Labor Statesman

OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY THE VANCOUVER TRADES AND LABOR COUNCIL

SUPPORTED BY SIXTY-TWO LOCAL UNIONS

VANCOUVER, CANADA, JUNE, 1936 — PRICE: 5 CENTS

Public Works

...clearance and ...investment finances ... home building ...lead a general ...recovery for all industries.

Higher Wages

and Shorter Hours is the Big American slogan now being used in efforts towards industrial recovery.

Workers Forced To Call Strike

...ngress Issues ...urteen New Charters

...the past two months four... ...charters have been issued to ...ions by the Trades and La... ...ress of Canada. Many char... ...also been issued by Inter... ...Unions to locals in Canada, ...have no full details of these. ...issued by Congress were to: ...engaged in the novelty, but... ...ble and ornamental trade or... ...in Montreal in what is known ...al Union No. 89. In Toronto, ...of butcher shop employees ...chen slaughterers were char... ...Federal Unions Nos. 88 and ...ectively, while a charter was ...ed to the Office and Store ...es' Association No. 93.

...Hamilton, the first group of ...ble salesmen to be given a ...by the congress constitutes ...al Union No. 91. A new local ...established in Winnipeg com... ...of launderers, dry cleaners, ...and will be known as Federal ...No. 92. A charter was also ...Butcher Workmen and Meat ...Federal Union No. 94 in the ...of New Westminster and No. ...Vancouver; Transcona Creo... ...Workers' Union No. 96; Win... ...Butchers' and Meat Packers' ...No. 97; Toronto Window ...ers' Union No. 98, and Strat... ...Meat Cutters' and Butcher ...men's Union No. 99.

...addition a new charter was is... ...to a group who have revived ...ers' and Dyers' Union No. 57, in ...City of Toronto.

...wo Charters ...Are Issued To Meatcutters

...Butchers', Meat Cutters' and Pack... ...House employees have been or... ...in Vancouver and New ...minster, a charter having been ...ted to them from the Trades ...Labor Congress of Canada. The ...couver local will be known as ...No. 95, and the New West... ...local as No. 94, both federal ...

...unions have affiliated with the ...couver, New Westminster and ...trict Trades and Labor Council, ...delegates have been obligated. ...members of these unions are em... ...in the largest plants in these ...tricts, and the unions expect to ...on harmonious relations with ...employers in negotiations for ...agreements.

...Both unions already have strong ...berships, and expect to greatly ...rease them by applications for ...bership from the large number ...retail stores.

...dermen Talk On Public Ownership

Aldermen Wilson and Corey ad... ...the last regular meeting of ...Trades and Labor Council on the ...ject of public ownership of public ...ities. Both of them put up what ...peared to be good arguments for ...lic ownership, but were not able ...suggest any particular plan for ...nicipal ownership of the power ...street railway systems operating ...Vancouver, which they stressed .... They had three plans in mind, ...none of them readily acceptable, ...h in turn being debateable and of ...tful value. They pointed out the ...ent advantages other communi... ...had with publicly owned power ...street railway systems, and felt ...Vancouver could advantageously ...ence similar projects.

After the addresses, delegates had ...rt of field day at the expense of ...aldermen. It was pointed out ...civic employees did not obtain ...ame working conditions as those ...oyed by the B. C. Electric em...yees, and that municipal em...yees in other cities were not re...ving the wages and working con...ons that should be expected from ...ic bodies. It was also pointed ...that power plants and street ...way systems were becoming ob... ...and were of doubtful value ...a purchasing standpoint. Dele... ...reminded the aldermen that ...possibly the two exceptions, ...did not get a very good recep... ...to its requests from the City ...cil, and this had to be seriously ...dered when policies for opera... ...of municipal projects are laid ...by such councils.

The Modern View

Teacher—What did George Wash...'s father say to him when he ...down the cherry tree?

Sammy—He gave him a lecture on ...t conservation.

Cafe Employees Membership Increase

Secretary Stewart of the Hotel and Restaurant Employees' Union reports over forty new members signed up recently from various cafes, preparatory to their intention of approaching the employers for signing of agreements. The union expects to start this agreement campaign about the middle of June, and asks members of organized labor to talk union shop and union working button to cafe employees whom they may know.

During the month the Hotel Vancouver signed an agreement with the union, including a substantial increase in wages and improved working conditions.

The Lucerne Cafe, opposite the Orpheum Theatre, has just opened up with a 100 per cent. union crew.

City Hospital Workers In Union

The Civic Employees' Union has taken under its wing about 140 employees of the Vancouver General Hospital who are desirous of bettering their wages and working conditions. These employees are composed of orderlies, janitors, kitchen help, etc., who are working at least fifty-six hours a week for wages that average $70 per month, out of which they have to pay $15 per month for board.

Business Agent Scribbins of the Civic Employees' Union, who has enrolled these into the union, reported it to the Trades Council and asked the Trades Council give support to the employees in their request for a 48-hour week and a minimum of $80 per month without a reduction for board. This was heartily endorsed by the council.

The directors of the Hospital Board have agreed to meet a delegation who will take up this matter this week. The delegation, composed of Walter Scribbins, E. A. Young of the Civic Federation and Percy R. Bengough of the Trades and Labor Council will present the case for the employees.

The employees feel that the suggested hours and wages are long overdue and should be granted without any argument. The employees prefer to board themselves, mainly because the place where they have to eat is not a very desirable place, hence they do not want any deductions from the $80.00.

Trades Council Notes

Delegate Jamieson reported that the School Engineers' and Janitors' Union had made arrangements for their annual banquet to be held in the Hollywood Cafe, but upon being informed that the Hollywood was non-union had changed their banquet to the Georgia Hotel. Appreciation for this action was expressed to Local 963.

Delegate Showler reported that there was a number of concerns in the city calling themselves milk producers who were selling raw milk. In many cases the men delivering the milk were farm hands who were being paid as low as $20 per month.

Delegate Munro of the street railwaymen's union reported that some men who were employed on the waterfront during the longshore strike had secured work on the street cars, but upon the request of the union the men had been removed.

Delegate Stewart pointed out that Dr. Telford's Plenty-For-All bread was a non-union product. C. C. F. members pointed out that Plenty-For-All had nothing to do with the C. C. F. Upon motion the promoters of Plenty-For-All will be requested to deal with union-made products, otherwise they will be placed on the non-patronage list of organized labor.

Hard Coal Miners Win 7-Hour Day

Anthracite Men Will Get Same Pay As For Eight Hours; Complete Check-off

NEW YORK (UNS). — A seven-hour day and five-day week, with the same daily rate for seven hours as was paid for eight, is one of the gains won for the anthracite miners in the new agreement reached between representatives of the United Mine Workers and the operators, after some three months of negotiations.

The agreement, which is subject to ratification by Districts 1, 7 and 9 of the U. M. W., also provides for a complete check-off and modified equalization of work.

Build'g Trades Council Starts Campaign

The Vancouver, New Westminster and District Building Trades Council, composed of delegates from fourteen international unions, has launched an organization campaign, which is to be carried on during June, July and August. There has been quite an upturn in construction work recently, and inasmuch as the indications are for a long spell of this work, the Council felt that it was a favorable opportunity to launch the campaign. Some of the local unions have already had a substantial gain in membership without having made any campaign, so it will aid them and others.

Eighteen international unions have been advised of this campaign and asked to provide their local union—where necessary — with sufficient funds for them to put on a local organizer during all or part of the period of the campaign. These local organizers will work in co-operation with the Building Trades Council, who will conduct the campaign.

The Building Trades Council finds that the trade is considerably handicapped by a lot of one-man contractors who have made it almost impossible for contractors to pay union wages on small jobs. On the larger jobs the employment of union men at union wages is fairly well under control, but the small jobs have created a serious condition, not only to the workers, but also to the employers. The Council feels that it can be adjusted, however, and that is going to be one of its jobs during the campaign. In this respect, it was pointed out that similar conditions as stated were rampant among the floorlayers, who last year were averaging 50c per hour. All these men were gotten together at the beginning of this year, and those who were running one- and two-men shops and competing with slashed prices agreed to come into the union and accept a wage scale of 80c an hour which the larger contractors agreed to pay. The union is now 100 per cent. organized, all men working and getting the 80c scale. The Council feels that these same conditions can be applied to other trades where there are a lot of one- and two-men contractors.

C.N. Express Employees Join With International

OTTAWA.—Organization of Canadian National express employees into the Brotherhood of Railway and Steamship Clerks is proceeding at a rapid rate, according to Vice-President Frank H. Hall.

Some eighteen charters have been issued since these workers, in a body, abandoned the Canadian Brotherhood of Railroad Employees to affiliate with the regular railroad labor movement. The latest lodge to be chartered is located in the Canadian capital.

Vice-President Hall was accompanied here by N. L. Preston, general chairman for the Brotherhood for Canadian National Express employees, a former officer of the C. B. R. E. They said they hope to complete enrollment in a short time.

BERG ORGANIZES LOCAL AT REGINA

Following the organization of a Beverage Dispensers' Union in Regina, Carl E. Berg, international organizer, is now in Winnipeg, where he is carrying on organization work in the interests of the union.

While in Calgary attending the miners' conference, Mr. Berg met the members of the Cooks' and Waiters' Union at a highly successful meeting. Eighty-five members are now enrolled in the Calgary local.

James Thomson Checks Labor Regulations

James Thomson, late business agent of the Pile Drivers' and Bridgemen's Union, has been appointed permanent member of the Board of Industrial Relations. He has been acting on this board for some time in the drawing up of plans covering wages and working conditions for male employees in various industries, but has now been appointed by the Provincial Government to the permanent position in order that he may conduct the enforcement of labor regulations in this district.

This position will enable him to check up conditions governed by the Male Minimum Wage Act, Female Minimum Wage Act, Hours of Work Act and the Department of Labor Act. He will have access to all places of work coming under these regulations in order to check up on any complaints that are made, or to satisfy himself through inspection that the regulations are being enforced as required by the Department.

This is a job that the organized labor movement has requested for a number of years, because it realized that the labor acts were not always operating on account of some employers devising ways and means of avoiding the regulations.

The organized labor movement congratulates "Jimmy" Thomson on his appointment, knowing that he will always be as conscientious on that job as he was as business agent of his union and as a delegate and officer of the Trades and Labor Council.

British Union Membership Increases

At the British Trade Union Congress held recently, an increase of 100,000 in membership over six months ago was reported, 3,388,810 members being represented at the congress. According to the returns made to the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies, a steady upward trend is evident throughout the whole movement.

Last year the total membership of all trade unions in Britain and Northern Ireland rose to 4,567,000, an increase of 180,000, over 4 per cent., on the previous year. Men trade unionists at the end of last year numbered 3,831,000, which is 171,000 more than in the previous year, and shows a much larger increase than among women trade unionists, who totalled 736,000, or 9000 more than in the previous year.

CHURCHMEN UPHOLD RIGHT TO ORGANIZE

PHILADELPHIA. — The right of labor to organize and bargain collectively through representatives of its own choosing was upheld at the 109th session of the Eastern synod of the Reformed Church, meeting here this week.

Decent Homes For All; Three Squares a Day Says Hopkins

Hitting back vigorously at critics of unemployment relief, particularly those who insist we are spending too much and demand that the care of the needy be transferred to the states and local communities, Harry L. Hopkins, W. P. A. administrator, this week summed up his idea of how Americans should be treated.

"I belong to that school," he said, "which believes every American has a right to live in a decent home, eat three meals a day and send his children to school.

"If any one wants to argue that the people are poor because it is their own fault, he has a tough theory to defend. People were poor in 1929. Hundreds of thousands didn't have enough to eat. Millions lived in dilapidated houses—for all our vaunted national prosperity.

"Long ago I threw away the theory that people were poor because they wouldn't work or because they drink. There is an economic cause behind their need of relief.

"I would like to see the issue of a basket of groceries vs. work debated from one end of the country to the other, and I'm going to do some talking on it myself.

"Handing out a basket of groceries to people whose need is due entirely to economic factors is the most wasteful way of spending funds, the most outrageous way of treating the unemployed."

Lumber Strike Recalls the Coal Miners Strike

False Stories Being Broadcasted and Printed About Lumber Strike —True Story About Vancouver Island Coal Miners' Strike of 1913

A **LOT OF INK IS BEING SPILT** and a lot off hot-air is being broadcasted about the present strike in the lumbering industry of British Columbia. It is the same old story that if anyone or any group interferes with the right of employers to exploit workers and natural resources, then all the weapons at their disposal—state, press and pulpit—will be used against them. Lies, theories and inuendoes are marshalled against those who dare to question the right of employers to treat their employees in any way they see fit. And when these are of no avail, threats, coercion and force are brought into play to subdue the worker who dares to stand up for a square deal, a decent living and safe, healthy working conditions.

What is now being said about the lumber strike, has been said about most other strikes, and especially the big coal miners' strike of 1913, a description of which we give below. But the same kind of callous employer who operated the coal mines is now operating the lumber industry in this province. And the owners of these camps and mills are not all good Canadian citizens, but own allegiance to other countries, so when we hear of the foreign (American) unions conducting (?) the strike in this province, as alleged by broadcasters and press, we are reminded that bosses never defeated striking employees with any other weapons than force, lies and inuendoes.

The following article, sent to us by an old miner, gives a vivid picture of the coal miners' strike, and disputes the advertisements and articles dealing with the subject which appeared in the Vancouver Sun, Information, Financial News and other boss-controlled sheets.

"A lesson of the Vancouver Island strike," is the heading of an article in the Vancouver Sun of May 10 issue. As one who took part in that strike, I will attempt to put before those interested the truth about the struggle, and the lesson learned therefrom, which lesson is altogether different from that learned by the Vancouver Sun scribe.

According to the Sun article, Frank Farrington, organizer for the U. M. W. of A., arrived in Nanaimo on May 1, 1913, and said, let there be a strike, and there was a strike. Said strike resulted in the loss of markets never to be regained, six men killed and many wounded. The loss of jobs by thousands, and the ruin of many merchants. It further stated that Frank Farrington was in the employ of the mine workers of Colorado and Utah, who acquired the markets lost by the Vancouver Island mine owners.

Statement Is Untrue

From such a version of the strike, the only conclusion to be drawn is that the struggle was between rival mining companies, with the Island miners as the pawns. And that the only issue at stake was markets. With the exception of the statement "There was little or no agitation before the strike," the writer denies practically all of the article in the Sun. No agitation was necessary for the strike. The mine officials had created all the pre-requisites that made agitation unnecessary. The trouble did not begin in Nanaimo, neither did it begin on the first of May, and when it did begin, Frank Farrington had not been even heard of on the Island.

The trouble had been brewing for years, but began to take form in 1912. As the mines were compelled by law to appoint two of their members to examine the mine as to the presence or absence of gas, discharge and discrimination had long been the penalty for making a true report when gas was found in dangerous quantities. Along with this, the worsening of conditions in general brought about the attempt to establish a district of the U. M. W. of A. And it was not F. Farrington nor the U. M. W. of A., neither was it the mine-owners of Colorado and Utah that caused the strike, but the persistent discrimination of the miners' gas committee by the mine officials on the one hand, and on the other the refusal of the miners to be blown to atoms without a protest.

Discrimination Starts

The strike took root in Ladysmith, where a miner named Mottishaw, after having made a true report of a dangerous condition of the mine, found himself out of work on his place having finished. Although strangers were continually getting started, he was repeatedly being informed by the mine official that there were no vacancies yet.

Convinced that he was being discriminated against, but having no desire to cause trouble, he left Ladysmith and went to Cumberland, about ninety miles north, where the same company was operating. He got hired by a contractor as a driver. He had only been working a few days when the contractor was informed by the mine manager that Mottishaw had to be fired. The contractor protested on the grounds that Mottishaw was the best man he had. That makes no difference, replied the boss, he's got to go. When pressed by the contractor for his reasons for such action, the mine manager replied: "I don't know; all I know is that a telegram has been received from the general manager, Coulson, in Victoria, saying that we have a man here by the name of Mottishaw from Ladysmith, and must be discharged immediately.

Strike Justified

It was only after repeated refusals of the company to meet and discuss the matter with a committee of the men that a strike was declared. This was in August, 1912. It was not till the following May that it was decided to call out Nanaimo. As already stated, agitation was not necessary, as the same conditions prevailed, not only in Nanaimo, but throughout the whole of British Columbia.

The graves of 186 miners in the little cemetery of Hillcrest, killed in an explosion in the mine as a result of working in a gas-laden mine in violation of the Coal Mines Regulation Act, are undeniable witnesses to the truth of this statement. This explosion occurred either at the close of 1913 or the beginning of 1914, or immediately after the Vancouver Island strike was called off. And two subsequent explosions in Cumberland, in which some forty or more were killed, is ample evidence of the justification of the miners' action in declaring a strike.

Soon after Nanaimo came out, a convention of the B. C. Federation of Labor was held in Victoria, from which a delegation was sent to consult General Manager Coulson, with a view to settling the dispute. The mine boss admitted that he had ordered the dismissal of Mottishaw because he had reported gas in a dangerous quantity. He refused to consider any other settlement but the unconditional return of the men to work.

Lesson number one as to the identity of interest was beginning to sink in. But the second and greater lesson came on August 18, 1913, when 1800 of us assembled in the Athletic Hall in Nanaimo to discuss the agreement offered by the Jingle Pot mine representatives. While thus assembled a Col. Hall appeared in the doorway and informed the gathering that every man in the hall was under arrest. He warned all not to make

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H. W. WATTS, Man. Editor.

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Vancouver, Canada, June, 1936

THE LUMBER STRIKE

Part of the labor movement in British Columbia is involved in a strike and there are many things being said about the strike which puts the entire labor movement on the defensive. Organized Labor is not in a position to refute every unfair statement made in the press and over the air by paid hirelings and opponents of the strike, so we have to console ourselves with the hope that other people will realize the falsity of the many statements and the reasons for the unfair attacks.

The strike in the lumber industry is being conducted by a newly-formed organization affiliated with the American Federation of Labor. It has not had the same experience that many older unions in this district have had, hence some mistakes may be made which probably an older union would have avoided. Usually the older unions have found it more beneficial to negotiate their grievances with their employers, and even where negotiations have been refused by the employers—as in the present lumber strike—we have generally found ways and means of getting satisfaction without recourse to a strike. Organized Labor does not like strikes, but when the employer slams the door in your face, what are you going to do about it? A strike not only costs the employee a lot of money, but sometimes it costs him his liberty and his life. Jails and bloodshed are well known in strikes, hence we are not so ready to jump into one if it is to be decently avoided. And the rest of the labor movement also becomes involved. We have to take up collections in our union meetings and we have to dig into our union treasuries to help the strikers. Sometimes efforts are made to bring out other unions and to invoke a general strike. We don't like this form of help, not only because it has very seldom proved effective, but because it creates a lot of hard feeling among employers who have signed union agreements. And these union agreements are not so easily made as to be broken from time to time. Union agreements help to strengthen and build up the organized labor movement, hence we become somewhat jealous of them and are careful of living completely up to their codes. And employers who have signed these agreements have found them very valuable to their business, because it assures them of harmony in the relations with their employees, provides him with efficient and skilful employees, and enables him to keep correct account of his wage overhead during the life of the agreement.

We would have liked to have seen the Lumber and Sawmill Workers' Union carry on a good organization campaign after they had been chartered by the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, but even though the unions had that in mind, they were thrown into an awkward position by having their request for negotiation completely ignored by their employers. It might have been advisable to forget the attitude of the boss and have gone on with the job of organizing, but we must remember that employees in one camp had already been fired for trying to organize the other employees. Under those circumstances what could the union expect of the members who tried to organize their fellow workers? Sooner or later some of them would have been given their time or driven out of camp. But even that is one of the sacrifices union men often have to make. Blacklists are used in many industries yet, and we are powerless against them until we have thoroughly, or nearly thoroughly, organized that industry. And that, to our mind, is the job of the organized labor movement. We can hardly expect to win strikes with only a small percentage of the workers organized. We can't expect to force the workers to organize any more than the boss can expect to force the workers to work on a job where conditions are unfair, even though the owner might be one who is used to having slaves on his job, just as some of the lumber mill owners do who operate camps in B. C. and cotton fields in slave-infested Tennessee.

But the lumber barons are famous—or is it infamous—for their conduct of their plants. That industry is Public Enemy No. 1 when it comes to the number of killed and maimed turned out by it. And it has been one of the toughest jobs organized labor has had to get enough legislation on the statute books of the Province to somewhat control that slaughter. But it still goes on, and we feel that if the industry were better organized we could enforce safety conditions, more effectively than does legislation.

Every once in a while we have been able to build up a strong union in that industry and have been able to enforce better conditions. But sooner or later the bosses have been able to smash that union, either by putting disrupters into the union, blacklisting the most active union men and by various other means. And so we must start at the bottom again. Almost every form of union has been tried since the big one we had, which the bosses finally smashed, but even though the present strikers return to work without having their requests granted, the groundwork has been laid for a powerful union, and when we have had the time and the opportunity to build up that union, we will have learned many lessons which will come in very handy for handling the situation when the employer tries to avoid making conditions safe and wages fair in the industry.

Textile Industry Inquiry Important

The Royal Commission named by Prime Minister King and Government to investigate certain firms engaged in the textile industry—particularly in Sherbrooke and Three Rivers—has about ended its labors. The inquiry was so important and far-reaching that P. M. Draper, president of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, attended some of the Commission's sessions. Wages, job-destroying machinery and arbitrary closing of mills at certain plants, were paramount in the programme of the Royal Commission, headed by Justice W. F. A. Turgeon of the Saskatchewan Appeal Court. The closing of the Dominion Textile Company rayon plant at Sherbrooke, P. Q., precipitated the inquiry. Testimony given by many employees called as witnesses did not add to the prestige and honor of the company management. Wages paid to many of the mill operators were niggardly and inadequate. One operator testsified that he got $18 a week. Formerly he used to supervise 25 machines. Now he is required to look after 45 machines. Another workman testified that due to the introduction of labor-saving devices, he is required to do the work of ten men for the "wonderful" remuneration of $18 per week. A disgrace to civilization. The Commission's finding is being awaited with interest. —The Labor News (Hamilton).

Reform Cheaper Than Revolution

Those who still imagine that social reforms are dreadful things, "imported from Moscow" and sponsored in this country by "crackpots" or "brain trusters," will be reassured by an article which appeared in a recent issue of the "Wall Street Journal."

"No country in the world has such an elaborate system of government social services as Britain," says the "Journal's" London correspondent. Included in the long list are health insurance, unemployment insurance, old age pensions, widows' and orphans' pensions, grants to keep children in school, and finally, low-cost housing.

The total cost for 1935 was 480,000,000 pounds, or considerably more than $2,000,000,000. This is about one-seventh of Britain's total national income.

The United States has more than three times the population of Britain, and even in these hard times its national income is hovering around the $50,000,000,000 mark. Therefore, if the U. S. devoted a comparable amount to social services—that is, one-seventh of its national income—the total would be about $7,000,000,000 a year. As a matter of fact, the U. S. has never come near that figure. Some day the U. S. will probably exceed it by a considerable margin.

In considering what Britain is doing, it is always well to remember that its government is dominated by Tories of the most conservative variety. They are financing these social services and planning to expand them, because they are convinced that reform is more desirable than revolution.—Labor.

Correspondence

Editor, Labor Statesman,
529 Beatty St., Vancouver, B.C.

Dear Sir:

In view of the fact that the City Council has just passed a resolution that an unencumbered home owner on relief can obtain his 40 per cent. miscellaneous allowance to pay taxes only when his home is about to be sold for taxes—too late to save his home from being sold—would you please publish this and the enclosed copy of a letter received from Hon. Mr. Pearson, minister of labor.

Thanking you,
HARLEY REID,
Sec. Ward 4 Ratepayers' Assn.

The Government of The Province of British Columbia.

MINISTER OF LABOR
Victoria, B. C.,
15th April, 1936.

Harley Reid, Esq.,
Sec. Ward 4 Ratepayers' Assn.,
1440 Renfrew St., Vancouver, B.C.

Dear Sir:

Replying to your letter of April 11th, if the condition that you outline in your letter exists there must be a very definite misunderstanding somewhere regarding our regulation in this connection. The regulation states as follows:

"Shelter allowance must be paid to recipients of relief who own their own homes in order to assist the owners in the payment of delinquent taxes and mortgage interest. In order to arrive at the amount allowed for this purpose the monthly payments are not to exceed one-twelfth of 150 per cent. of the annual taxes, but in any case such payments must be kept within the maximum monthly scale for fuel, clothing and shelter."

This regulation does not say, nor does it anticipate that property shall be sold before this allowance is made. It quite definitely states that when taxes are delinquent it should be allowed.

Yours very truly,
GEO. S. PEARSON,
Minister.

The only two who can live as cheaply as one, said the cynic, are a flea and a dog.

The Plundered Poor

Edwin Markham, the 84-year-old author of "The Man With the Hoe," in an address before a recent mass meeting of working men and women in New York City, read from his poems the following quatrain, entitled "The Third Wonder":

"'Two things,' said Kant, 'fill me with breathless awe:
The starry heaven and the moral law.'
"But I know a thing more awful and secure—
The long, long patience of the plundered poor."

The patience mentioned by Mr. Markham has characterized millions of unemployed men and women who have been plundered of their right to work and consigned against their will to the jobless army, and kept there on near-starvation rations for year after year, many of them compelled to see their children suffer the pangs of malnutrition.

Edwin Markham evidently had the same idea in mind when, in his poem, "The Right to Work," he said:

"And the right of man to labor, and his right to labor in joy,
Not all your laws can strangle that right, nor the gates of Hell destroy;
For it came with the making of man and kneaded into his bones,
And it will stand at the last of things on the dust of crumbled thrones."

Win Six Dollars On Fifty Cent Investment

Threatened with a $3.00 a week wage reduction, 1000 employees of ten milk concerns in Boston, Mass., won a smashing victory last week after they had been on strike only seven hours. Instead of suffering a $3.00 cut in their $35.00 a week wage, they returned to work with a new agreement providing for a $38.00 a week wage.

We frequently hear the complaint that union dues are too high, and we cannot afford to belong to the union. These workers pay less than 50 cents a week, and their organized effort in this case has meant a return of $6.00 for the less than 50 cents paid to maintain the union.

High Post Given Humphrey Mitchell

King Government Names Him Director of Labor Transference.

OTTAWA — An order-in-council appointing Humphrey Mitchell, former Hamilton Labor member of parliament, to the post of director of labor transference, was tabled in the House of Commons by Hon. Norman McL. Rogers, minister of labor.

Mr. Mitchell was a member of the committee which visited relief camps throughout Canada and subsequently recommended they be closed as soon as feasible. The post of director of labor transference has, it is understood, been created in connection with the Government's announced intention of closing the camps.

Closing the camps will necessitate placing large numbers of men in employment elsewhere. Arrangements have already been announced under which the two railways will employ many of these men, but others must be absorbed elsewhere. Mr. Mitchell, it is understood, will direct Government activities in connection with transfer of these men.

The salary attached to the post of director of labor transference is $500 a month.

Labor Candidates Win By-Election

REGINA.—Recording a smashing victory against the reactionary elements which were responsible for the unseating of two Labor aldermen who were on relief, voters of Wards 1 and 3 elected Labor candidates by overwhelming majorities in the civic by-elections here.

In Ward 1 Alex M. Derby, history professor at Scott Collegiate, received 1394 votes against 936 for J. H. Snedden, self-styled independent Labor. In the regular civic election last November Sneddon lost out by a narrow margin to Pete Mikkleson, Labor, who was later unseated.

In Ward 3, Rev. Sam B. East, United Church clergyman, running on the Labor ticket more than doubled the vote of his opponent, ex-Mayor Cornelius Rink. The vote was: East, 1532; Rink, 689.

The Labor candidates had a majority in every poll in the two wards. Resentment against the unseating of the men elected last fall has been running high in Regina, and the election of the Labor men nominated to take their places was almost a foregone conclusion.

2,000 WORKERS LOST THEIR HOMES

London, Ont. — A government housing programme to enable workers to obtain homes at low interest rates would put 600,000 more back to work and be just the push needed to end the depression, Dr. Sam Atkinson, Toronto lecturer and author, told an audience here recently.

He said the Dominion Housing Act would be of little use until the government provided loans to house builders.

Dr. Atkinson revealed that in 1934 more than 2,000 workingmen in Toronto lost their homes through foreclosure, while not a single working man in all of England had been dispossessed.

MONTREAL GIRLS WORK FOR FIVE CENTS AN HOUR

MONTREAL, Que.—About 1,000 girls, averaging five to ten cents per hour, are working in Montreal homes producing ladies' dress embroideries, some of them actually paying for the privilege of producing marketable material, Ald. Joseph Schubert stated today. The Quebec Government should ban this homework, Ald. Schubert said.

A report by J. Schwartz, business manager of the Pleating and Embroidery Manufacturers' Association, was the basis for this statement, said Mr. Schubert who is chairman of the Joint Committee administering the collective labor agreement in the clothing industry.—London Free Press.

STRIKE AVERTED

OAKLAND, Calif. — A city-wide strike of automobile mechanics was averted here this week when the employers agreed to a 40-hour week and a 90-cent minimum hourly wage rate.

Mrs. Roosevelt Tells Need of Labor Unions

"We are obliged to decide whether a trade union is a valuable thing or not—you who are working and I as a potential employer. I happen to think a trade union is extremely valuable because I feel any business which on both sides deals with responsible people can be more easily, effectively and sympathetically run."

This was perhaps the most striking statement in a thoughtful address by Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt at the convention of the Women's Trade Union League, meeting in the Garden House of the Dodge Hotel in the shadow of the nation's Capitol.

For many years Mrs. Roosevelt has been a working member of the league, in the sense that she has given a great deal of her time and influence to advance the interests of the organization.

Delegates at White House

When arrangements for this convention were being made and it was suggested that some of the delegates might find it difficult to meet the cost of decent accommodations in Washington, Mrs. Roosevelt promptly volunteered to entertain fifteen of the delegates as her guests at the White House. They got the "thrill of their lives" out of this unusual experience.

Railmen to Honor Sir Henry Thornton

OTTAWA.—Plans are well under way for the placing of memorial plaques in all headquarters terminals of the Canadian National Railways in honor of Sir Henry Thornton, who was chairman and president of the system from 1922 to 1932.

The scheme is sponsored by the General Chairmen's Association of the Canadian National Railways. A subcommittee composed of William Atkinson, general chairman of the B. of L. F. & E. for the Atlantic region, chairman; Robert J. Tallon, president Division No. 4, Railway Employees' Department, A. F. of L., and B. M. Day, general chairman of the O. R. C. for Western lines, has charge of the arrangements.

Funds for the plaques are being raised by dime donations from all employees who worked for the system during Sir Henry's regime. The response to the appeal has been spontaneous, as the late Sir Henry was beloved by all classes of railway workers.

No date has been set for the unveiling, but fitting ceremonies will take place at each centre.

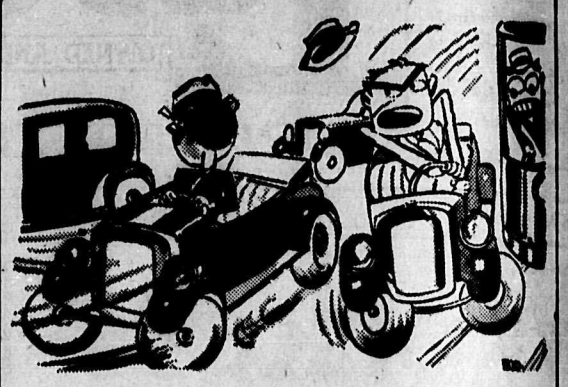
The plaque will be of solid bronze, 22 inches wide and 32 inches high, and will bear the inscription:

"In loving memory of Sir Henry Thornton, K. B. E., chairman and president of the Canadian National Railway Lines, 1922-32. Died, March 14, 1933. This tablet erected by employees of the Canadian National Railways."—Labor.

EMPLOYERS BENEFIT AS WELL AS EMPLOYEES

Following a four-day strike, 600 employees of the Cleopatra Shoe Co., of Philadelphia, won a union shop agreement, the 40-hour week and wage increases ranging from 15 to 25 per cent. Like all other non-union plants, it, of course, contended that any improvement in the conditions of its workers would put it out of business and its workers out of employment. But like others who have submitted to negotiations with their employees, and who have found that it would have paid them to have done so long ago, this plant will remain in business, enjoying better relations with its workers and a better reputation as an asset to the community.

ACCIDENT RECIPE No. 1



HOW TO PARK

When you see a parking space, stop suddenly without warning, back up and make the following automobiles swerve over on the street car tracks. If there is a street car alongside, so much the better. Let the other fellow look out.

Let us make our streets safer for everyone. Your street car company is anxious to co-operate with motorists to eliminate accidents and help streets fulfill their true function, namely, provide for moving traffic.

B.C. Electric

Campaigning for Safety on behalf of both Motorist and Street Car

Kenora Council Aids Teachers' Federation

The year-old Trades and Labor Council of Kenora, Ont., appears to be up and doing, judging from a letter from that body enquiring about the wage agreement under which the local Teachers' Federation is working, says the Manitoba Commonwealth. Up to the present time the Winnipeg Teachers' Federation has never been affiliated to the Trades and Labor Council, which looks as if Kenora is getting one ahead of us. Of course the National Federation of Teachers in the United States is one of the most active affiliates of the American Federation of Labor, but in Canada this class of labor has always held aloof from the trade unions, perhaps due to the idea that theirs is a profession rather than a trade. The secretary was instructed to secure and furnish the information to the Kenora Trades Council.

IF SOMETHING IS DONE, LABOR WILL DO IT!

S. G. Blaylock, a British Columbia mining executive, speaking at a meeting in Ottawa, said that unless something was done so that laboring men, and the men who control industry, work together instead of against each other, trouble, will arise in Canada.

We agree with the gentleman, but the Bourbons of Finance and Industry in Canada are like the Bourbons in France previous to the French Revolution; they were "cocks of the walk" and "could see nothing, do nothing and learn nothing." But the working class made them see things against their will. Bourbons never change.

HAVE AFFILIATED WITH CARPENTERS

PORT ARTHUR, ONT. — By a unanimous vote the Lumber Workers' Industrial Union district convention here decided to affiliate with the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America. The union will enter the A. F. of L. organization en bloc. Seventy-five delegates were present, including delegates from Sault Ste. Marie and Northern Ontario.

"Have you seen one of those instruments which can tell when a man is lying?"

"Seen one! Man, I married one."

Wage Chiselers Scored By Rogers

OTTAWA.—Employers discovered lowering wages to a level below the amount workers would receive if they were on relief will be branded as being committed "high treason against the state in a time of great emergency," declared Hon. Norman Rogers, minister of labor, in a lengthy statement to the House, in moving second reading for his unemployment relief act.

The Government will use the weapon of publicity to the fullest extent to expose such employers, said the minister.

Sustained Campaign

"Victory over the depression and unemployment cannot be won by a pitched battle, but only by a sustained campaign along the entire front of our economic life," declared the minister.

Mr. Rogers informed the House he did not wish to exaggerate the situation, but insisted "we are still faced with the fact that the problems of unemployment remain unsolved," despite a perceptible improvement in economic conditions during the last year.

GOVERNMENT WORKERS SUCCESSFUL IN DRIVE

The American Federation of Government Employees is making remarkable success in its drive for 40,000 members, according to word received by Perry S. Myers, vice-president for the Eleventh District. On Wednesday the total membership had reached 30,001. The campaign is expected to close September 1, with the full 40,000 members enrolled.

MACDONALD HEADS PRINCE RUPERT TRADES COUNCIL

S. D. MacDonald and Frank Darry, both of whom have held the respective offices of president and secretary of the Prince Rupert Trades and Labor Council for many years past, were returned for a further term at the annual election of officers held by that body recently. Mr. MacDonald is also a member of the British Columbia Executive Committee of the Trades and Labor Congress.

"Here lies an honest man and a good lawyer."

"Why should it be necessary to bury two men in the same grave?"

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Trades Union Directory

LABOR HEADQUARTERS, 529-531 BEATTY STREET

UNIONS AFFILIATED WITH TRADES COUNCIL

...Salesmen, Local 189, I. B. T. C. ...H.—Secretary, Birt Showler, 531 Beatty Street, Seymour 7495.

...and Confectionery Workers' In...national Union, Local 468—Secretary, R. Small, 529 Beatty Street, Seymour 3349.

...—International Journeymen of America, Local 120—Secretary and Business Manager, C. E. Herrett, 531 Beatty Street, Seymour 3349.

...Dispensers' Union, Local 676 ...Business Manager, T. J. Hanafin, ... Homer Street, Seymour 4783.

...smiths' Union, Local 151—Secretary, A. Arman, 2048 West Second Avenue, Bayview 1567-L.

...makers' Union, Local 194—Secretary, A. Fraser, 5079 Ross Street, Fraser 501-Y.

...binders' Union, Local 105 — Rec. Secretary, Miss F. Portman, 3942 Dawson St., Burnaby, B. C.

...ery Workers' Union, Local 300—Secretary, A. Bullock, 2424 West 13th; Phone Bay. 6585-Y.

...layers' Union, Local No. 1—W. S. Dagnall, 1442 East 30th, Fair. 846-R.

Building Trades Council — Secretary, William Page, 539 Beatty St.; Phone Seymour 7495.

...and Mill Workers, Local 31—Secretary, T. Umezuki, 544 Powell St., Highland 2189.

...Local Union 452—Secretary, E. W. Hatley, 531 Beatty St., Sey. 7495.

...Hall Employees, Local 59—Secretary, J. Tarbuck, 3517 West 35th, Bayview 2300-R.

...Employees' Union, Local 28—Secretary, Walter Scribbins, 195 East Pender; Douglas 5591.

...trical Workers' Union, Local 213—Business Manager, E. H. Morrison, 531 Beatty Street, Seymour 8510.

...vator Constructors, Local 82—Secretary, R. Holmes, 531 Beatty Street, Seymour 7495.

...neers, Hoisting and Portable, Local 115—Secretary, J. Flynn, 531 Beatty Street; Seymour 7495.

...neers, Stationary, Local 882—Secretary, E. W. King, P. O. Box 1102; High. 6209-Y.

...School and Caretakers, Local ...—Secretary, D. M. Mitchell, 1960 Renfrew St.; High. 4194-R.

...Fighters, City, Local 18—Secretary, F. F. Enright, 3070 Hudson Street.

...Fighters, New Westminster, Local ...—Secretary, C. Highsted, 1220 ... Avenue.

...Fighters, North Vancouver, Local ...—Secretary, Wm. H. Galbraith, Fire Hall, North Vancouver.

...Truck Drivers' Union—President, M. L. Gibson; Secretary, Birt Showler. Meets Second Tuesday, Labor Headquarters.

...and Restaurant Employees, Local 28—Secretary, W. Stewart; 531 Beatty Street; Seymour 7495.

...Workers, Structural, Local 97—Business Manager, J. P. Rankin, 531 Beatty Street, Seymour 7495.

...Workers' Union, Secretary, ...G. Howells, Dundarave, B. C.

...shoremen, No. 44—Secretary, Chas. Wallmark, 2575 Venables Street.

...ber and Sawmill Workers' Union, Local 1617 (U. B. of C. & J.)—Secretary, William Higgins, 531 Beatty St.

...chinists, Local 692—Secretary, P. R. Bengough, 531 Beatty St., Sey. 6379.

Machinists, Local 182—Secretary, J. G. Keefe, 4514 West 11th, Pt. Grey 347-L.

Mailers' Union, No. 70—Secretary, H. Fader, 2725 Eton Street.

Maintenance of Way Employees, No. 167—W. R. Mayne, 2063 Napier Street, High. 2094-L.

Mental Hospital Attendants' Union—Secretary, J. McD. Nicolson, Essondale, B. C.

Milk Salesmen and Dairy Employees, Local 464—Business Manager, Birt Showler, 531 Beatty Street, Sey. 7495.

Molders' Union, Local 281—Secretary, John Browne, 638 W. Broadway, Suite 1; Phone Fair. 5573-L.

Motion Picture Projectionists, Local 348—Secretary, J. H. Leslie, Box 345; Bay. 6541-L; Bus. Man., Trin. 5708.

Musicians' Union, Local 145—Business Manager, E. A. Jamieson, 319 Pender West, Douglas 2380.

Painters, Paperhangers and Decorators, Local 138—Business Manager, Ed. Smith, 531 Beatty Street, Sey. 7495. Res.: Sev. 4613-L.

Pile Drivers and Wooden Bridgemen, Local 2404—Business Manager, Jas. Thomson, 143 W. Hastings, Sey. 7874.

Plasterers, Local 89 — Secretary, W. Page, 531 Beatty St., Seymour 7495.

Plumbers and Steamfitters, Local 170—Secretary, C. Pritchard, 539 Beatty Street, Kerrisdale 165-L.

Plumbers and Steamfitters (Railroad)—Local 571—Secretary, T. H. Poulton, 735 Second St., New Westminster.

Photo Engravers, Local 54—I. V. Murphy, 3321 West 29th, Bayview 2892-Y.

Railway Carmen, Local No. 58—Secretary, J. R. Robertson, 637 West 18th, Fairmont 2258-L.

Railway Carmen, Local 280—Secretary, W. E. Bradley, 2620 Wilson Avenue, New Westminster.

Sheet Metal Workers, Local 280—Business Manager, Dan Macpherson, 531 Beatty Street, Seymour 7495.

Sheet Metal Workers (Railroad) Local 314—Secretary, Geo. Watson, 1909 East 19th.

Sign and Pictorial Painters, Local 726—Secretary, Wm. Clarkson, 1823 Kitchener Street, Highland 567-R.

Stenographers, Typists and Bookkeepers, Local 18177 — Secretary, Anne MacDonald, 531 Beatty St., Sey. 7495.

Stone Cutters, Journeymen of North America—Secretary, E. W. Tonge, 4119 Grace Avenue, New Westminster.

Stereotypers and Electrotypers, Local 88—Secretary, J. McKinnon, 3635 W. 14th, Bayview 1149-X.

Street Railway Employees, Division 101—Business Manager, Fred Griffin, Prior Street Car Barns, Trinity 4680.

Tailors, Journeymen, Local 178—Secretary, Mrs. J. E. Harrison, 1366 Nelson Street.

Taxi Drivers, Local 151—Secretary, N. A. Macaulay, 468 East 17th Ave.; Fair. 4712-R.

Theatrical Stage Employees, Local 118—Secretary, H. Pearson, Orpheum Theatre.

Textile Workers, Local 1700—Secretary, Catherine Wilson, 8327 West Sixth.

Tile Setters, Local No. 8—Secretary, W. Hamm, 2646 Trinity, Highland 3120-L.

Typographical Union, Local 226—Secretary, Harry Neelands, 531 Beatty St., Seymour 6231.

IN LIGHTER VEIN!

A Military Yarn

A young man noticed a ravel on ...shoulder of his dancing partner ...pulled it. By the time he surrendered her to another partner he ...a ball of string in his hand, and ...w it in the corner. The next ...ing the young lady was telling ...mother about the dance and said, ...had a perfectly wonderful time, ...Mamma, I can't figure out what ...came of my union suit."

If everybody knew what one says ...the other, there would not be four ...ends left in the world.

Quota Completed

Wise Guy (boarding a street car) —Well, Noah, is the ark full?

Conductor — Nope, we need one ...re jackass; come on in.

The Smiths Win

Some one in Denver, with plenty of ...e on his hands, has figured out ...at if all the Smiths living in that ...y were laid end to end there would ...15 blocks, or 1¼ miles of them. ...e Johnsons, laid out in the same ...y, would be less than a block ...ort of that line. The Millers came ...ird, with a span of 10 blocks, if ...retched out.

Might Help

He was a widower, getting along in ...ars, and no longer handsome.

"You are the fifth girl I have pro...posed to without avail."

"Well," said the girl kindly, "bet...ter wear one next time. Maybe you'll ...ave better luck."

Fire Water

"Good morning, Mr. Ryetop," said ...e waiter, "I hope you enjoyed that ...d Scotch I left in your room while ...u were out."

"It was pretty fair," drawled Ryetop, rubbing his parched lips, "but ...at siphon you sent up had the ...rongest stream of fizz water I ever ...tackled. The blamed thing came near ...blowin' me through the window."

The waiter looked puzzled. "Siphon? I didn't send up any siphon."

"Yes you did. It was red and ...and with brass bands."

"Great Scott! That was the fire ...extinguisher!"

A New Definition

The daughter of the house was ...reading aloud from a book.

"Thomas means 'good,' I see," she ...said. "James means 'beloved'." She ...blushed somewhat. "I wonder what ...William means?"

"I sincerely trust, my dear, that ...William means business," put in her ...mother tartly.

"Is this a fire insurance office?"

"Yes, sir; can we be of any service to you?"

"Perhaps you can. You see, my employer threatens to fire me next Saturday, and I'd like some protection."

Policeman (to night watchman). What are you barricading yourself in for?

Night Watchman: Well, d'you see that hole in front; it's a 30-ft. drop, and I walk in my sleep.

Neighbor: Is that new watchdog of yours any good?

Proud Owner: Rather! If you hear a suspicious noise at night, you've only got to wake him, and he barks splendidly!

Reverend Humor

The Vicar—I want to speak to you, Turner, about the milk you've been delivering lately—we don't require it for christenings.

A New Language

Mrs. Newrich—Oh, yes, our little Henry is turning out very smart in school.

Caller—And what is he studying?

Mrs. Newrich—Why, he's studying French, and Spanish, and algebra. Henry, say "good morning" to the lady in algebra.

Probably Head of Firm

"Is this Peabody, Finchley, Longworth & Fitzgerald?"

"Yes, this is Peabody, Finchley, Longworth & Fitzgerald."

"I want to speak to Mr. Smith."

Just Horse Sense

An efficiency expert is all right, says a friend of ours, but he often lacks common horse sense. He can tell you that if a farmer boy can pick six quarts of cherries in an hour, and a girl five quarts, the two of them will pick 11 quarts. But any farmer knows that the two of them together will not pick any.

"My wife says that if I don't chuck golf she'll leave me."

"Hard luck, old chap."

"Yes, I'll miss her."

A Rose by Another Name

"Ah, said the customs officer, producing a bottle of whiskey, "I thought you said there were only old clothes in that trunk?"

"Aye, that's ma night cap," said the Aberdonian.

We can only wear one tie,
One eyeglass in our eye,
Fill one coffin when we die,
Don't you know.

Conference of B. C. and Alberta Coal Miners Favor Unification

By CARL E. BERG

Secretary, Alberta Federation of Labor

Special to The People's Weekly

CALGARY.—The miners' organizational conference called by President F. J. White under the auspices of the Alberta Federation of Labor, and held here recently, by far exceeded the expectations of even the most enthusiastic and ardent supporter of unification among the miners of the West.

Delegates and representatives were present from almost every coal mining camp in the provinces of Alberta and British Columbia, some of the delegates coming from as far as Vancouver on the west coast.

It was the greatest gathering of miners that has ever taken place since the stirring days of 1919. And while the younger generation of miners were well represented, the old-timers who had met in many a conference during years gone by, but who had hardly been on speaking terms for some years owing to duality of organizations and differences of opinion as to what organization could best serve their needs, outnumbered the youngsters, and their experience and wise counselling were generally agreed to and accepted.

It was an inspiring event to any trade unionist who was privileged to sit in, to see these men who for years had been bitter opponents, sit down across the table from one another in a spirit of comradeship and unity, agreeing to let bygones be bygones and benefit by experiences. They agreed and admitted that they had all made mistakes and suffered thereby and that never during this conference was a word to be uttered which would re-open any of the old sores or give room to create any ill feeling or dissension among them.

Friendly Spirit

A spirit of friendliness prevailed that in all the conference I have attended during my lifetime I have never seen equalled. Officers of organization who up till now had considered it treason for any member to be seen in company with one of their opponents, mingled with one another as members of one great family. They were determined that no offending word was to be spoken, and that this conference was not going to be barren of results, but was to lay the foundation for the greatest miners' organization ever in existence in Western Canada.

Members and delegates of independent unions showed astonishment over the fact that the two major miners' organizations in Alberta and British Columbia could so easily and readily forget their differences and agree to unity for the common good under one banner. They would now no longer be between two fires as to what organization was the right one, or have to remain independent because their members could not agree among themselves to join either one of these major organizations. Up till now these groups had used up so much of their energy and funds to combat one another. The delegates of these independent groups joined in with the delegates of the United Mine Workers of America and those of the Miners' Union of Canada and showed an equal desire for one united miners' union and co-operation to bring this about as speedily as possible.

Meant Business

In calling the conference to order on Monday morning, President Fred J. White extended a most hearty welcome to all the delegates present. All formalities were done away with, and early signs showed that this was strictly a business convention and that the delegates present came to Calgary determined to waste no time on speeches or preliminaries. They were there to dig in and bring back results to an expectant rank and file who had sent them, not to make speeches, but to bring home the bacon, so to speak, and to do away with all the tomfoolery of one miners' organization fighting another. While conditions were going from bad to worse, and the miners' families were going without the necessities of life, some of their fellow workers were languishing in prison for their activities on behalf of their organizations. Others were victimized and driven from mine to mine in search of employment, which the blacklist would not allow them, while the operators who were at the bottom of this division in the miners' ranks, inaugurated rationalization schemes and speed-up systems to reduce the number of men employed, and also reduce the pay envelope of those remaining on the payrolls.

Ewen Pledges Support

President White called upon Tom Ewen, who had toured the country on behalf of the Workers' Unity League, advising the miners to get together, to address the conference. Mr. Ewen paid tribute to the Alberta Federation of Labor for having called the conference and said that in all his travels throughout Canada he had never come across such feeling for unity as now existed. He made some reference to the steps taken by his organization to bring workers back within the folds of the American Federation of Labor. He said that the so-called All-Canadian unions are composed of the worst elements in the Labor movement, and generally condemned their slogans and catch phrases used to entrap the gullible. He said that if any one will examine the facts they will find that the A. F. of L. has spent far more money in Canada than has ever been sent back across the line, and that the workers must rely on unions which have been tested and stood up under that test. He declared that he had no hesitation in saying that by accepting the recommendation of the joint executives of the two miners' unions, the miners were laying the foundation for a united effort to build an organization that will bring to the miners and their families those things which they need. He believed that when the deliberations of this conference were sent out to the mining camps of Alberta and British Columbia, those findings and deliberations would be accepted and given whole-hearted support.

The secretary of the Federation, who had been called from his work at Regina to attend the conference, read to the assembled delegates a joint statement, prepared and recommended by the full executive boards of the United Mine Workers of America and the Mine Workers' Union of Canada. This statement was accepted by the conference and copies were given to all the delegates, whereupon the conference adjourned to allow the delegates time to peruse the statement and form their own opinions regarding it.

Statement Accepted

After a most thorough discussion of all the points at issue, taken part in by delegates from every local represented, all the clauses contained in the joint statement, with a few minor alterations and amendments, were accepted.

No Delay

One of the principal amendments dealt with the matter of setting the time for a referendum. This was left in the hands of the two executives, as was also the matter of a date to be agreed upon when the actual transfer of membership was to be consummated. It was felt by all present that no time should be lost but that speed was an essential factor, and that delays were undesired.

Would Meet John L. Lewis

The question of giving full rights and privileges to the Mine Workers' Union of Canada and independent unions was thoroughly gone into. President Robert Livett agreed to make a special trip to the Eastern United States to meet with President John L. Lewis of the United Mine Workers of America, to lay before him some of the important issues raised in this respect. He agreed to do all in his power to have the matter of rights and privileges satisfactorily settled and to welcome the unions back within the folds of the United Mine Workers of America to be governed and protected by its laws should the referendum show that this was desired.

A committee of tellers representing the United Mine Workers of America, the Mine Workers Union of Canada was elected by the various groups at a meeting called during a recess of the convention. This committee is to be called together by the joint executives, upon Mr. Livett's return and will have full charge of the referendum.

Interesting Debates

The short and interesting debates that took place upon the various matters coming before the conference were of the highest standard and all delivered with the view in mind that a great and important stage had been reached in the history of the miners' organizational activities. It was recognized that the future welfare of their organization and families were at stake. It is impossible to mention here the number of speakers who certainly deserve honorable mention. It is enough for me to say to all those organizations and local unions who were represented, and to the members of those locals and organizations, that they did well and made not a single mistake in selecting the men they did to act as their representatives at this important convention. They all measured up to the hopes and expectations which they had in them and deserved their confidence and thanks for the whole-hearted manner in which they went about their work and the results they accomplished.

The linking up with the strongest miners organization on the American continent, the United Mine Workers of America, with its well over 650,000 membership, will give to the Canadian miners an assurance of strength and support that should enable them to overcome any obstacles in their path and create a feeling of strength and solidarity inspiring not only to the miners but to the workers throughout the whole of the West.

Good News for the Grillwigs

"Here's good news for the Grillwig family," said Herbert Grillwig, upon arriving home one evening. "I'm having a telephone put in our house again."

There was a time when the Grillwigs thought they could get along without a telephone, but they discovered their error when they were without one for a while. Again and again they were left out of social affairs because their friends found it hard to get in touch with them.

Nowadays most invitations came by telephone.

B. C. TELEPHONE CO.

HALIFAX UNIVERSITY TURNS DOWN OLYMPIC GAMES

With a large attendance of delegates, the May meeting of the Halifax Trades and Labor Council, with President Maurice Fougere in the chair, passed a resolution endorsing the statements of President Carleton Stanley when he made an onslaught on Hitlerism and Fascism in his address before the graduating class of Dalhousie University at the Convocation exercises there, when he said: "Dalhousie has refused to have anything to do with the sending of athletes to games in Germany."

SEATTLE CURTAIN LAUNDRY SIGNED

SEATTLE.—Following reaching of an agreement with Laundry Drivers' Local 566, the Aetna Curtain Laundry became the first 100 per cent. union laundry in this specialized field in Seattle. For some months past inside workers in the plant have been organized, and following several months of negotiations the firm agreed to the union wage scale and union working conditions for its drivers as well.

AGREEMENT WITH MUTUAL CREAMERY

Members of Seattle Teamsters' Locals 174 and 353 employed by the Mutual Creamery Company were back at work last Friday following complete adjustment of all the differences between the creamery operators and their drivers. The men had been on strike since the previous Monday. The Mutual Creamery Company markets Maid O'Clover Butter and Ice Cream in the Seattle territory, and has a number of affiliated creameries in the Northwest.

Following the reaching of an agreement on the Seattle situation, the creamery management agreed not to interfere in the organization of its employees at all affiliated plants throughout the state. This includes plants at Ellensburg, Sunnyside, Cashmere, and the Yakima City Creamery at Yakima, which had been engaged in a controversy with Local 524 of that city for some time past.

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MELVILLE GOES LABOR

MELVILLE, Sask.—Results of the by-election held in Melville last week has swung the town council to Labor. Peter Blake, F. W. Harris and William Atton, three C. N. R. employees and supporters of labor principles, were the successful candidates.

Quick Work

A man went into an Aberdeen drug store and ordered five-pence worth of quinine. A second later the customer cried out—"Help, I am poisoned." The chemist looked at the box and said—"You're right, man, it is strychnine—that'll be tuppence extra. Pay me quick, laddie, it works fast."

Why Recovery Is Lagging—Production Oustripped Jobs

A few "statistics" released by the U. S. Department of Labor revealed in striking fashion why recovery is not making greater strides.

In a study of production, employment and payrolls for the period from 1932 to 1935, the department made these startling disclosures:

Production increased 43 per cent., but the number of workers rose only 28 per cent.

The lag in employment was due to longer hours, speeding up of workers and the substitution of machines for human labor.

In other words, just what Labor has been contending for several years.

Payrolls made a better showing, but the department insists there is still vast room for improvement. Workers' wages in 1935 were 52 per cent. higher than in 1932, but were still 30 per cent. less than in 1929—another blow at purchasing power, the one thing needed to get the country back to normal.

Conditions in Canada, in this respect, are undobutedly similar to those in the United States. While we note that business conditions and bank clearings have shown great improvements, we still find that employment has not increased to anywhere the same degree. When the present improvement has had its fling, there will be a quick relapse into another long period of depression unless we immediately tackle the job of progressively increasing the purchasing power of all citizens.

Organized labor's remedy for this is still the best. Steadily increasing wages and a general reduction in hours of labor will provide the purchasing power necessary to consume the ever-increasing amount of food, clothing, furniture, luxuries, etc., being produced.

Seven Drivers Quit Unfair Bakery

As each of the thirty-two district groups improved their organization, and as local committee members in every district continued their activities, rumors of increased unrest among the non-union employees of the Golden Rule Bakery and Dairy were spreading throughout Seattle last week says the Seattle Labor News. Another of the Golden Rule drivers is reported as leaving his route at the end of this week. This make a total of seven men who have left Golden Rule routes in the last three months as a result of the Teamsters' activities.

District officers met last Monday in a short session and arrangements were made for regular weekly meetings in each district for the purpose of contacting the Golden Rule customers to be continued until such time as the fight is eventually won. Local committees will work in conjunction with this programme, receiving assistance where necessary from the district organization.

Pickets following the Golden Rule trucks report a very marked falling off in the number of customers being served by those routes where the committee members have been the most active, indicating that in the majority of cases the calls being made by the committeemen are proving effective.

While little activity has been carried on as yet outside of the city limits of Seattle, organization of the campaign throughout the country with resultant pressure being put on those Golden Rule drivers whose routes run through the country territory is now being planned and will be operating in a very few weeks. Completion of this programme should result in the complete demoralization of the Golden Rule organization throughout its entire structure.

Cities and towns outside the Seattle area have been very active and report considerable progress made in their part of the campaign.

Three New Charters For Winnipeg Unions

Perhaps the most encouraging feature of the Winnipeg Trades and Labor Council meeting was the receipt of credentials for delegates representing three newly organized local unions, namely: Federal union covering employees in the Transcona Creosoting plant; Federal union representing the butchers and packing house employees; and international union charter covering the employees in local glove factories. This is the first charter issued in Canada by the International Glove Workers' Union.

President W. J. Nelson formally presented the three new charters, wishing the recipients every success and commented on the fact that while one new charter had been presented at each of the two previous meetings, this was the first time that he had had the pleasure of presenting three of them at the same meeting, and there were indications that the good work would continue.—Manitoba Commonwealth.

Banquet to Mark Success In 'Peg

WINNIPEG.—Winnipeg labor will celebrate the organization of a number of new union locals at a banquet here on June 2nd in the Hudson's Bay dining room.

P. M. Draper, president of the Trades and Labor Congress, has been invited to speak at the affair, which will be under the auspices of the Winnipeg Trades and Labor Council. Another speaker will be David Dubinsky, head of the International Ladies' Garment Workers and one of the organizers of the committee for industrial organizations.

Last Sunday a charter was presented to the Hotel and Restaurant Employees, Local 63, and the Butchers' and Meat Packers' federal union No. 97, has also received its charter.

CANADA MACHINISTS WIN 40-HOUR WEEK

MONTREAL, P. Q. — Vice-President James Somerville of the International Association of Machinists announces that the first scheduled 40-hour week in the paper industry has been established in the wage agreement just concluded with the Minnesota & Ontario Paper Corporation.

The new agreement was negotiated by General Organizer George Murphy. It is effective from May 1 and covers mills at International Falls, Minn., Kenora and Fort Francis, Ont.

Seattle Produce Men Win 1-Day Strike

Following a one-day strike Seattle Local 195, Produce Drivers, Salesmen, and Helpers, the newest of the Seattle Teamsters' Locals, organized just a year ago, obtained a union shop agreement from the commission merchants of Seattle. The agreement which was signed between the Northwest Produce Merchants' Association and union representatives provides for a twenty-five dollar a week minimum wage for workers in the industry, a forty-eight hour week, and time and one-half for overtime. Skilled and experienced employees are provided for in the agreement at wages substantially above the minimum.

One of the features of the short strike was the very orderly manner in which it was carried out. Perfect order was maintained among strikers and pickets and at no time was there the slightest trouble of any nature on "the street".

The wages and working conditions specified in the agreement mean a substantial increase for most of the men in the industry, as well as other improvements in the status of employees. Uniform hours for doing business, and maintenance of the present wage of any employee receiving over the union scale are provisions of the contract.

Much of the success with which the new union met may be attributed to the very fine co-operation given it by other Teamsters' locals in the city. The Milk Drivers' organization furnished a large number of pickets for the day who were conspicuous in their activities as were also the old reliables from the general Teamsters' locals. Tie-up of the industry was complete, and this no doubt was in no small measure responsible for the success with which union representatives met in their negotiations with the employers.

Locomotive Union Takes Strike Vote

By BUDD L. McKILLIPS

A strike vote of Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Engineers was taken this week on the New York, New Haven & Hartford, the Boston & Maine, and the Maine Central. It went 100 per cent. in favor of a strike.

The controversy centres around the practice of these three carriers in jeopardizing the lives of passengers and employees by operating high-speed trains without using the common-sense safety precautions that are in effect on practically all other railroads throughout the nation.

Between 1500 and 1800 firemen and enginemen will be directly involved, and about 7000 other engine and train service employees will be affected in the threatened walkout.

Safety Is the Issue

On all three carriers the issue is the operation of Diesel-electric engines with only one man in the cab on 90-mile-an-hour passenger trains and in switching service.

This practice is so dangerous that the few other carriers outside of New England who have attempted it have had such disastrous experiences that they have gone back to the safe method of having two experienced men on duty in all engine cabs at all times.—Labor.

MORE DRIVERS NEED IN ICE INDUSTRY

Employment of twelve to fifteen more drivers in the Seattle ice industry is promised this summer following actions of the ice companies of Seattle in the past two weeks toward eliminating certain objectionable competitive features of the industry. Adoption of a stabilization program for the industry is expected to provide the employment for the additional men.

BREAD DRIVERS WIN STRIKE

TORONTO, Ont. (ALP). — With victory on their side, sixty Bredin's bread drivers returned to work last week. The strike was concluded recently when the company agreed to guarantee the men a minimum of $20 per week and granted them 10 per cent. commission, as requested, on relief sales.

SIGN WITH MACHINISTS

Fourteen automobile repair shop owners in the City of Welsh, Va., have just signed a collective agreement with the International Association of Machinists, which grant increases ranging up to 25 cents per hour for auto mechanics. The agreement, negotiated by Grand Lodge Representative W. C. Isley, is the first ever signed by these employers.

Strike Averted; Seven Firms Sign Up

Employees in the garment industry in Winnipeg have successfully avoided a strike. During last winter a strong union of the United Garment Workers' Union of America was built up, and negotiations were started in the early spring to obtain an agreement with the employers. The employers kept stalling, however, but the union stayed with the idea, and its efforts were finally crowned with success, for the employers recently got down to business, with the result that the negotiations have resulted in seven of the largest factories signing agreements with the union, and thus assured peace in the industry for the life of the agreement. About 650 workers are involved and the agreement provides for a closed shop; recognition of a Business Agent selected by the employees; overtime rates; the 44-hour week; adjustment of wages, and a uniform wage in all shops.

Lumber Mill Union Wins Labor Award

The Carlisle Lumber Company of Onalaska (near Chehalis) lost its case before the Regional Labor Board.

The decision awards the strikers at the mill about $65,000 in back wage payments, being pay for the time the men have been on strike, or suffering on account of the lockout, as the dispute has been properly called. Approximately 200 men are involved in the controversy, and all of them will participate in the disbursement which the company is ordered to make.

The lumber company is instructed to pay back wages to dismissed workers from last August 5 to the date of the offer of reinstatement of a job. The company must bargain with the union and must offer jobs to all members of the union who went on strike when the company refused to recognize them for collective bargaining purposes.

LUMBER STRIKE

(Continued from Page 1)

any attempt to escape or it would be worse for them, as the hall was completely surrounded by troops, fully armed and with fixed bayonets. On emerging from the hall it was found that both sides of the street leading down to the courthouse was also lined with troops, and likewise the courthouse itself was similarly surrounded. The wharf, the railway depot, the telephone, telegraph and the press were all likewise commandeered by troops.

Strikers Get a Shock

The shock to our ideas of government of the people, etc., can better be imagined than described. There we were—prisoners of war in our own country, held, not by a foreign foe, but by citizens of our own country. We were all marched down singly to the courthouse, where we were all searched and questioned. The leading spirits were held, and the rest released. The Sun article states there were six men killed and many wounded. Well since, in spite of all provocation, there was not one single clash between the strikers and the troops, there was not one single man killed, except they were unskilled miners acting as strike-breakers.

Once the truth of the Vancouver Island strike is known, the hypocrisy of the Sun writer's tears over six men being killed stands clearly revealed. I would like to remind the reader that the article in the Sun was taken from The Financial News, which is indicative of whose interest the article was written in. Again I would also advise the reader to peruse carefully the charge made in the Sun article, that is, that the strike was manouvered by rival mine owners; and that rival lumber men are now plotting a strike of the lumber industry of B. C. As this argument has been used always and everywhere by the capitalists when their workers strike, we have their own admission of the real, the true, ethics of our captains of industry. To them it matters not how many men are killed and wounded, or how many lose their jobs, or how many merchants ruined, so long as they can steal a rival's market. But as much as they desire markets for their products, they prefer to lose them rather than allow their employees to rise above the level of slaves, or treat them as human beings.

The Sun scribe errs again when he says there has never been a strike on the Island since. A year ago last Yuletide there was a strike in Cumberland — the men being driven by sheer desperation to revolt. They succeeded in wringing some concessions and established an organization. The company has since established a union of their own, and by the aid of the Red bogey is working desperately to destroy the miners' own union. In conclusion, I may say that although the aims of the Island miners were frustrated, the strike was by no means fought in vain, for the lessons learned were well worth the price paid. As for the loss of jobs through loss of markets is concerned, the Island mines are at present no worse off than their rivals, either in Colorado, Utah or anywhere else at the present time. Fuel oil, gas, electricity, sawdust and other kinds of fuel have made great inroads into the Island coal trade, creating a large army of unemployed, which the mine owners have taken every advantage of, until today the conditions are very much worse than those against which they rebelled in 1912 and 1913, and no one need be surprised if they read in the morning paper anytime now of the visit of another bolt from a clear blue sky (as it is termed by the Vancouver Sun) to the coal mining industry of Vancouver Island.

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Super Lather Shaving Cream	.26	Pepsodent Antiseptic, 2 50c bottles for	.[illegible]
Pears Soap, 2 for	.30	Absorbine Junior Small	.[illegible]
Noxzema, 8-oz. ar	.50	Sloan's Liniment Small	.[illegible]
Egyptian Boquet Talcum	.15	Cod Liver Oil (biologically tested), imp. quart	.[illegible]
Hygeia Nipples Transparent	.20	Vanex Genuine Russian Oil, 16-oz.	.[illegible]
Hygeia Nipples Black	.15	Dr. Reid's Syrup of Figs	.[illegible]
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Senate Halts Amendments To British North America Act

OTTAWA, Can. — The joint parliamentary resolution asking Westminster to amend the British North America Act, to allow the provinces the right to levy indirect taxation and to clarify the Dominion's right to make loans to the provinces, received a rough ride in the Senate by Rt. Hon. Arthur Meighen, Conservative leader.

As a result of this attack, it is believed the upper chamber will kill the measure. This assumption is based upon the premises that when it came before the chamber Senator George P. Graham, a front bench Liberal, adjourned debate until next week on the ground that many Senators desired further time to consider the proposal.

House Gives "Okay"

It was given approval earlier in the House, but only after it had been bitterly assailed by Conservative Leader Bennett and others.

But Senator Meighen had much to say about the proposed constitutional changes.

The resolution would mean any province could impose taxes against goods from other provinces, "as high as the ambitions of a province may desire," the Senator declared. Thus, he claimed, "there would be put into the hands of every province a sharp sword to strike the others," and there would be no way of escape from nine tariff walls in Canada.

Destroys Dominion Entirely

"Instead of a Dominion of Canada, we will have nine helpless provinces," he declared. "There must be nothing direct or indirect that detracts from this country as a commercial entity, so there must be free trade as between all provinces from one end of Canada to the other."

Canadian workers have been seeking amendments to the constitution for a great many years, and the present flareup indicates the difficulties in the way. Discussion of amendments has been in progress since Dominion-provincial conference year, and many proposals have offered. The resolution as submitted by the government mild compromise, but now that danger.

Approves Cadet Training

The House of Commons, by a vote of 109 to 8, placed its seal of approval on cadet training over opposition of Agnes MacPhail, first woman to be elected to Canada's Parliament, and who for years or more has protested the youth of Canada being compelled to take military training.

Grant MacNeil (CCF-Vancouver North), who was wounded in the Great War, also attacked the Canadian militia.

The Vancouver member said it time for Canada to stop spending lions of dollars on a militia. pointed out that there are only men to every officer, although 24 was the wartime ratio. Canada, said, was spending millions for the benefit of officers MacNeil termed it, "a military tocracy." He moved to 000,000 off the militia vote.

Officers Defended

Defense Minister Mackenzie gized the voluntary work militia officers, often at their pense. He denied there was a tary aristocracy in Canada.

The MacNeil motion was 11, after Conservative Leader nett went to the support of itia. It was impossible, carry on the work of the army without an appropriation $9,000,000 or $10,000,000.

The Mayor of Toonerville his place in Council and "Gentlemen, I duplicate session. If we cannot monium, I shall have to seat."