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# Labor Statesman

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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. 387 VANCOUVER, CANADA, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9th, 1931 Price: Five Cents

# Organized Labor Issues an Ultimatum to Big Business

### Attack on Workers' Standard of Living, Through Wage-slashing Must Stop, Says President of the American Federation of Labor in Convention at Vancouver

**WE PROPOSE THAT THE WAGE STRUCTURE** erected through the efforts of organized labor and the working men and women of the different nations of the world, and particularly of our own country, shall not be destroyed and the wage standards shall not be lowered. If industry, through force and brutality, if industry, through the application of the law of the jungle, through the use of the primitive club of the Indians, forces men into subjection, then wage reductions will be established in spite of our protest and against our judgment, said William Green, President of the American Federation of Labor, in his opening address to the delegates in convention in Vancouver.

But I warn these people who, through f[illegible]e and domination, and dictatorship and brutality, exploit th[illegible] of the people, forcing them down and down to the lowest dep[illegible] despair, that they can only drive them so far, and then they will [illegible]n eventually and rend those who do it.

The convention of the American Federation of Labor opened up in the Vancouver Hotel on Monday morning with close upon 400 delegates present and more coming in every day since. On Sunday afternoon the social end of the programme started, when the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra, composed of 80 union musicians, under Conductor Ridder invited the delegates and guests to the opening concert. Chairman Ed. Jamieson of the orchestra presented the free tickets to the delegates, and the symphony was enthusiastically enjoyed. On Monday morning the convention was opened and broadcasted addresses made by several speakers, several of which are described elsewhere in this edition. President Green was given an ovation, and addressed the delegates as follows:

Chairman Bengough, Your Honor the Mayor of Vancouver, Representatives of the Provincial Government and Municipalities, Representatives of the Organized Labor Movement of the City and of the Province: I express to you all, in behalf of the officers and delegates in attendance at this convention, our deep appreciation for the very cordial welcome you have extended us this morning. We are looking forward in happy anticipation of a delightful visit with you. We know we shall go from here, when our labors are ended and our work completed, carrying with us most fond memories of a delightful stay. And we want you, our fellow-workers in the Dominion of Canada, the representatives of all classes of people, to accept our visit here as more than a friendly gesture. We want you to accept and interpret our visit to Canada and to the City of Vancouver as evidence of a sincere desire to promote and strengthen the bonds of frendship which exist between the people of the United States and the Dominion of Canada.

There is only an indistinct, invisible line separating the two nations, and as we travel its course from ocean to ocean we fail to observe a single gun or a single fort. Every step in this invisible line speaks the language of peace, of goodwill and of understanding, and I declare here, if I understand the aims and purposes of this great economic movement, the organization of the working people of the two countries, it is to maintain at any cost the friendly relations that have so long been established and that make this line a line of peace, to forever prevent the building of forts or the establishment of guns of warfare, and to show to the nations of the world how it is possible for two perpetually peaceful relationships.

The American labor movement established here upon the American continent is a guaranty of peace, of friendship, of mutual understanding, co-operation and goodwill, for so long as this movement lives and is permitted to function, the men and women who compose it will see to it that no conflict resulting in the loss of human life shall ever occur between the Dominion of Canada and the United States of America.

We come as men interested in the common economic, social and industrial welfare of the peoples of the two nations. We deal with human values. We are endeavoring to promote those intangible values which make for a better civilization, a better day and a better life. We seek for a more equitable distribution of the wealth created by human hands, not for the purpose of enriching individuals or groups, but for the purpose of making life more tolerable and happy. This is one of the aims and purposes of our organized labor movement.

I cannot refrain from referring to the fact, upon this solemn occasion, that we are meeting in the midst of a great international emergency. Distress and suffering prevail throughout the world. The great Republic of the United States is affected seriously by reason of widespread unemployment. Our fraternal delegates, sitting on my left, who have made a journey from far across the sea, will tell us when they speak to us of the distressing economic situation which prevails in their home land. The fraternal delegate from the Canadian Trades and Labor Congress will supplement what these distinguished speakers have said this morning regarding economic conditions here. And before us as we deliberate, as we approach our solemn consideration of this great problem, will be the picture of world-wide distress affecting the well-being and the happiness of hundreds of millions of people.

Because of this dislocation of our economic structure, because there is suffering in a land where plenty exists, in abundance, men and women who are the victims possess inquiring minds. They are asking questions that are difficult to answer. They are wondering whether the system itself set up by society in every nation has failed. Surely it is not to the credit of a social order when, on the one hand, we find the Creator of the Universe supplying us with food in abundance, and on the other, our millions standing starving and hungry. We may well ask the question, has capitalism failed? Surely it is not to its credit when we find a condition such as now exists in our beloved lands. Shall we live in an age and a time when wealth increases in the hands of a few and men decay? Shall those human values to which I refer be destroyed? What about a system that relegates a man in the prime of life to the human scrap heap, that knows no other remedy for economic depression than to reduce the standard of living, to depress the values already here, to reduce and impair the purchasing power to a much lower point.

There has come no collective voice from the management of industry, from the officers of corporations, from those who direct and control industry that could be accepted and construed as a practical remedy for our economic ills. Only labor, the men and women who toil, have developed a programme, a plan, a remedy, and with all the vigor it possesses has asked the governments of these respective countries, the owners and managers of industry, economists and scientists, to accept our plan and apply it as a remedy in this distressing condition. The answer we have received thus far has been to reduce wages, to add to our misery and to our distress, to destroy the limited purchasing power of the masses of the people as it now exists, to make it possible for men and women to buy less and to use less and to consume less.

Is there any one with reason or judgment who can conscientiously believe that we can lift ouselves out of these depths of misery to which we have sun[illegible] by adding further to the depressing situation that has plunged us into these depths? Well, my friends, our remedy is a practical one. We propose that men and women shall be given the opportunity to work, that they shall share in the work available, that one man or one woman is as good as another, that there shall be no discrimination, but that all, just like a family, shall share in the work available. We hold that this can be done through an adjustment of the working time and in accordance with the economic and industrial requirements of this day and age. Mechanical processes, science and invention, the substitution of mechanical forces for human service has made it absolutely impossible for industry to supply men work continually under the old six-day programme, as we did years ago when hand labor characterized the personnel of the factory and the transportation lines of the nation.

Now the machine is doing the work that human hands formerly did. Notwithstanding that fact, the managers of industry still persist in their efforts to have men work six days per week and long hours while others are idle. We propose the immediate establishment of the five-day work week in both public and private industries. We propose further that the working day shall be so shortened as to meet the requirements of this unemployment situation, and work divided through an adjustment

(Continued on page 4)

## Acting Mayor Bennett Welcomes Convention

**(Acting Mayor of the City of Vancouver)**

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen: I am very glad to greet the American Federation of Labor. In the absence of His Worship, who is a sick man at the present time, it has fallen to my lot and to my privilege to extend to this tremendous trade organization the welcome of the City of Vancouver. I can assure you it was a most congenial task to me. As one who has always belonged to the common people it gives me double pleasure to welcome a convention such as this, which has for its aim the amelioration and the improvement of the lot of the common people.

I hope that the deliberations which your convention is about to consider will be of inestimable benefit to the workers, not only of the country from which you come, but to the workers throughout the civilized world.

We are met, at the present time, in the shadow of a great crisis. Distress and want and misery are side by side with greater concentration of wealth than has ever before been known in the history of the world. And it is for such a convention as yours, which has assembled this morning, by your endeavors, by your wise counsels to bring forth such welcome advice that will guide your leaders in the great republic from which you come in the deliberations of the coming year.

I can assure you that in this city today there are no greater well-wishers than the City Council and myself, that your deliberations be crowned with success.

Your history down through the years has been one of quiet endeavor, one of wise consultation and one that has always been conducted with propriety, and I think I can look forward with confidence to your deliberations at this convention during the coming two weeks.

Your nation and our country have lived side by side for over a hundred years in peace, and if, as a result of the endeavors of this conference of yours, you will set a pace in the disarmament, which is, I believe, one of the most brutal causes of the distress and misery which exists throughout the world today, this convention will not have been held in vain.

I hope that during the coming week you will find much of pleasure and much of interest to you in this charming city of ours. It is almost increditable to think that less than a half century ago this was a primeval forest, and it is due to the pioneer spirit of these early pioneers of the City of Vancouver that we are meeting in such a hall as this today. We never forget to mention their endeavors and the efforts which they have made to build up the city, and particularly on an occasion like this I think it is appropriate that they should be remembered.

Now, gentlemen, you have not come to listen to a lot of speeches, but I hope that every moment of your stay in this fair city of ours will not only be recorded in the journals and the records of your conference, but I hope it will be in your hearts and minds as a very pleasant memory down throughout the years to come. I therefore wish you every success in your deliberations in this council and also a most pleasant and enjoyable time in the City of Vancouver during the coming week.

### WAGE CUT DEFEATED

Chicago.—An agreement has been reached between the Window Washers' Union and the Cleaning and Window Washing Association, whereby the union is to continue work under the old scale of $1.25 an hour until March 1st, 1932. The employers' association was unsuccessful in its attempts to impose a reduction of 25 cents an hour.

## Union Meetings at Labor Headquarters

| | |
|---|---|
| **FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9th** | |
| Milk Salesmen | 1 |
| Plumbers and Steamfitters | 2 |
| Machinists, 182 | 3 |
| Sheet Metal Workers, 314 | 311 |
| Stone Cutters | 4 |
| Cement Finishers | 315 |
| **SATURDAY** | |
| Carpenters' District Council | 1 |
| **SUNDAY** | |
| Local Joint Executive Board, Nos. 28 and 676 | 1 |
| Shingle Weavers, No. 17813 | 3 |
| **MONDAY** | |
| Taxi Drivers, No. 151, 8 p.m. | 3 |
| Coast City Kennel Club | 1 |
| **TUESDAY** | |
| Pressmen, No. 69 | 1 |
| Taxi Drivers, 10:30 p.m. | 2 |
| Barbers | 3 |
| Stage Employees, 9 a.m. | 3 |
| Upholsterers | 4 |
| Machinists, No. 692 | 201 |
| Building Trades Council | 315 |
| **WEDNESDAY** | |
| Bricklayers | 2 |
| Millwrights, No. 1638 | 311 |
| Carpenters | 1 |
| Tilesetters | 315 |
| Tailors, No. 178 | 3 |
| **THURSDAY** | |
| Floorlayers, No. 1875 | 2 |
| Office Employees | 4 |
| Millmen, No. 1599 | 311 |
| Coast City Kennel Club | 313 |
| Sign Writers | 315 |
| **FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16th** | |
| Railway Carmen, No. 58 | 2 |
| Engineers, No. 115 | 1 |
| Molders, No. 281 | 311 |

## Reeve Pritchard Addresses Convention

**(Reeve of Burnaby)**

Mr. Chairman, President Green, Ladies and Gentlemen: I am becoming a little used to flattery when I receive adulation from the press and then listen to the very kind remarks of your Chairman. I am wondering sometimes whether I altogether deserve it.

However, it seems to me that at a time like this and upon an occasion of this sort one is confronted with a task, not of deciding what one shall say, but what one might leave unsaid. Just for a few moments may I draw your attention to one or two things that have already been mentioned this morning. First of all, let me say that, as the Reeve of the neighboring Municipality of Burnaby, which, together with this city and the City of New Westminster, comes within the jurisdiction of the Trades and Labor Council of this district under the American Federation of Labor, that it may be possible that some of you from this city are not altogether aware of the position and importance of the Municipality of Burnaby. Between the two cities we stand geographically—and I might say in passing in that respect, we are a kind of buffer state and act as a shock absorber to keep the wild spirit of Westminster at a decent distance from the similar spirit of Vancouver.

However, the problems in that little municipality, which, by the way, is the third largest organized district in this province, are precisely the same as the problems in Vancouver and in every city of this country and every country under the sun.

Mention has been made of the present unemployment situation. I cannot see how it could be avoided. It is altogether too painfully obvious for any one to close his eyes to the situation and to say, "Well, we have unemployment, but these men won't go out to find work, they won't rustle for a job." I remember that kind of report that was used with some effect not very many years ago. But times have changed, and whatever one's political ideas and economic theories may be, the situation is one that undoubtedly must have a sobering effect upon every thinking person in this country.

I am pleased to say, Mr. Chairman, that your President at least agrees with me in this, if in nothing else, that whatever other people may at this time suggest as an immediate step toward the amelioration of the present situation, the one way in which it ought not be done is to commence an attack upon the standard of living of the working population of this or any other country. It may take a very wise man in his finest moments of sagacity, a lot of time and a lot of energy to suggest what should be done, but without any egotism I want to say that some time ago I suggested that the ruthless wage-cutting that was instituted some eighteen months ago in this country and in the country to the south of us, the Republic from which you come, was a very fine example at least of how not to do it.

If the locomotive of social progress, in its development under the given conditions of modern society, has grown a smoke stack of profits so high that the machine won't go under the tunnel of depression, it is precisely the wrong way to get it to move to take off the wheels of wages and expect the thing to roll along. I say that today, earnestly and solemnly, knowing very well that there are more people listening to me at this moment than are gathered here in this hall, and if we are all in earnest about this thing and want that machine to go forward, a much more satisfactory solution for the immediate future would be sought by taking a few inches or feet off that extended smoke stack of profits, instead of trying to put flat tires upon the wheels of wages. For with all the visions we may have of the return of industrial prosperity, we must not lose sight of this fact, that such prosperity as may come back to us under modern conditions can depend only upon a successful marketing of vendable goods, and with that return of prosperity for which we hope, how in the name of all that is good can you expect an increasing market for those vendable goods, of which there is not a glut, if the first thing you do is to cut off the purchasing power of those people who constitute that market?

You have a lot of things to do here today and during this important convention. I would like to be around amongst you during the week, but I have a lot of things to do myself.

I don't want to elaborate this point any further, but I want to state that not only do I feel seriously on this particular point, but I have noted with some degree of satisfaction, as I have already stated, that the President of the American Federation of Labor and his officers, are at one on that matter, and I notice further that the President of the United States of America, himself, has expressed dissatisfaction upon the operations of modern industry in instituting these wage cuts at this time.

Oh, the day will come, perhaps, when old men shall dream dreams and the young men shall see visions of a society in which there will neither be idling in want or idling in luxury. That is the goal to be worked for; it is something every one of us, whatever our antecedents may be, can very well strive for.

In conclusion, I would like to say that is a task that is imposed by history upon the labor movement of every country in the world. It is in the labor movement of every country in the world that we can see the germs today of a lasting peace between nation and nation and a lasting peace in the industrial field. Here we discover men and women from the soil, men and women from the factory, men and women who are able and willing to do some thinking and some working; so that the day may come, if not for us at least for our children, when peace and goodwill will cover the earth like the waters of the great deep.

## Bengough Opens the A. F. of L. Convention

**(Chairman, Reception and Entertainment Committee)**

Ladies and Gentlemen, Visitors and Guests at the Fifty-first Convention of the American Federation of Labor: It is a great honor that my colleagues have conferred on me today to represent them in the trade union movement of British Columbia in extending to you a welcome into our city. The City of Vancouver has not the historic background of many cities in which you have been accustomed to meet. Our city is a new city and one of the very latest models, and what we lose in age we hope we have made up in the very short space of time which has elapsed between the time that trees grew right on the site of the building you now occupy and this present time. We appreciate the great distance many of you have travelled to attend this convention, and we accept the convention as a compliment to the trades and labor movement of this city and to the Province.

Our problems, that we have, are similar to those you have left in your own home towns. The situation of this city on the shores of the Pacific Ocean is such that we look for a great deal of trade from the Orient in the building up of our city. We are all conversant with the fact that across that great ocean are many thousands who are starving and in famine stricken areas. In our country, the same as yours, we have a great deal of suffering in wealth stricken areas. I think the problem we have is a greater one than the problem they have on the other side of the ocean. These questions are questions that will be dealt with at this convention, and the world is waiting, I might say, anxiously waiting, for the pronouncement of this convention on that paramount question of unemployment.

I shall not take up a great deal of your time this morning, as we have very able speakers to address you. I want to say, in closing, that we hope your stay with us will be a pleasant one. We have arranged a series of entertainments for you, announcements of which will be made from day to day. We trust that your deliberations will be of benefit, not only to the people who sent you here and the people you represent, but to all our people resident on the North American Continent.

## $36,697,979 Benefits Paid by Trade Unions

Over thirty-six million dollars were paid in benefits by the standard national and international unions of the United States and Canada in 1930, according to the report of the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor ot the annual convention of the Federation.

The amounts disbursed for the various forms of benefit below:

| | |
|---|---|
| Sick | $3,649,703.15 |
| Death | 18,527,095.00 |
| Unemployment | 3,311,279.50 |
| Old Age | 5,910,995.41 |
| Disability | 3,234,066.93 |
| Miscellaneous | 2,064,839.57 |
| Total | $36,697,979.56 |

In 1928 the total benefits amounted to $32,818,924.54, and in 1929 reached $32,242,444.40.

"It is interesting to note," the Council states, "that the expenditure of over $36,000,000 for 1930 in all forms of benefits represents an average payment of over $100,000 per day through the year. These figures present a striking example of the manner in which our trade union movement is meeting the needs and necessities of its members."

## Special Meeting For Carpenters, Saturday

All members of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters are invited to attend a special meeting called by the District Council in Room 1, Labor Headquarters, on Saturday, October 10th, at 8 p.m.

General President W. L. Hutcheson, General Secretary Frank Duffy, General Secretary Frank Wolstencroft, Amalgamated Woodworkers of Great Britain, and other prominent visitors will address the meeting.

## Herrett Welcomes Convention Delegates

**(Vice-President, Vancouver, New Westminster and District Trades and Labor Council)**

Mr. Chairman, Fellow-workers, Friends and Guests of the Fifty-first Convention of the American Federation of Labor: As Vice-President, on behalf of the Vancouver, New Westminster and District Trades and Labor Council, I consider it an honor and privilege to be given the opportunity of saying a few words of welcome to the American Federation of Labor Convention. We are pleased that this section of the North American continent has been given an opportunity to see and understand the work of the American Federation of Labor. We are proud of the fact that the labor movement of this Province and Canada is international, and that we are part of the American Federation of Labor.

The Trades and Labor Council was organized in this city in November, 1889; we now have a membership of over 14,000. In 1920 an amalgamation took place between the Vancouver Trades and Labor Council and the New Westminster Trades Council. Since that date the two councils have been known as the Vancouver, New Westminster and District Trades and Labor Council.

The Council owns and controls its own weekly paper, "The Labor Statesman," and maintains its offices in Labor Headquarters, 529 Beatty street; the building being owned entirely by the Council and affiliated unions.

During the forty-one years of operation in Vancouver it has materially assisted in the building up of the city. Not only have the working people affiliated with this council, contributed their labor, craftsmanship and skill to the building up of our city, but the Council has always taken an active interest in questions of public improvements, both city and provincial; and we point with pride to social legislation that we now have on the statute books of our Province, such as minimum wage and factory act for women workers, mother's pensions, workmen's compensation act and old age pensions.

We are satisfied that meeting in convention in our wonderful city will not only mean added inspiration to your work, but will be also of an inspiring nature to the workers of this North American Continent.

We are proud to have you with us. We sincerely wish your stay to be most pleasant, and I express the hope that the work of this convention will outweigh all other conventions in the matter of bringing enlightenment, material progress, happiness and employment to the workers. I thank you.

## Teamsters-Chauffeurs Meeting Friday, Oct. 9

There will be a mass meeting of Milk Salesmen, Taxi Drivers, Teamsters, Chauffeurs and Kakery Salesmen on Friday evening, October 9th, in the Labor Headquarters, to meet President Tobin and general officers of the International Brotherhood. All members are invited to attend. This will be the only notice of the meeting, so keep the date in mind.

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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. 845-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.

**Carpenters and Joiners, United Brotherhood of Local 452**—President, Frank Woodrow; Financial Secretary and Business Manager, R. W. Hatley. 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 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. E. 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 3 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 Projectionists' Union, Local 348, of I.A.T.S.E. & M.P.M.O.**—11:30 p.m., first Friday in month, in Hall No. 3 Labor Headquarters. President, 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, 1442 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, 378 East 37th, Fras. 108 R; Cor. Sec., A. Harry, 1115 East 33rd, Fair. 3222 R; Fin. Sec., E. A. Williams, 830 East 12th; Phone Fair. 5219 X.

Cement Finishers' Cor. Sec., J. W. Baines, 2866 Turner St.

**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. Vaillamy, 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 12th 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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INTERNATIONAL LABEL SERVICE OF AMERICA — ALLIED PRINTING TRADES UNION LABEL COUNCIL VANCOUVER, B.C. 14

Vancouver, Friday, Oct. 9th, 1931


## ECONOMICS OF RELIEF WORK

Within the past few days Mr. Bruhn, the provincial minister of public works, has reminded us that there is a limit to the distance that the Provincial Government can go in the way of paying wages on relief work. Regardless of how we like it, we may as well recognize that there is some basis of fact to this statement. The ground work on which the statement stands is the idea that any work promoted by the Government is, and must be, non-productive, and therefore that every dollar spent on relief work creates a debt which must eventually be repaid, and, in the meantime, we must pay interest on the amount. Now we don't give a whoop about the repayment of the money borrowed. Our grandchildren will so admire the social and economic performance which we are now putting up that they will be tickled pink to have the privilege of footing the bill. Our only worry is the fact that six months from date we must commence paying interest on the money, and unfortunately the great patriots to whom we have entrusted our affairs in the past have loaded us down with all the interest charges which we as a province are able to carry. If new millions are to be added to this indebtedness every month for an indefinite period, to enable payment of the interest, new sources of revenue must be found, or some present service must be reduced or cut out. Mr. Jones, the minister of finance, looked very closely in both these directions a few months ago, and the results were the one per-cent tax.

One of the great weaknesses of governments in Canada is the idea that the function of government is to provide those services which capital does not see a convenient means of exploiting for profit. So obsessed are our governments with this idea that there are numerous instances in which the Government established a service and carried it on until the possibility of a profit was reached and then handed the field over to a profit-mongering corporation. A very good instances of this kind of politics occurred on Vancouver Island. To serve the scattered settlement on the west coast the Dominion Government built a telegraph line from Nanaimo to Alberni. The line was operated at a loss. Some years later the Pacific cable was landed at Bamfield. Owning the land line and a third interest in the cable, men without corporation blinkers on would expect the Government to welcome the new business. The Government, however, allowed the C. P. R. to stretch their wires on the Government poles and connect up with the cable, and the Government extended the people's line northward into the unprofitable Uculet district. This policy of handing every opportunity for profit to private individuals leaves our governments with but two sources of revenue—taxation and income from natural resources. Theoretically, the possibilities of revenue from natural resources is very large, but this again has been handled in very much the same way as the Vancouver Island telegraph line. Instead of securing from the natural wealth of the country the same return that a private owner would obtain, every government in the past has pretended to be convinced that it was very much a matter of indifference how small an amount was paid to the state, so long as the particular thing was "developed." Out of this blessed thing called "development"—the opportunity to work for wages—the people were, and are, supposed to be abundantly paid for their interest in the natural resources. Practically every natural asset of present value in British Columbia is sold and tied up in such a way that the only method of increasing the revenues therefrom would be called repudiation and confiscation. Some day in the future our children will ask, as to the remaining remnant of our natural wealth, whether all this was the property of one generation to potlatch and to waste. But for the present we are not yet ready to discuss such Bolshevik questions, and so the only direction to which the Provincial Government can look for increased revenue is taxation. The worker imagines that there is unlimited opportunity for added revenue by means of increased income tax. The fellow who pays income tax does not see it that way at all. He thinks that wages might stand another two or three per cent, and that if there is not sufficient revenue for all purposes a cut might be made in Old Age Pensions and similar services.

Returning then to Mr. Bruhn's statement. For every million dollars spent on relief work fifty thousand dollars new revenue must be brought in every year, and it looks as if increased taxation is the only method that Tolmie or Pattullo know of, or, failing this, some service at present carried on by government must suffer a corresponding reduction. The problem is not an easy one, and any solution which this student would offer would not appeal to a parliament in which Tom Uphill alone represents Labor. But as keeping in touch with what is possible at the present time, the writer would urge that the present road program can be made to pay some small portion of its own costs. The highway into the province by way of the Big Bend of the Columbia is to serve the pleasure seeker rather than the needs of any portion of the people of British Columbia. The Hope-Princeton road, as a commercial highway, will not justify its costs; to serve the pleasure seeker it will do so. These roads might quite fittingly be made toll-roads. The idler who will use these roads will not, by purchasing a few meals, a bottle of booze and the necessary gas, pay his share of the cost of the roads which we are putting at his disposal. A fact which is not often thought of is that on the west coast of Canada there is no means of seeing the Pacific Ocean without taking several hundred miles of a sea voyage; all highways and railroads reach sheltered waters only. A toll road from Alberni to Long Beach is another road proposition that should go far towards paying for itself. There are other road schemes that could be carried out on the same plan, and throughout the interior of the province there should be water conservation and irrigation schemes that would justify the outlay. The core of the whole matter is that relief work could be more generous, and the future burden made lighter if the greatest possible portion of the work was made financially productive.—M.

## The Open Road

**AFOOT WITH JACK LOGIE**

The other day the following paragraph caught my eye: "The nation must relieve itself from the tyranny of the money trust. The amalgamation of banking has proceeded at such a rate in recent years that now five banking concerns control practically the whole of the banking business of the country. The increase in the bank rate made during the autumn of 1919, for which no financial authority has ever been able to find a reason, and which laid an additional tribute of 17,000,000 pounds a year upon the taxpayers, apart from what it took from the private borrower, proves the necessity of the control of money being taken out of the hands of profit-making institutions."

This quotation is taken from "Wages and Prices," by the Rt. Hon. Philip Snowden, who furnishes in his own career another example of the tyranny of the money trust. Today the banks own the people and dictate to their elective representatives the course they must pursue, not in the interests of the public, but for the benefit of the plutocracy. The god of today is Mammon, whose body is made of paper with a thin coating of gold foil to make it look impressive, but whose feet and legs are of crumbling clay and whose brain is made of mud, and soft mud at that. His high priests feed him on the blood of men and women and the tears of little children are offered daily at his unholy shrine. Confusion reigns at his altars and the priests of his iron-barred temples cry out in their bewilderment as their paper god topples on his throne. The politicians of every country whom they have bought cannot help them, for their system has been tried before the iron law of cause and effect and by their own crimes against humanity have they been judged and found guilty. The rule of Mammon draws to a close and a day comes when men will be valued by the service they render to their fellowmen and not by the fictitious valuation of their stocks and bonds.

* * *

John Stuart Mill once wrote that it was very doubtful if all the modern machinery and labor-saving inventions had removed any of the burdens from the backs of the working class. It is a sad commentary on our intelligence that labor-saving devices must be shelved while our workers revert to the primitive pick and shovel so that they may be fed and housed in return for any semblance of employment. A recent news dispatch states: "Man was not made to be eliminated by machinery, but this is what has happened in American industry, it was stated here this week by Dr. L. R. DeLong, professor at Pennsylvania State College. A 'moratorium' on the use of machinery on large construction projects was advocated by Dr. DeLong as one way of dealing with unemployment. He said that hand labor would increase the cost of construction, but it would rescue thousands from starvation."

This, then, is the culmination of our wonderful era of scientific advancement, of invention and of technical development. We invent road-making machinery and then let it rust so that our workers may be rescued from the stigma of the dole or the charity of the rich by going through the motions of building roads by hand.

One of the white collar men on relief work approached his foreman the other day and said: "I say, old chap, might I awsk a favor?" "Certainly," said the foreman, "what is it?" "Well, old fellow," said the other, "I've been working with this pick all day and I find the motions most monotonous, don't you know. So I just wanted to awsk if I might have a turn with the jolly old shovel."

Here is the fruit of our civilization, the perfect flower of our age of invention and the cycle has brought us back again to "the jolly old shovel." It seems a pity that we ever took this country from the Indians.

* * *

The Manu or lawgiver of the Aryan race laid down in plain terms, over ten thousands years ago, the principles which should govern the ownership and control of large machinery. The worker could own his potter's wheel or other implements or tools of his craft, because he alone was master of the product. If the machine was large enough or sufficiently complicated to require the labor of several workers, then it must belong to the state. Any infraction of this law was severely punished, and today we are paying in blood and tears for our violation of this basic principle in human relationship. Private ownership of machinery, which is socially operated must always result in the exploitation and enslavement of those who are deprived of any share in the ownership.

There is nothing wrong with the machine, as a machine, except insofar as its advantages and time-saving facilities to the people at large are not real but fictitious. The Manu knew ten thousand years ago that private ownership of the machines of large-scale production would create a few wealthy individuals and thousands of paupers, but our politicians and labor leaders evidently haven't learned that fact yet. They pass resolutions and spout pious platitudes which deal solely with effects and ignore entirely the basic cause of social injustice. The only remedy for slavery is freedom, and no free man will go, hat in hand, to his master and plead that his chains be lengthened by a few links. The world can no longer exist half slave and half free. The gyves which bind tht ankle of the slave also encircle with steel bands the wrist of the master, and as one suffers and falls the other must also inevitably be dragged to their common doom. Life is one and the basic law of all economics and statesmanship is this. If your civilization is based on the exploitation of one human being being by another, then it will perish. The knell of capitalism has struck and nothing but social ownership can free us from this machine slavery and this more damnable slave psychology.

* * *

No doubt my readers are familiar with that description of Boston which says: "Boston, the home of the bean and the cod, where the Cabots speak only to Lowells and the Lowells speak only to God." We ought to import a few of the Lowell family into this country as interpreters seem to be badly needed at present. Our politicians who used to be able to pass the buck to each other have now exhausted their alibis and are passing the buck to God.

The late ex-President Taft was the author of a famous classic at a large public meeting when asked by one of the audience what a man who was out of work and starving could do. Taft replied: "God knows." About three years ago I heard Premier Bennett tell a large audience, in confidential tones, that he would revive trade, end unemployment and bring prosperity to a grateful country. Now he says: "I am firmly convinced that nothing but the grace of God will save this world." It is the final gesture of futility for a politician when he admits that his theories have failed to work, his panacea of high tariff has only increased our difficulties instead of solving them, and now, at the end of his resources, he throws up his hands in despair and tells us that we will have to trust to the tender mercies of Providence as the job is too big for him. I know a lot of other politicians who are in exactly the same mood at present, and if they will just admit to the people that they don't know what to do and couldn't do it if they did know then we will be well on the way to a solution of our difficulties. For there are quite a number of us who know exactly what to do and we don't try to shuffle the responsibility on to God either.

The trouble with those amateur statesmen is that they are facing in the wrong direction. All they can see is the ruin of the old order and no solution seems possible. They are quite right about that, but if they will just get some of the sand out of their spiritual eyesight and look the other way, they will see the dawn of a brighter day for the world and the clear outlines of the new social system. Capitalism is dead. Long live Socialism.

## I. L. P. Notes

Tuesday, October 13th, Ritz Hall, 44th and Fraser; Angus MacInnes, M.P., Parliamentary Report; H. W. Speed, I. L. P. prospective provincial candidate. Chair at 8 p.m. sharp.

Wednesday, October 14th, Memorial Hall, Kerrisdale, 8 p.m.; Angus MacInnis, M.P., Parliamentary Report; R. Skinner, "Gold and the Nation's Food Supply."

Friday, October 16th, Masonic Hall, 10th and Trimble; Angus MacInnis, M.P., Parliamentary Report; Miss F. Moran, "My Experiences in and Impressions of Soviet Russia." Chair at 8 p.m. sharp.

Wednesday, October 14th, 8 p.m., Radio talk, CKWX, Dr. Lyle Telford, "Freedom or Slavery."

### I. L. P. LABOR CHOIR

Plans are under way for forming an I. L. P. Mixed Voice Choir. A meeting of all interested will be held within two weeks, notice of which will appear in next week's Statesman.

Reeve Pritchard will be musical director, and sufficient voices are on hand to form the nucleus.

If you are interested and willing to help out in this phase of Socialist activity, come along. You will be the better and so will the movement.—J. S.

When a municipal government has a problem too big for them they appoint a commission to investigate and report.


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### I. L. P. DANCE

The Vancouver District Council Social Committee has arranged for a dance to be held in the I. O. O. F. Hall, 6th and Main, on Friday, October 23rd, starting at 9 p.m. There will be a real snappy union orchestra to provide the music, and all members of the I. L. P. and organized labor are invited to attend. The tickets are reasonably priced, being 50c for gents and 25c for ladies. These may be obtained from any of the following committee: Vancouver Branch: R. E. Timmins, 536 Drake street; Carleton Branch: J. R. Hawthorne, Carlton 742-X; Hillcrest Branch: Mrs. H. W. Speed, 2837 St. George street; Renfrew Branch: E. L. Spencer, 2427 East 24th; Victoria Road Branch: G. Braithwaite, 249 East 58th.

### NORTH VANCOUVER I. L. P.

The North Vancouver Branch, Independent Labor Party will hold a business meeting, Tuesday, October 13th, 8 p.m., in the K. P. Hall. Important that all members attend.

J. W. HOPE, Secretary.

When Pa went to school a board of education was a pine shingle.

George: Where did Sandy MacDougall get the training to win all those long distance swims?

Charlie: Well, when Sandy was a boy in Glasgow he lived across the river from school and there was a toll bridge.

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## Public Ownership of Our Public Utilities

The following list of resolutions were endorsed by the recent Trades and Labor Congress convention along with the others prevously printed:

Resolution No. 65.—By Toronto District Labor Council:

Whereas, unemployment has now reached a crisis in all the industrial countries of the world; and whereas, the system of private ownership of the means of production and exchange, as well as the employment of human labor, by private enterprise, has now failed to provide a livelihood for millions of the working class, who are without food, clothing and shelter, and that machine production is constantly displacing human labor, also that the responsibility for the maintenance of the unemployed has to be borne by the workers, and the general taxpayer, either by shorter hours of labor, reduced wages, or increased taxation, while the surplus profits created in times of prosperity are the private possession of the capitalist class regardless of the fact that the workers and the taxpayers have no control over the operation of private enterprise and receive none of the surplus profits created. Further, that it is now proven, that a deliberate shortage of commodities, required to feed and clothe the people is being ceated by quantities of these being destoyed, under private enterprise, in order to reduce the surplus stock for which no remunerative market can be found, and thus increase the cost to the consumer, this being, in our opinion, co-equal to a Ca-canny policy, or industrial sabotage;

Therefore, be it resolved, that the Trades and Labor Congress of Canade press for that section of its "Platform of Principles" which declare for the public ownership and democratic management of all public utilities.

## Urges Unemployment Insurance Legislation

Resolution No. 20.—By Calgary Trades and Labor Council:

Whereas, the present Federal Government has pledged itself to enact unemployment insurance during the life of the present Parliament; and whereas, there has been no intimation as to the scope of the application of the proposed legislation;

Therefore, be it resolved, that this convention urges upon the incoming Executive of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada the necessity of pressing for (a) immediate action; (b) for adequate payments to maintain a satisfactory standard of living; (c) its application to all wage earners; and also that during the preparation of the proposed legislation that representatives of the international labor movement be consulted with in order that the legislation, when finally drafted, will be satisfactory to those most definitely affected.

There were many similar resolutions on this subject, all of which were embodied in the Officers' Reports, showing previous efforts and a determination to continue those efforts to obtain the desired legislation.

## Legislation For Paint Spraying Machines

Resolution No. 100.—By Hamilton Local No. 205, Painters, Decorators and Paperhangers:

Whereas, the Regina convention endorsed the activities of the officers and appointees of the Congress on the subject of regulation of the use of paint spraying machines; and whereas, since that convention the Dominion Council of Health has appointed a committee to consider existing and proposed legislation governing the use of the said machine; and whereas, we trust that the efforts of the Congress, through its representation on that Council, to bring forward a set of model regulations will help in some measure to eliminate the existing health hazards;

Therefore, be it resolved, that the convention assembled endorse the efforts of its officers and appointees on the National Research Council and the Dominion Council of Health, and again request the provincial executives to use their influence to have legislation adopted with a view to regulating the use of paint spraying equipment.

## Moratorium Needed For Workers' Debts

Resolution No. 34.—By Toronto Local 379, Plumbers and Steamfitters:

Whereas, the continued economic depression, with the acute condition of unemployment, is creating a condition by which the workers who are unemployed are unable to meet many of their obligations, especially payments on mortgages, payments on goods and chattels of time payment companies, insurance premiums, and taxes, etc.; and whereas, mortgage companies, time-payment firms, insurance companies, are foreclosing upon unemployed workers, who are unable to meet their obligations;

Therefore be is resolved, that this convention of the Trades and Labor Congress favors the establishing of a moratorium to be extended on all such obligations to all workers who are unemployed for a period in any year; and, be it further resolved, that the incoming Executive Council make such representation to the Federal Government that they deem necessary seeking the enactment of such measures, under the emergency powers conferred upon the Federal and Provincial Governments, as soon as possible.

Small Boy: "What is college bred, Pop?"

Pop (with son in college): "They make college bred, my son, from the flour of youth and the dough of old age."


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### ELECTION DEPOSITS

Resolution No. 78.—By Winnipeg Lodge No. 371, Railway Carmen:

Be it resolved, that this Congress go on record and instruct its provincial executives to have abolished the system of requiring candidates for parilamentary honors having to make election deposits.

Mistress (severely): "Sarah! I found my blue dress in your trunk."

Sarah: "Just fancy, mum! And it was only the other day you thought you'd lost it."

"Can we play at keeping store in here, mama?"

"Yes, but you must be very, very quiet?"

"Oh, all right, mama. We'll pretend we don't advertise."

Now will some genius kindly invent a talking family album, so the girls can "show the boys" everything about their relatives.


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A store-wide sale of quality merchandise at drastically reduced prices. Come in and see the values we are submitting. Every department is represented in this feast of bargains.

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We are closing out the Boys' Department. The entire stock is being slaughtered. Wise parents will take advantage of the savings which can be effected in this gigantic clean-up sale.

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Going-Out-of-Business Sale of the Army & Navy Store, 40 Hastings Street West, the Big Attraction for Bargain Seekers

SALE RE-OPENS FRIDAY, 9 A.M.

Endless Stream of Shoppers Throngs All Aisles—Bargains Galore To Be Had

A wonderful money-saving opportunity is presented to the public in the gigantic going-out-of-business sale of the Army & Navy Store, located for years at 40 Hastings Street West.

The whole stock is being sacrificed in order to sell out the store to the bare walls. An example of the money-saving bargains are mentioned here. The sale re-opens daily at 9 a.m. New lines will be brought down from the upper floors for Friday and Saturday's selling. A large staff of salespeople are in attendance.

50c and $1 Work Gloves, 29c; $1.50 Children's Shoes, 49c; $15 Raincoats, $3.95; $20 Overcoats and Raincoats, $7.95; $30 and $35 Men's Fine Suits and Overcoats, now only $9.95; Work Shirts, reg. $1, for 29c; $2 and $3 Broadcloth Shirts, 98c; Men's Suspenders, reg. 35c, now 9c; 50c Belts now 19c; 25c Fancy Hose, 9c; Palm Olive Soap, now 3c; 40c Heavy Wool Socks now 19c; Men's and Young Men's Suits, reg. $25, now $8.95; $15 Men's and Youths' Suits now selling at $4.95; $40 and $50 Suit values, $14.95; $3 Slicker Coats, soiled, 98c; Men's Wool Union Suits, worth $3.50, now $1.98; $1 Caps now 29c; $7 English-made Dress Boots at $3.95; one lot of Boots, sold to $3.50, now 98c; $4 and $5 Men's Boots, $1.98; $4.50 Men's Work Boots, all sizes, now $2.49; $6 Officers Breeches $1.95; Men's $1.50 Bib Overalls, soiled, 49c; lot Men's $2 and $2.50 Work Pants for 79c; Men's Pants sold up to $3.50, for $1.95; Men's Dress Pants, sold up to $7, now $2.95; 35c Men's Wool Hose, now at 13c; $3 Khaki Wool Shirts, 99c; 50c Ties 9c; 75c Children's Rubbers now 23c; 50c Ladies' Rubbers, 9c; $1 Blankets, 49c; 20c Collars, 3c; and hundreds of other bargains.


## ORGANIZED LABOR ISSUES ULTIMATUM TO BIG BUSINESS

(Continued from page 1)

of the working time, so that the slack of employment may be taken up and all men and women given an opportunity to work.

We propose further that the wage structure erected through the efforts of organized labor and the working men and women of the different nations of the world, and particularly of our own country, shall not be destroyed and the wage standards shall not be lowered. If industry, through the application of the law of the jungle, through the use of the primitive club of the Indians, forces men into subjection, then wage reductions will be established in spite of our protest and against our judgment.

But I warn these people who, through force and domination, and distatorship and brutality, exploit the masses of the people, forcing them down and down to the lowest depths of despair, that they can only drive them so far, and then they will turn eventually and rend those who do it.

I feel very deeply upon this subject, very deeply indeed, and in expressing my feelings, tempered by my judgment, I know I am but reflecting the opinions and the feelings of the millions of working men and women whom we represent. There is a tremendous feeling of social unrest developing. It is apparent on every hand. Men who are regarded as careful in the use of language, in the use of words, are beginning to speak in most emphatic terms, and it is for that reason that I feel justified, as the spokesman of millions of people, to warn these men who are forcing unorganized workers to accept reductions in wages, that if they pursue that policy they will go too far.

Read the history of the nations of the world. Revolutions grow out of unrest and hunger, and the aristocracy of these nations never learn. They seem to assume the attitude of indifference, of security, without taking into account the history of those nations where revolutions have overturned existing governments.

The standard of life and living among the masses of the people must be maintained upon a high level if domestic tranquility and social satisfaction is to prevail. Men and women must be conscious of the fact that they are receiving a square deal, that they are being treated fairly, that they are not the vistims of injustice, oppression, or exploitation. The permancy of our institutions depends upon such a state of mind. With all the emphasis I possess I want to again warn these men against a continuation of this wage cutting, life-destroying policy that is being pursued by some of these heartless corporations.

It is my opinion that the time has arrived when the representatives of labor can take, with every feeling of justification, a most advanced position upon the question of human rights. You know we always regard the exercise of the enjoyment of the right of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness as most sacred indeed. The whole civilized world was inspired when that great immortal document was published throughout the world, written by the immortal hand of Thomas Jefferson. He took a most advanced position then, setting forth to the world that men and women possessed certain inalienable rights, rights that could not be challenged, rights that were inherent, inalienable rights, the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. I think that that could be amended in the Republic of the United States by adding to that the right to work. I maintain that life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness means little to the masses of the people unless they possess the right to work.

Go into the home of a hungry man, with his hungry family suffering from unemployment, denied the right to work, and discuss with him the abstract principles of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. It means little to him. What he is thinking about is work, the right to work, the creation of work opportunities, for he can only be made happy, he can only enjoy happiness when he is accorded the right to work and to earn a decent living. The position we must take is that this is an inalienable right, a sacred right, a right that any system of government, let it be capitalism, private ownership of property, or any other form of government, must guarantee to the masses of the people. I do not mean by that that we should call upon these industrial representatives to do the impossible, but I do mean that we can demand that they, along with labor and those clothed with authority, adjust and readjust the economic conditions and the working time, so that all may enjoy the right to work.

Behold a land where men are employed, behold a community where working men and women earn a decent living, and there you behold a collective community of men and women who are living in a reasonable state of satisfaction, providing they are not conscious of the fact that they are being exploited.

So that, my friends, reasoning this from every point of view, in my judgment we have arrived at the time when we can, and must, and will demand the right to work and to earn a decent living, because life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness depend upon the exercise of the right to work.

I cannot close these remarks without referring to a great evil that has grown constantly, one that is occupying the attention of working men and women and their friends everywhere, and that is this continually manifest, evident, in equitable distribution of the wealth of the nation. We hold that if these corporations, these owners of corporations who have accumulated great wealth had distributed that which it seems to me they do not pustly possess, to the masses of the people in the shape of wages, then these large fortunes would not have been accumulated. We believe that if they would distribute their wealth in the way of wages—because it is working men and women who create this wealth—that these periods of unemployment would be eliminated. And so we propose, first, that the wage standards of industry shall be more equitably distributed, that instead of a corporation declaring 40 per cent. dividends to the stockholders and extra dividends in the shape of money payments, those values shall be equitably distributed among the working men and women who made this wealth possible. And we hold that if they turn a deaf ear to our proposals, if they refuse to listen, then we shall go to the sovereignty of the people, to the legislative bodies of the nations, we shall go to that instrumentality set up by society, the Government itself, and there we shall call upon Government to exercise its taxing powers by distributing these large fortunes back to the people through the Government by the exercise of the taxing power of the nation.

Now we are deeply concerned over the existing situation. We are meeting now when it has become most acute. In the United States there are approximately seven million men out of work. There are thousands out of work in the Dominion of Canada. There are thousands, yes, millions, out of work in Great Britain and in other nations of Europe. This great army of the unemployed stands as a menace to the security of governmental institutions. There is no urge quite so powerful as the urge of the hunger instinct. It moves men and women mightily. They don't draw the fine line of distinction between that which seems right or socially wrong when they seek to satisfy hunger. It is a mighty urge. It cannot be dealt with through the application of those rules and laws that society has set up.

Shall this continue indefinitely? In the United States we are approaching the third winter. That in itself presents a serious problem. The resources of working men who, in the beginning, had some funds, are now exhausted. Men who were able to tide themselves over last winter cannot do so now. They are dependent, and imagine a man, proud, maintaining his self-respect, resolute in purpose, being compelled by the sheer necessities of the occasion to accept charity or relief in any form! I ask you, my friends, shall we make paupers out of men, strong, able bodied, willing to work, anxious to work, and begging to work? No such a condition as that should continue permanently.

Men are afraid, working men are filled with fear. They are afraid of the banks, because under our present system it seems they have broken down. They are afraid of the unemployment situation. They are afraid of the wage cutting policy pursued by many corporations, and, because they are afraid, their buying power is paralyzed and frozen. They will not spend their money as freely as they did or as they will when conditions are normal. Go to the postal savings centres of the nation and there find the increase in deposits. Go ask the bankers about the business now being done through their safety deposit boxes, and the answer is that it has increased enormously. Why? Because of the unfavorable psychology established, the fear that exists in the hearts and minds of people, not only over the existing present conditions, but over the immediate future as well.

Forty million men working, eight million idle—eight million cannot buy; forty million will not buy because they are afraid that they, too, may become numbered among the army of the unemployed on the morrow.

How can they ever release this great purchasing power of the masses of the people so long as we continue this condition of unemployment and so long as we reduce wages? For industry, foolish as they are, are doing nothing more than destroying their own market when they reduce wages. And so they may as well understand now as to learn the lesson through a more costly experience, that prosperity and normal conditions can never return until the buying power of the masses of the people, until the consuming market represented by the masses of the people is developed to its highest point. You can force wages down, but so long as you do misery will continue and the upgrade will never be reached until wages are restored.

In this convention we shall consider many problems affecting the economic and social well-being of the people. We shall outline a social justice programme. We shall further the enactment of legislation providing for old age pension legislation. We shall demand of the Congress of the United States the enactment of an injunction relief bill that will make us free indeed, free to strike, free to organize, free to unite all the strength we possess in an effort to advance human values. We shall fight for legislation for the children. We shall fight for legislation for the women. We shall offer to support legislation having for its purpose the advancement of the highest and best interests of all those employed in the government service. In addition to that we shall offer a concrete programme here of temporary relief for the unemployed, and we shall supplement that by offering a programme that we believe, if accepted and applied, will bring about a permanent solution of these distressing economic conditions.

What a great task! What a great work is before us in the atmosphere of this wonderful city, hewn out of the primeval forest! We shall work honestly and diligently, endeavoring to realize our objectives and our ideals.

And, lastly, we are thinking about our record, the record of this great movement. We are permitted here to survey a pathway made through fifty years of service, and as we survey it, weigh its accomplishments, appraise its failures and are inspired by its ideals and principles; we shall think about the pioneer and the crusader and the constructive trade unionist who helped make this great movement possible. It is in that spirit, the spirit of the crusader, the spirit of the pioneer, the spirit of the constructive trade unionist, that we approach the consideration of our questions and the solution of our problems. I thank you.

I now declare the Fifty-first Convention of the American Federation open for the transaction of business.

## Dispensers, Cooks and Waiters Meet Sunday

A special meeting of the Hotel and Restaurant Employees and the Beverage Dispensers will be held on Sunday, October 11th, at 3 p.m., in Room 1, Labor Headquarters, 529 Beatty street.

Members of both organizations are requested to attend. The General President and the International officers will address the meeting.

## Beverage Dispensers' Smoker Next Monday

The Beverage Dispensers of Local 676 are holding a special Stag Smoker, Monday, October 12th, from 9 p.m. to 2 a.m., at 535 Homer street. International officers and friends visiting the city will attend, giving them an opportunity of meeting all the members of our organization.

Tickets may be obtained through any member of the Local. There will be plenty of refreshments and the Beverage Dispensers are noted for their wonderful talent and entertainment at their annual smokers. Music will be supplied by union musicians.

## Machinists Hear International Officials

A mass meeting of Locals 182, 692 and 151, International Association of Machinists, was held in the Moose Htll, Burrard street, on Friday, October 3rd, to welcome Grand Lodge and other delegates from the American Federation of Labor.

Jack Robb of Local 692 opened the meeting. The hall was packed by the members of the three lodges.

The speakers of the evening were: Bro. R. A. Henning, Business Representative, of St. Paul; Bro. J. J. Welman, Business Representative of District No. 8, Chicago; Bro. Charles Fry, Business Manager of Local 126, Chicago, and Bro. A. O. Wharton, International President. Bro. Jas. A. Taylor, President of the State Federation of Labor, Washington; Bro. Percy Bengough, 1st Vice-President of Trades and Labor Congress of Canada and Secretary-Treasurer of Trades and Labor Council of Vancouver, and Bro. James Somerville, Canadian Vice-President of International Association of Machinists, headquarters, Montreal.

It was a splendid meeting in every respect, and the various speakers had a splendid reception. The majority of speeches were all tending toward the lesser hours and higher wages. Bro. Fry of Chicago opened the eyes of the Vancouver members when he informed them that the 1000 erecting machinists of his Local 126 had a minimum wage of $12.00 per day for eight hours. They were not cheap, they paid higher dues amongst their members in order to keep that agreement and hold the wage standard to that splendid living level.

It was a rousing meeting and the machinists of these Vancouver Locals will certainly try to emulate Local 126 of Chicago.

## Fight Wage Cuts; Obtain 5-Day Week

The five-day week and shorter work day to relieve unemployment, militant resistance to wage reductions, and a demand for increased real wages are the outstanding features of the annual report of James O'Connell and John P. Frey, president and secretary-treasurer of the Metal Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor.

In regard to wage reductions, the report said:

"There are no moral, social or economic justifications for reduction in wages. Every attempt to reduce wages should be met by active organized opposition. The public should be made aware that efforts to reduce wages and the results of the employers' ignorance or indifference to economic facts or their incompetence in management, or greed, or a combination of the three."

The report charges that the dismissal of men over 40 years old and the setting up of an age limit at 40 or 45 in many industrial plants is largely due to the so-called welfare plans of some corporations and to group insurance, whose cost to the employer was said to be reduced in proportion to the youth of employees insured.

The report claims the business depression which began in 1929 was caused by the fact that while real wages had increased only 13 per cent between 1921 and 1929, the returns to industry increased 72 per cent, and the dividends paid to stockholders increased 265 per cent. These statistics, the report concludes, "make it evident that the division between the return to capital and the wages paid was so inequitable and uneconomically unsound that our producers suddenly discovered in 1929 that there was no longer a market for the goods they were endeavoring to sell."

### STRIKE AVERTED

New York.—A walkout of nearly 60,000 longshoremen working in Atlantic ports from Hapton Roads to Halifax was averted last week with the signing of a compromise wage agreement by the International Longshoremen's Association and steamship company delegates.

The new contract calls for a flat wage of 85c an hour and a 10-cent cut on the longshoremen's old wage of $1.30 an hour for overtime.


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**Men's Light Work Boots**

$3.45

ARE you an inside worker or a carpenter? Then you want to try these easy fitting black or tan grain blucher boots—they're just the right weight — not too heavy. Sizes 6 to 11.

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FRIDAY AND SATURDAY SPECIALS—OCTOBER 9th and 10th

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| .10 | Epsom Salts....6 lbs. for | .24 | 1.25 Electric Curling Irons | .84 |
| .50 | Cascarets | .31 | .35 Vi-Tone, 8-oz. | .26 |
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| .50 | Luxor Face Powder | .36 | .60 Lehn & Fink Lysol | .45 |
| .15 | and .30 Oxo Cubes....12 and | .24 | 1.00 Kellogg's Asthma Remedy | .67 |
| .25 | Cashmere Bouquet Soap | .18 | 1.25 Adlerika | .88 |
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| B-4 SHAVING CREAM JARS | 35c |
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| EVER-READY SHAVING CREAM (50c size), RAZOR and 2 BLADES | 39c |
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105 EAST BROADWAY —or— PHONE SEY. 4275


The Council forwarded a communication to the San Francisco Central Labor Council endorsing their action in the Mooney and Billings "frame-up" case.

A Southsea man claims to have grown the biggest pumpkin in England. It is said that, in the uncertain light of dawn, aviators have mistaken it for the Isle of Wight.