The Labor Statesman

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Juggling With Justice Is Scene Staged at City Hall

Ex-Manager Rolston, Fired for Incompetency, Is Rewarded With $2500 Cash Bonus; Faithful Workers Are Rewarded With Discharge To Make Way For Political Favorites!

STEP THIS WAY, ladies and gents, and see Vancouver's Greatest Municipal Show on Earth. Observe, closely, our city hall's Great Act of Juggling with Justice! Come closer, folks, and watch the great turn entitled "Monkeying with Municipal Matters". See our famous Civic Clowns in Action. Observe, also, the noted feature, staged by Vancouver's greatest bunkologists, showing real ledgermain with the taxpayers' money, in the wonderful "Rolston $2500 Disappearing Act!" See Vancouver's City Hall Clowns, as Modern Monarchs of Mirth, Making Many Merry Mad Mishaps! By watching closely, you will see, too, the great sleight-of-hand trick by which old time city hall employees are spirited out of sight, and replaced before your very eyes, with Aldermanic pets. The quickness of the hand deceives the eye, ladies and gents, so here The Labor Statesman steps in to explain the trick. Compare the following, and see how you like it:

EX-MANAGER ROLSTON GETS FIRED; ALSO GETS $2500 AS FAT PRESENT

After holding down a nice, easy job paying $5,000 a year with perquisites, for a number of years, Mr. Rolston made it quite cear that he wasn't making good as manager of the Vancouver Exhibition. Reluctantly and almost tearfully, they finally decided he was soldiering on the job, so they said he must go. This happened after a public outcry made his discharge imperative. Then his friends rallied to his cause and said the poor thing ought to be rewarded for getting canned, so they voted half a year's pay, amounting to $2500 cash, with the privilege to buy a city's car for $200. With the dissenting voices of Mayor Taylor and Ald. John Bennett, this went through. Mr. Rolston pockets $2500 of the people's money, so everybody is supposed to be happy.

CITY EMPLOYEES ALSO GETS CANNED TO PROVIDE JOBS FOR FAVORED FEW

After serving the city faithfully and working hard for their wages, several worthy workers of the municipality suddenly find themseves out in the cold. By a strange coincidence, their places are filled by strangers who happen to be warm friends and political boosters of aldermen who probably see campaign work in the offing with another city election. No particular reason is given for the firing of the faithful employees, but there is a perfunctory murmur of retrenchment, or something without any explanation of why the vacancies are being filled by new comers who haven't the slightest right to the jobs.

Although protesting against the charges, the aldermen admit having interferred with the hiring and firing of civic employees.

Here is dirty work! poor stuff; cheap politics; miserable municipal meddling. To the credit of Mayor Taylor it must be remembered that he was no party to this work; and Ald. John Bennett also plainly went on record with a vehement protest. But who of the other members of the aldermanic board are responsible for this flagrant abuse of justice? It is time for a show-down.

What is the answer?

Mexican Army Does Useful Work

Attention is drawn, in the news service of the International Federation of Trade Unions, to the great benefits which Mexico is deriving from its Labour Government, under the Presidency of General Calles. The Budget estimates for the Army and Navy have already been reduced by one-third, and the military forces which are retained are being employed in public works, such as road-making.

In the midst of such favourable influences, the Mexican Labour Movement is making very satisfactory progress. Not long ago, the Civil servants founded a trade union, inserting in their rules a declaration that one of the aims of the organization was to uproot the idea that Civil servants belong to a kind of non-party middle class; they were, in reality, just simple workers, who sell their labour as do other workers.

An example of the Government's sound Labor outlook is that, finding that it would be absolutely necessary to reduce the salaries of railway officials, it cut down those of the higher grade officials only. Which of the European Governments would have done as much?

FISHERMEN!

WHY NOT ORGANIZE AND IMPROVE YOUR CONDITIONS?

THE B. C. FISHERMEN'S ASSOCIATION is an association built by Fishermen, and for your benefit.

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533 Woodland Drive, Vancouver, B.C.

R. KEARLEY, Sec.-Treas., Fishermen's Association.

WHAT OUR READERS WANT TO KNOW

Why no financial report has been made regarding the "Christmas Fund" of the Children's Aid Society?

* * *

And if there is any truth to the story that some of the "Lady" directors of the society presented themselves with silk stockings out of the fund?

* * *

And how much the barber husband of another woman director received for giving the children a "convict's hair cut" without the authority of the late superintendent.

* * *

If it isn't time for our civic "boosters" to do something toward working up Vancouver and getting us more employment, more smokestacks and a bigger pay roll?

* * *

If the City Council can't spare half an hour extra with every session, planning betterment for this place, and then putting their plans into action?

* * *

When the Children's Aid Society will properly pass into Government Control, and thereby put a stop to the criticism and complaints that surround that public institution?

* * *

When our shop girls will receive a decent wage scale from the profits that are fattening the bank rolls of our big stores?

* * *

If it isn't about time to start the Union Workers' summer excursion season on Bowen Island and along the scenic points of the P.G.E.?

* * *

Why no civic heads were on hand this week to welcome those eastern capitalists who were prospecting around, looking for openings for industrial investment in Vancouver?

* * *

If some of those earnest church workers of the Women's Clubs might not do some practical good for fallen girls, instead of "deploring appalling conditions" and flooding the Magdalenes with tracts?

* * *

Also, how many of those godly women have enough real Christianity in their souls to offer sanctuary and succor to a fallen girl?

* * *

If it is not true that a local real estate firm is behind the plan to apply for a Tag Day to raise funds for the purchase of a new building for "The Associated Women's League"?

"The Budget has not only become unpopular it has become ridiculous. Ever since its introduction it has gone down steadily as an asset for the Government; it has gone up steadily as a theme for laughter on the part of audiences."—Ramsay McDonald.

Meetings for Unorganized

MACHINISTS are being held in the Holden Building every Tuesday evening at 8 p.m.; for

BOILERMAKERS every Monday evening and for

BLACKSMITHS every Friday evening.

Needs Supplied By One Hour's Work By All

In another effort to introduce the National Eight Hour day in Great Britain, David Kirkwood, who seconded the bill, which was finally defeated 223 to 128, said he did so in the hope that it was still possible to get at the hide-bound consciences of members opposite.

The reduction of hours was the only remnant left to the working class of the concessions wrung from the other classes during the war—the time of the capitalists' peril—by the rebels. The spirit of discontent was still abroad to-day, determined to preserve the jewel of liberty in the framework of freedom.

"Lords of Creation"

If a revolution took place members on the other side would not be able to blame the Labour members, who had gone out of their way to warn them time and time again.

"The people are not going to sit calmly by and suffer injustices. I am going to do all I can to stir them up and see that apathy does not set in."

When the Prime Minister appealed to the Lord to give peace in our time he was really appealing to his own supporters, "for," proceeded Mr. Kirkwood, addressing the Conservative benches, "you are the lords of creation at the present time. You are the people whom the Lord will hold responsible."

He did not think it was possible for a Labour Government or any other Government to give the working class a comfortable living, while a million pounds a day were being paid on the war debt to the robbers of the people. His solution was that they should repudiate the war debt at once."

"Work and Waste"

Mr. Kirkwood quoted, from Lord Leverhulme's preface to the book on "Work and Waste," the statement that all our needs could now be supplied by one hour's work per day from each of us.

"That," said Mr. Kirkwood, pointing to the Conservative benches, "that means your team as well as ours." (Labour cheers.)

This was not possible at present, he added, because of disorganization, overlapping, the production of useless commodities, and the horde of middlemen and parasites, who fattened on the toil of the workers like slugs upon a cabbage. (Laughter.)

WRONG REPORT ABOUT THE COWAN BAKERY

At the last regular meeting of the Trades and Labor Council, a delegate reported and The Labor Statesman published the report to the effect that Cowan's Bakery was working its bakers long hours at low wages. This statesment was made in connection with the Mother's Bakery and should have only referred to the Mother's Bakery. In fairness to the owners of Cowan's Bakery we wish to correct this report and state that although the men employed by Cowan's Bakery are not organized the wages paid and the hours worked are fair. Since the report about the Mother's Bakery we understand that the hours of labor have been adjusted.

GLASGOW COUNCIL WON'T BUY NON-UNION U. S. RAILS

London.—The town council of Glasgow, Scotland, has refused to buy United States Steel Corporation rails for use in its tramway system.

This action was taken because American steel rails are manufactured under unfair, anti-union conditions.

Labor members of the council used the Interchurch Report on the Steel Strike of 1918 to prove their case.

Labor Wins In French Municipal Elections

Paris.—The Left-Wing coalition of Radicals and Socialists has had sweeping successes in the French municipal elections.

In Paris, itself, the reactionary Bloc National has lost four additional seats, although it still retains a majority on the City Council. In the industrial suburbs of Paris, the reactionaries have lost eleven municipalities, and the majority of the municipal councils in the Paris district are now Radical, Socialist or Communist.

The Communists have retained some of the famous "red" municipalities outside Paris, but have lost others to Radicals or Socialists. Among their unsuccessful candidates is the Communist Deputy, Vaillant Courturier. In the City of Paris, they have maintained six seats and lost one.

Sweeping Successes

Jean Longuet has been elected in the suburb of Chatenay with the other candidates on the Socialist list.

It is in the provincial results, however, that the sweeping success of the democratic parties is most apparent. There is hardly one of the important French towns outside the capital that has not returned a Left Wing Council to power, either in its entirety or in a fair majority. Many of the small towns and villages, which have been governed by reactionary councils for many years, have also now returned Radicals or Socialists.

The significance of the results is plain. The healthy reaction from war nationalism which was manifested in the Parliamentary elections of last year is continuing and increasing. There is still a majority of the nation behind the democratic majority in the Chamber, and the election of Radical and Socialist majorities on the municipal councils will have a salutory effect on the Senate, which is a good deal less advanced than the Chamber.

A Vote For Painleve

One-third of the Senate, incidentally, is due to be elected by the municipal vote during this year.

The municipal elections, in effect, have yielded a handsome vote of confidence in the Painleve Ministry.

There is no doubt, of course, that part of the Left Wing gains is due to the fact that in all districts where there was a danger that reaction would be elected if the Left Wing vote were split, the Communist Party had decided to withdraw its own candidates in cases where they had not actually been leading on the first ballot.

It seems to me that revolution, however far it is pushed, whatever success it may achieve, will be perpetually necessary.

—Australian Worker.

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Corporation of South Vancouver Centre Sprinkling Tax

Please take notice that discount on Water Sprinkling Tax is not allowed after June 30th.

Any person or persons found using water on lawns or gardens without first taking out Sprinkling Permit, or found sprinkling outside hours specified in permits, will be prosecuted.

Tenants are warned that sprinkling rate is not paid by owners, and that if they wish to use same they must secure permits.

Wm. T. Riley, Comptroller.

NAUGHTY, NAKED KIDS!

September Morn's kid brother is worrying certain good folk on the north side. Indignant complaints have been phoned to the police about naughty little naked boys bathing in full view of ferryites. A lot of us grown-ups would be ticked to do the same thing ourselves these days.

"The Good Old Days"

—were not so good. If you doubt it, ask mother.

We hear folks deplore the fact that they are gone forever but mother should rejoice.

She worked like a slave but today there are electric and gas labor-saving devices to lighten her burdens and prolong her life.

Electricity and gas service is emancipating the women of today, changing life for them from an endless task to a time of pleasure.

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HEAD OFFICE VANCOUVER, B.C

BUDGET DEBATE

By J. S. WOODSWORTH, Labor M.P.

Mr. LADNER: May I ask how the goods in this country are to be protected, if cheap German or other goods are not wanted here?

Mr. WOODSWORTH: I was just coming to that point. The British Labour party has been facing that in the importation of large quantities of German goods in recent times. A good deal of pressure has been brought to bear from the Conservative section of the British parliament. On March 17, for example, in the British House a Conservative resolution was presented declaring that free import of goods produced under sweated conditions was inconsistent with the principles of British trade unionism. Now, that argument, presented by a Conservative, was answered from the Labour standstandpoint. I have not been able yet to read that copy of the Hansard, but a similar position was taken a little earlier. On February 16 a debate took place in the House on a motion submitted by Mr. Ramsay MacDonald declaring that the policy of the government with regard to the safeguarding of industries and the methods by which it was proposed to carry this policy into effect must lead to a system of general tariffs which would not enlarge the volume of trade and safeguard the interests of workers as regards employment, wages and conditions. In the course of that debate Mr. MacDonald asked:

"Would not the government instead of trying to put up a wall against 'sweated' goods that experience showed could never be fully effective, take steps to eliminate 'sweated' goods altogether, so that they would not be available either for home or for foreign consumption?

"In the International Labour Office—

Mr. MacDonald said:

"—they had an instrument for coordinating labour conditions in all industrial countries, but he would be very much surprised if the Conservative government and the Conservative party had recently 'lifted a little finger to increase the authority of the International Labour Office in order to raise the status of labour throughout Europe.'"

Undoubtedly we should extend and strengthen the conventions of the Washington conference following the principles laid down by the Versailles treaty, and should insist that we should not have dumped on us goods that came to us from countries which maintain a low standard of living, and refuse to ratify those conventions. I may say that the only practical objection to this policy lies in the fact that Canada herself has not ratified most of those Washington conventions.

Mr. LADNER: Does the hon. member think it possible to figure out what countries have the low standards of living to which he refers? Can you make a general rule applicable to any nation like France or Germany, or does not the cost of living enter into it as well?

Mr. WOODSWORTH: Of course, but if we had the eight-hour day, for example, as a world condition; if we had proper conditions of work applying the world over; if certain minimum requirements were insisted upon all along the line, I would say that if our boasted superiority means anything we should be able to compete with the people of other countries. If not, we shall go down and I am sure we shall deserve it.

Mr. LADNER: Is there any nation which has these conditions to which my hon. friend refers—the eight-hour day and so on:

Mr. WOODSWORTH: A number of nations have already ratified these conventions. If the hon. gentleman cares to read the document from which I am quoting—Industrial and Labour Information as published at Geneva by the International Labour Office, he will find a record of the ratifications made by the various nations. It is very gratifying to find how many of them have been ratified, but it is not very creditable to Canada that so few of them have been ratified by Canada. Our practical difficulty in urging this policy might very well be that other nations that have already ratified these conventions might boycott our goods because they are produced under sweated conditions.

Mr. SHAW: May I ask the hon. member a question? Talking about the subject of protection with relation to working conditions generally, is it not true that some years ago the low paid workmen of India, who had a very low standard of living, asked for protection in order to keep out English manufactured goods, made by workmen at higher wages and with a very much higher standard of living?

Mr. McMASTER: And working the eight-hour day.

Mr. SHAW: Yes.

Mr. WOODSWORTH: I believe that is so, and I have every confidence that if the conditions of labour are what they should be, this will prove to be of immense advantage to the industry. It has been clearly demonstrated, I think, that from the standpoint of output the eight-hour day is better than the ten or twelve-hour day; that reasonable standards of living and working conditions are at least as effective as the slave-driving that sometimes has been prevalent in our factories. Decent treatment of the workers is surely good business. I throw this out. I simply call attention to this constructive suggestion which has come to us from the British labour movement as it seems to me to be quite practicable. It may be necessary for us in this country to adopt some measure of protection for the workers—protection, I say, not of the industry in order that it may profit by special privileges, but protection against goods that may be manufactured under low grade conditions and by sweated labour.

Just in passing I would say that one of the worst features of the present Dawes plan is that it would seem definitely to lower the conditions of the German workers, reducing them to a position very little short of industrial serfdom. If that takes place we may rest assured that the condition will be reflected here in Canada, as we shall have to come into competition with goods manufactured under those conditions.

Mr. McMASTER: But in the long run, would the hon. member not think that goods produced under wholesome conditions would be produced cheaper than under unwholesome conditions?

Mr. WOODSWORTH: I think so, because in the long run the general intelligence of the people would more than counteract any supposed advantage conditions. It is just a question of time.

Mr. GOOD: Why, then, should we need to protect ourselves against these poorly paid workmen?

Mr. WOODSWORTH: Well, there is the immediate effect, and this might become a permanent condition if there is an almost unending supply of cheap labor. Men will become prematurely worn out between thirty and forty years of age and allow fresh workers to take their place. Thus an abundant supply of workers might carry on by mere brute force. I do not believe that ultimately people of lower standards are going to ride over us, but in the meantime I say it may be necessary to afford protection for our workers. As a matter of fact, nearly all our professions, as well as our labor unions, are built up on the principle of protection. My friend from Brome (Mr. McMaster) belongs to one of the most highly protected unions in Canada—the "Lawyers Union." I am quite confident that he and his fellow practioners would be well able to hold their place with the whole world in interpreting the law, certainly with those of us who are mere laymen and still the lawyers think it is necessary to maintain certain standards to protect their profession.

(To be continued.)

PUBLIC OWNERSHIP OF COAL PAYS IN NEW SOUTH WALES

The first coal-mine, owned and operated by the state government of New South Wales, situated at Lithgow, about 100 miles due west of the city of Sydney, is being developed rapidly, and will eventually become the largest coal mine in that state.

About 600 men are employed in and about the mine, and the daily output is now 1100 tons. This is being increased as the mine is being developed.

The coal is mined and delivered to the state-owned railways at the cost of production, which is $2.40 per ton. Private owners say they cannot produce coal at less than $5.35 per ton, which shows that they reckon on a clear profit of at least 100 per cent for themselves.

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The Steam and Operating Engineers need some assistance. The are many jobs in the district mann by what is known as the "Canad Certified Engineers Society," char ed by the Provincial Governmen dual organization that should re no recognition from the orga Labor Movement. Affiliated whose members come in to engineers should request th every endeavor to get these Locals No. 882 and 844.

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Trades Union Directory

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

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, J Mirtle, 2740 Pr. Edward St.; 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, 761, 13th Ave. E., Phone Fair. 107X.

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, 728 Hastings Street West; rec. sec., Bert Deprey.

Bookbinders Local No. 105, Int. Brotherhood—Meets second Tuesday in month 804 Holden Pldg. 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, 1919 54th Ave. E.; fin-sec., J. Griffiths, 3622 McGill St.

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, J. C. Thom; 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 445 Richards St. 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 445 Richards St., at 8 p.m. President, R. K. Brown, 2527 Charles St.; secretary-treasurer, George Harrison, 1182 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. Starrett; recording secretary, Herbert Cavaney.

Engineers, Steam and Operating, Int. Local 882—Meets first and third Wednesday at 8 p.m. in room 806 Holden Bldg. President, Charles Price; rec. secretary, J. T. Venn; financial secretary, Frank L. Hunt. Office, 806 Holden Bldg.

Fire Fighters, No. 18, International Association of—Meets every month at call of president. President, Neil Macdonald, No. 3 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, John Soderman; Fin. Sec. A. Reid; Rec. Sec. W. Johnston, 1666 16th Ave. W.

Hotel and Restaurant Employees Union, Local 28—441 Seymour Street. Meets first and third Wednesday at 2 p.m. Second and fourth Wednesdays at 9 p.m. President, G. Coleman; business agent, A. Graham. Phone Seymour 1681.

Iron Workers, Local 97, Int. Asso. of Bridge & Structural — Meets every Monday, Room 804 Holden Bldg., at 8 p.m. President, W. Finlay, 1655 22nd Ave. E.; Secretary, James Dunn, Box 1196 City; Phone High. 4334L.

Lathers, Wood, Wire and Metal, International Union, Local 207 — Meets 1st and 3rd Fridays in month, at room 299 Holden Bldg. President, V. R. Midgeley, 3751 Keefer St. E.; secretary, J. G. Finlayson, 2635 12th Ave. W., Phone Bay. 4242R.

Machinist Local 182—President, E. B. McLean, 453 6th Ave. W. Secretary, S. A. Boardman, 2385 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, 1252 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 and third Thursdays 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 281—International of North America—meets first and third Fridays in month in room 313 Holden Bldg., at 8 p.m. President, Sam Wilson, 1728 Yew St. 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, 1461 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, Robt. S. Stevenson. 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, W. Strickland, 289--46th Ave. E. Secretary, M. Galway, 1151-59th Ave. E. Phone Fras. 504-R2.

Plasterer's Laborers' No. 802 International. Meets third Friday in month at Holden Building. President, F. Phillips, 1574, 2nd Ave. W.; Rec. Sec., H. J. Oliver, 163, 23rd Ave. E.

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, 449, 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, F. A. Hoover, 2409 Clarke Drive; rec. secretary, F. E. Griffin, 447 6th Ave. East; 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, 4425 Inman Ave.; fin. sec., E. J. Wardrop, 425 15th Ave. E.; cor. sec., A. P. Ashton, 4503 Spruce Street, Burnaby.

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.

Typographical Union, No. 226—President, R. P. Pettipiece; vice president, C. S. Campbell; 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.

The Vancouver Theatrical Federation—Meets at 991 Nelson Street, at 11 a.m. on the Tuesday preceding the first Sunday of the month. President, Harry Pearson; secretary, Edward A. Jamieson; business agent, Fred Fletcher, 991 Nelson St.

That everything is not well in District 18 U.M.W.A. just now is pretty apparent. But surely it is but the inevitable outcome of a concentrated movement to discredit the organization by people who have been permitted to use their membership in the union to disrupt. And now the ultra-internationalists are trying to float a national union.

BRANDED

"The experience of all ages and nations, I believe, demonstrates that the work done by slaves, though it appears to cost only their maintenance, is in the end, the dearest of any."—Adam Smith: "The Wealth of Nations."

. . . . . .

One day recently I was musing on the passage of time and reflecting on the changes recorded by written history. In particular, I was thinking of the days of chattel slavery, when the slave had an iron collar fastened round his neck, and the name of his master clearly engraved upon it. These were galling and oppressive days, and in our school books we were tutored in the pathetic misery of "Uncle Tom's Cabin," and piously taught that "Br r r . . itons never, never, never shall be slaves."

It is true that slavery was officially abolished in Britain by Act of Parliament about the year 1826, but if we are no longer chattel slaves, we are, very much, wage slaves, and tied very definitely to a Class, even if we are free to move from one individual employer to another. Nor are we free from the galling and insolent branding of our masters, because only yesterday I met a handsome young member of the working class garbed in an attractive blue uniform, and on his collor, branded in plain letters so that all who run may read, was the name of his owner, "Thos. Cook and Sons."

Like a far-flung flame of flashing fire the searing thought of the slave's iron collar swept through my mind; the ages were spanned in an instant, and I realized that society still rested on an unfree class, fettered to the productive machinery of modern times and bearing the brand of the owner. It was a dreadful discovery, and I immediately looked around me to discover any fresh evidence of our slave condition.

I went into Lipton's, and there behind the counter were a dozen slaves all branded on their collars with the name of their exploiter.

From one place to another I went, seeking for freedom and individualism, and everywhere I went I encountered hordes and droves and crowds of slaves, many of them in the uniform of their lord and master, and most of them with the infamous badge of their servile state.

In the shipyard and factories I found a deadly uniformity, but no uniform, unless the dongaree be considered a uniform. On enquiry as to why they had no uniform supplied them I was sarcastically informed that the work was so dirty and severe on the clothing that the employer considered the expense of upkeep too great, and therefore imposed the burden on the wage slave. "But," said my informant, "we are branded all right," and producing a brass check from his pocket he showed me his number and told me that that was the brand of his master, and that he gave it to a timekeeper to hold for him while he produced wealth for his employer, and that if he tried to escape work without taking his badge of servitude with him, he would not receive any money and therefore no food, clothing, or shelter.

Later, as I wended my way among the crowds in the streets, I encountered numerous men in a blue uniform and on their collars a letter and and a string of numbers. These men were tall and strong looking, walking about leisurely and casting eagle glances at the people around. These, I was told, were favorite slaves, and were given special conditions and privileges to remain loyal to the employing class whenever they were threatened with danger by a revolt of the hordes of less favored slaves. Others, too, I encountered, dressed in uncouth garments of a dingy color, and these were men of swift movement, alert, verile, and purposeful. They were called soldiers, and were gathered together in a barracks and drilled and disciplined into an effective fighting machine, and armed with lethal weapons on which they affixed a bayonet, which could disembowel men. These soldiers, I was informed, were the real bodyguard of the Lords of Wealth Production, and often used their murderous weapons to shoot and maim the workers when they revolted against their servile state and attempted to gain some measure of Freedom. This was known as a strike, and the workers had preserved a long list of butcheries, from Peterloo to Belfast, when the employers had used their soldier slaves to shoot down their productive slaves.

These were terrible discoveries to make in the year of Christ, 1925. It seems that we have no real freedom at all today, despite the platitudes and assurances of the hirelings of King Capital. Yet freedom cannot be far distant, and once free the worker slaves of today cannot enslave another class, because there is no real social stratum beneath them, and when Democracy reaches out to grasp the prize of liberty, which all the ages have striven for in vain, their act of justice will disrobe them of their uniform of slavery and strike the hated collar of servitude from their necks.

As Robert Burns said:

"The solemn League and Covenant,
Whiles brings a sigh and whiles a tear;
But Sacred Freedom, too, was there,
If thou'rt a slave indulge thy sneer."

—"Irish Voice of Labor"

Farmers Discover A Trick and Strike

James D. Graham, writing in the New Leader (New York) tells a story of a strike a lot of us knew nothing about. The union in question wanted a closed shop, it fought strike-breakers, was itself enjoined by the courts and finally concluded a compromise agreement with the bosses which, however, included the check-off or deduction of union dues from pay checks.

A typical labor case, you'll say. Just so, but the interesting thing is that these workers are farmers, members of the Beet Growers' Marketing association and they were dealing with the Great Western Sugar Refining Company, to whose refineries they have to send their beets.

One feature of the settlement was the abolition of the fire and strike clause in the contract under which in case of fire or strike the company might refuse to buy the beets originally arranged for in the contract. It was alleged that when the company wanted to take fewer beets it would provoke a strike among the refinery employes by reducing wages or some other means and then blame the strikers for the loss to the farmers.

The farmers appear to have discovered the trick. It looks as if the worker on a farm wasn't necessarily so different from the worker in the factory that they have nothing in common. Anyhow, according to Mr. Graham, they strike pretty much alike.—Seattle Union Record.

However beneficient, legitimate, and natural may be the instinct which invites men to exchange wealth, the practice of it has been pushed into cruelties, subtleties, falsehoods, and idiocies which are defeating the very purposes of the tendency.—Henry Demarest Lloyd.

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Edmonton and Calgary Labor people are putting forth an effort on behalf of the miners of Nova Scotia and their families. In Edmonton the Trades and Labor Council is circulating a subscription list to augment the amounts that will be collected through the tag day and benefit concert of the Civic Relief Committee. In Calgary, Labor is putting on a tag day on Saturday the 30th of May and the organization to make it a success is proceeding.

The Labor Statesman

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Phone Seymour 1989.

Vancouver, B.C., May 29th, 1925

"SUPERMAN" GOVERNMENTS

The editor of a local paper has long ago exhausted himself on what is called the Russian situation, but he returns to it with the persistency that Solomon said a fool would return to his folly. The Russian situation is nothing more than an attempt by the working class to found and continue a scheme of government. An Irishman once drew a picture of the desperate position that the Irish peasant would be in if he had nobody to pay the rent to. In the Russian experiment, the first act was to remove the landlord, next the money lord was excused, then the gentlemen who grew fat by permitting the working class to use the machinery which they themselves had made, were given a vacation. With this trinity of plunderers removed there remained only the useful class to be provided for. The Russian experiment therefore is an attempt to maintain a human hive without feeding a swarm of drones, and this is the condition which Mr. Editor finds frequent illogical excuses to refer to as "the rule of the under man" and other still more insulting epithets. We do not know as much as we would like to of conditions in Russia. This arises from the fact that practically all the usual channels of information are clogged with gentlemen who, like Mr. Editor, will refuse to allow any facts to interfere with the theories which they are paid to teach. Hardships and difficulties of every description the Russian people have unquestionably had to meet. If Canada were a pastoral nation and exhausted by the war, followed by five years of international boycott, compelled to build from within itself, and keep one hand on a rifle while doing so, we also would have suffered hardships.

But regardless of the needless suffering that the capitalist nations have compelled the Russian people to bear, the evidence that they are successfully hewing their way through is becoming daily more convincing. If Mr. Editor could be persuaded to read the February issue of the "Journal of Industrial Hygiene" he would find detailed particulars of efforts to protect the health of the factory workers in Russia, that if adopted in Vancouver would often cheat the undertaker and the grave-yard. Reading the double-headed Russophobia articles of Mr. Editor, we would believe that that portion of the "intelligencia" that had not been driven out had been massacred, or at least dungeoned, for knowing more than the "average "under-man" and thereby destroying the alleged desired dead level of mediocrity. The article referred to will show that Russian scientists are still in Russia, but Russian efforts to conserve the health of the factory worker is not featured in capitalist countries. However, the point that we wish to have understood is that with the exception of Russia for the last seven years all civilized countries of the world are presumably governed by "superman". Under this type of government, we have a state of affairs arising as a conscious and logical consequence that defies us to claim sanity on behalf of our civilization. In the rudimentary requirements, such as food, clothes, and shelter, more can be produced than can be consumed, and the producer starves because he has produced too much. While production does not require and cannot employ everyone, our children are robbed of their childhood and their youth and denied an education because they must assist us to hurry along the next period of over-production. Every new machine that enables us to produce more of the thing which we require than we formerly could, drives us out of employment and into deeper misery, often with no release except through crime or suicide.

In a world suffering from over-production practically the whole working class looks to age with fear and the dread of want, and their last years are tithes of starvation. Then hell is let loose and the whole national productive force and ingenuity is set to destroying, killing, the citizens of other civilized (?) nations.

Wells, in his "Outline of History", writing of the ceremonial blood lust, suggests that judged by modern standards Central American prehistoric civilization was insane. What can be said for the civilization and scheme of government devised and continued by our "supermen" and justified and glorified by their editors and "yes men"? Judged by its own standard modern capitalist government is more than a failure, it is a crime. To say that it is insane is too kindly, for insanity suggests lack of responsibility. That plenty becomes mother of starvation is deliberate planned results of the scheme of "superman" government that dominates every so-called civilized land except Russia. The ghastly failure that the "superman" has made and is making of his attempt at government should forever still his tongue. And because a greater failure than our present scheme, is not within the range of possibility, any experiment is worthy of the support of the working class.—M.

PROPERTY AND WAGES

Pay the workers an adequate living wage and they will be able to buy back more of the things they have produced. This has been the slogan of economists and Labor men since the inception of the industrial era. With employment for all workers at an adequate living wage, industrial and commercial depression would disappear, and prosperity, which in Canada during the past four years has been like a will-o'-the-wisp, will have come to stay.

Once the workers have money enough to buy not only the bare necessities of life, but also the other essentials to complete living, there will then be no fear of a lack of market for the home products of the working class have no money to buy the things that they need, that field and factory. It is only when industrial and commercial stagnation results.

If high wages could be made to apply to all workers in general, stable and permanent prosperity would be an abiding result.

The wage of the American wage earner is said to average the highest rate ever given to any worker in the history of the world. The Department of Labor in that country has announced the results of studies in which is tabulated the wages paid to nearly 900,000 members of organized Labor in 66 cities. In all the trades taken collectively the hourly union wage rate for 1924 was the highest on record. It was 128 per cent higher than in 1923, and 47 per cent higher than in 1919.

In 1920 the union rate per hour was 27 per cent above that of 1919; in 1921 it was 32 per cent higher; 1922, 25 per cent; 1923, 36 per cent.

Statistics show that with a short interruption in 1922 wages have been climbing, and in 1924 the rate per hour was 47 per cent higher than in 1919. The workers are the spenders, and the higher the wages the more money is put in circulation, and the better it is for not only the workers and their families, but for the whole community. The workers and employers in Canada can learn a valuable lesson from this, and should see that all workers in industry are paid an adequate living wage so that they will be able to buy back the things that they have helped to produce.

C. P. R. Thrives On Former Land Grants

The Canadian Pacific Railroad shows how public land grants swell the returns of private investors. Canadian Pacific got over 31,000,000 of Canada. It sold about 25,000,000 acres for $190,000,000 and has acres in land grants from the people put $108,000,000 of this into building up the road, thus avoiding borrowing a like amount. This saving in interest is estimated by The Wall Street Journal at $2,000,000 a year. Will this make possible lower transportation rates? No, indeed. The Wall Street Journal says: "The dividend rate of 10% which has been maintained since 1911 could hardly have been paid continuously without the lower fixed charges made possible by financing capital expenditures from the sale of lands which were a gift to the company," Stockholders have also received $7,308,600 in cash from the sale of these lands. The company still holds land valued at $97,684,203 exclusive of the value placed on its rights and holdings in mineral, natural gas and petroleum lands. Common stockholders to date have received 260% on their original investment.

French Miners Win In Wages Struggle

Paris, France.—French coal miners are winning their struggle to compel mine owners to resort to other methods than wage reductions to reduce production costs.

The mine workers are also determined that they will compel the mine owners to raise wages as often and as much as the profiteers boost the cost of living.

Some time ago the mine owners expressed a determination to reduce production costs during 1925. But the cost of living went up, and because of the thorough organization of the mine workers wage increases have been granted instead of wage reductions being imposed.

Coal mine owners now realize their inability to force down wages to reduce production costs or to prevent wage increases when living costs rise. They are therefor resorting to other methods to meet the emergency. For this purpose there is a tendency to construct more coke ovens at the mines. Several large companies have also installed equipment for the manufacture of synthetic ammonia by utilizing the gas from the coke ovens. It is thought that the better utilization of the coal will bring about economies to offset rising labor costs.

If there is anything that it is the duty of the whole people never to entrust to any hands but their own, that thing is the preservation and perpetuity of their own liberties.—Abraham Lincoln.

Ask for the Union Label goods when spending your wages. It will help keep your wages up.

EFFICACY

(to Sam Hill)
by
W. W. Lefeaux

Whoever the Sam Hill you, Sam Hill, may be, your recent "How About It" smacks strongly of a one-time member of the Socialist Party of Canada and, even so, would not appear to be very far wrong in setting out the situation of our local political movement. The workers like a stream changing course have left the chairs of philosophy in dignified and conspicuous solitude to argue among themselves as to the cause of the workers shrugged shoulders and to resolute that although they die surely they die right with no tarnish on their escutcheon and their motto of "No compromise!" No political trading! outstanding to bear mute testimony to the purity of their political propaganda.

But should the Socialist Party of Canada die it will be a loss to us for it has valuable material that would not fit in elsewhere and that would most probably join the has-beens should the party break up. Surely the party has still enough vitality to amend its constitution, affiliate with the Canadian Labor Party and take charge of the educational work of the latter? Even now there is a spontaneous demand before the Greater Vancouver Central Council of the Canadian Labor Party to start some educational work. What a chance for the Socialist Party of Canada if it can show itself capable of adaptation to its environment!

Anyhow Sam Hill, you and I appear to have come through much the same mill of thought on this subject which reminds me. A few years ago having occasion to spend several months in New York I came across a group of civil engineers who had formed themselves into a sort of efficiency committee and were busy in their spare time figuring out the ways and means and necessities of New York and the most efficacious ways of supplying them in the event of any unusual disruption of the body politic. Often I think that we badly require the services of an efficiency expert in our endeavours to educate the masses into giving the structure of Society a little attention and study. Socialist Parties, Workers Parties, Labor Parties and subparties not unlike the warring religious groups each with its own sure road to Heaven and each giving due credit for keeping the sheep from the right path, set up their several soap-boxes and glibly discourse each other's lack of merit.

And we are with our quarrels given the same attention by the mass of the people that they give the religionists, not even omitting their pity as they occasionally catch sight of ones and twos crying in the wilderness with weird and to them incomprehensible cries.

The Canadian Labor Party as a delegate body appears to me to be a step in the right direction. Here we can surely find a halting step or two that we all consider desirable, and, should we do so, might not the unusual experience teach us all something and might not the unusual sight cause the mass to at least cease its pity and maybe take a little notice? Who knows but that having gotten up that step together we might find the other fellow not quite such a rotter as we thought he was, he might actually know something and who knows but that he might after all have the same hill to climb that we have. We might be able to persuade him to follow the trail until his aeroplane was available, or perhaps his machine being ready he would invite us to fly or show us how to construct another. Anyhow in an envirgnment where socialised effort is necessary to keep on the road at all we must surely benefit mutually by forming a caravan and specialising duties until we reach the point where our objects mean a parting of the ways. That point may be a long way off and the other fellow may prove a real acquisition. And it would be such sport too. Just imagine the expression on the face of the hard shelled conservative should he read in his evening paper that the workers of Canada or of British Columbia or even of Vancouver were saying with one voice that they wanted some rotten injustice cleaned up or they would right verily forthwith clean it up themseves!

Yes. Sam Hill, I think I agree with you. Let's get the ranks closed on any old point; even the question of the size of the hole in the doughnut and let's find out what it feels like. Perhaps after all the question of the size of the hole being determined it may not appear the summum bonum to the workers that we in our philosophy once thought it would, and, having had something to say about that hole, the noise may sound good to them and other things may get spoken about.

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Joe Martin Estate on Hastings Townsite to be Sold on Easy Terms

Small Sum Down and Installments Will Buy Valuable Lot Suitable for Home or Factory Site.

The Joseph Martin Estate, in Hastings Townsite, is about to be thrown on the market with a particularly attractive appeal to working men. This is the land acquired years ago by the late Joseph Martin, K.C. Mr. Martin, a man of far-seeing and shrewd vision, had an ambition to see his east side property blossom into a forest of homes and the scene of brisk industrial activities. But death cut his plans short, and delays incidental to war have halted the sale of this property. Now the new owners, two gentlemen of high character and probity, have taken over the work and will place the property on the market at once.

The estate comprises something like 300 lots. These are cleared, have water on hand, are near school and near street car line, and are ideally adapted to residential purposes. They are bound to increase, vastly, in values. The lots will be sold on very easy terms, and any wage-earner will be enabled to acquire one or more of these lots, at but little more than it cost to clear them.

There is hardly a better location in all Vancouver for the building of modest homes, nor is there any more advantageous district for Vancouver's future of new industries. The region east of this property combines actual sites for new plants and factories, with comfortable homes in the vicinity. The advantages are clear, and it is anticipated that workers will seize the chance while it lasts.

Carries Free Insurance, Too

In this project a unique idea is being introduced. This is a plan by which the buyer of a lot on the installment system will carry insurance without extra cost. In other words, if a man dies while he is paying the installments, an insurance policy will provide for a free gift of the deed, and all principal payments made returned in cash to the widow or other dependants.

Further details of this project will be announced in The Labor Statesman next week.

Pirates of Penzance at Orpheum Theatre

The Brandon Opera Company is filling the long felt want in Vancouver's amusements. The old favorites that were so long crowded from the boards by the nonsensical "jazz" is being brought to life and by a company that is composed of artistry to a maximum degree. With fifty fresh, young singing voices and beautiful productions the company is offering the Vancouver music lovers and theatregoers an attraction that is really worth while.

Following "The Bohemian Girl," starting on Monday, June 1st, the offering will be a week of Gilbert and Sullivan's "The Pirates of Penzance." There is no need to tell a Canadian public anything about the beauties of Gilbert and Sullivan. The wonderful combination of Sir Arthur Sullivan's music and W. S. Gilbert's lyrics never have been and probably never will be surpassed. In their own genre they are masterpieces. "The Pirates of Penzance" is one of their most successful and most popular operas, it is a satire on British respectability and the exaggerated moral sense of the Victorian era.

The Brandon Brothers have given to the opera a most beautiful production and at the extremely modest prices it should be one of the most popular attractions of the summer season.

Scotch people have an invigorating singleheartedness in their application to the job in hand that is to be found also in the American youth, but with this difference: that while the Scotsman wants to get on with it to release his energy, the American is only anxious to "get away with it" to make a success.—Gertrude Kingston, in the "Spectator."

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An Open Letter to City Engineer Brackenridge

I may state at the outset that I have been a ratepayer in this city for the past sixteen years, and worked for the Waterworks in 1907 on the construction of the Seymour Creek Intake, being engaged by Mr. Paul, working under Mr. Steve Maddison and Engineer Burwell to the completion of the Intake. At that time efficiency was required and I believe either of the gentlemen named would be willing to state that it was given so far as I was concerned. Upon the completion of that job I was transferred to the City, working for Mr. H. Lewis on mains and services, etc., until 1917, when things became so dead that I, along with others, was let out. I followed other occupations until last May, when Mr. Lewis sent me up to Seymour Creek to work in the bush, on the dam, in the cook-house, or wherever my services might be required, giving every satisfaction to my knowledge until the camp closed down about March of this year.

About a month later work was resumed and I was again sent back. In about three weeks time you suddenly discovered that I was inefficient (sic) telling the foreman to send me down the road, which, although against his will, he had to do. Being a member of the Civic Employees Union, I stated my case to our Business Agent. This started the fireworks. After being around the City Hall for some time, he (our B. A.) told me he had not made much headway and that I had better see you about the matter, which I did right away. But you were apparently not interested and said that it looked to you as though a cushy job had been provided for me, remarking that I was the bull-cook. Now, there had always been a bull-cook at that camp, and there is one now at the time of writing, but it evidently was not cushy for anyone but me. I did not ask for the job, being told to take it. As you remember, worthy sir, I certainly did not mince matters then, as you had not, in fact you were particularly bombastic, telling me the precise location of the door and requesting me to get out, jumping from your seat in a most threatening manner. This, of course, happened after I had asked you if you had not just received a $1,000.00 increase in your salary, and if it did not appear that you were taking it off the working-man's table in order to put it on your own.

The truth hurts; older men than myself were sent up to Seymour Creek three weeks before this happened who had never worked for the City before, and were retained. There is an ex-alderman who had been handed from foreman to foreman, none of whom wanted him. I have worked with the man; everyone knows he is a joke. He was fired at the end of last December by Foreman Harrison, but was sent back to the same foreman in less than two weeks, this foreman having no power to send him back on account of the backing he has from a certain alderman who has been a kind of employment agent for the city for from 12 to 14 years. This man would quit his work at 3 or 4 p.m., and arrive next day at 9 a.m., he not staying in the camp. Probably you do not notice this.

Now as to the efficiency you contend is so necessary, let me enlighten the public if I cannot you, as to how it is handed out. At Seymour Creek there is a bunk-house with double-decked bunks, which is contrary to law; the bunk-house is built up to a steep bank, and the water running from this goes under the bunk-house and in the rainy season come through the floor. This could be remedied by means of a ditch or a drain. There is a shower-bath for the use of the men which has been out of commission, to my knowledge, for 12 months, through the pipes being disconnected in the drying room, having burst through water being left in them during the frosty weather, the bath room is packed with sacks, tools, etc.; dynamite was also kept there although there was a fire burning in the drying room adjoining all night long in wet weather, less than five yards away from the bunkhouse. Naturally the boys were dissatisfied but were afraid to make a kick. I put it up to the foreman and it was moved, but the bunkhouse is about fifty yards from the drying room, between which is an open dug-out toilet filled to overflowing, the roof of the dining-room leaks over the tables; enamelware is used for all and sundry both in the dining room and kitchen. You, efficient sir, have used this at all times on your visits to the Intake but have apparently not noticed it, although the use of such is against the law in any camp. The boys at Capilano were dissatisfied at the price of meals (40 cents per meal—$1.20 per diem) and asked us to head a petition to the City Hall for a reduction (ours being the larger camp last July). The petition was duly sent, being signed by all men in both Creeks. In course of time we got a reply stating that there would be no reduction as there was no profit on the Boarding Houses. How could there be when engineers, aldermen and others, including women and children, were eating the best at our expense. This is not all: meats, bread, cakes, pies, etc., were sent up to Burwell Lake all through the summer. This lake is apparently a summer resort known only to a select few, engineers and their friends.

It would be interesting to know whether the children at these picnics were bathing in the lake, the waters of which are used for City consumption. These picnics have been annual affairs. The stove wood in that region is costing the city (i.e. the ratepayers) from $20 to $40 per cord. I got an order last fall from Foreman Harrison to locate a dry tree from which it would be possible to cut a block absolutely sound, forty inches through, clear of sap and bark, four feet long. Several trees were cut, which means two cuts to a block; a road to get in, a team to pull them out, only to find that they were not sound, either split or hollow (slightly). Eventually one was cut that filled the bill, it being hauled to the city shops, the intention being to turn it into a pulley for the hydraulic at Capilano. It was then found to be absolutely useless for the purpose intended; someone got it for firewood, which cost the ratepayers over $60. This is merely one instance of what is occurring all over your system, under your over-paid, over-estimated, superefficient self.

Any interested ratepayers can convince themselves as to the truth of these statements by going to the Intake, providing they go quickly, for I imagine the phone will be hot with instructions to alter the map. They might also see some of the official cars up there which will be charged to them.

If you opine that you are unaware of these conditions then you are not worth retaining, as that is what you are being over-paid for. If you are of the opinion that you are aware of them, that makes it worse. We are the ones who are footing the bill.

In conclusion I might say that I never used aldermanic influence to obtain work, for I do not know any of them, nor am I desirous of getting the job back. This is merely for the benefit of my fellow ratepayers.

Yours truly,
BERT SMITH.

2031 Fir St., Vancouver.

WILD CATS
By Wm Law

During the past few years the city has been overrun with bootleggers, high-jackers, dope-peddlars, and murderers. But now it seems this galaxy of pests has been superseded by what may be termed a plague of cats. Throughout the business section of the city, from almost every nook and corner one may hear their meowing. These creatures are not homogeneous with felis domestica but are of a different species. The unwary citizen is attracted by its soft and solicitous purring. He investigates. He pats the animal, and is immediately engulfed in a cloud of soporific fog. The effect is marvelous. He feels that some phenomenal change is taking place in his life. He comes out of the anesthetic craving for more. The second dose has extraordinary results; it makes him feel that he should do something for this particular cat. He hastens to the bank, withdraws his life-savings and presents them to pussy; pussy looks pleased and in return gives the man a beautiful picture paper with something like this printed across it in golden letters:

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.50	Tincture of Iodine, 4 oz.	.28	
.30	Waterglass	.16	
.75	Reid's Cold Cream	.39	
1.00	Krysol (antiseptic) 16 oz.	.51	
1.25	Eno's Fruit Salts	.98	
2.00	Hot Water Bottle	1.27	
$2.50	Revolving Spray Syringe	$1.39	
.35	A. B. S. & C. Tablets, Frost's 100s	.17	
.25	Benzo Almond Cream	.17	
.25	Castile Soap, per bar	.16	
.40	Pure Boracic Acid, per lb.	.19	
.20	Moth Balls, per lb.	.11	
.25	Seidlitz Powders, 8 in box	.15	
.50	Glycerin & Rose Water, 8 oz.	.26	
.15	Hansen's Junket Powder, 2 for	.22	
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A Lesson from India

People will get indignant about the evils of a hut tax in Africa; it stops the building of new huts, and results in the natives crowding together. In exactly the same way, putting rates on cottages is one of the things that stops building in England and causes the crowding together of the people. Collect your rates in another way, not from the home, a necessity of life, but on surplus wealth, through a progressive income-tax or a capital tax, and one difficulty of building cottages disappears. This is not a new idea. It is done, for example, in India.—Montague Fordham, in "Lansbury's Labour Weekly."

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Corporation of the District of South Vancouver

PUBLIC NOTICE

THE Council of the Corporation of the District of South Vancouver are calling meetings at the following times and places, to explain and discuss the agreement re annexation which you will be called to vote upon on the 20th day of June next. Free expression of opinion is invited.

FRIDAY, MAY 29th—Norquay School, Euclid Avenue and Slocan Street. 8 p.m.

TUESDAY, JUNE 2nd—McBride School, Twenty-ninth Avenue and Culloden Street. 8 p.m.

FRIDAY, JUNE 5th—Sexsmith School, Sixty-first Avenue and Ontario Street. 8 p.m.

MONDAY, JUNE 8th—Secord School, Sixty-first Avenue and Victoria Street. 8 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10th—G. W. V. A. Hall, Kingsway and Joyce Road. 8 p.m.

FRIDAY, JUNE 12th—Odd Fellows Hall, Thirtieth Avenue and Main Street. 8 p.m.

MONDAY, JUNE 15th—Selkirk School, Twenty-second Avenue and Commercial Street. 8 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17th—Victoria Road Community Hall, Forty-fourth Avenue and Victoria Street. 8 p.m.

FRIDAY, JUNE 19th—Municipal Hall, Forty-third Avenue and Fraser Street. 8 p.m.

WM. T. RILEY, Comptroller.

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TRYING TELEPHONE GRAFT

We notice that one or two of the local hotels are trying to work in a little cheap telephone graft by charging 10 cents for calls. If this thing gets a fair start, it is likely to spread, and like other weeds, it needs killing before it grows. Possibly the telephone company can do something. We cannot see how the dime rate is helping anyone except the hotel or other business place that seeks to innovate this graft. It certainly is not going to help the working man by raising his wages, nor is it going to prove any kind of public utility.

A nickel is enough for 'phone service.

It is not the industrious and thrifty who grow rich under Capitalism, but those who exploited the labor of others.—J. R. Clynes, British Labor M.P.

QUOTED FROM HANSARD

The following remarks were made in the House of Commons by J. S. Woodsworth in reply to the supply estimates for Canadian National Defense:

MR. WOODSWORTH: I do not intend to discuss this or that particular item of expenditure but rather to consider the general principles underlying the policy of preparedness. I want to challenge the theory which underies the whole of armaments, whether military, naval or air; that is, that armaments are in any sense a guarantee of safety. That is the underlying postulate of this theory. Now, some of us are interested in preserving the country but we cannot see that armaments are the means by which this can be done. As a matter of fact it would seem as if the last war had demonstrated to the whole world the futility of preparedness as a means of safety. Yet, even within this short time after the close of the last war the world seems to be threatened with a recrudescence of militarism. In the British Empire itself we find a changed policy with regard to Singapore which may bring on strained relations with the oriental nations. The minister himself has this afternoon suggested that he has information that would show that war in Europe is by no means improbable.

Mr. MACDONALD (Pictou): I did not indicate that I had information to that effect at all. What I did say was that having visited Europe last year and having had an opportunity of attending the League of Nations and judging the mentality of Europe I was not by any means satisfied that the danger of war was over but that on the contrary war might take place.

Mr. WOODSWORTH: I am glad to have the minister's statement in that regard. I think that, as undoubtedly anyone who has followed recent movements in Europe will admit, war in the near future is by no means improbable. We have Britain's own attitude towards Egypt and India, which is not at all reassuring to anyone who is outside the official circles. And we have recently had the Dawes plan adopted. I am quite well aware that it was a Labour government that suggested the carrying out of a plan along this ine. Nevertheless I believe that there is very real danger that the central part of Europe will be reduced to something resembling industrial serfdom. Undoubtedly the present political developments in both France and Germany would suggest that there is anything but the prospect of peace and security in Central Europe today. Further than that, we have the anti-Japanese propaganda which is being carried forward in the United States and is being echoed in Canada.

Now, some non. members may ask, what have we to do with Europe or Asia? Well, I venture to point out that we had a great deal to do with Europe when the last war came on, and there is no reason why we shall not have something to do with Europe again if other troubles arise.

Mr. BROWN: The hon. member referred to Britain's attitude in Egypt and India. In order to get his point of view, he might tell us whether he would advocate the withdrawal of Great Britain from Egypt and India.

Mr. WOODSWORTH: I do not know that I am called upon to answer that question; I made a general reference to Egypt and India, and I think that anyone who has followed to any extent the British policy in India during the past few years, with some of the types of repression which we have witnessed there, and with the refusal to give any large measure of self government to India, must view the situation with anything but equanimity. And as we all know, Egypt has been a sore place for many years. We Britishers told the world that we were going there for temporary occupation, and so far we have neither withdrawn nor shown any signs that we are about to withdraw. However, I do not intend to discuss the policy of Great Britain in either Egypt or India; I merely referred to the matter in passing. It might very well however be the subject of discussion in this parliament. Indeed I had rather hoped that after appointing a committee on international relations, we might discuss some of these questions in this House; because if the League of Nations is to mean anything to us—and through the League of Nations we are committed to certain definite responsibilities—and if the British Empire is to mean anything to us, especially in view of the fact that we are involved in war when the empire is involved in war, then we should have a little more discussion than we have had in past years of the policies that are carried on by the British Empire as well as by other members of the League of Nations.

There are those who are perhaps inclined to deny any of us the right to question the maintenance of armaments. For a good many years in Canada those who believe in military preparation have had their innings, and they have almost come to take it for granted that their policy is the correct policy and the one that must be maintained indefinitely in this country. In fact, during the war it became a crime for anybody to question the causes that led to hostilities; and the press and other agencies effectually silenced anyone who was opposed to that policy. It seems to me that now that we have had this great war, which has practically led to the bankruptcy of the world; and when we are faced with the possibility of another war, which as Winston Churchill has said will be the potential destroyer of the human race, it is well that we should take time to consider the claims of the militarists before passing as a matter of form from year to year these military estimates.

Some hon. gentlemen may say that this is merely a personal matter with me. I have no hesitation in saying that I was opposed to the last war, and I hope I shall be opposed to the next one. But it is not merely a personal matter. I was elected on a platform one plank of which advocated national disarmament, and I should not be true to the people who sent me here unless I took this opportunity to advocate that policy. Some hon. gentlemen here may poohpooh the idea; but the fact is that a sufficient number of electors were found in the fairly respectable city of Winnipeg to endorse a policy of this kind. I have the right to stand here and voice the viewpoint of my electors. It is a viewpoint that is growing very rapidly across the country. I have in my hand a pamphlet which was issued just recently by a committee of the Protestant Ministerial Association of Montreal, in which strong ground is taken with regard to war and in which it is suggested, for example, that the Christian churches and Christian individuals ought in the presence of war to set God above Caesar, conscience above the authority of the state. This, it seems to me, gives the state fair warning that if another war is precipitated, at least a section of the churches will refuse absolutely to participate in that war. Further than that, we have resolutions from farmers' organizations throughout the entire west protesting against the continued war expenditure.

(To be continued)

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Talk about "Frenzied Finance"! The late "Tom" Lawson never conceived anything to equal the purchase and reorganization of Dodge Bros. automobile business by Dillon, Reid & Co., Wall street bankers, and their associates.

The bankers agreed to pay the Dodges $146,000,000. They raised the money by selling the public $75,000,000 of bonds and $85,000,000 of preferred stock, a total of $160,000,000.

That gave the fortunate promoters a net profit of at least $10,000,000, after allowing generous fees to the lawyers and other agents who assisted in putting the thing across.

But the promoters were not satisfied. They divided among themselves 500,000 shares of Class B common stock—the stock which has exclusive voting power.

Which means: The investors who put up $16,000,000 will have nothing to say about the management of the property. The bankers, who contributed their "prestige" and "selling organization" will control the business—including its tremendous cash reserves—and, incidentally, will add $10,000,000 to their checking accounts.

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"I think cigar smoking is an excellent antidote to revolution and Bolshevism in this country."

This was the principal jest made by the principal guest—the Earl of Birkenhead—at a luncheon recently in connection with the Tobacco Trades' Exhibition at Olympia.

But the judicial bon mot seems to have missed fire. It did not evoke the loud laughter which was its due, though the idea of keeping Bolshevism at bay at the end of a cigar is enough to make the least susceptible go Red—with mirth.

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Ah, I see it clearly before my eyes, the city of justice and happiness. . . . No more idlers of any kind, and hence no more landlords supported by rent, no more men of fortune kept like mistresses by fortune—in short, no more lunacy and no more misery.—Zola.

The Bulgarian Outrages

By William Mackinder, M.P., (Shipley), England.

I have just returned from Bulgaria with Colonel Malone, and when we got outside that Bulgarian frontier I assure you we shook hands and congratulated each other on our escape.

Not for a million pounds would I go back to that hell-broth or risk myself in any territory controlled by a White Terror, a Mediaeval Inquisition, and a Gang of Officer Thugs.

Some kind of Bulgarian official has suggested that Col. Wedgewood, Colonel Malone and I had got an advance tip from M. Rakovsky, the Soviet representative in London, that there was to be a bloody revolution in Soffia, and that we were out to see the fun!

The Editor of the Forward knows that is a lie, for he was present at a meeting in the House of Commons—no Communist present—when it was decided to send out a delegation to Bulgaria to get the truth about the White Terror that has been going on since June, 1923, when the Peasant Premier Stamboulisky was hunted down by ex-officers like a dog and murdered.

We arrived two days after the Sofia Cathedral outrage, surely proof in itself that we were not in receipt of any advance tip!

But that story about the advance tip is just typical of the Bulgarian Government's propaganda. Everything said or done by an opponent is promptly attributed to the Devil in Moscow!

The Cathedral Outrage—The Serbs?

There are all sorts of yarns in the British press about the Communists blowing up the Cathedral. But—

M. Kalfoff, the Secretary for Foreign Affairs, had no doubt whatever that the Serbians were responsible for it. M. Minkoff, the first permanent Secretary for Foreign Affairs, also made the same statement. It was the common opinion of the official element whom we met that the outrage was engineered in Serbia, and if not by Serbians, at least with their knowledge and consent. Officials also stated that they had knowledge that the Serbians were massing on the frontier.

But, you may ask, why on earth then should all people suspected of harboring Comumnist opinions be assassinated or tortured if it was really the Serbians who blew in the Cathedral at Soffia? The answer, I think, is this, that while the Government officials believe the outrage to be the work of the Serbians, and indeed do not hide their belief when you ask them, the occasion of the outrage has been a splendid excuse for the ruffian aristocrat officer caste to wreak its vengeance upon all who are believed to have supported the peasant Stamboulisky in his "Land for the Peasants" ideas. The dispossessed feudal officer caste is getting its own back. Of course Stamboulisky really angered them. The law he got passed where every able bodied man had to give 10 days Free Labour to the State cut these fellows to the quick. So they murdered him.

The Forgeries

Again you may ask what about the documentary proof that the Cathedral outrage was the work of Communists. We were told by a responsible journalist in Vienna:

"That forgeries were common in that city, and he said, **'All the embassies are buying them and we are certain that 19 out of every 20 of them are forgeries, this man stigmatized the secret document published in the Times on April 21, as a deliberate forgery."**

We are quite certain that the Bulgarian Government has a very capable press agent in Sofia who is disseminating for consumption by other European nations just the point of view the Government thought it desirable other nations should take of what was happening in Bulgaria."

This press agency apparently has spread the tale that the outrage was the work of an ex-officer called Yankov. But I am informed that as far back as March 30, the official government organ described Yankov as a "wanted" man — WANTED DEAD OR ALIVE. Is it likely that this man, well known in Sofia, was able to go about the Cathedral placing bombs?

Fiendish Brutalities

The late M. Stamboulisky was elected Premier in 1919, and continued in office until he was assassinated in June, 1923. Immediately his followers were arrested and killed in thousands. At Lom, situated to the north of Sofia on the Danube, 2,000 people were taken on barges, beaten to death or shot, and their bodies were thrown into the river. That method of terrorism had continued up to the bomb outrage, and had been applied since in more drastic form. The press was suppressed.

In January of this year there were 150 political murders.

The government — it was quite common talk—had a method whereby opponents were murdered in some unknown place, and their bodies were dumped in the streets, very often bearing a notice pinned to their clothing conveying a warning to others. As a definite instance, one of our informants stated that a man was missing from his home at the beginning of this month. His wife visited the police headquarters every day inquiring about him, and was told that the authorities knew where he was and that he was quite safe. A week after his arrest his body was found in the streets of Sofia with the finger nails torn off and his ears and nose cut off. He had been strangled with wire. Another case was that of a woman who was taken to the Bureau of Public Safety, outraged, killed, her breasts cut off, and her body thrown into a field.

We also received reliable information that two Communist deputies—one of whom was named Valcho Ivanoff — were strangled with wire, and their bodies found on February 11th.

We were told that Pditkin, who was Chief of Police in the Stamboulisky Government, had been in prison for two years without trial. When we reached Vienna we were told he was executed the day previously.

Anyone taken to the Bureau of Public Safety is liable to be unmercifully beaten or shot. These are not the statements of Revolutionaries, for they are either in gaol, in hiding, or underground, but the statements to us of independent and unbiased people, both foreigner and Bulgarian. Indeed were we at liberty to disclose their names the British public would be astonished. We cannot do so, for there is no doubt in my mind that they would be assassinated, whatever their nationality.

Indeed, we were told on the Monday previous to our departure, by an English speaking journalist of standing, that if we valued our lives, we ought to get over the frontier.

A Grim Experience

On the night of our arrival, we had the opportunity of looking down the barrel of the rifles held by two Macedonian guards, a number of whom are government mercenaries. There we were, after the prohibited hour, in a dark street, held up by armed men. They could not speak English, we could not speak their tongue. Our passes to be out after dark were in our pockets. If we

(Continued on Page 8)

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Third of Union Men Own Their Own Homes

It is a tribute to decent wages and the worth of the Vancouver Union man, to learn, from recent reports, that more than 33 per cent of Vancouver's Union men own their homes, many of them being comfortable and spacious houses. This fact has been brought out by the Paint Club which is now engaged upon a plan for painting homes on easy terms. It is also learned that Union men are regarded as "good pay," by reports compiled by the Credit Association, being "in many instances more reliable and prompt than people in presumably better circumstances." From another source it is found that many union workers' home have their own pianos and other musical instruments. Messrs. Switzer Brothers say: "It is surprising to see how many skilled workers have fine musical instruments installed in their cosy homes. We count them among our valued customers for pianos, other musical instruments and radios. Many young people of these union homes are taking lessons and receiving musical education."

THE BULGARIAN OUTRAGES

(Continued from Page 7)

tried to get them they might have thought we were getting a revolver or bomb, and by the look on their faces they meant business; if we attempted to go forward or backward we would certainly have been shot, so there we stood for five minutes until an officer came along who could speak French.

Just imagine what it must be for Bulgarians who have been active in the Socialist movement, conscious men and women who hate murder and assassination, and desire to clean and sweeten their country.

We saw men taken through the streets by Facisti being kicked and brutally handled. Ex.-Wrangel officers strutting through the streets in gorgeous uniforms, and the peasant and worker humbly asking himself what it is all about.

In all the interviews we have given, we have urged, we have begged, that the thousands of prisoners should have a fair trial: that the might of the British Foreign Office should be directed to securing justice for these people. Just imagine two days after the Cathedral outrage —150 shot or strangled without a trial!

Everybody can help by voicing their protests against this White Terror.—Forward.

Why Children's Aid Society Needs Governmental Control

Written for The Labor Statesman
By E. C. Appleby.

The following analytical review of conditions existing at the Children's Home explains much of the causes underlying criticism centering around the Children's Aid Society, but does not enter into other reasons that have animated the outcry for a change. Mr. Appleby, a well known Vancouver business man of 438 Richards Street, recently resigned from the directorate of the Society as an indignant protest against the moral wrong perpetrated upon employees who were summarily discharged without proper payment, during some sort of inexplicable policy of "administration changes". Mr. Appleby asks: "What shall we do with the Children's Home?" and proceeds to answer his own question as follows:

The following are extracts from the recent report of the Grand Jury:

1. The building is sadly out of repair.
2. We consider these children a public charge.
3. Greater efficiency could be obtained under government control.

At present, 36 directors control the home.

* * *

After about eighteen months' experience as a director of the Children's Aid Society, I am forced to this opinion, that one head instead of 36 is infinitely to be preferred. Take the first item—the building is a disgrace. I recommend the public to go and inspect it for themselves. We have a strong framework building, just needing the ordinary building repairs and paint and you will have a building that will last for years. About $2000 will put the home into a thorough sound condition. Let it rot is the policy of the present Board. We can then say to the pubic—put up your money, yes, we are getting ready for a drive."

Scaring the Public

"The home is a fire trap." This is another wheeze to try to affright the public. Just as big a fire trap as your own house is. The house has been inspected by the fire department. Their fire hall is 500 yards away and their advice is to phone them and they would be on the job before they could get their own hose into action. Some members of the board have a glorious dream of cottage homes. What they mean by that is you have a sample in the McGee cottage. This cottage covers the heads of about 30 infants under six years of age. This was built from money gifts, and has cost, to cover their heads, $1,200.00 each.

Poor Building Conditions

This building I also recommend the public to inspect. There are windows that cannot have screens in the summer time, when it is necessary to get all the fresh air possible, so the house is full of flies. Sewers are blocked up, doors and windows that do not fit, and basement continually flooded by surface water. The windows are built so low that the moment the children were turned loose, they send their toys through the windows smashing all in reach. We have seven acres of land, yet we are going to fence in a few yards to confine the little ones, instead of putting an acre down in grass for the little ones to romp in.

Impracticable Demands

It is a splendid idea for a picture with its corners and crevices, is this cottage home which is only an institutional home on a small scale, and a minimum of efficiency. This is the Board that is asking the government for a $50,000 contribution toward a proposed drive of $150,000 to put up two or three similar buildings to the McGee cottage. If this board had exhibited any capability in this one home we have, perhaps they might have been trusted with the greater thing. No wonder the government has not come through and they are right.

Opposes Any More Building

The grounds are situated in a business centre and is rapidly being built around with factories and elevators, and one railway company already has an eye on it for a terminus and water communication. One of our aldermen has already informed us he will smoke us out, and if he does not, others will, and we shall not have long to wait. This home is a provincial home where children are sent from all parts of the province by the government, and by the municipalities. The government has all the necessary means and lands suitably situated. Why not have two or three farm colonies, away out of the city areas and away from the bright lights, to the natural calling which is inherent in all of us, farming with land and stock from the experimental farms such as cattle, sheep and hogs? The government can do infinitely better work than 36 individuals with the best intentions in the world, and with perhaps little knowledge of the necessary work to be done in transforming these children so that they may become a desirable asset to our country.

The staff in the old home consisted of one nurse at $45.00 per month. The salaries in the McGee cottage are for three nurses, costing $180 per month.

Conservatives Offer Sop To British Labor

LONDON—The decay of capitalism in England is reflected in the national budget submitted by the conservative Baldwin government. Workers' pensions are regarded no longer as socialistic, but as necessary provision by state capitalism for the increasing number of dependents it is creating.

The widow's pension proposal, coupled with the extension of old age pensions will probably increase the number receiving money or maintenance from the state to 6,500,000 in a population of 43,000,000. These include at present 2,100,000 war pensioners, 950,000 old age pensioners, 1,250,000 unemployed and 1,500,000 paupers.

Philip Snowden, finance minister in the former MacDonald Labor government, says the budget, "shorn of the scheme of widows' pensions, would have appeared to everybody what it really is—the worst rich man's budget." Sugar-coated by the pension proposals the government has handed about $165,000,000 of the $175,000,000 tax reduction to income and supertax payers. The burdens of the workers will be increased.

The pension proposals are advanced as compulsory insurance covering practically the entire wage-earning population. A widow will receive $2.50 a week for life with an additional $1.25 for the the youngest child and 75c for each additional child until the youngest child reaches 14½ years. Old age pensions will begin at 65 and workers over 70 will receive pensions without question as to other means of support. Workers and employers are to contribute equally to support these pensions beginning at 8c per man and 4c per woman per week and increasing at 10-year intervals to 14c per man and 7c per woman in 1956 when the scheme will be fully effective. All persons whose incomes do not exceed roughly $25 a week must contribute.

Ramsay MacDonald and Pethick Lawrence for labor attack the contributory feature as a direct burden on industry which ought to be placed on wealth. They say it will mean an increased cost of production forcing either a decrease in wages or an increase in prices. Jack Jones, known for spicy interruptions when conservatives have the floor, wants to know why those who work must contribute to their pensions while generals, admirals and all in high authority get theirs without paying. He says the scheme will double the weekly contribution the casual laborer must make out of his scant earnings.

The budget will also increase the worker's cost of living through the new protective duties theoretically imposed to protect struggling industries. This pretense appears a joke when manufacturers of artificial silk are found among the protected. This is practically a monopoly in England. Courtald is the biggest unit in the combine.

This concern made $18,850,000 profit in 1924 on $58,200,000 capital or more than 32 per cent.

But the capital has been increased from $12,150,000 to $68,200,000 by stock dividends, so that the 1924 profit means about 155 per cent on the original investment. In 1924 cash dividends were at the rate of 20 per cent (96 per cent on the real investment) and in addition a 62½ per cent dividend in 5 per cent preferred stock was distributed.

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