Labor Statesman

OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY THE VANCOUVER TRADES AND LABOR COUNCIL

Supported by Sixty-two Local Unions

14

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DEPARTMENT of LABOUR
NOV 20 1929
Br.

Iron Workers' Union Has Old Age Pension

The International Association of Bridge, Structural and Ornamental Iron Workers has a death benefit fund ranging from $100 to $400. It has an old age and disability fund paying $25 per month to members 60 years of age with 20 years membership. The total paid in death claims for August amounted to $4,900. The total paid for old age and disability in August amounted to $11,600. The dues of Local No. 97 are $3 per month, 50c of which is for a local sick and accident benefit fund which provides for a total of $10 per week, or $120 in any one year. The pension fund provides that a member may draw the pension providing he is not in receipt of more than $60 per month.

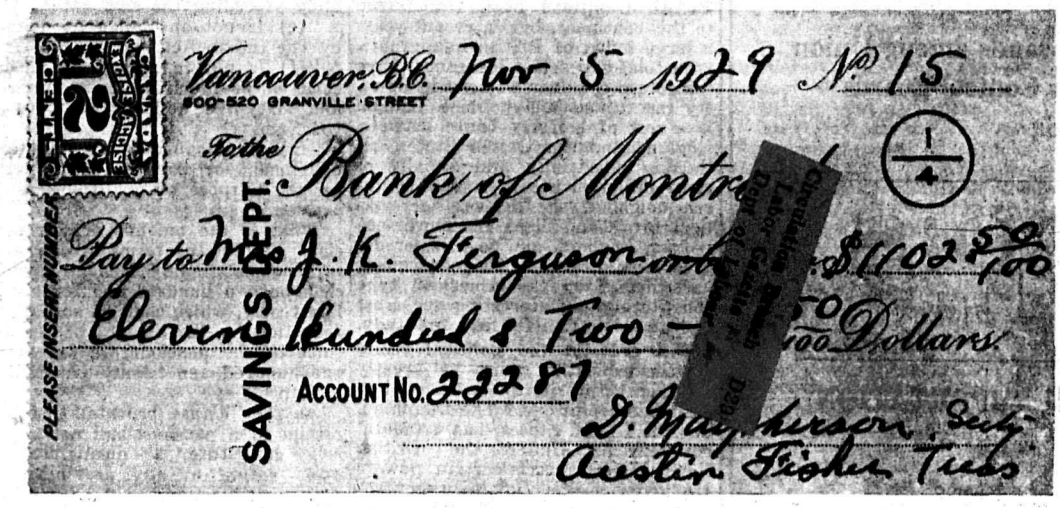
STREET CAR MEN WIN

Des Moines, Iowa.—A union shop agreement that will continue until November 1, 1940, has been signed by the Street Car Men's Union and the City Railway Company.

Wages are increased and the company will set aside $18,700 annually, out of which retirement pensions and disability compensations shall be paid to union members.

STEAMFITTERS WIN

Chicago.—Employers raised wages 7 1-2 cents an hour just as 4,000 union steamfitters were preparing to take a strike vote. The employers yielded when they realized that these workers would enforce their demand. The new rate is $1.70 an hour and will continue until May 31, 1931.



Vancouver, B.C. Nov 5 1929 No. 15

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Pay to Mrs J. K. Ferguson or order $1102 50/100

Eleven Hundred & Two — 50/100 Dollars

ACCOUNT No. 22287

D. Macpherson Secy

Austin Fisher Treas

SAVINGS DEPT.

PLEASE INSERT NUMBER

FROM ACROSS THE LINE

The above check, made payable to Mrs. J. K. Ferguson of Vancouver, is from the benefit fund of Local No. 280, International Association of Sheet Metal Workers. It is reproduced in order to show that the money paid into the International Union by the late Mr. J. K. Ferguson was returned to his widow with greater interest than any bank or financial institution would pay.

Mr. Ferguson had been a member of the Sheet Metal Workers' Union for eleven years prior to his death. During that time he had paid into the union a total, in dues, of $430. During that time wages increased from $7.20 per day to $9 per day, and on top of this his widow received $1,102.50 last week.

One of the most interesting things about the check, however, is the fact that during the time Bro. Ferguson was a member of the local union that union sent $225 ACROSS THE LINE out of the $430 paid into the union. In return for that $226 the local union received back from ACROSS THE LINE $1,102.50, and this is the sum turned over to the widow.

Next time you hear somebody complaining about the money being sent ACROSS THE LINE by Canadian locals of International Unions, just refer to this particular instance, which is one similar to many.

The above amount will be paid to the dependents of any member of the Sheet Metal Workers' Union in Canada who has been in good standing for at least FIVE YEARS.

Carpenters Get Benefits From Across the Line

The United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America has a splendid home at Lakeland, Florida, where members who have been 30 years in the union and have reached the age of 70 may retire for the rest of their lives. Just at the present time the unions are voting on the question of reducing these figures and also providing for an old age pension scheme.

Members of the union receive the following benefits from the head office, ACROSS THE LINE, when mishaps overtake them: Disability benefits ranging from $50 to $400 for from one to five years' membership. Death benefits ranging from $50 to $300 for one to five years' membership. Wife's funeral benefit, $25 to $75, one to three years' membership. Strike benefit, $9 per week. Local membership dues are $1.25 per month. The local union provides a sick benefit of $7 per week for 90 days a year.

Disability and death claims paid by the head office last year amounted to $2,842,407.54, involving 15,076 claims.

* * *

The International Brotherhood of Painters and Decorators has a death benefit fund ranging from $50 to $400. During the last six months the head office paid out $182,000 in claims.

* * *

The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers has a $1,000 insurance fund.

ANOTHER DUAL UNION BATTERS DOWN WAGES OF WORKERS

Montreal, P. Q.—An amazing award has just been handed down by Henry Holgate, consulting engineer, in a dispute between the Master Plasterers of Montreal and their employees, member of the International Union.

Wages for Montreal plasterers have been fixed by Henry Holgate consulting engineer, who has acted as arbiter, at a sum not in excess of $1.05 an hour for the period ending September 30, 1930. The employees had been receiving $1.15 an hour and had asked for $1.25, finally agreeing to submit the question to arbitration.

He recommends a wage reduction of 10 cents an hour in reply to the union's request for an increase of 10 cents an hour.

This award is based on the assumption that the dual union (National Union of Plasterers) is quite satisfied with the lower rate and in the interest of the industry "a uniform rate of wages should prevail in Montreal."

The reduction in wages, he declares, will benefit the members of the International Union, as "it would tend to secure for them more work."

The award again illustrates the impotency of dual unions which have always been used by employers to lower wage standards.

Textile Workers Open Big Drive in South

New York City.—Headquarters for the South will be opened at once at Rock Hill S.C., by the United Textile Workers of America, President Thomas F. McMahon announced here today following a meeting of the emergency board.

President McMahon said he was leaving at once for Elizabethton.

Thomas F. Reagan will be in direct charge of the new Rock Hill headquarters.

Organizers will work out of Rock Hill over a fan-shaped territory to which there is ready access by rail and bus. Rock Hill is 22 miles from Charlotte and a natural center for organizing operations.

The building in which the new headquarters will be opened is owned by the United Textile Workers, and offices already are furnished for use.

New York City.—Labor here is on the move. The food trucking strike was a quick winner, after which oil and gasoline drivers walked out, followed by 2,000 window cleaners. Negotiations have been opened for wage scale adjustment between bill posters and newspaper circulation managers. Tug boat employes and waste paper collectors are threatening a strike.

Court Would Not Enjoin Union Labor

New York City.—Trade unionism has come out of a court victorious.

In a notable suit brought by several makers of organs against unions in the building trades to enjoin alleged interference with the trade and business of the plaintiffs, the Piano, Organ and Musical Instrument Workers and the Brotherhood of Electrical Workers have just been accorded victory, the suit having been dismissed by the District Court for the Southern District of New York after a trial on issues.

The court held there was nothing unlawful about the acts of the piano and organ workers in seeking to persuade other trades not to work in buildings where non-union organ workers were employed in installation of instruments. Restraint of interstate commerce was held to be merely incidental to the main purpose and the main purpose was held to be lawful.

New York.—Building managers can get out and wash the windows of their structures if they like, for no union window cleaners will do it during their general strike for the 40-hour week and a minimum scale of $49.50. Two thousand are on strike, with scores of non-union cleaners joining union ranks.

Addresses Carpenters On Five-day Week

Hall No. 1 was packed to the doors with members of United Brotherhood of Carpenters, Local 452, on Wednesday, November 13th. The routine business being dispensed with, new members were initiated and given a welcome to the ranks of organized labor.

The President then introduced Mr. Eveleigh, Secretary of the B. C. Architectural Institute. Mr. Eveleigh gave a very interesting address on the advantages of the five-day week, showing where the buildings were disorganized on Saturdays through some trades working and others not. Mr. Eveleigh was well received and heartily thanked for his address.

A general discussion followed on the programme for 1930, and it was decided to call December 9th meeting to continue this discussion. The Business Agent reported that over $50.00 had been realized on a tool draw for a late members family.

A free drawing for tools was then held and Bro. Ed. Small held the lucky number.

The next meeting will be held on November 25th in Hall No. 1.

—W.H.

UPHOLSTERERS STRIKE

St. Louis, Mo.—The recently organized Wholesale Departments Upholsterers' Union has a strike on its hands, following a failure to negotiate a new wage agreement. Several large plants are affected and attempt has been made to import strikebreakers from the East.

BRITONS FAIL TO FIND FARM WORK IN CANADA

Toronto, Ont.—"Winnipeg, Toronto and Montreal are flooded with hundreds of men who have drifted into the cities after having failed in farm work," declares the British Welcome and Welfare League in a letter to Hon. Robert Forke, Minister of Immigration, protesting against the bringing in of agricultural workers from Britain after a training of 12 or more weeks there.

The letter states "in view of the very decided failure of this year's training scheme we think it is a very dangerous policy to allow any further trainees to come to Canada in the meanwhile."

Patronize Our Advertisers

Union Men Get Insurance Paid For By Electrical Contractors

Each of the nearly 8,000 New York City members of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers is to receive life insurance, total disability insurance and an old-age pension, all at no cost to himself, as the result of negotiations just concluded by Local Union No. 3 with the Electrical Contractors' Association of New York. Payments are to start March 1, 1930.

New York is the second city where the union has secured this protection for its members. St. Louis contractors were the first to sign such an agreement as part of the Brotherhood's plan to have the industry protect the men engaged in it.

Although the cost of this insurance is to be paid entirely by the employers, it should not in any sense be confused with the so-called group insurance welfare schemes which have for their purpose the "tying up" of a worker to a certain employer.

The difference between the two forms of insurance was emphasized by Charles P. Ford, chairman of the international union's executive board.

Not Like "Welfare Type"

"'Company union' and other so-called group insurance is an inconstant arrangement depending on the man insured remaining in the employ of some particular employer," he said.

"That form of insurance is constantly held as a club over the worker's head to make him submit to all sorts of abuses. If it becomes necessary for him to change employers, or when he becomes too old to stay on the job, he loses that kind of insurance.

"The insurance arrangement negotiated by the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers with employers in St. Louis, and now in New York, is an entirely different arrangement. In neither of these agreements is the insurance conditional on the man remaining with any one employer—the policies are in effect as long as he remains in the industry."

Will Be Well Insured

Under the terms of the New York agreement each member of the union will receive $3,000 life insurance, $30 a month total disability payments, and a $40 monthly old-age pension after reaching the age of 65. Old-age pensions will be paid to those eligible when the fund starts operating next March.

The new insurance probably makes New York electrical workers the highest insured group of trade unionists in the world. Each member already has a $2,000 life insurance policy carried for him by the union, in addition to the $1,000 death benefit feature that is part of the organization. The new policy will give him a total of $6,000.

Old-age pensions went into effect in 1927 for all union electricians, and the new plan will be in addition to the $42 already provided for by the International Union. This will make a total of $82 a month for aged members of the New York union—four times as much as the average old-age pension paid by states where such legislation is in effect.

The fund to carry on the New York program is to be created by each employer paying 20 cents an hour for each employee during the next 12 months.

Workers Can Change Jobs

After this reserve fund has been accumulated a board of trustees will decide what proportionate decrease shall be paid by each employer.

The agreement contains clauses permitting the workers to shift to other employers when such a step is necessary, and provides that where the union is forced to withdraw its men from any employer, or where the employer ceases to do business with the union, all payments to the insurance fund shall continue until the employer finishes the contract upon which he was engaged at the time of ending relation between the two.

James P. Noonan, international president of the Electrical Worekrs, expressed himself as highly gratified over the signing of the New York agreement.

"This marks another forward step in the campaign begun 10 years ago by the International Union to remove the fear of dependency and help the building up of an estate for every worker in the electrical industry," he said.

Spokane.—Organized bakers secured the signatures of three additional shops in their campaign for union conditions.

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Here and There

"James Maxton took considerable risks when he set out to establish a friendly relationship with the league. But, despite the advice of close political colleagues, he persisted in his sincere belief that there was certain common ground upon which he could work with Communists. And although he knew, as he told the Frankfurt Conference, that there are elements in the I. L. P. which were opposed to his action, he declined to break off an association which he believed was an essential service to the subject races. To most groups of common-sense people, looking for allies and supporters, this would have been a virtue deserving of encouragement; to the League Against Imperialism it is a vice to be stamped upon without delay."

* * *

"Most interesting to us is the final reason which led to this farcicial expulsion. It followed on this remarkable ultimatum: 'Executive Committee instructs me to inquire whether you will arrange immediate publication of your Frankfurt statement in the New Leader.' Maxton's telegram containing the one word, 'No,' is the only possible answer to this audacity. We trust it has now dawned on the League Against Imperialism that the New Leader is not its servant, and that no responsible officer of the Independent Labor Party would seek to command its columns at the bidding of an outside organization."

"Needless to say, we should have been only too glad to print the Frankfurt statement as interesting news if the organizers of the Conference had supplied us with an authentic report. But they were too busy manufacturing a grievance to take that elementary precaution. As a matter of fact, we printed in our issue of August 9 what we had received on the subject, even though it was belated. The whole episode throws a brilliant searchlight on the almost total failure of Communist propaganda in this country. When the Third International decreed, against the advice of its most level-headed adherents, that Labor must be fought at the polls, it signed the death warrant of the British Communist Party. The bitter internecine war now waging, the denunciation of Harry Pollitt and Arthur Horner as dangerous right-wingers, and the rapid decline of membership and influence are all a direct reflection of that dictatorship and domination which are entirely alien to the spirit of the British Labor movement. It never has paid, and it never will."

* * *

The problem of combating unemployment has come into the forefront of politics in Australia, where the present position is stated to be the worst ever experienced. In New South Wales unemployment is estimated at 28,000, as compared with 16,000 in May, 1928. In South Australia the percentage of unemployment is higher than in Great Britain. The Australian States, on the recommendation of the premier's conference, have all set up industrial stability committees whose task it is to bring industry, labor and private organizations into closer touch with a view to relieving unemployment.

Old Age Pensions

(By J. S. Woodsworth, M.P.)

Old age pensions are in actual operation in Canada. The federal government scheme has already been adopted by five out of the nine provinces and the indications are that Quebec and the Maritimes will come under the scheme in the not distant future. In Ontario, the latest province to come in, the payment of pensions will start within a few weeks.

In this matter Canada has followed the lead of the motherland. Not only have the British constitution and British traditions been transferred to this continent, but in recent years a large influx of British immigrants, accustomed to social insurance, have reinforced the demand for Old Country institutions and policies. Canada is a sort of halfway house between England and the United States, although industrially and socially in close affiliation with her great southern neighbor, she derives her political forms and ideas fro moverseas —from England, and to a lesser degree from France. The consequent variations from the American type constitute an interesting contrast and provide a fruitful field for study.

But even in the political realm British legislation must be greatly modified before it can be adapted to Canadian conditions. The Dominion, like the United States, has a federal constitution. Under the British North America Act certain powers are given to the Dominion government, others reserved for the provinces. In the newer field of social legislation we run into jurisdictional disputes and sometimes have recourse to curious compromises, although in Canada residual powers rest with the federal government, there is a tendency to increase the range of subjects claimed by or relegated to the individual provinces.

The old age pension scheme is one of those anomalous arrangements evolved through the stresses and strains of political expediency. The Dominion government in 1927 passed legislation providing for standard regulations and offering to the provinces that adopted the scheme fifty per cent. of the pension payments. The provinces are held responsible for and must bear the cost of administration.

When this arrangement was first proposed the majority of the provincial governments were either indifferent or opposed to it. In a vague way they thought that if old age pensions were necessary the federal treasury ought to bear the entire cost. This the Dominion government would not concede. Provision was then made that the scheme would go into operation as soon as any one province would avail itself of what might be called "conditional" legislation. British Columbia led the way, to be followed closely by Manitoba, then came Saskatchewan and Alberta. And now Ontario. This means that the ultimate success of the act is now assured.

The labor people and others in Quebec and the Maritime Provinces keep up a steady pressure on their legislatures to grant them the advantages enjoyed elsewhere in Canada. Moreover, the authorities of the provinces which are as yet outside the benefits of the act, cannot view with equanimity the spectacle of grants derived from taxes raised from the Dominion at large being given to sister provinces while they go without. Threats have been made that the constitutionality of the legislation would be challenged. It is probable now that instead of taking such action the Eastern provinces will fall into line.

In many ways it is advisable that the administration should be local. In practice, it has been found possible to enlarge and adapt existing departmental machinery to cover this new field. In my own province of Manitoba, for example, the Old Age Pension Act is administered by the Workmen's Compensation Board.

As at first in England, the scheme is non-contributory. This was almost necessarily so in Canada as a contributory scheme might have been held to affect civil rights which are provincial, and so the act might have been declared ultra vires. It might have been possible, as in certain other types of legislation, for the provinces to enact concurrent legislation, but this they would not have been willing to do. Action meant compromise. So the existing legislation, it must be admitted, is more or less on a charity basis and the provisions far from satisfactory. It is hoped, however, that it may be merely the entering wedge.

What persons are pensionable? Let me quote the concise terms of the Act:

"Provision shall be made for the payment of a pension to every person who, at the date of the proposed commencement of the pension:

"(a) Is a British subject, or, being a widow, who is not a British subject, was such before her marriage.

"(b) Has attained the age of seventy years;

"(c) Has resided in Canada for the twenty years immediately preceding the date aforesaid;

"(d) Has resided in the province in which the application for pension is made, for the five years immediately preceding the said date;

"(e) Is not an Indian as defined by The Indian Act;

"(f) Is not in receipt of an income of as much as three hundred and sixty-five dollars ($365.00) a year, and

"(g) Has not made any voluntary assignment or transfer of property for the purpose of qualifying for a pension."

What is the amount of the pension? Again the terms of the Act:

"The maximum pension payable shall be two hundred and forty dollars yearly, which shall be subject to reduction by the amount of the income of the pensioner in excess of one hundred and twenty-five dollars a year."

Another clause provides that the receipt of a pension shall not by itself constitute a disqualification from voting at any provincial or municipal election.

Another important clause—

"When a pensioner is the owner of an interest in a dwelling house in which he resides and the pension authority accepts a transfer to it of such interest the pension payable to the pensioner shall not be subject to any reduction in respect of the annual value of such interest, but the pension authority shall, on the death of the pensioner, or upon his ceasing to use such dwelling house as his place of residence, be entitled to sell the pensioner's interest therein and to retain out of the proceeds of such sale the amount of all payments made to the pensioner by way of pension in excess of the amount he would have received if such interest had not been transferred to the pension authority, together with interest on the said payment at the rate of five per cent. per annum compounded annually."

Considerable difficulty in drafting the legislation arose from the possible removal of a pensioner from one province to another with the added complication that the one or the other province might not have entered into the pension scheme. The general principle adopted may be gathered from the following:

"Whereas a pensioner has, during part of the twenty years, immediately preceding the date of the proposed commencement of the pension, resided in more than one province in which he would have become pensionable if he had continued to reside therein, the province in which the pension is granted shall be entitled to be reimbursed by the other province or provinces in which the pensioner has resided as aforesaid, a proportion of the pension equal to the proportion which the duration of the pensioner's residence in such other province bears to twenty years."

Then another difficulty was experienced as to administration when after the grant of the pension the pensioner transferred his permanent residence to another province. No pension is paid to a pensioner residing outside Canada.

These details are given to illustrate the problem of administering legislation that is not necessarily uniform in all the provinces. Some of the difficulties are those of bookkeeping and can be met; others, in practice work great hardship upon those who at any stage have shifted from one province to another—still more upon migrants to or from Canada.

A conference of Dominion and Provincial officials has been created which will in time iron out some of the anomalies. Perhaps by that time all the provinces will have come in and the way have been prepared for a thoroughgoing federal scheme. At the last Imperial Conference there was some discussion as to the possibility of arranging for a transfer of pension benefits from any one to any other country within the British Commonwealth.

The limitations and defects of the existing scheme are all too obvious. The pensionable age ought not to be above sixty-five years, perhaps not above sixty. The amount paid should be larger and not subject to deductions. The classification of those pensionable should not be confined to such narrow limits. For example: I think of one eldely Icelandic woman, who has done splendid pioneer work, but who, because of the nature of that work, has not been able to acquire a sufficient knowledge of the English language to enable her to become naturalized. For this reason she is barred from receiving a pension. Hundreds of cases of hardship could be instanced.

And yet thousands of old people are today being saved from the discomfort and disgrace of the poorhouse. They are able to keep their little homes together. Some of them are actually receiving a larger regular income than they did in the prime of their lives—this to the disgrace of a society that makes no provision for a legal minimum wage!

Further, it should be remembered that our Canadian manufacturers protest that this country should not be expected to carry burdens greater than those borne by our rich industrial neighbors to the south.

So, in view of all these considerations, we believe that the Canadian Old-Age Pension Act marks a distinct step in advance.

The legislation, inadequate as it is, was attained only after years of struggle inside and outside of parliament. Organized labor has for years made this one of their legislative demands. Indeed, Tom Moore, president of the Trades and Labor Congress, declares that it takes about twenty years to educate the public to the point when governments will enact advanced labor legislation.

For several years prior to the passing of the Old Age Pension Act the subject had been discussed in parliament and even studied and reported upon by a special committee of the House, but no concrete action eventuated.

Labor Does the Trick

Then came the session of 1926, when the government held office by only a few votes. According to the British system, if the government is out voted it is defeated and is immediately replaced by another government, or an appeal is made to the country.

In the House of Commons there were only two men elected on a Labor party ticket. In addition, there was one Independent favorable to labor, and a number of sympathetic farmer-progressives. The government's extremity was our opportunity. We wrote the following note to the prime minister:

"Dear Mr. King:

"As representatives of Labor in the House of Commons, may we ask whether it is your intention to introduce at this session legislation with regard to (a) provision for the unemployed; (b) old-age pensions We are venturing to send a similar inquiry to the leader of the opposition.

"Yours sincerely,
"J. S. Woodsworth,
"A. A. Heaps."

The leader of the opposition sent us a very unsatisfactory answer. The prime minister's reply was in part as follows:

"Ottawa, January 28, 1926.

"Dear Mr. Woodsworth:

". . . I would refer you respecting provision for the unemployed to the answer given in the House of Commons today by the Hon. Ernest Lapointe on behalf of the government, in reply to a question by yourself, and which indicated the government's intention of carrying out with respect to emergency relief the practice adopted in co-operation with provinces and municipalities in the years immediately following the war. In answer to the question from Mr. Neill, Mr. Lapointe further intimated that it was the intention of the government to introduce at this session

(Continued on page 3)

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Trades Union Directory

LABOR HEADQUARTERS, 529-531 BEATTY STREET

Vancouver Trades and Labor Council—President, J. Thomson; general secretary Percy R. Bengough. Office, 200 Labor Headquarters, 531 Beatty St 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 last Sunday at 8 p.m., Room No. 3, Labor Headquarters. Pres., W. H. Clancy; Secretary and Bus. Agent, T. J. Hanofin. Office: Room 1, Eagles' Hall, 535 Homer Street. Phones Sey. 4783 and Bay. 1656-R. Hours: 9 to 12 a.m.

Bridge & Structural Iron Workers, Local 97, Int. Assos.—Meets every Friday, Hall 311, Labor Headquarters, at 8 p.m. President, James F. Burns, 2833 Turner St.; Secretary, P. Lauret, Room 311, Labor Headquarters. Phone Fair. 2108 L.

Building Trades Council, Vancouver—Meets second and fourth Tuesday in Hall 315, Labor Headquarters. President, E. H. Morrison; Secretary-Treasurer, W. Page, Room 301, Labor Headquarters. Phone Sey. 7495.

Barbers' Journeyman International Union of America—Local 120, meets second and fourth Tuesdays in each month, in Hall No. 3, Labor Headquarters. President, Fred Dawe; Sec.-Treas., C. E. Herrett. Office, 304 Labor Headquarters.

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 St.

Bricklayers', Masons' and Tile Setters' Int. Union, No. 1—Room 309, Labor Headquarters. Meets second and fourth Wednesday, in Hall No. 3. President, L. Padgett, 2066 W. 8th. Phone Bayview 1558 R; Secretary, W. S. Dagnall, 1244 East 20th, Phone Fair. 845 R; Fin. Sec., Albert Wright, 1050 East 25th, Phone Fairmont 6582 X.

Camp and Mill Workers Federal Labor Union No. 31—Vancouver and vicinity, meets every second Wednesday at 8 p.m., at 544 Powell St. E. President, H. Miyazawa; Secretary. K. Tsuyuki.

Carpenters and Joiners, United Brotherhood of, Local 452—President, Wm. Page; Financial Secretary, R. W. Hatley; Business Agent, W. Hargreaves. Office, Room 310, Labor Headquarters. Meets second and fourth Mondays, 8 p.m., in Hall No. 1.

City Hall Employees' Association—Meets first Wednesday of each month at 251½ Hastings East at 8 p.m. President, A. J. Harrison; Treasurer, W. J. Scribbins, 3208 Pender St. E.; Secretary, J. Tarbuck, 3517 West 25th.

Civic Employees' Union, Local 28—Meets first and third Fridays in the month at 251½ Hastings East at 8 p.m. President, John McRitchie, 604 West Twelfth; Secretary-Treasurer, George Harrison, 3427 Triumph St.

Egg Graders' Union, No. 11—Meets in the Labor Headquarters, first and third Monday in month. President, G. S. Cooper; Secretary, M. A. Weightman, 3905 Fraser Avenue.

Electrical Workers, Local 213, International Brotherhood—Meets First and Third Monday, at 8 p.m, at Labor Headquarters. President, D. McDougal; Business Agent, E. H. Morrison. Office, 201 Labor Headquarters. Phone Sey. 3510.

Engineers—International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 844—Meets every Friday at 8 p.m. Hall 315. President, J. Norris; Rec.-Sec., P. Bradley; Business Agent and Fin. Sec., George Pettipiece.—Office, Room 306, Labor Headquarters.

Fire Fighters, No. 18, International Association of—Meets every month at call of president at 251½ Hastings E. President, N. McDonald, 1136 McLean Drive; Financial Secretary, C. A. Watson. 1329—13th Ave. E.

Floorlayers' Union, No. 1875, U. B. of C. & J. A.—Meets first and third Thursdays in month at Hall No. 2, Labor Headquarters. President, Oscar Soderman; Fin. Sec., T. H. Hamlin; Rec. Sec., John McDonald, 2905 West 12th; Business Agent, W. D. Wilson, 1535—5th Ave. W.

Hod Carriers and Building Laborers, No. 602, International—Meets first and third Fridays in month at Hall No. 3, Labor Headquarters. President, Glen Harding, 1110 Denman St.; Fin. Sec. and Acting Business Agent, James Binding, 52 West 24th; Phone: Fair. 6159L.

Hotel and Restaurant Employees and Marine Cooks & Stewards, Local 28—Williams Bldg., 413 Granville Street. Meets second Monday each month at 3 p.m., last Monday at 9 p.m. President, Thos. Edwards; Sec.-Treas. and Bus. Agent, J. Cumming. Phone Sey. 125.

Ladies' Auxiliary, Local 171—United Brotherhood of Carpenters—Meets every first and third Wednesday of each month in Hall 201, Labor Headquarters, at 8 p.m. President, Mrs. C. J. Atkinson, 730 19th Ave. W.; Secretary, Elizabeth J. Hope, 1042 7th Ave. E.

Lathers, Wood, Wire and Metal, International Union, Local 207—Meets second and fourth Mondays in month at Hall 211, Labor Headquarters. W. Fontaine, Secretary, 1828 Commercial Dr. Phone High. 2169 R.

Machinists' Local 692—President, Thos. Sills, 1352 Burrard St.; Secretary, P. R. Bengough. Office, Room 200, Labor Headquarters. Meets on second and fourth Tuesdays in Hall 313.

Milk Wagon Drivers and Dairy Employees, Local 464—Office 308, Labor Headquarters. Meets second and fourth Fridays in Hall No. 1. President, E. Metcalfe; Secretary-Treasurer, Birt Showler, 3841 Triumph. Phone High. 6327.

Mill and Factory Workers' Union, Local No. 1599—Affiliated with United Brotherhood of Carpenters & Joiners. Meets first and third Thursdays in Hall No. 3, Labor Headquarters. Pres., G. Campbell. Secretary-Treasurer, H. G. Avery, 7964 Montcalm Street Phone Marpole 648R.

Millwrights' Local 1638—Construction and Operating—Meets second and fourth Wednesday in Hall 315, Labor Headquarters. J. H. Campbell, President; P. H. Edge, Fin. Sec.; J. Murray Ure, Rec. Sec. Box 127.

Motion Pictures Projectionists' Union, Local 348, of I.A.T.S.E. & M.P.M.O.—11:30 p.m., first Friday in month, in Hall No. 3, Labor Headquarters. President, J. R. Foster; 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, E. C. Miller; General Secretary, W. E. Williams; Organizer, F. Fletcher. Office, Suite 307-319 West Pender. Phone Douglas 2290.

Painters, Decorators and Paperhangers, Local 138—Meets second and fourth Thursdays at Hall No. 2. President, Wm. Hunt; Rec. Sec., A. E. Varah, 1442 Clark Drive; Business Agent, Ed. Smith. Office: Room 313, Labor Headquarters. Phone Sey. 3609.

Pile Drivers, Bridge, Wharf and Dock Builders, Local No. 2404—Meets every Friday night at 8 o'clock in 122 Hastings St. W. President, Al. Graham; James Thomson, Secretary, P. O. Box 320. Phone Sey. 7874.

Plasterers, Local 89—Operative Plasterers' and Cement Finishers' International Association—Meets first and third Wednesday in month at Hall No. 2, Labor Headquarters. President, F. Walsh; Secretary, A. Hurry, 861—34th Ave. E. Phone Fair. 3222R. Fin. Sec., E. A. Williams, 830 East 12th. Phone Fair. 5219X.

Cement Finishers' Secretary, J. W. Baines, 2846 Turner St. Phone High. 1238X.

Plumbers and Steamfitters, No. 170, International Association—Meets every second and fourth Friday in Hall No. 2. President, Art Jane; Secretary and Business Agent, W. Watt, 305-7 Labor Headquarters.

Printing Pressmen and Assistants, Local No. 69—Meets every second Tuesday in the month at 8 p.m. in Hall No. 2, Labor Headquarters. President, A. G. Grey, 867 East 20th; Secretary, Thos. S. Ezart, 1603 40th Avenue E., South Vancouver.

Railway Carmen of America, Lodge No. 58—Meets first and third Friday in month at Labor Headquarters. President, H. Warde, 816 East 12th.; Secretary, J. R. Robertson, 637 West 18th.

Street and Electric Railway Employees, Pioneer Division No. 101—Meets K. P. Hall, 8th and Kingsway, first and third Mondays at 10:15 a.m. and 7 p.m. President, J. E. Smith; Recording Secretary, J. Price; Treasurer, J. Auton; Financial Secretary and Business Agent, H. W. Speed. Office: Corner Prior and Main streets. Phone Sey. 5000.

Sheet Metal Workers Association, Local Union No. 280—Meets second and fourth Thursdays in Hall No. 3. President, Jas. Strachan, 2205 W. 11th; Business Agent and Secretary, D. MacPherson, 308 Labor Headquarters.

Tailors' Journeymen Union of America, Local No. 178—Meetings held second Monday, each month, 8 p.m. Executive meets fourth Monday of every month in Labor Headquarters. President, Colin McDonald; Secretary, W. W. Hocken, 1582 13th Ave. S.; Financial Secretary, H. Nordlund, 1930 12th Ave. E.

Taxi, Stage and Bus Drivers, Local 151—Meets second and fourth Mondays at 11:30 a.m. and 8 p.m. President, A. C. Shaw. Office, 308 Labor Headquarters; Phone, Sey. 7495.

Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Stablemen and Helpers, Local 466—311 Labor Headquarters. Meets every First and Third Monday, Labor Headquarters, President, A. A. McKay, 765 Cambie St.; Secretary-Treasurer, Birt Showler, Room 308 Labor Headquarters.

Theatrical Stage Employees' Union, Local 118 of the I.A.T.S.E. & M.P.M.O. Meets second Friday in Labor Headquarters at 9:30 a.m. President, Rod Martin; Secretary, Gordon Martin; Bus. Agent, Harry Mitchel; Address, P. O. Box 711.

Typographical Union, No. 226—President, C. S. Campbell; Vice-President, R. Gouthro; Secretary-Treasurer, R. H. Neelands, 300-2 Labor Headquarters. Meets last Sunday of each month at 2 p.m., in Women's Bldg., Thurlow street.

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.

WANT HOUR LAW ENFORCED

San Diego, Cal.—Carpenters demand that the State eight-hour law be enforced by the local board of education. They cite 94 separate violations in the erection of a new school house.

Labor's New Spectre

The specter of unemployment, a wraith that has risen, strangely enough, right out of our great prosperity, haunts the waking dreams of American labor, according to the annual report of President James O'Connell and Secretary John P. Frey of the Metal Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor, made public October 2 at Toronto. This new menace to the wage-earner, the report states, is due to the enormous scale on which American manufacturers are opening up branch factories in foreign countries, or even moving their whole enterprises to Canada, Europe, Argentina or India, where they can employ the cheap labor which our immigration laws bar out at home. This move makes American workingmen afraid, we are told, that the factories are running away from them—that their jobs are being exported along with American capital, and that "national unemployment, increasing on a large scale, may be the outcome."

This tendency of the American factory, like the modern girl, to leave home, has been quietly developing for several years, but it is only in the last few months, we are told, that organized labor has realized what it means. An official spokesman of the Federation of Labor, Matthem Woll, sounded the alarm some weeks ago, when he demanded of Congress that the tariff law be amended to provide that American holders of patents and trademarks shall manufacture their products exclusively at home. But the Toronto convention leaders take a more sweeping view of the subject, judging from this summary of their report by a New York Times correspondent:

"Prosperity as a juggernaut riding roughshod over industry and crushing opportunities for employment, was the picture drawn in the report of the officers of the metal trades department.

"According to the report, employers, balked by the immigration laws from dipping into large reservoirs of cheap European labor, have exported their capital and established branch plants in Southern European countries, the Near East and the Orient, where they have obtained 'huge pools of uneducated, cheap, docile, servile labor.' These plants are said to supply the foreign-trade orders of the American owners as well as to make goods to import into the United States.

"Referring to the $27,000,000,000 of American money invested in or loaned to foreign lands, the report suggests that the prosperity 'of which some Americans boast, and which some other nations seem to fear, is developing causes for unemployment which will work ruinously in the future unless they can be checked.'"

The other day a jute-consuming plant was moved from Ludlow, Me., to a town in India, remarks Theodore M. Knappen in a recent issue of The Magazine of Wall Street, leaving a group of high-standard white men out of jobs in Maine and placing a group of thirty-cents-a-day brown men in jobs in India. Over in Germany is an American-built and American-owned hardware factory employing 600 men, and when it opened its doors we are told the doors of the original plant in the United States were closed. It is estimated that there are 2,000 branch or independent American factories under other flags, adds this writer, and scarcely a da ygoes by without chronicling at least one more. Never before has there been such a migration of industry. What does it portend? Mr. Knappen answers:

"In becoming the world's greatest creditor nation we may become less and less its workshop and more and more its banking house; the scissors of our investors may be endlessly clicking as they cut coupons for interest from far lands, and their bank accounts may swell with foreign-earned dividends, while jobs at home grow scarce and poorly paid.

"From a labor employment point of view the 'pauper labor' of Europe might as well be allowed to migrate to the United States as to permit American factories to migrate to Europe and employ it there to make goods that displace the products of domestic plants and labor."

"Henry Ford has transferred his entire tractor industry from the United States to Ireland," declares Mr. Knappen, "and the purchase by the General Motors of the Opel plant, the largest producer of automobiles in Germany, is certainly not calculated to extend the market in Germany for American-made automobiles." Multiply these instances by hundreds, and the outlook is far from reassuring for American labor, this writer admits; and yet he sees a more cheerful side of the case, which the Houston Post-Dispatch summarizes thus:

"The viewpoint held by the writer for The Magazine of Wall Street is that this 'exporting of America' will work more good than harm to the people of the United States; raising living and wage standards in foreign countries, increasing world prosperity, widening the demand for manifold products incident to American machine output.

"Whether such a cheerful outlook is justified or not, it is plain that if the foreign invasion by American factory enterprise continues it will force deep-seated revisions in the policy of the United States toward the tariff and in other important respects. And whatever its ultimate results, it indisputably will cause temporary hardships to American factory workers, throwing many of them out of employment."

Speaking for the capitalist, the New York Journal of Commerce admits that "from the long-time point of view American labor is faced with a situation here that justly causes some worry," but adds:

"We have in recent years, in substantial part upon the insistence of this same Federation of Labor, built up an economic regime in this country based upon an exceptional degree of protection provided by extreme immigration and tariff laws. At the same time we have been developing more and more export business in manufactured products. The two things do not fit well together. If the American Federation of Labor intends to give much of its time to this subject, it is to be hoped that those taking part in the discussion will think the topic through carefully and come to a full realization of the underlying implications of the situation."—Literary Digest.

International Notes

The Theatrical Stage Employees and the American Federation of Musicians won a spectacular victory in Philadelphia recently by an agreement ending a strike which had darkened all the legitimate theatres in that city and was beginning to develop into a nation-wide walkout in all of Shubert's chain of 50 houses. The agreement includes an $8 a week increase in wages.

* * *

Miss Susan Lawrence, M.P., vice-chairman, has been elected chairman of the executive of the British Labor party for the ensuing year, and will therefore preside over next year's conference. Miss Lawrence is the first woman to hold this high office in the party. The new vice-chairman is Stanley Hirst, financial secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union.

* * *

At two of its meetings the general council of the Belgian Labor party has dealt with the creation and purpose of a fund in memory of Joseph Wauters. After a long discussion it was decided to set up a monument to Wauters in Waremme, Belgium, but to employ the fund itself for educational work. At the second meeting Arthur Wauters, brother of Joseph Wauters, was elected in his place as director of the Belgian Socialist press. Van Roosbroeck, secretary, drew attention to the activity of the Communist united front organizations in Belgium, and asked that comrades called upon to perform any service whatever in the name of such an organization should get into touch beforehand with the secretariat of the party in each case.

* * *

J. Maxton, M.P., chairman of the Independent Labor party in Britain, has been expelled from the League Against Imperialism for refusing to carry out the promise he made—promises to fight openly against imperialism—at the Frankfurt World Congress of the League.

* * *

The "New Leader," official organ of the British Independent Labor party, of which James Maxton is the chairman, discussed the matter in the following article which appeared in a recent issue:

* * *

"The expulsion of James Maxton from the British Section of the League Against Imperialism is final proof of the impossibility of working with Communists while they remain in their present state of mind, except upon terms of absolute subservience to their narrow and stupid ukases. Their amazing mentality is indeed almost entitled to rank as the eighth wonder of the world! The ordinary mind reels at an attempt to comprehend their extraordinary conduct. Continually they cry for the United Front, but invariably, when anybody has the temerity to unite, they are, as Maxton says, 'bullied, harassed and pestered' until continued association becomes a positive misery."

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The South African Committee on old age pensions and ntional insurance recently issued its third report, which deals with the question of national insurance for unemployment in South Africa. The commission recommended that in any legislation which may be introduced dealing with any branch of social insurance a clause should be introduced giving the administrator of the funds with the consent of the government power to enter into reciprocal arrangements with other countries; that a system of voluntary insurance against unemployment is not likely to succeed in South Africa; if an insurance scheme is to be introduced it must be on a compulsory basis.

OLD AGE PENSIONS

(Continued from page 2)

legislation with respect to Old Age Pensions. You will observe that the statement made by Mr. Lapointe was in accordance with the intimation which I gave to Mr. Heaps and yourself at the time of our interview, following the receipt of the communication hereein referred to. . . .

"Yours sincerely,
"W. L. Mackenzie King."

When there came the vote which was to determine the fate of the government, I stated our position thus:

"It seems to me that we must be very grateful indeed that the peculiar combination of circumstances which we find existing in the House at this time has seemingly made it possible to place upon the statute books long overdue legislation in the interests of some of the most needy but least influential elements of our population. . . . So long as the government is prepared to bring down legislation which commends itself to our judgment we must continue to support it."

The government faithfully carried out its promises. Against strenuous opposition the Old Age Pension Bill passed the House of Commons, only to be thrown out by the Senate. Then after a constitutional crisis came another election in which Old Age Pensions became a leading and popular political issue. The Liberals were returned and the new Minister of Labor—reintroduced the Old Age Pension Bill. After the favorable reception with which the measure had been met throughout the country, and influenced doubtless by the representatives maintained at Ottawa by organized labor, the Senate withdrew its opposition. The act respecting Old Age Pensions was assented to 31st of March, 1927.

Almost the first piece of constructive social legislation passed by the Dominion House—a forerunner, we trust, of other measures of social insurance.—American Federationist.

The Labor Statesman

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H. W. Watts, Man. Editor.

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Vancouver, Friday, Nov. 15, 1929

THE FINANCIER AT WORK

From the time that mankind had progressed to a point at which one individual could produce more than sufficient for his own needs the great distinguishing marks of our civilization has been the various schemes by which one portion of the race has endeavored to live on the surplus produced by the other. The modern scheme of hiring the man comes near to separating him from any surplus which he can produce, but the wage labor plan is not so delicately adjusted as to do so in every case. There are always individuals, who, through good fortune or good management or other favorable circumstances, are able to hold some portion of their surplus, and the question of how to dispossess these fortunate individuals has been, and is, one of the great problems of finance. But to this we must add that the class whose contribution to society is relieving the worker of any small surplus which he may have accumulated are thoroughly cannibal in character, and will just as willingly plunder a weak member of their own class.

From the moment that the average man gets $5.00 of a surplus or savings, he gets visions and hallucinations and dreams that by this route he is going to lift himself out of his class and climb into the other. Often the malady takes such a virulent form that the victim denies himself even the necessities of life. However, by all our "best citizens," and the whole tribe of parsons, we can prove that saving is a very much greater virtue than its antithesis, charity. In the effort to increase his savings this person of small means is easily led into buying stock and shares in various enterprises. Ogilvie Flour is now selling for several thousand per cent. higher than its original price, so our small investor starts out to find something else that will do the same thing. In this kind of a search the chances are all against him. He does not possess the necessary knowledge of this class of affairs. At best his "investment" is a gamble in which his chances are less than in a fair game of poker or black-jack—for to start with, an enterprise possessing no vistage of merit can be made to look like a sure winner, and again a proposition of more than average value is often manipulated over a period of years, alternately boosted and depressed, to sell stock at a high price and buy back at a low price.

For nine years shares of every description on the New York Stock Exchange have steadily increased in price. With a fairly uniform upward movement over this period of years the mass of small investors accepted the idea either that this was to continue forever or that they could get in, make a clean-up, get out again before any downward movement. On the morning of October 25th last there was nothing materially different in the numberless enterprises, the shares of which were bought and sold on the stock market, than on the previous morning or the previous month. Nothing had happened to the Goodyear Rubber Co. or the United States Steel Co. during the night to make these shares of less value. But a group of "great financiers," after long and painstaking thought and work, were ready to "shake the tree," and they did so, and in one day the selling price of stock traded on the New York Stock Exchange fell in value by twenty-five billion dollars. People, who on the 24th thought they were guaranteed sufficient for comfort to the end of their days, found themselves penniless. Bankruptcy and ruin, and even suicide, reached to every quarter of the continent. The banks are said to have come to "the rescue of the market." The way in which the banks rescued the market was that they lent money to the large operators to buy in stocks which the weaker operators and the frightened small holders were throwing on the market at less than their value.

And, so, out of it all we find that the small surplus which the more fortunate wage-earner had accumulated has, in many thousands of cases, been swept away, and some few "great financiers"—which are the flowers of our civilization—are now "financial wizards." —M.

THE GIANT

Mr. Holgate, the conciliator on plasterers' wages at Montreal, stated that by accepting lower wages the International Union plasterers would obtain more work. This is terrible logic for a consulting engineer. In the first place, he presumes that if the International Union men, who had been receiving $1.15 per hour, would accept the same wages as paid National Union men (from 90c to $1.05 per hour), building operations would increase. This is tommyrot. Wages in the building trades, have been greatly increased during the past ten years, but building operations have increased in far greater ratio than wages, and it has been admitted by building authorities, with the possible exception of Mr. Holgate, that higher wages have in no way impeded building operations.

If this conciliator followed his logic to a conclusion he would have to say that if the trade unionists accepted the non-union scale of wages that all would get more work, and this lower scale of wages would affect every other trade and calling. Following this there would be a decreased purchasing power upon the workers, and this decreased purchasing power would again effect every line of business, hence, instead of there being more work, there would be less. Business cannot prosper if wages are so low that every working class family is forced to reduce their buying power, hence, every dual unionist and non-unionist is a direct menace to the welfare of the rest of the workers, and to every business house in the country. The fallacy that high wages impedes business belongs to the nineteenth century, and those who advocate or work for low wages, or do nothing to increase the standard of living, are living in the past.

This continent is now making millionaires at the rate of about sixty per year, and the rate of increase for $100,000, families totals thousands every year. But who creates all this wealth? If it grows in the forests, it has to be taken out, and the wealthy operators do not take it out. Lumber jacks, railroad men and sailors take it out. If the wealth is from minerals, these minerals have to be laboriously taken out of the mines by miners and prepared for the many needs by smeltermen, factory hands, etc. We can go on naming every product that is used to satisfy human needs and in every one of them we find that without the hard labor of the working class the timbers would still be standing in the forests, minerals would still lie dormant in the soil, food crops would remain unharvested, and so on. In other words, we must admit that labor power applied to the natural resources produces all wealth, and if labor power produces all wealth why do workers scab on each other, batter down wages, agree to accept a lower wage than other workers, and put up with the thousand and one other degradations that are piled upon us as workers? It's about time labor got hep to itself, and, like the giant that it is, rouse itself from its lethargy and push the exploiters off its back. —W.

Readers' Forum

Editor, Labor Statesman.

Dear Sir,—I was instructed by the District Council of Carpenters to advise you that the firm known as the Pacific Grain and Milling Co., 1000 Keefer street, was placed on the unfair list, as they do not pay the union wages to carpenters or other tradesmen working on their warehouse under construction. It is 100 per cent. non-union. Hoping you will insert this in your valuable paper for the benefit of our members who buy grain feed from this firm.

Fraternally yours,
THE DICTRICT COUNCIL OF CARPENTERS,
R. J. Thompson, Secretary.

RAIL PROBLEM IN NORWAY

Although almost every mile of track represents an engineering problem, Norway has over 2,300 miles of state-owned railroad and considerable construction is under way. While much of the territory traversed is sparsely settled and non-productive, only a small deficit was reported last year.

Do It Now!

There is no time like the present, since the present is always with us, the past having gone and the future not yet arrived, and today, after all, is only the tomorrow of yesterday, even as Industry and Perseverance might be described as the keys that unlock the doors of Success. A little axiom that we always endeavor to impress upon the various members of our staff on those occasions when we stroll through the office to see if everyone is doing his or her bit, as we cannot countenance anything of the nature of indolence. So you can imagine our feelings on passing the Poets' Corner to observe Archibald, our tame poet, industriously engaged playing noughts and crosses on his blotting pad with the office boy, and we felt that the psychological moment had arrived to administer a rebuke. "Now, Archibald," we said, "you know this sort of thing won't do. Have you written this week's article yet?" "Not yet," he replied, "I thought I would start tomorrow." "Tomorrow, always tomorrow," we said. "Manana, manana, the same old cry. Don't you realize there is no time like the present? Have you never heard that 'Procrastination is the thief of time? Now, get busy, don't let us have to speak about this again." As a matter of fact, we had completely forgotten the matter until after lunch, when we were considering a matter about some statistics we had to get out, and decided they could wait a day or two anyhow, and we'd been feeling a bit drowsy after a heavy lunch, and no doubt these late nights do take it out of one, when we were suddenly awaken—, er, I mean, startled by someone quite close to us saying, "I think you should have a rest," and, starting up, found Archibald gazing at us. "You think what?—I ought to have a rest. What do you mean by bouncing in on me like that, just when my mind is distracted with these figures?" "I was saying," he replied, "I think you ought to have arrested Procrastination, when you found he was the thief of time. Did he take your watch?" "Oh, get out and don't come bothering me when I'm busy." "But about the title for my article?" "Oh, confound your article. You'd better go while the going's good, and do it now." P.A.B.

DO IT NOW

I spread my sails to the ocean breeze
And tempt my fate over unknown seas
Whenever I take my pen in hand,
For I never quite know where I shall land.

But now it seems that the time is ripe
For some verses I made of a certain type,
Since chance may never come again, allow
My views on the subject of "Do It Now.

For one lesson learned in the course of life,
There's little e'er gained by foolish strife;
Don't stand and discuss, start making a fuss,
But dig right in, to start catching the bus.

Just say to yourself 'tis a much better plan,
"That now is the time and here's the man,"
For so often you find that in counting the cost
You have waited till all opportunity's lost.

When you fully decide on your heart's desire,
Strike while the iron is red from the fire,
If you wish to succeed. The fellow's a fool
Who idly looks on till the metal is cool.

For he who hesitates is lost,
As many a man has found to his cost,
And many a life would have passed the brink
If everyone always stopped to think.

Perchance you know of a kindly deed
That can well be done to a friend in need,
Then do it at once, for you've surely heard
"That weary's the heart when Hope's deferred."

For very few things they come to stay,
And the chance may never more come your way,
So my motto I hope you have understood,
It's "always go while the going's good."

—P. A. Beall.

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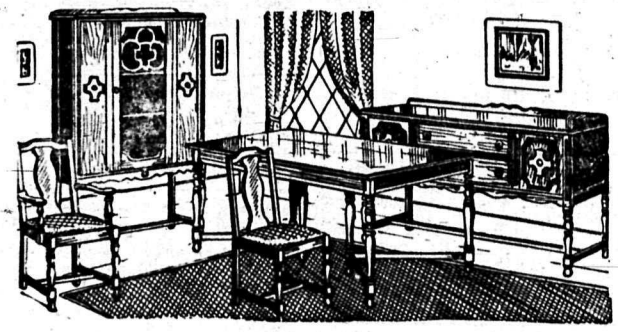

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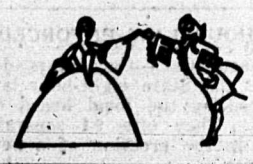

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IN RE THE "MALE MINIMUM WAGE ACT 1929" AND THE "PUBLIC INQUIRIES ACT"

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that James Dugald McNiven, Adam Bell and George Henry Cowan have been appointed as the "Male Minimum Wage Board" under the "Male Minimum Wage Act," and that the said James Dugald McNiven has been appointed chairman of the said Board with the powers and authorities to the said Board conferred by the "Public Inquiries Act" upon commissioners appointed under the said Act.

NOTICE IS ALSO HEREBY GIVEN that meetings of the Board shall be held at the times and places indicated below for the purpose of conducting a separate inquiry in each case into the circumstances surrounding the employment of FOURTH CLASS ENGINEERS and any other occupations of a similar nature; of CHAUFFEURS employed as CAB or TAXI DRIVERS, and any other occupation of a similar nature; of WAREHOUSE MEN and any other occupation of a similar nature.

The times and places of the said meetings are as follows:

Parliament Buildings, Victoria, November 14th and 15th, at the hours of 10:30 a.m., 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

The Court House, Nanaimo, November 16th, at the hours of 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

The Court House, Vancouver, November 18th, 19th and 20th, at the hours of 10:30 a.m., 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

Nov. 18th will be devoted exclusively to an inquiry into the circumstances surrounding the employment of FOURTH CLASS ENGINEERS and any occupation of a similar nature.

Nov. 19th will be devoted exclusively to an inquiry into the circumstances surrounding the employment of CHAUFFEURS employed as CAB or TAXI DRIVERS, and any other occupation of a similar nature.

Nov. 20th will be devoted exclusively to an inquiry into the circumstances surrounding the employment of WAREHOUSE MEN, and any other occupation of a similar nature.

The Court House, Prince Rupert, November 23rd, at the hours of 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

The Court House, Prince George, November 26th, at the hours of 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

The Court House, Kamloops, November 30th, at the hours of 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

The Court House, Vernon, December 2nd, at the hours of 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

Board of Trade Bldg., Kelowna, December 3rd, at the hours of 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

The Court House, Penticton, December 5th, at the hours of 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

The Court House, Nelson, December 7th, at the hours of 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

The Court House, Cranbrook, December 9th, at the hour of 7:30 p.m., and 9:30 a.m. on December 10th.

The Court House, New Westminster, December 12th, at the hours of 10:30 a.m., 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

These meetings will be open to the public, but the Board desires particularly to hear from employers and employees directly interested in the matter of a Minimum Wage for employees engaged in the above occupations.

The Board especially invites written statements from both employers and employees setting forth wage rates, hours of labour and conditions of employment or other matters vital to the question.

MALE MINIMUM WAGE BOARD,
J. D. McNIVEN, Chairman.
ADAM BELL, Member.
GEO. H. COWAN, Member.

The Organized Church

(Editor's Note: The writer of this article has been sent to prison three times and has lost several positions through practicing the gospel of Christ, that "the truth shall set you free.")

By S. P. E.

The organized church, as a body, has had a marvellous opportunity to eradicate most of the outstanding evils which are wrecking the social order. She has the Bible to preach on; the congregations to preach to; the buildings to preach in; the men of culture to present the message; the financial backing; the political influence and the centuries of tradition. But she has allied herself to the rich, a hierarchy that has stood for social, money and class distinction through all the ages, trying to hold onto big business and the stock exchange with one hand, and with the other hand out the gospel of a poor man who "had not where to lay his head," and "no man can serve two masters."

She has wasted her power on dress performance, rites, ceremonies, liturgies, creeds, prayer book revisions, conferences, holy water and trips to Mecca—anything but the real business of life. If a soldier overheard the sound of battle over the hilltop he would not be willing to remain on dress parade. It reminds one of the Russian lady who sat in a private box in the theatre, weeping copious tears over the make-believe tragedy on the stage, while her coachman was freezing to death on the box outside.

The church has not paid sufficient attention to the plain man's job. The baker who bakes a good loaf of bread or the engineer who drives a train safely to its destination, or the printer who turns out the morning newspaper, is doing more to promote the kingdom of God on earth than churches have ever done, through service to his fellow-men.

Creeds do not exist through merit, but through constant repetition.

The kind of religion we need is the religion which will prevent the grocer from putting the good apples in the front window and the bad ones behind the weighing machine and serving from the latter place. The kind which will prevent the cobbler from putting brown paper on your shoes instead of leather, or prevent a man with tuberculosis engaging in the milk trade to the danger of the public health. The kind, shall we say, that will prevent a man from mounting a bus before others have had time to descend, or from licking his fingers when he turns the pages of a library book or directory.

These are subjective thinkers, who consider everything from a personal and selfish standpoint. They are the product of city life due to the fact that the worker is dependent for his welfare on human agency rather than on natural causes. The other type of thinker is the objective thinker, who places himself outside the picture and sees things from an impersonal point of view. He may be found in a man who leads a blind man or a cripple across the road to safety, or perhaps in the worker on the country-side who lives close to nature and marvels over the fact that an acorn, which is a meal for a mouse, should ultimately become the giant oak which defies the hurricane. It is obvious from the two descriptions that the less subjective and the more objectivers we have, the greater will be the progress and welfare of humanity.

It is not a credit to the average intelligence that the clergy can continue to claim the attention of congregations as they do. They claim that every man has a soul, whereas it is obvious that every man, woman and child is a soul. In other words, the population of Canada approximates 9,000,000 souls.

They are dogmatic and insist that we live again. The most that can be said is that, if we have lived before, it is probable that we shall live again, and that if we have not lived before it is improbable that we shall live again. As we do not know in this world whether we have lived before, it is unlikely that we shall know in the next, if there be a next, that we have lived now. That is all the wisest man living could possibly say on immortality. So why not be humble and admit that we do not even know whether it is going to rain or shine tomorrow?

Many people still think that heaven is in the skies and hell down below, which is hard on Australia, to point to the Antipodes and say: "There is hell." No, these two places merely indicate the mental state of misery or happiness here and now. It's hell to be poor, hell to be unemployed, homeless, friendless and seasick. Seeing, then, that hell represents such a variety of mental spheres, one might well ask where and what the hell is hell? Pardon my language.

The clergyman still talks of miracles. Now, if there is an effect without a cause, that is a miracle. If a cause produces no effect, that is a miracle. So, if someone tells you that Christ fed 5,000 people with five loaves and two fishes, and that of the fragments that were left there were twelve baskets full, what should be your attitude toward such a legend? The most you could say that you never knew a thing to be increased by decreasing it; that you never knew yourself to eat a piece of cake and find two on the plate as the result of eating one.

We are definitely told that there was a Creator. But in view of the fact that matter is indestructible, that nothing material can be disposed of or done away with, only changed in chemical form, just as your cigarette turns to ashes, it is extremely probable that the world always has been and always will be, eternity at both ends, and that there was no Creator. If you still insist that there was, then one may ask, in view of the Latin maxim: Omne vivum, ex vivo (all life comes from life), then who, if you please, created the Creator? You cannot answer; perhaps it was the clergy.

If I were God's advertising man I would not preach; I would teach; I would not condemn, I would praise. I would not frighten, I would enlighten. I have heard a multitude of preachers, holding diverse creeds and speaking upon a variety of topics, but when my little girl puts her arms around my neck, and I see the innocence and laughter smiling through those childish eyes of blue, I learn more true godliness and in much less time.

When the writer showed the flaws and blemishes in the china to the customer, as well as the good points, he lost his job, and the clergy refused to insist that he be reinstated for practicing the Christian gospel as it relates to truth.

When the same writer exposed the lying statements in the government pamphlets during the war, and was sent to prison three times, there was not a clergyman in the country dared to insist that the legislators should release me for practicing the gospel.

Hence, what is the use of clergy who will not stand behind the man who practices the gospel they preach? It's 1929. Isn't it time that we demand that the clergy uphold the practice of their own teachings?

There are many rackets: the padded payroll racket, the bootleg racket, the stock exchange racket, the stick-up racket, but none so disgraceful as the religious racket, because it is based on hypocrisy and commercialization.

As Ramsay MacDonald says: "Christrianity has not failed; we are waiting for it to be tried." Radical? No. I'm not nearly so radical as Christ was. I never went down to the stock exchange and overturned the tables of the money-changers who are gambling in the food prices and the necessaries of life, as Christ did in the temple 2,000 years ago. I never said that all your human righteousness is a "filthy rag." I believe that every ounce of righteousness you have is on the credit side and a profit to you. I never said to the rich man: "Sell all that thou hast and give to the poor." I don't think any man should sell ALL that he has; it would be bad policy. And the poor do not want things given to them; they want good work and good wages. Nor did I say during the war: "Love your enemies, resist not evil and do good to them that despitefully use you and persecute you." There's radicalism, if you like.

Well, in spite of this analysis of the church, let us all realize that we each of us as workers have a profound religion. The god of man is the god of nature. Hence, religion is a reverent recognition of the universal order of things. Therefore, if you have faith to believe that the sunshine will follow the rain, the night the day, the darkness the daylight; that the four seasons will run in their courses, that the tides of the sea will come in and go out according to basic principles, that the sun will rise near the East and set near the West, then you have a profound religion. For your belief in these things proves that you recognize the existence of a Supreme Power, a guiding hand, an unseen force, Nature—call it what you like—that regulates the waves of the Atlantic, the calm of the Pacific, the night, the day, the darkness and the daylight, and the rising and setting of the sun. Browning puts it thus:

There is no unbelief:
For whoso plants a seed beneath the sod,
And waits to see it push away the clod:
Believes in God.
That is, in the supreme power Nature—that causes the planted seed to come to fruit or flower.

And whoso saith, when clouds are in the sky,
Be patient, friend, Light cometh by-and-bye;
Trusts the Most High.

That, again, is the same power which sends down the sunshine or rain, according as it may be required.

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Dated the 4th day of September, 1929.

JOHN FELIX MYNTTI.

November 16.

Too Late Now

With an air of great determination the woman walked into the photographer's studio.

"Good morning, madam; what can I have the pleasure of——"

"These photos of my husband," began the woman, banging a packet down on the table. "They're simply disgraceful. You ought to be ashamed of yourself! Why, he looks just like an ape!"

The cameraman's pride was wounded.

"Indeed," he replied icily; "but you should have thought of that before you married him."

Some men would rather face an angry tiger than a woman who has gone into a grim silence.

Is Labor Fit to Govern?

Short Character Sketches of Labor Members in Great Britain. From The London Daily Herald.

* * *

THE CRANEMAN WHO WON ECCLES

Until the election D. L. Mort, who has won Eccles from the Tories, was operating a steam crane in a South Wales steel works.

Nearly all his wage earning life has been spent in the same works. Born at Briton Ferry in 1888, he was obliged, through his mother being left a widow, to leave school in his thirteenth year and get employment in an outfitter's shop.

He is now a member of the Executive Council of the British Iron, Steel and Kindred Trades Association, and vice-chairman of the workers' side of the Steel Conciliation Board. For the last 14 years he has been secretary of his branch.

He represents Wales on the National Council of the I.L.P. (which he joined in 1906), and is chairman of the Welsh Division. He has been chairman of the largest I.L.P. branch in the kingdom and president of the Divisional Labor Party of historic Aberavon. In local government he began as urban district councillor in 1919, and is now a member of the Neath Borough Council.

At the age of 16 he became a local preacher for the Congregational Church. Among the causes which during the last 20 years or more he has vigorously upheld in public speech are the Co-operative Movement, the League of Nations, the Workers' Educational Association, Votes for Women, Universal Suffrage, and last, not least, the Labor Party and the I.L.P.

STOKE'S NOTABLE VICTOR

Although Lady Cynthia Mosley is a daughter of the late Marquess Curzon, Conservative secretary for foreign affairs, she had begun to outgrow the ancestral political ideas as long ago as the war.

She told her 1925 adoption meeting at Stoke (which she has now won from Colonel John Ward with a big majority) that she had threshed things out for herself. She had worked for 30s. a week, had worked several months on the land, studied at the London School of Economics, and seen the appalling conditions of people in the poorest parts of London.

Born in 1897, Lady Cynthia married in May, 1920, Oswald Mosley (now Sir), then Conservative M.P. for Harrow. She supported him when he crossed the floor of the House of Commons and became an Independent member in the autumn of that year, and she joined the Labor Party with him in March, 1924. Since that time she has spoken for the Labor Party in all parts of the country.

On the platform, in the streets, and on the doorsten she has been foremost in helping her husband in his election campaigns. One of these was the historic fight at Ladywood in 1924, when they pulled down Neville Chamberlain's majority to 77. Another was the Smethwick by-election of 1926, when Oswald Mosley won his first victory as a Labor candidate.

WORKER FOR WOMEN WINS

Not many members of parliament are better known throughout the Labor movement than Dr. Marion Phillips, senior member for Sunderland, and very few are better equipped for parliamentary life.

At Melbourne, Australia, where she was born (her father, who was a lawyer, and her mother, being both of Australian birth), she graduated in the university as B.A. with honors, and took several scholarships. She then came to England, earned a research studentship at the London School of Economics, and won her Doctorate of Science (Economics) with a thesis on "A Colonial Autocracy," which has become a standard work.

She was a special investigator for the Poor Law Commission and afterwards secretary of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies. Already a Socialist, and a member of the Fabian Society, she became a full-time worker for the Labor Party in 1911, and since 1918 has been its chief woman officer.

Her activities have included service on many government committees and the preparation of evidence for many others. She was one of the first women justices of the peace and was for several years a Kensington borough councillor.

In 1926 she earned widespread and fervent gratitude as the chief organizer and administrator of the fund raised by the Women's Committee for the Relief of Miners' Wives and Children.

She has found time to write books, reports, pamphlets and articles, and is editor of the Labor Woman.

A "YOUNG PEOPLE'S" MAN

Both as a wage earner and as a politician George Muff, M.P. for East Hull, began early. He was only 10 years old when he first went to work in a Bradford woollen mill. His father, a miner, had died when he was one day old, and his mother, a weaver, had to bring up a family of three.

Young George had to leave his bed at 5 in the morning and be in the mill at 6. His evenings were spent at night classes and in reading. At the mature age of 15 he decided on a political career, and directed his studies accordingly. He was a Radical and was soon doing his share of propaganda and helping in social welfare work.

From 1908 to 1918 he was chairman of the Yorkshire Young Liberals, and in the latter year he refused the Lloyd George coupon and fought South Bradford as an Independent Liberal. He joined the Labor Party in 1920, a ndafter defeats at Chester in 1922 and 1923 nearly won his present seat in 1924.

Since 1923 he has been a member of the Bradford City Council. He has concentrated on education, and is personally known to more school children than most of his fellow-councillors.

For 30 years he has been a lay preacher. He is much in demand for men's meetings, and is often called "a young people's man."

WINNER OF LADY WOOD

Much service for the kindred causes of Socialism, Trade Unionism, Co-operation and Peace has been done by Wilfrid Whiteley, the winner of Ladywood, that Birmingham division from which Neville Chamberlain made a precautionary retreat.

Mr. Whiteley is a Huddersfield man. There he was born (the son of a textile worker) in 1882, attended an elementary school until he was 12, started work in a wool warehouse at 13, was afterwards employed in the printing trade, and for 18 years in a provision broker's office.

Outside working hours much of his early life was devoted to religious activities, and in 1904 he began to speak for the Socialist Movement. At Lockwood, Huddersfield, he helped to found an I.L.P. branch in 1906, and was its secretary for 15 years. From 1916 to 1918 he was president of the Huddersfield I.L.P. Federation. He established in 1907 the Lockwood Socialist Sunday School, of which he was president till 1925. He joined the Shop Assistants Union in 1906, and filled several offices in his brnch. For many years he was a lecturer in the Co-operative Movement.

A thorough-going anti-militarist, he figured during the war as a conscientious objector and was secretary, from 1916 to 1919, of the Huddersfield Council of Civil Liberties. He fought Colne Valley in 1918.

FROM JUNIOR CLERK TO STATE OFFICIAL

In 1907 E. F. Wise became a junior clerk in the House which now knows him as member f or Leicester. He has filled the interval with distinguished service to his country and to the Labor movement.

At Bury St. Edmunds, where he was born in 1885, his parents were in lowly circumstances, and his father died when he was a child. A scholarship enabled him to proceed from the grammar school to Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, and after his entry into the Civil Service he rose from one important post to another.

His work on food supplies during the war was of immense value. In 1914-15 he was secretary of the Anglo-Russian Supplies Committee at the war office; in 1916 he became Assistant Director of Army Contracts, and in the following year assistant secretary to the Ministry of Food, and in 1918 a member of the Food Council and chairman of the Inter-Allied Oilseeds Executive.

During the 1919 Peace Conference he was a British representative on the Supreme Economic Council at Paris, and in later years an economic expert in the British government delegations at six international conferences.

Leaving the Civil Service in 1923, he was appointed economic adviser to Centresoyus (the All-Russian Central Union of Consumers' Co-operative Societies).

A member, since 1927, of the National Council of the I.L.P., he has done much in framing and advocating its economic policies.

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The Progress of Labor

A considerable amount of criticism, born of impatience and misunderstanding, is heard from time to time because the American Federation of Labor does not progress at a faster rate. There are so many problems demanding attention and so many questions requiring solution, many of the major social questions, that the impatience is natural enough.

But the fact is lost sight of that mass movements, movements of groups, always did and always will move more slowly than appears reasonable to very active minds.

It is significant, too, that many are pointing to Great Britain, where the labor party has come into control of that government, as contrasting favorably with the American labor movement's political achievements.

Yet they ignore the fact that the European organized labor movement has a greater age than that of the American movement, and it has had all sorts of more effective organizations born at a far earlier period than any really national labor movement in America.

Long before Queen Victoria came to the throne there was a union labor movement that gave the government great concern. It existed underground during the Napoleonic wars, and the associataion of the laborites with the Jacobin movement will explain why the British courts treated those charged with sedition with such ferocity.

In 1830, Greville tells us in his diary of that time, "the labor unions paraded in Lodon today. There were 25,000. Melbourne tells me they have a membership of 250,000. It was a miserable failure."

In the 50's, when the Chartist movement reached its zenith, that was in 1850, the government was again on the anxious seat, the membership being, according to the government's own inside information, 6,000,000. So when they marched on London every civil service employe, every business man, every government office holder, was sworn in as a special constable and duly armed.

Following the disintegration of this movement, always due to economic causes, the trade unions as at present constituted grew, but their power never developed to any serious extent. And as short a while ago as the opening of the 20th century the political and economic power of the unions amounted to very little.

The Boer War, and later the World War, of course gave the labor unions their opportunity, first to organize economically and to react politically to this situation. And since then it has come to be recognized among all classes in England that solution of the more pressing economic and political problems can be expected only from labor leadership. The rest have tried and failed.

Nor is it alone in the trade union movement proper that we notice how slowly moves the mass mind. In more radical spheres the same thing is to be observed. Back in 1848, when the continent of Europe was in a seething revolt against privilege, Karl Marx and Frederick Engels wrote the communist m[illegible]to. This remarkable work ana[illegible]e conditions in Europe with [illegible]st acute accuracy, and yet the revolution of the workers is seen around the corner. This high tide of socialist thought spread itself over all national boundaries, but beyond the slow work of organization made little imprint at all upon that or later times.

There is no sign of socialism today. It exists nowhere. In Russia there is none whatever. There is state capitalism under the control of the bureaucracy and profit is still the incentive with the farmers and the Nepmen. And whatever else may be said about them, the workers are wage earners under a capitalist system there also. In fact, candor compels the admission that socialism right now seems as near establishment under the government of MacDonald in England as under the government of Stalin in Russia.

The fact is that economic progress, as far as its technical side is concerned, usually far outstrips any other social feature. The human being is more conservative than the creature, the machine.

This has been a historic rule. We see the slave system last long after it had been superseded by a better method. The serf was still to be found while capitalism was the vogue. And today we are politically, juristically, socially an age behind the industrial technique of production.

The explanation to our mind is found in the fact that, as far as the masses of mankind is concerned, the prime necessity of maintaining a living is the driving force of his emotions. That an dthe instinct to prolong existence and reproduce the species engage the principal blind emotions of living things. On the other hand, the technological development comes from reasoning, pure and simple. It is the reasoned product of the laboratory, of experiment, of cause and effect in the crucible of experience. No economic interest, no material urge affects the logic of a chemical experiment or of the machine process.

On the other hand, as Van Loon profoundly said, the story of mankind is the story of a hungry animal in search of food. That search is not methodical and reasoned. It is a blind endeavor, growing more and more uncertain as the mechanical processes of production become more and more complex. In its blind uncertainty then it seeks safety in the known method and shrings from change. The mass psychology becomes a blind, unreasoning emotion for the job, the most conservative of instincts—human inertia itself.

The mass movements, then, find themselves grouping over dead problems that were left us by the industrial technique already done, and staring at us new problems that the new technique hurls in the path of progress. And we seek safety in an institutionalism which is usually accepted by convention as able to solve such problems because there is a wrong notion it has met and conquered the problems of the past, which it never did.

These things will temper a tendency to criticize. But they all emphasize the need of labor educating itself in the forces with which it has to deal, so that chance and guesswork may give way to a reasoned and intelligent program.—Tacoma Labor Advocate.

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Authorized by the Vancouver, New Westminster and District Trades and Labor Council, for the information of all union members.

AGE LIMIT IS RAISED FOR PAINT SPRAYERS

Harrisburg, Pa.—An age limit of 18 years for persons using paint spraying devices is announced by the State Department of Labor. The order applies wherever the substances used contain lead, benzol or ground siliceous materials.

Organized painters have conducted a long campaign against these health-destroying methods. As usual, they were first derided and charged with "opposing labor-saving methods." Their position, however, is now generally accepted, and the Department of Labor's order is indicative of this tendency.

Canadianism: Paying cash for theatre tickets, jewelry and other luxuries; making the butcher and grocer wait. (?)

Unemployment Insurance

Shall labor unions follow the advice of Matthew Woll, president of the Union Labor Life Insurance Co., and the National Civic Federation, abandon their agitation for state and federal social insurance and try to work out schemes to protect their own members against old age? This was a leading issue at the Denver convention of the Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators and Paper Hangers, attended by 716 delegates.

President Woll of the Civic Federation has not opposed the insistent agitation of his executive secretary, Ralph M. Easley, against old age pensions. Although every important country in the world save India, China and the United States protects the aged dependent by some sort of pensions, Easley denounces sociali insurance as paternalistic and un-American.

Woll's Policies

As president of the Union Labor Life Insurance Company, Woll has been trying to convince hard-headed trade unionists that they can protect themselves against old age and other hazards of a worker's life by pulling at their bootstraps—in other words, but cutting down a present standard of living already too low in order to guard against absolute starvation after 60.

General Secretary Clarence E. Swick of the Painters' Brotherhood has gone exhaustively into the entire problem of union insurance, and has decided that unions generally cannot afford to carry such funds. He laid the result of his research before the convention, with a final admonition that old age pensions must either be a charge on industry or on the state. He recommended that his members work for that solution of the ever-growing problem of a dependent old age.

Many Unions Considered Pensions

Secretary Swick runs through the roster of unions which have considered pensions, or have adopted the system. The Barbers, when it was found that a per capita of 65c a month for five years would be needed for the accumulation of enough money to pay $6 a week pension, voted the scheme overwhelmingly. Matthew Woll's own Photo Engravers' Union has voted down the plan several times. Officers of the Lathers' Union say the cost would be prohibitive. The United Mine Workers years ago agitated for state and federal old age pensions.

The Plumbers believe old age pensions should be a charge on industry. The Stereotypers adopted a plan 14 years ago, but later abandoned it. The Street Car Men pay a lump sum of $800 to a member at 65 if he has been in the union 20 years or more. The Lithographers found that it would cost each member $22 a year for five years just to start a $7 a week fund. The Railway Telegraphers have abolished two different pension systems.

Benefits Paid By Unions

The Carpenters have a pension plan in operation, but are considering boosting the per capita to maintain it. The Granite Cutters provide an out-of-work benefit of $10 a week for the six winter months. The Pressmen pay an old age benefit of $4 a week, but the fund is not nearly large enough to care for all the aged dependents. The Electrical Workers' plan calls for a $40 a month pension, financed by 37c a month per capita, but the plan is still young. The Bricklayers, with a 75c a week per capita, pay $7 a week benefits. The Printers, by an assessment of 1 per cent. of earnings, finance an $8 a week pension, although from an actuary point of view the fund is not sufficiently financed yet.

Secretary Swick concludes one section of his report on insurance with these remarks:

"What are we organized for? Are we a labor union whose sole aim is —or should be—to co-operate for the purpose of advancing social and industrial conditions of laboring men, to gain shorter hours and better wages, so that working men and their families may have the means to purchase for themselves the necessities and the luxuries of life? Or are we losing the ideals of unionism, forgetting the fundamentals that underlie and are the only excuse for the existence of our union."

In the August 17 and 24 issues of the Federation News, August Olson of Painters' Local Union No. 637 discusses the unemployment problem at considerable length. The following paragraphs are taken from a thorough analysis of the situation."

Labor's Opportunity

Organized labor should take the initiative and the responsibility of creating and manage its own unemployment insurance and unemployment relief. This plan will involve creating more wealth for every member of organized labor, irrespective of the amount of dues each member pays. To make each policy member mutually worth $20,000 in 20 years, upon 240 monthly payments of $5 per month, making a total of payments in 20 years $1,200, which at first reflection seems an inadequate investment to insure the maturity of the policy, if only common legal interest is relied upon to meet the visible inflation. We venture to predict that this inflation will be fully taken care of by the constant increase in revenues, resources, membership and investments. It will encourage co-operation to establish more labor banks and broaden the field activity of organized labor in general.

After one year, with 12 monthly payments paid on the policy, it is proposed, the policy may be used as security for small loans or donations in Local Unions where the treasury and constitution permit such, and of course at the option of the local union. Such loans or donations to be charged as a debt and entered on the policy, to be returned to respective Local Unions and deducted from the premium sum at maturity.

Union Experiences

During the winter months Local Unions are called upon frequently to give immediate and temporary financial aid to its members. Some organizations take up collections, others make loans or donations with the understanding that all such loans or donations shall be returned to the treasury through the financial secretary. Other organizations maintain an aid and relief fund with a committee in charge. It is about time that this custom be changed into a uniform system, so that this recurring embarrassment will be eliminated and the financial loss to the organization protected and the membership insured against impositions that often occur through begging, taking up collections and selling of tickets.

Union Finance Federation

To take care of the administration (a name is suggested), the Union Finance Federation. To maintain and pay its running expenses it will be necessary to support it with a per capita tax of not less than one cent per member per month, based on the number of member policy holders in each Local Union. It is also suggested that this per capita be paid out of funds in the treasury of Local Union until such time as the Union Finance Federation becomes self-sustaining.

It is also suggested that this proposed Unemployment Insurance plan be submitted to the American Federation of Labor's Executive Council for investigation with such endorsement as the proposition may get in the meantime. If a favorable report is made on the plan by the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor, the proposition should then be submitted with its endorsement to National and International Unions' Executive Boards and Officers, and then if favorable reports are made there to be placed before their National Conventions, and in due course of time to their Local Unions.

The proposition, if favored, should then be taken up by the American Federation of Labor in convention assembled for adoption, and then be put in operation by the organizations who have endorsed the plan, in conjunction with the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor.

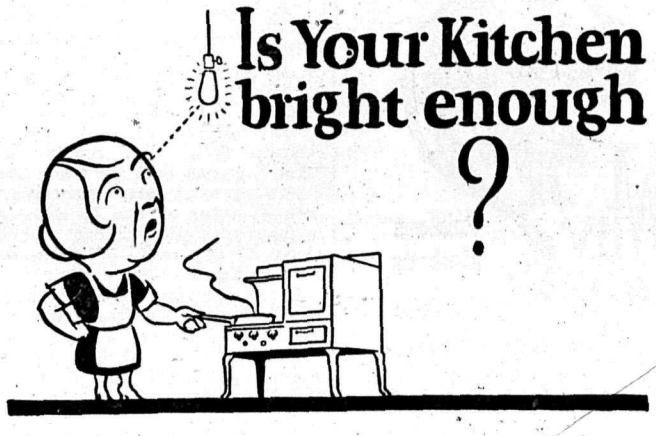
If all the three million members of organized labor affiliated with the American Federation of Labor were insured under this plan, the sum total of written insurance would amount to sixty billion dollars, creating a great financial undertaking for our members that in time should bring improvements to the ranks of organized labor that are not even dreamed of. It would have a tendency to improve citizenship and encourage a better understanding of the aims and objects of labor organizations.

Saturday Work Ban Sustained by Union

New York.—Officers of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union warn manufacturers that they must observe the agreement with the union which bans Saturday work, except for two months a year during the busy season.

Samuel Klein, manager of a manufacturers' association, objects to the agreement because of "bootleg" shops in that industry.

The union intends to raise the level of the non-union shops by organizing them. In order to achieve that objective they insist upon full observance of the agreement, regardless of any temporary and illegitimate advantage some elements may secure.



IS your kitchen bright enough? If not, take a look at your light. What size lamp is there in that ceiling fixture?

A 100-watt lamp? Try 150 watts, then you'll have *enough light* instead of a dim, eye-straining, insufficient light.

The difference in cost is one cent for every steady ten hours of light. Even in a month the difference between sufficient and insufficient light in your kitchen will only amount to a few paltry cents.

Use larger lamps - for sufficient light.

BRITISH COLUMBIA ELECTRIC RAILWAY CO

E-13-29.

Labor Will Challenge Southern Feudalism

Executives of the A. F. of L. national and international affiliates will confer in Washington, November 14, on an organizing movement in the South that will include every craft and calling.

This is the most extensive movement of its kind ever proposed by organized labor.

Trade unionists have no illusion regarding this problem. They know they must carry the story of organized labor to thousands of workers who have abandoned primitive methods of life for a life amidst roaring machinery.

Prejudices and individualism inherent in mountain and agricultural folk must be changed to a community spirit and a knowledge of the value of teamwork.

The South is being industrialized. Cotton and coal, textiles and lumber, turpentine and sugar, autos and airplanes are entering markets formerly supplied in most cases by plants in other sections of the country.

No trade union is immune from this low-wage, long-hour condition that challenges every other area.

Lincoln's dictum that a country can not remain half free and half slave is as true today as it was in the 60's.

Wage earners in the South seek freedom. Duty and self-interest impels every organized wage earner to aid them.

A chain is no stronger than its weakest link. The story of unionism must be carried into the Southland in an intensified manner. The men and women who have so long and so gallantly battled in that section should be given every assistance—not in a perfunctory manner, but whole-heartedly and determined.

Strong forces are arrayed against labor, but we are not alone in this fight. Powerful moral forces throughout the country—and especially in the South—will aid our campaign for a fuller life to the men and women of toil.

This is no job for weaklings.

We should "dig in" for an organizing and educational seige that will eventually unhorse those who aim to entrench Southern feudalism.

FARM MORTGAGES SHOW

Washington.—Farms in this country were mortgaged $9,468,526,000 Agricultural Economics. This is a in 1928, according to the Bureau of gain of 1 per cent. over 1925, when the total was $9,260,620,000. Almost two-thirds of the 1928 debt was in the twelve north central States.

Workers On Trial; Many Shot in Back

Marion, N.C. — Textile strikers will be tried, beginning November 11, on the charge of "conspiracy, sedition and rebellion." Six workers were shot in the bac kand killed October 2 last. Others were blinded by tear gas bombs thrown by regular police officials under Sheriff Atkins of this county.

These employes, together with other victims of cotton mill fedualism, suspended work the day before and approached the mill for the purpose of inducing the day shift to join them.

The sheriff's posse charged on the unarmed workers with guns and bombs. Several were seriously wounded and are in a local hospital. This is the background for charges of "sedition and rebellion" that these victimized workers must face.

The two mills here were organized by the United Textile Workers several months ago. Employes worked 67 1-2 hours a week for an average wage of $11. The two companies opposed the union and discharged active members. A strike followed and attempts to compromise the dispute failed.

The militia has replaced murderous county police officials. These political aides of textile barons can not conceive that workers have any right that is counter to the wishes of low-wage, long-hour employers.

Dividends Defined

The president of a large western manufacturing business undertook one morning to teach his son the nature of interest. The boy had a 5-cent piece, and using that as the text, the father explained that it represented the profit earned by the work of a dollar for a full year at 5 per cent.

At the conclusion of his lengthy explanation he asked: "Now, John, what does this 5-cent piece represent?"

The boy thought for a minute. "Patience," he said finally.

Was there ever a better definition of interest or of dividends? Patience —rewarded.

Knew His Antiques

"Hear the latest about Newrich?"

"No, what now?"

"He bought a Louis XIV. bed, but it was too small for him, so he sent it back and asked for a Louis XVI."

The House Beautiful stands by the wayside. The most precious things are the commonest, and these are gained not by large fortunes, but by large souls.—Bishop Westcott.

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WOOD

Of course, we supply only the very best of every kind of wood—delivered when you want it by extremely courteous drivers.

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No matter what type of furnace you have, we can supply a coal that will burn efficiently and economically. Al the famous coals you see advertised are in our big storage yards—ready for immediate delivery.

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Union-made Bread and Pastry.

Ask for it at your local store or PHONE HIGHLAND 705 and have our salesman deliver it

The London Bakery

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Hastings Bakery

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Choicest Bread, Cakes and Pastries. Sour Rye Bread

764 Hastings Street East

British Trade Unions Have Less Members

London, Eng.—British trade unions lost nearly 550,000 members during the years 1926-27, according to the government's Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies in his report on trade unions for 1928.

"It is always necessary to emphasize the fact," the report states, "that less than half the trade unions known to exist are registered, although so far as can be discovered registered trade unions comprise about 80 per cent. of trade union membership."

Large decreases are recorded by miners during the two years. The South Wales Miners' Federation lost 56,000 out of 129,000 members; Yorkshire, 48,000 out of 164,000; and Nottingham, 18,000, or half its membership.

In the metal group the leading losses were reported by the Amalgamated Engineering Union, 16,000. the British Iron, Steel and Kindred Trades Association, 15,000; boilermakers and shipbuilders, 6,000.

Membership in the transport unions rose steadily from 1922 to 1925, but during 1926-27 was reduced by 109,000, or one-sixth the total membership at the beginning of 1926. In the last two years the railway men lost 87,000; locomotive engineers and firemen, 12,000, and the railway clerks 16,000. The building trades were less affected, as were textile workers' unions.

STREET RAILWAY UNION PAYS LARGE BENEFITS

During the past 30 years $9,000,000 has been paid to Amalgamated Street and Electric Railway Employes, members and their dependents, in benefit claims. This represents a total of 18,853 claims.

The Amalgamated Association paid 231 old age claims last year. In sick benefits and donations to members the records show a total paid last year of more than $1,000,000.

TEACHERS' PAY LOW

New Haven, Conn.—The salary condition in public schools of this city is a disgrace, Prof. Henry Turner Bailey, head of the Cleveland Art Institute, told a group of church women. He cited the cost per capita of school maintenance in New Haven as the lowest of 10 similar New England cities. Prof. Bailey said that a good teacher is beyond price and that teachers who are underpaid can not do their best work.

PUBLIC WON'T BUY SHODDY TEXTILES

Boston.—Textile manufacturers were warned that the public will not buy cheap products that are placed on the market to stimulate production.

The warning was made by a representative of a large New York City department store to the National Association of Cotton Manufacturers.

Other speakers deplored the failure of manufacturers to place their plants on a modern basis. Mergers, consolidation and group action are of little value if faulty management is the rule, it was stated.

The reason some rich people are stingy is also the reason they are rich.

* * *

Most of the world's best jobs are held by people whose golf game isn't so good.

Challenge To Debate

I hereby challenge any clergyman, or body of clergymen, hell-fire evangelist or holiness expert, to a debate in public on the following subjects:

Resolved, that the organized church would not stand by any man who dared to practice the Gospel of Christ in wartime or peace time, and that the clergy as a whole are more concerned with what will happen than with what is right.

I further challenge any university professor or school teacher to a public debate, as follows:

Resolved, that it is not possible to secure a genuine education, as distinguished from instruction, scholarship or propaganda, in any school or university on any of the five continents.

No vindictiveness nor ill-feeling; just a friendly, logical discussion, with a view to placing the unbiased truth before the public. The decision to be determined by the vote of the audience.

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Free Dance Tickets

One free ticket will be given away with every book of 10 sold in connection with the Building Trades Council's Monster Whist Drive, Dance and Frolic, which is being held Friday, Dcember 6th. A 10-lb. turkey will also be given away for evry 100 sold. These free tickets include all the prizes that are given away.

ALTON SHOP CRAFTS WIN 5-CENT WAGE INCREASE

Chicago.—Five cents an hour increase has been secured by the Federated Shop Crafts on the Chicago & Alton.

The increase is the result of direct negotiations conducted by the Shopmen's System Federation.

It is retroactive to September 16, although the wage schedule ordinarily would not expire until October 16.

Frank Donovan of Bloomington, Ill., is president of the Federation.

WANT TROOPS IN MARION

Raleigh, N.C.—R. W. Baldwin, president of Marion Manufacturing Company, accompanied by several other citizens of that place, urged Governor Gardner to continue troops in that strike zone.

Several strikers have been killed by deputies after the company repudiated an understanding that was intended to end the dispute.

Baldwin insists that the troops be not removed until the last "undesirable" is driven out.

MORE MILLIONAIRES

Washington.—The number of millionaires in this country are increasing, according to government income statistics for 1927.

The report shows a total of 290 individual incomes of more than $1,000,000 each. This is an increase of 62 over the preceding year. In the millionaire class 138 persons had incomes of between $1,000,000 and $1,500,000, 56 persons had between $1,500,000 and $2,000,000, and 11 persons had incomes of more than $5,000,000.

"Our International Policy Alphabetically"

By JOHN HART, Organizer, Barbers' Union.

A's—for Advancement, the good of our Cause,
B—stands for Brothers, who never should pause,
C—stands for Can't, the word we despise,
And D—stands for Drone, who usually lies.

E—is for Earnestness, in all our endeavor,
F—is for Faithfulness, in all crafts forever,
G—is for Guardian, who sits at the door,
And H—is for Harmony, we must have on the floor.

I—for Initiation, your real test in life,
J—is for Justice, the end of all strife,
K—stands for Knowledge, an asset required,
And L—is for Loyalty, also desired.

M—is for Meetings, which you must attend,
N—is for Notice, "don't ask them to send!"
O—is for Others, our Brothers should be,
And P—is to Participate, the "outsiders" to see.

Q—is for Questions, which they may propound,
R—for Response, to FIT all around,
S—is to Satisfy, the "curious" we meet,
And T—is to Tabulate, all whom we greet.

U—stands for Union, our first and our all,
V—is for Venture, come, answer the call!
W—for Willingness, and all will be grand,
and X—for Exquisite, with all in our BAND.

Y—stands for Yeomanry, the class we desire,
And Z—the Zouave, those we wish to inspire.

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PAL BLADES, Gillette, 5 for	25c	VACUUM BOTTLES	47c
WADE AND BUTCHER BLADES	10c	RAZOR STROPS, Horsehide	$1.75
STROPPING HANDLE	25c	HAIR CUTTING SHEAR	74c
SHAVING BRUSH	25c	POMPA COMBS	75c, $1.25
SHAVING STICK	15c	RAZOR HONES	50c, 75c
SHAVING MIRROR	15c	HAIR CLIPPERS	98c, $1.49
STORM LIGHTER	19c	CLOTH BRUSH	49c
"STRONGLAS" THERMOS	$1.50	WHISK BROOM	25c

BOOSTER HAIR TONIC—For scalp eczema.....$1.00

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FRIDAY AND SATURDAY SPECIALS

.50	Puritall Milk of Magnesia	.29	
.25	Snap	.17	
1.50	Wincarnis	.99	
.75	Hospital Cotton (finest quality), 1-lb. roll	.39	
1.25	Moire Fountain Syringe	.72	
1.25	Hot Water Bottle	.72	
.15	Aristocrat Bath Soap	2 for .19	
.65	Vitone	.43	
5.00	Auto-Strop Razors	3.07	
.25	Cream of Witch Hazel and Roses	.15	
.50	Dr. Reid's Royal Embrocation	.29	
.35	Feen-a-mint	.21	
1.00	Dr. Reid's Quinine and Iron Wine	.57	
1.00	Nugatone	.63	
.35 and .75	Vaseline Hair Tonic and	.29 .49	
1.00	Dr. Reid's Pyorrhea Mouth Wash, 16-oz.	.58	
1.00	Dr. Reid's Emulsion of Cod Liver Oil	.57	
.60	Thermogene	.41	
.75	Dr. Reid's Vanishing Cream	.39	
1.00	Krysol (Antiseptic), 16-oz.	.55	

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MUSIC

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"Some things come, some things go—but music keeps on forever. It has been with us since the beginning of time—it will continue as an important part of our everyday existence."

The above quotation from a well-known musical authority strengthens the belief that it is a matter of vital necessity to have an instrument in the home such as the modern player piano, upon which every member of the family—musician or music lover alike—has an opportunity of self-expression.

To those without a musical training, we will give free instruction in the operation of the player piano. The same instrument may be played by hand by members of the family who have been equipped with musical education.

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CITY MAY BAR ALIENS

San Diego, Cal.—Superior Court Judge Charles E. Haines ruled that any political subdivision of the State may stipulate that only citizens shall be employed on its public works.

A contractor asked for an injunction against the city building a water development with that provision in a bond issue. With cheap Mexican labor that can be secured, the contractor claimed that the citizens' clause would increase the cost of the work.