. will show up the bankers' tricks, and eventually that C.W.S. is sure to go NAP and win through for the people a just and honest trading system. No need for revolution, my friends, no guns, bombs, or shells, **just the schoolmaster, and the undertaker. And the Welsh Wizard from Wales, or even Lord Wait & See will be duly left behind.**

This Co-operative movement is democatically owned and controlled, and what is more, has an exceptionally large number of trades unionists and socialists sitting on the various boards of directors. They are elected by ballot every twelve months. I know of one board which has for its permanent secretary, a thoroughgoing socialist, who knows why he is one. Its Chief Engineer is not only a socialist but occupies the position of councillor and is chairman of the fire brigade committee and vice-chairman of the watch committee of the city. Alongside him, who are his chiefs, as employers, can be found postmen, tombstone makers, fitters, laborers, yes, and even navvys. And please don't forget there is just as brilliant and capable men in the navvy class as there are amongst the black-coated fraternity (and that includes even mere journalists.)

Now I know some of my readers will say why all this screed, we are happy, we have fine houses, good wages, the boss is fair in the main, he is a benevolent person, he recognizes our trade unions, where we go to shop with other private traders they are all very kind, anxious to help, will give you unstinted credit. Yes, and get you to sign an agreement that gives him power to charge interest after a certain date, if you are behind with your payments, through sickness or unemployment, and that too, with an added charge for the goods on credit, as against cash.

Your city is ripe for a real co-operative movement. I said a real one. I noticed the B. C. Electric have a notice in the cars: "Let us work together for the success of Vancouver in 1926." Well, I have my doubts, you have all heard of the "Lamb lying down with the lion," well, my friends, it's true, but the lamb was inside the lion. Lions to my certain knowledge and observation, make small fry of horses, never minding lambs.

Everything points clearly to another stage in the history of the people of Great Britain within the near future, just as sure as tomorrow's sun will rise, so will that co-operative movement become the very instrument that will create the co-operative commonwealth, that the Labor and Socialist party of Great Britain has been striving and working for these 25 to 30 years. That success (in my judgment) is close at hand.

What say ye? Trades unionists, laborites, communists, of Vancouver! If you are ready—and you are ready, rotten ripe for the job. "Go ye and do thou likewise."

You Scotchmen, "Think of Wallace," nows the day and nows the hour.

With Death in the Dark

(By George R. Kirkpatrick)

"In 1923 there were 29,172 men carried home upon stretchers or hauled in ambulances from the anthracite collieries to their homes. In 1924 there were 30,241 men injured in the anthracite industry, out of a total number of 158,000 men involved. Since 1870 the anthracite industry has butchered 1,210,000 of our people in order that the wheels of industry might turn and that you and I and our fellow members of society might be kept warm."—President John L. Lewis, in the American Federationist.

Now, what banker, what member of a chamber of commerce, or of the American Manufacturers' Association, what member of a Board of Bishops, what distinguished jurists or eminent lawyers, or great educators or brilliant editors—what one of these would daily for years risk his skin where the dice of life would be so heavily loaded against him? President Lewis writes that, on the average, every man of the 158,000 men engaged in the anthracite industry loses 25 days every year because of injuries to himself or to his fellow workers. The fact is, Death has his läir in the coal mines. Death grins and sneers. Death laughs and howls through the gloom of the deadly mines.

But do please be on the watch. Presently an arbitration committee will be appointed to settle the strike. Fifty to one reader, the committee will be overloaded, as usual, with men who will piously and cunningly agree that the average miner's wage, $4.62 per day, or a mere pittance more than that, is "about right" for the slaves who gamble with Death in the dark—"about right" for men who work in conditions so deadly that insurance companies scorn the idea of taking chances on the lives of the "four-sixty-two" slaves, lashed into the mines with the whips of starvation to be grinned at daily by Death in the dark. The $4.62 is equal—in purchase power—to about $2.50 in 1914.

Four-sixty-two (about $2.50) for slaving in the dark for crusts, chuck, chicory, shoddy, a cheap movie and a dull cabin; four-sixty-two for wrestling with Death in the dark; four-sixty-two for shaking dice with Death in the deep-down sunless galleries of the mines with mules and rats for companions; four-sixty-two for breathing gas and dust and daring Death in the dark—too dolefully dark for bankers, too deadly dark for insurance companies, too solemnly dark for bishops, too awesomely dark for business men; four-sixty-two for toiling while waiting to be kissed by lipless Death in the dark!

Four-sixty-two is capitalism.

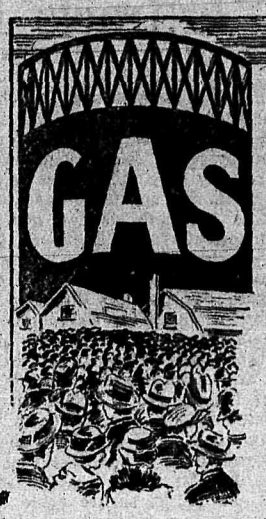
Four-sixty-two for grappling with Death in the dark—this, approved by 250,000 churches, is capitalism.

Four-sixty-two for the wage slaves' daily gamble with Death—this, supported by the Y.M.C.A.; this, supported by the university; this, supported by the press; this, supported by the forum; this, supported by the Christless, prideless, spineless, emasculate cringing crew—this, all of this, is capitalism. This four-sixty-two, thus certified by cultivated cowards, this, all of this, is capitalism.

There is death in the dark for the miners, that's true, sadly true.

But, also, there is death in the souls of the prideless "proud" who certify the four-sixty-two for the miners and thus help fasten the four-sixty-two fate-and-defeat upon the lives of the miners who struggle with Death in the dark, and upon the lives of their hopeless wives and their helpless little children.

Maddened and blinded with profits as its first purpose, society has been stung in the heart, stung by Death in the dark—spiritually stung in a darkness more terrible than the clammy gloom of the mines. Society already begins to pay. The unborn must pay, will certainly pay in full the debt of a nation, the debt incurred by the richest on earth, forcing a helpless man to fight with Death in the dark—for four-sixty-two—and with solemn lies and pious piffle pronouncing it "about right."



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THAT RUSSIAN HARVEST

"A recent correspondent in your (Daily Herald) columns accused the Soviet Government of having misled Great Britain as to the anticipated yield of the 1925 harvest, with the object of obtaining credits," writes Mr. W. P. Coates, secretary of the Anglo-Russian Parliamentary Committee.

"The facts are quite simple: M. Rakovsky, in the Press of July 11, 1925, estimated Russia's exportable grain at six million tons, but he naturally assumed that the public would understand that, as the Soviet Government could not control the weather, any harvest estimate made at that date would be to some extent conjectural. I should imagine that the representatives of Australia, Canada, the Argentine, or the U.S.A. would have acted on the same assumption.

"Government Justified"

"The Government was justified in July, 1925 (weather conditions continuing to be favorable), in anticipating at least a pre-war harvest.

"My colleagues and myself, when travelling through the great grain areas of the Ukraine and the Cossack regions, in September last, were informed by many old peasants that they had never recollected so great a yield per dessatine, but that the heavy rains had seriously affected the harvesting.

"We ourselves saw thousands of tons of grain lying on the ground which could not be gathered in owing to the heavy rains.

"In July last the harvest was anticipated to reach 4,200,000,000 poods. The December estimate was 3,938,000,000 poods, viz., 6¼ per cent less; not a very great miscalculation, after all.

"True, this difference of 4¼ million tons will seriously affect the anticipated exportable surplus, but this is expected to be at least 3 million tons.

"During the six months—July 1 to December 31, 1925—1,300,000 tons of grain were exported from Russia, and at least an additional 1,700,000 tons will be exported before the end of the season."

JULIUS ZORN IS DEAD

Cincinnati.—Julius Zorn, lifelong trade unionist, died in this city. He was editor of the Brewery, Flour, Cereal and Soft Drink Workers' Journal.

He was anable expounder of trade unionism, and his writings in defense of liberty and social justice were widely copied.

BACK TO S D PARTY

The Swedish Social Democratic Party Executive has agreed to incorporate in the Party M. Hoeglund's section of the Communists. M. Hoeglund left the Social-Democrats when he became a Communist. He has since disagreed with, and left, the Comumnist International.

LONDON, Eng.—The Ministry of Labor Gazette gives the number of unemployed registered at the employment exchanges as 1,233,000.

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President Green Says That Mexico Must Handle Own Affairs

Washington, D.C., Feb. 3, 1926.—William Green, President of the American Federation of Labor, issued a statement today in which he said he hoped "that in all dealings of our government with Mexico they shall be based on fairness and justice."

"Instead of hampering," he said, "the United States should encourage the economic advancement of the 15,000,000 people of that country."

The statement follows:

"From information just given me I wish to reiterate the public declaration I made in June last that nothing Mexico had done should be the cause for unfriendly feeling between that government and ours.

Santiago Iglesias, Spanish-speaking Secretary of the Pan-American Federation of Labor, was sent by me to Mexico City to investigate rumors and charges that have been circulated throughout the United States. I find that Mexico has done nothing more than what our own government has done. It claims the right, as the United States claims the right, to handle its own domestic affairs.

"Certain states of our union have alien land laws and in some non-resident aliens are even forbidden to inherit land. The United States refuses citizenship to certain nationals and in some states they are fodbidden to own land. The immigration question is strictly a domestic affair.

"For more than ten years the American Federation of Labor and Mexican Federation of Labor have enjoyed close relations. Each year those relations have become more friendly until now both respect each other and feel that through them a better feeling can be maintained and advanced between the two governments. Mexico is simmering in the melting pot and its government is endeavoring through education to raise the standard of living in that country.

"Mexico's problems are great. In order to advance the interests of its people it is necessary for its government to enact laws that will protect them. Mexico is a sovereign state and is the sole judge of its domestic affairs.

"It is to be hoped that in all dealings of our government with Mexico they shall be based on fairness and justice. Instead of hampering the United States should encourage the economic advancement of the 15,000,000 people of that country. I am convinced that the following of such a policy by our government will be not only to the benefit of Mexico but to the United States as well."

Unseen Hand Directs Anti-C.N.R. Campaign

Winnipeg,—"Where does the money come from to support the campaign now being carried on to bring about the destruction of the Canadian National Railway?" asked Sir Henry Thornton, president and chairman of the C.N.R., during an address before a group of business men in this city last week.

Sir Henry warned his audience that "this campaign of propaganda is being conducted by an unseen hand and has for its object the disintegration of the Canadian National System.

"We propose," he continued, "to stick right here, keep in the middle of the road, with no vindictive feeling, but we have our hands on our guns and watch the bushes on the side."

Extracts From Hansard

WOODSWORTH DEALS WITH UNEMPLOYMENT PROBLEM

One of the measures which the government announces it will introduce at this time is a provision for unemployment. It is recognized that before very long there must be some comprehensive scheme for social insurance. Canada is far behind a great many of the European countries in this regard—far behind the Mother Country, to which a great many of our patriots direct our attention when it is convenient for their purposes. We would like to follow the Mother Country in this respect and make provision for all classes of the needy. I would not urge provision in the way, either of temporary work or of relief for the unemployed did I not believe that this would be the very surest way in which we might secure some more thorough-going method in dealing with this great question. I should like to deal with something else that is more agreeable; but since I have been sent here to represent people who are adversely affcted by unemployment I feel that I must be true to them. If I recall aright, it was one of the classical writers—I am not sure whether or not it was Horace—who gave us a picture of what would happen when hard labor was done away with, when mechanical contrivances would more or less take the place of manual labor. He referred to the water-wheel, and the water spirits, as it were, turning the wheel while the man who formerly had done this heavy work could sit in the shade and watch the work go on. That is a beautiful way of looking at the situation; but the curious thing is that whilst mechanical contrivances and inventions have multiplied at a tremendous rates, the labourer is not permitted to sit in idleness watching the machine go round; or if he sits in idleness, it is enforced ildeness because somebody else owns the machine and, owing the machine, is able to secure the benefits of the new invention. That is the situation which we find today, and whilst I note that the terms of the proposal which the government makes has reference to extraordinary unemployment I would call the attention of the House to the fact that unemployment the world over has become something of a permanent evil. We must recognize that fact. It seems to be almost inherent in the very organization of our modern industrial life. Practically every invention that comes along throws many men out of work. It is true that a certain number of them are absorbed in other types of work, but a very considerable number of them are, as it were, thrown on the scrap heap, and relatively a smaller and ever smaller number of people are required to keep the machinery of the world moving. What is to be done with the people who are thereby released? If we had a thorough-going organization we might very well decrease the hours of labor and thus relieve some of those who are already overburdened. Instead of that, we keep frocing the pace, as it were, urging men to greater production on the one side, and then on the other side we see standing armies of the unemployed and distressed.

Perhaps the general situation is somewhat aggravated in Western Canada. My own city in particular is more or less the dumping ground for immigrants to Western Canada. Very few of the Old Country people know the names even of our little prairie places such as Winnipeg. Some of them remain there; some of them take a little time before they can be placed outside, and that causes a considerable amount of congestion at such a centre. Further than that, we have the seasonal problem to confront us. A considerable number of harvest hands are required for a short time. These are freqently brought from eastern Ontario, sometimes from the United States and sometimes from Great Britain. They go out to the farms in the West, work for a short time, and then a number of them drift back into the cities. When the farmers are through with them they can hardly keep them on for the winter and, in fact, some of them are not fitted for winter work. When the harvest is over and the freeze-up comes, these men drift to the cities. We must frankly face the fact of the seasonal character of much of the work in this Northern country of ours. The individual is helpless. A remedy can be found only by general action on the part of the community and the governments. Possibly I might be permitted to give some statistics as to the extent of the relief required in my own city of Winnipeg. The expenditure on emergency employment relief for the past four years is as follows: The city of Winnipeg contributed $647,957.08; the provincial government, $291,717.23, and the Dominion government, under the scheme which was in operation for several years but which was for a time discontinued, contributed $130,783.47, or a total of $1,070,457.78. That is a very heavy expenditure for a period of four years for extraordinary unemployment relief. It must be remembered that we have ordinary cases of distress—elderly people, deserted women and so on—and these ordinary cases are not included in the figures I have given. It is this situation which we have tried to press home on the government; and anyone who has been at all closely in touch with the situation must recognize that some action had to be taken.

With regard to the harvest hands that have come West, I might also give the following figures. Last year the Canadian Pacific brought out 25,000 men and returned 23,165, and the Canadian National brought out 20,672 and returned 14,983, or a total brought in of 45,672 and a total returned of 38,148. This shows that 7,524 or 16½% of those who came remained in the west. No doubt a good proportion of this number have come to Winnipeg, the natural centre to which men who are out of employment drift. It is likely that a number of these men went back to farm and bush work, but this still leaves a number for Winnipeg to look after. Winnipeg is by no means the only city affected. For example the following is a very significant fact: "Vancouver city council decided to broadcast notices all over the prairie provinces warning workers to keep away from here when the harvest was over, as no unemployment relief would be given.

On October 6—"

"That is, 1925.

Relief Officer Ireland reported to the city council that two men had been sent to cover the prairie provinces with these notices, and that the total cost to the city would be within $600."

The curious situation is that you have these western cities doing their utmost to secure immigrants and to add to their population, and at the same time warning people to keep away, that there is no work for them.

This is a paragraph from a letter which came to me a few days ago from Edmonton:

"A resolution has been passed by the Edmonton Central Council of unemployed, demanding the same privileges as those accorded to the emigrants coming to this country, namely, that the unemployed be allowed to take up farming under the land settlement scheme."

I would respectfully pass this suggestion over to the Acting Minister of Immigration (Mr. Stewart). I cannot see why, if men are unemployed in Canada, they should not be permitted to take up land under at least as favorable conditions as are enjoyed by those who are being induced to come to this country directly from the Old Land.

I had occasion only to-day to write to the Minister of Justice (Mr. Lapointe) with regard to certain men who were arrested the other day. Perhaps I cannot do better than to quote this letter which the Calgary Central Trades and Labour Council sent to the Minister of Justice:

January 23, 1926,

"Dear Sir:

The Calgary Trades and Labour Council desire to draw your attention to the case or the forty-six men who have been recently convicted and sentenced to thirty days' imprisonment for obtaining meals at the restaurants in the city, and not paying for same.

This council is of the opinion that these men were without work or funds to enable them to pay for the meals they ordered; further, as the statistics of the government employment bureaus will show, there was absolutely no chance for them to obtain employment.

We would therefore respectfully request you give this matter your earnest consideration, with a view that the men be immediately released."

I do not personally know the circumstances of the case, but if the facts are as represented in this letter it does seem a desperate situation that men should be forced to steal in order to live. In this they are simply exhibiting a primary instinct and one surely can hardly blame them under the circumstances.

An Hon. Member: Why not vote for a different government?

Mr. Woodsworth: I do not know that these men would fare very differently under a different government.

Mr. Garland, (Bow River): How did they fare in 1913-14 under another government?

Mr. Woodsworth: Well, we all know that throughout the west they were very badly up against it at that time in all the cities. As a matter of fact, from the point of view of unemployment relief, the war was a godsend, for many of these men were carried off overseas thus relieving the situation.

Mr. Rogers: The Hon. member cannot say that there was any necessity for assistance in 1912 and 1913.

Mr. Woodsworth: I happened to be closely in touch with the unemployment situation at that time and I know what conditions were like in Winnipeg.

Mr. Rogers: I live in the city of Winnipeg and I never heard of it.

Mr. Woodsworth: Yes, the hon. member lives in the opposite section of the town, the residential district. I happened to be living in the northern portion of Winnipeg and my colleague (Mr. Heaps) will bear me out when I say that the condition was very serious then. Indeed, I recall a parade of about 12,000 people just about that time who were seeking relief. The hon. member's admission that he was unaware of the true state of affairs that existed at that time only proves how necessary it is that the facts should be fully stated. The vast majority of people who are fairly well circumstanced do not realize how the other half of the world manages to exist. It is all very well for us to advocate great trade policies and to squabble over our party differences, but some of us at least must speak for those who are thus shamefully neglected, the people who heretofore have had very slight representation in this House. The facts in regard to unemployment in Canada are receiving publicity not only in this country but in England as well, because a very large number of the poor people here are comparatively recent arrivals and they are constantly writing to their friends in the Old Country.

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Telephone Company Not Satisfied With Eight Per Cent

Ottawa.—The Bell Telephone Co., is demanding an increase in rates and has filed a formal application with the board of railway commissioners.

The opposition is led by the cities of Toronto, Montreal and the Union of Municipalities representing the smaller cities and towns.

The Bell Company is paying 8 per cent dividends and its stock is quoted at 140 on the Montreal stock exchange.

But the monopoly is not satisfied with this handsome return and some of the leaders of the opposition are already suggesting public ownership as the only solution of the problem.

1926 Spring Catalogue

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Objectionable Dictatorship on the Mental Plane

By F. W. MOORE.

Of all the dictatorships that the world has ever known Capitalism has been by far the most exacting. She not only regulates the wages, salaries, opportunities to work, and consequently the lives of her dependants, but with her magic sapling wand, plucked from the tree of wealth, she considers herself competent to invade the realm of mind, and moulds the ideals of the world compatibly with her sordid conceptions of apotheosized profit making. Nor is her task at all difficult, since circumstances have placed within her reach a great variety of possible leaders who must depend on her for a living, and naturally she chooses those whose minds are shaped by her influence, as subjects for the development of further mental eccentricity.

"Our judges are not bought," said a captain of industry to Upton Sinclair, in answer to a charge of judicial corruption; "they are selected. And exactly so it has been with our recognized and successful artists," continues the latter. "They have been men who looked up to the ruling class by instinct and served their masters gladly and freely."—Mammonart, page 17.

Capitalism, however, is assuming control over the minds of the students, is gradually but steadily forcing a world-wide revolution on the mental plane. Signs of it are ubiquitous. Its spirit is embodied in student magazine articles, or may be deduced now and then from items in the daily press. The following are protests drawn up by students of the North Western University, Chicago, at a convention at Indianapolis: "We protest against trustee control that says what a student may and may not study." The vote cast in the affirmative was 82; in the negative, 6. . . . . "We protest against control which prevents a faculty member from expressing his own opinions." The vote in this case was unanimous in the affirmative.—Social Service Bulletin, March 15th, 1924.

"If the older generation has been right on any important point, why has it got the world into its present state of misery and fear? The world is in a mess. How shall we put it right unless we are first prepared to discover where and why it is wrong?" —Alexander Stewart, in the Nation, quoted from The Bulletin for June 1st, 1924.

"Then again the scientific worker engaged by a large corporation is tied hand and foot to his employer . . . by a restrictive agreement . . . hence openings for such as he offer a prospects of employment so restricted as to be unattractive, if not intolerable. . . . When capitalism wastes employed brains to the utmost extent, when its scientific staffs are complete and it has distributed its bonuses to every workman who can give it a hint for mechanical improvement it can never rise above its own nature to turn everything into private gain and to serve the community only in so far as that contributes to private gain, to harness to its chariot all who contribute service and thoughts, to use them or to refuse to use them in accordance with its interests."—Socialism, Critical and Constructive, by Ramsay MacDonald, page 116.

Capitalism must therefore be indicted at the bar of public opinion as a partial fraud. By retarding the intellectual development of the masses, as she does indirectly in many ways, she is breeding those frankensteins that might hinder that peaceful transition to a higher order of state that all right-minded people would like to see materialized.

However, if she continues in her perversity it remains for labor to take advantage of her weakness, and with relentless energy force the issue until she has won completely the imagination and the respect of the masses.

The moment that is accomplished the transition from Capitalism to Socialism will occur with the least possible friction. Humanity will stand outside the gates of emancipation and once these are opened the profit motive with its wealth control of education will cease to exist. They will only be heard of when learned ethnologists of the future discuss the dictatorship of wealth as it existed in the highest stage of barbarism, improperly thought of at present as an exalted type of capitalistic civilization.

Four Headliners at the Orpheum

Entertainment in its highest form will be offered at the Orpheum Theatre next Thursday, Friday and Saturday when a great seven-act bill commences with the Thursday matinee.

There are no less than four headliners on this excellent bill and it will be difficult to pick the most entertaining. Tramp, tramp, tramp, is the name of one of the features. It is a sketch of the life of the "knights of the road," and is said to be one of the most novel acts of the season. The turn abounds in melody, mirth and men, and contains many clever gags.

Olga Myra with Betsy Rees offers an artistic dance extravaganza called 'Black and Gold.' The scenic embellishments of this act are the most pretentious seen here in many weeks. Violin solos, singing and wonderful terpsichorean art all go to make this act an artistic revelation.

Jessie Maker and William Redford will be remembered here for their many appearances in dainty excerpts from musical successes of former years. This season they offer a little skit entitled "Rolling Stones," a story of a man from the city and a maid from the country who cross paths. It is a pretty little bit of acting with a few vocal numbers set in.

Jean Joyson is one of those winsome wholesome girls who has been blessed with a beautiful voice. She sings and talks most entrancingly and will surely be one of the hits of the bill. Van and Tyde and Company will offer a little musical act set in a gypsy camp with many talented musicians in the cast. Tabor and Greene are two darks knights of the stage who will sing and joke their way into everybodys heart. Another surprise act, attractive pictures and the concert orchestra will complete this delectable show.

The sales of the Co-operative Wholesale Society of Great Britain, for last year amounted to 76,000,000 pounds sterling, an increase of nearly 4,500,000 pounds.

LABOR GOES INTO THE INSURANCE BUSINESS

On the doorway of "Mat" Woll's office might well be placed the inscription that is over the stage of the Carnegie Institute of Technology "Ici l'inspiration Deploie ses Ailes," (Here inspiration unfolds her wings). For after years of investigation and research the idea of a great insurance company for the benefit of Union Labor is blossoming into reality.

The Union Labor Life Insurance Company, duly incorporated under the laws of the State of Maryland, with a well selected personel of officers, directors and advisory committee, has opened headquarters in the American Federation of Labor building, in Washington, for the sale of its stock. Inasmuch as this can be purchased and held by unions and trade unionists only, this story is not propaganda for the sale of stock to the public. Parenthetically, it may be said here that a number of shrewd investors, (who were not eligible to purchase) have already endeavored to secure shares.

The aims of the company, as set forth in its Charter and By-laws, are to furnish every reasonable class of insurance to trade unionists, individually and in groups.

It may not be generally known, out side of insurance circles, that, until recently, under the New York law, it was impossible for a Labor Union to secure group insurance, although the very individuals composing that union, might be, and often were, insured as a group by an employer. It has only been within the last few months that this discrimination has been removed from the New York law.

Under the plan of distribution of stock in the company, national and international unions are allowed but 800 shares each. A local may have not more than 80 shares and an individual not more than 10 shares. The stock is selling at $50.00 of which $25.00 goes to capital and $25.00 to reserve. A special arrangement is made for the individual who wishes to participate, but cannot pay in full at once. Payments may be spread over a period of installments of ten months, so that five dollars per month will give the little buyer a share in ten months.

At a conference held in Washington, July 25, of presidents of nationals and internationals, the plan was approved and the echo of that approval had hardly died when checks began to flow in, unsolicited, from individuals and organizations seeking stock in the new company.

Planning wisely and conservatively, those in charge have decided to write no policies until $600,000 ($300,000 capital and $300,000 surplus) are in the treasury. This will be no "shoe string" enterprise but one in which every policy holder can feel security and protection. The personnel of the pioneer group in this great movement for Union Labour is as follows:

Officers:

Matthew, Woll, President.
George W. Perkins, Sec.-Treas.

Executive Committee

Matthew Woll.
G. W. Perkins.
Luther C. Steward.
Thos. F. Flaherty
James M. Lynch
Martin F. Ryan
Thomas E. Burke

Directors:

Matthew Woll
G. W. Perkins
Luther C. Steward
Thos. F. Flaherty
Elmer E. Milliman
James Maloney
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Thomas C. Cashen
James M. Lynch
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Advisory Committee

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A. M. Huddell
Edward Flore
W. E. Bryan
Anthony J. Chlopek
John Frey
M. H. Parker
T. A. Scully
John P. Burke
W. M. Collins
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F. G. Stecker
Sara A. Conboy
Wm. Kohn
Paul Scharrenberg
J. H. Walker
E. G. Hall
James P. Holland
James H. Maurer
Geo. H. Slater
W. M. Short
Henry Ohl, jr.
Harry W. Fox
John Fitzpatrick
John S. Horn
Joseph M. Richie
Daniel J. McDonald
James J. Hoban
Jerome Jones
Daniel C. Murphy

A careful study of the fraternal, assessment and old-line insurance plans shows that to be absolutely permanent and secure, insurance must provide for the accumulation of legal reserves, with which to mature and pay the policies; therefore the Union Labor Life Insurance Company will write old-line insurance.

The usual forms known as Whole-Life Policies, Twenty-payment Life Policies, Endowment Policies, Term policies and Old Age Income Policies, with surrender values payable in cash loan values and other valuable features, which have stood the test of time, will all be written by this company. It is also the aim of the company to write some special policies particularly and specially adapted to the needs to union labor, to meet a demand heretofore not supplied by any company now doing business.

The company's charter will permit the issuance of the usual and standard forms of personal, health, accident, and casualty insurance.

These will all be sold in its wholesale department at the usual rates of premium charged for such policies by the existing companies.

Instead of the usual industrial policies, what is known as a retail department will be established, in which policies identical with those issued in the wholesale department, except for smaller amounts, will be sold at a slightly increased cost per thousand over the cost of the same policies in the ordinary or wholesale department, and premiums in this retail department will all be paid monthly.

On every form of policy issued, the company will accept premiums monthly; if desired, and will charge only a sufficient amount in excess of one-twelfth of the annual premium to cover the cost of collection.

The daily flood of inquiries at insurance quarters in the American Federation of Labor Building shows a widespread and intelligent interest in the new movement for co-operation.

Correspondence

Editor,
Labor Statesman,
Sir:

The article in last week's issue entitled "Labor in Provincial Legislature" by "Swamper," appears to be inspired in an effort to apologize for the efforts, or lack of efforts, put forward by the Labor members of the Provincial Legislature. During my 21 years residence in this province I have never seen less effort put forward by the Labor members as during the last two sessions. The only piece of social legislation enacted was the eight hours in the "Hours of Work Act" and the "Minimum Wage Act' both of which were sponsored by Major Burde. Franke Brown may not be so much to blame for this condition of affairs as was R. H. Neelands, who is an old member and "knows the ropes." If the Labor Party cannot do better than nominate cabbage heads for office, it should step down and give the common herd a chance to smuggle into office an independent who will get up on his hind feet and do some fighting in the House. If "Honest John" and his cohorts can flourish a toy pistol at the Labor group and subdue them as though they were a "Ladies Aid" Society, the workers might just as well concentrate their activities on industrial action and forget the political. We know the corrupting influence of politics, but we would not like to believe that "Labor" has been corrupted so early in the game. If we are not to believe this then the Labor Party should try to avoid digging up petrified "King Tuts" for its legislators.

In spite of the fact that we have followed the work of the sessions very closely, we may be wrong in our impression of the actions of the Labor group. But we are from Missouri and we feel that we ought to be shown, inasmuch as we know of others who are wondering what happened in the "Gas House."

F. T. McElhoes.

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SHOFT CRAFTS TO REVIEW FIRST YEAR OF CO-OP PLAN

MONTREAL.—The biennial convention of Division No. 4, Railway Employees' Department, A. F. of L., will be held in this city commencing Monday, March 22. The convention call will be issued from the division's office this week.

At the last convention the union-management co-operative scheme was indorsed and it has since been established in all the main repair shops on the Canadian National System. The 1926 convention will review the progress made and lay plans for the future.

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SKATE GRINDING

STRIKE SETTLED

The Metal Polishers' International Union have settled their four months' strike at the Cribben & Sexton Stove Factory of Chicago, Illinois.

This strike, which occurred September 16th, 1925, was satisfactorily adjusted on January 25th, 1926.

Every condition demanded by the union was granted by the firm.

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The undermentioned will receive bids for excavating at Franklin School by noon, Saturday, 13th February, 1926.

For plans and specifications apply School Board Office. Lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

B. G. WOLFE-MERTON,
Secretary, Vancouver School Board.

Inducing King to "Come Across"

Very many years ago, following a general election in Great Britain, the Labor group enjoyed the happy position of holding the balance of power. The Liberal party at that time held office. Labor was well rewarded for suppprting the Government. If memory hasn't played us false, after Old Age Pensions was enacted, Government Labor Exchanges, Unemployment and Health Insurance followed in turn. It is about time that the Dominion Parliament enacted some social legislation. There was no mention of such legislation in the speech fro mthe throne. But in view of the existing political situation at Ottawa, unprecedented since Confederation, maybe Messrs. Woodsworth and Heaps, sitting Labor members for Winnipeg, will be able to induce Premier King to "come across" with old-age pensions. Such a measure would be all right to start off with for Labor's two votes.—Hamilton Labor News.

NORTH VANCOUVER LABOR PARTY HOLDS SOCIAL

North Vancouver Labor Party held their second social on January 30th, at the home of Mrs. Fane, 15th St. East.

The evening was spent in music and cards. The next social will be held in the Horticultural Hall, Lonsdaye and 22nd, on February 27th. And a good time is promised to all.

SIGN THREE-YEAR CONTRACT

PORTLAND, Ore., Feb. 6. — The carpenters' district council has signed a three-year agreement with the builders and contractors. A wage rate of $9 a day will become effective on February 15. Either party can open the scale at the expiration of each calendar year.

TALK ABOUT PROFITS

The Schulte Retail Stores Corporation announced a stock dividend of 150 per cent last week. In eight years this concern has increased its net income from $70,800 to $5,000,000.

Co. Union Tribute to Effectiveness of Real Union

The company union is in fact a very genuine tribute to the effectiveness of the real trade union. It is a recognition of the principle that there is need for an agency through which the will and the experience of wage earners can have an influence in the determination of issues affecting wage earners. But some employers want the constructive advantages of collective action without what they consider its drawbacks. Drawbacks to them consist in that power of resourcefulness that enable the unions to secure for the ideas of the workers that consideration which is rightfully theirs.

Certain employers object to the presentation of views except those which sustain their advantages. Employers of this type resent the trade union because it functions independently of their control. Trade unions by federation create an organization paralleling the industry and hence have power comparable to that of the employer. Their special experts have knowledge of the whole industry as well as the technique of collective bargaining.

The company union, or whatever name is given the representation plan provided by the company, exists by the desire of the employer. Certain employers claim that the company union makes possible co-operation between management and workers in production problems. Such co-operation with unions they claim is impossible because, as they say, unions are organized for militant purposes only. There is no justification for this declaration, for employers themselves made it necessary for unions to employ defensive and militant purposes and methods. Unions have been forced on the defensive. Co-operation involves recognition of reciprocal rights and duties.

There are convincing proofs of the economic value of union management co-operation, which demonstrates that the co-operation between company unions and management is most superficial.

Wage earners will do themselves and industries a great service when they capture company unions and convert them into real trade unions. The machinery of the company union offers a strategic advantage for such tactics. Use that machinery as a basis of a real organization.—An Editorial from The American Federationist.

Hotel and Restaurant Employees Hold Dance

The Hotel and Restaurant Employees Union held a most enjoyable Cabaret Supper at the Ambassador Cafe last Monday evening. Sharp at 9 p.m. the orchestra started up and the floor was soon filled with couples doing the light fantastic—more fantastic in fact than the ordinary dances because of the number who were doing the Charleston. During the evening a delightful spread was served up by the waiters, and many songs given by entertainers from among the members of the orchestra. Toward the close of the dance the hilarity was so unanimous that everybody in the place will look forward with a great deal of pleasure for the next event.

SAFE

Old John, custodian of the bathhouses at an English resort, was in the habit of entering Miss Augusta's compartment before she had completely reclothed herself.

One morning she said to him: "John, you ought to knock before you come in. Some day you might come in while I was undressed."

To which honest old John replied: "Lor' bless you, miss! no danger of that. I allus peeks through the knothole afore I comes in."

GOOD GROUNDS

A colored woman consulted the village lawyer.

"Ah wants to divo'ce mah husband," she said.

"What's the trouble?" asked the lawyer.

"That nigger's done gone an' got religion, and ah ain't seen a chicken on de table foh two weeks."

"I can't remember the words of that new song," said the girl. "That makes it easier," returned her father. "Now all that you have to do to make home happy is to forget the tune."

SPECIAL NOTICE

FELLOW WORKERS we have much pleasure in announcing that the membership of the British Columbia Mutual Benefit Association has been increased from 2500 to 5000, and, since the first of the year we have accepted 947 new members, making our total membership to date 3447. As soon as the Association reaches its full strength of 5000 members, we shall be unable to accept any new members, except through a death occurring among our present members.

The cost of becoming a member is $10.00. The Annual Dues are $5.00, payable each June. Each member pays the sum of $1.00 when a death occurs until the total membership reaches 5000. As soon as this number is attained (which will be in about six weeks' time) the amount payable at each death will be 50 cents.

Persons of either sex may become members between the ages of sixteen and fifty, and if in any year the death rate exceeds ten under the dollar assessment, and twenty under the 50 cent assessment, claims will be paid from our reserve fund, which at the present time exceeds twenty thousand dollars.

Directors are elected by the members annually, and are not paid. The only paid official is the Secretary.

Under our Charter we have to deposit a minimum sum of Fifteen Thousand Dollars into the reserve fund each year, and all our funds are invested in strictly trustee securities. The books are audited every month by an auditor appointed by the members and are always open for inspection by any member.

Since our organization was started we have paid out claims amounting to Ten Thousand Dollars to beneficiaries, there having been up to the present time four deaths.

Any person joining now is protected for the full amount of $2500.00 for death from any cause.

Full particulars can be obtained from W. A. Colmar, late President Hotel and Restaurant Employees' Union, Local 28, c-o Labor Statesman, Holden Building, Vancouver, B. C.

Do Not Think About This Until It Is Too Late. ACT NOW!

Hudson's Bay Company
INCORPORATED 2ND MAY 1670
WONDERFUL SAVINGS ARE PRESENTED IN THE FEBRUARY
HOME-FURNISHING SALE
Because of its scope, it's standard of quality and the extent of its price reductions, the February Home Furnishing Sale has acquired prestige which makes it the sale by which furnishing values are judged. This year it more than meets the traditions it has built, and both the furniture and home-furnishings sections abound in economy ideas for everyone who owns a home.
BUY ON THE CLUB PAYMENT PLAN, 10 PER CENT CASH, BALANCE IN 11 EQUAL MONTHLY PAYMENTS

THE OBLIGATION
In her instruction book the student telephone operator reads:
"An operator's principal responsibility is that of giving service which is entirely satisfactory to patrons, thereby helping to secure and retain the goodwill of the public."
B. C. Telephone Company

CHRISTIE'S
"St. Crispin"
Logging Boot
Patented
ABSOLUTELY THE BEST
Fine Shoes to Measure
510 Pender St. West
Formerly 51 Cordova St. W.

IT IS ILLEGAL TO
BOYCOTT
But This Will Inform Our Readers That the
ROYAL DAIRY MILK
IS
Unfair to Organized Labor

DRUGS AT CUT PRICES
Do you realize that the Vancouver Drug Company is daily preventing the so-called Cut-Rate Druggists from boosting drug prices sky high? Investigate for yourself.
FRIDAY AND SATURDAY SPECIALS

$2.25	Guaranteed Hot Water Bottle	$1.37	
.50	Dr. Reid's Bronchitis Mixture	.29	
1.00	Dr. Reid's Blood Purifier	.62	
.45	Kleanwell Tooth Brush	.32	
1.25	Thermos Bottle	.79	
.25	Dr. Mile's Anti-Pain Pills	.18	
.50	Florian Face Powder, (for men and women)	.32	
.20	Sulphur and Molasses	.19	
.25	Reid's Cucumber & Witch Hazel Cream	.16	
.75	Watson's Tonic Stout	.51	
1.50	Reid's Blaud Tonic Capsules	.91	
.35	Erasmic Shaving Sticks	.22	
.35	Stacomb (in tubes)	.23	
1.00	Gillette Razors	.72	
.60	Durham Duplex Blades	.41	
.35	Golden Glint Shampoo	.24	
.50	Glycerin & Rose Water, 8 oz.	.26	
.35	Dorin Rouge Brunette	.21	
.40	Mary Garden Talcum (white)	.26	
.75	Liquid Petrolatum, 16 oz.	.37	

VANCOUVER DRUG COMPANY, LIMITED
12 STORES

RUSSIAN TRADE

Russia's foreign trade in the business year 1924-5, says the Exchange Berlin correspondent, totalled £50,000,000 of exports and £63,000,000 of imports. Exports to Great Britain were £18,500,000, imports. from Great Britain £10,800,000.