Labor Statesman

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

Official Organ of The Canadian Labor Party

No. 103—EIGHT PAGES | VANCOUVER, B. C., April 9th, 1926 | FIVE CENTS PER COPY

Circulation Branch
Dept. of Labour

Plan to Amalgamate Two Labor Papers Endorsed

Ownership to Remain With Vancouver Trades Council — Sign Painters to Be Organized—Molders Strike Is Endorsed by Council.

PROPOSALS FOR THE AMALGAMATION of The Labor Statesman and The Labor Advocate presented to the Vancouver Trades and Labor Council at its regular meeting on Tuesday evening by the press committee, were adopted by the council, and the committee instructed to proceed. The plan leaves the ownership of The Labor Statesman in the hands of the Trades and Labor Council, with a committee of four from the Trades Council and four from the owners of The Labor Advocate as the press committee to control the policy and management of the paper.

No Room at Tranquille

A communication was received from the Street and Electric Railway Employees' Union asking the council to take up with the provincial government the need for more accommodation at the Tranquille Sanatorium. It is understood that several patients have been waiting for a long time to get in. The suggestion was endorsed.

A communication from the Greater Vancouver Central Council of the C. L. P., urging the Trades Council and the affiliated units to write local members of the federal house, pointing out the necessity for certain labor legislation, was endorsed.

A communication from the A. F. of L., drawing attention to the organizing campaign of the Hotel and Restaurant Employees' International Alliance and Bartenders' League, and urging the support of the council, was endorsed and referred to organizing committee.

Unions Donate $196,000 to Miners

Another communication from the A. F. of L., outlining the settlement of the historic strike of the anthracite mine workers, showing the moral and financial support to the amount of $196,000 given the strikers and commending the spirit displayed by organized labor and thanking them for the support, was received and filed.

To Organize Sign Painters

Local Union 138, Painters', Decorators' and Paperhangers' Union, asked the council and organizing committee to aid in organizing the sign painters of the city. These men, the communication says, are working under deplorable conditions for $4 a day and up. The matter was endorsed and referred to the organizing committee.

A communication from Bird, Bird & Lefeaux in reference to the injunction case against the Stage Employees' Union by the Empress Theatre, was read, and the council instructed Secretary Bengough to circularize the unions, informing the membership that the Empress Theatre does not employ union help.

To Amend Criminal Code

A communication from the Calgary Trades and Labor Council asking that efforts be made to get the federal government to amend the Canadian Criminal Code to comply with the British law which permits workers to peacefully picket an unfair firm or communicate the fact to the general public. Endorsed.

Why Printers Die Young

The flower show had been a great success, and a few evenings later Mr. Blank, who had performed the opening ceremony, was reading the local paper's report of it to his wife.

Presently he stopped reading, his justifiable pride turning to anger. Snatching up his stick, he rushed from the room. Amazed, his wife picked up the newspaper to ascertain the reason of her spouse's fury.

She read: "As Mr. Blank mounted the platform, all eyes were fixed on the large red 'nose' he displayed. Only years of patient cultivation could have produced an object of such brilliance."—Western Christian Advocate.

Striking Molders Solid For Increase

The strike of the molders in Vancouver and New Westminster district has entered its second week. The men are out 100 per cent and determined to remain out until they succeed in establishing a wage rate in keeping with other foundry centres along the Pacific Coast.

The molders made a demand on the foundrymen for an increase in the minimum wage rate from $5.70 to $6.50 per day, to take effect on April 1st. Although the men appointed a negotiating committee, the employers refused to meet them in conference.

On the afternoon of March 31st the employers approached the men working in their respective shops and offered to compromise on the basis of a $6.00 minimum, this offer coming at the eleventh hour could not prevent the walk-out which was scheduled to take effect on March 31st.

At the meeting of the strikers held on April 1st the $6.00 proposition was rejected by the men. With the splendid spirit of solidarity evidenced by the men, coupled with the reasonableness of the demand made upon the foundrymen, it should only be the matter of a few days until a settlement is effected. Five of the smaller shops have already granted the increase asked for, and the men are at work in these shops.—W.B.M.

DAIRY EMPLOYEES TO HOLD SMOKING CONCERT

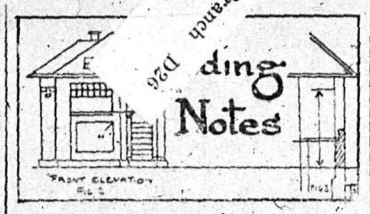
The Vancouver, New Westminster and North Vancouver Milk Salesmen and Dairy Employees are holding a big smoker in the Irish Fusiliers Hall, Pender and Howe streets, on Wednesday evening, April 14th. The union is always able to get plenty of good talent and every effort is being made to make this smoking concert the best yet.

FLOORLAYERS AFTER INCREASE

The Floorlayers' and Finishers' Union is presenting an agreement to contractors for their signatures calling for a 40-hour week and a wage of $1.12½ an hour.

Worked For More Than 70 Hours a Week

Because he refused to work for seventy hours and more a week, a truck driver, hired by an Hindoo working for the Excelsior Lumber Co., was fired. The man had been working for two weeks. The first week he put in 70 hours, and the next week 73 hours. Thinking that the hours might be further increased, he questioned his boss, the Hindoo, who then immediately fired him. His appeal to the manager of the lumber company is alleged to have brought no satisfaction. The new employee engaged in the place of this man worked on Good Friday and Saturday, but the police interfered and stopped him from working on Sunday.



H. D. Crawford has secured a contract to build a $15,000 apartment block at Cornwall and Yew.

* * *

Three new bungalows will be built under contract by C. Peterson, costing $2,500 each, at 680 and 690 Cassiar Street, and 3641 12th West.

* * *

A location has been secured at Smythe and Seymour Streets for the erection of a million dollar theatre for the Orpheum Theatre and Mr. J. F. Langer.

* * *

Robert Hudson will erect two houses costing $10,000 at Yew and Third Street.

* * *

F. T. Sherborne will erect the $5000 plant for the Auto Radiator and Lamp Company at 1025 Seymour Street.

* * *

Total construction in greater Vancouver in March amounted to $1,958,115.

* * *

The Moxam Construction Company has secured the contract to build two apartment bocks costing $40,000 and $16,000 in Kitsilano and Fairview.

* * *

The widening of Marine Drive in West Vancouver will be done by Cotton Company at a cost of $43,000.

* * *

H. J. Davies, of Kamloops, will erect the $20,000 boarding house for the Tranquille Sanitarium.

* * *

The Fraser River Pile Driving Company secured the contract to build the Harrison River Bridge at a cost of $22,199.

* * *

A large house at Broadway and Birch is to be remodelled by Thomas Wylie at a cost of $7,000.

* * *

Peter Sharpe has secured the contract to erect a $13,250 house at Connaught and Alexandra.

* * *

A semi-bungalow costing $6,500 will be erected by I. C. Jones at 354 12th Avenue West.

* * *

An $18,000 apartment block will be erected by R. A. C. Howard on Barclay Street, near Gilford.

* * *

Messrs. A. C. and E. G. McDougal and T. H. Nickson have merged their firms and will be known as the Georgia Construction Co., Ltd., with headquarters at the Bank of Toronto Building.

* * *

The Community Hall at Ladner will be built by Mr. Nels Olund, of Mount Lehman, for $13,877.

* * *

Eighteen dwellings were built in New Westminster during March.

* * *

C. F. Robinson, of New Westminster, will build the first unit of the Canadian Scottish Paper Company's plant in that city at a cost of $12,000.

* * *

Three stores are to be built in Victoria at a cost of $9,000, at Burnett and Humboldt Streets, by J. A. Griffiths, under the day labor plan.

The "Medical Doctors" are again trying to corner the "sick" market. They have a bill before the Manitoba Legislature that unless all those displaying the affix or prefix of "Doctor, "Surgeon" or Physician" belong to their particular cult of the medical act, they are to be fined not more than $100 or less than $25, or the alternative of not less than 14 days or more than two months in jail. This is a crack at the chiropractors, etc., an annual affair.

C. L. P. Elects Officers

At the meeting of the Greater Vancouver Central Council of the C. L. P., R. H. Neelands, M.P., was re-elected president for another year. Other officers elected were: Vice-president, J. Flynn; secretary-treasurer, Wm. Dunn; members of executive board, O. Mengle, R. Skinner, J. Auton, E. P. Crosby.

The committtee handling the affairs of the last municipal campaign in Burnaby returned a balance of $15, and a donation of $15 was made to the Jubilee Labor Hall Committee.

Comrade M. Bruce of Toronto was present and gave an outline of the work of the C. L. P. A committee of three was appointed to work with the representatives of the Canadian Defense League.

New Press Octopus Menaces Germany

In Germany the new press octopus, headed by Alfred Hugenberg, with its hand on about half the German newspapers, has suddenly come strongly into the open with a Fascist campaign. "It is now or never," they believe. Hugenberg is not only a press, but a financial and political boss. He is forming an anti-republican bloc to set up a Fascist "strong man," either as a stepping stone to restoring the monarchy, or as a substitute if it becomes plain that Germany is done with Hohenzollerns.

Two happenings have energized the Fascists. The overwhelming vote—twelve and one-half millions where only four millions were needed—in the recent referendum on confiscating the ex-king's possessions, was a stupifying shock to the monarchists. Germany followed the republican labor lead in this democratic referendum most unexpectedly. "These democratic proceedings have got to be ended," is the Fascist cry.

The other was the League of Nations fiasco, which left Germany outside the league. Now she is to be voted in, perhaps, in September. The Fascists hate the league and regard it as Mussolini does. So the German Fascists must get their job done this summer.

North Burnaby Notes

An earnest effort is being made to revive the interest of the labor forces of North Burnaby in the work of the I. L. P.

The future meetings of the party will be held on the last Wednesday of the month in the Abel Building, Gilmore avenue. In order that these meetings may be of more interest to the average member, it is intended that the bulk of the time of these meetings will be devoted to discussion of the principles of the labor movement and the education of our members to become more effective propagandists of the gospel of industrial salvation.

In addition to these business and educational meetings, it is also intended to hold social meetings occasionally, of which due notice will be given.

We are pleased to note that Mr. Frank Browne, M.L.A., and his family have become residents of North Burnaby, and we expect the North Burnaby I. L. P. will benefit from their wide experience and devotion to the labor cause.

At the regular meeting of the North Burnaby branch of the I. L. P., held March 12th, the following officers were elected for the next half year: President, W. J. Holden; vice-president, R. C. Hirst; recording-secretary, E. Burns; financial secretary, Mrs. R. C. Hirst. Our treasury has been depleted by the work of the federal and civic campaign. Funds are urgently needed to carry on the good work. Members and sympathizers should turn out and attend our meetings and by their presence and contributions help in the work of social and industrial emancipation. E. B.

Union Delegates Report to Council

Under the heading of reports from unions, at the regular meeting of the Trades and Labor Council on Tuesday evening, Del. Gilbert reported that the Teamsters' Union had initiated new members and had had a request for a copy of their agreement from another transfer firm in the city.

Del. Wilson reported that the Painters' Union expected to get a wage increase on April 12. Work conditions were greatly improved, not enough men being available to supply the need of one branch of the trade.

The Hod Carriers' and Building Laborers' Union delegate reported that efforts to get the co-operation of the Plasterers and Lathers had not been successful. He suggested that in such matters as these organized labor was unfair to itself.

Engineers' Long Hours

Del. Campbell of the Mill and Factory Workers reported conditions fairly good, but declared that engineers were working extra long hours in the Restmore factory. Del. Hunt (Engineers) informed the delegates that these men did not belong to his craft.

Del. Page reported that a number of carpenters were still out of work, but when the five-day week went into effect on May 1 that it would help relieve the situation.

Del. Hunt reported that the operating engineers had very few men unemployed.

Del. Watt reported that the Plumbers and Steamfitters had obtained an increase of wages commencing April 1.

Machinists To Co-operate

Del. Johnson of the Machinists' Lodge 182 said that he had the misfortune to work for the C. P. R., but at the present time work was plentiful. He assured the delegates from the Molders' Union that the machinists would co-operate with them in their strike.

Del. Pallin reported that Electrical Workers 213 had donated $20 to the striking textile workers in Passaic, N. J.

A delegate for the molders reported his craft on strike for $6.50 a day from $5.70.

On April 1 the molders in all shops were on strike and a number of non-union men joined them. The ranks are still solid, and they expect an early victory. The employers cannot get molders to come to this city because the wages are much higher elsewhere and the men here are in earnest in their demand for an increased wage.

Del. McDonald (Tailors) moved that the Trades Council endorse the strike of the Molders' Union. Carried unanimously.

Dangerous Factor in European Peace

Paris.—European Fascism, with American assistance, is lifting its head higher right now than at any time in its existence.

The report of U. S. Ambassador Houghton, made in Washington, that Mussolini is regarded by European government, even those outwardly friendly to him, as the most dangerous factor menacing European peace, is no news here.

France is irritated by the editorial appeals for "action" addressed to French Fascists by Mussolini's newspapers, but it can not be said that France is alarmed. There is plenty of "dictatorship" dynamite lying around in France, but for the moment the "blue shirts" here (the counterpart of the Italian black shirts) are too thoroughly discredited to be an early menace.

The real object of these outbursts in Mussolini's newspapers is to muzzle the French press, which steadily attacks Mussolini. But outside of France there are real enough events.

Minimum Wage Motion in House

Mr. J. S. Woodsworth (Winnipeg North Centre) moved:

That, in the opinion of this House, a wage sufficient to provide for a reasonable standard of living should constitute a legal minimum wage.

Mr. Woodsworth: When the House took recess I was giving some of the budgets which had been prepared to show the amount necessary in order that a family might maintain a decent standard of living. Perhaps it might be of interest to give the figures with regard to what employees in this country are actually paid. In the Canada Year Book, 1924, at page 707, we find the wages in the Canadian manufacturing industries in 1921 and 1922 were:

The average earnings of the 74,884 salaried employees covered in 1922 were $1,787; of the 387,689 factory hands, $937; the two classes together, $1,075. In 1921 salaried employees averaged $1,819, wage earners, $996, and all employees, $1,133.

The number of male workers reported increased in 1922 by 3.5 per cent, while the number of female workers was greater by 11.1 per cent. Out of every 1000 persons employed by manufacturers in 1922, 755 were male and 235 were females; in the preceding year the ratio was 778 to 222.

Tremendous Burden

With regard to the female employees, at least in seven of our provinces there is provision for a minimum wage, but so far, except in British Columbia, there is no provision for minimum wage in the case of male employees. Now, it may be said that there is a very wide discrepancy between the amounts that are considered necessary for a decent standard of living and the amounts actually paid. That is true, and the community is undoubtedly carrying the burden. People of small wage manage to get along—some of them at least—by immense sacrifices to themselves and to their children, entailing a tremendous burden upon the community. I am going to read to the House a paragraph or two very typical of the descriptions which are given of the condition of the poorer families of Canada round about Christmas time; we find similar cases in almost all our large cities. The one to which I refer is taken from the Toronto Daily Star of Monday, December 14, 1925. It reads:

Largest Weekly Wage $24 Since Man Started to Work

"If I could make $20 a week regularly I would be happy!"

A sick and doleful man, tossing feverishly underneath soiled bed clothes. His feverish eyes turned in the direction of his wife, who was standing silently in the far corner of the damp and dim little room. She gravely nodded her corroboration:

"Yes," she said, "we could live very nicely on that."

It didn't seem much to ask of the world—$20 per week for a man slaving in a tannery.

"I once earned $24 a week for awhile," reflected the sick man, as if that time were the financial oasis of his life, when it was all smooth sailing.

Five to Support

But with five people to support, rent to pay, doctor's bills to meet, food to buy, it could hardly be called a princely allowance.

This is another of those families that have never got out of the mire. There are three little girls in the family, all, from outward appearances, in various stages of anemia. There was also a little brother, but he died.

It is not to be wondered at if they do look like children whose parents have been skating on thin ice. The $24-a-week days are a thing of the past, and now the father's total earnings for a week cannot be more than $18, and generally he loses two, or perhaps more, days a week. If he loses two his wages are $12. His rent is $5. Divide the balance by five and you get $1.40. With five people getting no more than that each week somebody has to go without.

Behind in Rent

Sometimes they get three months behind in the rent, and then it takes them a great deal longer to recover. Invariably they are in debt with the doctor, paying him off sometimes at the rate of 50 cents a week.

This is a typical situation for one of the families on the list of The Star Santa Claus Fund. It is not an isolated case; quite the contrary. There are thousands like it."

The record in any city of any size would show thousands of cases very similar in character to this. That is what it means to the family living on low wages. Just think what a great burden this entails on the community at large. I believe that any medical man will bear me out—and there are a very large number of medical men in this House—that to no small extent the patients in our hospitals coming from the poorer homes in our cities are there because of the lack of proper care at home. Those who have had anything to do with poor relief in our cities know what large sums are given by the various institutions and societies and by the churches toward the support of the people who are obliged to live below the line. I know of one society in my own city which has had to consider seriously the question whether or not it was right to supplement by charity the wages paid to the working people there—wages that are altogether inadequate to support them in anything like a decent standard. We have also the same testimony from our prisons and penitentiaries. A considerable number of the inmates of these institutions were tempted to crime simply because they had to keep themselves on less than would maintain a decent standard of living.

Poverty, Illness, Crime

I remember some years ago trying a little experiment of my own. I requested the health officers to give me a spot map showing the location of the contagious diseases in my city over a number of months. I then went to the associated charities and asked them to prepare me a similar map showing where their cases requiring relief were located, and I asked the juvenile court for a spot map indicating in what districts cases of juvenile crime were prevalent. I placed these maps side by side and I found that they were almost identical in detail. I do not know which is the most fundamental—the want of health, or poverty or juvenile crime, but I would say that the three were closely connected. And the worst is not the effect on the individual or even on the individual family but the effect on the and so on, and that whilst undoubtedly this great piling up of capital that has gone on in the past has conduced to build up our present civilization the time is about come when this is in danger of becoming top-heavy, and when, if we wish to save this system, we shall have to alter it very materially.

younger children and the coming generation. If we give less than a decent standard of living we simply mortgage the future generation.

A Basic Wage

Objections to anything like a minimum wage come from two sources. There is sometimes objection on the part of labour itself. It is feared by some labour leaders that the minimum wage might tend to become the maximum, and that, I think, might be a real danger if we proposed to fix a minimum wage in every industry. But I am not talking of a minimum for each industry; all that I advocate is a basic wage that would apply to all men, a wage below which it is not safe to allow any family to live. There is also an objection from industry; we are told that industry cannot bear the burden. Well, I suggest that so long as we have such accumulation of wealth as we have in this country we need not worry a great deal about this matter. So long as there are a few people who possess large fortunes while the masses in Canada have comparatively little there is no reason why these masses ought not to have their standards raised. You have but to glance at the income tax returns to realize the very unequal distribution of wealth in Canada, and so long as industries are earning large dividends, so long as our financial institutions are prosperous, there is no reason whatever why individual workmen should subsist on low standards.

Parasitic Industries

In my opinion any industry that cannot pay its employees a decent wage is parasitic, and that industry might just as well pass out. Surely if an industry is worth carrying on it ought to afford a decent living to the people who are engaged in it. As I said a little while ago, we ought to regard wages as a first charge on industry. As it is today, we consider interest as a prior charge; rents are regarded as a prior charge and we have profits in various forms as a prior charge as well. We must reversed this way of thinking, and recognize that wages, which mean the very life of the employee, ought to constitute a first charge on industry. As a matter of fact we do not treat our employees on as good a principle as we do the lower animals for we have on the statute books laws for the prevention of cruelty to animals. A man is not allowed to work a horse and not give it proper food; he is not even allowed to keep a wild animal in confinement without adequately caring for it. Yet we have many people in this country who are working for anything but an adequate wage which would enable them to provide even the barest necessities of life. We ought surely at least to go as far as that.

No Serious Results

It is said that dreadful things may happen if this or any other reform, for that matter, is carried out, but I would point out that no dire results have attended the minimum wage for women. It may be that certain employers have been unable to engage the girls they would have liked to employ, and it may be that the costs of production have been somewhat increased, and, of course, passed on to the public. But we are coming to recognize that on the whole no serious results have ensued from the enactment of minimum wage laws for women. Why, therefore, should there be any danger in enacting a similar law for men who have families to support? I am again thinking of those classes of men who generally have been unable to organize themselves into trade unions and who therefore are the most helpless in our community life.

Becoming Top Heavy

Perhaps I might pause for a moment to answer a little more fully a suggestion that has been made, that in the event of a minimum wage law being carried into effect there might be a danger of there not being enough work available for those seeking employment. I would call the attention of the House to a very interesting treatment of the Economics of Unemployment by Mr. J. A. Hobson, the well-known British economist. In this book issued about a year or so ago, he takes the point of view that on the whole the present organization of industry has really allowed for an altogether undue proportion of savings, which have been put into fixed capital—that is to say, into factories, railways,

Expansion Goes on Apace

His line of reasoning is something like this. Supposing we have a factory turning out $100,000 worth of goods, and supposing $50,000 worth of that output is paid in the form of wages or for raw materials—I am not giving exact proportions; this is simply to illustrate—the owner of the factory is able to retain for himself $50,000. He does not spend that foolishly on himself, as a good many who are opposed to the system imagine he does; he puts the greater part of it back into the business. He does it because he follows tradition; he does it because his competitors are doing so; he does it because of the very necessity of his growing trade. Therefore he puts a good portion of his profits back into the his business, and next year, we will say, with his enlarged factory he turns out $200,000 worth of goods. Now he is able to retain half of that, $100,000, with which he builds new factories. This process continues until on all sides we have very large and extensive means of production. Ultimately he seeks investments abroad, and the same process is repeated there. One hundred or one hundred and fifty years ago this capitalist system, control of factories in the hands of the few, came into existence, and undoubtedly it has produced most remarkable results in the extension of factory and railway investments all over the world.

Too Much Fixed Capital

But the point is that now we have set up factories in China, in India, and in other places, all organized on the same principle, all turning out huge quantities of goods for which markets have to be sought. Mr. Hobson has come to the conclusion and without doubt he is one of the leading economists in Great Britain—that there is an altogether undue proportion of what is produced put into fixed capital. The workers have not sufficient purchasing power to buy back what they have produced. He suggests that if a larger proportion were put ito commodities we would start industry going again. I am giving that theory for what it is worth. It is not altogether the theory that I should like to advance, it is not altogether the theory that is held by the group which I represent, but I give it because it comes from a man of undoubted authority in the economic world.

Too Much Cake

I think there is one particular in which he is correct—that the ownership of the means of production being in the hands of a few has, as Keynes clearly pointed out in his book, "The Economic Consequences of the Peace, enabled capitalists to retain the greater part of the cake which they and the workers in the community have been producing. That has been going on for a good many years, and it has been satisfactory perhaps, from the world's standpoint for some time, but we are fast coming to the point where those countries which formerly were the markets for our goods are now becoming our competitors in the manufacture of similar goods. In a word, we are being thrown back upon ourselves, and it is well worth our considering whether from the larger economic aspects we would not, as Hobson has suggested, gain by distributing a great deal more in the form of wages and services than we are doing at the present time.

Wages Too Small

However, I am not arguing from the larger economic aspects of the question. I am trying to look at the situation from the standpoint of the individual family and of the groups that to-day are living on too small a wage. I would ask that to-night this House should in some way provide means for the discussion of this question and for the carrying out of the avowed purposes of the clauses in the Versailles treaty. Perhaps I may be permitted to quote to the government from a document that I have been quoting to the House pretty regularly at intervals for the last four years. The National Liberal convention in August 1919 put itself on record with regard to labour and industry as follows:

Resolved that the committee recommends that the National Liberal convention accept in their entirety as a part of the Liberal platform in the spirit they have been framed and in so far as the special circumstances of the country will permit, the terms of the labour convention and general principles associated with the League of Nations and incorporated in the conditions of peace.

These methods and principles for regulating labour conditions so se forth in the treaty are as follows:

1. The guiding principles that lab our should not be regarded merely as a commodity or article of com merce.

3. The payment to the employe of a wage adequate to maintain reasonable standard of life as this i understood in their time and country

I think, Mr. Speaker, that in pre senting this resolution and askin that the guarantees of the Peac Treaty should be made statutory, am simply asking that the progra of the Liberal Party—now the gov ernment of this country—should b carried out.

Debate adjourned to be inquire into by a committee of the House

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.
Clapp Shoe Store, 7th Ave. and Main St.

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

CONFECTIONERY
Davenport Confectionery, 1743 Commercial Drive.

CIGARS & TOBACCO
Mainland Cigar Store 310 Carrall

COAL DEALERS
Leslie Coal Co., 944 Beach Ave.

DANCING
Cotillion Hall, Granville & Davie

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
Vancouver 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 Store, 248 Broadway East.

FLORISTS
Brown Bros., 48 Hastings E.
655 Granville 151 Hastings W
Fairmont Florists, 2446 Main

FLOUR
Dr. Middleton's Ironized Whole Wheat.

GENTS' FURNISHINGS
A. Frith & Son, 2313 Main
Gaining & Co., 132 Hastings East

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.
Pearson's Market, 26th & Main

MUSIC
Grandview Music House, 1733 Commercial Drive.
Mt. Pleasant Music Store, 152 Broadway East.

NOTARIES
P. R. Bengough, 803 Holden Bldg.

PHOTOGRAPHERS
Mission Studio, 108 Hastings E.
Broadway Studio, Main and Broadway

PRINTERS
Labor Statesman 803 Holden

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

RESTAURANTS
Bergman's Cafe 324 Cambie St.
Empire Cafe 76 Hastings St. E.
Manhattan Cafe 1047 Granville St.
Lotus Cafe, 447 Abbott
Cafe Sweden, 319 Main
The Filling Station, 664 Seymour

RUPTURE SPECIALIST
C. E. Heard, 959 Robson

SHOE REPAIRS
H. A. Morwood, Gilmore and Hastings.
Service Shoe Shop 2440 Main St.
Mt. Pleas. Repair Shop, 148½ Broadway East.
E. Sopp, 3867 Main St.

TAILORS
Perry & Dolk 18 Hastings St. W.

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
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EARLY STRUGGLES

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The great man leaned back in h chair and contemplatively puffed a his cigar.

"Well, young man," he said quiet "my mother says that they were sim ply terrible—especially when sh wanted to wash my neck."

Prosperity ruins more men tha poverty, but the process is more i teresting.

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 first Sunday in month at 2:00 p. m., at 441 Seymour St. President, W. H. Clancy, 1117 E. 10th Ave. Secretary and Business Agent, T. J. Hanofin, 2376 W. 6th Ave. Office: 441 Seymour St. Phones; Sey. 125 and Bay. 1656-R.

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

Bridge & Structural Iron Workers, Local 97, Int. Asso—Meets every Monday, Room 804 Holden Bldg., at 8 p.m. President, James F. Burns; Secretary, W. J. Cook, Box 302, 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. Jenns, 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, G. E. Halliday; Secretary, W. S. Dagnall, 1244 20th Ave. E. 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, R. Finley; business agent and financial secretary, F. S. Hunt; recording secretary, Herbert McSavaney.

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

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

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

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

Molders Union Local 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, Walter Wilson. Office, room 204 319 Pender St., W. Phone Sey. 3609.

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

Plasterers, Local 89—International Association of Operative, meets first Wednesday in month at Holden Bldg. President, Chas. Keall, 1925 McKay Ave. Secretary, Ed. Williams, 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., E. Tate, 289 47th Ave. E., phone Fraser 596L.

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

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

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

Gems From Hansard

Parasitical Expenditures

Mr. Garland (Bow River): "The description of the item would indicate that a good deal of the money was spent on office supplies, guarantee bond premiums and uniforms. Would the minister divide the sum into major items? We do not want the smaller items; but give us a general idea of how it is spent."

Mr. Boivin: "The largest amount generally expended under this vote is that paid to the Canadian Bank Note Company of Ottawa for excise stamps. The amount paid for the printing and excise stamps is approximately $165,000 per year. That is one of the largest amounts. All the forms used in the service are printed by the Department of Printing and Stationery, but they are charged to the Department of Customs and cost over $100,000 per year. At all the ports where we have officials in railway stations, on trains and at points of vantage, they are uniformed. The uniforms are purchased by the officers themselves, but they are paid for by the government in the form of an allowance of $37.50 per annum. A uniform is supposed to last for two years. This item amounts to $58,961.50. Freight and express charges amount to approximately $17,000, and guarantee bond premiums $8,000. The other amounts are very small."

Taxless Million Dollar Incomes

Mr. T. L. Church (Toronto Northwest): ". . . The present method of taxation is far from equitable. The tax is levied on some and not on others; there are a great many people who escape entirely and who are not called upon to pay any income tax at all. I know of a case in Toronto where the man enjoys an income of from $50,000 to $60,000, but escapes with the payment of a very small income tax. In connection with this year's operations, he voted himself a bonus of $100,000, and by calling it a bonus, not income, he escapes by design. . . . I know of one gentleman in Toronto—I sat on a board of directors with him—who is said to have an income of a million dollars and was not paying a cent of income tax, and yet he is occupying one of the highest positions in the country. . . ."

Page 1710, Hon. J. A. Robb (Minister of Finance): ". . . I know, of course, that taxes are never popular. Everyone likes to have his taxes as low as they possibly can be, and there are a great many people in Canada who are trying to dodge taxation. There are also methods provided whereby they can do so; we ourselves provided such methods during the war. At that time everyone was keyed up and we were all anxious to finance our share of the obligations of the war. We therefore issued a considerable quantity of tax-exempt bonds, which today are held for the most part, not by the ordinary taxpayer whom we can get at, but by rich people who could and should contribute to the revenues of the country. They have these tax exempt bonds stored away and are thereby enabled to evade taxation. . . ."

Rumania Copies a Mussolini Law

Rumania, with a Fascist government, has in the past few days rushed through its emasculated, dying parliament, an exact copy of Mussolini's notorious Fascist election law.

Rumania got universal suffrage after the war. The Fascist regime was put over to restrict the suffrage, among other things. It did so, but got the severest shock last month when under its restrictions and terrorism the municipal elections, the first since the Fascist coup, knocked out Fascist candidates everywhere. Hence a Mussolini law was passed in 48 hours, to ensure the sort of result which Mussolini obtained in the Italian so-called election of 1923.

How About It, Boston?

The first day at school a little girl presented herself who looked very much like a true daughter of Italy.

"You're an Italian?" asked the teacher.

"No'm," was the astonishing reply.

"But wasn't your father born in Italy?"

"Yes'm."

"And wasn't your mother born in Italy?"

"Yes'm."

"Well, you must be an Italian."

"No'm," she answered. "I'm Irish. I was born in Boston."—Open Road.

The Cause of Strikes

By F. W. MOORE.

In an editorial of the "Star" for March 18th, is an eulogy on industrial evolutionary methods of the British Columbia Electric Railway Company whereby it offers to wage-earners and the general public of the province, a chance to participate in their profits on what appears to be very reasonable terms. Says the writer:—

"The Morning Star" believes that co-operative industrial evolution will rapidly become as strong a force in America, if not in Europe, for drawing all classes and members of the community together as the class-hatred doctrines of Marx and Nicolai Lenin have been for causing continual industrial strikes and disturbances and occasional bloody revolutions."

Probably the writer of the above is justified in thinking that such a policy, if followed universally in conjunction with wages sufficiently high to afford the means of investment, might rapidly become a strong force in drawing all classes of the community together; but when he states that any class hatred induced by the doctrines of Marx or Lenin has anything to do with strikes and revolutions, he is wandering altogether from the paths of logic.

The late Russian revolution, for instance, was caused by the breakdown of the capitalistic war-machine. "Most revolutions" says Wells in his "Outline of History," page 778, "are precipitated by excesses of a ruler and by attempts at strength and firmness beyond the compass of the law." He referred to the precromwellian days; nevertheless, the same might be said, in part, of the captains of industry in reference to strikes.

The latest disturbance of this nature has been given publicity in the press recently: Mary Heaton Vorse in "The Nation" for March 17th, in referring to the strike at the Garfield and Botany Worsted Mills of Passaic, New Jersey, has the following to say:—

"It is the direct result of a ten per cent slash in wages already far below the level of decent living. The pay of the textile workers is the lowest in American industry. Heads of families work for $20, $17.50, and $15 a week."; that is, from $780 to $910 a year—an amount which compares very unfavorably with the "quantity budget" of the Labour Bureau, Inc., for New York City, meaning by "quantity budget" a statement of the expenditures for food, clothing and shelter necessary for a worker, his wife and three children in various localities in the eastern United States. The sums set down in the statement vary in size from $2,216 to $2,533.—Social Service Bulletin, May, 1922.

A comparison of the amount of the incomes mentioned above—incomes which the company are trying to reduce by ten per cent—with the figures in the annual report of the Garfield and Botany Worsted Mills of April 21st, 1925, will throw a brilliant stream of light on a typical cause of strikes. The said report showed "net earnings of $2,229,550, a net credit to surplus, of $1,731,298 and distributable earnings of $5.91 a share on class A stock, and $1.91 a share on common stock."—The Nation, 17, 3, 26.

In the light of these facts it would surely require a vivid imagination to attribute the strike to any kind of class hatred let alone that inspired by the writings of Karl Marx or Lenin. Indeed this feature of the case got a much-needed advertisement through the police when they were talked about for knocking down "reporters of both sexes, for deliberately smashing two motion picture-cameras and a half-dozen "still" cameras. . . . . The day after this happening, the Passaic and Garfield strikers marched again, a woman with a baby-carriage leading one hundred strikers wearing steel helmets and carrying gas masks; the intrepid reporters making themselves safe for publicity in armoured cars or by flying overhead! . . . . . As a result of the disorders, justice of the peace, Katz, issued warrants for the arrest of Chief of Police Zober and two patrol men charged with clubbing orderly and inoffensive men and women . . . . . Fourteen years ago, during the strike in Lawrence, Vida Scudder, a professor in Wellesely College, stated that the women of this country would refuse to wear cloth manufactured under such conditions if they knew the price in human life being paid for it."

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High Tariff Aid in Exploitation

Washington.—Curious as to what benefits American labor is really getting from the high protective tariff on textiles and metal manufactures, Senator Sheppard of Texas, Democrat, has offered a resolution calling for a senatorial investigation of the subject. The Passaic textile strike and the refusal of the administration to probe the aluminum trust furnished the immediate incentive for his action.

Sheppard proposes that a committee of seven senators shall visit typical mills of the cotton, woollen, worsted and other textiles, and plants in the aluminum and other metal manufacturing industries, and at public hearings to enquire into wages and working conditions. The purpose of such enquiry is to determine what relation the cost of labor in the highly protected industries bears to the price of the finished product, and hence to the difficulties of the farmer who must buy these goods with low-priced crops.

Republican high-tariff beneficiaries have claimed that the tariff gives labor a high wage and high purchasing power, which in turn enables the farmer to sell his crops at a high price. Sheppard expects to disclose that the high tariff enables manufacturers to exploit labor at low wages, and that low wages have led to the collapse of the farmers.

Bitter Feeling Against Fascists in Belgium

In Belgium, Fascism has carried on such a campaign as to result in a sudden dramatic stand by the Belgian Labor party, which shares the government with the Catholic party.

The state of governmental deadlock, resulting from a cabinet from two opposing parties, has stirred the forces of both capital and labor here. Lockouts and bitterly fought strikes have been the order of the day. Seeing the drift of the country toward the labor half, big business advocated openly the Italian remedy.

Now the combined trades unions and Labor party have come back with a manifesto that if their peaceful progress is to be met with Fascist bands they will organize, and have already begun to form workers' groups "to meet force with force and violence with violence," rather than have labor's gains taken away by that method.

A fool shows how generous he is by opening his mouth and giving himself away.

For reasons like these, do men and women strike. Class hatred has absolutely nothing to do with it. Such a sentiment has no place in the psychology of enlightened unionists.

The Labor Statesman

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

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

PRESS COMMITTEE:
W. H. Cottrell, Street Railwaymen; V. R. Midgley, Lathers; H. Woods, Hotel and Restaurant Employees; W. Watt, Plumbers; W. Wilson, Painters; J. McCurragh, Typographical.

H. W. Watts, Man. Editor.

Subscription Rates:—Canada $2.00 per year, $1.00 for six months. United States and foreign, $3.00 per year. To unions subscribing in a body, 16c per member per month.

Phone Seymour 6279

Vancouver, B. C., April 9th, 1926

JOB HUNTERS SLAUGHTERED

During early March a mutilated workman crawled from beneath a freight train wreck on the shores of Shuswap Lake and stated that, in addition to himself and another jobless worker who had been killed, there was another six or eight workmen beating their way East on this train. The C. P. R. officials report that their enquiries failed to substantiate the report as to the additional men on the train. But as this type of passenger does not register, or leave a record as to what train he expects to travel by, and the brakeman does not know whether he has seen one head six times or six heads once, the testimony of the man who had some opportunity to know the facts, had no interest to serve by a mis-statement, and in his mangled condition would be in no frame of mind to joke about such a matter, must be accepted as true; and the only conclusion is that the men not accounted for were thrown into the lake and drowned.

If this accident had happened to the tail-end sleeper on the passenger train a great deal more press attention would have been given to the affair, and the fact that these men were not paying their fare will not justify the limited press consideration that this event secured, for the last coaches on every passenger train in Canada are carried at a loss, and the loss is made up by over-charging the common herd that are jammed into the ill-smelling front coaches. However, this is another story. The first idea would be to dismiss this whole ghastly affair as a troop of "hobos" in ill-luck. But this is not good enough. There are a number of professional travellers who adopt the freight train method of seeing the country, but this type of man is as careful as a society lady as to where he spends the different seasons; from June to September he may be found "touring" the Canadian roads, but in March he is within a hundred miles of the Mexican border. At this time of the year the only man beating his way on the Canadian railways is a penniless Canadian worker seeking employment. Judging from the direction in which these men were travelling, they were fighting their way through to the prairie hoping to secure employment, before our government would grab every vacancy on behalf of a newcomer from Europe. These men were daring and determined to secure work, for any man who attempts in March to make the journey through the mountains by means of the bumpers, the rods and the "blind baggage" will tread as near the edge of the grave as men may go and still hope to return. These men were "broke," for no sane man with the means to pay for transportation would attempt such a journey during the winter. This whole incident brings out well the tragedy of the Canadian worker. These men were either citizens of Canada or they had in other years come to the country at the invitation of our government. But because they are in the country they are caught in the trap—they have less rights than a four-footed beast, for the law compels the latter to be fed, but the man, after a winter of idleness, must race an alien for the right to employment in his own country. It is even worse than this, for in the race he is handicapped—our Canadian government will ship the competing immigrant six thousand miles to the scene of employment for the same amount of money that it authorizes the railways to charge the resident Canadian for six hundred miles. These are the conditions that compelled the victims of the Shuswap wreck to gamble with death in the effort to find employment. They lost, but the crime of their death is chargeable to our government, which snatches the bread from the hand of its own people and offers it to the alien and the stranger. M.

A French dispatch quotes the Parisian colony of Russian parasites as "resoluting" that "in the downtrodden peasants of the great Russian estates lay the only hope of ever overthrowing the Bolsheviki and reestablishing the monarchy." No doubt these Russian peasants feel the loss of the landlord much as the Irish temperance orator would who, after enumerating the many ills that drink caused, said: "Whiskey makes you abuse your wife. Whiskey causes you to bring your children up in ignorance. Whiskey makes you shoot at the landlord, and, bad luck to it, whiskey makes you miss him!"

Mussolini, the Italian Maniac, is arranging to transfer the Southern Italian to Northern Italy for a period before allowing him to migrate to Canada. It appears that the Southern Italian does not stand the violent change of climate very well. Our federal government tells us that our three-million-dollar immigration propaganda is directed to bringing out farmers and farm labor. Will some good Liberal or Tory tell us where in Canada, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, the Italian farmer or farm laborer may be found?

If the King administration at Ottawa is really desirous of finding an effective retaliatory customs duty measure calculated to make the United States sit up and take notice, it might try an export duty on pulpwood and newsprint. The big newspapers of the land of the dandelion would immediately set up a howl which would reach the White House instanter. Meantime, the average man in Canada is fed up with the whole system of "protection." Protection spells only profit for the American owners of Canadian industries, including Henry Ford and others of his kind. It is a great game of bunk, carried on for the benefit of manufacturers and politicians who insist upon "passing the buck" to poor Old Man Consumer.

* * *

The Empress of Japan, which has been lying in Burrard Inlet for many months, after an ignominious episode in 1923, during the Longshoremen's strike, when it was used to herd scabs in, has been sold as junk.

* * *

Wage workers in Great Britain, according to statistics presented to the House of Commons last week by the Labor members, indicate that the portion they receive from industry over there in the form of wages amounts to about one-third of the market value of their products. The other two-thirds goes to the owners of the means of wealth production. A royal commission has been asked for, with a view to securing exact figures, to form the basis of some further recommendations at an early date. The Independent Labor Party has recently been in session and took occasion to "ginger up" the parliamentary representatives of Labor in the House, with a view to renewing the campaign for "Socialism in Our Time."

* * *

Ald. Angus MacInnis, Ward Eight, is endeavoring to make the Vancouver Engineering Works, who have a city contract for water pipe, pay the "current" wage called for in the contract. So long as the contract system obtains this sort of thing may be expected.

* * *

The Wilkins expedition to the Polar regions offers another opportunity to the Florida real estate sharks to start a little boom in "waterfront" lots in the vicinity of the North Pole.

* * *

Unable to reach an agreement by negotiation the newspaper printers of Vancouver have instructed their scale committee to proceed to arbitration. They are asking for $50 day and $55 night, an increase of four per cent on both shifts. The Typos have had a 7½-hour work day for the past twenty years. They used to be among the topnotchers in the local labor field, but the building tradesmen are now showing them the way. Trying to restore the wage purchasing power of pre-war days.

* * *

Took an afternoon ramble with Mrs. R. P. P. and the only remaining member of the family (the rest having migrated to the United States for a job) on Sunday, via tino-limo, through the highways and byways of the farms on Lulu Island. The spring work is well advanced and there was every evidence of the farmers having at least a steady job—and, methinks, plenty to eat. At least it would seem rather difficult to starve a fellow to death with so much farm stuff, chickens, cattle, etc., round about. Looks as though they had something on the average wageworker, especially those who spend about half their time looking for a job. A land policy that would give the Native Son the same opportunity as the "immigrant" to secure a piece of land and something to carry on with, would meet with the approval of many workers.

* * *

After wrestling with Kitsilano stumps during my spare time throughout the winter, the Potato Patch is now ready for seeding. A goodly showing of the festive gladioli is now assured. This, with the usual "truck" that goes to make a high-grade garden will ensure a basement like a squirrel's nest for the winter. Don't expect to equal the Japanese potato king of California, who has just died leaving an estate of $15,000,000, but I'll bet I get more kick out of the job.

LIGHT ON ALABAMA'S CONVICT LEASING SYSTEM

ALABAMA still maintains that most outrageous of all perversions of justice, the convict leasing system. Enlightened citizens of the state have been fighting this system for ten years, and now believe that victory is in sight.

James Knox, one of the leased-out convicts, after being horribly punished for some infraction of the rules, died of fright at the renewed approach of the torturers. The guards pumped bichloride of mercury into his stomach after he was dead and swore that he had poisoned himself. Being as stupid as most brutal men, they did not know that bichloride is a poison that takes days to kill, and swore that Knox died in half an hour after taking the poison.

That lifted the lid, and enlightened Alabamans, aided by northern papers, have uncovered a veritable chamber of horrors. Men leased to the mines frequently blow off their fingers with caps to escape the horrible conditions. One man put dynamite in his boot and blew his leg off. Convict straw bosses—the worst on earth, as all experience proves—exercise virtually the power of life and death, and a contract prison doctor, who is a disgrace to his honorable profession, completes the picture.

Governor Brandon of Alabama can wipe the slate clean if he has vision to see the need, and courage to defy the stodgy tories and selfish interests who alone indorse the present system.

THE SOLDIER SETTLER

MEN WHO ARE INCLINED to turn a deaf ear to the complaints of soldier settlers, on the general grounds that they must be expected to grouse, should not overlook the fact that the soldier settlement scheme was designed in the first instance to aid returned men to rehabilitate themselves in civil life. If it can be shown that in a great number of instances the soldier settler has not been aided, but hampered, by the well-meant scheme, then the soldier has a complaint worth a hearing. If it can be shown that the hand that was held out to lift him up has been transformed, through the force of circumstances over which neither the soldier settler nor the Soldier Settlement Board had control, into the hand that is holding him down to a life of anxiety and drudgery, then there are grounds for discontent and complaint. Apparently these things can be shown. Some of the soldier settlers are undoubtedly incompetent; some exaggerate their troubles; some did not treat the board squarely in all their dealings with the board; some who claim they were forced off their land could not have been kept on their land by Job himself. Let us not worry about these! But, of the others—those who are willing and competent and fair and reasonable (and they are in the majority)—let us take the stand that they are entitled to relief from conditions which have become too much for them through the operation of economic forces uncontrollable and unforeseen.—Western Producer.

COUNTERFEIT OTHER NATIONS' MONEY IN HUNGARY

In Hungary, where the Fascist dictators have never risked a free election since they seized power, both wings of the government have now combined to cover up the scandal in which they were all too publicly guilty. The spectacle of a government whose officials counterfeited the money of friendly nations, chiefly France, to get funds to strengthen themselves, an dwhich still rules, is a sign of these Fascist times.

CUBAN RAILROAD WORKERS AFFILIATE WITH A. F. OF L.

Railroad workers of Cuba have voted to affiliate with the Pan-American Federation of Labor and assist in organizing the wage earners of all Latin-American countries.

This decision was reached at the first annual congress of the National Railroad Brotherhood of Cuba, held at Camaguey.

Railway Employees in Harmonious Convention

By J. A. P. Haydon.

Montreal.—The sixth convention of Division No. 4, Railway Employes' Department, A. F. of L., will be recorded as one of the most harmonious and progressive in the history of the federated movement in Canada. 'Tis true differences of opinion frequently arose, but out of it all has come a united front, and substantial progress may be recorded.

This is most remarkable when you consider that here assembled all of the federated shop trades of all railways of the Dominion. Their common problems were considered and policies finally enunciated which become the united expression of the whole federated movement in this country. All of this in face of what might be considered by many as insurmountable obstacles.

Difficulties Overcome

First, there is the difficulty of dual languages, which necessitated the translation of all resolutions into the French language, owing to the large number of delegates from the province of Quebec.

Then there was the marked difference in the viewpoint of the western and eastern shopmen. There was also the different outlook of the men employed on the publicly owned Canadian National and those on the privately owned Canadian Pacific.

Through the union management co-operative program hours of work have been fairly well stabilized on the National, while the great mass of men on the C. P. R. are still working short time. This condition undoubtedly had a powerful influence on their viewpoint.

The convention decided to start an immediate drive for wage increases and improvements in working conditions. This was perhaps the most important decision of the convention and a large part of the time was occupied in considering schedule matters, resulting from this decision.

Right Clancy!

Hogan was tired of the city and wanted to move out to the great open spaces, where men are men and all that sort of thing." Accordingly he sought information.

"Clancy," he said, "ye've taken a homestead, so ye know all about it. Will ye be tellin' me th' law about goin' about it?"

"Well, you see," said Clancy judiciously, "I'm not rememberin' the letter of the law, but here's what it amounts to. The guvviment is willin' to bet ye wan hundred an' sixty acres of land ag'in fourteen dollars that ye can't live on it five years without starvin' to death."

Hazards of coal mining have become so great that insurance companies threaten to cease writing workmen's compensation policies for this class of risks. The United States Fidelity and Guaranty Company of Baltimore, the largest and pioneer bonding and casualty company in this country, has just announced it will accept no more workmen's compensation and employers' liability risks from the coal mining industry of the United States.

"Why do you refer to political offices as 'pie?'" asked the interested foreigner.

"Possibly," replied Miss Cayenne, "because pie is something which relieves present hunger, but invites future dyspepsia."

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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 Lands."

Mill, factory, or industrial sites on timber land, not exceeding 40 acres; may be purchased or leased, the conditions including payment 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.

Smoot Gives Big Bankers Bad Scare

Senator Smoot, in his speech on the Italian debt, made one statement which was probably a slip of the tongue, but which will be quoted more than any other part of his rather dull speech.

Speaking of the big European loans which are being floated in this country by international bankers, Smoot said:

"I say without hesitation that the loans which we have made to foreign countries and which the banks are making now to foreign countries can not be paid."

Reed of Pennsylvania could not believe his ears.

"Is the senator speaking of private loans?" he asked.

Smoot replied: "I am speaking of private loans—they never will be paid until something happens in the world such as the world war."

Those citizens who have been persuaded by their bankers to invest their savings in foreign bonds should take notice.

NEW YORK.—A movement to organize the 20,000 negro laundry workers in this city has been launched by the International Laundry Workers' Union, the Women's Trade Union League and sympathetic organizations.

Good morning, sir. Haircut? Yes, sir. Why, for goodness sakes alive, how are you, Mr. Simpson? None the worse for your holiday in the Old Country last year, I hope. Say, boy, the delegates from India to the British Commonwealth Labor Conference were sure on to their job, eh? I see you promised to see to it that the Indians in British Columbia would have consideration, and that you would do all that you could do personally to see that they got the franchise. Of course, there is room for argument about giving the Asiatic a vote. Some of the higher-ups in the Trades Union movement here in Vancouver have stickers in their offices entitled "Keep out the Asiatic." To me that is funny, for when I was in China, a student told me that if the whites were kept out of China all would be well. In the United States they think they would be better off if everybody were kept out. Of course, you will note that only the workers are to be kept out because THEY lower the standard of living. The bosses don't do the lowering. Oh, no, a Chink would far rather work for 25c per hour than 50c. But, all joking aside, the sooner that the race question is tackled by the workers, the better. I have certain opinions on that subject. What are they? Well, the League of Notions, excuse me, The League of Nations, has laid down an eight hours law. Now, that is a start. Then certain countries have a minimum wage law, and that is good. Suppose Labor representatives from all countries could convene somewhere and decide upon a standard of living and a maximum working day, allowing the colored races to be represented, of course, then the industrial and political movements in all countries would have something in common to work for, a definite line of action, whereas now each section grabs as much as it can and hell mend the rest. Of course, I realize, as you realize, that such action would not obtain our objective, but it would have a tendency to obliterate the color line, and, mark you, Simpson, the white race is in the minority on this planet, and considering the manner in which we have treated what we are pleased to call "the inferior races," we deserve scant consideration from them. Do I think there is a possibility of the colored races dominating the world? You bet your life I do, Jimmy. Russia has ceased to bother much about the white proletariat. He knows too much now—perhaps. See how Moscow is concentrating on India, China, Egypt and the Soudan. Now, all the peoples I have just mentioned have a genuine kick coming against the whites, and if ever they get organized properly and go about it in earnest, I tell you, Jimmy, we will be cleaned up for fair. We cannot shut our eyes to what is going on east of Suez. Their eyes are not shut to what is going on in the Western Hemisphere, and, being for the most part unable to read or write, they rely for their ideas upon the spoken word; they are easily led to believe that ALL the white people are against them. I see Mr. V. C. Vickers, of Vickers Ltd., the big armament makers, has just arrived from the Orient, and he says that there is a boom going on in shipbuilding there. That should interest the Clyde workers, and should also demonstrate to us that we cannot go very far in our attack against the Capitalist until we have to consider the Oriental. Capital will be transferred from those countries where labor is cheap and all the struggle that has taken place in Europe for the last 100 years will be enacted again in the Orient before they reach our present standard of living. That is, unless they become Bolshevized before that time, and here's hoping they will. So long, Jimmy. Next, please.

TENDERS FOR FIRE APPARATUS

The undersigned will receive tenders up to 12 o'clock Wednesday, the 21st day of April, 1926, for supplying one 800 Imperial Gallon Automobile Combination Pumper and Hose Wagon.

Specifications and further particulars can be obtained from Chief Carlisle, No. 1 Fire Hall, Seymour Street, Vancouver, B. C.

A marked cheque for 5 per cent of amount of bid to accompany tender.

The lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

JAMES STUART,
Purchasing Agent.

Ink-pot Excavations

By John Pickenshovel

THE P. G. E.

Without doubt the provincial government railroad, the P. G. E., has by far the most interesting history of any institution in the province. When the full extent of the facts are known, the story of this enterprise will be without equal in the annals of economic and political chicanery.

As is well known to many of us, it was one of the devices used when the McBride administration swept the province with its famous railroad policy. Great things had been forecast for the province if only this railroad was built. It would open up a gateway to what McBride called the "rich potentialities of our natural resources." That such would under ordinary circumstances have accomplished that end, is beyond dispute. But instead of that, through the mismanagement of both Conservative and Liberal regimes, the railroad has been used mostly as the chief sport of the provincial politicians.

The road traverses an immensely rich and beautiful country. From Squamish to Lillooet, it passes through as complete a panorama of lake and mountain scenery as one could wish to see. In this particular section there is an immense area of timber, and on either side the mountains have yet to be explored for its mineral wealth. From the standpoint of tourist traffic in this section alone, the road has an asset.

On the other side of Lillooet are the vast plateaus extending on either side of the Fraser River to Prince George. This is for the most part a proven cattle raising country, and this would be proven still more if an abattoir were erected at Squamish. There are mountains of coal and iron laying idle, which could give employment to thousands of men if a smelter was erected at its southern terminus. Then again there are the various gateways on the line to the gold-bearing regions of the Cariboo. At the northern extremity of the line is the lumbering district of Prince George, on the Grand Trunk, and considered the logical gateway to the fertile plains of the Peace River country.

Yet the road as it stands today is a political and economic tragedy. At present it is cut off at both ends. It has no connection with the distributing centre of Vancouver with its harbor for ocean going trade, nor is it connected with the gateway for the Peace River, Prince George. There is yet to be built in order to complete the road, a line to connect Vancouver and Squamish, also the line from Quesnel to Prince George. It is claimed that the road does not pay. Neither could the C. P. R. pay if it was disconnected from its Atlantic and Pacific seaboards. Unless these gaps in the system are completed the road will never be a success, whether operated by the government or the American capitalists who the government is asking to operate it.

In regard to this, a line must be completed from Squamish to North Vancouver, and thence over the Second Narrows bridge to Vancouver. This will be absolutely necessary if the wheat consequent on the developement of the Peace River country is to be brought down to the elevators on Burrard Inlet. With no shipping facilities at Squamish, this is made all the more necessary if the coal, iron and other mineral products are to reach Vancouver. Then again, if the connections are not made, the cattle raising facilities notwithstanding, the developement of the lands adjacent to the railroad in the upper country will be retarded.

In regard to the uncompleted section between Quesnel and Prince George, there is another gap that plays an important part in retarding the success of the road. A portion of the track has been already laid, but there are some bridges to be constructed. The material for these bridges have already been purchased and are in storage, and have been for three or four years. The government in the meantime has to pay storage charges on this material, when as a matter of fact there is no reason why these bridges should not be erected and the road completed. While this delay in construction continues, the payment of storage charges and other overhead expenses have to be made, and the railroad will never pay, nor will the effervescence of the Liberal spokesmen about the developement of the Peace River belt amount to anything else but thin air. The road will never be a success until it is completed from Vancouver to Prince George, with its possible extension into the Peace River area. The government knows that, and if its policy continues, it will not be long before the P. G. E. will go the same way as the Intercolonial railway in the maritime provinces—into private hands. There have been millions of dollars expended on this line, and the entire undertaking will pass into private hands unless the people halt the career of the present provincial government in its orgy of wasteful expenditure of public money.

The government at present mismanaging the road cannot claim failure on account of low rates. The rates on this road are higher than any other road operating in B. C. And this in spite of the money spent on the pretext of fighting for lower freight rates. Premier Oliver has endeavored to make political capital out of the high rates on the other railroads, while the road operating under his own administration charges higher rates for traffic than any of them.

Nor can it be claimed that the labor involved in its construction has been excessive. At no time has the railroad paid its employees a wage commensurate with decent living conditions. Its grade has been made for the most part by what is known as "station work," by which system men were given portions of the grade to make on a sub-contracting basis by the firms who got the lion's share of the cost of construction. The men thus employed in most cases did not make wages and in quite a number of instances went into a hole on the deal. The contractors who laid the track paid the lowest wages possible and employed their workers under the most debasing conditions.

Nor has the government's behaviour with its employees been different from the contractors. The wages at present paid men on extra gangs on the road is thirty cents per hour. It is rumored that this will be changed to forty cents per hour in June. That is, of course, only a rumor and has no foundation in fact. But if this increase is to be made in these men's wages in June, will the government heelers receiving a high government stipend and jaunting around the province at the government's expense be good enough to explain that if forty cents is a commensurate "minimum wage" in June, why is it not so at present? From all that we can observe, the government intends to get as much as possible of this class of labor performed for a low and degrading wage before they have, as a matter of consistency, to pay what their board determines to be a minimum wage. The facts are its claims for passing alleged labor legislation notwithstanding, the present government in its relation with its railway employees, is the cheapest employer in this province that ever asked a worker to sell his labor. The ten-hour day worked by men on these extra gangs proves that the eight-hour day law is a farce. The health conditions created by compelling sixteen men to sleep in a box-car also proves the contempt of the government for its camp health regulations. It is not to be wondered at that camps operated by private concerns have violated the laws of the province when the provincial

(Continued on Page 8)

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AND THE WAITER

Satirical Mystery Play at Orpheum

Vancouver playgoers will have an opportunity at the Orpheum Theatre, for two days, Tuesday and Wednesday, April 13 and 14, with popular-priced matinee on Wednesday, of seeing for the first time here "The Gorilla," which scored a sensational success in New York, Chicago, Boston and London, England. It is a satirical mystery by Ralph Spence, who has contributed many hits to the Ziegfield Follies and other notable productions.

"The Gorilla" is a combination of everything that has ever gone into a mystery play—shooting, secret panels, prowling gorillas, dangling skeletons, hidden stairways, trap doors, and what not? Its outstandin gcharacters are Mr. Mulligan ad Mr. Garrity, whose ludicrous bungling is a source of constant laughter. The presenting company is a capable one and the serious manner in which the members act their roles is a source of unrestrained merriment. It wa sthe seriousness which characterizes their work that made the New York, Boston and Chicago audiences roar with laughter for the past six months. Starting in an eerie manner, the play works along legitimate lines until the two detectives appear and from that on it grows every minute funnier and more shockingly mysterious and melodramatic. With that for tension, the laughs become shouts, because most of them are developed under the most amazing conditions.

One does not have to exercise his brain matter to follow the plot of this play, but, according to its New York, Boston, London and Chicago record, it is productive of perfect irresponsible fun. The play is produced by Donald Gallaher and directed by Walter F. Scott. The same splendid cast, scenic equipment and effects which characterized the original Adelphi Theatre Chicago production will be seen here, and includes: Lon Hascall, Elizabeth Carmichael, Harry T. Shannon, John Stokes, Wilbur Cox, Bert Kay, Julian Noa, Thomas Bell, John Grey, Carl Rosa, Ralph Hheodore, and others.

HENRY'S ALIBI

Teacher (to boy sitting idly in school during writing time)—Henry why are you not writing?

Henry—I ain't got no pen.

Teacher—Where's your grammar?

Henry—She's dead.

An All-Star Show at the Orpheum

Vaudeville fans in Vancouver will be pleased to learn that the Orpheum will offer a great all-sta rshow next Thursday, Friday and Saturday, twice daily. Headlining this interesting bill will be Jimmy Hussey, famous New York star, who comes here straight from his stupendous success in musical comedy. This act will be a cleverly written sketch from the pen of the great Eddie Cantor, and is entitled "Getting a Ticket." A real motor car is on the stage, and it is said to be a corking act.

Then there will also be the Roberts and Velie dance extravaganza, with Renee Robert and Jay Velie the stars. Beautiful settings and a group of supporting dancers of the first magnitude will embellish this act. Chas. Irwin is a modern comedian who will hold his audience in side-splitting joy for several minutes with his wit and humor. Derickson and Brown will offer a wonderfully artistic musical act. These two stars are well known, and F. Derickson is known as one of America's leading tenors. Lucas and Inez will present an adagio dance act with these clever artists adding a few feats of strength. Two other feature acts will complete this delightful show, and with the interesting pictures and the concert orchestra should prove one of the season's vaudeville hits.

Another Dark Page in French History

Tunis.—The events of the past few years have shown more and more clearly that the Great Powers, though they can no longer treat the workers and the public at large with their quondam arbitrariness, are determined to leave themselves a free hand in their colonies, mandated territories and protectorates, and to do everything to prevent social and cultural progress in the backward countries, at any rate. That certainly seems to be the moral to be drawn from the policy of Great Britain in China and India; France in Syria; Spain in Morocco, and the United States in Porto Rico, etc.

Two decrees which have just been published in the official paper for Tunis are indications of a step in this same direction. After having begun by making false promises to introduce reforms for Tunis, and even going so far as to set up a special commission of enquiry, the French government has suddenly presented the world with accomplished facts, which at first sight appear simply incredible. The two decrees mean nothing more nor less than the complete suppression of all freedom of speech in Tunis. The restrictions are so severe that any persons who criticise the government, even in private, or give expression to unfavorable political opinions, may be arrested, without distinction of nationality.

"Organization, co-ordination, are the right of every body of men whose aims are worthy and equitable; and must needs be the recourse of those who, individually, are unable to persuade their fellow-men to recognize the justice of their claims and principles. If employed within lawful and peaceful limits, it may rightly hope to be the means of educating society in a spirit of fairness and practical brotherhood."—Bishop Potter.

The Agricultural Laborers' Strike

They are greatly mistaken who believe that a strike can only be carried on actively to the accompaniment of a chorus of exclamation and mis-statement in the public press. It is perfectly possible for a strike of the first magnitude to endure for years without attracting any attention outside a very limited circle, and for results to be as serious and as widespread as in any of the better advertised protests against existing social and economic conditions. At this present moment, so far as a part of the South country, Essex and East Anglia are concerned, perhaps elsewhere, the agricultural labourer is on strike. Though he goes to his work and to his labour until the evening, serving his master for the appointed time and for the statutory wage, though he suffers in his dim, uncomprehending way as he has suffered from the far-off days when agriculture first became a sweated industry, he is on strike. That he lives without sufficient food, that his children grow up ill-taught, ill-clad and ill-nourished is a commonplace, but that he is not reduced past the point of effective protest is a truth not so widely recognized.

Boiled Swedes and Dry Bread

During a recent election a canvasser called at a cottage in a remote Essex village, and having knocked at the door, which opened into the kitchen-living room, walked in. Round the table the labourer, his wife and the children were on their knees giving thanks for the meal that awaited them—it consisted of boiled swedes and dry bread. I told the story at the time in one of the papers and some kindly people wrote to offer assistance to the family, but the canvasser who made this report was one of many who had been on duty that day, and no note had been taken that would enable me to get the necessary details, though, if I remember rightly, the village was Boxted, or one of the neighboring hamlets in the North of Essex. It is not the poverty that calls for attention here, for that is common enough, and so, too, is the piety, but the incident deserves a certain amount of emphasis because all manner of religious sects have strongholds in rural Essex and the counties immediately beyond, and some of them have given to the agricultural labourer a certain sense akin to fatalism. He does not resist, he does not greatly resent, he believes that, mutatis mutandis, his master is as badly off as himself and although he is keenly conscious of bad farming, he realizes the lack of capital that enforces it. So he travels along the road of daily labor with native efficiency and diminishing strength, but he is on strike all the time, on strike by proxy, on strike through the medium of the next generation. For himself he has no hope, but he is anxious above all things that his children should not be enmeshed as he has been.

Boys Leave Farms

Go among the farmers today, the good, the bad and the indifferent; those who do not practise high farming because they have not the money and those who avoid it because they fear to risk what money they possess, and those who have no knowledge that would enable them to do any better than their grandfathers. You will hear from one and all a similar remark, to this effect: "The men are not working as their fathers used to, although they have more money, and the boys won't come on the land if they can get any other job. We are glad to get some of the old age pensioners back, and when the present generation has gone they will leave no successors."

This condition is not hard to explain. The healthy old age pensioner is probably a man who started his farm work in the sixties of last century, at the age of eight or nine. Trained by a father who knew all the mysteries of the craft, he was taught to swing a scythe, to use a flail, to thatch a stack, to "layer" a hedge, to brush a ditch, to bush, drain, and incidentally to set snares that would account unfailingly for rat or rabbit. He remained all his life a master of his job in all its varied aspects and today he can still do a big day's work at a steady pace, even though he cannot keep it up for many weeks on end. His son is nearly as well taught, but he is not getting sufficient food, and he is not going to teach those of another generation to qualify for slow starvation. They are no more anxious to learn than he is to teach. The father was not well fed, but he did get wholemeal bread and a measure of fat pork and fresh vegetables, with milk from the farm in many cases, and he took nearly as many rabbits as he wanted, because in his time the farmer did not look to rough-shooting rents for part of his income. The farm labourer today eats white bread with very inferior nourishing properties, drinks tea because he can no longer afford beer, and his evening meal, sometimes his mid-day meal as well, consists of something out of a tin, tinned salmon, tinned cornbeef, tinned pine-apple, tinned mystery, meat or fish in the form of a paste that would probably defy analysis. These, with occasional scraps of foreign meat, are the substances to which the agricultural labourer must look for strength today because the old mills that ground the farmers wheat by wind or water power have disappeared and the brick bakehouse in the cottage garden has gone, too, and the skilled housewife, who was forced to cook in the days when the village grocer had nothing cheap and tasty in tins. So the agricultural labourer goes ill-nourished to school, and among the few luxuries of their life is the daily paper with its endless story of opportunities. Small wonder if boys strive to save out of their wages sufficient to buy a bicycle, or that when they have mastered it they get to the towns, and look about for themselves. Perhaps they hear of the possibilities of emigration and in little companies, sometimes as many as half a dozen at a time, they leave the village; when the farmer wants extra help he must send to the nearest town.

Worthless Food

"I can remember the time," said the big farmer to the writer last summer, "when if I wanted a dozen extra men or boys when the threshing machine came along, I could pick them out of a score or more waiting for a job, and if I wanted women or children for pea picking they came for the asking; this year I have had to send miles to get my fields cleared. If I want a little extra labour for any job you cannot get it here, and what you can get is very little good to you. And yet," he added, "even if you take the difference in money values today the agricultural laborer is better off than he used to be in my father's day." He could not see that those wages are being sacrificed to the shopkeepers for worthless food.

Another man, equally convinced that the times are out of joint, declares in and out of season that education is at the bottom of the trouble. "If you are going to educate lads," he says quite unaware of the significance of his statement, "you can't expect them to become farm labourers. They want a better job. If you stopped this foolish education which we can't afford and put them on the land when they're ten years old, they would lead a healthy life and they would be some use to the country." He does not realize that he and his children must pay for evil that his forbears wrought, for it is beyond all shadow of doubt that the onus of the present conditions is upon the farmers. When they were in trouble, in days when landlords were properous, rebates were made and consideration was extended their path was in some small measure cleared, but there never was a like chance for the agricultural labourer. There might be landlords owning different farms in one district, and the reduction in the rents after a bad year might vary considerably, but there was no farmer who was willing to extend like consideration to those who worked for him, no man who was prepared to say, "If your position will be made more possible by an increase in wages of £5 a year I will make that increase." By so doing he would have offended his neighbors, they would have accused him of creating discontent and increasing the standard rate of wages, and there were few who would face such a charge. So when times were bad the farmer's rent was reduced, and he reduced the wages of those who worked for him and now the children of the workers have decided that life must hold something better than this particular form of dull and hopeless servitude, and they are deserting the countryside, not singly but in battalions. This is why I say that there is a very great and serious strike in rural England.

—S.L.B. in New Statesman.

United States Department of Labor reports strikes and a growing determination among workers of Guatemala to insist on higher pay and better working conditions.

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Belgian Labor Plan Fascist Opposition

BRUSSELS.—The Fascist movement in Belgium has recently been making a noise out of all proportion to its importance. When 40 regiments were dissolved by the present government as a measure of economy the Fascists decided to attempt a regular coup de-etat, to storm parliament and set up a dictatorship. The attempt failed ignominiously.

The ordinary city police and a number of mounted gendarmerie sufficed to prevent the Fascists from getting near parliament or the government offices.

Since this abortive demonstration, the Fascists have been forming new association and leagues; all of them with the same handful of undergraduates and officers. They have also established military organization for the defense of the country against the imaginary dangers threatening it from without and within; that is, from democratic government.

The real force of Fascism is negligible. What is more serious is the open support it gains from a very large section of the bourgeoisie and from the press.

At all events, the labor movement came to the conclusion that it would be unwise totally to ignore the danger. It will not be caught napping.

As a result of the decision of the Labor Party and the Trades Union Executive, a military organization will be formed, with a view to defending the democratic liberties of the people against any Fascist attempt to overthrow them.

Force of 25,000

To start with, a quasi-military force of 25,000 men and 9,000 other militia will be organized. Measures will be taken to render a general mobilization of several hundred thousand of Labor militia possible in case of real danger.

A general staff composed of military experts among the leaders of the Labor movement will be set up in Brussels. The public will be invited to subscribe funds for the organization of this Democratic military force.

The effect of this decision on the bourgeoisie and the Fascists will be watched with interest. Those who know the Belgian Labor movement will at once realize that this is no bluff, but deadly earnest. And it is a hundred to one chance, even before Labor's decision is carried into effect, both the bourgeoisie and its Fascisti instruments will have learned wisdom, and stonned the talk of overthrowing Labor and Democracy by force.

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In Woman's Realm

CANADA NEEDS MORE MacPHAILS, SAYS GRAHAM

Woman in her reasoning goes straight to the core of the matter, while man takes a roundabout way to get to the same place; that is one of the qualities which recommends her for public life, in the opinion of Hon. George P. Graham, former minister of railways.

"Parliament would be the better if we had a few more Agnes MacPhails," declared the speaker. "She does not talk overmuch, but when she does speak, her remarks are couched in short, terse sentences, and are right to the point."

Woman's entry into the senate will be delayed as long as the notion is abroad that old age is a qualification, was Mr. Graham's tactful and diplomatic answer to a question on that point.

The great task before the organized women voters, he stated, was to carry on a process of propaganda by which the women all over the Dominion will be impressed with the responsibility and the sacredness of the franchise.

Why Clerks Go Wild

A woman shopper approached the post-office clerk at the stamp window.

"I would like to look at your red two-cent stamps," she said.

The clerk obligingly brought out a sheet of 100 or more stamps. Pointing to one of the stamps in the centre of the sheet, his discriminating customer sweetly said, "I'll take that one."—Parrakeet.

A WOMAN'S NATIONALITY

It is to Australia, where women had the vote many years before it was even advocated seriously in this country, that we have to look for another advance towards the reasonable equalization of the status of men and women before the law. In Canada a woman takes the nationality of her husband. If a woman, born in Canada, marries a Chinaman who also lives in Canada, she becomes Chinese before the law. In Australia the same state of affairs persisted until quite recently, when an act was passed securing to a woman her own nationality, whatever it might be. There is no reason why the same course should not be adopted in Canada. It would probably make very little difference to many people; but, at the same time, the fact that a woman has no nationality in her own right, if she happens to be married, is placing her in a position of quite unwarranted inferiority on account of her sex. In some of our statutes a woman is only a woman; but a man may be a Dutchman if he happens to have been born that way.—Western Producer.

Eight Hour Day Fight in Spain

Spain. — The Mallorca textile workers' fight, which began by a lockout on the 21st December, 1925, in consequence of a labor dispute, has now developed into a new phase. The employers reopened their factories, thus tacitly recognizing the principle of the eight hour day. Accidentally, however, the workers got to hear that the employers intended to cut wages as soon as they went back to work again. So they promptly refused to go back on such conditions, and the lockout has therefore now developed into a strike.

As a consequence of the workers' firmness, one of the employers has already given in, and it seems more than likely that the other employers will soon be following suit—all the more so as the strikers are being supported, morally and financially, by the whole Spanish trade union movement.

ENTIRE FACTORY JOINS UNION

The victory of the iron polishers' strike at the Dunlop factory in Coventry has demonstrated to the other workers in the factory the value of organization.

Previous to the strike, only the polishers were organized. Now, however, almost the entire factory staff have become trade union members.

Six Brooklyn, N. Y., shoe factory strikers sent to jail for ten days each on charge of violating injunction prohibiting picketing with banners displaying the word "strike."

Nanaimo Miners Having Trouble With Doctors

"Eternal watchfulness is the price of safety." Sometimes, however, we are watchful in the wrong direction. While we have our gaze directed upwards to the heights, someone may be preparing to pull the feet from us. It is not only the big issues, such as wages and hours, that require investigation; sometimes a mere outlay of one dollar a month may be fraught with importance to our welfare as workers. And so it is today.

Our investigation this time is in the field of the coal mining industry of Vancouver Island—that field which is so well tied up by the big interests that it is difficult even to get a look at it, let alone investigate. Months of arduous work, however, have revealed a subterranean plot of unqualified viciousness, engineered between certain members of the medical profession and the Western Fuel Corporation of Canada.

While the plot is subterranean in its ramifications, yet the details are known to the mining community of Nanaimo, but, since the spirit of the workers there was broken by the strike of 1913, one dare not speak above a whisper. The population there even think in whispers—at least those of them who have not lost the use of their thinking apparatus.

The miners and their associate workers "on top" have, for years, chosen their own medical men, and for years matters ran along smoothly enough. Some three or four years ago the then medical men (Doctors Ingham and Wilks) endeavored to raise the contribution paid by the men by 25c per man per month, but this not appearing reasonable, the men cancelled their agreement in a regular manner and called for applications for the position of medical officer. Quite a number of applications were received, and, amongst others, appeared the names of Doctors G. A. B. Hall, O. G. Ingham and W. Ross Lane (the latter then, we understand, an M.B., but now entitled to full medical title).

Dr. Hall was selected by a majority vote of ——— over his closest opponent, and too kover his duties in due course.

Almost immediately—in fact, before Dr. Hall could make many proposed improvements in his medical services to the men and their families—the opposing forces were at work. A clause in the "Master and Servants" Act of British Columbia provides that any thirty men may petition to have their own medical adviser. This clause, we believe, but are unable to verify, was put in as a protection against companies forcing certain medical men down the throats of their employees, as some had done, but it was, in the case under review, used as a lever to break in on the security of the medical man selected by the vote of the Western Fuel employees. It was undemocratic and unsportsmanlike, as Doctor Hall had been led to believe that, by accepting the position, he would have the support and goodwill of the employees as a whole, and presumably based his proposition and service on that assumption.

Doctor W. Ross Lane canvassed, through one of his lay friends, the names of thirty supporters, and Doctor O. G. Ingham followed up with a similar petition. They dilly-dallied along for a time—gaining a man here and losing a man there—but not affecting the practice of Dr. Hall to any appreciable degree.

Doctor Lane, however, now introduced new tactics. Just what these were appears to be outside the scope of this article, but, be it said, he enlisted the active support of the company to the extent of being appointed a sort of medical examining officer for all new employees, of course, we presume, at a fee.

Any man employed by the company must fill in a card, with particulars of his birth, etc., and then take this card to **Doctor W. Ross Lane** (none other genuine) and have his general health passed on to see whether he suffers from adenoids, cold feet, etc., and have Dr. W. Ross Lane embellish his card with his signature—thus enabling the gallant doctor to collect the company's tribute to his—shall we say, nerve.

But the applicant doesn't require to have Dr. Lane as his medical adviser. He is a free agent in his choice. Yes, yes, we know all that, but you don't think the gallant doctor is passing up such a golden opportunity of making a paying friend for life, do you? "Oh, come into my parlor, said the spider to the fly."

But what about poor Dr. O. G. Ingham? Where does he come in, and why pick on him. Well, the doctor some time ago received a letter from the British Columbia Workmen's Compensation Board stating that they would not recognize his signature to compensation appeals. Never mind why. Let's stick to the point at issue. Anyhow, the company couldn't very well support two medical "examiners"—it would look too much like endowing a home for honest but indigent doctors—so they did not avail themselves of his services in that capacity.

Was Dr. Ingham downhearted? Not he. The response to his list of subscribers not having been any more overwhelming than Dr. Lane's—in fact, disappointing to a man of his optimistic outlook — Dr. Ingham chipped in with Dr. Lane in some sort of unofficial partnership—a sort of back-scratching collusion—and now the erstwhile rivals are as thick as—well, very thick.

In the circumstances, it is hardly to be wondered at that Dr. Hall's list is diminishing and that of his opponents' increasing, nor that a number of the "higher ups" in the company's service have suddenly developed a curiously simultaneous admiration for either Dr. Lane or Dr. Ingham and have decided that they must have voted wrongly when they asked Dr. Hall to look after their physical welfare.

Thus, so far as our investigation goes, matters stand at present, but the next expected move—some have, we believe, wondered why it is being delayed so long—is that the Chinese employees (who are voteless and voiceless in such matters) will find in Dr. Lane a heaven-sent deliverer from their physical ailments and will fly to him with their troubles, thereby adding to his present emoluments to the tune of many dollars and decreasing Dr. Hall's income by a like amount.

To come back to the matter in seriousness. Is it a square deal to treat a doctor in this fashion; to hedge him round and frustrate his efforts to give efficient and faithful service when he has contracted to do (and is doing so) on the understanding of a more or less permanent and stable following?

Dr. Hall has behaved like a man in the face of this crisis. He has raised no hand to stop the undercurrents flowing round him, except, we believe, to meet the men face to face recently, when he put his position before them and gave them an opportunity to table their criticism openly. Doctors Lane and Ingham were legally entitled to offer their services to those who desired them, but, when such palpable efforts are made, in collusion with the company, to stop the natural flow of patients to the men's agreed-on doctor, it is, we agree, high time to put the case before the public and allow them an opportunity of passing their opinion on those who are engineering this "freeze out."

Both Doctors Lane and Ingham had their fitness for the position of medical adviser to the employees judged, and they were passed over in favor of Doctor Hall. Are their present actions not open to condemnation by all lovers of justice and fair play? What kind of service do their patients expect from men of this calibre? Is the company paying out good money because it loves Doctor Lane? It may be a case of personal friendship for the good doctor, but we rather doubt such. The chances are that it expects to recoup itself by the consideration Doctor Lane can be induced to extend toward its interests, and, in such a case, this is not the same as the patients' interests,—as the patients will find once the "freeze out" is completed.

Men of the Western Fuel Corporation—think! For God's sake, think! Consider the case on its merits and see if you are not being fooled into bartering away your freedom of choice—if you are not being treated as a pack of imbeciles who don't know what is good for you. Have we told you enough to open your eyes, or must we go further into the sordid details?

Slowly the wedge is being entered; gradually the pressure is being increased. Tomorrow you will wake up with sore heads—and Dr. W. Ross Lane (none other genuine) will be waiting to fix you up.—Subscriber

N. S. W. Labor Clips Power of Senate

Canadians, bothered by an obsolete and reactionary senate holding office for life, are turning to New South Wales, sister commonwealth under the Southern Cross, for valuable suggestions concerning the reform or abolition of the upper body, whose members are appointed for life. Sturdy New South Wales, proudest state of the Australian Commonwealth, attacked the senate problem in a novel but effective manner when the Labor premier at one stroke added 25 Labor members in order to assure a Labor majority. With this majority he intends to abolish the senate altogether, or reduce it to the impotence of the British House of Lords.

This drastic action was made necessary when the upper body—known in New South Wales as the Legislative council—could hear none but their master's voice in voting against Labor legislation. Having taxed the patience of the Labor government to the extreme, they now find their body packed with 25 new Labor men, or enough to back the government's bill to abolish the upper chamber altogether. "We want no American system of checks and balances to thwart the people's will," is the rallying cry of the Australians, who fortunately are profiting by the mistakes made in England and Canada, where a reactionary non-elective senate can nullify all attempts at social progress.—Locomotive Engineers' Journal.

BEAUTY PARLORS FOR DOGS

The latest fad of wealthy London ladies (?) is to take their pet dogs to a beauty parlor which has been opened in Sloane Street.

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MISSION STUDIO

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Division No. 4 Holds Big Convention

A larger number of delegates attended the convention of Division No. 4, Railway Employees' Department, at Montreal than at any time since the division was organized. Final report of the credential committee showed 169 delegates present, including 15 boilermakers, 13 blacksmiths, 68 carmen, 6 electrical workers, 37 machinists, 1 pattern maker, 5 pipe fitters, 4 sheet metal workers, 3 local councils, 3 short line system federations and a number of visitors.

Pays Off $10,000 Loan

Reports of the president and the secretary-treasurer show that, despite the continued trade depression in Canada, the division has maintained its membership, some organizations reporting substantial increases.

Secretary-Treasurer Dickie's report showed that the loan of $10,000 necessitated through the failure of the Home Bank about two years ago, wherein was deposited the funds of the division, has been paid.

President Tallon's report says: "We have met with remarkable success in stabilizing hours, largely by bringing back railway work to railway shops, and our men have not suffered a close down of the shops nor a reduction in staff since the union management co-operative program was launched in the Canadian National Railways. The C. N. R. shops have secured a large amount of work previously done in contract shops under unfair conditions, even to the extent of handling all of this year's requirements of new equipment (cars and locomotives). On the latter some $150,000 will go into the hands of our members which otherwise they would not get, besides demonstrating what can be done in their own shops.

Organization and Pensions

Division No. 4 pledged itself to give all assistance to the International Brotherhood of Stationary Firemen and Oilers in its campaign to organize this class of worker on Canadian railways, and that the executive officers give consideration to the affiliation of this organization if such affiliation is requested by responsible officers of the organization.

Workers Warned About Bakery Trust

Toronto.—Joseph T. Walsh, a Canadian on the staff of the Bakery and Confectionery Workers' International Union, warned the wage-earner and consumer of Canada to follow closely the developments of the proposed baking merger in the United States, which is now the subject of a United States congressional inquiry. Mr. Walsh came to Toronto at the request of labor organizers to assist in the formation of a bakers' union.

Canada Interested

Three Montreal companies, one Toronto concern and another company in Western Canada, with extensive business in their respective communities, are included in what has been termed as the northern section of the proposed merger, according to Mr. Walsh, who added that the fact had been established through reliable sources.

The proposed merger of the Ward, Continental and General Baking companies, with a capitalization of $600,000,000, should be of more than passing interest to people in Canada," said Mr. Walsh. "It is well known in the United States that the plans of the combination include the absorption of Canadian companies, and that the objective of the combination is a vast baking company which will be international in its scope. Feeling has been aroused in the United States. Public and labor halls have been placarded with posters warning the people to protest against it. This week-end a meeting is to be held in Carnegie Hall, at which Frank Walsh will take the chair and facts in connection with the combine be made known by Senator Borah, President Green of the American Federation of Labor, Senator La Follette, and others."

Increase Price of Bread

Mr. Walsh declared that the inevitable effect of the combine would be an increase in the price of bread, because it would drive the small baker out of existence by the use of machinery and cheap labor. "The skilled baker will pass out of existence," he said. "The machine, which will be operated by unskilled labor, will take his place. The price of bread will rise. This is the view taken in the United States by the wage-earner and the consumer."

THE P. G. E.

(Continued from Page 5)

government treats its own laws with utter disregard for consistency and common deceny.

The P. G. E. as it stands today is a monument to the inefficiency and wastefulness of the present provincial authorities. The government lacks foresight, imagination and executive ability, the necessary qualities to make any enterprise a success. It cannot say that it lacks funds, for it has wasted enough to more than complete the road. The present scheme is to offer it to the highest bidder and thus take out of government control an undertaking that could not only be made to pay for itself, but also bring in sufficient revenue to relieve very considerably the burden of taxation at present patiently borne by the people. But before it has the opportunity to divert this enterprise out of public into private hands, the people should be consulted. By virtue of the expenditures made, the public has a stake in the enterprise and every step should be taken to obtain the final say of the people on the ultimate destiny of what may yet prove itself an asset to the province.

Two men were becoming abusive in the course of a political quarrel.

"I think," cried one of them, "that there is just one thing that saves you from being a bare-faced liar."

"What's that?" asked the other.

"Your whiskers," was the reply.—Tit Bits (London).

An oldl age pension act is now before parliament, and the convention went on record favorable to the measure, provided the age limit is fixed at 65 years.

Abolition of the bonus system was demanded, and if it is impossible to secure this desirable reform, that the bonus be distributed upon a collective or pool basis.

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Primitive Conditions In Japan's Coal Mines

CHICAGO.—Nowhere in the world is machine mining so far advanced as in the United States, declares Powers Hapgood, former organizer of the United Mine Workers, who has completed a tour of the principal coal fields of the globe, working in each one except in Japan.

"I could not work in the Japanese mines because of the racial feeling," Hapgood tells The Federated Press. "All the white business and professional men in the Orient would have felt themselves humiliated if a fellow white man had performed actual manual labor along with yellow-skinned workers. It would have been another attack on the jealously cherished principle of white superiority in the East.

Japanese Coal Mines

"It was not difficult to enter the Japanese coal mines at Nagasaki once I got on the island. Though no one I met could speak English, the Japanese railroad station master telephoned around until he found a student home from college who could speak it a little. With the help of a Japanese-English dictionary I explained that I wanted to see a mine and he took me to the superintendent. I went down into an unusually deep hot mine and saw very primitive conditions. The naked male miners work at the coal face and Japanese women workers, also naked except for a flimsy loin cloth, carry the coal in baskets to the mine cars."

In England, Wales, France, Germany and Russia Hapgood found no difficulty in getting a temporary job through his American union card and letters from the International Miners' Federation, with which the U. M. W. A. is affiliated. In Japan, however, he wisely decided to see the mine first and the union afterward. No sooner had he called at the union offices in Tokio and Osaka, the industrial centre of Japan, than he was constantly shadowed by the police until he left for America.

Junior Labor League

The next regular meeting of the Junior Labor League will be held as usual this Friday, April 9th, in the New Fraser Hall, 45th avenue and Fraser street, in the form of a social evening. All members are requested to be present. The members of the Jubilee Junior Labor League are cordially invited to attend.

Dues will be collected at this meeting.

The next regular dance of the J. L.L. will be held as usual this Saturday, April 10th, in the Elks' Hall, 49th avenue and Fraser street. A good time is assured to all who attend these dances. Edna Haywood's orchestra in attendance.

Auto Mechanics Have Successful Smoker

We have to report that the smoker held at Belvedere Court on March 30th was a rousing success, and more interest in the affairs of this lodge should be the next order of business.

Shortly after the opening Dr. L. Telford gave us a straight talk on the necessity and benefits of organization, which we certainly needed and which was greatly appreciated by the boys.

Bro. G. Almas kept the boys in a good humor by his able fulfilment of chairman's duties, and who also exposed himself as a banjo player of no mean ability.

We are grateful to the following for their assistance as entertainers for the evening: Mr. Hill, concertina selections; Mr. Pappas, mandolin selections; Mr. Dorman, monologue; Mr. Scott, songs and recitations; Mr. McDougall, songs and piano work (who, in his enthusiasm, broke the piano stool); Mr. Stanten, songs; Mr. Studholme, songs;; Mr. Carstairs, Scotch songs; Mr. McRobinson, songs; Mr. Merrit, piano selections; Mr. Spencer, violin solos; Mr. Brown, recitations; Mr. Valentine, recitations; also Mr. Gartley, pianist for the evening.

Special mention must be made of Brothers Grant, Kelman, Searle, Gardner and S. Hague, whose united efforts as knights of the commissariat kept control of the inner men. The only brothers we feel sorry for are those who didn't attend.

Next meeting will be held at Holden Building, Tuesday, April 13th. Bring your shopmates.

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The C.P.R. earned 12.5 per cent on ordinary shares including the watered stock for 1925. The railway employees enjoyed short time and short pay while the company reaped the above profit. It is better to own stock in a company than it is to try and earn a living with it.

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When he takes stock after coming home, he knows why they call it "spending" the honeymoon.

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This lingerie washes good, wears well and looks smart.

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Teddie's — Priced at other stores $2.35. Our price **$2.10**

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