Labor Statesman

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Dept. of Labour

Canadian Labor Party Holds Third Convention

Delegates From Various Parts of Province in Attendance—Major Burde Delegate From Alberni—Membership Increased By 300—Resolutions Covering Various Subjects Passed.

THE THIRD ANNUAL CONVENTION of the B. C. Section of the Canadian Labor Party was held in the Holden Building, Vancouver on Saturday and Sunday, May 22 and 23. Credentials for 69 delegates were received, although all did not turn up, some taking advantage of the week-end to go holidaying. The date of the convention was intended to suit the visiting delegates but was not so agreeable for those from Greater Vancouver. For this reason the date for next year's gathering is set forward to the last week-end in February.

Whilst the number of delegates was smaller than last year, they represented a larger membership, the executive's report indicating an increase in dues paying members to the extent of 300. Among the new units from Vancouver Island and up the Coast points, are Sointula, Ladysmith, Chase River, and Alberni, the latter being a branch of the I.L.P., and represented at the convention by Major Burde, M.L.A. The Executives' Report goes on to deal with its campaign as follows:

Municipal Representation

"While the results of various municipal elections were not all that might be expected, the following candidates of the Canadian Labor Party secured seats on Municipal governing bodies, viz., Vancouver City Council, A. McInnes; South Vancouver Municipal Council, W. H. Cottrell, and Alex MacDonald; Burnaby Municipal Council, H. Engberg; So. Vancouver Board of School Trustees, A. Hurry and R. E. Rigby; South Vancouver Police Commissioners, W. Ford. We also have representation in the Provincial House.

The Federal Election

Candidates were in the field in the Federal Election for Vancouver City, South Vancouver, North Vancouver, and New Westminster. Although none were elected, considerable support was given our candidates and the aims and objects of the Party were brought to the attention of a great many people during the campaign.

Affiliated Units Urged to Organize Throughout the Province

Along the line of further organizing the workers politically your committee recommends that each affiliated unit carry on a vigorous campaign as much as possible throughout the Province, and urge new branches that may be formed to affiliate with the Canadian Labor Party."

Another recommendation which was favorably received by the Convention was the appointment of a Research Committee, which reads:

"So as to assist in forming the working class in matters vitally affecting themselves your Committee recommends that a committee be selected for the purpose of carrying on research work relative to subjects of interest, and in that way secure and have available all possible data connected with such matters as immigration, unemployment insurance, old age pensions, health insurance, as

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Amateur Strikebreaker Blows Up Boiler

No settlement has been made by the Westminster Mills with the engineers and firemen who put in a request for increased wages. An amateur engineer blew up one of the boilers during the week, but the boss seems to figure out that it is better to have these accidents than pay a decent wage. Having run short of assistance to operate the mill with men the firm has had to resort to the employment of boys. But there is every indication that the boys are finding the pace too hot. New faces are seen continuously.

Carpenters Enroll 28 New Members

Carpenters 452 held their regular meeting last Wednesday evening in the Trades Council Hall, when 28 new members were initiated. The meeting expressed its sympathy with the British miners in their present struggle and the sum of $25 was subscribed to the Trades and Labor Council's fund for the miners.

The next meeting will be held on June 14th, when details will be completed for the annual picnic to Bowen Island.

To Help Miners

The Executive Committee of the Vancouver Trades and Labor Council is sending out an appeal for funds on behalf of the British miners. Donations forwarded to the Council will be sent to the Miners' Headquarters.

LOCAL TYPO UNION ELECTS OFFICERS

The following officers were elected for the year 1926-1927 by the membership of the Vancouver Typographical Union:

President—C. S. Campbell.

VicePresident—R. Gouthro.

Executive Committee—H. Chambers, C. Croll, G. A. Foster, T. A. Holland and J. McGillivray, Jr.

Delegates to International—H. L. Corey, W. C. Jones; Alternate, J. E. Wilton.

Delegates to North Western Typo Conference—R. P. Pettipiece, W. C. Jones.

All other officers and committees were elected by acclamation.

Molders' Strike Still in Progress

No sir, there is nothing fresh to report—same position as in last week's issue. But our men are splendid, entering the eighth week under fire all the time, and there they stand, and fit to claim kinship with the heroes of any age. No brag, no bluster, just the quiet, steady determination that counts—the will to win. One thinks of those other history makers who had cannons to the right and left of them, etc. The big guns of capital, personified by the Canadian Manufacturers Association, through their sub-agents here, Vancouver Foundrymen's Association, have volleyed and thundered, but all to no purpose. The V. F. A. are not keen about meeting us direct, they would rather go in for smoke screens and camouflage; rather, under cover of questionable tactics, try and rifle the commissariat department, buy our men, entice them away, anything but do the obvious and simple thing, deal with the men through our accredited representatives, and thus eliminate further strife; prevent an accumulation of bitterness that will not tend to that smooth, frictionless working within the foundries (as in all departments) so much to be desired; and, I beg to suggest, this working has its cash value to employers everywhere. What is it that the workers want, molders in particular? Is their demand exorbitant? Can it be met without the calamity that some employers foretell? Are we being paid for our work?

Let us take these questions:

1. The minimum on the day preceding Good Friday last, was $5.70 for 8 hours. We are asking for $6.50 for 8 hours, i.e., an increase of 80 cents per day, or 10 cents per hour more, 1 cent extra every 6 minutes, but after our demand went in the employers discovered, rusty and nearly obsolete, a machine called the Robertson Agreement. This they renovated and brought into use, and it ground out 15 cents per day, through the employers genius, for the molders and other workers. Thus the minimum became, as per foundrymen's statement, $5.85 for 8 hours, reducing our demand correspondingly. We now wanted an increase of 65c per day, or 8 1-8 cents per hour, or 2 cents per 15 minutes, extra. Really these molders are unbearable, their greed, unlike the struggling and impecunious foundrymen, knows no limit. Perhaps there's a social question here involved, it may be that these molders' wives and families, with this enormous accretion to the weekly income, would have aspired to Shaughnessy Heights, Rolls-Royces, "Ladies of the Lake," with cruises in the Orient, and thus imperilled the Sans Pure, Sans Reproche of Vancouver society. Heaven forfend.

2. Well, after setting out our demand, as per No. 1, how seems it to you? Is it exorbitant? are we greedy and grasping to wish for 2 cents more for every quarter hour? Why, man alive, there are officials, some useful and able, in these works, who draw from $200 to $400 and over, per

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VICTORIA CARPENTERS ASK $7 PER DAY OR STRIKE JUNE 1

Victoria carpenters, at a mass meeting last Friday, decided to go on strike on June 1 unless a satisfactory reply to their request for a $7 daily wage is received from the builders' exchange before that time.

P. G. E. Extra Gang Ask Wage Increase

The men employed on the Extra Gang No. 1 of the Pacific Great Eastern Railway have petitioned the management of that railway for an increase in wages from 30c per hour to 40c per hour and a reduction of the ten hour day to an Eight-Hour day.

These demands have been asked to take effect on June 1st. It is possible that up to that time, the management may try to get men at the rates of Thirty Cnts per hour for a ten-hour day as at present.

You who are unemployed are advised to make sure that the wages offered are Forty Cents per hour before accepting employment on the P. G. E. Ry., so as not to endanger the efforts now being made by the men on the job to better their conditions.

Ninety-eight per cent. of the men employed on Extra Gang No. 1 have signed a petition for this wage increase. Don't betray your fellow workers by offering your services for less than Forty Cents Per Hour.

U. S. Judge Grants Big Wage Increase

A Federal judge acting as sole arbitrator in a wage dispute between Washington daily newspaper printers and the publishers has made an award granting the workers everything they put into their original demands. In many respects it is one of the most remarkable awards ever rendered in a wage controversy.

Judge William Hitz, associate justice of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, was suggested for arbitator by the newspaper publishers and accepted by the Typographical Union.

Highest Wage Award

His award, announced last week, gives an increase of $1.30 per day or $7.80 per week to employes of evening newspapers, and $1.60 per day or $9.60 per week to employes of morning papers.

The new scale for seven hours per day is $54 for evening papers and $60 for morning papers.

Big Bundle of Back Pay

It is retroactive to November 11, 1925, when the old contract expired, and each of the 450 printers employed on Washington's six daily newspapers will receive back pay in amounts ranging from $200 to $300, and in some instances more. In the aggregate this will approximate $112,000.

HEARD IN PARLIAMENT

Collector: "Did you look at that little bill I left yesterday, sir?"

House member: "Yes; it has passed the first reading."

Central Cafe Union Girls Locked Out

If there has been, during the past two weeks, a harder worked labor-union official than Business Agent Harry Wood of Local No. 28, Hotel and Restaurant Employees Union, will that unfortunate person kindly stand up so that we can offer him our sympathy. During the above referred-to period Bro. Wood has not only presented our new wage-scale agreement to the bosses but he has been successful in securing the necessary signatures from every reputable house in the city with the exception of three. Two of the three—the Good Eats and the Oaks Cafe—have since agreed to pay the scale and will be signed up by the time this appears in print.

The Central Cafe, 608 Pender St. W. is the only restaurant in the city with which we do business that has come out with a flat-footed refusal to even consider the new scale of wages, even going so far as to anticipate a strike by locking out all of the six union girls working in the house. Patrons of the Central Cafe will please note that our girls are not out on strike—they were locked out and will remain out until they can return in a body under the new wage-scale. That should only be a matter of a very short time if we receive the moral support and the whole-hearted support and co-operation of that section of the public who believe that the girl who serves them with their ham an' is just as worthy of her hire as any other worker.

Next Monday being Decoration Day in the United States we anticipate a large influx of visitors from across the line which means a busy week-end in the catering industry. Conditions in our craft around the city are gradually improving and another week or two should see the tourist business in full swing.—J.C.

Donations Made By Local Trade Unions

Delegates to the Trades and Labor Council reported their union making the following donations to the aftermentioned funds:

Milk Salesmen—$100 Stage Employees; $25 Molders.

Pressmen—$100 Molders; $50 Miners.

Plasterers—$50 Molders.

Tailors—$25 Molders.

City Fire Fighters—$50 Molders.

Musicians—$50 Molders.

Civic Employees—$50 Molders.

Machinists 692—$50 Molders.

Bricklayers—$25 Molders.

Pile Drivers—$25 Molders.

Beverage Dispensers—$10 Molders.

Brewers Workers—$10 Molders.

St. Railwaymen—$10 Molders and a referendum for an assessment of 10c per member.

Shingle Weavers—$150 to British Strike fund had been withdrawn and would probably be placed in the local funds.

Society is now one polish'd horde, formed of two mighty tribes, the Bores and Bored.—Byron.

WOODSWORTH'S BUDGET SPEECH

Mr. J. S. Woodworth (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, a short time will suffice for me to say what I have to say with regard to the budget.

Huge War Expenditures

First of all, let me call the attention of the House to one or two items in the estimated expenditure which I think are of vital interest. The Minister of Finance has given the expenditures attributable to the war as $163,997,000 or 47.83 per cent. Subsequently he shows that these are not all the expenditures, and he enumerates a number of other items which I take it would bring the total up to over 50 per cent. It ought to be clearly understood by the people that of the total annual expenditures which we make here, fully one-half goes toward the payment of the interest charges of the last war. We are told that we need some war memorials. I would suggest that in this huge amount we have a very imposing war memorial, and one that is likely to prove very enduring indeed. Notwithstanding that huge amount, I observe that later on the amount proposed this year for what is called "national defence" is higher than the entire amount proposed to be spent on civil government. I know some hon. members in this House are inclined to take some of us to task because we take the opportunity from time to time of calling the attention of the government and of the country to the necessity of reduction in our war expenditures and the futility of war expenditures. Sometimes the papers take a fling at us and say we are making our annual speech on the war proposition, but I cannot accept this budget without emphasizing these figures given to us very clearly by the Minister of Finance (Mr. Robb) that show that we spend half our entire income upon war expenditures connected with the past war. As long as that situation continues it seems to me we are fully justified in discussing any measures that would tend to prevent any future occurrence of this kind.

Mr. Edwards (Frontenac): What part of that expenditure would the hon. member eliminate, or what part could be eliminated?

Mr. Woodworth: Of the war expenditure?

Mr. Edwards (Frontenac): Yes.

Mr. Woodworth: I will come to that a little later. It is there now as a charge, but I suggest here merely that we should be very careful not to do anything that might increase the charge in the days to come.

There are other fixed and public debt charges amounting to 9.17 per cent. of the total expenditure on government services. That means that fully 60 per cent. of the entire expenditure of this country is what is termed fixed charges, so that at the best we in this House have control over less than 40 per cent. of the expenditures. Again, of that 40 per cent. a very considerable proportion of that amount is in the form of certain statutory expenditures; so that after all the amount that we directly control in this House is comparatively small.

Significant Expenditures

I do not intend to enumerate the items which were given us by the Minister of Finance, but I might note two or three by way of illustration. For example, for the health of the people of this country we spend .19 per cent of our total expenditure. For scientific institutions we spend .29 per cent. For labor, a department in which I am of course interested, I note we spend .36 per cent. These most important departments of our public life are of such insignificance in the eyes of the parliament of this country that adding these three items we spend less than one per cent in carrying on what some of us regard as very important matters. We have, however, the opportunity of making some savings, it seems to me, even within the limits which I have indicated. We all recognize that in the co-ordination of the civil service we might effect very considerable saving. I should like to read a sentence or two from the Ottawa Citizen of January 26, 1926, which indicate the possible extent of such saving. On the editorial page there are certain facts and considerations as follows:

1. That the National Civil Service Reform League of the United States estimates a loss of $750,000,000 per annum in all government services or 25 per cent. of the whole.

2. That in Canada there is an approxomate comparative loss of $60,000,000 through loose, inefficient, and non-competitive government business.

3. That in 1918 the total personnel in the federal civil service was taken out of patronage and placed under open competition, or merit. To-day 33 1-3 per cent. of these positions have been returned to the patronage system as political plunder.

Deplores Patronage System

I think that any one who wishes well for the future of Canada will come to the conclusion that we must not return any further along the road of patronage. I do not intend to discuss to-night the weaknesses that have been exhibited in our civil service. We are all aware of these from the recent investigation, but at the same time, as a country we cannot afford to return to the patronage system. We should restore to an independent commission those positions which have been taken back under government patronage. The same might be said in regard to the great purchasing agencies where undoubtedly a large amount that is now expended, might be saved. Such a procedure would also greatly improve the general morale of the public.

Big Incomes Not Taxed

Turning for a few minutes to the revenue side of our account, I note that from the income tax we received only 14.73 per cent. of our total ordinary revenue. We have had a great deal of discussion in the last three weeks in this House in regard to the reduction in the income tax. It would seem to me that we have not so fully borne in mind that, after all, the income tax forms a very very small proportion of the total taxation of the people of this country, being less than 15 per cent. There are those who have objected to the income tax on the ground that we need more money for our investments. I am inclined to think that those who make such statements have not given sufficient attention to the underlying economic conditions. Our banks say they have money standing idle at the present time. I should like to suggest that instead of more money for investments we need greater buying power on behalf of the great masses of the people of this country. I would commend the Minister of Finance for reducing the taxes on the low incomes, and I would commend him for distinguishing between the incomes derived from earnings and the incomes derived from investments, but I am sorry to see any lessening of the tax on the higher incomes. On the other hand, I should like to see these very greatly increased, because as it is we are giving larger and larger amounts for investments, perpetuating and accentuating one of the evils from which the people are suffering the world over.

Can Double Production

Certain hon. gentlemen have been ridiculing the analysis of the economic situation which was made a few years ago before the Banking and Commerce committee. The hon. member for Fort William (Mr. Manion) and the Minister of Finance himself have laughed at the analysis which was made there. There are many thoughtful students of economics to-day who are voicing some of those opinions in ever louder tones. I should like some hon. gentleman if they have time to read this article which I note in the April number of the Atlantic Monthly, because it contains in summary form an argument which has been recently set forth in a very important book on Profits, by Foster and Catchings. I want to read just a paragraph or two that will give the idea of the argument. For example the article states:

> The engineering societies, under the direction of Herbert Hoover, have shown that we are already equipped to double our volume of production.

That is, instead of wanting to invest more fixed capital in railways, factories and other machinery of production, we have already at the present time capacity on this continent more than to double our present production. Why then do we want more investment? The trouble fundamentally is, as the article goes on to show:

> What the people must have if prosperity is to last is the money with which to pay for goods rather than more and more devices for enabling them to acquire goods for which they do not pay.

Below Production

We are told and we have been told in this House that the labouring people are receiving higher and yet higher wages. The authors of this article go on to say:

> The recent researches of Paul H. Douglas, soon to be published, show that the gain in real wages in United States from 1890 to 1919 did not average one-half of one per cent. a year. For a generation or two we have fallen far short of making the gains in human welfare which should have resulted from our scientific progress.
>
> Progress towards greater total production and resultant higher standards of living is retarded because consumer buying does not keep pace with production.

In rather a humorous way the authors of this article, which is entitled "The Dilemma of Thrift," put the situation which faces us at the present time.

> What a mess we get into! We work hard to pile our shelves high with what we most desire, and then we have to stop working because we are unable to take these things off the shelves and enjoy them. Though we produce much less than we could easily produce, we do not distribute to advantage even what we succeed in producing. We condemn extravagant buying at the very time when industry slows down because people are not buying enough. Then, while business wanes because it lacks consumers, we put taxes on consumption; and, precisely when business is in greatest need of people with incomes to spend, we reduce those incomes by reducing wages and dividends. We celebrate "buyers' week" and "thrift week" at one and the same time. By investing our savings, instead of spending them, we deny ourself to-day in order to produce more in the future, although we are already equipped to produce more than we know how to use. While many at home are in want, we strive more and more to send more of our wealth abroad; but we are loath to import much in return. Nations, at least, seem convinced that it is more blessed to give than to receive. A topsy turvy world! Alice in Wonderland found nothing more paradoxical.

Taxing the Wage Earner

I would like to turn back to our accounts for a moment. I said that we received only 14.73 per cent. from our income tax, but we expect to receive from our excise taxes, namely sales tax, stamp tax and so on, 25.35 per cent., and from our customs import duties 33.80 per cent. It is not the income taxes that weigh the heaviest or that weigh at all upon the ordinary citizen. The great majority of our wage-earners and the lower salaried men in this country do not pay income tax at all. The tax that weighs on the ordinary citizen is the indirect tax such as the sales tax and the import tax and on this customs import duty alone we pay 33.80 per cent. The greater part of our taxation comes in this indirect way.

In our income taxation we have been very careful to exempt those who have children; the more children you have, the less heavy the income tax weighs. But in the case of indirect taxation the more children you have, the heavier the tax, because of course we have heavier expenditure for food, clothing, housing and all along the line. So that in these indirect taxes which form the great bulk of the taxation which is placed upon the people of this country, there is not only no exemption for those who have the heaviest burdens to carry, but an added tax on those who are already overburdened. That is about the situation as we find it with regard to our estimated expenditure.

(To be continued).

Let your right hand know what your left is doing if you must eat with a knife.

Detroit, Mich.—Electrical Workers' Union No. 58 has negotiated a new wage agreement. Rates will be $1.40 an hour until July 1, and $1.50 thereafter.

"Tommy, who don't you come to our Sunday school?" asked a lady visitor. "Several of your little friends have joined us lately."

Tommy thought a minute and then asked: "Does a red-headed kid by the name of Jimmie Brown go to your school?"

"Yes, indeed," replied the lady.

"Well, then," replied Tommy, with an air of interest, "I'll be there next Sunday, you bet. I've beenlooking for that kid for three weeks and never knew where to find him."

Sin has many tools, but a lie is the handle which fits them all.—Holmes.

BUYERS' DIRECTORY

BAKERS
Esther Bakery, 3728 Hastings East.
Dr. Middleton's. At all Grocery Stores.

BISCUIT MANUFACTURERS
Dr. Middleton's 852 Hastings East.

BOOTS & SHOES
Arthur Frith & Co, 2313 Main
P. Paris, 51 Hastings St. W.

CHIROPRACTORS
J. A. Bryant 207-8 Lee Bldg.

CONFECTIONERY
Davenport Confectionery, 1743 Commercial Drive.

CIGARS & TOBACCO
Mainland Cigar Store 310 Carrall

DANCING
Cotillion Hall. Granville & David

DENTISTS
Dr. W. J. Curry, 301 Dominion Bldg.
Dr. W. A. Rutledge, 108 Hastings W.

DEPARTMENT STORES
Hudson's Bay Co. Granville & Georgia

DRY GOODS
A. Frith & Co., 2313 Main

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

ELECTRICAL SUPPLIES & CONT.
City Electric. 8th & Main.
Hirst's Electric. 4099 Hastings E.
Nembro Electric, 1067 Granville St.

ELECTRIC THERAPY
Healthwyn Clinic, 901 Dominion Bank
H. Walton, 311 Province Bldg.

FLOOR COVERING
Mount Pleasant Floor Covering Etore, 248 Broadway East.

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

FLOUR
Dr. Middleton's Ironized Whole Wheat.

GLASS AND GLAZING
Western Glass Co. 158 Cordova St. W.

GENTS' FURNISHINGS
A. Frith & Son, 2313 Main

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

HARDWARE
Manitoba Hardware 1714 Commercial

HEMSTITCHING
Broadway Hemstitchers, 246 Broadway East.

MEAT MARKETS
W. Dickinson, 3724 Hastings E.

MUSIC
Grandview Music House, 1733 Commercial Drive.

NOTARIES
P. R. Bengough, 803 Holden Bldg.

PHOTOGRAPHERS
Mission Studio, 108 Hastings E.

PRINTERS
Labor Statesman 803 Holden

RESTAURANTS
Bergman's Cafe 324 Cambie St.
Empire Cafe 76 Hastings St. E.
Manhattan Cafe 1047 Granville St.

RUPTURE SPECIALIST
C. E. Heard, 959 Robson

SHOE REPAIRS
H. A. Morwood, Gilmore and Hastings.
Service Shoe Shop 2440 Main St.
East.
E. Sopp, 3867 Main St.
Toronto Shoe Repairer 2228 Granville

TAILORS
Ferry & Dolk 18 Hastings St. W.
J. H. Sweder 427 Seymour

THEATRES
Broadway Broadway & Main
Pantages Hastings at Carrall
Strand Georgia & Seymour
Langer's Circuit 5 Theatres

UNDERTAKERS
Mount Pleasant Undertakers
Kingsway & Main.
T. J. Kearney, 802 Broadway W.
S. Bowell & Son, 66 6th N. West.
Armstrong & Hotson, 304 Dunlevy Ave.

WATCH REPAIRS—EXPERT
E. L. Hammergren 718 Kingsway
S. O. Johnson, 3826 Hastings St. East

The things we depend upon most we appreciate least

STREET CAR SERVICE

BRITISH COLUMBIA ELECTRIC RAILWAY CO.
VANCOUVER VICTORIA

21-26

Trades Union Directory

Vancouver Trades and Labor Council—President, William Dunn; 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.

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

Beverage Dispensers Union No. 676—meets last Sunday in month at 8:00 p.m., at 441 Seymour St. President, W. H. Clancy; Secretary and Business Agent, T. J. Hanofin. Office: 441 Seymour St. Phones: Sey. 125 and Bay. 1656-R.

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

Bridge & Structural Iron Workers, Local 97, Int. Asso.—Meets every Monday, Room 804 Holden Bldg., at 8 p.m. President, James F. Burns; Secretary, W. J. Cook, Box 342, City., Phone Fair. 4772Y.

Building Trades Council, Vancouver—Meets second and fourth Tuesday in Holden Building. President, Robt. Stevenson; Secretary-treas., W. Watt.

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

Bakery Salesmen, Local 371—Meets second Thursday every month. Holden Bldg., 16 Hastings E. President, A. Wylie, 4336 Elgin Street; financial secretary, H. A. Bowron, 744 15th Ave. E., Phone Fair. 3631X.

Barbers', Journeyman International Union of America—Local 120, Vancouver, B. C., meets second and fourth Tuesdays in each month in Room 310 Labor Hall, 16 Hastings East. President, Fred Dawe; fin. secretary, A. R. Jenni, 728 Hastings Street West; rec. sec., Bert Deprey.

Bookbinders Local No. 105, Int. Brotherhood—Meets second Tuesday in month 804 Holden Bldg. President, F. Milne, 536 Drake St.; secretary, Thos. Carroll, 842 Hamilton St.

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

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

Carpenters and Joiners, Amalgamated Society of,—Vancouver 1st Branch meets 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month. President, G. Richardson; Secretary, John T. Bruce; Business Agent, J. McKinley. Headquarters, room 35, 163 Hastings St. W.

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

City Hall Employees' Association meets first Wednesday of each month at 251½ Hastings E., at 8 p.m. President, D. Hargreaves; business agent and treasurer, W. J. Scribbins, 3208 Pender St. E.; Secretary, J. Tarbuck, 2792 Pender East.

Civic Employees' Union, Local 28—Meets first and third Fridays in the month at 251½ Hastings E., at 8 p.m. President, J. MacRitchie, 516 8th Ave. E.; 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, J. R. Flynn; rec. secretary and business agent, Roy Finley.

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

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

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

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

Lathers, Wood, Wire and Metal, International Union, Local 207—Meets 2nd and 4th Mondays in month, at room 209 Holden Bldg. President, H. P. Fulljames, 2106 Vanness; Secretary, Bert Jenkins, 50 45th Ave. E.

Machinist Local 692—President, Thos. Sills, 1352 Burrard St. Secretary, P. R. Bengough. Office, 807 Labor Hall, 16 Hastings East. Meets on second and fourth Tuesdays in month.

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, John Maley, 1336 2nd Ave. E. Corresponding representative, J. Pinkerton, 2159 Victoria Drive.

Motion Pictures Projectionist's Union, Local 348 of I.A.T.S.E. & M.P.M.O.—Meets at 991 Nelson St. on first Sunday in each month at 7:30 p.m. President, J. R. Foster, 1161 Granville St.; Secretary, Geo. Gerrard, Box 245. 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. 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, Chas. Keall, 1925 McKay Ave. Secretary, Ed. Williams, 1133 Barclay. Phone Douglas 3093L.

Plasterer's Laborers' No. 602 International. Meets third Friday in month at Holden Building. President, F. Phillips, 1574, 2nd Ave. W.; Rec. Sec., F. Tait, 289 47th Ave. E., phone Fraser 5961L.

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

Printing Pressmen and Assistants, Local No. 69—Meets every second Tuesday in the month at 8 p.m. in Room 213 Labor Hall, 16 Hastings St. E. President, Harry F. Longley, 303 8th St., North Van.; secretary, Frank H. Humphrey, P. O. Box 894, 4038 Victoria Dr.

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

Street and Electric Railway Employees, Pioneer Division No. 101—Meets K. P. Hall, Eighth and Kingsway, 1st and 3rd Mondays at 10:15 a.m. and 7 p.m. President, J. E. Smith; recording secretary, F. E. Griffin; treasurer, H. W. Speed; financial secretary and business agent, Angus MacInnes, 3544 Pr. Edward St. Office: corner Prior and Main streets. Phone Fairmont 2150L.

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

Shingle Weavers, Local 17813—Meets second Tuesday in month, in Room No. 2, Labor Temple, New Westminster, and 4th Sunday, 7 p.m., in Room 213 Holden Bldg., Vancouver. President, J. N. Chute, Phone High. 1982Y; sec., W. H. Matthew, Joyce Rd. P. O. Phone Coll. 413R1.

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

Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Stablemen and Helpers, Local 466—Meets every 2nd and 4th Wednesday, 310 Holden Bldg. President, A. A. McKay, 2235 Quebec St.; secretary-treasurer, A. P. Black, 880 Homer St.

The Vancouver Theatrical Federation—Meets at 991 Nelson Street, at 11 a.m. on the Tuesday preceding the first Sunday of the month. President, J. R. Foster; Secretary, Leslie Clark; Business Agent, George Gerrard, 991 Nelson St.

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

Let a man think he is having his own way, girls, and you can do almost anything with him.

Premier John Oliver has frequent itching of the feet and goes to Ottawa. His excuse for going there, is that he must look after the interests of the province in regard to freight rates. He made a trip there recently on the same excuse, so we were informed by the local press. But it has now leaked out, that he didn't even mention freight rates on that occasion. We might ask, just what was the object of his visit to the capital? He seems to be obsessed with the idea that "Liberalism" with the people's money is justifiable. That is quite typical of him, for he has the reputation of knowing how to make a dollar go as far as possible—that is the other fellow's dollar. So far as the peoples' dollar is concerned, it goes far alright; so far that they never see it again. That comes of the people giving politicians of his type a blank cheque to use in any manner they see fit.

* * *

It must have been amusing in the Old Country to see the titled ladies who had never before in their lives done any useful work, performing menial tasks. So far as performing useful work is concerned, they know nothing about it. Had it not been for the opportunity given them to assist the mine operators of Great Britain in their effort to snatch the bread from the mouths of the miners' children, they would have died of heart failure if asked to do something useful. According to this, harlost are not the only "ladies of easy virtue."

* * *

The editorial published in the Washington Post attacking the general strike in the Old Land was rather interesting reading, if not amusing. The amusing part of it is the source from whence it comes. It was quite likely that the same sentiments were expressed in England at the time the American colonies separated themselves from that country. In all probability the American revolutionists were placed in the same category by the English aristocracy as were the strikers by the same editorial. This is of course to be expected of the journal in question, occupying as it does a premier position of antagonism to the freedom of the American workers, and the workers generally who have the temerity to resent their chains.

The editorial is also typical of the American policy of butting into other people's affaairs. Be it the internal affairs of the Latin American republics, the affairs of Soviet Russia, or the economic and political affairs of Europe, the policy of this doctraire of the "Monroe doctrine" is that of unwarranted interference. Its respect for boundary lines is on a par with its respect for common decency and common sense. The boundary rights of other peoples as well as their freedom to mind their own business is treated with the utmost contempt by this journal.

But it is frank, however, to express what is characteristic of that complex psychological condition known as "pure Americanism." It is prepared to advocate going to any extreme in assisting the mine owners of Britain in their efforts to crush the miners in their struggle against debasing conditions. And it is very quick in urging this course of action, a great deal more rapidly in fact than it was in urging America to get into the Great War to "make the world safe for democracy" and other by-products of the American dollar. It is further evidenced that the interests of British and American financiers are identical and that there are no such things as boundary lines when the workers' interests are at stake. It will be well for the workers of both countries to remember this, when the financiers of their respective countries call them out to defend their interests when the question of the oil market control is at stake.

* * *

In arguments conjured up by the local merchants to convince the public as to the wisdom of buying B. C. Products, they often quote very large figures. Recently they inserted a full page in one of the local papers on that subject. In large type they ask the reader to "check up, where's your money going?" They proceed to give figures that might stand a little analysis. They state that the number of employees in the province in 1910 was 11,500, and in 1925, 38,000. The wages according to them was $15,000,000 in 1910, and $41,000,000 in 1925. While the value of production in 1910 was $35,000,000, the value in 1925, was $190,000,000. As this works out, the average wage per employee for 1910 was $1304.34, while the average for 1925 was $1064.93. This is a decrease of 18.36 per cent. On the other hand the value of production according to them has increased 443 per cent.

Seeing that the average wage per employee was 42.82 per cent of the value of production in 1910, and the average wage, 21.57 per cent. of the value of production in 1925, it is evident that the workers are getting a smaller proportion of the value of what they produced. From the fact that the worker cannot buy anymore than his wages will allow him, it is clear that there must be quite a surplus he cannot buy. In fact if these figures are to be taken for granted, there were surplus products to the value of $155,000,000 that the workers of the province could not buy back, for it is as plain as the nose on a man's face, that they could not buy products of the value of $190,000,000, when their wage was only $35,000,000.

What the B. C. workers cannot buy is of course exported and this is what gives rise to the alleged claims of growing prosperity that we hear so much of from the local boosters. But if the merchants of the countries importing this surplus of B. C. products, were also to boost for home products as is done by the local merchants, it is clear that there would be quite a surplus of products on hand, and the prosperity we hear so much of would be as rare as wings on a rattlesnake.

From the worker's standpoint we don't see the prosperity as is claimed prevails in our midst. The fact that we received a smaller proportion of the products of our labor in 1925 than we did in 1910, makes it difficult to see it that way.

In this province we have legislation entitled "an Act to provide for the collection of a tax on Persons," also known as the "Poll Tax Act, 1917." Similar legislation to this had already been in force but was repealed during the McBride administration. Soon after, the Oliver administration, who needed money to continue the policy of extravagance where the previous government had left off, decided to again legalize this form of petty thievery, and placed the above mentioned act on the statute books.

The legislation is intended to apply to persons not possessing property that could otherwise be taxed. It is therefore none other than a hide and carcass tax, and a punishment for the crime of not having any worldly possessions that the government can bleed. In order that the government can make sure that it gets its pound of flesh, it uses the employer as a collecting agent. The government lays down the law that the employer must dig his hand into the pay envelope of ihs employee, and hand over $5.00 of its contents to the government agents. If he fails to do it, he has to pay it himself and the employer of course sees to it, that he is not asked for what is levied against his employees.

The act covers all male workers between the ages of eighteen and sixty-five. A young person has not the franchise until he is 21 years of age, which means that for three years before that age he has to pay taxes before he gets the right to vote. Apparently the present government believes that taxation without representation is perfectly just and all right. Even a man over 65 years of age can be soaked if he is fortunate enough to earn over $700.00 per annum. This is in spite of the fact that at the last session, the legislation very piously passed a resolution favoring old age pensions. This tax is so imposed that it is collected when the man is at work. For that reason the collections are small during the winter months when the unemployed are walking the city streets looking for work. The government therefore sees to it that the collections are made when the sweat is coming off the worker's hide during the summer months.

The act also soaks farm laborers and domestic servants with the other workers of the province. This class of labor is not covered by the eight-hour-day bill which means that these workers can be made to work as many hours per day that their employers can force them to do. They are also exempted under the minimum wage bill, so that their employers can pay them any wage that a low priced labor market can allow them. But there is no exemption for them under the "Poll Tax Act." They have to pay to the fund that provides the expenses incurred when Premier Oliver goes to Ottawa to confer with his kindred political spirits at the federal capital, and when the other cabinet ministers at Victoria, find it necessary to move to the zone of political battle when the fate of a by-election is at stake. It is little wonder that Premier Oliver abandoned the farm life for politics. The government exchequer is a more lucrative field to plough than any farm could be. At least there is little danger of him going back to the farm so long as he is able to hoodwink the people.

Gladys says her best boy friend from Victoria hasn't proposed as yet, but there's an engagement ring in his voice.

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The Labor Statesman

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Phone Seymour 6279

Vancouver, B.C., May 28th, 1926

"SAFETY FIRST," IN WAR

During the World War, France, in unutterable horror and indignation, called the world to witness that "the Hun" had bombarded her unfortified cities. Recent despatches report that two hundred tribesmen—who fail to appreciate the benefits of French rule—had retired into a section of the City of Damascus. The French army officers ordered the local residents to deliver the "so-called rebels" up. The residents answered that they were unarmed and could not do so, but invited the French to come and take them. Instead of doing so, a section of the city containing 8000 people were given an hour to clear out to a place of safety. With women and children, the old and the crippled, to care for, and each family attempting to carry away some of its more treasured belongings, "only a few succeeded in leaving in time. The French then began bombarding with 12 three-inch guns, four howitzers, and a dozen airplanes. The shelling last continuously for 15 hours. Fires broke out immediately and the sky was darkened by smoke and dust. General panic followed; women and children rushed aimlessly through the shells or collapsing houses."

"More than 500 civilians and about 1000 rebels and 20 French were killed." and as there were only 200 "rebels" to start with apparently this particular method of carrying on war tends to make, as well as massacre, "rebels."

This is not the first event of this character charged to French in Syria. And the Riffs in Algiers complain that their unoffending villagers, entirely outside of the war zone, are continuously bombed by French aeroplanes. If this is a sample of French morality, and refinement, of the two we think we would prefer German "Kultur" for the latter had the virtue of courage in its favor. It practiced its "frightfulness" on a people who possessed the same mechanical and chemical equipment as itself, and pleaded "military necessity." France copies German frightfulness in wars on races who, without equipment, are fighting to protect their own land and homes against a foreign invader, and it can plead no necessity other than at the expense of the lives of women and children, it seeks to make war for itself—as safe as hay making.

* * *

During 1920, Oliver Plomondon ran a very elaborate moonshine still in the City of Quebec. Somebody threw a monkey wrench into the works and this eminent citizen was rounded up by the police. Judge Choquette ordered a jail sentence, but in consideration of his turning "King's Evidence" and giving the names of his workmen, the Minister of Justice at Ottawa ordered the remission of the jail sentence. If the Carnegie Foundation have any special fund to reward nevre, as well as bravery, we beg to submit the name of this illustrious Canadian, and also that of the "Right Honorable Charles J. Docherty, K.C., L.L.D. who was Minister of Justice at the time.

* * *

A Seattle despatch states that a schooner is loading with knock-down houses to sell to the Point Barrow Eskimo for $1340.00 each. We positively refuse to believe any such thing. That Johnnie has been in touch with the white man's civilization too long to have any $1340. And if he did have it, we could separate him from it with knock-down stuff that would pack much more snugly than a house.

M.

Among the British Columbia students and graduates of B. C. University who will receive degrees at McGill University, Montreal, this week, is Chris. Sivertz, of Victoria, a son, by the way, of Christian Sivertz, well known to all the old-time Laborites of this province. Chris. Sivertz Jr. took his B.A. Sc. from the University of British Columbia in 1923, and his M.A. Sc in 1924, and has now been awarded the degree of Doctor of Philosophy at McGill. He was an outstanding student while at the U. B. C. and served overseas with distinction. His father was an Icelander emigrant and has been for many years a letter carrier in Victoria. As far back as 1906 Mr. Sivertz Sr. has been identified with the Labor movement, and has had to meet many or all of the problems peculiar to a working man with a large family and a small income. Despite every obstacle he has endeavored to give the members of his family a better opportunity than he himself enjoyed. And he must feel somewhat repaid for his tenacity of purpose by the announcement of his son's achievement from McGill this week. His legion of friends in the Labor movement of B. C. will heartily join with me in wishing both father and son the success they so richly deserve.

* * *

Merely as an indication of the signs of the times, permit me to quote from a leading Evening Sun editorial during the week: "Capitalism is being insistently challenged in every industrial nation of the world The economic and industrial structure may be so modified by the introduction of industrial democracy, and by the spirit of mutual co-operation which is the inevitable corrollary of such a system, that the world would be freed from periodical labor troubles and the possible collapse of the present system. To ignore the obvious signs of the times is the surest way of precipitating results which are unpleasant to contemplate."

* * *

Covering the situation in the Old Country, I commend the following, reproduced in the Miami (Labor) News:

"For King and Country"

When the German war machine was crashing through Belgium and the British found themselves menaced as the army neared the English channel with their formidable forces, armed with ten machine guns for every one the British had, with guns of a character never before conceived and which reduced supposedly impregnable forts to powder within a few hours, the only possible defense to save the coast from Dunkirk to Calais was by "digging in," constructing cemeteries of earthworks and sapping and mining the roadways over which the German army would have to pass.

Accordingly the cry went out to the miners of Lancashire and Yorkshire and Durham and the Black Country and to the Welshmen of the South, "For king and country, take your picks and shovels and blasting powder and stop the German advance." The huge works along the Yser river, the saps and mines at Poperinghe, the long lines of earthworks that barred the way to the channel, were constructed by the men who responded to the cry to come to the aid of "king and country," and faced the most terrible army that was ever assembled with nothing in their hands but pick and shovel.

Lloyd George promised them that when the war was over and the victory won they should return to a country "made fit for heroes."

They returned and their reward has been to live drab, poverty-stricken lives and fill paupers' graves when the lives were ended.

Every promise made to them has been broken, every hope has been blasted.

These men, who saved England from invasion in 1915, are now aspersed as traitors, revolutionaries, men who would destroy the government because they refuse to allow another slice to be taken from their little loaves, another picee of meat to be taken from their children, another hour to be taken from their scant leisure.

Without their efforts in 1915 there would have been neither king nor country to "save."

The whole massed forces of liars and lickspittles are being internationally concentrated to misrepresent and libel the British trade unions now on strike.

Plainly, the crux of the whole question is: Who shall profit by England's mineral wealth, the men who search for it and those who dig it out of the ground or a body of landed proprietors who assume to own all that lies beneath the upper surface, but who neither search for it nor dig it.

The land tenure system that allows a landed proprietor to sell the surface of the land he owns and reserve to himself all right to what lies beneath is the cause of the decay in the British coal mining industry. The landed proprietor demands to reap where he has never sown and the government enforces his "right," while the poor miner has to pay the bill from his scanty earnings. Some of these striking miners were getting the enormous wages of $7.50 a week and it was proposed they should either work an hour longer every day for this wage or submit to a 10 per cent reduction, "for king and country."

The British government could settle the strike in an hour. All it would have to do would be submit the whole question to the people. An offer of that kind would start every miner working and every train running. The justice of the cause is so palpably with the strikers that the government dare not do this. The Baldwin cabinet promised two months ago that it would change the system of land tenure and abolish mining royalties. It broke that promise because the landed aristocracy objected. Now the strike has come about as the result of bad faith and bad faith is being backed up by lies and by sloppy sentimentality in appeals for "king and country." The miners' fight is for wives and babies and the right to a decent living. More power to them and those who are standing by them, and may they stick till they get all they are going after and make the country a better place to live in for themselves as well as for kings and countrymen."

House cleaning is the art of moving things that never will be needed again from one place to another and back again.

Good morning, Mr. Farris. How goes it? Yes, I guess you have no cause for complaint. Lawyers rarely have, despite the fact that their whole time is taken up with making trouble where there is none. Not a fair remark? Well, now deB., I'm not so wise as you lawyer guys but I'll stake my scissors and razor that if all the lawyers were put on section work by the C.N.R. and all the law books scrapped this country would be a whole lot better off. Look at the consequences of the threat of one of your professional brethren in the Old Land. He says that it may not be lawful for a union to pay strike pay during a strike. Funny you never hear of a judge decreeing that the funds of the Master's Association be confiscated during a lock out. It would be just the same thing. Lawyers themselves don't know the law. Right here in B. C. we have one bunch saying that it is quite lawful to picket so long as it is done peacefully. Another bunch says it is not lawful. Ho Mah Lo Pan Yow. You don't know what I am talking about? Well, that jingo was in vogue during the reign of He Ho Flu about six months before knights were bold. And there is the trouble. The workers don't know half the time what you guys mean and that is how they are buffaloed. Laws are put on the statute books, then some lawyer finds out that another law made by Queen Elizabeth during her fourth attack of the flu makes that one ultra vires. Same as the Lemieux Act, which, after benefitting labor in Canada for years, was declared to be na poo by some bewigged hireling of the capitalist class. You sure gave the game away in that recent speech you gave before the Vancouver Rotary Club in which you said that TOO much simplification of the law would be as bad for the lawyers as writing prescriptions in English would be for the doctors. Now that raises a point which should be taken notice of, and broadcasted by all who favor scrapping all this mystery and bunk by which the workers are governed. If a worker has three walnut shells and a pea and makes his audience believe that the pea is under one shell when it is under another, thereby cheating the onlookers out of a few dimes, he is heading straight for jail. But if a doctor writes out a prescription for a pint of aqua pura and 4 drachams of ep saltum and charges $5 why that is all right. Of course if he wrote down a dose of epson salts the chances are that he would soon find himself at the handle end of a pick. I'd have every prescription written in plain English, and the laws simplified so that any schoolboy could understand them. Then perhaps most of the differences that mankind have with one another could be settled without the aid of a parasite whose only mission in life seems to be to camouflage these things so as to have people continually in trouble. I notice that David Kirkwood, the Scottish labor M.P., gave one of those high tone guys a rude shock the other day. When the Hon. gent began to lecture to Davie in Latin. Davie immediately came back with "Eenie meenie minee mo; Irkie Birkie up the lum." And believe me that guy kept to the English language for the remainder of the debate. No worker need be ashamed of ignorance, but he should be ashamed of the system that not only permits, but recognizes two sections of the community, who deliberately defraud the workers by the use of foreign languages. That reminds me of a story of a rancher who had three cats and three holes in the door of his shack for them to get out. When asked by a visitor if one hole would not be sufficient he replied: "No sirree, when I say scat, I mean SCAT," and so it would be with our lawyers and doctors. That will be $3.50 please. What for? Well I gave you creme de la creme on the shaving brush and the secrets of this honorable profession must be upheld. Next please.

Michigamme, Mich. — Eighty-two out of 84 students of the Michigamme high school walked out on strike when the school board refused to reemploy C. C. Walther, superintendent and athletic coach without giving other reasons than lack of "proper qualifications."

VANCOUVER HARBOUR COMMISSIONERS

NOTICE

PURCHASE BY TENDER OF RAILS AND FASTENINGS

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W. D. HARVIE, Secretary.

Vancouver, B.C., May 25, 1926.

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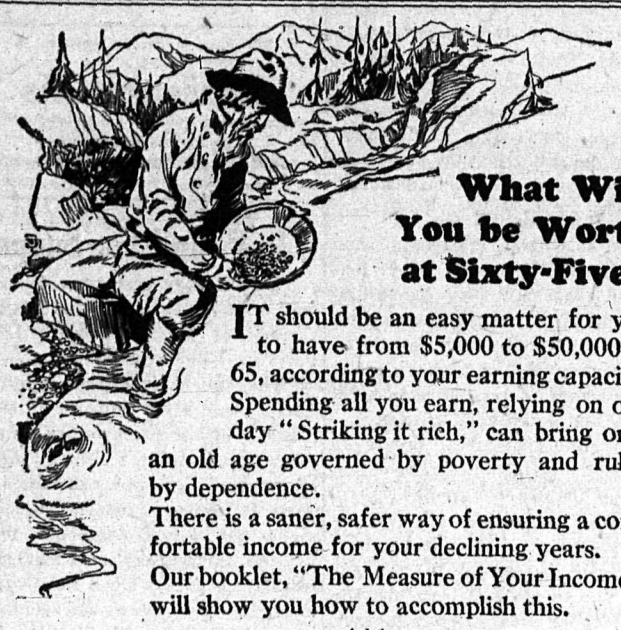

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Mussolini's New Grip On Italian Labor

Dictator Mussolini of Italy, according to press dispatches, has created a new cabinet portfolio to control labor and has appointed himself to fill the office. It is intended to make strikes impossible by forcing the workers to accept wages and conditions imposed by employers.

Under the scheme of the new ministry, called the Department of Corporations, Fascist syndicates will take over the work of trades unions. These syndicates will be entirely under the direction of Mussolini. Any violation of his decree will be a criminal offense, punishable by imprisonment.

CONGRESSMAN CABLES $100 TO STRIKE FUND OF BRITISH WORKMEN

Congressmen George J. Schneider of Wisconsin, Progressive Republican, was among the first American contributors to the relief fund for the British strikers.

Mr. Schneider is an international officer of the papermakers' organization. He cabled $100 to the London strike headquarters, accompanied by a message wishing the workers success.

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CANADIAN LABOR PARTY HOLDS THIRD CONVENTION

(Continued from Page 1)

well as other questions that may be of importance in carrying on our work."

W. H. Cottrell Presides

President W. H. Cottrell of the Vancouver Street Railwaymen's Union called the Convention to order at 2:15. After a brief address he announced the Committee on Credentials, and the Committee on Resolutions and Officers Reports. After the Credentials Committee reported and delegates seated the Convention dealt with such business as could be transacted for the time being:

Rules of Convention were adopted, correspondence dealt with and Del. Hoover's Report on the National Convention referred to Committee. Also a special committee to deal with questionaire in report of the British Commonwealth Conference; a motion was next passed to elect officers the following morning at 11 o'clock; and the date set for the next Convention was decided. A communication outlining the injunction proceedings against the Stage Employees was referred to the Special Committee.

Resolutions Submitted

Seven resolutions were submitted by the Communist Party dealing with Unemployment; "Old Age Pensions;" "Amendments to Immigration Act, Naturalization Act, and Crinminal Code;" "Canadian Labor Defence;" "Canada and Locarno;" "Canadian-Russian Trade Relations;" and a resolution dealing with the "Exclusion of Communists from Quebec Section C.L.P."

Del. Mengel moved a resolution in support of the British Miners in their struggle, and Del. Drayton moved a resolution seeking to secure the appointment of a safety inspector to correct the epidemic of accidents in the building trades. The Convention adjourned at 4 o'clock to allow the committees to deal with the above business which had been referred to them.

Sunday Session

When the Convention re-convened at 10:15 on Sunday morning the secretary read a communication from Jack Lodgie of Summerland I.L.P., expressing regrets at being unable to attend, and extending an invitation to the delegates to take in the Summer School which is to be run from Aug. 15 to Aug. 29.

Del. Neelands recommended the trip to the delegates as an ideal place to spend a holiday at small expense, and at the same time help in the good work of the school."

Resolutions Committee Reports

Del. Bartlett, reporting, moved concurrance in the Executives Report as a whole after urging "increased efforts to carry the work to the outside districts" and to concentrate on the capturing of more municipal, provincial and Federal seats of office. The diversity of opinion of the average worker on subjects that a research committee could deal with was commented upon by delegates Neelands, Floyd and Harris and the popular opinion of the Convention was that research work as suggested would be most valuable and copies of such material should be sent to the various units and disseminated among the workers. Del. Harris report from the National Convention was received and the recommendation to strive for a "National Policy was carried."

Support British Miners

The committee recommend concurrance in the following resolution:

Resolved: That this Convention of the B. C. Section of the Canadian Labor Party declares its full sympathy for the British Miners on strike, and notwithstanding the calling off of the General Strike, which was instituted in sympathy of the Miners' needs, call upon all the affiliated bodies to assist the British Miners, and their dependents in every way possible, in this their hour of need.

After a lively discussion as to which was the best means of aiding the miners if was finally decided to donate $50 to their strike fund. With the addition of this, the resolution carried unanimously.

Officers Re-Elected

The time for election of officers arrived—nominations for president were in order. Delegates W. H. Cottrell and H. Neelands were nominated. Del. Neelands declined leaving Del. Cottrell elected by acclamation. The secretary, J. Sidaway, was also re-elected by acclamation, no other name being put forward. For three vice-presidents to complete the executive the following names were submitted: J. Flynn, Wm. Dunn, Mrs. Andre, Jamieson, Dick Burde, W. W. Lefeaux, H. Neelands, Frank Browne and Angus McInnis. Of the nine names tendered six withdrew leaving comrades Flynn, Lefeaux and Neelands elected without the necessity of a ballot.

The resolutions as mentioned above were then passed, the one dealing with old age pensions being amended to call for a 60-year limit instead of 65, and to change the recommended amount from $360 to $365.

Mandated Territories and Slave Labor

The Special Committee reported its answers to the Questionaire in the British Commonwealth report. The answers were brief. With minor amendments they were all carried. The discussion of the points at issue brought out in bold relief the Conventions strong opposition to the economic and political subjugation of so-called "backward" peoples, whether they be mandated states or subject nations.

The glorification of war in our school books, distorted records of history, and the teaching of a false patriotism were obstacles to the real cause of peace. The committees' answer that real and lasting peace can only become possible when there is a "World Federation of Labor" was supplemented by an amendment that the British Labor Party endeavoring to carry on, in these mandated territories(a campaign of education in the interests of the workers. The convention adjourned from 1.20 till 2.15.

Afternoon Session

Del. Lefeaux explained at some length the conflict of opinion between the Provincial and Dominion interpretation of the law in respect to "watching and besetting" and other phases involved in the injunction proceedings by one Schuberg against the Stage Employees Union. A resolution to support the Union as recommended by the committee was adopted.

Financial Report

The auditors report showed the Secretary's books to be in order. A balance of $354.57 was in hand.

Under good and welfare a motion to insert an advert in the Labor Statesman was carried.

Major Burde Speaks

Del. Burde who had sat through the proceedings almost as a spectator was then called upon to speak. In a style typical of Burde he remarked on his range of activities: member for Alberni, mayor of the town, and local umpire for baseball games. He said the fishermen, loggers and ranchers on the West Coast of Vancouver Island were looking to Vancouver for a lead, and would at all times be glad to see any visiting or local speakers go over and help in the propaganda work. He stated that his own experiences of education were that the tory party and the Church of England had been the dominant influences in the past, but he wished to dispel the pessimism of some who regarded our educational system as any great obstacle. The spirit of adventure and curiosity had drawn him into the war. He saw the big circus and went in and got his feet wet. But he was also of the opinion that many returned men were cured of the war fever.

In conclusion he said he was inclined to disagree with the communists at times but that he liked a fighter. Said he "I have learned a lot at this convention and am glad to be associated with it."

Youth Movement

Several delegates spoke on the youth in the Labor Movement. The local Junior Labor League was praised for the work it is doing and a resolution was carried that "We look with approval on such organizations as the Junior Labor League and use our best endeavors to encourage and assist them in their work.

Permission was then given to Mrs. Andree to take up a collection in aid of Mrs. McDonald of Drumheller, widow of "Kid Burns" who was killed by a provincial policeman in the Alberta coalfields.

The convention then adjourned.

—J. S.

NOVA SCOTIA MINERS GET TORY PROSPERITY

In Springhill, N.S., miners are getting some of the good times promised by the Tory government. The mines only worked three days this week, and it is reported that is about the average working time to be worked during the summer months. Besco has two men for every job and if you have a hard place and ask for anything to help you out, the underboss will tell you that you ought to be glad that you have a job at all, and if you don't like the job you can go home. Some of the men can only get one and two days work a week, so they have to accept any conditions forced on them by the boss.—Maritime Labor Herald.

SYNOPSIS OF LAND ACT AMENDMENTS

PRE-EMPTIONS

Vacant, unreserved, surveyed Crown lands may be pre-empted by British subjects over 18 years of age, and by aliens on declaring intention to become British subjects, conditional upon residence, occupation, and improvement for agricultural purposes.

Full information concerning regulations regarding pre-emptions is given in Bulletin No. 1, Land Series, "How to Pre-empt Land," copies of which can be obtained free of charge by addressing the Department of Lands, Victoria, B.C., or to any Government Agent.

Records will be granted covering only land suitable for agricultural purposes, and which is not timberland, i.e., carrying over 8,000 board feet per acre west of the Coast Range and 5,000 feet per acre east of that Range.

Applications for pre-emptions are to be addressed to the Land Commissioner of the Land Recording Division, in which the land applied for is situated, and are made on printed forms, copies of which can be obtained from the Land Commissioner.

Pre-emptions must be occupied for five years and improvements made to value of $10 per acre, including clearing and cultivating at least five acres, before a Crown Grant can be received.

For more detailed information see the Bulletin "How to Pre-empt Land."

PURCHASE

Applications are received for purchase of vacant and unreserved Crown lands, not being timberland, for agricultural purposes; minimum price for first-class (arable) land is $5 per acre, and second-class (grazing) land $2.50 per acre. Further information regarding purchase or lease of Crown lands is given in Bulletin No. 10, Land Series, "Purchase and Lease of Crown La[illegible]

Mill, factory, or in[illegible] sites on timber land, not exc[illegible]0 acres, may be purchased o[illegible] the conditions including [illegible]ayment of stumpage.

HOMESITE LEASES

Unsurveyed areas, not exceeding 20 acres, may be leased as homesites, conditional upon a dwelling being erected in the first year, title being obtainable after residence and improvement conditions are fulfilled and land has been surveyed.

LEASES

For grazing and industrial purposes areas not exceeding 640 acres may be leased by one person or a company.

GRAZING

Under the Grazing Act the Province is divided into grazing districts and the range administered under a Grazing Commissioner. Annual grazing permits are issued based on numbers ranged, priority being given to established owners. Stock-owners may form associations for range management. Free, or partly free, permits are available for settlers, campers and travellers, up to ten head.

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Where Do We Eat?

By JOHN CUMMING.

To the question: What is the basic and most important industry in any country? The answer is invariably given as either mining, steel, or transportation. Napoleon's axiom that "an army fights on its stomach" never dawns upon the millions of people that were it not for FOOD there would be no mines nor miners; without food there would be no system of transportation, nor anyone to operate it; without food there would be no steel industry, and that the basic and most important industry in any country is: The food industry. To the second question as to what ought each and every individual person pay especial and particular care as to genuineness and purity when purchasing it, there is no doubt but that there would be those who would answer: Diamonds. Yet diamonds, however precious, are naught compared with FOOD, which the majority of people consume three and more times daily, each day in the year. And just as food holds first and foremost place among the most important means of subsistance so it assumes the only place of all things with regard to wholesomeness and purity. That which we eat, that which our bodies consume in order to derive therefrom vitality, vigor and energy must be pure and clean if our organisms are to function properly. Food—the builder of life—must be wholesome and clean if our bodies which assimilate it are to be healthy and clean so that we may be able to perform our daily tasks properly and efficiently.

Diseased Food Handlers

In order that those who prepare their food in their own homes, and those who must eat in hotels, restaurants and lunchrooms may receive better attention, wholesomer and cleaner food, it is their duty to themselves to patronize those places that handle or serve union-made food products and employ union labor for the following reasons: Scientists have established the fact that any one laboring beyond the eight-hour-per-day-limit does so to the detriment of one's health. The weakened condition of the overworked men and women in the food industry, as well as in any other industry, marks them as easy prey to the contraction of diseases such as rheumatism, heart disease, eczema, blood-poisoning and tuberculosis. The workers in the food industry in non-union restaurants work ten, twelve and sometimes more hours per day under the most unfavorable conditions, and at the lowest wages. With perspiration flowing freely from every pore of the body, inhaling the foul and contaminated air filled smoke, steam and dust of the alleged kitchens where sunshine hardly ever penetrates, and the back alleys which are often filthy and dirty; under these conditions many of the workers that are handling food are suffering from the above-mentioned diseases, which they are spreading among those they serve. Fatigue from overwork, and the nervous strain resulting from the miserable conditions, after one has worked eight hours and spent one's prime energy, results in the preparation of food without a thought as to cleanliness and the serving of it with a bitter and scornful smile.

Union Conditions Best

The eight-hour day in the catering industry is essential in order that the workers may have a chance to renew their outworn, tissues, regain their vigor and health; store up a sufficient amount of energy before beginning the next day's work with healthy and clean bodies. Union conditions in the food industry are essential in order that the workers be protected from vermin and disease thus saving the thousands they serve daily from avoidable illness, misery and premature death. These are the main reasons, and everyone will admit that they are substantial ones, why it is everyone's duty to support the Hotel and Restaurant Employees Union in their campaign to unionize every place in Vancouver and vicinity where food is served. It is the purpose of the Hotel and Restaurant Employees Union to organize every worker in the catering industry and secure shorter hours, better conditions and a standard of living more in keeping with the requirements and the dignity of decent men and women.

METAL MEN WIN STRIKE

Des Moines, Iowa.—Sheet metal workers have won their five-weeks' strike for higher wages. Rates of $1.15 an hour will continue until October 1 and will increase until April 1, next year, when they will be $1.25.

Echoes from the British Strike

Inciting to Violence

London, May 4.—The government is working this revolution talk overtime.

The unions retort that the government is inciting sedition and point out that the Labor party members are the union's orders to the strikers to still functioning in Parliament.

Minor Clashes and Arrests

Coupled with these declarations are avoid the streets when troops pass. There have been a score of minor clashes, particularly in Glasgow and the various seaports. There have been over 300 arrests, some resulting in prison sentences. That is not so bad, however, when one considers that millions of men have quit work.

How Tories Figure

The unions explain the government's story about 2000 trains moving as follows: A single train will call at 20 stations and the government reports 20 services by trains.

Bevin Assumes Control

Administration is centered in the hands of Ernest Bevin, the best of the British trade union strategists, famous for his organizing record, logical eloquence and for his achievements in defeating past governments, especially Lloyd George.

Bevin has assumed almost dictatorial powers under the council. All labor papers have been wiped out except the strike bulletin. This is a good thing, because it lessens the possibility of trouble from irresponsibile radicals.

Last Saturday, the General Council courteously returned a check for $50,000 to the Moscow unions. The labor leaders were determined to give the government no chance to hang a "Red" sign on the strike.

Strike Again as Government Shouts Victory

By W. N. EWER, Foreign Editor, London Daily Herald.

London, May 14.—The calling off of the general strike was followed by an amazing exhibition of ill faith, vindictive class hatred and blind stupidity on the part of the government and upper middle classes.

The General Council had—whether wisely or unwisely—agreed to an arrangement which was understood to provide a "square deal" to the miners without forcing the government to the alternative of humiliation or a fight to the bitter end. The unreckoned fact was that the English gentlemen's boasted code of honor only applied inside his own class.

The result should perhaps have been forseen. The government, having secured the calling off of the strike without giving any formal pledge, immediately used every available propaganda means to proclaim in the most strident tones that the strike was smashed, it was a victory of "law and order," and that it was a complete surrender of the Trades Union Congress and unconditional.

Drunken Boasts

The claim produced a minor orgy in the West End Wednesday night, half drunken "volunteers" of the undergraduate type parading the streets in groups, boasting that they had "beaten the strikers to their bloody knees." In this atmosphere of phantom victory, the employers at once decided to take full advantage of the situation to force the strikers to return to work at any terms offered and to smash the unions.

Men reporting to the railways for work late Wednesday were informed that they could only be taken back at the companies' own terms. Buses and trams, etc., were the same.

Yesterday morning found the mass of the workers angry, more determined than ever, and rather bewildered. They began to feel that the Trades Union Congress had let them down by calling off the strike which had been going on so successfully. It was as if an army, feeling itself victoriously advancing in full confidence, with fighting spirit, had suddenly been ordered to halt, then hearing the enemy celebrating the "victory."

Had the enemy not made the blunder of launching a counter attack the moral effect might have been most bad. But the effect of the attack was heartening. The threat of wage cuts, and victimizations shut the strike down again as firmly as ever. In the rail, transport and printing industries scarcely a man moved.

Strike Still On

Union executives, seeing the situation, immediately issued orders that the strike was still on. The astonished employers and the government, who had fondly believed they faced only a demoralized and beaten army, found the line of resistance as hard, resolute and determined as ever.

When the executives' orders to continue the strike were read out at meetings they were greeted everywhere with tremendous cheering by men who the day before had unwillingly heard the order to quit the fight. The theory had been that the general strike was off, but in fact, the general strike was still very much on.

Excited young gentlemen who had quit junketing at victory celebrations had to turn wearily again to their tasks—once thrilling, now becoming arduous—driving heavy busses, run-trains into each other.

It became clear that if the scatter-brained offensive were pressed and the workers realized beyond doubt that the objective was wholesale, all-around wage cuts, then the struggle would be resumed on a wider front and in a more bitter form.

Government Alarmed

The government began to take alarm. All day long yesterday broadcasting stations repeated urgently an appeal by Baldwin to employers to be reasonable and conciliatory. It was repeated again last night in the House of Commons. Gradually, during the day, the high tone of the government and employers dwindled. The talk of driving the men back on the employers' terms ceased. Negotiations began at night.

This morning the position was already altering. The iron and steel men almost everywhere were back at old conditions. Building trades workers the same. The London bus and tram lines, where yesterday the talk was of wholesale dismissals and wage cuts, start work tomorrow with the entire old staff at old conditions—all but a handful of the blacklegs may contemplate how they "saved the country," but quite certainly they did thousands of pounds of damage to the trams and buses. The same situation prevails nearly everywhere with the provincial tram and bus lines.

The chief problems now—apart from the central one of the mines—are on the railways, docks, road transport and printing. Even in those industries employers are abandoning the high mood of yesterday and no longer are hoping to enforce general wage cuts and new agreements.

The miners are meeting now after the executive conferred with the premier, from whom they are asking a definite pledge that he carry out the Samuels proposals.

MEXICO

An emigrant movement of Mexican labor is reported from Nogales, Sonora, to Arizona and California, U.S.A.

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I. L. P. Call For Support

The following resolution was carried at a meeting of the National Council of the Independent Labor Party in London on Saturday:—

"That the National Council of the I.L.P. pledges the support of every member of the party to the miners. It congratulates the General Council of the T.U.C. on its sustained efforts to secure a reasonable settlement, and upon its decision to mobilise the whole trade union movement behind the miners when the Government and the coal-owners criminally enforced the lock-out. It is the duty of every decent citizen to support the miners in resisting reduction of wages to a starvation level.

"The miners do essential and dangerous service for the nation, and the nation is honorably bound to see that they are paid a living wage in return.

"The National Council of the I.L.P. calls upon its 1100 branches to place themselves unreservedly at the disposal of the miners and the Trade Union Movement in the biggest struggle in which British Labour has ever been engaged.

"The development may be momentous, but responsibility does not rest with Labour, but if the consequences are faced with confidence, discipline and courageous leadership, an historic step may be taken towards the abolition of poverty and the freedom of the workers."

German People To Vote On Kaiser's Claim

Berlin. — Within two weeks the German people must pass on the question of confiscation of the property of the Hohenzollerns and the other royal rulers of old Germany.

By a vote of 242 to 236 the Reichstag recently rejected the confiscation bill. Ordinarily that would have left the matter in the hands of the courts which was exactly what the royalists wanted.

But the people had demanded a referendum, backed by petitions signed by 12,500,000 voters. Under Germany's constitution such a petition can not be ignored and already arrangements for the referendum are being made.

The government, which is rabidly reactionary, has arbitrarily decided that it will require a majority of all voters—those who vote and those who stay at home—to carry the confiscation proposal. The Socialists and others argue that a majority of all the votes cast should be sufficient, but the government is in a position to enforce its will.

Mary Garden falls in love with the radio and says she gets more emotion out of it than she ever got from any man. A woman's idea of the perfect mate—it can't talk back, and always gives her the last word.

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Strikes and Slogans :: BY F. W. MOORE

Is a strike justifiable under any circumstances?

We might as well ask is war justifiable under any circumstances. Of course, that depends upon how it is justified; and as war is inherent in the capitalistic system of competition we find the various pillars of church, state and finance, loudly proclaiming it the duty of every adult to fight for king and country when the occasion demands. Nor is the time of such occasions always left in doubt. It can sometimes be deduced from such slogans as the following: "What we have we'll hold."—the "we" meaning, in this case, every man in the British or other empire according to circumstances.

How well the British trades-unionists took the slogan to heart was evinced lately when their employers wished to reduce their already too meagre standard of living.

"What we have we'll hold," said they.

"It is too bad that you can't," thought Mr. Evan Williams, the mine owners' chairman, but the following is what he actually said at a parley between the mine owners and their employees according to last week's Labor Statesman: "It is a miserable wage we are proposing. If you would consider a longer working day we might be able to pay a decent wage."

But the miners were not disposed to have their seven and a half hours of daily toil in the damp, unhealthy labyrinths of the coal measures, increased. Their standard of living was at stake and instinctively the principles inculcated so thoroughly during the years of the Great War, took possession of their souls. "What we have we'll hold." they repeated more insistently. In their case, however, they found that the slogan was not patriotic, since the pronoun "we" only stands for mankind when used in this manner by one seventieth part of the populatio nthat owns about two thirds of the wealth of the United Kingdom.—Socialism, Critical & Constructive, page 186, Ramsay MacDonald.

Nevertheless, they declared industrial war, that is, they declared a strike as the only means of compelling the owners to recognize their manhood. The strike, therefore, has the same justification as patriotic war. Indeed, when a strike is called in just defence of popular rights it is the most patriotic of all wars since its battles are waged for principles that are only indirectly connected with material wealth.

It has the further recommendation, even in the case of failure, of becoming a standard of measurement of Labour's progress in education. Through its operations the workers learn judgment and self-control. They can use it as a meter to determine the extent that class-consciousness has taken possession of the masses, and from it they may learn for future reference just how far humanity may be relied on to support the demand for an ever-increasing measure of freedom.

Education alone might be effective, provided the exploiters were willing to yield control of the industries to the public in proportion as they proved capable of accepting responsibility; and as a necessary corollary of this procedure they should be willing to help the masses to understand the import of the laws of economic determinism. But that, they have, almost invariably refused do. Hence strikes are likely to be the vogue until vastly superior arrangements from what are now in force are made between employer and employee.

But this is no time to deal with generalities. The strike is on. Let us hope that complete success may attend the efforts of men who on the other side of the world are fighting a battle for Humanity—of men, who are trying to materialize the war-time slogan of the patriots: "What we have we'll hold."

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Point of View

"Everything depends upon the point of view," quoted the parlor philosopher.

"That's right," agreed the mere man. "A woman in a decollete gown may be shocked at the sight of a man in his shirt sleeves."

Struck Is Right

I was struck by the beauty of her hand.

I tried to kiss her.

As I say.

I was struck by the beauty of her hand.

With Woodsworth at Ottawa

By J. S. WOODSWORTH.

At last the budget debate is over. As we returned to our room at five in the morning, with the daylight coming on and the birds twittering, the question would arise, "Is this kind of a life worth while? Is there any possible way of introducing sanity into the conduct of public affairs?

About four o'clock, just before the vote was taken, a Progressive member came across to my seat and said that he thought of making a short speech but did not wish to prolong the debate, even by another quarter of an hour. I begged from him his notes, which I should like to present as a more sensible presentation of the case than was actually put on Hansard.

"What is the matter with Parliament, composed of 245 representative picked men from every constituency, that they spend one month in debate of the motion of the Minister of Finance that the House do resolve itself into Committee of the whole to consider the resolution of the Minister of Finance? What is wrong with Parliament that in order to bring this month's debate to a close the House must sit until four o'clock in the morning? What other body of men are required to work both day and night? What is accomplished by all this night work that might not be accomplished in daylight, if a measure of common sense were injected into the rules? Is it a reflection on the intelligence of the members and if so, is it not a reflection on the voters who elected them, or is the trouble with the peculiar Parliamentary system under which we are endeavoring to govern ourselves? Are the Members helpless or can they even, under this system make such rules governing procedure that their business may be done in business hours and in a reasonable length of time. If democratic government is to survive is it not necessary that Parliament amend its rules. Otherwise will it not become the laughing stock of intelligent people?

During the debate, Mr. Evans as usual gave some very sound truths.

"I certainly would have an income tax as a permanent thing, also death duties, a tax on land values, unearned increment, and so on, to be collected from the man best able to pay rather than from the poorer consumers. . . I have said that between trade discounts, dumping acts and other features of our protectionist system we have a fiscal policy that has never been surpassed for the injustice and hardship inflicted on the workers. . . I repeated that our laws are a series of divisional enactments, and in that there is an evil. It is bound to breed rebellion in the one class, and in the other class a disregard for the rights of others. . . . The tariff was the first means of organizing in this country a band of overlords who ruled the Dominion, who still hold the reins of power, and who are the cause of creating a class-conscious war today between themselves and the other classes. . . . A tariff today is a means in the hands of manufacturers and other combines of finance and of distributing concerns, of intimidating their employees. . If anyone disputes this let me read a paragraph from the Banker's Magazine of August 26, 1920. That journal, commenting on the situation, expresses it thus:

"Capital must protect itself in every possible manner through combination and legislation. Debts must be collected, bonds and mortgages must be foreclosed as rapidly as possible. When, through a process of law, the common people have lost their homes they will be more tractable, and more easily governed through the influence of the strong arm of the government, applied by a central power of wealth under the control of leading financiers. A people without homes will not quarrel with their leader."

"Is there any man in the House bold enough to say that legislation which takes out of the pockets of those who buy cars nearly $6,000,000 more than was paid in wages in the whole industry is legislation for the general good of Canada?"

Mr. Evans went on to compare the wholesale prices in Liverpool and in Winnipeg. Flour for the 98 lb. sack was 38 2-5 cents cheaper in Liverpool than in Winnipeg, while wheat was 35 1-4 cents per bushel cheaper in Winnipeg than in Liverpool. There is a steal of 91 2-5 cents on every sack of flour sold to the Canadian public. Allowing nine millions of barrels of flour each year for the population of Canada, this country has paid $16,470,000 too much for this flour. Mr. Evans concluded:

"Our ears are deafened these days by the clamor of press, platform and parliament to quit our individual self-seeking, forget our vocational and class interests, stifle our sectionalism and devote ourselves to—what? To the welfare of the members of an acquisitive group arrogantly regarding themselves as the state, who having control of all those agencies for the moulding of public opinion, try to make us believe that in doing so we are patriots when in truth both agriculturists and workers are made their slaves."

Mr. Bourassa emphasized the part that the war had played in bringing about the present economic situation.

"The enlistment of soldiers, took away most of the able-bodied men from the farm and from industry in order to make them destroyers of life, destroyers of wealth and destroyers of economic balance, instead of keeping them in this country to work for our future generations. . . . . With regard to the balance of wealth the Hon. member for St. Lawrence-St. George (Mr. Cahan) once quite rightly said on a public platform in Montreal, that on the whole the war had not impoverished Canada, but that it had displaced wealth. . . If the apportionment of that amount, represented either by liquid money or by values invested in farming or industry is not fairly balanced among the masses of the people, you have a poorer country than if you had less money better apportioned." That has been another result of the war. . . Today the purchasing people of this country are paying for the commodities they consume, for the goods they use, not only a fair remuneration upon the real amount of capital invested in the making of those goods; but we are making returns to the financial sharks upon the amount of watered stock, of valueless paper, all called "capital. . . . Now we have higher taxation in Canada than in the United States—because we were more foolish during the war than the Americans were, because we spent more money, because we ruined more people, because we uprooted more of our young population from the soil for war purposes than the Americans did—the economic and social conditions in this cuntry are getting to be such that it is becoming more advantageous from a purely economic point of view to invest and to live in the United States than in Canada."

Mr. Bourassa went on to describe the hold that Sir Herbert Holt had upon the water power of Quebec.

"Seven per cent. on a capital multiplied seven and a half times means fifty-two and a half per cent, so that at the present time the ratepayers of the city of Montreal, of the Island of Montreal, and before long practically one half of the Province of Quebec, will be remunerating the shareholders of these companies to the extent of fifty-two and a half per cent, which perhaps would be multiplied by four before long. . . Now they come and ask in the name of the people to be exempted from taxes on profits."

Mr. Robert Gardiner pointed out some underlying economic facts that are not generally recognized:

"We do not transfer money—we do not get money when new capital comes into this country. Money in the final analysis is merely a medium of exchange. It just measures values, or we express values by money . . . Money is not capital; it never was and never will be. True, you can purchase capital if you have money. Capital is, for instance, factories, the machinery of production, raw material, and so forth; that is real capital but money in itself is not capital at all. . . . Protection is a direct tax on capital coming into this country, because that capital comes in he form of goods and those goods have to pay duty. Therefore our friends are very illogical in their reasoning. They want to see more capital come in. All right, then cut down your customs duties and you will get capital more readily than under present conditions. That is the only way.

"Our friends also seem to think that capital is of more value than labor; that is to say, they would give the preference to capital over labour. Let me give the House a quotation from Abraham Lincoln:

"Capital is the fruit of labour and could not exist if labour had not first existed. Labour therefore deserves much the highest consideration."

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WARNING
TO
HOUSEWIVES

This is to inform readers of the Labor Statesman that efforts to organize the

Bakery Salesmen
OF
COWAN'S BAKERY

has not met with any success.

The management has been approached by the local union and Trade Council organizers but at this date the employees

ARE UNORGANIZED

notwithstanding the alleged statement of the management to the contrary.

BAKERY SALESMEN'S UNION, LOCAL 371

PLAIN TYPING WANTED
Envelopes addressed. Charges reasonable. Enquire Statesman Office, 816 Holden Building, Phone Sey. 6279.

UNEMPLOYMENT FUND SMASHED BY BOSSES

New York.—The unemployment fund of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' union and employers has been smashed by the latter, and the union has ordered that workers cease contributing to the fund.

The plan has been in operation one year, following the threat of a general strike for improved conditions. The employers agreed to pay two-thirds and the workers one-third. To date the workers have paid $146,000, or nearly two-thirds, and the employers but $88,000.

The bosses' violation of their pledged word forced the union to abandon collections.

ARE YOU TIMID? YOU NERVOUS? YOU FEARFUL?
DO You Want Self Confidence? You Want Initiative? You Want Self Assertiveness?
For Appointment Phone: Douglas 2640L
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Junior Labor League

An illustrated lantern lecture will be held on Friday evening, May 28, in the I.O.O.F. Hall, 30th Ave. & Main St. Commander M. H. H. Waddington, lecturer. The Commander is an Old Countryman, born at Salford, Manchester, in 1872. At the age of 20 years he started his career with that well-known body of horsemen, the Bushmen's Corps in the South African War. Joined the Royal Flying Corps, now known as the Royal Air Force. The lecturer was constant in his visits to France during the war and had excellent opportunities of seeing all the horrors of the War. He also holds several military medals. The Commander is no stranger to labor politics. He has been a member of the Social Democrat Society also the Independent Labor Party in England.

He is also a Socialist, and knows why. Commander Waddington is now a full commander of the Royal Photographic Society. This lecture is entitled "Reminiscences of the last War and Futility of Wars." It is up to yourselves if you miss this lecture. There will be some very interesting pictures shown as well as educational to the old and young. Don't forget Friday, May 28th, in the I.O.O.F. Hall, 30th Ave. & Main St. at 8 p. m. Refreshments will be served after the lecture as well as dancing. A very good musical program has been arranged and a good time is assured to all who attend.

Silver collection at door. Ladies please bring cakes.

MOLDERS STRIKE IS STILL IN PROGRESS

(Continued from Page 1)

month, and these are they who would decide against our 2 cents extra. We are not out to say a word derogatory of our fellows in other skilled trades, neither are we prepared to admit that we need any less per day to carry on our craft. It's beginnings, lost in far antiquity, is one of the most highly skilled on earth; one in which the personal element enters more than in any other trade; one in which the machine can never enter to the extent it has in every other craft. I beg to suggest that we are seriously underpaid, and that our request is most reasonable.

Will a catastrophe ensue on granting the request for 2 cents per quarter hour more? Is it necessary to deal with this? Is it impossible to, having granted this, readjust prices to balance things as before? Is it competition, with whom? The keenest competitor of each foundryman in this area is every other foundrymen in that same area, and therefore, being combined, an organized body, may be not as brothers, may be not entirely trusting each other, still, I say, being as one, the solution of readjustment, not difficult, is in their own hands.

4. Honestly though, are we being paid for our work? I, as a partisan, can't see this from an employer's angle, as I don't live an employer's life, socially and materially, therefore can't hold any brief for the foundrymen. No, but is it a fair and equitable wage, for the time worked, for the risks ran; Risks, pooh-pooh; risks, well, are there none? Do we not burn and wear our clothes away quicker, and boots, too, than any other trade? Do we not spend 8 hours per day in an unhealthy atmosphere? If it were possible to examine a molder's lungs would they be pink (normal) or black (subnormal)? Are we not afflicted with rheumatism as a consequent of damp and steaming sand? In short, is it not one of the most unhealthy of trades? Does our craft not tax both brain and muscle continually? Can we apply any automatic device to our job and watch it do our work? No, decidedly not. If there be a foundryman who contests the idea that brains are needed in a foundry, I suggest that he visit the few foundries where scabs are toiling and ask their employer if he is completely satisfied. He will get an emphatic NO. In my summary, therefore, I conclude by saying—we are seriously underpaid.

I know there is an argument extant to the effect that other trades need higher wages because their working year is intermittent, irregular. Must one assume from that that ours is regular, full-time employment, all the year round? If we did so assume, we would be wrong.

Contractor W. J. Read has secured the contract to build a $10,500 residence for Mrs. J. T. Atkinson at 5475 Angus Ave.

One hundred and seventy building permits totaling $255,000 were issued in Victoria during the first four months of this year.

Richards St. from Hastings to Georgia is to be widened nine feet at a cost of $25,000.

Moxam & Todd have secured the contract to erect a $45,000 apartment block at 220 33rd Ave. W., for Mrs. F. Martin.

A $37,500 apartment block will be erected at 2294 Cornwall St. by the Lilford Lodge Construction Co.

The Home Builders and Decorators are erecting a $2,500 residence at 2917 1st Ave. E.

A $2,500 residence is to be erected at 2786 Triumph St.

R. McKay is preparing to erect a $4,500 residence at 2366 3rd Ave. W.

A $3,000 residence is to be erected at 2608 Triumph St. by C. H. McKay.

Contractor F. Stout will erect a $3,200 residence at 917 16th Ave. W. for J. C. Turnbull.

A residence will be erected shortly at 1858 Cornwall St. at a cost of approximately $3,500.

A battery house is being erected at a cost of $6,500 at 1389 Howe St. by W. D. Frith.

The Georgia Construction Co. has secured the contract to clear and grade the one-mile cut-off on the P. G. E. north of Lillooet. The estimate given was for $130,000.

The city is spending $9,700 for extension of water mains on some city streets.

A $60,000 school has just been overwhelmingly favored by the taxpayers of Trail, B.C.

North Vancouver City and District are planning the erection of a $100,000 hospital.

The Vancouver Auto Wrecking Co. is building an addition to its garage at 1249 Granville St. as a cost of $7,000.

G. W. Deacon will erect the $9,000 wing to the Capital Hill School.

$200,000 worth of local improvement work is contemplated by the City Council.

Contractor D. G. McLennan has secured the contract to erect a $10,000 residence for R. W. Brown at 1336 57th Ave. W.

Mrs. B. Stephens is planning a $5,600 home and garage at 1825-7 10th Ave W. on the day labor plan.

The Maple Ridge School has placed contracts for four new School additions at a cost of $11,400.

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INCORPORATED 2ND MAY 1670

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We try at least to be consistent. Some of our competitors are assisting the Drug Combine to raise prices, at the same time assuming to be cut-rate druggists. We are not in the Drug Combine.

Friday and Saturday Specials

$0.25	Baby's Own Tablets	$0.19	
.50	Perma Bath Salts	.29	
.50	Icilma Cream	.32	
.25	Cream of Witch Hazel and Roses	.16	
1.25	Thermos Bottle	.79	
1.25	Thermos Lunch Kit	.73	
.50	La Mar Soap, 3 for	.73	
.15	Straw Hat Cleaner	.08	
.50	Puritall Milk of Magnesia	.28	
.50	Gypsy Foot Relief	.37	
.25	Reid's Foot Ease	.16	
.50	Zed Health Biscuits	.40	
1.00	Pro-phy-lac-tic Hair Brush	.57	
1.50	Aristocrat Fountain Pen	.97	
1.00	Dr. Reid's Guaranteed Hair Tonic	.55	
.50	Krysol (antiseptic) 8 oz.	.27	
.25	Reid's Benzo Almond Cream	.17	
.60	Banquet Chocolates, per 1 lb. carton	.32	

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Come boys now, altogether,
We'll show the bosses whether
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One tug, good tug, you'll do it,
And never, never rue it.
Come on, right in.

—Molders' Scribe.

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Men's Hairline Pants. Headlight Guarantee	$7.00
Men's Blue Serge Pants. Headlight Guarantee	$6.50
Men's Khaki Work Pants. Headlight Guarantee	$3.75
Men's Striped Moleskin Pants. Headlight Guarantee	$5.00
Headlight Combinations in blue and khaki. Buttons are covered. They do not scratch	$5.00
Headlight Regular Overalls and jackets in blue striped and khaki.	

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