Shorter Hours
of work for labor will aid in making life and working conditions better for all who toil for a living.

Labor Statesman

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Union Men
of Vancouver district earn half a million dollars each month, and spend their wages at home with friends of Labor.

Supported by Sixty-two Local Unions

No. 390 VANCOUVER, CANADA, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30th, 1931 Price: Five Cents

Six Hour Day Only Real Unemployment Remedy

Publisher Says Glutted Markets and Under-nourished People Is An Indictment on Present-day Industrial Management; Urges Conference of Employers and Workers

WILLIAM RANDOLPH HEARST has come out in support of the 6-hour day as the only adequate remedy for unemployment and urges a national industrial conference of employers and representatives of trade unions to discuss conditions for its immediate limitation.

The reasons which importune Mr. Hearst to advocate the shorter work-day are set forth in an editorial in the Hearst papers headed "Six-hour Day Eventually, Why Not Now?"

"The time has come for American employers and labor leaders to come to grips with the fundamental facts concerning unemployment," the editorial says.

"Leaders must be reminded that business exists for the service of men. The ironic maladjustments in industry, with glutted markets on the one hand and undernourished people on the other, constitute a serious indictment of management in the large.

"Business has been depressed because executives were slow to discard outmoded ideas.

"In order to sustain prosperity through maintaining an adequate home consuming market, business must share with workingmen more liberally the fruits of the improved industrial efficiency, resulting from greater use of labor-saving machinery and from improved technique of operations. Failure to do so precipitated the present crisis.

"In emphasizing that the time was at hand for another reduction in the hours of labor, William Randolph Hearst pointed out:

"'Labor-saving machinery makes a reduction of hours possible, and, in fact, necessary. Otherwise vast numbers of working people will be thrown out of employment.

"'It has been the habit of the employing classes to take the full benefit of labor-saving machinery and capitalize it, depriving the working people of their due share of the benefit.

"'The advantage of labor-saving machinery should be distributed to tht employers in greater profits, to be sure, and to the consumer in cheaper prices; but, above all, to the working people in shorter hours, better wages and better living conditions.'

"With the demand and supply of man-power out of balance, American industry should immediately consider ways and means of adjusting itself to the six-hour day.

"Routine minds will find many reasons why the proposal will not work. The same negative reaction followed the campaign for an eight-hour day instead of a ten or twelve-hour day.

"But, in spite of reactionary rhetoric, the inexorable force of economic pressure is already compelling large-scale industrial experiments in spreading jobs among wider groups of men.

"A leading industrial statistician estimates that general adoption of the six-hour day would increase the present number of wage earners in industry alone by at least two million persons.

"Under the aegis of the Manufacturing Chemists' Association, leading corporations in the chemical industry have recently inaugurated the six-hour day in order to spread available work among the greatest number of workers.

"The president of one of the leading corporations in that industry, in a statement to the Hearst newspapers, declared:

"'While the immediate cause of our adopting the plan was emergency relief, it may well be that it will become a permanent policy.'

"Thus, creative leaders use an acute crisis as an opportunity for building sounder and more humane economic policies.

"A leading American cereal manufacturer, who pioneered with the six-hour day, has reported that the productivity per worker has increased 3 per cent. to 4 per cent.

"The Hearst newspapers accordingly urge enlightened employers and representatives to discuss conditions under which the six-hour day in industry may be promptly ushered in.

"The proposal is especially timely for public utilities, railroads, foodstuff trades, and other relatively stable industries which are still operating on reasonably full schedules, despite the depression.

"Under conditions of prosperity, a six-hour day will enable the worker to enjoy longer leisure, and to develop along cultural lines."

Price Slump Has Not Increased Real Wages

One excuse given for the many wage reductions recently announced is that living costs have dropped during the depression and that therefore "real wages" have increased. In some individual cases, where men have been employed full time, this is undoubtedly true. But for labor as a whole the excuse simply does not hold. In fact, according to Ethelbert Stewart, head of the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics, the total wage income of labor has dropped much farther than have living costs. Mr. Stewart has made public a statistical table showing that while living costs dropped 15 per cent. in the period from December, 1925, to June, 1931, the total wages paid out by manufacturing industries in the same period declined 40 per cent. Virtually the whole of the drop in wages has taken place since the depression began in 1929. In other words, then, "real wages" for the entire working class have actually decreased. It could be argued that inasmuch as the purchasing value of the dollar has increased during the depression the decrease in living costs is greater than the statistics suggest. But in reality the workingman's dollar is today worth only eighteen cents more than it was in 1925. Mr. Stewart has estimated that the net loss to the workers is "roughly 30 per cent." This means that the purchasing power of the working class has been reduced to 70 per cent. of what it was a few years ago. It may be more than a coincidence that the industrial production of the country has been reduced in about the same proportion, that is, to about 70 per cent. of what it was in 1929. Advocates of wage reductions might find some profit in studying the wage problem from this angle.

Unemployment. — The cost of maintaining the unemployed is a national charge. It should be borne out of national taxation in the form of a special unmeployment levy on all incomes whether earned or derived from interest and profit.—Arthur Hayday, chairman of the British Trades Union Congress General Council.

Deportees Can Go To Russia If They Choose

Alien radicals facing deportation to countries where death sentences almost certainly await them may now elect to go voluntarily to Soviet Russia instead of being sent to their native lands. The Department of Labor has so ruled in the case of Tao Hsuan Li, Chinese student of engineering at New York University. Tao was arrested a year ago on a charge of being an active Communist and therefore deportable under the immigration laws. The department announced that he would be sent to China, and it maintained this position despite the flood of protests it received from many persons who insisted that the department's action was tantamount to sending Tao to death. Not until the American Civil Liberties Union obtained a statement from the Chinese Legation in Washington to the effect that Communists are subject to the death penalty in China, did the Labor Department reconsider its ruling. Commissioner of Immigration Hull then announced that Tao could voluntarily depart for Russia. William W. Husband, Assistant Secretary of Labor, said a similar procedure would be followed in the case of Guido Serio, an Italian subject awaiting deportation to Italy, if it were shown that he would be put to death upon his return there for his anti-Fascist agitation.—The Nation.

No Depression Here!

Everyone will forget their worries here: Lester Court, Saturday night. This is where you'll meet your friends and enjoy yourselves as you never have since our last big dance of the year. Everybody will enjoy our punch, yes, sir, punch with a kick. Don't forget those free prizes, $50 in gold in two prizes of $30 and $20, and favors for everyone. Hallowe'en, you know, and if you don't have the time of your life it wont be the fault of the Prince of Rythm and his 9-piece orchestra. Let's go! Yes, let's everybody! We'll be seeing you! OK!

And some of us can be fooled a lot easier than we can fool others.

Spain To Socialize All Private Property

Madrid.—Revolutionary legislation was passed by the National Assembly.

Great excitement prevailed in the House during the discussion of Article 42 of the Draft Constitution, which lays down that the proprietorship of natural sources of wealth belongs in the first place to the State in the name of the nation.

It goes on to say that the State, which at present recognizes private property "according to the degree of utility developed therein by the proprietor," will proceed gradually to its socialisation.

It was also resolved that, whenever necessary, Parliament is authorized to order the expropriation of property without any compensation.

Public services and "exploitations," such as monopolies or the working of mines, will be nationalised as quickly as possible.

(Editor's Note,—This means that all property used for the production of wealth, such as mines, factories, machinery and public utilities will become the property of the state and used in the interest of the people. It does not mean that personal property, such as homes or furnishings or savings, will be interfered with).

Asks Fusion of the Farmer-Labor Forces

An appeal for a fusion of the hitherto separate farm and labor movements was uttered by George H. Williams, past president of the United Farmers of Canada, Saskatchewan Section, addressing a meeting under the auspices of the Independent Labor Party of Regina, October 8th.

"When the farmers and workers join hands," he exclaimed, "it will signify the beginning of a new era in which an opportunity will be given for the citizenry to better its conditions."

Mr. Williams saw little hope in continuing to place reliance in either of the old established political parties. He had criticism to offer for the present Saskatchewan government, especially as concerned its debt adjustment policy, but at the same time he was "disgusted" by attacks of the Liberal opposition on the government. Indeed, he could see little fundamental difference in their economic outlook.

Capitalism Falls Down

Both the farm and labor movements, according to Mr. Williams, had fallen into identical pitfalls when they tried to find a better place for themselves under the capitalistic system. Both groups now appeared interested in progressing toward a socialistic economic system. If such a system were to be successful, it must prove its ability to produce what the world needed, and to distribute those goods to the people who needed them. The capitalistic system could meet the first test well enough, he said, but it fell down badly when the second was applied.

A reasonable return for a reasonable amount of labor must be one of the prime tasks of the socialistic regime to come, the speaker declared. Money should no longer be regarded as a medium of exchange of goods.

Chief Weakness

Timidity was one of the chief weaknesses of farm political movements in the past, Mr. Williams said further. "We did not dare to call ourselves Socialists. Unless the farmers and workers of Canada give up the idea that they can patch up capitalism they might as well save their breath and effort."

Many uqestions were put to Mr. Williams at the conclusion of his address concerning his recent visit to Russia. "We must judge Russia as a country coming suddenly from the dark ages into a new era," he explained in this connection.

SOME DON'TS TO REMEMBER!

DON'T always be behind in your dues. Give yourself a surprise and pay up once in a while.

DON'T find fault with the different system which have been established unless you can suggest a remedy or an improvement for at least one-half of them.

DON'T expect the Business Agent to be the whole union and do all the work. Once in a while give him a boost instead of a knock and help do some of the organizing work yourself.

DON'T tell the boss all you know about someone else. He pays you to work and not to be a detective.

DON'T, on a lift with you, expect the other man to always take the heavy end. His back may not be any stronger than yours.

DON'T, wherever you are, whether at a union meeting, at work, or at home, think you know it all. Listen once in a while and you may learn something new.

DON'T sulk on your job because it happens to be a tough one; the next load may be soft. Be sure and always be willing to give and take—you will be happier and the day won't seem so long.

DON'T, during these hard times, look for all the overtime. Give the other boys a chance to live also.—I. B. T. C. S. & H. of A. Magazine.

The Struggle For Southern Manchuria

To all China's tragic internal complications—flood, economic distress, paralysis of government, terrorism of bandits and depredations of almost ceaseless civil wars—has been added now attack from without. Japan has invaded Chinese territory in South Manchuria, dispersed Chinese official authority, occupied cities, shelled and bombed other cities, killed soldiers and civilians and is laying down the conditions on which China can resume control of its own soil.

The proximate causes of every crisis that has arisen in Manchuria in recent years are too enmeshed in international intrigue to be untangled, but in broad outlines the issue of Manchuria is starkly clear. Russia wrested all of Manchuria from China as the spoils of empire and Japan took the southern part from Russia as the spoils of the Russo-Japanese war. China had to submit until a few years ago, when nationalism emerged.

China has been pushing forward vigorously in the Manchurian provinces. Chinese immigrants, by the millions, have been colonizing undeveloped lands. Manufacturers, bankers, artisans and small merchants have been establishing themselves in the towns. More serious to the Japanese, the Chinese government has been proceeding with plans for railways to break the monopoly of transportation hitherto held by Japan through its possession of the South Manchuria Railway. And in this lies the crux of the controversy which has seethed in and around Mukden for three years.

Japan's policy is simple. Notwithstanding all diplomatic euphemisms, it has regarded South Manchuria as Japanese soil since 1905 and so regards it now. It is probably willing to let the Chinese flag fly over Mukden so long as Japan's decisions are final in all that affects Japan's interests. It is probably willing to let China recover its sovereignty in China proper so long as Japan retains unimpaired control over the leased territory on the South Manchurian coast and the South Manchuria Railway. That control it will not yield without fighting. To get it, it fought Russia; to keep it, it will send punitive expeditions against China or fight any other Power that takes up China's cause.

Within Japan the civilian forces have been gaining strength as against the military, and even the radical movement is growing. As time goes on, it will be seen that there is no irrepressible conflict between the Chinese and Japanese peoples over the inhabitation of Manchurian soil—the Chinese have it and are bound to continue in possession. And people will be less ready to fight to sustain either foreign or native economic domination on the part of capitalist proprietors. The development of a more collective type of economy would resolve the whole problem of nationalistic rivalry over the ownership of railroads and mines. It is in the interest of the Chinese people—and of the Japanese too—to play for time.

SAYS JOBLESS CARE IS INDUSTRY'S DUTY

Toronto, Ont.—The duty of caring for the unemployed was placed squarely upon the shoulders of industry by Canon C. E. Riley of St. Catherines, Ont., in an address before the general synod of the Church of England, at its annual meeting here recently.

"It is the duty of capital," he declared, "to see that the laborer gets a day's pay even if he works only an hour. This is one of the initial principles laid down by Christ.

"If a machine makes it possible for one man to do work of ten, then the work should be divided among the ten men, all receiving the same unreduced wage."

Union Meetings at Labor Headquarters

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23rd

Milk Salesmen, No. 464	1
Plumbers and Steamfitters, No. 170	2
Engineers, No. 115	3
Asbestos Workers	201

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1st, 1931

Shingle Weavers, No. 17813	3

MONDAY

Electrical Workers, No. 213	1
Pressmen, No. 69	3
Boilermakers	4
Painters' Committee	313
Cement Finishers	315

TUESDAY

Trades Council	1
Caretakers and Engineers	2
Burnaby Civic Employees	3
Mailers	313

WEDNESDAY

Brewery Workers	1
Plasterers	2
Iron Workers	3
Boot and Shoe Workers	4
Photo Engravers	313
Tilesetters' Helpers	315
Firemen and Oilers	312

THURSDAY

Engineers, No. 15	1
Floorlayers	2
Office Employees	4
Jewellery Workers	313
Sign Writers	315
Projectionists (11:30 p.m.)	1

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6th

Railway Carmen, No. 58	2
Plasterers' Helpers	3
Molders	311

Woll and Citrine's Views On Unemployment Insurance

During the A. F. of L. convention in Vancouver Vice-President Woll spoke against unemployment insurance and we are quoting some of his words, and alongside of them we are quoting W. M. Citrine, general secretary of the British Trades Union Congress. Mr. Woll has connections with insurance companies, so we must assume that he was speaking for those companies and the bankers and not for the workers, whom he is alleged to represent. The complaints which the British workers make (which Mr. Woll speaks about) are not against unemployment insurance, but against some sections of the act so as to make it more beneficial to the unemployed.

MR. WOLL

At the A. F. of L. convention, held in Vancouver, Mr. Woll Said:

"Even if this convention went on record, with all its dangers, with all its pitfalls, with all of the complaints which the British movement has made against such a system, even were we unanimously to agree we wanted a compulsory government insurance for unemployment in this country, first of all our national government could not accomplish it without a constitutional amendment, because there is no such power vested in the federal government.

"It is true we have a body here and there that has declared in favor of unemployment insurance. That does not say they have given the thoughtful study and consideration required before taking our nation into an adventure of this kind. I think we should be commended for pointing out the dangerous features of a system of this kind."

MR. CITRINE

At the British Trade Union Congress, held this year, Mr. Citrine said:

As to the amount of money to be saved by the reduction of the unemployment benefit and its proportion to the total amount to be obtained, Mr. Citrine had the following to say: "The actual cut in unemployment benefit is £12,800,000 out of total deficit of £170,000,000. How can it be argued that one item of £12,800,000 alone is the factor which decided whether we are solvent or insolvent? . . . . We know quite well why the attack has been made on unemployment benefit. The United States is at its wits end to know how to deal with its unemployment problem, and the bankers and large insurance houses there know that they will have a great public demand this year for social insurance to meet that unemployment problem unless they can discredit it by frightening the people with the example of Great Britain, financially the strongest country in the world, going into bankruptcy because of unemployment. It is because they hope to scare the people with ideas like that they have insisted upon this cut being made."

Council of Churches Favors Higher Wages

The Federal Council of Churches, in a recent pronouncement, declares:

It is essential that we should have a new concept of the position and needs of all the workers and producers in the modern world. Society now treats millions of them, in times of depression as if they were dependents, hangers-on, social liabilities. As a matter of fact, they are the very foundation of our economic structure. Justice, not charity, is the basic demand of the situation. That the worker is in theory entitled to a living wage is readily granted. But a living wage is generally conceived of as a sum that will purchase the necessities of life during the time that the producer is at work. We must extend the concept to cover all of a worker's life, including the two periods at the beginning and at the end—childhood and old age—when one cannot earn. This suggests an ample wage during employment, stabilization of employment, and adequate protection against interruptions in the opportunity to earn by methods which will preserve the initiative and independence of the worker, but at the same time safeguard the family income by such provisions as workmen's compensation, health insurance, unemployment insurance, maternity benefits, and old-age pensions.

FASCIST PLANES CHASE LEAFLET DROPPER

Rome.—Thousands of anti-Fascist leaflets were dropped by an aeroplane flying over Rome recently.

The leaflet contained appeals to Italians against Fascism, and recalled the murder of Matteotti seven years ago.

The machine also flew over the house of Signor Mussolini.

As soon as it was noticed, Rome aerodrome was warned and a number of Fascist aeroplanes at once started a chase.

Under cover of darkness, however, the mysterious aeroplane escaped.

APPEAL FOR EXEMPTION

The Southern California Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church has memorialized the General Conference which convenes in Atlantic City next May to petition the United States Government to grant exemption from military service to Methodist citizens who hold conscientious scruples against participation in war.

Production For Use Instead of For Profit

It is time to face the facts. The depression has deepened; recovery within any endurable period becomes day by day more doubtful as adequate corrective action is delayed. . . . Nothing the individual business concern, community, or citizen can now do for themselves can bring recovery save through a prolonged process of liquidation, loss and hardship in which only the strongest survive. Wage cuts, drastic individual or business economies, curtailment of public expenditures, contraction of credit may afford temporary relief and assure individual survival, but they progressively destroy the network of interdependence upon which the security of organized society rests, intensify and spread its distress, speed its disintegration, and make its reconstruction more difficult. Much as we may prize the principles of rugged individualism which vitalize enterprise where confidence and credit are protected, there is now no alternative to chaos save to invoke the ultimate authority of the state in defence of the public security and take immediate and drastic steps to re-establish confidence by restoring the community's credit resources to its use.—Editorial in the Business Week (published weekly for business men by McGraw-Hill), October 7, 1931.

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Trades Union Directory

LABOR HEADQUARTERS, 529-531 BEATTY STREET

Vancouver Trades and Labor Council—President, C. McDonald; 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.

Bakery and Confectionery Workers' International Union, Local No. 468, meets first and third Saturday in month at 7:00 p.m. at Labor Headquarters. President, Jas. Brydson; Secretary's Office, Room 304, Labor Headquarters; Hours 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon. Phone: Sey. 3349.

Beverage Dispensers' Union, No. 676—Meets last Sunday at 8 p.m., Room No. 2, Labor Headquarters; second Friday at 10 a.m. at the office. Pres., M. J. Galvin; Secretary and Bus. Agent, T. J. Hanafin. Office: Room 1, Eagles' Hall, 535 Homer St. Phones Sey. 4783 and Bay. 1656-R. Hours: 9 to 2 p.m.

Bridge and Structural Iron Workers. Local 97, Int. Assoc.—Meets every Wednesday, Hall 3, Labor Headquarters, at 8 p.m. President, W. Dickson; Secretary, P. Lauret, Room 311, Labor Headquarters. Phones: Office, Sey. 7495; Residence, High. 5679X.

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, Mrs. Harvey, 4487 Quebec; Secretary, Thos. Carroll, 842 Hamilton St.

Bricklayers and Masons International Union No. 1—Room 309, Labor Headquarters. Meets second and fourth Wednesday, in Hall No. 3. President, J. C. Greenwood. Phone Bay. 8047-Y; Secretary, W. S. Dagnall, 1244 East 20th, Phone Fair. 345-R; Fin. Sec., Albert Wright, 4128 Knight Road, Phone Fair. 2005-R.

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

City Hall Employees' Association—Meets first Wednesday of each month at 195 East Pender St. at 8 p.m. President, E. Mitten; Treasurer and Business Agent, W. J. Scribbins, 3208 Pender St. E.; Secretary, J. Tarbuck, 3517 West 25th.

Civic Employees' Union, Local 28—Meets first and third Fridays in the month at 251½ Hastings East, at 8 p.m. President, Jack Wood, 4571 Fraser Street; Secretary-Treasurer, George Harrison, 3427 Triumph Street.

Egg Graders' Union, No. 11—Meets in the Labor Headquarters, first and third Monday in month. President, R. Gela, 3287 West 21st; Record Secretary, Miss D. Simpson, 627 Carnarvon Street, New Westminster; Financial Secretary, Miss Marjorie Deyell, 555 East 20th, City.

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

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, 1624 East 8th Avenue.

Floorlayers' Union, No. 1875, U. B. of C. & J. A.—Meets first and third Thursdays in month at Hall No. 2, Labor Headquarters. President, Ralph Ross; Fin. Sec., Jack Nelson; Rec. Sec., J. A. McDonald; Business Agent, W. D. Wilson, 1535 Fifth Ave. W.

The Hotel and Restaurant Employees and Marine Cooks and Stewards.—Local 28, Suite 39, 413 Granville St., meets second Monday each month at 8 p.m., and last Monday at 9 p.m. President, R. ("Dick") McHugh; Secretary-Treasurer and Business Agent, Harry Wood. Phone Seymour 125.

Lathers, Wood, Wire and Metal, International Union, Local 207—Meets first and third Mondays in month at Labor Headquarters. Secretary, F. Macey, 2456 West Seventh Ave. Phone Bayview 6831 L.

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, J. Mitchell; 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, C. Carslake, 1124 Alberni St.

Motion Pictures Phojectionists' Union, Local 348, of I.A.T.S.E. & M.P.M.O.—11:30 p.m., first Friday in month, in Hall No. 3 Labor Headquarters. President, Locksley Clark; Secretary, J. C. Richards, Box 345, Phone Douglas 1574-R; Business Agent, J. R. Foster, Phone Trinity 5708.

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, J. Bowyer; General Secretary, W. Couling; Organizer, F Fletcher. Office, Suite 307-319 West Pender. Phone Douglas 2290.

Painters, Decorators and Paperhangers, Local 138—Meets second and fourth Thursdays at Hall No. 2. President, A. B. Hodge; Rec. Secretary, A. E. Varah, 1443 Clark Drive; Financial Secretary, T. Kane. Office: Room 313, Labor Headquarters. Phone Sey. 3609.

Plasterers, Local 89—Operative Plasterers' and Cement Finishers' International Association—Meets first and third Wednesday in month at Hall No. 2, Labor Headquarters. President, F. G. Walsh; Cor. Sec., A. Hurry; Fin. Sec., E. A. Williams, 830 East 12th; Phone Fair. 5219 X. Cement Finishers' Cor. Sec., J. W. Baines, 2866 Turner Street.

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

Plumbers and Steamfitters, No. 170, International Association—Meets every second and fourth Friday in Hall No. 2. President, Val Pearson, 787 East 52nd; Financial 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, W. W. Quigley, 2047 West Second; Secretary, Thos. S. Ezart, 1807 East Thirty-eighth.

Railway Carmen of America, Lodge No. 58—Meets first and third Friday in month at Labor Headquarters. President, A. S. Ross, 5806 Sophia Street; Rec. Secretary, J. D. Valliamy, 2215 West 15th.

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; 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, Thos. Burke; Business Agent and Secretary, D. MacPherson, 308 Labor Headquarters.

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

Taxi, Stage and Bus Drivers, Local 151—Meets second Monday at 8 p.m. and second Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. President, W. Wilson. Office, 306 Labor Headquarters; Phone, Sey. 7495.

Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Stablemen and Helpers, Local 466—311 Labor Headquarters. Meets every First and Third Monday, Labor Headquarters. President, F. T. Goodrich, 1239 Woodland, High. 2095-X; Secretary-Treasurer, Birt Showler, Room 306, Labor Headquarters.

Theatrical Stage Employees' Union, Local 118 of the I.A.T.S.E. & M.P.M.O. Meets second Tuesday in Labor Headquarters at 9:30 a.m. President, Geo. W. Allen; Recording Secretary, H. Pearson; Business Agent, B. McGlone, address, P. O. Box 711.

Typographical Union, No. 226—President, C. S. Campbell; Vice-President, E. R. Bayley; Secretary-Treasurer, R. H. Neelands, 300-2 Labor Headquarters. Meets last Sunday of each month at 2 p.m., in Hall No. 1, Labor Headquarters.

Union Label Trades Council meets in Hall No. 4, Labor Headquarters, 529 Beatty Street, second and fourth Thursdays in each month at 8 o'clock. President, Colin McDonald, 2834 St. George Street, Phone Fair. 3317-Y. Secretary, Mollie Dolk, 1587 Fifth Avenue East. Phone High. 477-Y.

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.

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The Labor Statesman

Published every Friday, at Labor Headquarters, Vancouver, B. C.

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

H. W. Watts, Man. Editor.

PRESS COMMITTEE:

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Vancouver, Fri., Oct. 30th, 1931

THE MORALS OF OUR POLITICIANS

Semi-annually an evening paper suffers a virtuous spasm and afflicts us with an editorial on political morality. A few evenings ago this great family journal turned its attention to campaign funds. The editor has a very exact knowledge of where campaign funds come from, and also of the fact that the politician repays the debt from the public treasury from the people's property or by giving the contributor a favored opportunity to bleed the public. Worked out as a practical proposition, certain people who are anxious to obtain improper privileges for themselves put up the money to elect Mr. Bennett and his party, and, having successfully done so, Mr. Bennett must now juggle tenders for public works, raise the tariff on clothing, or in some other manner create the opportunity for these people to secure the return of their money together with a gambler's profits. Mr. MacKenzie King was also grubstaked in the same way, but as his backers bet on the wrong horse they must wait until sometime in the future for their reward—that is, unless, as is commonly the case when the party is already in power, they collected before they put the money up.

Our great "Independent, Clean Newspaper . . . Devoted to Public Service," while it does not exactly approve this scheme of things, its disapproval is of about the same quality as it would disparage unseasonable weather or some other natural phenomena that is quite beyond our control. The line of reasoning appears to be somewhat as follows: Party government is so good that we cannot hope for anything better; to have party government we must have political parties, and if we have political parties we must have campaign funds, so there you are. How and why the logic of this is to sacrifice the public interest in the Beauharnois power, or make a gift of the royalty in the Flin-Flon mine, or give a newspaper man the exclusive right to operate stages on a thousand miles of public highway, all this our "independent, clean newspaper" fails to tell us. Theft, graft, breach of trust and all the duplicity and falsehood that fits in between, like mortar in a wall, is taken as something quite to be expected. Dishonesty at the head of national affairs is passed over with a kindly tolerance that illfits the professed ideals of the paper. Possibly the most interesting of all is the editor's remedy for this condition, concluding that the politician cannot be persuaded to pay his own campaign expenses. The thought is offered that some of the incentive to dishonesty could be removed if there was a statutory requirement compelling every voter to vote. How this is going to reduce campaign expenses we cannot guess, unless, indeed, the innocent man imagines that the purpose of campaign expenditures is to get the voters out. This is about fifty per cent. wrong. The politician will pay just exactly the same amount to keep one of the other fellow's voters at home as he will to get his own out. The writer once knew of a case where the horses on a stage coach jumped out of the harness and galloped for home, leaving nine voters on the road six miles from the polling station at half an hour before the poll closed. The coach driver took a trip down to the coast with the proceeds of the "accident." The trouble here was that there were too many voters getting out.

The editor, however, leans strongly to a statutory grant to each candidate—we suppose for election expenses. We do not like this scheme. We cannot see why the public treasury should be charged with the reward paid to the stage coach driver for cutting his hames straps halfway through. We have a suspicion that there might be some delay in Angus MacInnis' campaign cheque coming through, and, furthermore, at present a Conservative candidate spends more thousands than a Labor candidate does of hundreds. Before we could begin to agree we would want to know would the MacInnis standard or the Stevens standard be adopted. Stevens' committee would retire in disgust if they were asked to put their man through with six to eight hundred dollars. On the other hand, MacInnis' committee would not know what in thunder to do with twenty thousand dollars.

We have a much better plan: A statutory amendment should be made to the Elections Act permitting each candidate to have an "official observer," with authority to sit in at all committee meetings of the opposing party. This we know would very seriously limit the activity of the Liberal and Conservative parties, but in view of the fact that much of the work carried on stands but little above the criminal line, and sometimes falls below it, and also that there is a decidedly criminal element in the method of obtaining the funds to pay for the work, we submit that it would be in the interest of honesty, decency and good government to adopt this suggestion.—M.

THE STAMPEDE

Referring to the election results in Great Britain, George Bernard Shaw says that "It wasn't an election—it was a stampede." This expresses it entirely if we are to judge by the returns and the methods used by the National Government in its campaign. It was a nicely planned election and when the date was announced as close to polling day as it was permissable to have it, the entire country was flooded with literature, posters and "news" which fairly took every elector by storm. Patriotic fervor was raised to fever heat, the direst of calamities were prophisied should a Labor Government be returned, and campaign promises were thicker than the fog in London streets on election day. With Labor in power, said the Nationalists, the budget would be unbalanced, currency madly inflated, the country driven to bankruptcy, and the workers ruined. This shouted from every platform, blazoned forth on every poster, on every leaflet and every newspaper, created a scare, which, added to the psychology of the "three graces" banded together in a so-called emergency, stampeded a workless, tax-burdened, wage reduced electorate. There was no time to debate the foolish and untenable statements made by the Nationalists. The propaganda was a mass of frigid lies, of dire calamity, of sloppy patriotism and of Holy Roller antics. And now the electors sit back, muddled and befuddled at the result. Ramsay MacDonald heads a government which he must dread if he still has Labor ideals, for on May 13th, 1931, in a letter to Mr. David Harvie, he said: "Tory promises are worthless; Tory designs are disastrous. Today the most deplorable state of poverty and unsettlement is to be found in industrial countries where Toryism is in power and shapes industrial policy." Today Toryism is in power in Great Britain and Ramsay MacDonald will not be able to, nor permitted to stop the Tory machine from grinding still further profits out of the toil-worn workers, who will be permitted to work, in order to fill the coffers of the bankers and industrial parasites whose tentacles reach out to every part of the globe. Lower wages, reduced unemployment benefits, reduced taxation on incomes, tariffs, increased prices, attacks on unions, longer hours of labor and further speeding up of the industrial machine and slave will not relieve the chaotic condition now so prevalent in Britain, as well as in other countries. All those things go with an industrial system in which profits are the motive power. "Equality of Sacrifice" was urged in the election, which simply meant that the worker was to take a shilling a day less and so was the $100,000 a year property owner. And they all stampeded for it. Lord Beaverbrook could not have been speaking for the unemployed, for the half-starved children, for the under-paid and toil-worn workers when he cried in his "Sunday Express": "Are you for Britain or against her? Do you love your country, or do you not? Have you faith in your country or have you not? There has never been in our history a national battle so supercharged with final fatality, for every man, for every woman, and for every child born and to be born for countless generations." Did you ever hear such twaddle, but it was good election dope, and this, along with millions of similar tirades, swept the Nationalist standard-bearers into power. And the Tories hold the magic wand which they say will now cure all the ills that the late Labor Government feared to touch. At this distance from the scene of operations we might be inclined to say that the Labor Government could have been bolder in its legislative actions, but the Tories were watching every move and were ready to force an election at any time. Their plans were all made when Ramsay MacDonald was taken into their confidence (?) and informed of the financial crisis that was about to overtake the country. A minature crisis was staged and Ramsay MacDonald led the Tories into battle, not against the profiteers but against the exploited. Time, however, will tell the tale of how futile these Tory manipulations and promises worked out. There is no pot of gold at the end of the rainbow for the workers under Tory rule. We in British Columbia and Canada know that, and it will not take very many moons for the British workers to find it out also. What they will then do about it remains to be seen. Since the stampede we have not been able to figure out whether there is any hope for the abolition of the profit system. There should be, but who amongst us can be sure of it, unless the wars which our Tory friends will probably lead us into will enable us to turn the trick as the workers did in Russia.—W.

THE SACREDNESS OF PROPERTY

The degree of mania expressed in stock speculation is revealed in the following contrast of prices at the peak of the year 1929 and on September 19, 1931: American Telephone and Telegraph 310 and 140; Bethlehem Steel 140 and 33; J. I. Case Co., 509 and 44; Chrysler Corporation 135 and 15; International Harvester, 142 and 29; Montgomery Ward, 156 and 13; Stone & Webster, 210 and 19; U. S. Steel new, 261 and 75.

GOVERNMENT WILL ACT IF INDUSTRIALISTS DON'T

Unless industrial leaders successfully deal with the problem of unemployment in "permanent fashion," both Federal and State governments will enact job insurance legislation.

This view was voiced this week by the American Engineering Council in a statement announcing that 100,000 trained engineers would co-operate with President Hoover in efforts to end the depression.

The Council said that there is a "very pronounced feeling" that commerce and industry were responsible for the depression and that it is up to them to cure it, not by cutting wages, which makes matters worse, but by assuring workers that both their pay and jobs are secure.

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An Absurd Ditty!

Of all the foolish practises indulged in by the members of the human race, the habit they have of constantly wishing is one of the most absurd (unless, of course, the individual who wishes is thereby inspired by the desire to make some definite effort to attain their object). All day one hears such expression as "I wish I had a car," "I wish I had a better," "I wish I had a little more money," and so on ad nauseum. When one realizes that supposing the person who wishes they had a little more money (which includes most people) were to ever get that wish gratified, they would still continue to wish it, or, at least, their wives would, so where are you.

We had an instance of this recently when Archibald, the tame poet, turned up again, to our intense disgust, and spent the morning loafing about the office, wishing until, in desperation, we said to him: "Archibald, we very much wish you would give up this silly habit of constantly wishing." "Well, I was only wishing I could get a job." "What kind of a job?" "Well," he replied, "I wish I was a sailor." "A sailor? Huh! A fine looking sailor you'd make." And endeavoring to air our nautical knowledge, we said: "I'd like to see you with a schooner." "Yes, that's it," he replied, "a schooner, that's what I want. In fact, I could do with a couple of them." "Don't be absurd, what could you possibly want with a couple of schooners. You're surely not starting an expedition?" "Expedition nothing," he replied, "if I had a couple of schooners and then got a chance at the free lunch counter, I'm sure I'd feel much better." Evidently, he was dreaming of bygone days, and thinking it would be the easiest way to get rid of him we forthwith took him out and bought him a couple, and a little later received the following absurdity.—P.A.B.

AN ABSURD DITTY

I wish I was a sailor
And could join that happy band
Who don't know half the troubles
That we meet with on the land;
No doubt they have their worries,
And at times they make 'em sore,
But they can't be nearly 'alf as bad
As wot we get ashore.

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PARTS

AUTO WRECKING CO.

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For it seems to me a sailor
Is a lucky sort of chap,
Just travelling round a-visiting
The places on the map,
Who never wants for bed or board,
He's provided on that score,
Which doesn't always 'appen
To the bloke 'oo stops ashore.

And so I just consider
That a sailor is a gent
Who never knows wot taxes is
And never pays no rent;
No blinking debt collector
Can come knocking at 'is door,
That's where he's so much better off
Than the bloke wot stops ashore.

And I wish I was a sailor
When I haven't got a cent
For the butcher, or the baker,
Or to meet the blooming rent,
When the kids are 'ungry, 'owling,
Cos they want their daily bread,
And the misses, in her tantrums,
Keeps a snapping off my 'ed.

Never wish you were a sailor,
It's a life as you would 'ate,
Being bullied by the bo-sun,
Or else Chivied by the mate;
When the seas aboard do thunder,
With a western ocean roar,
Till you think she's going under,
Then you'll wish you were ashore.
—P. A. BEALL.

THE DOLE IN NEW YORK

According to the Emergency Unemployment Relief Committee, three-quarters of a million persons are vainly seeking employment in New York City, of whom 160,000 require public assistance if they are to survive through the winter.

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The Open Road

AFOOT WITH JACK LOGIE

By the time this appears in print the British election will be over, but it strikes me that the following extract from an article in The New Statesman and Nation will be just as valid then as it is now:

"Russia is far from paradise, but it has, in the eyes of every man not besottedly complacent with his own bank balance, the enormous advantage of being the one part of the world where a co-ordinated and coherent effort is being made to utilize the available wealth of the country for the equal benefit of the people who live in it. And it needs no great intelligence to see that this contrast cannot remain in the world. The choice is between socializing and reorganizing our economic system and watching its destruction. The real obstacle to internal reorganization is the same as the obstacle to international reorganization. The retarding force is the dead hand of old indebtedness, the preference of those who have a legal claim upon the products of society rather to see society collapse in chaos than to surrender one iota of the sanctity of private property. But again, just as, internationally, the creditor countries may be forced into sense when they see the abyss in front of them, so, internally, we have still to prove whether property owners would prefer revolution to constructive socialism. The issue is not at all beyond the plain man's comprehension."

"Within a few weeks he will probably have to face the issue at the polls. The choice will be between attempting to patch up a decaying system with tariffs—and the alternative slogan of a 'free hand' will not really alter the choice—and a policy which, vague and imperfectly worked out though it still is, at least faces facts and offers a plan. Public control of the financial system is the first condition of the public control of development of industry and trade and the land. These things can no longer be treated as the fantasies of Utopia-mongers, or as adventures over whose risks we can afford to sit down and argue. They are measures demanded by common sense."

* * *

After reading the daily papers with their dreary tales of unemployment, reparations, international debts and the other aspects of the capitalist mess, it is refreshing to read news from Russia. There the problems of life are of quite a different nature and the general outlook is one of buoyant hope and undaunted enthusiasm. They are on the upgrade and we are steadily going down; they face the sunrise, and, with us, the night is still dark.

An interesting feature of the Russian situation is the fact that the specialist or technician class is now in the same favored category with the manual workers. Technicians, manual workers and children receive most consideration in the Soviet State and are given special privileges in the way of food, clothing and education. In a highly industrialized state the skilled engineer or technical expert is absolutely indispensable and the plans for the education of the youth of Russia in preparation for the management of huge projects which are now under construction are most comprehensive and instructive. The following extract from an article by S. P. Tamboutsev, of the Technical Education Eection of the Supreme Economic Council of the U. S. S. R., gives only a glimpse of this educational scheme:

"A unique achievement of Soviet education is the system of factory schools, where the factory is the school and the school the factory. The entire working staff of the factory is educated there in the course of its work. The tendency is toward this type of concentrated school, which aims to further the growth of general culture and technical knowledge among the masses of the population, and to contribute to the eventual abolition of the gulf between manual and mental labor."

"The Soviet system of training engineers is based on the assumption that the best place to train an industrial specialist is in the factory, where he has the advantage of an engineering technique and a rich experience which can be found only there. It aims to bring science itself closer to its practical aims, namely, the invention of new tools and machines to aid man in his struggle to harness natural forces. It aims further to educate and train specialists from the rank and file workers by giving them a thorough understanding of industrial processes; to hasten the training of the engineer from his earliest student years by participation in industry; to provide the student with a wide grasp of industry as a whole so as to enable him the better to choose his own specialty; to enable industry to select its men and to establish good fellowship with them on the basis of practical experience in the process of production; to link the school and factory in such a way that the progress of both may contribute toward accelerating the development and modernization of working methods; and gradually to convert the industrial plant into a factory school."

Nothing is much more sickening at the present time than the appalling waste of talent and energy among our young men. Thousands of them are now in road camps and will likely be turned adrift once more to live in jungles and to deteriorate physically, mentally and morally. Nothing but a planned social order will ever absorb them into industry again or give them any opportunity to develop their latent talents. They are the terrible wastage of capitalism and when one considers what might be done under a sane social system it makes you swear under your breath and pick up your Russian magazine again to read of conditions which are more civilized than our own.

* * *

During the second election, when President Wilson was elected, his followers had for their campaign cry, "He kept us out of war." Now that is being parodied for the next campaign and the slogan will be, "Vote for Hoover, he kept us out of work."

* * *

Well, the returns are coming in now for the British election, and it looks as if the National Government has a big majority. Now they have a free hand and the "doctor's mandate" they asked for, and we will see what they will do with it. They may attempt several things, a tariff among them, but there is one thing they can't do and that is to save capitalism. Anything may happen in the next few years and their term of office is likely to be short, but Labor must now embark on a definite campaign preparatory to taking power when the system goes under, as it must do shortly.

In the meantime the poor are going to suffer and the whole working class will be called on to make more sacrifices in order to save the rich from the consequences of their own greed and folly. Liberalism as a political factor is now negligible and the issue has been clearly stated on a thousand platforms. The fight is between capitalism and socialism, and that fight will never end until the former sinks to the doom it deserves and the latter triumphs in the capitals of the world.

I. L. P. Notes

I. L. P. ORGANIZATION NOTES

Westminster Branch holds public meetings in the Edison Theatre every Sunday at 8 p.m. W. W. Lefeaux and J. T. Worsley will be the speakers on November 1st. Subject, "Labor and the Gold Standard."

* * *

Angus MacInnis, M.P., will be at Michel on November 4th; Fernie, 5th; Cranbrook, 6th; probably Kimberley, 7th; yet to be arranged for 8th and 9th; Nelson 10th.

* * *

East Burnaby hold an Economic Class every Friday in Community Hall, 11th Ave. and Cumberland St. Jack Davis, instructor.—E. Winch.

* * *

RENFREW BRANCH

H. W. Speed gave a very interesting and enlightening speech at the Renfrew I. L. P. propaganda meeting on Tuesday evening. The members and audience were very pleased with the speaker's subject matter, which not only showed the necessity of organizing on the poltical field, but on the industrial field also. Robert Skinner outlined the financial fetich of our present system, showing what a tremendous effect this has on the industrial chaos now in our midst.

* * *

I. L. P. CHOIR

Considerable interest was shown in the first successful rehersal of the I. L. P. Labor Choir under the conductorship of Reeve Pritchard. The rehersal was held in the Strathcona school and about 40 members turned out. The voices were beyond the expectation of the committee, but there is still room for more, as it is desirous of making this excel any choir in the city. The next rehersal will be held in the same place, next Tuesday at 8 p.m.

* * *

NORTH BURNABY

Our new headquarters at 4704 Hastings St., corner of Beta, was opened Saturday night with a whist drive and dance. Everybody had a lively time, with the possible exception of a few who didn't dance, and even these have the satisfaction of contributing "two-bits" toward the fight for their own emancipation from fear, wage-slavery, and want. Just a word of advice: If you can't find time to come yourself, buy a ticket and give it to a friend. They'll thank you.

About seventy were present, with 12 tables of whist going; we have room for 18 tables. The refreshments were refreshing, while the dance was—well come and see for yourself. One young lady remarked, it is the slickest floor she ever slipped on.

The prizes! Everybody in Burnaby, who was there, is talking about them. 'Nuff said!

We are going to have some good times this winter—fun giving as well as educational—so keep the dates open. Every other Saturday night, the next one being November 7th. Buy your tickets from members if possible, so if anything happens you can't come, you'll have the satisfaction of contributing to the Independent Labor Party fight for social ownership of all industry—and we will have the funds to carry on. This is important!

To those who are afraid of losing their homes, the following slogan of the old Socialist party worker is recommended:

"All things used in common to be owned in common, while all things privately used to be privately owned." Younger workers will find it a powerful weapon with which to slap misconceptions.

We must have a floor covering soon, so as to protect the good reputation of our dance floor—as above. The Secretary is getting grey hairs over it, as trying to find a suitable one (second-hand or otherwise) is like looking for the proverbial needle in the haystack. If anybody has one, or knows where one can be had for a reasonable sum — the more reasonable the better—call Glen. 329.

A size around 18 ft. by 32 ft. will serve. Larger sizes can be cut down. A large tent or sail might do, so let us hear about them.

Donations toward furnishing the headquarters will be thankfully received—one dollar or ten, larger sums not refused. Don't be bashful. If you have a spare card table, or a couple of chairs, bring them along.

A meeting of the branch will be held Friday night next, October 30, at above hall. All members are urged to be present as our season's programme and other important business should be settled at once. Bring a new or prospective member. We need them, while they need the larger pay, shorter hours, and certainty of work, social ownership of industry will give them.

A large number of applications are on file to be voted on, and the unemployed workers are beginning to realize the need of political action as well as job action. They are coming in to the I. L. P., so "watch us grow." More next week.—J. T. W., Secretary.

* * *

VANCOUVER BRANCH

On Wednesday, October 28th, the regular business meeting of the Vancouver Centre Branch of the I. L. P. was held at the Williams Building, Granville Street, Comrade Stringer presiding. There was a fair attendance and some keen debates, including one dealing with the question of municipal enterprise. The party is planning a full range of activity for the coming winter months, chiefly educational, but not omitting the social arrangements. Under the auspices of the branch there is functioning an Esperanto Class, an Economics Class, and, jointy with the other branches in the city, a Speakers' Class. Also as part of the branch activities an educational propaganda meeting is held fortnightly under the presidency of Comrade Clegg. On Wednesday, October 21st, an address was given by Comrade A. Turner on "The Function of the I. L. P. in the Labor Movement." The address was of a high standard and prepared the ground for a very interesting and improving discussion. On Wednesday next, at the propaganda meeting, Miss Moran will be the principal speaker. Miss Moran is an able speaker and this, coupled with her recent visit to Soviet Russia, which is to be the subject of her address, is sufficient guarantee for a real enjoyable evening. The usual procedure of questions and discussion will be followed. The branch extends a hearty welcome to all interested and to those accepting the principles of Socialism an invitation to become members of the party.—W. Phillips.

* * *

CARLETON I. L. P.

At the last meeting of the Carleton I. L. P., held in Memorial Hall, Joyce and Kingsway, October 22nd, at which a large number of members were present, it was decided to hold another whist drive at Memorial Hall on Friday, November 20th, at 8 p.m., admission 25c. The whist drive held in October was greatly enjoyed and a financial success. Chairman of Speakers' Class reported progress, and anyone interested was asked to phone Carl. 742-X for further particulars. Next class will be held November 4th.

Carleton Branch of the I. L. P. will have a propaganda meeting on November 12th at Norquay Hall, 8 p.m. J. Price, I. L. P. candidate for Ward 5, and other speakers will be present. Come along and bring your neighbor.

The ladies hold a whist drive every Thursday at 2 o'clock at the home of Mrs. G. King, 5228 Spencer street. Admission 15c. If you want to enjoy a good laugh, come along.

Carleton Branch meetings alternate second Thursday, Norquay Hall, Slocan and Kingsway, fourth Thursday, Memorial Hall, Joyce and Kingsway; both meetings 8 p.m.—E. Towe, phone Carl. 487-L.

Japanese Employers Put Screws on the Workers

Tokyo, Japan.—Extorting additional work instead of cutting wages has been resorted to by Japanese cotton spinning concerns to maintain profits and keep up dividends during the depression. The profits of some concerns have even been so large as to warrant extra dividends.

To meet the falling off in domestic consumption and exports the spinners reduced output drastically. Apart from this regulation of supply to consumption, the great factor for increasing earnings of the spinning mills was their successful reduction of labor costs by extorting more work from the employees.

"Mills have not been discharging operatives," says a well-known writer on Japanese textile labor conditions, "but an analagous position was brought about by not hiring new men and women to fill the vacancies created by sickness and other causes.

"No effort was made to cut wages of operatives, but similar results were obtained by getting more from employees for the same pay by increasing the number of spindles or looms per man.

"Whereas 253 operatives took charge of 10,000 spindles on the average in the first half of 1930, they were reduced to 217 in the last half of the same year and to 208 in the first half of 1931.

"In a number of mills, revolutions of spindles have been increased to 14,000 or more per minute as against the service speed of about 9,400.

"The upshot was that, whereas during the last half of 1930 annual output per operative of yarns stood at slightly less than 19 bales and of piece goods at 37,000 yards, during the first half of 1931 production was speeded up to 20 bales for yarns and 47,000 yards for cloth."

In 1930, before the drastic speeding up system was applied, there was a sharp contraction in cotton mill earnings so that a majority of firms had to appropriate reserves to maintain dividend rates. During the first half of 1931, since the speed-up, most front rank mills have made sufficient earnings to warrant increased dividends, while others will not be compelled to dip into surplus to maintain regular dividends.

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Premier Bennett Wants Us To Save Out of Our Pittance

By J. STRINGER

Taking up Premier Bennett's speech to the United Church Missionary Congress from the report in the "Province," we learn that he said: "What is the matter with the world. The mad orgy of extravagance, reckless expenditure of money, forgetting old and homely virtues of thrift or care for tomorrow, believing that get-rich-quick should be the motto of their lives; all these things have brought us to this pass."

Taking these points in order one wonders how many homes in Canada Mr. Bennett has visited—and in what strata of society—that he thus speaks of their inmates?

My own experience and observation leads to a quite contrary opinion re the "mad orgy of extravagance."

That radios, pianos, automobiles, theatres, and other so-called luxuries are fairly common in the homes of the people is conceded. What about it, Mr. Bennett?

In that respect I would ask you two questions: "Are the workers of this country—part owners of it and producers of its wealth—entitled to these things, seeing there is plenty around anyway, or are they not?"

Secondly: "Would it have helped the situation if a few years ago—to which time no doubt you are referring—if all the Mr. Smiths, Mr. Jones and Mr. Robinsons, to say nothing of the Macs had refrained from buying that automobile, that better home, that new dress or suit of clothes, or denied the family that one-day excursion and instead saved the money thus expended?"

Would the situation be improved by having all this merchandise in warehouses instead of people's homes?

That is what we have today—it would have happened sooner, that's all.

My boy has just treated himself to a milkshake. He ought not to, because from the old-fashioned idea he cannot afford it. But let us see where that ten cents goes: He used a store which helps taxes, rent, light, building mechanics, etc., a girl served him, it help with her wages, it helps the farmer and his family, the milk hauler, and so on.

Suppose we all go back to Mr. Bennett's ideas of old-fashioned thrift—I don't think intelligent people need to pursue that thought further.

At the same time, I am prepared to believe that he is familiar, in the circle in which he moves, with a mad orgy of extravagance and reckless expenditure of money; anyone who can give his sister two million dollars as a wedding present is in a most ambiguous position, talking of homely virtues.

"Care for tomorrow"—Ye gods—how many working class men and women at the age of fifty, broken, disheartened and disillusioned, have to throw up their hands in despair after a lifetime of effort?

Two years ago men of Mr. Bennett's class were boasting of the prosperity of their country, of the U. S. A. particularly, and that they had found the secret of perpetual prosperity and that depression would not hit them again.

Have the same forces which produced their outstanding prosperity produced this outstanding depression? I think the answer to that is that it did.

The people were educated by a capitalist press, and coerced by high-pressure salesmanship into purchasing the output of factory and mill, mortgaging their future to do it. The mills and the factories kept on, with an ever-increasing output and ever-lessening manpower—the purchasing power of the people could not be increased by any more artifices—this became aggravated by labor-saving machinery displacing workers. You can follow this thought further for yourself.

To revert again to this "caring for torommow" business. I have before me some life insurance satistics, which show: Of one hundred young men starting out in life there is at the age of 65:

36 dead.
1 wealthy.
4 well-to-do.
5 live on earnings.
54 not self-supporting.

Analyze them yourself.

These statistics are made up by the Life Underwriters' Association, not yesterday, of this profligate generation, but were accumulated over a long number of years and include the proponents of those homely virtues you suggest would solve our difficulties. The same statistics say that of this average 100, at their death 82 leave nothing.

But about those homely virtues of our forefathers. How far do you wish to go back to study them—to the religious wars in France, ending with St. Bartholemews Eve, to the Massacre of Glencoe, to the judicial murders in England for petty offences against property rights, to the deportations to the colonies as convicts—decent people whose only offence was new ideas—to the apprentice system in England at the beginning of the last century, when the mill-owners relieved the poor of their children, who from thence forward were treated worse than slaves, because they cost nothing to get, and could be replaced for the same? Gibbons, in his "Industrial History of England," says: "The spectacle of England buying the freedom of black slaves by riches drawn from the labor of her white ones affords an interesting study for the cynical philosopher."

Or perhaps Mr. Bennett has reference to our immediate forefathers—about their cheating the Indians, cheating each other, cheating posterity. The Hudson's Boy Co. demanded furs stacked as high as the length of an obsolete rifle in exchange for the rifle, and would not allow anyone else to offer more. By graft and crooked politics they have obtained control of immense natural resources of this country. Millions of dollars in cash and millions of acres of land given in railway concessions.

We know there were a lot of hard-working, honest people struggling to create wealth for others to possess. You can take your choice, Mr. Bennett, and claim an honest fool for a father, or a rich thief. I would advise, above all things, that you read up on economic history.

Then about the "get-rich-quick" motto. Through education, I would say, the poor are learning of the rich rapidly.

You say further that "nothing but the grace of God will save the world." Most exasperating to this God, who has already blessed us with a profusion of all good things, even though in our little by-play of 1914-18 we killed and maimed millions of His images, and damaged everything we could; still there is plenty. And He has given us intelligence, too, one wouldn't think it, but He has, and we are going to use it pretty soon and sweep you and all you represent into oblivion.

He winds up by saying that the grace of God will save Christianity. This is strange; you don't mean to say that Christianity has failed after being started off 2000 years ago under such Almighty auspices.

Anyway, to wind up the conditions we have today is a product of Christianity and capitalism, according to your theories; according to mine it is economic determinism.

Take your choice.

Harry Stevens Has Another Brainstorm

The following clippings taken from the "Ottawa Citizen," describing the Hon. H. H. Stevens' economics, have been sent us by the writers, and we are publishing them because they describe the utter bankruptcy of H. H. Stevens and R. B. Bennett's ideas prior to and since the election:

MR. STEVENS WANTS HELP

Editor, Citizen: Last week, speaking before the Kiwanis Club of this city, the Hon. H. H. Stevens said: "If each individual citizen will do what he or she can to alleviate the unemployment situation then Canada will be able to hold steady until the larger international problems are dealt with."

Well, well. How refreshing. How amusing that sounds to those who followed the honorable gentleman's campaign of the last general election. At that time Mr. H. H. Stevens did not evoke any help but was confident and most emphatic in stating that the unemployment situation would be ended (not only be alleviated) if his party came into power. Now having failed to end the unemployment situation—though in power—a new line of argument is brought forward, namely: "Every citizen must do what he can."

What an easy way out! For don't you see, when Mr. H. H. Stevens again comes before the people he will be able to say: "I, or we, did all we could, but because you, 'the individual citizen,' did not help us we failed to end the unemployment situation."

But another trend of mind creeps out of his speech. He says: "Canada will be able to hold together (!) until larger international problems are dealt with."

Just before the honorable minister was rejected by the people of Vancouver Centre, he was certain and vociferously claimed that no greater evil had been done to Canada than the negligence of the Liberal government to cope with the unemployment situation. But now he claims that "larger international problems"—we are not told what they are—must be dealt with.

Such statements do not clarify the present situation, but are rather words which tend to take the people's mind off the real situation or words which are meant to shift the blame of the government to the people.—F. W. HEINS, Ottawa, Oct. 7, 1931.

MR. STEVEN'S ALIBI

Editor, Citizen: Hon. H. H. Stevens offers a clumsy alibi for Mr. Bennett's failure to redeem his promise to "end unemployment," when he explains the depression by saying that England, Germany and other countries, by demonetizing silver nearly sixty years ago, destroyed the capacity of Oriental nations to trade. "The fact simply remains," said Mr. Stevens in Toronto, "that these silver countries could not trade, except within very narrow limits, and the rest of the world—that is, Western civilization—has piled up huge accumulations of unsaleable goods."

If that argument has any sense, the accumulations of unsaleable goods have been piling up for over 50 years. Some of these goods must be obsolete.

This amazing minister of trade and commerce wants to persuade us that trade is a matter of exchanging a mass of commodities for a mass of money. That we would be happy and prosperous if Canadian goods were exchanged for Chinese silver, instead of Chinese tea or silk. This is the protectionist doctrine raised to the nth degree; all wrong are the scurvy free traders who believe that in the long run one country cannot sell to other countries more than it buys from them.

The minister can find out from a report of his own department that during the calendar year 1930 China, despite international revolution, had imports in gold values showing the effects of the depression much less than imports into the U. S. and other Occidental countries did. The same was true of India, despite a political boycott of British goods. These Oriental countries have held up their purchasing power over foreign goods much better than the countries have held up their purchasing power over foreign goods much better than the countries more advanced in capitalism.

The minister knows very well that the foreign trade of China and India has been carried on for more than sixty years on the gold exchange standard. He is only blaming the depression on Orientals, in the hope of excusing the failure of his government to redeem the promises of Mr. Bennett.

Of course, he would say if Canada opened its mint to the free coinage of silver, the mythical hoards of silver in the Orient would be shipped here and become purchasing power, of course, at the expense of Canadian producers. But the Oriental peasants being mostly in debt and the coolies living from hand to mouth, the silver ornaments with which they adorn their women—to show their social status—have about as much significance on purchasing power as the gold teeth and gold watches of indigent workers that have been converted into money in Vancouver.—C. McKAY, Ottawa, Oct. 10, 1931.

What About That Job of Fixing the Furnace?

As fellow trade unionists we can help one another even when times are bad. When you get your furnace repaired somebody gets a job; you become an employer. In that capacity it is reasonable to expect you to employ union labor.

If you have been getting your furnace repaired as cheaply as possible you have been getting the job possible; that is why it has soon burnt out. You know enough about a cheap job to know that you cannot get a first class job for a second class price.

Our members are walking the streets. If you have a furnace that needs repairing call the Sheet Metal Workers' Union office, Seymour 7495, for a good union mechanic. We will then be helping one another and we both win. Why not tell your friends to do the same? Thank you.

D. MACPHERSON, Secretary.

Ontario Farmers Back Radical Social Program

Toronto, Ont.—United Farmers of Ontario have framed a new social reconstruction programme as a means of coping with the present economic crisis.

It calls for the conscription of all surplus wheat, reduction of interest charges on farm loans and the co-ordination of all producers and consumers' co-operatives.

Recognition of finance as a public utility and its administration under state or co-operative auspices "for the benefit of all" was also suggested.

The programme also contends that unemployment relief funds should be derived by "conscription of wealth," through steeply-graded income and inheritance taxes.

Pattern Makers' League.—The general executive board of the Pattern Makers' League of North America has decided to continue its policy of not collecting dues from its unemployed members until the business depression is over.

Harlam Coal Barons Sic Thugs On All-comers

The "Devil's Brew," as it is called by Louis Stark in a series of articles in the New York Times, that is in the making in Harlan County, Kentucky, is getting worse instead of better. Any person remotely identifiable as sympathetic with the miners is liable to violence, assault, and even death. An organizer for the miners' union takes his life in his hands when he goes to Harlan; the operators are out to break the union, the deputies are out to kill "communism," by which they mean any activity from union organizing to feeding undernourished children that favors the miners, and the miners are arriving at a state of mind where they will not hesitate a moment to use force to get food for their families and to keep the hand of the law out of their houses. The "Editor and Publisher," writing at Harlan, says:

"Conditions more cruel and unjust than the feudalism of the Middle Ages, because even the right to work the land or eat the baron's bread is denied, are reported by trustworthy newspapers to exist in the soft-coal regions of Kentucky. . . . When honest reporters are shot by imported thugs of coal companies, dressed up in the official uniform of local government and drawing their blood money from corporation mine owners, and when a special writer of the New York Times staff finds it necessary to leave the district and go to Chicago to prepare his almost unbelievable account of Harlan County terror, there can be little doubt that events are occurring there which will not bear the scrutiny of the American people."

ECONOMIC DEPRESSION HITS FRANCE

The total number of unemployed in France has risen to 700,000, according to a cable report published in "The Business Week." Exports in August dropped 25 per cent as compared with the previous August. French Government securities are showing weakness, and the Banque Nationale de Credit, one of the Big Five, narrowly averted suspension.

General Motors Cuts Salaries in Canada

Ottawa, Ont.—General Motors has put into effect a general pay reduction, ranging from 10 to 15 per cent., affecting all executives and office employees.

Workers in the shops suffered wage slashes earlier in the year, through a reduction in the pice-work prices.

These workers are not members of organized labor. Many attempts have ben made to unionize them, but the company has seen to it that these efforts nave been unsuccessful.

The Trades and Labor Council of Chattanooga, Tenn., condemns as "unfair, unjust, unreasonable and unnecessary" the proposal of certain county officials in arbitrarily cutting wages of some county employees and proposing cuts for others, including school teachers. The council declares that such wage slashes, with the accompanying reduced standards of living, are against the public interest.

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.85 and 1.50 Virol; 8 and 16-oz.	.61 and 1.09	.20 Vinolia Boracic and Cold Cream Soap	2 for .26
.50 Glostora	.31	.35 Hutax Tooth Paste	.24
.50 Pulford's Cream of Olives	.32	.60 Pompeian Beauty Powder	.39
.50 Reudel's Bath Saltrates	.32	.25 Pompeian Talcum	.17
.35 Andrew's Liver Salt	.24	.10 Palm Olive Shampoo Powder	2 for .13
.75 4711 Cold Cream	.46	.50 Dodd's Dyspepsia Tablets	.32
.50 Ungentine	.31	.35 Barbasol	.22
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