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 LA... FEB 27 1929 RECEIVED Labour Intelligence Br.

Trades Congress After More Labor Legislation

British Columbia Executive Interviews Provincial Cabinet on Legislative Proposals Put Forward by Various Sections of the Canadian Labor Movement

AMENDMENTS TO EXISTING LEGISLATION and new labor legislation was submitted to the Provincial Cabinet by the British Columbia Executive of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada last Friday. Most of the legislation has been asked for from previous governments, but along with these items is proposed new legislation covering power house employees, fire-fighters, chauffeurs, taxi and stage drivers, and casual laborers.

The committee, composed of P. R. Bengough and W. J. Bartlett, of Vancouver, and E. S. Woodward, of Victoria, was given a good reception, listened to respectfully, and were asked questions that appeared to show that the cabinet was unusually interested in the various subjects. No definite promises were given, however, but the committee came away feeling hopeful of results.

The proposals submitted were:

Legislative proposals submitted by the British Columbia Executive of the Trades & Labor Congress of Canada.

Workmen's Compensation Act

(1) That excluded persons, as set out in Part 1, Section 4, paragraph B, engaged in undertakings costing in excess of $50, be brought under the provisions of the Act.

(2) All compensation to be based on rate of wages being paid to workman at time of injury.

(3) That the rate of compensation be increased from 62 1-2 per cent. to 66 2-3 per cent., same as in force in Ontario and Manitoba.

(4) That there be a more liberal interpretation in hernia cases.

(5) That when injured workman has been awarded total disability compensation same shall be continued until he is able to resume his former occupation or has been offered other suitable and equally remunerative employment, and that if such injured workman has suffered a permanent partial disability, but upon the report of the attending physician is able to take light work, the total disability payments should be continued until suitable employment is provided.

(6) That medical inspection and professional treatment be provided when workers are employed in occupations where they are subjected to the dangers of poisonous gases.

Health Insurance

(1) That legislation be introduced providing for health insurance, and that we be given the opportunity of being in touch with your committee in the preparation of the proposed bill.

Mothers' Pensions Act

(1) We ask that the present Act be amended to include the following clause, as contained in the Ontario Mothers' Allowance Act:

"For entering into arrangements with the government of any other province in the Dominion of Canada making similar provision for the payment of allowances to mothers as is made by this Act for the purpose of such allowance in another province and who moves into British Columbia, or, in the case of a person who has resided in such other province and in British Columbia which together equal a term of residence required by this Act in the case of a resident of British Columbia; but no such arrangement shall be entered into, nor shall any such payment be made, except where the province concerned has passed legislation enabling reciprocal action to be taken with regard to beneficiaries under this Act who may move into such province."

(2) Amend sub clause 2 of clause 2 by deleting the words Five Hundred Dollars in the third line and inserting the words One Thousand Dollars, and by deleting the words Fifteen Hundred Dollars in the fourth line and substituting therefor the words Two Thousand Dollars.

(3) When a mother in receipt of a pension owns her own home, that there be no deduction made in her pension allowance because of the same.

Hours of Work Act

(1) That the scope of the Hours of Work Act be extended to include all employed within the province.

The Minimum Wage Act

(1) That legislation be enacted establishing a minimum wage and limitation of the hours of work for boys employed within the province.

Automobile Insurance

(1) All automobile owners be compelled to carry insurance against physical and property injury to others.

Unemployed Insurance

(1) We strongly recommend your government to reaffirm the resolution as passed at the last session of the provincial legislature urging upon the Dominion government the necessity of enacting legislation providing for the creation of a state unemployment insurance fund.

Technical Education Grant

(1) That the provincial government urge the Dominion government to continue the grant to aid technical education.

School Text Books and Home Work

(1) That all text books and other supplies should be supplied at cost to pupils by the board. Such books and supplies should be standardized in order that all children of the province should be on a uniform basis.

(2) That all text books should be printed at the government printery wherever possible.

(3) That frequent revision of books should be avoided in order that parents should not be put to unnecessary expense.

(4) That home work should be reduced or eliminated, and the time now spent by teachers in assigning and revising home work should be devoted to direct instruction in school hours.

Conciliation Boards

(1) That the necessary legislation be enacted providing for the establishment of conciliation boards to consider disputes of municipal and civic employees.

Safety Regulations in Power Houses

(1) That the government enact legislation to compel electrical distribution companies to have at least two men on shift in power houses and substations.

Eight-Hour Day for Firemen

(1) That legislation be enacted granting the 8-hour day for firefighters.

Chauffeurs' Licenses

(1) That the chauffeur's license fee of $5 be either abolished or made good for the lifetime of the holder. We would point out that in no other trades is it necessary for men to purchase a license, and then pay poll tax, etc.

Taxi and Stage Safety Regulations

(1) That in the interests of public safety no taxi or stage company be allowed to keep drivers employed for a longer period than eight hours at any one time.

Universal Adult Franchise

(1) The last matter we submit for your consideration is one upon which we firmly press for legislation at the present session of the House. We refer to the gross injustice involved in the wholesale disfranchisement of the workers at municipal elections in the Vancouver area. Thousands of British citizens, discharging the duties of citizenship in the payment of taxes and in useful service, are now denied the right to a voice in the government of the city. The right of such men to vote at federal elections, provincial elections, and all municipal elections operated under the Municipal Elections Act is conceded. We ask your government to amend the Vancouver charter by bringing it into conformity with the Municipal Elections Act in this respect.

(2) We again ask for legislation abolishing property qualification for all elective offices in cities and municipalities. As an alternative qualification, we suggest five years' residence and endorsement by 150 electors.

Respectfully submitted,

W. J. Bartlett, Chairman.
E. S. Woodward, Victoria.
P. R. Bengough, Vancouver.
British Columbia Executive Trades & Labor Congress of Canada.

Let's Have Some Day-labor Work

The Board of Works of the City of Vancouver has favored all road, sewer and other work being done by contract labor. This information will undoubtedly have a bad effect upon the residents of South Vancouver, who saved thousands of dollars by having this class of work done by day-labor. The organized Labor movement has always been on record as favoring day-labor for road and sewer work, and during the regime of Engineer Fellows saved several thousands of dollars by day-labor work. The city not only has the equipment for doing this work, but also has the men capable of handling it. In fact it has been alleged that the city equipment has been loaned to contractors to do this class of work with.

In almost every instance where this day-labor plan has been tried, cities and municipalities have found that a saving has nearly always been made, not only against contractors' estimates, but also against the estimates of city engineers.

It might be advisable to let some of the work by contract, but to let it all by contract will tend to increase the number of contractors who will engage in this class of work in the now larger city. Each one of these contractors must profit to the extent of being able to pay his overhead, and if he does not get the city to pay that overhead he has to take it out of the hide and wages of his employees. Let's have some day-labor work.

300 Women Walkout From Cotton Factory

Hamilton, Ont.—Textile speed-up, astonishing in its intensity, resulted in the spontaneous walkout of 300 women spinners at the Canadian Cotton Mills. The girls, who had been tending three frames, were ordered to care for ten, with a pay increase of only $1.50 a week.

Then the company began to lay off spinners in smal lnumbers, day after day. After several days the girls decided to make common cause and walked out together in protest against the speed-up and the discharge of fellow-workers. The mill owners plead that competition in the southern states of the United States makes speed-up in Canada necessary.

PREDICTS LABOR PARTY WILL RETURN TO POWER

London.—In a message to the Hungarian people the other day, Lord Rothermere declared that the British Labor party will be returned to power at the coming general election.

Lord Rothermere is the most influential newspaper publisher in Britain. He owns the Daily Mail, Evening News, Daily Mirror, Sunday Pictorial and Weekly Dispatch in London, besides many papers in the provinces.

He is not friendly to Labor, but he is disgusted with the Tories' vacillating conduct.

Trades Council Notes

Construction [illegible] opened up with a rush [illegible] numbers of men in the [illegible] building trades are being p[illegible] jobs.

* * *

Comm[illegible]xi Co. has been placed [illegible] We Do Not Patronize List."

* * *

[illegible] Committee reports that th[illegible]tor of the Fashion Lunch pr[illegible] to employ union men on futu[illegible] work, and in view of this the committee recommended that the firm be not placed on the "We Do Not Patronize List." Recommendation endorsed.

* * *

The question of placing the "Narrows Cafe" on the "We Do Not Patronize List" is held over until the next meeting of the Council for further investigation.

* * *

Del. Hougham reported progress on the question of affiliating with the Chamber of Agriculture, as sufficient data had not yet been obtained on the subject.

* * *

The Trades Council promised to give every assistance to the Mental Hospital Attendants' Union in attempting to obtain amendments to the Civil Service Act.

Furnace Inspector Needed in Vancouver

When delegates of the Sheet Metal Workers' Union interviewed the City Council on Monday asking for the appointment of an inspector on furnaces and other metal work, the Building Inspector stated that he did not see the necessity for an inspector, as very few fires were caused by defective furnaces.

On Tuesday the Daily Sun carried the following article:

* * *

DENSE SMOKE HAMPERS MEN OF FIRE DEPT.

Fire, which broke out in the basement beneath the premises of the Pioneer Furniture store, 1132 Granville street, at 10:15 a.m. today, gave the firefighters considerable trouble before they were able to control it. Owing to the dense, acrid fumes it was necessary for some of the men to wear gas masks, while even Chief Thompson, veteran smoke eater, showed the effects of the fumes.

The blaze originated through a defective furnace pipe, the flames, however, being subdued before they broke through the floor of the store.

Some damage through smoke was also done to furniture in the London rooms, which are situated above the premises.

* * *

This article shows that a very serious situation had to be combatted through a defective furnace. Not only were the firemen in danger, but also roomers living overhead.

The union is of the opinion that an inspector is not only needed to guard the citizens against such dangers as the above, but also to stop the citizens from being fleeced by the cheap and dangerous metal work that is being installed by some unprincipled contractors.

The building by-laws of the City of Vancouver call for certain strength, size and quality of material for furnaces, pipes, vents, ranges, and fireproof openings, fireproof windows, skylights, cornices, gutters and other metal work on buildings. The union contends that the metal work is not always up to the required standard, and the appointment of an inspector would help to enforce the building by-laws and give home builders and other building owners, the quality of material and workmanship called for.

The article in the Daily Sun shows the need of an inspector so far as danger to life and property, in furnace work, is concerned, and such an inspector would easily save the home and building owners more than the amount paid out in wages for such a man. The present growth of the city demands that the building by-laws be adequately enforced.

We Do Not Patronize The Commercial Taxi

After investigating the conditions under which taxi drivers work for the Commercial Taxi Cab Co., the Grievance Committee recommended that this firm be placed on the "We Do Not Patronize" list of the Trades Council. It was alleged by delegates that men were being worked up to as high as fourteen hours a day and were receiving $15 per week, and were charged 25c a day for having their cabs washed. The proprietor had been interviewed by the committee, but he was apparently strenuously opposed to trade unionism, and although unconsciously admitting that the recent article in the Labor Statesman dealing with this firm had done him considerable harm, he still intended to continue with the alleged conditions. The recommendation of the committee was endorsed.

Central School Site Is Turned D[illegible]

If the actions and utterance[illegible] the 82 delegates to the Vancouver Trades and Labor Council are any criterion, then the money by-law is going to have considerable opposition.

At Tuesday's meeting of the Trades Council a motion was brought forward by Del. Deptford endorsing the plan of building a temporary city hall on the Central School grounds. This motion immediately brought forth all kinds of opposition, and when put to a vote showed that the council was almost equally divided on the subject, when an amendment, made by Del. Scribbins, to "lay the matter over until the present lease (three years) on the Holden building expires," carried by three votes.

Besides the suggestion of building the city hall in the proposed civic centre at the foot of Burrard street, four or five other locations were suggested, showing that the citizens are by no means unanimous on any particular site.

It was pointed out that there should not be any great rush for the building of a temporary city hall, as the alterations in the Holden building had cost between $60,000 and $70,000, and if the council does not renew its lease at the end of three years it will have to pay for the cost of putting the Holden building back into the same condition it was in before the changes were made for the city. If the city leases the building for an additional two years, the lease provides that the city will not be obligated to make the changes in the building; hence, if the city renews the lease for two years, it will be occupying the building practically rent free, because it will cost almost as much to remodel the building as it cost to put in the present alterations.

Delegates favoring the Central School site pointed out that the town planning commission favored a temporary building on this site, because a million-dollar building could be put up in place of the five-million-dollar building that would have to be put on the civic centre site. Other buildings on the civic centre site would necessitate the expenditure of several more millions, involving five figures. It was pointed out that unforeseen circumstances might delay the building of this civic centre and then the city might again have to move some of its departments out of the Holden building on account of the place being too small.

Some delegates thought that Vancouver lacked the "Seattle Spirit" or similar expressions of other United States cities. We should build at every opportunity, said one delegate, because it meant employment for a large number of workmen; payrolls meant prosperity, and instead of trying to knock every suggested advancement in civic progress because assessments were raised, we should get out and boost and build.

UPHOLSTERERS DANCE

The next regular whist drive and dance of the Upholsterers Union will be held in the K. P. Hall, 8th and Scotia, on Wednesday, February 27, commencing at 7:45 p.m.

FRASER VALLEY MILK for Safety

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For Your Protection!

2,700 Dairymen throughout the Fraser Valley work together as one, to provide you with safe, clean milk.

Their products are available to you through "the Dairy with the Highest Score."

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After Five-day Week in Earnest

An effort to place the five-day week in effect in the Dayton, Ohio, building trades will be made this spring.

That was decided at the regular meeting of the Building Trades Council, which recommended by unanimous vote of delegates present that all affiliated local unions endeavor to obtain a five-day agreement from employers.

Action at the present time is left largely to the individual unions, which, however, have the complete endorsement of the council in any moves they may make along that line.

Throughout the country the tendency in industry is toward a five-day week as a step to relieve existing unemployment and also to promote greater efficiency on the part of the workers.

Policy Justified

In the Dayton building trades, conditions which justify a five-day week, aside from the theoretical standpoint.

Co-operating with contractors in recent years, the unions consented to a policy of letting down in apprentice law regulations, with the result that more mechanics have been added to the membership.

This steady increase has resulted in a small surplus at the present time. The outlook is said to be such that there is small hope of finding jobs for all qualified union tradesmen unless the five-day week plan is adopted. This would provide a number of extra jobs.

New Machines Used

Introduction of labor-saving machinery into building operations also is an important factor in the creation of the present labor surplus, it is pointed out. Use of patented concrete forms, portable saws and other equipment has cut off a number of jobs.

Negotiations between local unions and contractors from now on will include discussion of the five-day week clause.

Union officials do not look for any serious difference of opinion.

The saddest sight we ever saw was a fat woman trying to act cute.

"Build B. C."

People Really Like It!

A CITIZEN of British Columbia who knows our province well—he has been over it often—says he is surprised at the favor Pacific Milk finds with so many people.

He names districts where Pacific Milk is immensely popular. This is true, folks, and the reason is Pacific Milk really is a superior Milk.

Pacific Milk

Factories at Abbotsford and Ladner

"Build B. C."

Soviet Trade Unions Face Big Problems

The first of a series of articles on the recent Congress of Soviet Trade Unions appears in Industrial and Labor Information, published by the International Labor Office.

The Congress was attended by 1,131 delegates, representing 11,000,000 trade unionists. The proportion of delegates not affiliated to the Communist Party was 27.5 per cent., as against 14 per cent. at the preceding congress.

Mr. Tomsky, chairman of the general council, in a long speech presented the report of the general council. He said that the unions had made great progress in the course of the last two years.

It was absolutely necessary to tighten the bonds which united the working class, and to prevent the formation of groups who did not understand that Soviet industry was Socialist industry, who were not in a position to understand why the worker must suffer, why it was his duty to make sacrifices, why he must put off till tomorrow the satisfaction of the most legitimate needs of the working class.

Relations between the different types of worker were not satisfactory.

The unions must actively supervise the work of the specialists, but they must put an end once for all to the attacks and persecutions to which the specialists were being subjected at the hands of the workers, especially since the Donet trial.

There had been acts of violence against foremen. In Leningrad a foreman had actually been shot by a worker. If the foreman was malicious and had driven him to exasperation, why had he not appealed to the union? What had the union organizations been about?

There had been a failure to assimilate the new workers from the villages. These new workers had no working-class consciousness; and, on the other hand, the old workers tended to look down on them.

Mr. Tomsky spoke sternly about the prevalence of embezzlement of union funds by officials. Such cases were still numerous. And they were often treated leniently, as if embezzlement were not a disgrace, not a crime, but a misfortune. Every unionist who had been guilty of embezzlement should immediately be expelled and brought before the courts.

There was still inadequate democracy in the unions; there was a lack of criticism from the rank and file, and the voice of the rank and file was often listened to with impatience and neglect.

If a worker ventured to criticize a trade union chairman, an experienced speaker, the latter made use of his authority to crush him (describing him as a Menshevik, etc.), and, having displayed him on the tribute like a rabbit skin, thus cured him of any desire for further criticism.

Election by means of lists submitted by the officials was now an exception, but it must be put an end to.

Discipline also was weak. When they considered the frauds, the instances of breaches of trade democracy or the strikes declared without the approval of the union, they were compelled to admit that they had made but slender use of the rights obtained from the structure of the unions.

Strikes were legal, though undesirable. But recourse to the strike was inadmissible unless normal methods had been exhausted. Everywhere they must insist on discipline.

Possibilities of increasing wages were limited. This year the increase would be slowed down because they had taken upon themselves the enormour burden of the establishment of new undertakings which would allow them to improve the economic condition of the working class in the course of the next few years.

Cost of Labor Not Highest in Building

A study of the relative cost of material and labor in the building industry in three representative cities which has recently been completed by the United States Bureau of Labor statistics is summarized in the January issue of the Monthly Labor Review.

It is shown by the study that labor accounts for only 41.8 per cent. of the cost of erecting an average building, while material accounts for 58.1 per cent. The largest single labor item in residential buildings is the carpenter work, which takes 32.7 cents of each dollar spent, and in non-residential building the largest single expenditure is for concrete work, which takes 18.5 cents of each dollar expended.

My Political Pilgrimage

(By J. C. Harris)

The life of even a very ordinary individual may have a good deal of interest and become highly instructive if it is presented with truth and discretion; indeed, one may notice that the highest literature aims to present ordinary lives lived amidst ordinary surroundings.

Therefore, in a few short articles, I hope to present the forces and influences that have made me what I am, with the ideas and hopes that I now possess, so that my peculiar pilgrimage through life may help to guide, if only by way of warning, the rising generation.

I was born almost sixty years ago in a small town in the south of England, where my family controlled the principal industry and were therefore people of some local importance. We had a most comfortable home of the solid but rather stodgy type that old England produced so plentifully in the middle of the last century. It verily seemed to me and my brothers and sisters that Providence owed us three good square meals, at least, every day, and that it would have been most disgraceful of the Almighty to have neglected to supply them.

My people were manufacturers with a successful business that was so well protected by patents as to be almost a monopoly. They had risen rapidly from poverty and still retained the habits of thrift and intense industry that had been thrust upon their forebears and themselves in youth.

Liberal vs. Tory

And they were true to type, Liberals and Nonconformists, to whom Gladstone and John Bright and Cobden were as the prophets of the Old Testament. And Free Trade and Peace and Temperance were their chief interests, and we youngsters listened to many a hot discussion when they were lucky enough to find a Tory to argue with.

I respect those old fellows intensely. They were so sincere and gentlemanly in their politics and their religion, and they made great sacrifices both of time and money for the causes that were so dear to their hearts. And they were so tolerant and yet so able in argument and business, and so progressive and public spirited that they won the respect of a very Tory neighborhood.

Home Rule for Ireland was the great political question, and we were enthusiastic "Home Rulers." Disestablishment of the national church, temperance reform—we were all "teetotalers"—peace propaganda, and my old man stuck by Gladstone even after "the Disgrace of Majuba Hill," when the Boers defeated a British army and Gladstone would not declare war. Extensions of the franchise to working men and even farm laborers. Reduction of taxation was the greatest ambition of the Liberal statesmen and peace, retrenchment and reform the rallying cry of the party.

Poverty and Distress

Disturbing events forced themselves on our notice, for poverty and distress were close around us. We saw long lines of women and little children waiting patiently for jugs of soup in the cold weather. We heard of "the dockers strike" and John Burns, then a very terrible fellow, though destined to become a cabinet minister; of Joseph Arch, who was actually organizing the farm laborers into a big union and who had got into parliament (my father supported Arch strongly).

The Salvation Army was rousing the religious people to some real life. General Booth, with the aid of that brilliant writer, W. T. Stead, had published "In Drkest England, and the Way Out," and it caused a great sensation and was the first book on social questions that I remember to have read. By a strange chance another influence had entered my life which was to bear results after many years in my thinking on public questions. I had a dear old Quaker aunt who was most enthusiastic in her support of peace propaganda and always left a supply of tracts in her front porch on peace, temperance and religious questions. We small boys made lots of fun of poor Aunt Lucy and her tracts, even sometimes putting literature of the most contrary nature on the top of aunt's pile, but one day I read a tract which was issued to combat the idea of Conscription to War. Its argument was that, if you took a man by force and made a soldier of him and sent him to fight, that you could have no possible argument or right to oppose him if, he having a gun, turned round and compelled you to work for him. I could see that the argument was sound, and after over forty years I have lived to hope that working men will take the hint from that ancient tract and have the common sense to see that everybody does "their bit" in peace, as well as in war.

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WE ASK all members of organized labor to purchase shoes bearing our Union Stamp on the sole, inner-sole, or lining of the shoe. We ask you not to buy any shoes unless you actually see this Union Stamp.

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Affiliated with American Federation of Labor

246 SUMMER STREET, BOSTON, MASS.

COLLIS LOVELY, General President — CHARLES L. BLAINE, General Secretary-Treasurer

THE following firms are co-operating with Organized Labor and are selling Union Label Stamped Shoes. Ask to see the Union Label when buying shoes, proving to the shoeman that you are consistently backing him up.

COPP, "THE SHOE MAN"
417 HASTINGS STREET WEST
Men's Hartt's, Slater and Strider's Shoes; also Women's and Children's Union-made shoes.

CORNETT BROS & CLARK
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Florsheim, Striders, C. B. & C. Men's and Youth's.

HUDSON'S BAY CO.
Ladies': Hohansen, Bancroft-Walker, Colella-Leighton.
Men's and Youth's: Tetrault's.

MODEL BOOT SHOP
1186 GRANVILLE
Tetrault's. Men's, Women's and Youths' Union Label shoes.

WM. TRICK, 146 Cordova
WEST.—Tetrault's Men's and Youths; also Strider and Slater's Union Label shoes.

UNION SHOE CO.
63 WEST HASTINGS STREET
Men's and Youth's: Strider.
Women's, Men's and Youth's: Tetrault's.

YALE SHOE CO.
305 WEST HASTINGS STREET
Men's and Youth's. Strider.
Women's and Men's: "Yale" Special.

Fellow Unionists, demand the Union Label, Shop Card and Working Button, and patronize fair employers and employ UNION LABOR.

Struggle

All through the ages there has been an elimination of those with the unlit lamp or ungirt loin. Nature's first voice is—Struggle, Endeavor, Struggle. A lion's skin is never cheap. What is worth gaining and whatis worth keeping must be fought for. One of the obvious lessons of organic evolution is the danger of having things made too easy. What would our hereditary character have been without Nature's millenial sifting out of the sluggish, the dull, the feckless, the unbalanced, the unhealthy? What would our hereditary character have been without Nature's millennial approbation of the insurgent, the adventurous, the controlled, the far-sighted, the strenuous—meaning by approbation the award of survival and success.—Prof. J. Arthur Thomson, in The Glasgow Herald.

Some people say that talk is cheap, but 'tis not safe to heed them.

The Russian Danger

Germany has as much—or more—to fear from the contamination of Bolshevism as England has; but, in spite of its greater proximity to her frontiers, her attitude towards Russia has been dictated by sound economic sense and by the necessity of rebuilding her economic life. Germany has been unable to allow herself the luxury of a splendid isolation or of a cordon sanitaire. In spite of this, or perhaps because of it, she has suffered much less from the evils of Bolshevik propaganda than we have. Surely this country, with its idle industries and huge unemployment, might learn al esson from the Germans. Today there would be little difficulty in negotiating a fairly satisfactory agreemnt with the Soviet Government. Later on it may be much more complicated. — New Statesman.

A useless life is but a living death.

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 14, Flack Block. 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., J. H. Riley, 5884 Inverness, Phone Fraser 542 L.

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, J. G. Smith; 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, 2792 Pender Street East.

Civic Employees' Union, Local 28—Meets first and third Fridays in the month at 251½ Hastings East at 8 p.m. President, R. N. Hogg, 1718 Commercial Dr.; Secretary-Treasurer, George Harrison, 3427 Triumph St.

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.

Engineers—International Union Steam and Operating Local 844—Meets every Friday at 8 p.m. Hall No. 4. President, Geo. Pettapiece; Rec.-Sec., Roy Finley; Business Agent and Fin Sec., T. A. Newbigging. 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, G. Mayne; Fin Sec., T. H. Hamlin; Rec. Sec., 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, Sam Floyd, 952 Seymour 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, 2841 Triumph. Phone High. 5327.

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. in Hall No. 2, 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; Recording Secretary, W. Edmunds; Financial Secretary, W. E. Williams; Organizer, F. Fletcher, all at 991 Nelson Street.

Painters, Decorators and Paperhangers, Local 138—Meets second and fourth Thursdays at Hall No. 2. President, Carl Jorgenson; 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, Wm. Broomhead; Secretary, A. Hurry, 861—34th Ave. E. Phone Fair. 3222R. Cement Finishers' Secretary, S. Cotton, 2630 Turner St. High. 3463R.

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, Max Ernberg, 2035 Georgia East; Secretary, Thos. S. Ezart, 1603 40th Ave. E., So. Vancouver.

Railway Carmen of America, Lodge No. 58—Meets first and third Friday in month at Labor Headquarters. President, H. Warde, 1102—23rd Ave. E.; Secretary, J. D. Vullamy, 2215—15th Ave. E.

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.

Shingle Weavers, Local 17813—Meets second Tuesday in month in Room No. 2, Labor Temple, New Westminster, and fourth Sunday, 7:30 p.m., in Hall No. 3, Labor Headquarters, Vancouver. President, J. Stevenson; Secretary, J. N. Chute, 1163 Pender E., Phone High. 1982 Y.

Tailors' Journeymen Union of America, Local No. 178—Meetings held first Thursday, each month, 8 p.m. Executive meets third Thursday 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.

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, A. P. Black, 880 Homer St.

Theatrical Stage Employees' Union, Local 118 of the I.A.T.S.E. & M.P.M.O.—Meets at 991 Nelson Street on the second Friday in month, at 9:30 a.m. President, Rod Martin; Secretary, H. Pearson; Bus. Agent, G. W. Allin; 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.

WOMEN'S AUXILIARY No. 75 to Vancouver Typographical Union meets first Thursday of each month, in the Vancouver Women's Building, 752 Thurlow Street. President, Mrs. E. J. Trumper, Suite 41, 840 Nelson Street; Secretary, Una A. Pettipiece, 1846 Balaclava Road.

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.

It's easy for a young man to paddle his own canoe—if his father will provide the canoe and paddle.

College Girls "Try" Working for a Living

There may be romances connected with working in a factory, but 24 college trained girls who tried it in Chicago last summer believe that the romance is all confined to the story books, says H. R. Gruenther in the Chicago Daily News.

The girls forgot about their college degrees, their comfortable homes, their easy-go-lucky life to get into the factories and collect first-hand information about working conditions of the factory girls.

Their object was to get at the actual conditions of the working girls with the view of using this information later in social work. They went to Chicago under the auspices of Miss Freda Seigrowth, Y. W. C. A. industrial expert, and a leading authority on working conditions for women. Now the girls have just made reports on their experiences.

After having been advised of the pitfalls which beset the strange girl in the big city and allowed a few dollars to tide them over until their first pay day, the 24 coeds all started in different directions to find their own work and earn their own living for six weeks.

Find Wages Too Small

The girls found that they could exist on the wages they earned which for the twenty-four girls averaged close to $12.62 a week. But they did not see how they could purchase clothes or how they could ever hope to make any headway.

Expenses and wages were pooled by the group and then equally divided at the end of the study. Each girl lived as cheaply as possible and bought practically no clothes.

Most of the girls found work the first day. All had jobs in the first three days.

The jobs were various. They worked at nesting ice cream balls, wiring radio coils, feeding envelope machines, icing cakes, feeding hog's hair to a machine, carding hog's hair, gumming and pasting paper boxes, waiting tables, sorting and marking laundry over steaming vats, jobbing and inserting in a bindery, spraying paint on ash trays, working on lamp shades, bleaching soles on shoes, inking shoes, soldering and sleeving radio connections, candling eggs, making dresses, pasting cracker boxes, feeding various kinds of machines.

The lowest wages received for a week was for lampshade fashioning, which paid $6. The biggest wages was $35 for work in a radio factory. The average was $12.62.

Goldie Waite of Buston, Kan., found her first job in a dress factory so monotonous she had to quit after three weeks. In that time she pressed 1,979 $2.49 house dresses. After quitting her job she walked 122 blocks and inquired at 37 places before she landed a second job.

"I thought I told you to make those ends meet? Now do it or get out at once." It was the forelady in one of her typical fits at Gladys Ryan, who only a few weeks before was graduated from Baker university and was doing her first day's work. But she was there to get first-hand information and instead of showing her anger she just reddened a bit, grinned and bore.

Walks 162 Blocks for Work

Miss Elsie Gramlich of Omaha was confident that she would find a $25-a-week job her first day out. But after she had walked 162 blocks in three days and applied at 62 places she was glad to accept work in a curled hair factory. When she got her job she had only 90 cents left and she learned she could live on 10-cent lunches.

"Readers will gasp at this," said Miss Gramlich. "I did, too, but I gasped more when I tried to think of the women working with me who had dependents to support. What did they have left each week? How did they eke out a living? Theirs is fundamentally a different and more serious situation."

Miss Gramlich worked for two weeks in the curled hair factory, becoming more of a machine every day. She fed the huge machine that prepared hog's hair for furniture upholstering.

"In this factory after the first days of mental nothingness, when my mind seemed to function again in spite of that awful, constant deafening noise, I began to slowly awaken to the reality of life, which hitherto had been entirely foreign to me.

"I began to dislike, almost hate those who think of their elaborate upholstered furniture only in terms of prices paid, rather than in human lives spent. Not for my own sake did I feel this way, but for Agnes, who had been there seven years and was happy to have her job. And the little colored woman at my left, who supported her three babies on what she made."

Big Subject Is "Sweetie"

Miss Gramlich changed jobs after two weeks, going to a garter factory where most of the girls were young. Common conversation was about "that boy friend." Many were amazed that Miss Gramlich did not have one, and they gave her many pointers as to the quickest way to get one and let him foot the bills.

Mary Bouteller of Norman, Okla., who boxed cheese cakes, was given some good advice by co-workers. "Listen, girlie,' 'advised a middle-aged co-worker. "The best advice I can give you is to get next to a sweetie. Let him keep you. Marry him and even though you will have to work for a while he will support you in your old age."

In the factory where Miss Bouteller worked the foreman would stand over the girls and time them with a stop watch in an effort to make them speed up their work. Her pay ranged from $12 to $15 a week for six weeks.

Lela Marshall of Wymore, Neb., has almost become bitter with life as a result of her six weeks' work in the factories.

"All my life," said Miss Marshall, "I had my bread and butter and jelly handed to me. I never thought I should give particular thanks to any one for this. I actually felt the world owed it to me."

But six weeks of factory life catching hot towels in a steaming laundry changed her slant on life entirely.

"Why should I have all the comfort and easy life when Mary, my partner in the laundry, struggles ten hours a day over a steaming tub trying to make $13 a week to support her baby and crippled father? We both came into the world about the same time, and neither had anything upon arrival. Yet fate placed us in such different circumstances. The world beyond certainly must hold something for Mary that I will not have."

Lands $10-a-Day Position

Mary McGee of Cedar Falls, Iowa, was more fortunate in securing work than the other girls. She earned $10 a day for three days soldering parts of radio sets. When changed from the job she made $30 a week for making connections for radios and her average for the six weeks in this factory was about $30. However, she worked from nine to twelve hours a day and was kept at an almost killing pace.

Fay Harvey of North Fairfield, O., found employment in a catalogue factory. She saw a woman who was carried from her work bench on a stretcher give birth to an 8-pound baby in the factory office.

Miss Eldric Dieson of Minneapolis, Minn., received a high $43.45 for a week's work, but she worked twelve hours a day soldering and putting together radio attachments.

Ruth Ekstrand of Livingston, Mont., found work in a factory operating a German envelope machine. Twenty had just been installed and no one knew much about them, including the bosses. She got $15 a week and they asked her to stay longer.

25-cent Meal a Luxury

Josephine Norton of Blissfield, Mich., was quick to learn that a 25-cent lunch was a real luxury and soon found out that the most she could spend for lunch was 15 cents. For this she could get a bowl of beans, a scoop of ice cream and a glass of milk. Her first job was bleaching soles in a shoe factory. The turnover in employment was tremendous, the average girl remaining only three days.

Marjory Stocking, president of the student council at Illinois university, never felt so completely devoid of personality as she did those six weeks when she worked in a cracker box factory. She got fired the day after she asked her employer for a slip of paper on which she promised not to join a union. She next worked in a popcorn ball factory, where the heat was terrific and the hours long.

Elizabeth Webster of Shenandoah, Iowa, found work in a women's garment factory. In her six weeks she learned that the average factory girl just takes her lot in life for granted.

He: "For the last hour I have been watching to see if I could steal a kiss from you."

She: Indeed! Perhaps I had better give you one of my brother's cards."

He: "Why, what do you mean?"

She: "He's an optician, you know."

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P. R. Bengough, Machinists.
W. J. Bartlett, Blacksmiths.
Jas. Thomson, Pile Drivers.
C. Herrett, Barbers.

* * *

Legislative:

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W. J. Scribbins, Civic Employees.
P. R. Bengough, Trades Council.
F. A. Hoover, St. Railwaymen.
C. A. Watson, Fire Fighters.
W. Hargreaves, Carpenters.
J. Thomson, Pile Drivers.
C. Lamb, Typographical.
C. McDonald, Tailors.

* * *

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W. Deptford, Transportation Trades.
R. H. Neelands, Printing Trades.
P. R. Bengough, Metal Trades.
T. Hanofiin, Beverage Trades.
B. Showler, Teaming Trades.
W. Watt, Building Trades.
C. Herrett, Label Trades.

* * *

J. Cumming (Chair.), Restaurant Employees.
E. C. Miller, Musicians' Union.
B. Showler, Dairy Employees.
W. Hargreaves, Carpenters' Union.
H. W. Watts, Electrical Workers.

"Do you mean to tell me you couldn't see me coming on a straight piece of road like this?" said the owner of the very small car after the collision.

"Sorry, guv'nor," said the lorry driver; "I thought it were a fly on me windscreen."—Northern Daily Telegraph.

The Labor Statesman

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H. W. Watts, Man. Editor.

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Phone Seymour 6279

Vancouver, Friday, Feb. 22, 1929

Who's To Blame?

Unequal distribution of wealth is not a new subject. It has been discussed frequently in the labor press because the people it represents feel its injustice, and, in many instances, the consequent pinch of poverty. To substantiate this assertion, it is only necessary to refer to government reports that show that merely 3.6 per cent. of the population filed income tax returns during the past fiscal year, proving that wage earners averaged less than $30 per week. In fact, millions are receiving less than $20 a week. Thousands toil for $18, $15, $12, and in extreme cases for even less per week.

All in all, we have here an unequal distribution of wealth. That only 3.6 per cent. of the population paid income tax during the past fiscal year is ample evidence of an unequal distribution of wealth. About 2 per cent., however, are classified as the very rich. They control and are the actual beneficiaries of a prosperity that is widely heralded as being nation wide. So long as this state of affairs exists we have no actual prosperity. We have relative prosperity when we compare our economic status with the economic conditions of other countries. Real prosperity can only prevail when there is an equal distribution of wealth, as near as we can possibly come to it.

Who's to blame? First of all, the big industrialists and other employers who will not compensate the workers correspondingly with increasing productivity, and thus bring about underconsumption and inadequate purchasing power—a boomerang which frequently causes business stagnation, while otherwise, with fair wages and resultant elimination of underconsumption and greater purchasing power more profitable business and genuine prosperity would be the result.

To be fair to ourselves, however, the wage earners throughout the country are entitled to a share of the blame for existing topsy-turvy conditions. But five million of them are organized. And about three and one-half million of these organized workers are affiliated with the American Federation of Labor. Right there the lack of solidarity among even these five million workers is a serious drawback. The unorganized workers are to be blamed for either being too timid or too blind to see the unquestionable advantages of organization, although capital has set the pace in this respect and has organized solidly notwithstanding its enormous resources. A percentage of the organized workers are to blame for not financing their own undertaking, the labor movement, adequately. They are minus a great deal of foresight and vision when they refuse to subscribe enough, which still is a relatively trivial sum, to the organization that protects them and seeks their advancement. A great deal more could be done in this direction if the American Federation of Labor and its affiliated bodies would receive better financial support.

Regarding the average low pay wage earners are receiving, and the lack of a greater concerted effort, The Seamen's Journal thus makes the following pertinent comment:

"Frankly, it is the wage earner's own fault for this starvation rate of wages, and lack of organization is the cause and the effect.

"Let us wage earners commence to blame ourselves. Stop lamenting and complaining, and start organizing. Join the union now, and through the union—jointly—get our just share of the fruits of our toil which rightfully belongs to us. Organize! Join the union! There is no other way out of a situation that is dangerous to society as a whole."

A special slogan of the American Federation of Labor this year is "double our membership." It was said with emphasis at the A. F. of L. convention by President Green, and he has repeatedly urged since then to pay a great deal of attention to this slogan. More widespread organization is the need of the hour. In conjunction with it is a more liberal support of the movement. Lack of proper financial support which, even when adequate, is comparatively trivial, is false economy. To starve our undertaking and thus make it impotent to deal effectively with situations of grave concern to us is a suicidal tendency that is clearly asinine, and a comfort for those who are opposed to workers' organizations.—The Federation News.

Labor Party Is Warned of Attack

It will be remembered that after Mr. Lakeman and his Communist colleagues had permitted their favorite resolutions to be emasculated by the convention of the Alberta Section of the C. L. P., "The Worker" severely reprimanded the Alberta faithful for their compromising attitude.

Well, the chiding must have had its effect, because in the current issue of the Communist organ Lakeman says he is sorry for what happened in Calgary, and he promises never to do it again. In fact he goes farther than that, and submits a number of deductions he has made from conditions at present existing in Alberta. Here they are:

"1. That as far as the Roper-Farmilo-White machine in the Alberta Labor Movement is concerned, they are opposed to true labor parliamentary and political action.

Ed. Note:—Elmer Roper is a School Trustee, Farmilo an Alderman, and F. White, M.L.A., all elected on the Labor Party ticket).

"2. That a Labor Party in Alberta can only and truly be directed by the Communist Party and the left wing. The C. L. P. will perish, and at best become a talking feast without authority in the hands of the rights or a wavering left.

"3. The Communist Party and the left wing must immediately meet the situation by a campaign directed against the Roper-Farmilo-White machine.

"4. Organize the lefts for the purpose of saving the workers from the Brownlee and Roper combination."

The "Labor News" is particularly interested in that portion of the above "manifesto," which states that the Labor Party in Alberta can only be truly directed by the Communist Party. And to accomplish that much-to-be-desired object, it is necessary for the Communist Party to immediately meet the situation by a campaign directed against certain individuals in the movement. Now in another column in the same issue of "The Worker," Mr. Lakeman severely castigates a number of other leaders in the C. L. P., contending that though they may use more radical phraseology than some others, they in reality are just as bad. The "Labor News" presumes, therefore, that a campaign will be directed" against them, too.

All of those concerned must be everlastingly grateful to Mr. Lakeman for his timely warning of what is about to befall them. It has been said that he that is forewarned is forearmed. And surely one will need to be well armed to meet the terrible onslaughts of the collection hounds from Toronto and their Alberta satellites.—Alberta Labor News.

Sociology Club Lecture

"The idea of a super-state which would regulate the economic activities of nations and give all peoples equal access to the natural resources and vacant lands of the earth cannot be realized in the immediate future," said Prof. T. H. Angus, U. of B.C., in an address delivered to the club on the 14th inst.

The U.S.A. will not surrender its sovereignty in any degree to an international tribunal which would interfere with the U.S.A. immigration laws. Mass colonization of the northern parts of the prairie provinces and British Columbia by Chinese and Japanese under the aegis of their respective governments would be violently resented by the Canadian people.

After outlining the functions of the state and examining some of its defects, Prof. Angus said the fault lay, not so much in the tool itself, as an instrument of social progress, as in the manner of using it. An uninformed electorate could hardly be expected to use the state skilfully. Destruction of the state would result in chaos and anarchy unless some highly organized alternative was ready to take its place. Such an alternative was nowhere in sight.—F.C.

Allen-A Mill Hosiery Workers Still Out

Members of the Full Fashioned Hosiery Workers' Union who are on strike against the Allen-A mill at Kenosha, Wisconsin, are telling the story of the 330 workers who have been locked out since Feb. 15, 1928, just a year ago. Upwards of a dozen members of the Kenosha branch of the Hosiery Workers' Union are now touring the country, presenting the exact facts in the situation and enlisting the support of all unionists in the matter of buying hosiery that is made under union conditions.

No Money Collected

No money is accepted by the travelling representatives. Instead, locals and individuals which desire to aid are invited to send contributions to Union Headquarters, 3215—60th street, in Kenosha.

The Allen-A strike—it became that when girl workers walked out in sympathy with the men knitters who had been locked out—is notably a strike for a principle.

The company, which sought also to install a closed anti-union shop, attempted to force its union employes to return to the old two-machine system, which has been found unsound economically, and discarded several years ago by progressive manufacturers.

Big Dividends Wanted

The Allen-A owners, however, thought they would give it a new trial in the hope that it would result in large dividends to stockholders.

Under the system, one knitter is responsible for the operation of two machines, along with two low-paid helpers. No new labor-saving machinery was involved in the plan. It was purely an attempt to force injurious working conditions on knitters, causing them to work under a severe mental strain and otherwise lowering their efficiency.

From the very first day of the lockout and strike the Kenosha hosiery workers have maintained a position of 100 per cent. solidarity.

Jailed for Picketing

Some have been unjustly jailed for picketing. Girl strikers have felt the attacks of the anti-union employers as have the men. Yet none has weakened, even in the face of plots engineered by the usual strike-breaking detectives called into such disputes.

Now, with the lockout nearly a year old, the strikers, most of whom are young men and women, have no other idea than that right will eventually triumph.

Demand for Allen-A products has declined to the lowest level in the history of the company, according to reports they have received. Whereas 18 men formerly were employed in the shipping room of the mill, but one is on duty now.

Wage Not Involved

Good jobs at from $50 to $75 a week await the union knitters who will return to work to replace the unskilled and inefficient strikebreakers now employed. The question of wage never has been involved in the lockout and strike.

It has been purely a fight for a principle, and as such it will be carried on.

No union knitter will return to work to operate two machines, thus depriving some other members of a job under conditions that have been proved unsound, both from a humanitarian and economic standpoint.

They have furnished lists of union-made hosiery, which show that some of the leading brands are made under fair conditions. Included on the list are the Phoenix, Onyx Pointex, Van Raalte, MacCollum, Holeproof, Gotham and Cadet brands.

Opposes Amendment to Moving Picture Act

Following a meeting of the executive committee, P. R. Bengough, secretary of the Vancouver, New Westminster and District Trades and Labor Council, has informed the local members and cabinet of the Procincial Government, that the Council is opposed to the bill being introduced to amend the Moving Picture Act, as we consider it superfluous legislation, inasmuch a sthe Federal Criminal Code and present Moving Picture Act provides ample protection for the public.

The proposed legislation deals with censoring advertising matter, and will undoubtedly create confusion and hardship upon the theatres and places of censorship in the hands of one man.

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at the pre-listing price of 35 cents per share, is, in our opinion, a speculation of the highest merit. We have every confidence that, with the property owned by the Company, the type of men on the directorate, and intelligent development, Cambria may be brought to a stage where it can be turned over to an operating company on particularly advantageous terms.

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We offer the balance of 100,000 shares at 35 cents, subject to allottment in case of oversubscription.

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53 Exchange Building, Vancouver, B. C.

Please enter my order for.....shares of Cambria Copper Mines, Ltd. (N. P. L.), at 35 cents. I enclose money order, bank draft or cheque for $.....as payment in full.

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Occupation.....

Kiwanian Little Brother Movement

Don't miss the Kiwanian show, "Firefly," at the Vancouver Theatre, commencing Tuesday, February 26th, to Saturday, March 2nd. Rush seats in the gallery 25c, and plenty of dollar seats down below.

This show is for a good cause in connection with under-privileged children and worthy of our support.

Such well known amateurs as the following are on the cast: Miss Rena McLeod, Miss Mildred Pruce, Miss Katherine Filtness, Mrs. Wolfendon, Miss Laura Heath, Syd Dean, Harry Grant, David Spencer, Charlie Plant, Gordon Craig, Spike Hen[illegible]

Music by the composer of "Rose Marie."

Tickets are on sale at the Vancouver Theatre.

Quebec Premier Opposes Old Age Pension Scheme

Montreal.—Killing any hope of old age pensions in Quebec, Premier L. A. Taschereau told the legislature that the Dominion Act, by which the Dominion Treasury pays the other half was unjust because of the financial burden to the province.

The western provinces have inaugurated old age pensions. Persons to be eligible for the pension after reaching the age of 70 must have lived 20 years in Canada. Many old people in the west will not be able to draw pensions, Taschereau observed, while in Quebec nearly all the old people were born in the country.

Lots of men who preach charity wait for other men to practice it.

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Brotherhood of Man (?)

You will all be pleased to know that Archibald, our Spring Poet, who was allowed out to get his Poet's license last week, got back alright. When I say alright, I mean as well as can be expected under the circumstances. We saw him standing around the office and casually asked him where he had been. Drawing himself up in a peculiarly dignified manner, he told us: "I have been to see Guy— (hic)." "What guy?" we inquired. "Been seeing Guy (hic), Guy, Gyrator Vancouver. I wish you'd shtop it going round. It makes me (hic) giddy." Realizing his condition, we promptly took measures to have him secured in the Poet's Corner, and sending for our first-aid kit applied the usual restoratives.

Subsequently we discovered that he never went to the City Hall at all; all our careful directions had been given to him in vain, for it appears that he wandered as far as Main Street, and on asking a bystander, was referred to the old building, which, finding it closed, he returned to his informant and explained how he had come to obtain a Poet's License, showing him some of his verses, on which the fellow replied: "Oh, come with me. I'm just going over there myself and I'll show you. It isn't a License you want to write that stuff; it's a permit." So he then took him across the road to a beautiful store maintained by a paternal government for those who have the price. On leaving there, they went round to the fellow's room, and after that his recollection seems very hazy.

We regret to add that since his return he does not appear to have written a single line, as he spends all his time in the corner singing, and in desperation for copy we have had our stenographer take down the words of one of his songs.

THE BROTHERHOOD OF MAN

Now I've been upon earth since the day of my birth,
And most of the time been broke,
For of cash in my purse there is always a dearth,
Now, ain't that a hell of a joke?
And I may be wrong, as I'm jogging along,
On my way to the Golden Shore,
Where I'll soon belong, and I'm singing this song
That's never been sung before:

Now they tell me Britannia rules the waves,
But I think that's a lot of old bunk;
When I think of the way the sea behaves,
Of my mind I could give her a chunk.
When you stand on the shore and the wind does roar,
Why, they get in a terrible state,
And I wonder she's never been asked before,
"Why doesn't she rule 'em straight?"

Now it seems Uncle Sam, he don't give a damn,
(Excuse me if I swear),
But there's going to be a most terrible jam
If he tries to rule the air;
And I'll bet you a bob that 'twill make you sob,
For the static will whistle and whine
When you get on the job and twiddle the knob
Of your super-hetorodyne.

Now at winning the war and stopping the booze
He's shown such wonderful skill;
But I find that the people they didn't much lose
Since they all have a little "still";
For he wants the berth of running the eartn,
And he thought we had no comeback;
So imagine our mirth now we've seen what he's worth
Since Percy we've put on his track.

But I'd just like to ask you: "Is this a fact
That he's trying to get 'em to sign
A Bill that is known as the Kellogg Peace Pact
Right here on the dotted line;
But in case of a war, now, he's ordered a score
Of a nice, handy type of cruiser,
So that in that event, now, this amiable gent,
Takes care that he won't be a loser."

And now I've had a most terrible thought,
Oh, tell me, if you can,
For the name of the author I've frequently sought
Of the Brotherhood of Man;
When I think of these folk, why I feel I shall choke,
For since I have studied their plan,
Why he at one stroke made the champion joke
Since first the world began.

P. A. BEALL.

I. L. P. Notes

(By RAB TAMSON)

INDEPENDENT LABOR PARTY BRANCH SECRETARIES

Mount Pleasant: J. Sidaway, 623 East Tenth.

South Vancouver: W. Ford, 84 West Forty-seventh.

Central: W. W. Lefeaux, 401 Metropolitan Building.

The Conservative Party swept the polls last election on a platform of clean politics and no political patronage.

Now that the smoke of the election has cleared away, trades unionists (and there were many), who voted Conservative, might find solace in referring to some of the statements made at election time.

* * *

Dr. A. M. Sanford at New Westminster, June 6th, 1928:

"I would not have entered this campaign if I had any doubt of the honesty of Dr. Tolmie's politics. The Liberals proclaimed the abolition of political patronage, yet today a Liberal cannot get a job unless he is very close to the party machine."

Contrast that with this:

President I. E. Merryfield moves, and the meeting endorses, "that exception be taken to, and the six Vancouver members be condemned, for their alignment with Bob Hamilton and I. A. Blair, now referred to as "the patronage ring" in party circles, and that the meeting also take exception to all applications for employment going before George Andrews, because we are of opinion that all applications should be considered by a committee of 12 divisional presidents." Etc, etc.—Division I Conservative Association meeting last week.

Can you beat that for political patronage?

* * *

Dr. Tolmie at Qualicum, July 7th, 1928:

"Nothing is of more vital importance to the average man than the continuity of employment. The whole effect and purpose of our policy is to provide steady employment for every man in British Columbia."

Hear, hear, and loud applause from the audience.

Perhaps the 10 per cent. of Vancouver Trades Unionists now unemployed, and the 60 per cent. of unemployed plasterers will ponder over this and ask themselves if Dr. Tolmie considered them to be "Average Men."

* * *

Dr. J. A. Ruddick, Dominion Dairy Commissioner, gave the Canadian farmers something to think about on Tuesday, 12th inst., when he referred to New Zealand competition in butter and cheese. He had intimate knowledge of both countries, he said, and avered that the land in New Zealand was about four times as high as in Canada—$750 per acre was the average price—and that the cost of manufacturing was much higher, and that New Zealand dairymen were at a disadvantage because they had no outlet for byproducts.

But he did not explain why New Zealand butter, a better article than Canadian butter, can be landed in Vancouver at 2½ cents per pound less than Alberta butter, nor why New Zealand cheese can be landed 5 cents per pound cheaper than Ontario cheese.

Perhaps the Fraser Valley farmers will some day realize that their interests are bound inseparably with the interests of the workers. The wage cost of manufacturing is higher, land is dearer, transportation and duty to meet, yet the New Zealand farmer has the Canadian farmer beaten in his own country. The secret is co-operation.

Just as the workers will be forced to produce co-operatively, so will the farmer be forced, not only to produce, but to sell co-operatively.

ENQUIRE ABOUT THE I. L. P.

SOUTH VANCOUVER I.L.P. NOTES

Owing to circumstances over which we have no control, Parker Williams will not be able to attend the South Vancouver I.L.P. meeting on Friday evening, February 22nd. The meeting will, therefore, be of a business character. A complete review of party matters will be made by the members, with particular reference to questionnaire, discussion of which was left unfinished at our last meeting.

The meeting on March 8th will be an open meeting, when Parker Williams will be with us.

The suggestion of forming an I.L.P. dramatic club is being favorably received. An opportunity to air their views on this matter will be given the members on Friday evening. The branch is indebted to Comrade Robert Skinner for his very capable reviews of party problems and difficulties at our last meeting. We assure Comrade Skinner, and other friends of the party, that these matters are engaging our best attention. We thank Comrade Skinner for his presence at our meeting and his helpful talk, and would like to see some of the other "live wires" of the party at our local. Comrades Lefeaux, Sidaway, McInnis, or any of the Burnaby comrades, would be very welcome. The meeting on February 22 will be held, as usual, in the Horticultural Hall, 43rd and Fraser, at 8 p.m.—J.D.

Sey. 7137

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Personally Conducted Printers' Tour

By W. R. Trotter, Bureau of Statistics, International Typographical Union

To discover even a suggestion of romance in connection with the usually sordid business of strikebreaking would appear to be a hopeless task, yet a small group of Canadian employers in the city of Winnipeg, away back in the year 1905, in the initial phases of their strikebreaking enterprise, had some measure of success in the attempt to cast such a halo around their efforts.

The occasion was one of the encounters preliminary to the strike of the International Typographical Union to establish a general eight-hour day for its membership. Instructions were that no contract should be made covering any period beyond January 1, 1906, which did not provide for the eight-hour working day.

Contracts in the commercial offices in Winnipeg expired early in 1905. The date fixed for the inauguration of the eight-hour day was no secret. Much propaganda on the part of both the International Typographical Union and the United Typothetae had familiarized every section of the trade with the preparations that were taking place, and the conditions prevailing under the old contract were allowed to continue with little or no effort to negotiate a further contract.

In the fall of 1905 it became known that the United Typothetae would attempt to forestall the inauguration of the eight-hour contract by the posting of lookout notices in selected cities and making demands for contracts providing for the nine-hour day. This action precipitated the struggle and found Winnipeg on the list of cities which had assured the International Union that they were ready to take action, and contracts were sought which would provide the eight-hour day on January 1, 1906, failing which work was to be at once suspended.

The immediate result of this action was the closing of a number of printing establishments and the beginning of the contest several months ahead of the general strike, with about 60 book and job members of the Winnipeg Typographical Union on the strike roll.

Efforts to secure strikebreakers made it evident to the employers that they could look for very little assistance from south of the line, and here is where the idea was conceived of filling their vacant offices with printers from the British Isles.

A "Printers' Tour to Canada" was organized and advertised widely in Britain by a special agent named Brunning, who was sent from Winnipeg for the purpose.

In due time this argosy set sail, each of some sixty members of the expedition carrying a two-year contract for employment at $18 per week, which was then the prevailing weekly wage for job printers in the prairie capital.

What the members of the printers' board of trade had failed to appreciate was the international character of trades unionism and the avenues of information that were open to organized workers. The lurid advertising and the attractive promises, together with that condition which looks so good to the average Briton—a two-year contract—plus an opportunity to "tour Canada," produced so many applicants that the employers were jubilant. Here was an unending source of supply—they could ignore the typographical union.

The typographical unions of the old land, the English and Scottish associations and the London Society of Compositors, were early apprised of what was going on, and they advised their membership as to the nature of the famous "Tour to Canada," so that when the company set sail it was after several interviews with officials of these organizations, some of whom travelled specially to Liverpool for that purpose.

Many were turned aside from the "adventure," others had been betrayed into selling their homes and all their worldly possessions, had said goodbye, not only to their friends and relatives, but to the job held for years, and their faces were now set westward. As has already been intimated, however, the "complexion" of the company which set sail was better known to the officers of Winnipeg Typographical Union than it was to the members of the printers' board of trade.

To the amusement of the union members of the company, attempts were made by Agent Brunning, who travelled with them, to organize them for trade and social purposes and for "mutual protection" after landing in the paradise ahead of them. Some members assumed direction, under Brunning's tutelage, as a species of non-commissioned officers, and these attempted to carry on after landing in Winnipeg, for Brunning within a few hours after arrival crossed the line into the United States and disappeared from the picture.

Special Train for Strikebreakers

The part of the train bearing the "tourists" westward was uncoupled at Kenora, four hours' journey east of Winnipeg, where the members of the Winnipeg printers' board of trade had gone to welcome them with open arms, to allot them boarding houses and choose their respective staffs before they arrived in the city itself. The cars were later brought in attached to a freight train and at an unscheduled hour for passengers.

The "Personally Conducted Tour to Canada" had ended—they had arrived, on the threshold of a Manitoba winter, to take the places of men whose homes and families were established in the city and whose claims for consideration were to be ruthlessly and even triumphantly ignored.

This, however, was only one side of the story. Within a few hours of arrival means were found by those members carrying union cards to deposit same with local union officials. The writer, acting as recording and corresponding secretary to the Winnipeg Typographical Union prior to this invasion, had an intimate acquaintance with the facts. Contracts were made and introductions completed to such an extent that within three weeks of arrival 45 of these "gentlemen adventurers in industry" had taken a pledge to join the typographical union.

Their desire to quit work at once was not agreed to. The agent had overreached himself and more men were brought bearing contracts than could be employed. Attempts were made by the employers to ship some of them to other points where strikes were in progress; but the printers were better advised.

The date for the inauguration of the eight-hour day had not arrived and when it did, on January 1, 1906, less than ten of the members of this noted expedition could be found in the print-shops of Winnipeg. The remainder answered the call, and throughout western Canada and in a few places in the United States are to be found members of the 1905 argosy holding, in many cases, responsible positions as respected members of the International Typographical Union.

That the famous "Printers' Tour to Canada" ended in fiasco so far as its promoters were concerned is not the end of the story. Its echoes were to keep on ringing until it proved a sufficient cause for drastic and far-reaching changes in the immigration laws of the Dominion.

Appeal to the Throne

Disillusioned and disappointed, it occurred to some members of the "expedition" to exercise the seldom used and somewhat nebulous right of "appeal to the throne" which every British citizen is reputed to possess. They would write to the King. He should know how his subjects were being lured from their homes and deposited among the untold rigors of a Manitoba winter. He should know that there were places where the climate as well as the spirits of his homesick subjects was far below zero.

The letter was forwarded and perhaps not a little to their own surprise, it produced results. The King's secretary acknowledged the communication and promised investigation. The colonial office in London took up the question by forwarding an inquiry to the Governor-General. From there to the Secretary of State for the Dominion and on to the officials of the Manitoba government, came the demand for investigation.

The employee of the Manitoba government who ultimately was commissioned to report upon the circumstances proved to be an ex-member of Winnipeg Typographical Union, the late Mr. James Hooper, and the truth was told in the report as it left his hands.

Later correspondence with British government authorities revealed that something had happened between the rendering of the Hooper report and the transmission of its alleged contents to the Colonial Office in London. Like Banquo's ghost the matter could not be "laid" and a renewed demand was made from London which eventuated in the appointment of the Deputy Minister of Labor of the Dominion personally to investigate the case. That Deputy-Minister, now Premier W. L. Mackenzie King, visited Winnipeg and did his work so thoroughly, that, as already recorded, the laws of the Dominion were amended to meet the circumstances.

Through the efforts of Mr. Alphonso Verville, a Labor member of the Dominion Parliament and at that time also president of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, the circumstances were brought to the attention of the Canadian House of Commons by a call for the production of the official correspondence upon the case between the Imperial and Dominion authorities.

Largely owing to the agitation and publicity given to the details on both sides of the Atlantic, there was brought about a very close contract between the International Typographical Union and all the recognized typographical associations of Great Britain, a contract which has been maintained.

Loyalty of Canadian Unions Unaffected

The Canadian membership of the International Typographical Union has been singularly free from the various schisms and others "isms" which have interfered with the orderly and effective organization of other industrial workers upon an international basis. The eight-hour strike in 1906 produced two secessions, both in eastern Canada, which proved to be only temporary aberrations, and at no time since has there been any such concerted movement within the organization.

The "one big union" movement which for a short while produced much trouble in Western Canada, left the affiliated unions of the International Typographical Union unaffected by the widespread and insistent propaganda.

The strikes in 1905-1906 to establish the eight-hour day and later in the establishment of the forty-four-hour week in 1921 for book and job printers, produced experience sufficient to demonstrate that whatever of sentiment might linger in the minds of the newcomer to Canada, the form of organization best suited to meet the situation was found in international unionism.

The membership of the International Typographical Union in Canada today averages less than 5,000, comprised in fifty-one local unions scattered across the entire Dominion from Sydney, Nova Scotia, to Victoria, in British Columbia. This membership has varied in numbers only very slightly during the past ten years, and represents about 6 per cent of the total membership of the International Union.

Dual Unions

The favorite slogan in Canada with the critics of international unionism is: "Why send your money to headquarters in the United States?" "Keep your money in Canada—organize on a national basis." To such expressions is generally added some hypocritical appeal to "national patriotism" — a sentiment which has never been one of the strong points of the leaders of the subsersive movements referred to.

The uselessness of such appeals to the Canadian membership of the International Typographical Union is best illustrated in a practical way by a reference to the benefits which that section of the membership has derived from their international affiliation.

The various movements in Canada seeking to replace international unionism have made an appeal on behalf of "militancy." The international union printers in the Dominion can point to a record in the cost of malitancy which should give supporters of national movements some food for thought.

For the nine years from May 31, 1919, to May 31, 1928, the total amount paid as strike benefits to Canadian members amounted to $4,687,891.92, while the income from the Dominion membership which could be allotted to that purpose amounted to $991,836.41.

Premiums as dues to the regular beneficiary features of the organization—the old age pension and mortuary funds and the union's printers' home—have to be allotted to those funds as a guarantee to the continuing membership of their individual rights to those benefits. Subscription to the monthly journal and receipts for sale of supplies represent direct payments for value received. The balance of dues is all that is available for defence and the general purposes of the organization.

Total receipts from the Canadian membership on pension and mortuary account for the nine years ending May, 1928, were $698,186.79, while the payments from those funds amounted to $548,011.27, leaving a credit balance of $150,175.52

Receipts from Canadian membership for the general purpose of the organization were $991,836.41, while disbursements for defence purposes in Canada reached a total of $4,687,781.92, an amount in excess of receipts equal to $3,696,055.51.

In recent issues of publications by organizations in Canada which are seeking to undermine international unionism, statements were made that the American Federation of Labor and its affiliated bodies are collecting revenues in Canada for which no return is given. We commend to their attention the above verifiable figures, together with this concluding statement:

The total amount paid out by the International Typographical Union for the nine years ending May, 1928, for defence purposes throughout its entire jurisidiction was $16,451,412.12. Of this amount $4,687,891.92 was paid to their membership in Canada. The total membership in Canada averages about 6 per cent of the entire membership, so that, during the last nine years, 6 per cent of the membership received twenty-eight and one-half per cent. of the total disbursements for defence.

The total receipts from the Canadian membership of the International Typographical Union for all purposes during the last nine years was $1,919,702.37. The total disbursements for all purposes to the same membership was $5,235,903.19, an excess of disbursements over receipts of $3,316,200.82 in the nine years, and this does not include the salaries and expenses of either regular or special representatives who have been employed in the Dominion at any time during this period.

It only remains to be stated that these sums were not paid because of the nationality of the membership, but because that section of the jurisdiction was adversely affected. Our "nationalist" critics can be left to figure up where a national organization of printers on the north side of the boundary could have found the funds and how they could have resisted the prolonged attack.

It is almost as much work to eat spareribs as fish, but the mortality rate isn't so high.

Receipts from the Canadian Membership of the International Typographical Union Over Period of Nine Years—1919 to 1928

Year ending May 31	Total Receipts	Pension and Mortuary	Apportioned to Printers' Home	Typo Journal	Sale of Supplies	General Purposes
1920	$112,030.66	$76,928.91	$12,367.20	$3,130.40	$6,342.49	$13,261.66
1921	125,609.23	88,099.30	14,818.00	3,210.25	3,490.43	15,992.25
1922	595,865.59	69,272.28	17,459.00	2,919.25	3,335.06	502,880.00
1923	373,242.48	71,999.68	17,189.70	2,875.55	6,119.72	275,057.83
1924	222,284.43	76,672.95	15,737.30	2,632.50	6,388.06	120,853.62
1925	134,220.49	73,242.12	15,184.20	2,565.50	17,371.12	25,857.55
1926	117,643.55	80,838.10	18,492.80	2,538.90	3,361.25	12,412.50
1927	118,462.18	80,041.15	20,091.70	2,566.40	3,205.43	12,557.50
1928	120,343.76	81,091.80	20,741.60	2,634.15	2,912.71	12,963.50
Total 9 years	$1,919,702.37	$698,186.79	$152,081.50	$25,072.90	$52,525.27	$991,836.41

Benefits Paid to Canadian Membership of International Typographical Union Over a Period of Nine Years—1919 to 1928

Year ending May 31	From Pension Fund	From Mortuary Fund	From Defence Fund
1920	$18,162.00	$21,550.00	$8,589.60
1921	26,352.00	16,525.00	15,632.05
1922	35,352.00	15,325.00	2,094,255.07
1923	37,920.00	14,150.00	1,753,542.84
1924	43,776.00	18,650.00	559.067.09
1925	48,888.00	21,050.00	223,019.77
1926	63,176.00	18,039.27	15,514.50
1927	62,720.00	13,975.00	9.015.00
1928	52,976.00	19,425.00	8,716.00
Total 9 years	389,322.00	$158,689.27	$4,687,891.92

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Another Group of Forged Documents

Another group of forged documents has turned up, involving charges of bribery against members of the United States Senate. This time, it is Senators Norris and Borah against whom the allegation is made. The sum involved is supposed to be something like a hundred thousand dollars each, paid by Russia, presumably for urging recognition of that country by the United States. Similar accusations are made, oddly enough, against Mr. Ivy Lee of New York, the most skillful press agent for big business and big business men that the country has seen. These documents were submitted to the formality of a Senate investigation, and a committee headed by Senator Reed of Pennsylvania pronounced them to be not only spurious but the clumsiest and most incompetent of forgeries. One would have to be as gullible as William Randolph Hearst to believe them. The manufacture of forged documents is, of course, a well recognized industry in Europe. In Berlin or Paris you can, on short notice order documents showing any plot you wish directed against any nation, and some of these are ingeniously done and plausible. The only question of any interest in regard to the Borah-Norris-Lee lot is why somebody paid good money to have them manufactured at this time. Did the forgers now assume that the United States, for practical business reasons, is about to grant recognition to Soviet Russia, and do what they could to sabotage this move?—The New Republic.

Higher Wages

There is a disposition even amongst some Labor men to begrudge any increase in wages to anyone belonging to some other crafts than their own, more especially if his own wages happen to be lower than the ones granted to any other craft. There seems to be a disposition in some quarters to bring everyone down to the lowest standard of living instead of working to gradually increase standards to the highest point possible. The wage policy of the American Federation of Labor is the climbing up of the lower paid workmen to the highest paid. We try to so increase the standards of living and we rejoice wherever we hear that a group of people have bettered their conditions if it is not based on exploitation.

Strange

"Where did the car hit him?" asked the coroner.

"At the junction of the dorsal and cervical vertebrae," replied the medical witness.

The burly foreman rose from his seat:

"Man and boy, I've lived in these parts for 50 years," he protested, ponderously, "an' I never heard of the place."

"A miss is as good as a mile"—and a mile better than a Mr.

The Week At Ottawa

By J. S. WOODSWORTH, M.P.

Shakespeare conceived the world as a stage. Certainly Ottawa is a stage, and one is almost inclined to add that Parliament is a "screamingly funny farce." Most of the people throughout the country think of Parliament as a sort of glorified board of directors or extended farmers' convention. Nothing could be further from the truth. That is, perhaps why the people generally are so disappointed with Parliament and parliamentarians. Let us, then, understand from the outset that Parliament is a great "show," doubtless having its own value, but still a "show."

Sometimes we find it difficult to understand how the Doukhobors manage to govern themselves. They hold a big meeting which continues throughout the whole day. Here they listen to speakers, or talk together in groups. They take no vote, but at the end of the day, like our jurors, they somehow seem to come to a unanimous decision, and, curiously enough, the decision generally seems to be in line with the will of their leader. A curious mingling of autocracy and democracy.

So future historians may find it difficult to understand how the people in this generation administered their affairs. Once every year we send a large number of our people from all over the country to one central meeting place, where they are expected to present a very elaborate performance for the edification, or education, or, some might say, the be-fooling of the general public. The idea seems to be that on this stage should be presented the main ideas and movements of the country at large. Each party is supposed to represent truly the opinions of those who sent them.

Of course, no one but the uninitiated expects anything will happen. It is all play. Indeed, when one comes to understand this one can get a considerable amount of enjoyment out of even the farce. There are artistic values which are not to be despised.

In connection with a stage performance there is, of course, a large and varied collection of stage properties. Stage background must be provided. There are accessories and "extras" of all kinds. Many subordinates whose names do not appear in the case. Thus in Ottawa, as we approach the capital on the opening day, we note the prevalence of picturesque guards, the booming of guns, and a most elaborate paraphernalia.

* * *

Well, the first scene has been enacted. The only variance from the ordinary procedure was that, instead of arriving in a limousine, the Governor-General drove in an old-fashioned sleigh. The only untoward incident seems to have been that the horse of one of the Dragoons was not altogether disciplined, but doubtless this added a little variety, and then, too, it may have been staged. The papers, of course, describe the whole scene as "colorful." Perhaps that is the reason it attracts such hosts of ladies who attempt to vie with the scene and certainly add to it by the variety of their gowns.

As the senate chamber, in which the opening proper is held, has very limited seating accommodation, the function is supposed to be somewhat exclusive. That means that all Ottawa sets out to be there. The seating accommodation has been extended far out into the corridors, and at 10 o'clock those who expect to secure "reserved" seats are on hand to wait patiently until the show begins at 3 o'clock in the afternoon. At this opening scene there is really nothing to be heard, and very little to be seen. The dress is the whole thing. It is a case to "see and be seen." It is a sort of pleasing kaleidoscopic effect which precedes the main play.

The elaborate ceremonial in the Senate Chamber is supplemented by an ancient ritual—very plain in comparison—very plain in comparison to that in the Commons. The silence of this Chamber is suddenly interrupted by three resounding knoks, which herald the coming of a messenger from the Senate. The Sergeant-at-Arms, in cocked hat and sword, bearing the mace, is instructed to admit the messenger. The messenger, known as the "Black Rod," performs quite a ceremony with many elaborate bows. In recent years this ceremonial has been slightly varied as the present "Black Rod," owing to war disabilities, is not fit to do the genuflections which were the delight of the earlier generation of stage goers.

Following this formal function the Speakers of both Houses hold receptions. One can realize here why Oxford students used to characterize a reception as a "crush." The nearest thing we have on the outside, as an early bargain counter. Each guest is formally presented to the Speaker and his wife, and then passes into the refreshment room. Many take in both receptions, and it is even hinted that some enter the line for the second time.

These opening ceremonies, very largely public in character, are supplemented by those of a somewhat more limited character—on the following evening there is the Drawing Room, and then for those in the more official positions, the State Dinner at Government House. Thus, with a flourish, the show is now open.

* * *

The King's speech, or in this country sometimes known as the Governor General's speech, is, as everyone knows now prepared by the Prime Minister and is supposed to indicate in a general way, the programme of the Government for the coming session. This year, as is now becoming customary the Speech reveals little that is of any great importance. Indeed, since the Government is fairly well entrenched, it would seem as if they are not likely to do anything of great importance. Conversations with members in various parties and with many of the press gallery, would not seem to indicate that the session is likely to be one of very great importance.

The question of "power" will undoubtedly arise. So, too, that of railway development, but there will be a tendency for discussion rather than for definite action. The political complications are so obvious that the Government now in power will probably prefer to stall and await development.

* * *

Here in the East there is a great talk of prosperity, but more careful enquiry would seem to suggest that this prosperity is limited to certain groups. Undoubtedly there is an enormous amount of speculation in stocks and bonds. Probably a 100 new millionaires have been created through the spectacular advance in the value of the shares of two or three well-knawn corporations. If one is to trust precedent, it is altogether likely that the majority of the smaller investors will be severely bitten.

Then among the workers one finds a very large amount of employment. Even on the new Government buildings machinery is now taking the place of the large numbers of workers who were formerly employed on such classes of work.

* * *

In Toronto there seems to have broken out a species of hysteria with regard to anything not 100 per cent. Torontonian. The immediate fear is that of the Communists. Recently the police have issued an edict that only English is to be spoken in public meetings. Undoubtedly, this exceeds the real authority of the police. They, however, are attempting to take the ground that they have the right to license halls in which public meetings can be held. Such licenses have always been subject to the provision of proper fire and safety standards. Now another standard has been added—that the speaking must be in English. So far, music in other languages is permitted. We presume that the next step will be for Toronto to insist that all Italian and German music must be sung only in English. Possibly this is a legitimate development of the Toronto teaching regarding fiscal protection.

* * *

Let me close with quoting a sentence which has not come from either Ottawa or Toronto. It is credited to President Hoover, but contains a very pregnant and far-reaching truth whoever gave it utterance: "We no longer have the right to think in terms of our own generation." If our politicians could realize this, possibly it would bring radical changes, both in our domestic and foreign policies.

The verger of a little old English church was showing a party of visitors round. They ascended to the belfry.

"Now, this 'ere bell," said the verger proudly—"a bit remarkable this bell is. It is only rung on the occasion of a visit from the lord bishop, a fire, a flood, or any other such calamity!"

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Ancient Art of Iron Workers is Gone

Washington. — Startling changes through labor-displacing machinery and processes are placing men on the streets, said Secretary of Labor Davis in an address at a luncheon given by the Printers' Progressive Club to the Board of Governors of the International Allied Printing Trades Association. The cabinet member cited the revolution in the iron industry, where scientists have perfected a process whereby a few men can produce as much iron in 30 minutes as 350 men can produce under the old system in an entire work day.

"The skill of these men is destroyed, and after a lifetime of labor they find their skill worthless. Many of them are 50 years of age," said Mr. Davis.

The speaker said there are industries in this country that still operate on the 11 and 13 hour basis, and that this policy is indefensible.

A woman dressed as a nun at a masquerade ball naturally makes a good appearance.

DAMP-PROOF HOUSES URGED BY WORKERS

Albany, N. Y.—The State Federation of Labor is urging the legislature to amend the tenement house law by providing that these buildings be damp-proof and water-proof.

This health conservation measure was passed by the legislature a few years ago, but was not signed because New York City authorities promised relief by administratice action. When the legislature adjourned the municipal officials forgot their promise.

INDIA AND DOMINION STATUS

The British Dominions, before and after obtaining complete self-government, were and are laboring under the same defects which are said to exist in India. These difficulties did not, however, militate against the grant of self-government to the Dominions, while in India the y are pointed out to be insuperable difficulties. There are those who argue that the grant of immediate Dominion status or anything approaching it to India would spell disaster to it. It did not do so in other parts of the British Empire.—Bombay Daily Mail.

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The Five-day Week

The Electrical Contractors' Association recently approved a five-day week and a 10 per cent. increase in wages for its employees. Other workers in the building trades are now demanding similar consideration, and some are threatening to tie up the industry unless their demands are met. . . . With the constant increase of machine production, there is no reason why men shoudl spend more than five days per week in the factories. Workers can produce more now in five days than they could in many weeks before the modern methods were developed. If production were maintained at the present basis and each worker were allowed an extra day of freedom, it would solve the unemployment problem and result in benefit to the whole working class.—Washington Post.

Quashes Injunction To Stop Five-day Week

New York.—The effort to use the injunction process to stop the electrical employers and the union from inaugurating the five-day week in this city has ended in complete failure.

Justice Nathan Bijur of the Supreme Court last week set aside the temporary injunction issued by Justice Aaron J. Levy, at the request of the Building Employers' Association.

The building employers alleged that the Electrical Contractors' Association had violated the rules of the association in making a separate contract with the Electrical Workers' Union for the five-day week and a 10 per cent. advance in wages.

Right of Wage Contract

In reply, the electrical contractors presented a letter written by the secretary of the Employers' Association in 1922 which acknowledged the right of the electrical bosses to "settle any electrical trade question."

It was brought out that the electrical contractors had insisted on this right before they would reaffiliate with the building employers, and it was argued that it was broad enough to cover all questions of wages and working conditions.

To further justify the course of the electrical contractors, the court was told that the wage agreement with the Electrical Workers' Union expired on January 1st of this year, whereas most of the other building craft unions had contracts with the Employers' Association which ran until January 1st, 1930.

Justice Bijur's Decision

Justice Bijur decided that the electrical contractors had not violated any agreement with the Building Employers' Association; he refused to make the temporary injunction permanent, and the electrical trades agreement for the five-day and a wage increase from $12 to $13.50 a day became effective as of February 1st.

The Brotherhood of Electrical Workers was not a party to the court action, it being purely a controversy between employing organizations.

As a result of the agreement establishing the five-day week in the electrical branch of the building industry it is believed the shorter work week and substantial increase in wages will be obtained within the next year by all of the 150,000 organized members of building trade unions of New York City.

May Have Wide Effect

Naturally, that will give a nation-wide impetus to the five-day week movement. Therefore, it can be seen that the electricians have put over an exceedingly important piece of pioneer work, which may have an abiding and far-reaching effect on the entire labor movement.

John W. Hooley, president of the Electrical Contractors' Association, said he was delighted with Justice Bijur's decision and declared the union was entitled to the shorter week and higher wage, and that the employers were pleased to grant them the benefits which should have gone into effect on February 1st, but were temporarily held up by the injunction.

He further said the decision was a good thing for his association, as it followed the spirit of co-operation expressed by the formation of the Council of Industrial Relations in the electrical industry.

Beauty Chorus For Milkmen's Smoker

One of the surprises that will be on the card at the tenth anniversary smoking concert of the Milk Salesmen and Dairy Employees' Union will be a Beauty Chorus. Where they are going to get these beauties from we haven't the least idea, but we understand that some big prices are being offered for these flappers, so they must be going to be good. Anyhow, we know that once the girls hear that the Milk Salesmen are looking for flappers that can sing nearly as good as the "Sunkist Beauties," that the fire brigade will have to be called out to keep the "Hot Mamma's" out of the Labor Headquarters, although the police might be called in later to find out if anybody is getting murdered. Some girls make an awful noise when they sing, and unless these salesmen are good appraisers of siren's, something might be slipped up on the boys who pay their 50c to get admitted to the smoker. The date set is Wednesday, February 27th, in the Labor Headquarters.

Judge: "You have been acquitted of the charge of bigamy and are quite free to go home."

Prisoner: "To which one, your honor?"

Mill and Factory Workers Organizing

The Mill and Factory Workers are looking forward to Friday, March 1st, when they are holding a mass meeting to endeavor to better their wages and conditions by letting the non-union men, who are working alongside of them, realize that they should be in an organization that has given them the little that they have today.

It is up to you fellow-workers to see that your bench-mate is down at this meeting, as we have arranged special speakers for the evening to instill the pep that is lacking in the mills and factories around Vancouver and district.

Why not get the benefit of the large building program in Vancouver? Other trades are going after their increase this year. Why not you?

R. L. T.

United Farmers Ask Council to Hold Action

The recent editorial in the Labor Statesman ("Beware of the Greeks") dealing with the Chamber of Agriculture was reprinted in the Fraser Valley dairy farmers' publication and had given the farmers food for thought. It interpreted some of their ideas of the newly organized Chamber of Agriculture, so they are asking the Trades Council to permit one of their speakers to address the council. The representative will be given the privilege of the floor at the next council meeting. The communication to the Trades Council reads:

Port Kells, B.C.,
6th February, 1929.

The Secretary,
Trades & Labor Council,
Vancouver, B.C.

Dear Sir:

At an executive meeting of the Fraser Valley District Council No. 1, of the United Farmers of British Columbia (to be the United Farmers of Canada, British Columbia Section), held in Port Kells last night, it was resolved to ask your council to give an opportunity to Mr. J. E. Armishaw, provincial organizer for this organization, to place before you our aims and objects. with a view to obtaining your support and co-operation in our movement. Also to convey to you our views re the newly organized Chamber of Agriculture in this province.

Trusting you will give this your favorable consideration,

Yours very truly,
United Farmers of B.C., Inc.,
to be
United Farmers of Canada,
B.C. Section.
G. B. Motherwell, Gen. Sec.
G. H. Eaton, D. C. President.
M. H. Nicolson, D. C. Secretary-Treasurer.

Finding An Excuse To Attack Union Men

The present Japanese consul in Vancouver appears to be very antagonistic towards organized labor, judging by the evidence disclosed at the meeting of the Vancouver Trades Council on Tuesday, when a letter, alleged to have been written by the Japanese consul, Toyokichi Fukuma, at Vancouver, to the Japanese minister of foreign affairs, Baron Giichi Tanaka, was discussed. The consul accuses the union leaders of fostering various kinds of crime and of creating an anti-Japanese feeling among the Canadian people. As what might appear to be a cloak for some action against the Japanese union men, the consul suggests that they are made up of deserters from ships; and asks for the authority to round these deserters up and send them back to Japan.

The Trades Council executive recommended that a letter be written to the Japanese consul, Baron Tanaka, and the Japanese Federation of Trades Unions, deploring the action of the Vancouver consul. The recommendation was endorsed.

Best Hosiery Is Now Union-made

Philadelphia.—"Working girls and the wives of working men who wear silk hose may as well choose the union brands because they are among the best advertised makes on the market," says William Smith, secretary-treasurer of the American Federation of Full Fashioned Hosiery Workers.

Smith lists the following as union made hosiery:

Best Knit, Lakewood Vamp Toe, Blue Heron, Lehigh, Lincoln, Laurel, Van Raalte, Onlinest, Everwear, Cadet, Nomend, Hollywood, Logan, Co-ed, Oliver, Harris Merit, Opal, Onyx - Pointex, McCallum, Siliko, Gotham, Gold Stripe, Gordan V. Line, Granite, Holeproof, Phoenix Propper and Van Dyke.

The Federation of Full Fashioned Hosiery Workers is a comparatively young union, but has waged some stirring strikes. The Kenosha struggle has been one of the most spectacular and ably conducted strikes of recent years.

Failure to perform an honest day's work is basically dishonest. We want more who can do and less to tell us how.

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RUBBERSET SHAVING BRUSHES—Guaranteed	98c, $1.00, $1.50
SURE-EDGE STROPPER—Holds all blades	$1.00
KRISS KROSS STROPPER—All blades and 10-year guarantee	$5.50
INGRAM'S SHAVING CREAM—We recommend it!	50c
KRANK'S LATHER KREAM—No brush! No rubbing!	50c and $1.00

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.25	Ayerst's A. B. S. & C. Tablets, 100's	.13	
.35	Ozonal Ointment	.26	
.15	Camphor 2 ounces for	.15	
.50	Robinson's Barley or Groats,	.36	
1.00	Paris Eau de Quinine	.53	
.50	Bay Rum, 6-ounce	.26	
.60	Pure Glycerine, 8-ounce	.29	
.50	Glycerine and Rose Water, 8-ounce	.25	
.25	Krysol (Antiseptic) 4-ounce,	.13	
1.25	Phosferine	.93	
.25	Pocket Combs	.14	
.50	English Tooth Brush	.26	
1.00	Dr. Reid's Emulsion of Cod Liver Oil	.54	
.25	Cucumber and Witch Hazel Cream	.13	
.25	Extract of Vanilla or Lemon,	.13	
1.00	Piver's Face Powder	.46	
.60	Daggett & Ramsdell's Cold Vanishing Cream	.35	
1.00	Listol, 16-ounce	.53	

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Officer: "I'm a naval surgeon."

Fair Maid: "Goodness, how you doctors do specialize."

UPHOLSTERERS DANCE AND WHIST DRIVE WEDNESDAY

The usual favorite whist drive and dance of the Upholsterers' Union will be held in the K. P. Hall next Wednesday evening, commencing at 7:45. Dakin's orchestra will supply the music. Refreshments will be served, and a nice batch of prizes given away to the whist winners. Tickets 50c.