Labor Statesman

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Supported by Fifty-three Local Unions

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DEPARTMENT of LABOUR MAR

Department of Labour Parliament Bldg. 1927

Five-Day Week Cannot Be Successfully Opposed

Early Demands of Organized Labor are Put into Operation—Hours are Decreased and Profits Increased—New Move Is in Line With Progress.

By WILLIAM GREEN

TEMPERAMENTALLY there are two kinds of people in the world: One says: "Progress can be made; how can we contribute to that end?" the other: "we shall do well indeed if we are able to maintain present achievements without incurring the hazards involved in making changes." The first group has aided constructive change, and the other group has consistently opposed it, regardless as to whether the proposal dealt with education, politics, or humn welfare. Labor proposals have uniformly been opposed by the second group.

The two early demands of organized labor were the shorter workday and free public schools. In Colonial days education was a home responsibility, just as training in a handicraft. Children got their first educational training in the home and in private schools. As public schools developed, children were required to attend, their tuition being paid by their parents, their masters or the community. This put the children of the poor on a different footing from the children of the rich. Wage earners organized in unions were among the first to urge our free public school system. Their efforts together with the extension of suffrage were potential in securing the necessary legislation.

For Tax-Supported Schools

Professor Frank Carlton has classified the arguments up to 1820, for free tax-supported schools, as follows:

(1) Education is necessary for the preservation of free institutions. (2) It prevents class differentiation. (3) Education tends to diminish crime. (4) It reduces the amount of poverty and distress. (5) It increases production. (6) Education is the natural right of all individuals. (7) Education will rectify false ideas as to unjust distribution of wealth.

As against educational advance, Professor Carlton summarizes the following:

(1) Free education for all increases taxation unduly. (2) Taxation for the purpose of maintaining free public schools is a violation of the rights of the individual. (3) A public school system of schools was opposed by certain religious elements because of possible injury to particular religious sects. (4) Certain non-English speaking people opposed the public school because they feared that their own tongue would be supplanted by the English language. (5) Impractical legislation caused much opposition. (6) It was urged that education would not benefit the masses. (7) Injury to the private school was alleged. (8) Public education tends to break down social barriers.

As the movement progressed the arguments charged that free public education was a violation of the rights of the individual and an infringement upon his liberty. The following argument represented the point of view of those who believed free education revolutionary:

Among the strange notions which have been broached since I have been on the political theatre, there is one which has lately seized the minds of men, that all things must be done for them by the Government, and that they are to do nothing for themselves . . . . Look at that ragged fellow staggering from the whiskey shop, and see the slattern who has gone to reclaim him; where are their children? Runing about ragged, idle, ignorant, fit candidates for the penitentiary. Why is all this so? Ask the man he will tell you, "Oh! the Government has undertaken to educate our children for us. It has given us a premium for idleness, and now I spend in liquor that which I should otherwise be obliged to save, to pay for their schooling."

Modern versions of these arguments have been raised against every proposal to widen educational opportunities.

From Sunrise to Sunset

Early in the nineteenth century, the workday was from sunrise to sunset. The shorter hour movement set ten hours as the maximum. To the journeymen carpenters of Boston, who made this demand in 1825, the master carpenters replied:

"We learn with surprise and regret that a large number of those who are employed as journeymen in this city, have entered into a combination for the purpose of altering the time of commencing and terminating their daily labor, from that which has been customary from time immorial.' They considered such a combination "fraught with numerous and pernicious evils," especially to the journeymen themselves, as they might expect soon to become masters and were entailing upon themselves "in-

(Continued on Page 2)

Textile Workers Register 1600 Per Cent Increase in Wages During last 90 Years

The Bureau of Labor Statistics has secured records of a New England silk mill covering a period of 90 years, which show that wages have advanced in that time from an average of 4 cents per hour to 64.7 cents.

While this was occuring, working hours were reduced from an average of 72, to 48 per week.

"While there has been a heavy increase in wages during the past 12 years, it has been exceeded by the increase in productivity per unit of products and per wage earner," says the bureau.

Organization, of course, is largely responsible for the betterment of workers' conditions.

BUILDING LABORERS WANTED

The International Hod Carriers & Building Laborers' Union is carrying on an intensive campaign in Vancouver. Meetings are being held the first and third Friday in the month in the Holden Building and every trades unionist is urged to inform labourers of these meetings and urge them to attend.

ROBERT SKINNER TO ADDRESS SOUTH VANCOUVERITES

Robert Skinner (Spud Tamson) will be the principal speaker at the South Vancouver I.L.P. meeting in the Horticultural Hall on Friday, April 8th at 8 p.m. The subject will be on "Finance" in its relationship to workers in industry. These meetings are open to the general public and an interesting debate takes place after the address in which all the audience is invited to participate.

Chinese Union Members in Advance of Army

London.—This city remains the clearing house for such information as Western Europe has on China. In the light of that information, one thing has become clear to all but the most unteachable Tories:—The world must deal with a new China.

None of the maxims compiled to guide the West in its Chinese dealings in the past have any value now, and most of them are pernicious, China has acquired not merely new leaders, but a new spirit, a new aim, a new confidence in herself.

One thing which British Tories were slow and Continental observers still slower to learn, is the enormous strength of the Chinese labor movement. The old guilds have been reshaped into labor unions which are the real backbone of the new China.

Wiped Out Concession

The unions wiped out the foreign concession in Hankow by a general strike. The waterworks closed down, the light plant the same, transportation came to a standstaill, food could not be bought, and the slop carriers —there are no sewers in that place —refused to remove wastes. Life became unbearable, the foreigners left, and after a little maneuvering, the Nationalist forces took possession.

But that is only one of the ways in which the labor movement of the New China is showing its power. The Seamen's Union at Hong Kong struck for more wages. The ship owners refused, and the government closed the seamen's hall. Promptly, each sailor went back to the ancestral farm, owned by his elder brother, who was in duty bound to support him till he got work again.

An Unbeatable System

There is no beating a system like that. The ship owners gave way—but the sailors made the Governor of Hong Kong reopen their hall in person and sit as a guest with the seamen he had jailed for disorder before they would sign the new wage agreements!

But all forms of direct action combined are the smaller half of Chinese labor activities. The main work of the unions is propaganda. They prepare the way for the Cantonese or Nationalist armies.

When Chiang Kai Shek began his northward march, he was outmatched four-fold in purely military strength by the various northern tuchuns or military governors. But the labor unions were working in advance of the Cantonese march. Army after army either disintegrated or went over bodily to the Nationalist cause.

The Nationalist armies comes with the promise of freedom from the foreignor and freedom from native war lords. So far as they have advanced they have kept their promise. Wherever a nationalist army comes, civil government is established and schools opened whose first business it is to teach the gospel of "China for the Chinese."

MOLDERS TO HOLD ANOTHER WHIST DRIVE AND DANCE

International Molders Union No. 281, will hold a whist drive and dance in the Cotillion Hall, Thursday, March 31. This is the second of a series which have been arranged by the entertainment committee.

Members of other unions who desire to have a good time are invited to attend. There will be good eats, good prizes, good music and a sociable crowd. Regular prices.

Mr. J. Sweder, tailor, 427 Seymour Street, who often advertises in the Labor Statesman, has signed the new agreement of the Tailors Union. This firm is worthy of the support of organized labor; his prices are right and the union label is put on every garment. When ordering your next suit look up J. Sweder and let him give you a price and a fit.

Junior Astronomers Can't Lay Bricks

One of the favorite objections to union labor demands for better wages and working conditions is to point out that the union worker already is getting better pay than some "white collar man," whose calling, it is contended, requires more preparation. Usually, the country clergyman is picked out as the "goat," that is, the example of an impoverished brain worker; but sometimes other crafts are chosen.

William J. Bowen, president of the Bricklayers, Masons and Plasterers' International Union, spiked that dodge very effectively the other day. Navy Yard bricklayers wanted an increase. The administration answered that they already were getting much more than the junior astronomer of the Naval Observatory, who receives only $35 per week.

Mr. Bowen, in a letter to President Coolidge, retorted that both bricklayers and astronomers were underpaid, that the scientists were partly to blame for their own plight, because they didn't organize to get their rights, and added:

"Finally, the junior astronomer can't lay bricks."

True, and very much to the point. When scientific workers try to get better pay, union labor invariably comes to the front to help them. But **even the unions can't help them who do not help themselves**, and if the mechanic cannot compute the positions of the stars, neither can the astronomer take the mechanic's place at the lathe or on the wall.

Both workers are necessary, both deserve proper compensation **and robbery of the one is no excuse for trying to rob the other.**—Labor.

What we Would Like to Know

By "George Didit"

If the political parties will still hold out their palms for the grease when the investigation is over?

How many people would like to bet that the old parties will refuse campaign funds from the Breweries and Distilleries?

If Charlie Claman, the gent's furnisher, thinks he can employ Japanese tailors, while white tailors are seeking work, without getting a lot of unfavourable publicity.

How many girls are geting less than the minimum wage in Vancouver, because they have made "arrangements" with the boss to either "work for less" or "walk the streets."

Why the big Department stores from Winnipeg, east, are going to institute the FIVE DAY WEEK commencing May 1 and lasting till September 30th, while our peanutters in Vancouver get six days out of their employees.

If the idea of closing all day Saturday and Sunday so that those who slave in the stuffy stores can get some fresh air miles away from Vancouver, wouldn't be worth considering.

If anybody would like to buy some stock in the snow-covered Grouse Mountain Chalet, that was going to "operate all winter."

HANDS OF CHINA

The "Hands Off China" Committee will hold a business meeting in the Holden Building on Friday evening at 8 p.m. A propaganda meeting will be held in the Royal Theatre on Sunday at 3 p.m. Among the speakers are Dr. Chu, Dr. Curry and W. W. Lefeaux.

International Best for Canadian Labor

Ottawa.—The present (international) form of trade union organization, as exemplified by the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada and the railroad transportation brotherhoods, was endorsed in an unusual and neutral quarter here last week. Professor W. W. Goforth, of the deparment of economics, University of McGill, in addressing the Professional Institute of the Civil Service on the topic "Trade Unionism in Canada," paid a tribute to the international or standard unions.

"The balance of logic and experiment," he said, "is heavily in favor of the present international affiliation of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, as compared with the opposing arguments of those who propose a purely national trade union movement.

"The closely interlocked capital investment in Canada and the United States, the identical method of processes of industry in the two countries, and the travelling advantages of workmen who wish to cross the border during periods of local depressions, are the leading reasons for the economic fusion of organized labor in the Anglo-Saxon nations of North America."

SALVATION ARMY TURNS DOWN SICK WORKER

S. J. Kisick, who was taken sick recently while out of work, applied to the Salvation Army to get assistance to go to the hospital. The Salvation Army would not have anything to do with him because he happened to be down and out, with no means of support. He had been a resident of Vancouver for eleven years and had often given his 'mite' to aid in what he thought was the good work. He says that it will be the last time that he will ask help and will give help to the Salvation Army.

"HANDS OFF CHINA" MEETING

in the

ROYAL THEATRE

Sunday, March 27th, 3 p.m.

Speakers:

Dr. W. J. Curry, Dr. P. Y. Chu, W. W. Lefeaux

And Others

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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.

The Brotherhood o Railway Carmen have endorsed the "Hands Off China" resolution.

FIVE DAY WEEK

(Continued from Page 1)

conveniences" when they should have attained that situation. They furthermore considered that the measure proposed would have an unhappy influence" on apprentices "by seducing them from that course of industry and economy of time," to which they were anxious to "enure them," and would expose the journeymen themselves "to many temptations and improvident practices," from which they were "happily secure" when working from sunrise to sunset . Finally, they declared that they could not believe "this project to have originated with any of the faithful and industrial Sons of New England, but are compelled to consider it an evil of foreign growth, and one which we hope and trust will not take root in the favoured soil of Massachusetts." "And especially," they added, "that our city, the early rising and industry of whose inhabitants are universally proverbial, may not be infected with the unnatural production."

These arguments were supplemented by contentions that the prices and estimates upon which contracts were based made the proposal impossible at that time. It was not until 1840 that the ten-hour day became general in mechanical trades.

Against Manhood Suffrage

The arguments against manhood suffrage were akin to those against universal education. The following is typical:

Our citizens who have not yet voted, have one day more in which they may exercise the privilege of determining whom they will have for their rulers. The old party lines are nearly obliterated, but there has sprung up a new interest which is formidable both for the number of its adherents and the disorganizing purposes by which they are actuated. By throwing open the polls to every man that walks, we have placed the power in the hands of those who have neither property, talents, nor influence in other circumstances; and who require in their public officers no higher qualifications than they possess themselves . . . . . We cannot believe that we are so soon reduced to the condition of the Romans, when the popular voice was raised against every honourable distinction; a voice which finally prevailed, to the utter distinction of the Republic."

The first adoption of the eight-hour day was, according to John R. Commons, in the Navy Yard, in Charleston, Massachusetts, in 1824, by the carpenters and ship caulkers. A national movement for the eight hour workday came after the Civil War and as a result of the tireless zeal of Ira Stewart of Boston. Stewart taught that wages do not depend upon the amount of capital or the supply of labor, but upon the habits, customs and wants of the wage earners. He held that inventions and machinery increased production and that out of increased production, wage earners might raise their standard of living. He taught that a reduction in hours was an increase in wages.

The American Federation of Labor in 1884, adopted a programme of sustained endeavor to establish eight hours as the standard workday. With the establishment of the shorter work day, came proposals for the shorter work week. No more dynamic changes can come into the lives of the great majority of our citizenry than free educational opportunities for all and a work week that permits labor to be more than drudgery. Because of these opportunities for larger living, wage earners can make larger contributions to industry and community life and also make larger demands upon civilization.

The opposition to the shorter work week placed its main dependence in economic arguments. Output and production increasingly became the points of contention.

Decrease in Hours—Increase in Profits

The United States Steel Corporation held out the longest of all important production concerns. It contended that it could not adjust production to a three shift system, or afford the additional costs involved. Yet is has overcome the technical difficulties in going upon the eight-hour basis, and the eight hour shift has not interferd with increases in net earnings. For the first three quarter periods of 1926, ending in September, net earnings were $52,626,826, which is greater than the net earnings for any previous period except the war years of 1916 and 1917. The Colorado Fuel and Iron Company, which unexpectedly went on three shifts, found to its surprise, that the system was a financial saving to the company as well as a satisfaction to its employees. The executives of the United States Steel Corporation still seem to have drawn no practical deductions from their struggle of two decades against a shorter work day. Judge Gary recently declared: "I know I can't do as much work in five days as I can in six, and I don't think any one else can." Surely wage earners have a right to demand a more discriminating consideration for their proposals.

Opposition is based upon the unwarranted assumption that the shorter work week entails reduced production. Quite the contrary is Labor's purpose. We realize that permanent progress must rest upon increased output—increased things at the service of human beings. We maintain, however, that we can devise still more efficient methods: Layout, machinery and mechanical power have been geared to a pace based upon human labor power for an eight hour day. If performance must mesh into a higher gear, the work period must obviously be shortened. Reasoning from past experience, the output will be increased. Individual wages should increase with productivity, but this does not necessarily result in higher production costs per unit. Efficient management will prevent that result.

Luxuries Become Necessities

Labor does not suggest an immediate change to the five-day week in all industries. We all know that the luxuries of one generation are the necessaries of the next, and we know also that men who want to work and advance will get further if they assume that progress can be made and do their part in the necessary experimentation to find the means. The familiar straw man, the European competitor, comes at an inauspicious time, now that Europe is sending commissions here to study our mechanical progress and to find the 'secret of high wages." Methods that have led to progress in the past should not be denied another trial.

The American Federation of Labor resolved to work for the shorter work week, fully conscious that all industries are not equally prepared to introduce the forty-hour week. Because we believe that the shorter work week is industrially practicable and expedient and socially wise, organized labor offers its co-operation in developing technical changes and conditions under which the shorter work week can go into effect and usher in a period in which the workers shall find new and greater opportunities for growth and service both as workers and as citizens. The joint efforts of management and those who use the tool and machinery to carry out work orders, will put all past experience to work to find the way to the next big change.

There are industries that should now consider plans for the five day week: these are mining, construction, automobiles, garment-making and textiles.

Greater Hourly Production

A part of this higher gearing of industry to maintain output can be expected to grow out of the five-day as its natural effect upon the human part of the industrial mechanism. Experience has proved that the effect of shortening hours is to increase output per hour, and this has not only been demonstrated once or twice but has been the general experience. Allowing a period of one or two months for adjustment, reductions from a twelve hour to an eight hour shift, and from a ten hour to an eight hour shift, in a shell manufacturing operation and glass manufacturing respectively, have given a nineteen and a half per cent. and a ten per cent. increase in hours of production, and in the Minnegua steel plant of the Colorado Fuel and Iron Company, the change from the twelve hour to the eight hour day has resulted in a greater hourly production in every department, according to Mr. Weldon, president of the company. Even where the operation is machine controlled, shorter hours have produced a greater hourly output. Studies of women turning fuse bodies in a munition plant show the following results: when working 66 hours a week they turned out 100 units of production an hour; when working 54 hours, 134 units; and when reduced to 45 hours per week, 158 units. When the hours are reduced below eight a day the increase continues. In the tinplate industry in South Wales reductions from eight to six hours a day brought increases of 4.7 per cent., 8.5 per cent. and 10.6 per cent. in hourly production in three factories investigated. In another factory where hours were reduced from eight to four the increase was 11.5 per cent. Over a period of time the effect of shorter hours is cumulative, the greater physical capacity of the men being reflected in continually rising production curves over a period of several months and sometimes a year or more following the reduction in hours.

All this goes to show that the element of fatigue is an important factor in industrial waste and that the maximum efficiency of the human machine can be had only when rest periods allow ample time for recuperation. The time needed for complete recuperation must be greater where specialization and mechanical devices reduce the workman's part to the constant repetition of a few motions at a high rate of speed. Here monotony and nervous tension produce a greater strain that in work involving greater variety. Certain scientific investigations in England have placed the work time which under existing conditions give the maximum efficiency of the human machine, at forty hours a week.

Prevents Slack Periods

Another means of maintaining output under a shortened work week schedule is that of stablizing the industry to prevent seasonal rush and slack periods. Many of our industries are now operating only two-thirds or three-fourths of the working year, owing to seasonal fluctuations and other controllable elements. By eliminating as far as possible, seasonal ups and downs, the operation period can be regularized and a larger total yearly output be produced. In the boot and shoe industry, an industry much affected by changes in style and seasonal fluctuations, certain firms have made an intensive study of sales and markets, and through special efforts came twenty per cent. nearer to running full time. This was done by interweaving the manufacture of staples and novelties so as to make up stock in staples during slack periods, by working up advance information on sales, and by co-operation between different manufacturing plants and allied trades. In the building industry seasonal depression has been overcome through winter building programmes, which have equalized constructions through the year and resulted in larger yearly output and saving in overhead expenses due to idle equipment.

Winter Construction Desirable

W. J. Lynch, vice-president of the Thompson Starett Company of Chicago, made a careful survey of the unit costs of concrete work, form work and brick work on five large jobs, which clearly showed that the average unit costs of winter operations are as favorable, if not more so, than summer work. He asserted that winter construction is not only practical, but desirable, with direct benefit to owner, builder and labor and to the community at large.

Similar experiments have been found successful in other industries, notably in the garment industry, where the five day week is now in effect in larger markets, and in the repair shops of some railroads where a system of union management co-operation has been in effect. These results are suggestive of what may be accomplished by scientific handling of fluctuation problems and of the possibility of spreading output over a longer period, with consequent savings and increases, of using our present industrial equipment to more nearly its full capacity and taking care of unemployment by week and holidays throughout the year, rather than by resorting to seasonal lay-offs.

One of the phases of the shorter work week planning which must be treated most seriously, is that of costs involved. However, we know that increasing the costs of any one element entering into production

(Continued on Page 3)

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PIERRE PARIS —51— HASTINGS WEST

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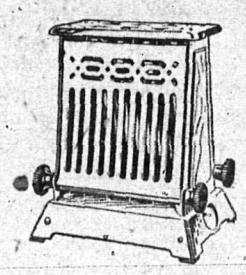

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Trades Union Directory

Vancouver Trades and Labor Council—President, J. Thomson; 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.

Beverage Dispensers Union No. 676—meets second Sunday at 2 p.m. and the last Sunday in month at 8:00 p.m., Room 310 Holden Bldg. President W. H. Clancy; Secretary and Business Agent, T. J. Hanofin. Office: Room 5, Flack Block; Phones, Sey. 4783 and Bay. 1656-R. Hours, 9 to 12 a.m.

Bridge & Structural Iron Workers, Local 97, Int. Asso.—Meets every Monday, Room 804 Holden Bldg., at 8 p.m. President, Sydney Dunstone; Secretary, P. Lauret, Box 302, City, Phone Fair. 2108L.

Building Trades Council, Vancouver—Meets second and fourth Tuesday in Holden Building. President, Robt. Stevenson; Secretary-treas., W. Page, Room 815, Holden Bldg.

Bakers' Local 468, Journeymen, of America—Meets first and third Saturdays at 7 p.m.—President, T. Webster, 2858 Oxford; Sec., T. Rigby, 37 Broadway West. Phone Fair. 5982-R.

Bakery Salesmen, Local 371 — Meets second Thursday every month. Holden Bldg., 16 Hastings E. President E. Holmes; acting secretary, Birt Showler, 1115 Robson, office, 807 Holden Building.

Barbers', Journeyman International Union of America—Local 120, meets second and fourth Tuesdays in each month in Room 310 Labor Hall, 16 Hastings East. Pres., Fred. Dawe; Sec.-treas., C. E. Herrett, Office 814 Holden Bldg.

Bookbinders Local No. 105, Int. Brotherhood—Meets second Tuesday in month at Professional and Business Woman's Club, Empire Bldg., 603 Hastings W. President, G. Low, 61 53rd Ave. W.; secretary, Thos. Carroll, 842 Hamilton Street.

Brewery Workers Union No. 300—meets first and third Wednesday in month in room 313, Holden Building, at 8 p.m. President, J. Ramsay, 4312 Perry Rd.; Secretary, H. F. Swan, 2705 Pender East.

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, A. McDonald; recording secretary, W. Page; business agent, Wm. Dunn. Office, Room 809 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; treasurer, W. J. Sribbins, 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, R. N. Hogg, 1718 Commercial Dr.; secretary-treasurer, George Harrison, 1182 Parker St.

Electrical Workers, Local 213, International Brotherhood—Meets every Monday at 8 p.m. in Room No. 5, 319 Pender Street West. President, H. C. Allen; 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, E. McCallum; rec. sec., D. Hodges; fin. sec. and business agent, Roy Finley. Office, Room 806 Holden Building.

Engineers, Steam and Operating, Int. Local 882—Meets every Wednesday at 8 p.m. in room 806 Holden Bldg. President, A. W. Nims; vice-president, E. Thomas; financial secretary, A. J. Newbigging; business agent and rec. sec., H. J. M. Beer. Office, 806 Holden

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.

Hod Carriers and Building Laborers, No. 602, International. Meets first and third Friday in month at Holden Building. President, C. Lawson, 1332 3rd Ave. W. Fin. Sec. and Business Agent, J. A. Barrington, 4293 Welwyn Street. Phone Fair. 1434L.

Hotel and Restaurant Employees Union, Local 28—441 Seymour Street. Meets every Monday. First Monday at 3 p.m., and remaining Mondays at 9 p.m. President, G. Coleman; Business agent Harry Wood, and Fred. Tremblay. Phone Seymour 125.

Ladies' Auxiliary, Local 171 — United Brotherhood of Carpenters — Meets every first and third Wednesday of each month in 810 Holden Building, at 8 p.m. President, Mrs. Nickels, High. 1081Y; secretary, Miss Gibbons, Fair. 2431L.

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

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

Mill and Factory Workers' Union, Local No. 1599 — Affiliated with United Brotherhood of Carpenters & Joiners. Meets first and third Thursdays in Room 313 Holden Bldg. President, H. C. Matthews; Business Agent, A. Graham, 809 Holden Building. Rec. Sec., R. G. Inder, 5877 Lancaster St.

Milk Wagon Drivers and Dairy Employees, Local 464—Meets second and fourth Friday in Labor Hall, 16 Hastings St. E. President, T. Rutherford; 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 Brown, 638 Broadway W. Corresponding representative, J. Pinkerton, 2159 Victoria Drive.

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

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

Painters, Decorators and Paperhangers Local 138—Meets second and fourth Thursdays at 163 Hastings W. Business agent, Robt. Stevenson. Office, room 34, 163 Hastings West. Phone Sey. 3609.

Pile Drivers, Bridge, Wharf and Dock Builders Local No. 2404—Meets every Friday night at 8 p.m. in 122 Hastings St. W. James Thomson, secretary, P. O. Box 320.

Plasterers, Local 89—International Association of Operative, meets first and third Wednesday in month at Holden Bldg. President, A. Hurry. Secretary, Ed. Williams, 1172 Barclay. Phone Douglas 3217R.

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.

Point Grey Municipal Employees' Association, Local No. 3—Meets first Friday of each month at Oddfellows Hall, Kerrisdale, 8 p.m. Secretary, A. Paterson, 8179 Hudson Street.

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, 302 8th St., North Van.; secretary, Wm. Quigley, 2083 2nd Ave. W., Box 894.

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 Association, Local Union No. 280 — Meets second and fourth Thursday in month in Holden Building, 16 Hastings Street E. President, A. Fisher, 1952 4th Avenue W.; business agent and secretary, D. MacPherson, 807 Holden Bldg.

Shingle Weavers, Local 17813—Meets second Tuesday in month, in Room No. 2, Labor Temple, New Westminster, and 4th Sunday, 7:30 p.m., in Room 313 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, 773 Beatty St.; secretary-treasurer, A. P. Black, 880 Homer St.

Theatrical Stage Employees' Union, Local 118 of the I.A.T.S.E. & M.P.M.O.—Meets at 991 Nelson Street on the second Friday in month, at 9:30 a.m. President, G. W. Allen; Secretary, Gordon Martin. Business address, P. O. Box 711.

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.

Prince Rupert Trades & Labor Council

MEETS second Thursday in each month. President, S. D. McDonald, Box 268. Secretary, Frank Derry, Box 498, Prince Rupert, B.C.

PATRONIZE OUR ADVERTISERS

A Revolution in Method

The doings of the B. C. Legislature have occasional great surprise to the general public, but few probably have seen the extreme significance of its action in regard to the marketing of fruit. Here is a revolution in method, forced by bitter experience and necessity onto a body of legislators, chosen for the most part because they were hard-headed business men, with no crazy ideas, or other damned nonsense about them."

A year or two ago, there is scarcely one of those who took part in the debates on the question but would have considered the idea preposterous. Legislation has often been passed to make monopolies illegal: did not the present Canadian Government, make a great fuss about breaking up the Shipping Combine of which strange to say its own government fleet was a member? And lo, behold! the B. C. Legislature after much debate, both in the House and in the public press, by a big majority legislates the handling of our fruit into a most complete monopoly.

This action constitutes perhaps the most utter repudiation of competition that has yet been recorded and the most complete vindication of socialist theory we could wish. Socialists have contended that competition is wasteful and disastrous and here we see a legislature of business men, whose political training has been all in the other direction, forced to take action to rescue an important industry- from the cluthes of the smart gentlemen who are ruining it, by their wild, unregulated efforts to sell the fruit.

The middlemen who have been attempting to handle our fruit crops were at least up to the average of our business men, as capable, as honest, as industrious. Smarter men could have done very little more than they did because the failure lay not in the men but in the method. In short, under competition they could not put method into their work. We see then in the plainest manner, by this public example, that men may be honest, industrious and capable and yet prove useless and inefficient for want of system. We also see demonstrated that monopolies are essential to the proper conduct of modern business, because it is only by means of monopolies that we can put the necessary system into our efforts.

Our business as Socialists is to get rid of useless people and to turn them into useful people. Therefore we say, that the first task of an enlightened parliament would be to overhaul all the business of the country, to start keeping accounts with each of its citizens, and to find out who is useful and who is useless.

The squealing of our numerous babbitry in Vancouver frightened our legislators from giving similar relief to the farmers who produce milk, though an equally strong case was made out against the competitive milk pedlars. But the farmers should unite with the labor men to insist that all our business be overhauled, especially that of swarming professional men.

Dogs scratch their fleas and have to be satisfied if they drive their tormentors from their bellies to their backs. Mankind should do better than dogs. We should use thorough disinfectants to cleanse society of its swarming parasites. Farmers and labourmen get together. Your interests are common. Your parasites are similar. Unless a man is doing some useful work, he is sneaking his meals off those who are useful.

J. C. Harris.

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Correspondence

The Editor,
Labor Statesman,
Vancouver, B. C.

Your leader 18th inst., under the caption "The Farmers Demand."

We cannot entirely support your attitude towards Mayor Taylor and the legal and other members of the municipal staff who functioon under him in their attitude towards the marketing bill lately before the House at Victoria.

As we see it Mayor Taylor is the executive head of a large corporation—the City of Vancouver—and as such is charged with the administration of that corporation in the economic interests of its stock-holders the citizens of Vancouver.

In resisting the passage of legislation calculated to advance the price of a staple commodity to these citizens without giving them a voice in the adjustment, Mayor Taylor is only discharging his duties to those who chose him from among themselves to look after their economic interests.

Mayor Taylor and his fellow citizens, not being milk producers, their economic relationship to the dairy farmers of the Fraser Valley is that of purchaser to vendor. As this relationship is a fundamentally contentious one it devolves upon Mayor Taylor to endeavour as far as possible from where they are at liberty to contend for the most advantageous terms of exchange in all transactions affecting their economic welfare.

As a farmer who looks to farm organization properly grounded as to fundamentals as the only hope for the the future of the agricultural industry we wish to commend Mayor Taylor on his logical stand in this matter.

When we as farmers who compose the other side of this contentious relationship organize ourselves to the end that in the exchange of our commodities, our interests will be served with the same appreciation and ability as Mayor Taylor has displayed in behalf of those whose interests he is charged with protecting, we will have small cause to complain of the condition of our industry.

If instead of taking the very proper position he did in this matter, Mayor Taylor had by some chicanery succeeded in persuading the milk producers that the fundamental interests of the citizens of Vancouver and the fundamental interests of the milk producers were of a sympathetic instead of a contentious nature, and had thereby contrived to panhandle himself into a strategic position on the suggested price fixing board, his action might very reasonably be open to severe criticism—or worse, instead of commendation for his aboveboard action.

To our kind, the most significant feature of the whole fight on the marketing bill was the all too successful drive both in the Legislature and through the leading newspapers to confuse this fundamental economic relationship between the farmers and their market. This confusion has stultified the commodity basis of organization and control idea and has left open appointments to the price fixing board of representatives of groups whose essential interests were directly contrary to those of the farmer.

It was to be expected that the local publications of syndicated string newspapers whose prairie editions maintain a persistent antagonism toward the operation of the Farmers' Wheat Pool and its kindred organizations would contribute its best efforts to bemuddle the issue at a time when clear and concerted thinking on the part of the farmers was essential to success.

Our experience has forced the conviction that the pages of most of our leading papers were made available only to correspondents whose confusion of ideas on the problems involved rendered valuable assistance to those whose interests were best served by keeping the remedy for the farmers plight obscured.

To those who have watched the progress, or lack of progress of farm organization in B. C. closely, this action of certain papers serving certain interests did not come as a surprise.

That the same thing obtained, however with local publications that we are asked to believe are issued exclusively in the interests of those engaged in the agricultural industry, puts a different face on the situation.

The manner in which the marketing question has been treated by the fore-mentioned may be due to a lack of sufficient intelligence on the part of the Editors to comprehend the idea underlying the solution as established by the farmer prairie pools, or it may be due to something more sinister.

In any event to those who have been debarred from expressing their views on the question in the public (?) press it will force the conviction that before any real progress can be reported the farmers will have to have an organization and a publication of their own, wherein timely discussions of an educational character may be carried on, on matters affecting their welfare untrammelled by influences whose interests are best served by keeping the farmer at his present economic disadvantage in marketing the products of his industry.

Yours truly,
J. R. Hastings,
Fanny Bay, B. C.

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FIVE DAY WEEK

(Continued from Page 2)

does not need to increase the production cost per unit. Production involves dynamic forces. If any one operates under changed conditions, change may be expected in the performance of other factors.

However, it is plain that from the standpoint of national and social progress, the shorter work period is a desirable goal. It is also plain that planning, invention and persistence can find increasingly better ways of doing the same job. This makes it practical to set a definite goal such as the American Federation of Labor adopted at its Detroit convention, and then mobilize all the agencies that can contribute to the realization of this ideal.

Standard Making Agency

The organized labor movement is the standard making agency for all labor in America. It is the only agency that can speak for those that work for wages and it is the custodian of industrial experience and craft skill, as well as the welfare of those who use the tools and handle the materials of production.

Labor power is an indispensable factor in production. However powerful and efficient machinery becomes, there is always need for human control and human judgment in its use. Labor knows that if the area it controls is widened by power and machinery, it needs more vitality and resourcefulness of mind and body in order to keep pace with progress and remain master of the production process instead of being controlled by it.

For these reasons Labor through its trade unions offers co-operation in working out the production problems necessary to continued progress. With Labor's co-operation, management can make quicker and greater progress than without. Labor cannot enter into such agreements except through its own agencies which it controls.

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The Labor Statesman

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Phone Seymour 6279

Vancouver, B. C., March 25, 1927

THE ALL-CANADIAN CONGRESS

Because the Independent Unions in Canada have not been able to get very much from their employers, they have come to the conclusion that they had better co-ordinate their efforts and make another attempt at getting the things they organized for. Hence we have the All-Canadian Congress of Canada. It sounds patriotic but that will not be enough to make the boss come across with better working conditions or more pay. It might be made up with a motley crew of leaders, former strike breakers, stool pigeons, flag wavers, and even socialist soap box orators, but the boss will only act when forced to. He will not be moved by sentiment.

Men, such as this new organization is made up of, who have been in the habit of toadying to the boss, cannot be expected to show up very good when negotiating for a new wage scale. Men who become Nationalists because they could not hang onto a "pie card" in the International make very poor arbitrators for the workers whom they try to represent.

There is not one "Independent" Union in the new organization that has been able to make the boss loosen up. In fact, their wails have been so loud that it has almost become ludicrous. In most cases the bosses would not recognize them, so they roar and stamp, and wonder why they are ignored. In several cases they have not even been able to get an arbitration board and of course there was more wailing.

In every part of Canada the "Independents" have met with failure in spite of their attacks on the alleged failure of the A. F. of L. unions. Not one "Independent" has anything to boast of except perhaps that it has taken an active part in attempting to disrupt the present labor movement. Nothing can be accomplished by disruption except defeat. Some of these would-be leaders may have dreams of clubbing the boss into subjection, but so far they have not even got the club.

The O. B. U. made a big noise for a while, but in spite of its apparent good features, we notice that the remnants of that organization is being swallowed up by the All-Canadian Congress. The Canadian Brotherhood of Railway Employees, which has made a very good mouthpiece for the Conservative Party in election campaigns, finds itself compelled to help build up this All-Canadian Congress in order to get more backing for a decent meal ticket. The Electrical Communication Workers' Union, led by an American who could not land a meat ticket as an International officer, has failed to get any substantial recognition from the telegraph companies by whom they are employed.

These trades have been weakened because their ranks have been divided by loud-mouthed orators or snooping company touts. The boss would sooner pay for a few stool pigeons or strike-breakers than pay a hundred or a thousand men a decent wage. Far away fields look green, and this method is adapted by the men who receive pay from union-destroying agencies.

If the worker will stop to reason he will prove to his own satisfaction that the A. F. of L. cannot be busted. It might, and can be changed, to suit the march of progress, but we must also admit that the A. F. of L. has also led the way in the march of progress. There are many brands of unions in the world, but none have made the progress that the A. F. of L. has in getting wages and conditions. Has anybody ever heard of what the O. B. U. has accomplished in getting wages and conditions? If it had done anything it would not have been reduced to such a figure that it declines to publish the number of its membership.

The A. F. of L., through the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, sends a delegation to Ottawa and to every Provincial parliament every year to look after the interests of the wage earners. It has fostered political action as well as industrial action, and generally speaking, every union is given a free hand in conducting wage agreements with the employers. Continuous efforts are made to build up the existing unions and to organize new ones. Success, however, depends upon the activity of the workers. If their ranks are divided, they cannot help but lose. The A. F. of L. cannot be killed by depletion of its ranks. Old Age Pensions, Death Benefits, Sick Benefits, Strike Benefits, all aid to keep the membership from bolting. There are always a few left who cannot be driven out of its ranks. Those few will carry on until the union once more regains its old strength. It has happened before, it will happen again.—W.

Our readers are urged to cut out the article on the Five Day Week in this and other issues, and mail to their employer. Every effort must be made to make the Five Day Week possible. Every employer of labor must, and can, be sold to the Five Day Week.

Printing Without the A.P.T. Council Label

Should be given as little consideration as a pair of shoes or anything else you may come in contact with that is labelless. Every dollar spent for non-label matter of any description is simply encouragement for the open shopper to continue merrily on his way and this is the finest kind of encouragement you can give him, for who can gainsay that "money talks."

Now, perhaps Organized Labor is not a very heavy buyer of printing, but it is the best customer of the buyers of printing. Merchants are always doing everything in their power to please the customer, and you being the customer can demand what you will from the merchant. The Allied Printing Trades Council launched a label drive some time ago and appealed to all of Vancouver's Organized Labor to assist them by asking the merchants as they make their daily purchases to have their printing bear the Union Label. Secretaries of all the locals have been communicated with and asked to bring the matter before their next regular meeting. If you have not got the details ask your secretary or call at 804 Holden Building and we will be glad to explain. Briefly, what is being asked, is, that you pick up all non-label printing and return it to this office, either through your secretary or as you pass this way, then it will be returned to the buyer of printing. Many of the unions have received supplies of the "I have just patronized you" booklets, at their request, and are using them to good advantage.

To boost one label, is to boost them all. Think Label, talk Label, and demand the Label on everything. If you would do this, and keep at it, how short a time it would be until every worker in our broad land would be a member of Organized Labor, and that accomplished, we would have reached at least one objective of this great labor movement.

We have been meeting with splendid response and the campaign is really over, but the more non-label printed matter turned into this office the sooner the few remaining open shoppers will capitulate and every printer in Vancouver will be a union man and working forty-four hours per week.

WINNIPEG LABOR READY FOR PROVINCIAL ELECTIONS

At a well-attended convention of the Winnipeg branches of the Independent Labor Party, held in the West End Labor Hall, Wednesday night, it was decided to place six candidates in the field for Winnipeg seats in the forthcoming Provincial Elections, and the following were chosen from a list of fourteen names presented to the Convention: S. J. Farmer, John Queen, William Ivens, W. A. James, Robert Durward, Sam Cartwright.

All the candidates are well known to the workers of Winnipeg. The three sitting members, Queen, Farmer and Ivens have proved their worth in public service, while Durward and James, as former members of the City Council, have rendered a good account of themselves.

Labor-in-Law; Lefeaux "States a Case"

" . . . in my opinion this appeal should be allowed, because the defendants have lawfully made use of the rights conferred upon them by our said statute in furtherance of their business interests, i.e., the sale of their commodity called labor, as to which it is well observed by Sir James Stephen in his History of Criminal Law in England (1883), Vol. III, p. 212, after considering pro and con some objections that has been raised in certain quarters against the rise and operation of trade unions:

" 'However this may have been, two acts were passed in 1824 and 1825 which set the whole of the law on the subject on an entirely new basis. They represented and were based upon the view that labor, like other commodities, was to be bought and sold according to the ordinary rules of trade, every one was to be free, not only to buy and sell as he chose, but to consult with others as to the terms on which he would do so. This was the essence of the act 5, Geo. 4, c. 95.'

"If the subject of labor trouble, as our Statute hath it, be approached in this historic light, it will be freed from much difficulty."—Martin, J. A.

I have O.K.'d the Court Order—much against my inclination—and $1750.00 and taxed costs have been paid out of Court to the solicitors of John L. Schuberg (erstwhile lessee of the Empress Theatre) from the funds of the Stage Employees representing damages secured by the plaintiff, Schuberg through a judgment of the Supreme Court of B. C. and covering which an appeal to the Appeal Court of B. C. was unsuccessful through not obtaining a sufficient number of the judges in support.

The sixty days allowed by the rules for Notice of Appeal to the Supreme Court of Canada having expired, the Stage Employees having previously decided that they could not carry the Appeal further without assistance from the other unions, I now feel, as one interested in the Labor question, at liberty to express an opinion on the matter not altogether from the legal point of view.

With all due respect to Mr. Thomas Moore of the Trades Congress of Canada as an authority on labor tactics I must differ very strongly from him in his reported observations to the Trades and Labor Council of Vancouver. He, I understand, was against carrying the case further in the Courts or to the Privy Council, and suggested that what we required was more amendments to existing statutes and more protecting Labor laws. To this I cannot accede and must record my objection.

The effect of "labor" legislation dealing with the legal position of Trades Unions has been to place labor in a special classification as against other Trades Unions of Manufacturers and Traders. This amounts to a tacit admission that labour is something inferior; an outlaw or perhaps a disease; a something that has to be tolerated; something that in the natural course of the workings of the laws of God and Man should be exterminated, but to which as a matter of Grace and (necessity) certain protective legislation must be extended as a diplomatic concession.

The inevitable result of this attitude is that in the public mind, Organized Labor becomes a tolerated nuisance bolstered up by legal concessions and in the event of a "National Emergency," should the protective legislation become suspended in the interests of the Public Welfare and Safety," Organized Labor takes its rightful place as a pariah dog outside the pale of the social organism—an outlaw for anyone so disposed to kick. At the same time, Trades Unions of Manufacturers and Traders acquire recognition by the State as being of vital importance and become a most important factor in deciding world affairs.

Do you get my point? Take another look at the quotation given above from the Judgment of Mr. Justice Martin. If Sir James Stephen and Mr. Justice Martin are correct and Labor is a commodity (Note. This quotation is NOT from Karl Marx) why legislate it into a position of an inferior and undesirable article that has to have special legislation to make it in any wise tolerable or sufferable in human economy?

What we need is a definition of the term Labor. Labor-power, ability-to-work, or whatever you may call applied Human Energy and there is no sufficiently authoritative definition to be found. If it is a commodity then it needs no protective legislation. The Common Law that protects (or I should say does not bind and limit) traders unions of manufacturers and traders dealing with such commodities as freighting service, transportation, newspapers and motor cars is quite sufficient to legalize the objects and methods of Trades Unions of Labor. The only recognized limitations being that the object shall be in the trade interest of the person or persons doing the act and that no crime be committed.

This fundamental question has never been settled in any Court of the Anglo-Saxon world as far as I can ascertain, and apparently has never been presented and argued before. Not one of our British Columbia judges in this case has denied the commodity nature of labor although I placed it most emphatically before them. The only one that replied to that part of my argument has accepted and agreed the point thereby placing that definition of labor on our judicial records for the first time in Anglo-Saxon Jurisprudence, as far as I have been able to gather. His words are only dicta I admit and do not form part of a favorable judgment of the whole Court but they are most valuable and are not denied in the other judgments and are therefore reference to all time and for all parts of the British Empire and America.

Our Trades Union Act in British Columbia would appear to me to be sufficient to cover the point specifically. It was put on the Statute Books of this Province just after a similar judgment delivered in Rossland some years ago. It would not be on the ambit of this statute that I would like to see the question of the validity of this decision go to the Privy Council, but on the question of labor's position in the social fabric as I have set it out above. A Privy Council decision to the effect that associations of sellers of any other commodity would put quite another aspect to the whole question of the legal position of Unions and should tend strongly to give the indiyidual members a better graps of the whole situation which in turn would create more interest.

If an appeal were launched and lost it would no doubt cost labor several thousand dollars, but it would settle the status of labor in the Courts. If won, it would put us on the same footing as other trade combinations and get us away from our present position as wards of legislation favored with a protection that may be withdrawn at any moment the authorities may deem desirable.

W. W. Lefeaux.

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Packed Houses Greet "Players"

Opening their thirtieth week at the Empress theatre on Monday night, the Monte Carter Players delighted another packed houses with one more of the New York exclusive feature productions which have been talked about during the past few weeks by Vancouver lovers of the legitimate drama. The policy of Monte Carter in scouring the theatrical market for the most exclusive theatrical successes for presentation in Vancouver is bearing fruit, and the talented players with which he has surrounded himself is ensuring for each play high-class presentation.

Featured by novelty, laughter and human interest, this week's comedy-drama offering at the Empress—"Know Your Onions"—greatly pleased Monday night's audience. The scenes are laid in a small town in Texas, and the action centres about a very human character, Hank Tucker, who typifies the henpecked unsuccessful dreamer so often encountered in real life. The life at Tucker's boarding house is vividly depicted, and in fact the play offers several sterling players in the cast an opportunity for excellent work. Not once, but several times, the exit of a player was marked by rounds of applause for the high quality of the acting.

In the chief role Monte Carter himself captured his audience from the first, and the same may be said of George R. Taylor, whose portrayal of Old Man Jones, Hank's friend, was a fine piece of character work consistently maintained throughout. Sherold Page as Nat Mills, the young real estate promoter; Blanche Gilmore, as Mrs. Tucker; Frances Robertson, as Queenie; Brady Kline, at Butch, in fact the whole cast enters into the spirit of the adventures befalling the Tucker family.

A special word of praise is due Walter E. Gilbert for the staging of the piece, and its expert direction. The scene wherein the audience and the members of the orchestra are themselves worked into the action of the play, provided a novelty that was much appreciated.

FRENCH COAL MINERS ARE FACING WAGE CUT

Paris.—The French coal owners announce they will insist on reducing the miners' wages on April 1. The excuse is "foreign competition."

Agitation in favor of a strike is sweeping the coal fields, but action is considered unlikely. The French miners are not in a position to put up much of a fight.

European miners are watching American developments with interest. Last year they were compelled to accept reductions and to enter into district agreements. They are wondering if their American brothers will make similar concessions.

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C.L.P. Convention Report

By J. Sidaway

(Continued from last week)

Sunday Afternoon Session

Reconvened at 1:35. Pres. Flynn in the chair.

Delegate W. W. Lefeaux, chairman of the Resolutions Committee, reported as follows:

"That Resolution No. 1, submitted by the Young Communist League of Canada, be amended to read as follows:

Resolution No. 1

Whereas, charges have been made in the provincial legislature at Victoria against the management and supervision of the Vancouver Children's Aid Home; and

Whereas, the building in which the children are housed has been condemned as a firetrap by responsible authorities; and

Whereas, public announcements have laid bare serious conditions in the Children's Aid Home, which must react upon the physical and mental conditions of the children, mostly owing to inadequate accommodation.

Therefore, Be It Resolved, that this convention of the B. C. Section of the Canadian Labor Party requests of the Provincial Government that steps be taken immediately to bring all such Children's Aid Homes within the direct control and administration of the Provincial Government, and that adequate and safe accommodation be provided.

Resolution adopted as amended.

Resolution No. 2

Submitted by Communist Party of Canada

Whereas, despite repeated assurances in the public press that events in China are so shaping themselves that the likelihood of war is extremely remote, the political and industrial organizations of Labor are rightly suspicious of the present intentions of the Imperialist powers, and

Whereas, bitter experiences of the past have proven to the working class that during times of crisis the more constant the assurances of peace the more imminent is the danger of war, therefore,

Be It Resolved; that this Convention of the British Columbia Section of the Canadian Labor Party declares that the present crisis in China is one that demands of the workers extreme vigilance and support of those organizations which are actively combatting the efforts of the Imperialists, by agitation for peace and non-intervention in China, and

Be It Further Resolved, that the delegates to this Convention pledge whole-hearted support in the development and extension of the "Hands Off China" Committees which are being erected by the leading forces of the working class.

* * *

Your Committee recommends its adoption. Carried.

Resolution No. 3.

Submitted by the Communist Party of Canada, Vancouver Units.

Whereas, the actions, past and present, of the Imperialist powers in China have created a condition which threatens to disturb the peace of the world and plunge us once again into another gigantic war in the interests of the capitalist class, and

Whereas, as is usual during those crisises, involving the use of military force, we find that in Vancouver in general and British Columbia, in particular, there exist certain jingoistic organizations which appear to have seized upon the present opportunity to turn the minds of the workers from the real cause of the Chinese crisis by attempting to raise the cry of race-discrimination, and

Whereas, already a prominent, labor-hating organization, together with other semi-fascist bodies, have seen fit to circularize resolutions calling for the sequestration of properties at present legally and lawfully belonging to Asiatics now domiciled in Canada and for the repatriation of Asiatics now in Canada, therefore,

Be It Resolved; that this convention of the British olumbia Section of the Canadian Labor Party requests of the Dominion and Provincial governments that Asiatics and all other foreign-born inhabitants of Canada be allowed full liberty of speech, proclamation and assemblage, as only in this manner can the interests of better cultural and political relations be built up between these residents and their countries of origin and the Dominion of Canada.

Your committee recommends concurrance, with the slight alteration that the word "request" be substitutued for that of "demand" in the third line of the last paragraph.

Delegate Bennett objected to the change as recommended. He thought the word "demand" was a good one and in keeping with the viewpoint of working class objectives. The word "request" in this instance was too much like raising one's hat in addressing the ministers of the government, a thing to which he was not used to doing.

Delegate Lefeaux caused some amusement by building up a hypothetical case of Del. Bennett "requesting" his servant (presumably a feminine one) to prepare him a meal, and that he would not think of using the word "demand."

Without further opposition, the Committee's recommendation was adopted with the addition 'that copies of the resolution be sent to Messrs Woodsworth and Heaps, and to other members of the Federal Parliament, who represent Greater Vancouver constituencies.'

Resolution No. 4.

Submitted by International Union of Steam and Operating Engineers

Whereas, certain religious organizations are making strenuous efforts to introduce the reading of the Bible as part of the curriculum in our public schools and

Whereas, no religious group however fervent should be conceded any privilege tending to force their particular brand on to the minds of our children, and

Whereas, we believe that the education of our children should tend only to education and not superstition.

Therefore be it resolved, that, we, the B. C. Section of C.L.P., emphatically protest against the proposed changes in our educational system that would permit Bible reading in our public schools.

Your committee recommends the adoption with the deletions as it now reads. Adopted.

Resolution No. 5

Submitted by the Communist Party of Canada, Vancouver Units.

Whereas, the present Male Minimum Wage Act of B. C., is at present applicable only to those industries operating in British Columbia which are not protected by the B.N. A. Act, and

Whereas, by the terms of the B. N.A. Act, the Canadian Pacific Railway, and Canadian National Railway are not responsible to the B. C. provincial government and as such are exempted from the terms of the B. C. Minimum Wage Law, and cannot now or in the future be brought under the jurisdiction of Provincial laws unless the B.N.A. Act be declared inoperative; and

Whereas, this condition makes possible the payment of wages as low as twenty-two and one-half cents per hour, to Oriental labour and thirty cents per hour to white labour, employed as section men on railroads in B. C., setting standards of living which are deplorably low; therefore,

Be It Resolved, that this convention of the B. C. Section of the Canadian Labor Party demands of the Federal House that the B.N.A. Act be immediately declared inoperative and its terms be no longer accepted as being applicable to the Government of the Dominion of Canada, or the governments of the provinces of the Dominion.

* * *

Your Committee recommends the substitution of the word "amended" for the words "declared inoperative" at the conclusion of the second paragraph; and that all words after "demands of the Federal House that" in the last paragraph be deleted and changed to read: "demands of the Federal House that they take steps to bring all industrial and transportation activities within the jurisdiction of their respective Provinces."

After a lengthy debate the proposed amendments were voted down and the original resolution adopted by 24 votes in favor and 18 against. In the debate, delegates Moriarty, Bennett, Harris and Gracey contended that until the B.N.A. Act was "declared inoperative" no remedial legislation introduced by the respective provinces would be freed from the official sanction of London in settling disputes as to the dual jurisdiction of the Federal and Provincial Governments, and thereby delaying the enactment and enforcement of legislation in the interests of the workers.

Delegate Lefeaux contended that whilst Government ministers and officials declared inter-provincial railroads and other corporations were exempt from certain legislation it was not necessarily so. The amendment of the B.N.A. Act was desirable to give fuller powers to the respective Provinces so that effective enforcement could be extended to prevent wholesale violations by those corporations holding Federal charters.

Resolution No. 6

Resolution on the Organization of the Women of the Working Class Submitted by the Communist Party of Canada

Whereas: official figures show that there are at present no less than 400,000 women in Canada who are compelled to work for wages, and

Whereas: of this number there are only 4,770 women workers organized under the jurisdiction of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, and

Whereas: the only protection that working women have outside of the sympathetic support of organized labor in general is the very limited assurance as afforded in the absurdly inadequate minimum wage acts of the various provinces, and

Whereas: there is evidence in abundance to show that the master class is aware that woman can be used as a political force in support of the present system of exploitation, as witness the numerous organizations which cater to the woman of today, principally on the basis of the "pink tea" system of political education, and

Whereas: it is imperative that political labor change its tactics in this connection by giving more active support and encouragement to the developement of political forms of organization of the working women, thus inculcating into the minds of the women workers the necessity for trade union organization, support of the husband in his efforts to develop his organization, and for actual political activity of working women, therefore,

Be It Resolved: that this Convention of the Provincial Section of the Canadian Labor Party approves of the aims and objects of the Canadian Federation of Women's Labor Leagues and that we pledge our support to any efforts made to develop the Woman's Labor League in British Columbia.

(Continued next week)

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The values offered for the finish of this extraordinary bargain giving event are truly phenomenal. A few of the outstanding values are quoted here. The sale re-opens dailys at 9 a.m., and continues for a few days.

$1.50 Ingersoll Watches, smoked, 29c; $1.50 Alarm Clocks, 29c; 25c Cambric, water damaged, yard, 7c; J. P. Coats' Thread, a spool, 3c; Smoked or soiled $3.00 Men's Hats, 98c; $5.00 Men's Work and Dress Boots, $1.98; Men's and Youths' Suits, worth $20, $7.95; $4 Men's Rubber Boots, damaged, 98c; $3 Men's Union Suits, some smoked or soiled, 98c; thousands of Raincoats sacrificed, fine Raincoats worth at least $15, now $6.95; $1 and $1.25 Work Shirts, 59c; 75c Leather Gloves, 29c; $1 Ladies' Silk Hose, 29c; 35c Suspenders, 19c; $1.50 Men's and Boys' Rubbers, 59c; 50c Ties, some smoked or water soiled, 19c; 25c Cotton Hose, smoked, selling at 7c; $3 Men's Pants, now 98c; 15c Carpenters' Pencils, 3c; $1.50 Men's Rubbers, 49c; $6 Pants, $2.98; $1.50 Alarm Clocks, smoked, 29c; 20c Spoon Strainer, 9c; 35c Potato Mashers, 14c; 50c Mirrors for 9c; 25c and 50c Nail Brushes, now 14c; $2 Union Suits, 98c; $10 Raincoats, $2.98; $6 Men's Boots, $2.98; $1 and $1.50 Kalsomine Brushes, 49c; $3.50 Boys' Boots, $1.98; $1.50 Thermos Bottles, now 39c; 5c Pencils, 3 for 5c; $1 Work Shirts, 59c; $1 Flashlight, 39c; $4.50 Big and Baby Ben Clocks, $2.49; $1 Watches, smoked, soiled and damaged, 9c; $5.00 Breeches, now $2.95; $30.00 Spring Suits, $9.95; 50c Knives, water damaged, 9c. Hardware, Watches, Clocks, Cutlery, Clothing, Furnishings, Boots, Shoes, Dry Goods—all sacrificed. Hundreds of other bargains on sale. * * *

How the holes get into doughnuts and Swiss cheese is easy, but how do they get into macaroni?

Last Week of Opera Company at Orpheum

The sensational D'Oyly Carte Opera Company will conclude its four weeks visit to Vancouver next Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday at the Orpheum Theatre when it will present "H.M.S. Pinafore," one of the finest of Gilbert and Sullivan operas, and one of the finest played by this company. During the past three weeks, Vancouver theatre-goers have unanimously proclaimed this company to be the finest travelling attraction brought to Vancouver. Capacity houses have been a regular thing and in the history of the theatre never has such wonderful newspaper notices and public appreciation been shown. Mr. Barnes, manager of the Orpheum Theatre has announced that in the future he will, wherever possible, arrange to book English companies of the finer type. In "Pinafore," the specially made new settings will be seen, the costumes made for the Canadian tour and the augmented orchestra will all enhance the tuneful opera. The singing of the principles and chorus, will be, of course, as always, inimitable. The stars and principals of the company will all have important roles in this opera, and those in the know are anticipating a grand finale to the wonderful visit of this delightful company.

Top Notch Bill at Orpheum Next Week

The Orpheum vaudeville bill which will be offered at the Orpheum Theatre next Thursday, Friday and Saturday, will be one of the finest of the season, if advance reports are true to form. Headlining this dandy looking bill is no other than the famous English music hall comedian, Daphne Pollard. Every English person in Vancouver will remember the famous Pollard's Lilliputians who were so famous in England, and will recall the excited anticipation prior to seeing them perform their wonderful entertainments for all. Well, Daphne Pollard, probably the most talented of these people, has now become one of the leading vaudeville artists in the world today, and is making one tour of the United States and Canada, completing a round the world tour.

"Memories of the Opera." That is the title of another feature of this sterling bill. Some of the finest voices in vaudeville have been booked to play in this delightful operatic act, and it is said that this one turn in equally as entertaining as some entire operas, for only the finer arias are chosen. William Gaxton, handsome and clever vaudeville star, will appear in a delectable few minutes of singing and talking. He promises the thrill of a lifetime as far as talent and pleasing entertainment are concerned. Bobby Adams is a clever comedian and will be another hit of this show. A couple of other acts, which are being kept as a surprise, attractive pictures and a concert overture, will enhance this great show.

Mr. Barnes, manager of the Orpheum Theatre, announces that work on the new Orpheum Theatre, which is being erected between Seymour and Granville Streets, is progressing very rapidly and satisfactorily. The lower floor, the stage and ventillating systems have been nnstalled, and work is now going ahead on the steel structure. The contractors have stated that they expect to have the walls and roof completed by the first of May, and that interior decorating and installation will commence shortly after.

The new theatre, as previously announced, will be the largest in Vancouver, if not north of San Francisco, and will seat three thousand people. The most elaborate and artistic interior decorating and the latest service equipment is being installed. Undoubtedly this new palace of Orpheum Circuit vaudeville will be a great compliment to growing Vancouver, and will be a fitting tribute to the Orpheum Circuit's faith and appreciation in Vancouver theatre-goers.

THE FIRST LABOR CHOIR CONCERT

Clinton Hall on Sunday evening, March 27th, will be the scene of the first entertainment given by the Labor Choir and their friends.

There will be part singing of Labor songs and choruses, vocal, violin, piano, and other selections, also Irish comic songs by a real Irishman.

The Ukrainian children's Orchestra will perform, and a good supper will also be provided, all for 35c.

Bring your friends and come along and in that way assist something necesary for a live Labor Movement.

ENGINEERS ORGANIZING

H. J. M. Beer has been elected business agent of the Steam and Operating Engineers, Local 882. Organization work is going fairly brisk and the union expects to greatly increase its membership within the next few weeks.

The drying of a single tear has more of honest fame than shedding seas of gore.—Byron.

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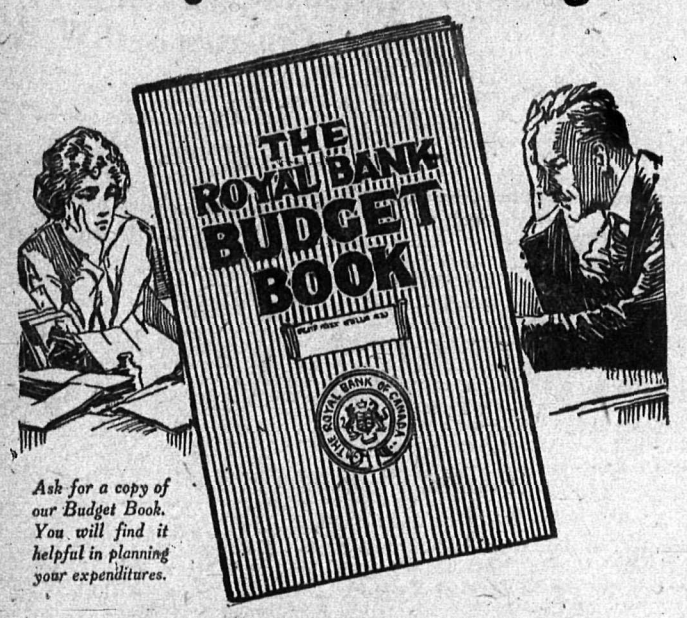

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Alberta Labor Protests School Cadet Training

Registering strong opposition to the inclusion of cadet training in the curriculum of Alberta schools, a delegation of 40 representing the Alberta Section of the Canadian Labor Party appeared before the agricultural committee of the provincial legislature on Monday and demanded that military training be eliminated from the course of studies in the schools. George Latham, President of the C.L.P., headed the delegation. The question of military training in schools was brought up in the Legislature some time ago by Fred. J. White, M.L.A. in a resolution bringing the matter before the committee.

On the request of Premier Brownlee, the committee did not vote on the question on Monday and the matter will be debated further at Friday morning's session of the committee when representatives of the city school boards will be invited to attend.

Mr. Latham delivered a forceful address, quoting such men as President Coolidge, Captain Koehler of West Point Military Academy, and Dudley A. Sargent of Harvard University, in support of his contention that cadet training was of no value whatever in developing boys physically.

If you are going to combine business and pleasure, don't be careless and lose the combination.

THE KUOMINTANG

BY F. W. MOORE

The Kuomintang is the progressive political party of an awakening China. It is the only organization of its kind that at all resembles our Western institutions, and, as one might surmise, it was instituted by students trained in Caucasion universities. Its finances are supplied by Chinese merchants living in foreign countries. Its birth occurred before the revolution of 1911 and at the important event Dr. Sun Yat-sen officiated.

In its early years, its service to the provisional government that followed the fall of the Manchus cannot be over-estimated, but after the exile of Dr. Sun, the Kuomintang was driven from power and since that time its changes in organization have been frequent, the latest occurring in 1926.

Its inspiration emanates from Dr. Sun's parting advice, the gist of which is as follows: Don't fail to give preference in every way you can to such nations as admit China's equality. Abolish all inequitable treaties. Dispense with foreign control democracy and improve labor conditions.

The Kuomintang is not an upholder of imperialism as one can infer from its improvement on Marx's famous slogan: "All oppressed peoples, and workers of the world unite."

It aims to have future treaties based on equality, and supplementary to this it proposes to treat a state that voluntarily relinquishes its special privileges, as a most favoured nation. Foreign loans must be honoured unless detrimental to China's rights, and a national council convened for the purpose of trying to find ways and means of bringing about the materialization of these aspirations.

Its domestic policy includes: universal suffrage; civil service; military conscription; freedom of assemblage; of speech; of residence and of belief; compulsory work for the idle; regulation of rents and revenues by law; regulation of production and distribution; protection and encouragement of labour organizations; promotion of sex equality; universal education; nationalization of industrial enterprizes beyond the financial or individual entrepreneurs.

Its constitution stipulates that the government shall co-operate with the people, regarding food, clothing, housing and locomotion: that is, in the development of agriculture, textile industries, roads and canals.

The programme is to cover three periods: one of military dictatorship, while the people are getting enlightened. This is to be followed by a period of political tutelage as each province becomes fitted for it. During such period, the Government will appoint men to help the people get ready for constitutional government.

It all appears so Russian, doesn't it? Yet it was not imported from Russia, since the nationalist movement antedated the Russian revolution by several years. The demands of these people represent China's needs.

By renouncing extra-territoriality and concessions, and making its minister to China an ambassador, Russia has gained great prestige and this has been strengthened by lending technical advisers to Canton, notably Barodin.

She also sold supplies to the Christian general, Feng, now in alliance with Canton. Her presence there at all is resented in some quarters because she is furnishing ideas that are in competition with the economic philosophy of the West:—Paraphrase of an excerpt taken from Social Service Bulletin, Feb. 1st.

HEAPS SECONDS GEO. COOTE'S AMENDMENT

United Farmers, Labor and the Progressives united to support the following budget amendment moved by George Coote, U.F.A., in the House of Commons and referred to by H. B. Adshead, M.P., in his article in this week's issue:

"That all the words after the word 'that' be struck out and the following substituted therefor:

" 'Whilst recognizing the advisability of certain minor changes proposed, this house regrets that the budget as presented by the honorable minister of finance contains no effective provision for the reduction in the high cost of living insofar as such is due to the protective tariff.

" 'That the budget shows a further departure from the principles of direct and visible taxation based on the ability to pay.

" 'And further, that no systematic effort is being made to reduce our national debt, the interest on which absorbs so large a proportion of the revenues of the Dominion.' "

The amendment was seconded by A. A. Heaps, Labor, Winnipeg North, and is backed by the Progressives.

BRITISH UNIONISTS STILL FULL OF FIGHT

London. — Notwithstanding their disastrous general strike and the miners' strike, British trade unionists are rallying against the government's plan to weaken their movement by legislation.

The spirit of the workers was expressed by Walter Citrine, secretary of the British Trade Union Congress, who gave notice to the government, in a public speech, that their attacks would be resisted by labor.

"We of the trade unions," added Mr. Citrine, "say to the government, 'We are not afraid of your impending attack. Go on with your legislation. You have forced it upon us and we will do our best to make it unworkable. Your legislation can stay on the statute book until the next labor government orders its repeal."

The trade union official urged workers to profit by two-years experience and build up their industrial organizations.

UNREASONABLE

Boss: "Can't you find something to do?"

Office Boy: "Gee whiz! Am I expected to do the work and find it, too?"

Carpenters Beat Strong Anti-Union Group

San Francisco.—A 11-months' carpenters' strike against the anti-union shop has ended by an agreement between these workers and the Builders' Exchange and the Industrial Association. The agreement provides that "all parties hereto pledge themselves to the practice and principle of adjusting disputes between employers and employees over hours and wages by conferences to the end that strikes and lockouts may be avoided."

The Industrial Association will "suspend" its permit system, and no longer will contractors be compelled to prove to these anti-unionists that they do not employ union labour before they are permitted to purchase building material.

The unionists agree to close their material and lumber yards and sell the equipment. These yards were started by the strikers in retaliation against the permit system.

The settlement is a defeat for these interests that would establish the anti-union shop in this industry. The issue was clear cut—the unions asked for collective bargaining last April. The employers imported a crew of gunmen headed by the notorious "Black Jack" Jerome. These gangsters, often posing as union men inaugurated their usual reign of terror, while their employers shouted for law and order. The permit system was declared "illegal and a violation of the State anti-trust law" by the city attorney, but the powerful financial and industrial interests behind the Industrial Association blocked prosecution.

The strike was one of the hardest contested in the history of the Pacific Coast, and the workers' victory will be a lesson to employers who imagine they can still enforce individual bargaining and other anti-union conditions.

The Laws of Nature

We must reason and think if we are to progress. We must act harmoniously if we are to take full advantage of the opportunity presented us through our union. What would we say if a business man owning stock in a corporation, devoted his energies in creating turmoil in the corporation so that its power to make a profit was destroyed?

But how often do members of organized labor do this very thing?

A union split into factions is the delight of a certain kind of employer. This means low wages, long hours and poor working conditions.

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It is a hard price that workers and their families pay for discord and dissention. But workers will pay the price as long as they refuse to see that their interests are identical with those of their fellow members.

The first essential for harmony is to cease discussing individuals. If policies, rather than persons, are discussed, one's judgment is not blinded by personalities ,and unionists can thus decide whether a program or a policy should be adopted.

Because unionists waste their energies discussing individuals their organization suffers through debasing conditions that are forced on them by employers who quickly seize every advantage.

If unionists always insisted on discussing policies, rather than individuals, they would finds a surprisingly large number of cases where the individuals they opposed agreed with them, and that the quarrel was over misunderstandings.—Felix J. Belair.

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PÆAN OF PASHUN

Oh, Sallie Dean,
I love you so,
But I wouldn't want
My wife to know.

CONSUMERS IN WONDERLAND

By Stuart Chase and F. J. Schlink in "The New Republic"

(Continued From Last Issue)

Misbranding in Clothing

Dr. Henry Harap in his book, Education of the Consumer, reports a careful survey of the major forms of adulteration and misbranding in clothing. Let us briefly summarize his findings.

There is a Peruvian cotton which feels and looks like wool. It is mixed with wool fibres and sold as all-wool material. The process of making a nap on cloth has been so well developed that a fabric entirely of cotton may be made to resemble wool, or given what is called a wool finish. Material for men's summer suits, made of wool, shoddy and cotton, blended, is sold as fancy cassimeres. Mercerized cotton (made by treating cotton with caustic soda) is often sold as silk, or it may be used as an adulterant for true silk. Cotton yarn is passed off as silk by soaking it in a solution of pure silk. In that the value of silk depends, among other things, upon its weight, many methods are abroad for running up the price by artificially increasing weight. A mineral salt bath will sometimes convert a pound of raw silk into three pounds of silk cloth. Such baths seriously lessen the fabric's strength. There are ways of making cloth which expoose a silk surface on a cotton base. Satins are made with a cotton back; pile fabrics are made with a cotton base.

Cotton mixed with linen, or specially treated, is sold as linen. Mercerized cotton is sold as linen. "Linen" towels are made of union goods, meaning mixtures of cotton and linen. "Irish linen" handkerchiefs often contain only 50 per cent linen. A drop of oil on pure linen is transparent; on cotton it is opaque. (Here is a test which the consumer can himself conduct.) Starch, glue and gum are used to give body and gloss to cheaper grades of linen. The first washing undermines the finish.

Hare Sold as Sable

The chief furs actually consumed in the United States are limited to a small group of skins which in the terminoloogy of the retail trade are almost never mentioned. "This is because furs are clipped, dyed, and pulled in such a way as to resemble those which are superior in wearing quality and in warmth. The pelts of animals from warmer zones, such as the woodchuck and the oppossum, are sold under names of animals in colder climates. Such furs are inferior in suppleness and durability of leather, denseness and silkiness of under-hair, fullness of protective hair, and, because dyed, are brittle and less durable in general." A table of adulteration, based on microscopic identification of commercial fur hairs, has been prepared:

Species	Sold as
Hare, dyed	Sable or fox
Hare, white	Fox
Woodchuck, dyed	Mink, sable, skunk
Mink, dyed	Sable
Muskrat, dyed	Mink, sable
Muskrat, pulled & died	Seal
Opossum, sheared & dyed	Beaver
Rabbit, dyed	Sable
Rabbit, sheared & dyed	Seal
Rabbit, white	Ermine
Rabbit, white dyed	Chinchilla

Testimony was introduced in the "truth in fabrics" hearings to the effect that 90 per cent of the fur sold in this country is not marketed under its right name. Take 'Hudson' seal; there is no such thing. It is a trade name only." Meanwhile, the durability of a hare skin is one-twentieth that of an otter pelt.

Silk (?) Hosiery

In 1919, of all "silk hosiery manufactured, 17 per cent was of pure silk, 74 per cent of silk adulterated with other things, 9 per cent of straight artificial silk. Perspiration is especially injurious to artificial silk and to silk weighted with metallic salts. The braid used in straw hats is frequently of wood shavings, which when lacquered, looks like and sells like the more expensive straws.

Artificial silk, which costs about half as much as real silk to produce, is frequently sold at the price of real silk. Your "French balbriggan underwear" may turn out to be American made; your "natural wool," "camel hair," Scotch wool," "lamb's wool," "Persian fleece," or "natural merino," is often a combination of wool and cotton. The Knit Goods Manufacturers, we are glad to note, have recommended discontinuing the above improper labels.

With plain, unvarnished cheating through short-weighting the customer, we have no immediate concern; with weights and measure laws in thirty states and with improved inspection, the situation is probably much better than it used to be. We are more interested in certain astute forms of misrepresentation in selling, the net effect of which is to deprive the consumer of full measure.

In some communities, eggs are sold by the pound—as they should be. A common practice in such communities is to gather up all the small eggs and ship them for sale to other communities where they are sold by the dozen. When sponges are sold by weight, they are likely to be loaded with salt, epsom salt, and other substances, to increase the tally. The Federal Trade Commission found twenty-two firms guilty of this practice at one time.

Short Lengths and Weight

The War Industries Board found that thread manufacturers in order not to disturb retail selling prices, had reduced the yardage on spools from 200 yards to 150 yards, and were considering a further reduction to 100 yards. This was not straight misrepresentation, in that the yardage was presumably marked on the spools, but the effect was that the purchaser obtained less thread on what looked to be a spool of the usual size. The waste of the practice was well illustrated by the action of the War Industries Board. It restored the 200-yard spool as standard, thereby bringing about a 25 per cent economy in lumber, labor, shipping spaces, wooden cases, cardboard boxes and other supplies. This single action, it was estimated, released 600 freight cars per year.

Losses to consumers through short weight in bread are said to amount to $100,000,000 annually in the United States ($11,000,000 in the City of New York alone). Much of this comes about because of the ridiculous diversity in weights of loaves, making it practically impossible for the consumer to judge price per pound. Data gathered in 67 cities on the weights of 3000 loaves of bread, showed 105 different weights.

One of the most interesting developoments of the higher salesmanship is the treating of the weight or contents of a package as a matter of no consequence to the buyer. The firms which regard the amount of salt or soap powder or noodles as too unimportant to mention (except where required to do so by law), ought logically to be undecided about the price to charge. But such is never the case. The Battle Creek Food Company, sent out a price list under date of June 15, 1926, in which a number of items are listed at stipulated prices, but no indication is given of how much food the buyer will get for his money in many cases. For example:

Breakfast toast, package	$ .30
Health chocolates, large pack	1.25
Laxa, package	.90
Zo, new breakfast food, pack	.15

Compared with a home-prepared breakfast food of ground wheat for 4 cents a pound—than which nothing could be more wholesome—it would be interesting to see what these prepared breakfast foods worked out to, per pound.

Short weights and measures are by no means confined to methods which are ethically dubious. All manner of devices are utilized to make the consumer think he is getting more than he actually receives. Nowhere is this confusion more prevalent than in the sale of package goods, where the dominating motive is often to appease the buyer's appetite by the succulence of the container, rather than by its tangible contents. The fact that package goods are handy, and can be kept relatively fresh by a judicioous use of parafined paper, is no excuse for attempting to remove them from all standards of relative cost per pound. The consumer may be glad to pay more per pound for convenience, but he ought to know how much more he is being called upon to disburse. The record should be clear.

Poisonous Goods

A powder for cleaning aluminum proved to be compounded mainly of sand, a little powdered soap, and some oxalic acid. The acid cleans aluminum rapidly, but it is deadly poison. The label of this package makes no mention of that fact, but advises the users to wash the aluminum article after cleaning, in clear water and not in the dishpan. Considering the scant attention paid to labels, it is evident that the hazard in the use of this material is great; yet no law covers the compounding of such a poison without warning to the consumer. Caveat emptor.

Dr. Chevalier Jackson, the eminent laryngologist of Jefferson Hospital, Philadelphia, testifying before a Congressional committee, cites numerous cases of dangerous lye products—such as drain pipe cleaners—bearing either no poison label at all, or only a very inconspicuous one. The palm must be awarded, however, to the preparation Kleanall, a product containing 75 per cent. of the violently corrosive poison, sodium hydroxide. Far from bearing the poison label, the printed matter reads: "Does not injure the finest fabric or the most delicate skin."

Gas appliances are often not only wasteful of fuel, but highly dangerous. Solid tops for gas stoves, sold with the recommendation that they save gas and aid in keeping the range clean, often cause the stove to produce carbon monoxide. This gas is fatal in quantities of four-tenths of 1 per cent in the air, and in one-tenth of this quantity can cause headache, dizziness, nausea and vomiting.

It is a pleasure to point out that the gas industry, seeing clearly the danger both to the public and to its own best interests, has organized a well equipped, well run certification laboratory.

Poor People Stung

Here are electric lamps of certain imported and "gyp" manufacture sold by the million, mainly to poor people who have to buy on a price basis primarily. They are represented to be of the efficient gas-filled type, when really they are the ordinary vacuum lamp. Others contain the old-fashioned, hopelessly inefficient carbon filament which one can no longer afford to burn even if paid a bonus for doing so. Others blacken badly within four hours of use. The ten-cent stores, department stores, are selling thousands of electrical appliances — toasters, sockets, cord, plugs—which have not been tested and approved by the Underwriters' Laboratories and are dangerous.

Four worthless and unsafe electric irons selling for $1 each were found to burn out in three to thirty-five minutes. (Fifteen thousand dozen of these were imported by one New York dealer.) A test of the cords used to connect electrical appliances with the plug, disclosed a difference of 118 to 1 in ability to withstand deterioration from bending; and a difference of 34 to 1 in ability to withstand abrasion.

We believe that the foregoing evidence indicates only too clearly that there are significant groups of products, if not whole industries, in which the production of sound goods, accurately described, and sold at a fair price, has not been the dominating motive of those in control of the process. We have seen that in the case of refrigerators, lamps, soap and cleaning agents, textiles, furs, weighing scales, paints, heating and cooking devices, varnishes, even loaves of bread, there exists an enormous burden of adulteration, bad workmanship, misrepresentation, sharp practice, and even downright bodily danger, which falls back upon the consumer. And who shall say how much is preventable if the consumer could be armed with the findings of impartial analysis and test?

(Quacks and quackery will be the subject of the third article in this series. It will appear next week.)

Gus says he's going to give his wooden-legged aunt one garter and a box of tacks for her birthday.

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All Armies Preparing For Chemical Warfare

The French Ministry of War, responding to anxious inquiries as to why orders had been given for the training of a liquid flame-throwing squad in every battalion, retorts in effect that "everybody's doing it." The statement is made that "every army in Europe is undergoing intensive training in chemical warfare," that France is no exception, and that such measures, so far as France is concerned, are merely "for defensive purposes."

Flame-throwing is part of the technique of poison gas warfare. And all Europe is undergoing "intensive" instruction in this branch of modern arms. Peace societies stand aghast, organizations for promoting humane methods in war are horrified, and peaceable citizens everywhere are discouraged at the course of events. Two international efforts have been made to secure the abolition of gas and chemicals in the "next war," the experiences suffered by soldiers in "the war to end war" having been revolting and unspeakable. So far they have been unavailing. Renewed activities are now being made to have poison gas banned.

"Did the Germans Stop"

They will not succeed. Treaties and agreements notwithstanding, when war breaks out, gas and chemicals will be used. A nation in desperate conflict does not think of humane laws and international rules. It thinks of its life, and its passion is to kill as many of its enemies as possible and by the most effective means. If chemical agencies furnish such means, they will be used. When the Germans used gas in 1915, the world recoiled in horror and alarm. But did the Germans stop? Not only did they not stop, but their opponents bettered their instruction—and invented deadlier vapours, more revolting gases.

The remedy is not to prohibit the use of any one form of warfare, even assuming such prohibition could be enforced. It is—and apologies are hereby tendered for suggesting it once more—to abolish war itself.—The Ottawa Citizen.

"Never give up!" cried the man, who was sitting in the street car. And the women stood up for their rights.

THE WEEK AT OTTAWA

By J. S. Woodsworth

Outsiders can hardly realize the difficulties which private members of Parliament an despecially those in the minor groups encounter in trying to get their resolutions or bills before the House. Yesterday we had a very good example when Mr. Heaps of North Winnipeg introduced a motion urging that it was advisable that a Parliamentary committee should consider a scheme for insurance for unemployment, sickness and invalidity. The request seemed to be a modest one and was in harmony with the platform of the Liberal Party and with the expressed declaration of the Prime Minister.

The Government, however, seem determined not to act in the matter. The Minister of Labour attempted to evade the issue by raising all kinds of objections and then saying that he had no particular objection to it going to a Committee if anything could be accomplished. Then it became apparent that the Government supporters were determined to kill the motion which had been introduced on what is known as Private Members' day—Wednesday, which is only a half day. The rule is that if the debate is adjourned at six o'clock the motion goes to the foot of the list which means that, in practice, it is not heard of again during the session. A number of back bench members who rarely speak were apparently put forward to raise objections. Near the close of the debate I attempted to secure the floor. Could I have done so there is a rule by which I might have brought on the debate again on the following Wednesday. The Deputy Speaker turned to the Liberal side and "saw" another speaker to whom he gave the floor. Protest was made in vain. Another five minutes and the motion was killed.

Only the other day Premier Oliver stated "We are all glad to know that we have firmly established in office at Ottawa a Liberal Government with a sufficiently large majority to give effect to Liberal policies and a liberal administration."

As a matter of fact, the majority ensures inaction. It was only last year when the Liberals had no majority of their own that there was any effort to enact Liberal policies.

* * *

As the public does not realize the handicaps of private members so Westerners do not fully realize the dead weight of reactionary opinion that exists throughout the East. My motion looking to changes in the B. N.A. Act and the curbing of the powers of the Senate aroused the hostility of the Eastern capitalist press. The Montreal Gazette has a long editorial that well illustrates the situation whch faces anyone who suggests the slightest change:

"It is intolerable," in the opinion of Mr. Woodsworth, "that an irresponsible body should be able to nullify the "acts of the elected representatives of the people." It would be still less tolerable if the parliamentary system included no means of davising or rejecting the sort of legislation which the member from Winnipeg has in mind; legislation which no House of Commons, with a serious regard of its duty to the public, would ever pass. The Senate was created under the British North America Act for the purpose, among others, of doing the very thing against which Mr. Woodsworth complains, of standing between the public and the mistakes of their "elected representatives," and so long as the Upper House keeps faith with the Constitution in this regard, so long will it retain the confidence and respect of the public, even though some of its members have committed the unpardonable sin of becoming directors of companies."

The Montreal Star is even more opposed to democratic government. A few weeks ago, in lauding the big financial institutions of Canada and denouncing the Government, it concludes an editorial with:

"The Star has been publishing sketches of Mussolini's work and warfare for his beloved Italy. When Canadian politicians become like Mussolini, real patriots . . . . ."

No comment is necessary.

Another illustration of the almost medieval attitude of some of the Montreal members was revealed in the protest against social welfare legislation on the ground that if it were passed, there would be no need for the distribution of charity by the wealthy and it would be very wrong for the state to take any action which would prevent the exercise of the virtue of charity.

* * *

Since we are dealing with the Eastern point of view perhaps we might say that this is not confined entirely to eastern members. Mr. Bennett though representing Calgary also represents big business in its general outlook on life. A few days ago, in the self-satisfied fashion that characterizes the successful business man, he said:

"To make money is not a crime. It is not an offence to honestly toil and get the recompense for it. Toil is not an offence, and never should be an offence in any country, time or place, and the state depends largely on the revenues it can collect, so far as income tax is concerned, from those who, by their enterprise, by their ability, their perseverance, their energy, and their hard work, have been able to accumulate incomes from which the tax can be collected."

There is here absolutely no recognition that wealth today is collectively produced, no recognition whatever that it is by the arrangements and privileges accorded by the State that certain privileged classes have the right to amass wealth, no recognition whatever that those who toil the hardest are often those who receive the least rewards, no recognition that wealth is as frequently an indication of greed and ruthlessness as it is of ability and perseverance. The speech of Mr. Bennett and of one or two other members aroused the indignation of Miss MacPhail.

Miss MacPhail said:

"I am deeply angered—not for myself, but for the sake of motherhood. This is a masculine House, so masculine that sometimes I resent it from the very depths of my soul. The size of the family is not something for men to boast of. No woman should be asked to bear very large families . It is the men and women who have moderate families and who try to give them decent food and clothing and some education on very slender incomes that I represent here and that I am concerned with. I must take exception to the statement made by the man who has just taken his seat—whom I respect very much personally—that people of great wealth are not necesarily good citizens. Very often they are anti-social in all their tendencies and actions, and they are the people responsible for conditions that make it impossible for many boys and girls to ever get a university education. They are the people who will benefit by the reduction in the income tax. So I stand in my place once more to say that I oppose any reduction of the income tax with all my strength."

In this connection it is perhaps worth calling attention to a stinging indictment of so-called democratic government made by Albert J. Nook in the last issue of the "American Mercury." He says:

"The state, considered functionally, may be described as the Organization of Political means, enabling a comparatively small class of beneficiaries to satisfy their needs and desires through various delegations of the taxing power, which have no vestige of support in natural right, such as private land-ownership, tariffs, franchises and the like . . .

The great desideratum in a tariff, for instance, is its license to rob the domestic consumer of the difference between the price of an article in a competitive and a non-competitive market. Every manufacturer would like this privilege of robbery if he could get it, and he takes steps to get it if he can; thus illustrating the powerful instinctive tendency to climb out of the exploited class, which lives by the economic means (exploited, because the cost of this privilege must finally come out of production, there being no where else for it to come from), and into the class which lives, wholly or partially, by the political means."

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1.50	Turknit Baby Sets 1.05		.25 Sulphur and Cream of Tartar Lozenges .14
1.25	Listol (a safe antiseptic) 16 oz. .61		.15 Sulphur, 2 lbs. for .18
.75	Parafol (hair dressing) .41		1.00 Paris Eau de Quinine .55
.60	Germolene .36		.10 Palm Olive Soap, 4 for .25
.25	Palm Olive Talcum .17		.15 Moth Balls, per lb. .09
.50	Kiss Proof Lip Sticks .29		1.00 Dr. Reid's Blood Purifier .53

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A young man from Dollarton writes to ask how long girls should be courted. We should say just the same way as short ones.

It is one of our weaknesses, too, that we blame Nature for our badness and take personal credit for our goodness.