Labor Statesman

OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY THE VANCOUVER TRADES AND LABOR COUNCIL

Supported by Sixty-two Local Unions 14

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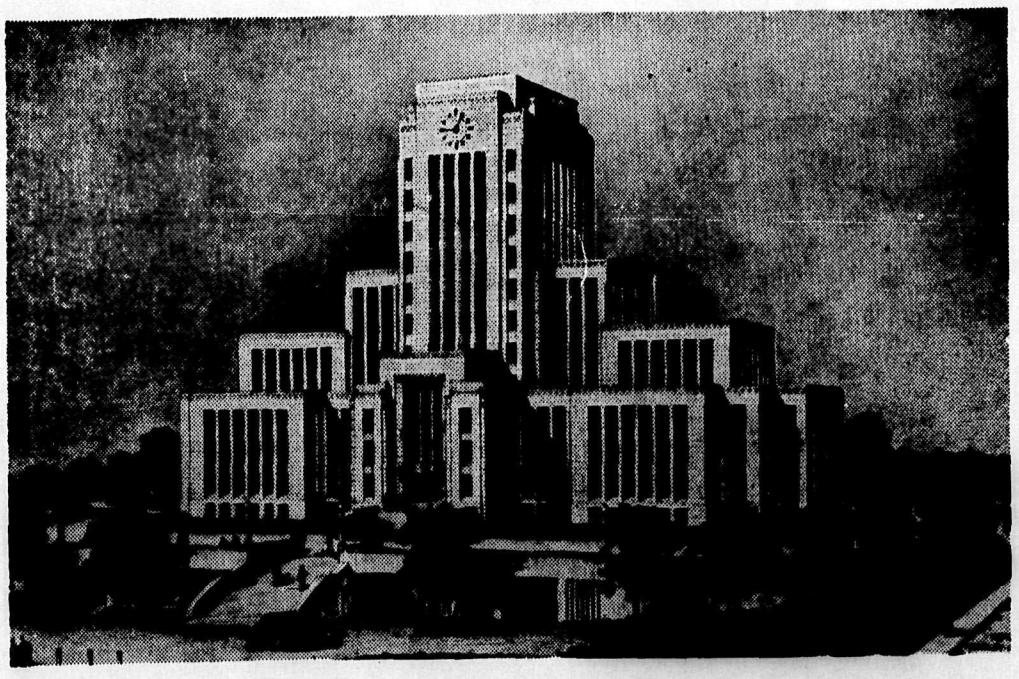

VANCOUVER CITY HALL

PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR

Honourable Geo. S. Pearson, Minister of Labour
Main Office: Parliament Buildings, Victoria, B. C.
Branch Office: 411 Dunsmuir Street, Vancouver, B. C.

The function of the Department is to administer and enforce the labour laws of the Province, relating to Minimum Wages, Hours of Work and Conditions of Labour.

Information may be obtained by employers and employees upon written or personal application.

The Department seeks the co-operation of all, and offers the services of an efficient staff in connection with:

MINIMUM WAGES — HOURS OF WORK — FACTORY INSPECTION
EMPLOYMENT CONDITIONS — APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING
FREE EMPLOYMENT SERVICE — TRADE SCHOOL REGULATION
ACCIDENT PREVENTION

ADAM BELL, Deputy Minister.

Ruling of Supreme Court Favors Street Railway Uni

Decision Also Affects Pennsylvania Greyhound Lines — Disch Union Members Will Be Reinstated With Back Pay

Detroit, Mich. — Officials of the Amalgamated Associatio Street and Electric Railway Employees of America were h pleased with the five decisions of the Supreme Court of the U States upholding the constitutionality of the National Labor tions Act and especially with the decision upholding the Act a plied to the Washington, Virginia and Maryland Coach Com which operates motor busses out of the District of Columb Maryland and Virginia points.

Although in four decisions the Court split five-to-four, all nine justices were in agreement that the Act applied to the Coach Company as the operator of a business coming under interstate commerce, with the logical implication that the Act also applies to all bus companies operating between various States.

The Amalgamated Association has been prominent in the fight to establish the Wagner Labor Relations Act. The first case before the National Labor Relations Board was that involving unfair labor practices on the part of the Pennsylvania Greyhound Lines. The case which the Supreme Court decided was that involving the discharge of 18 members of the Amalgamated Association by the Washington, Virginia and Maryland Coach Company for joining the union. These discharges took place in May of 1936. The discharges of five Pennsylvania Greyhound employees took place in July of 1935. As a result of the decision these employees will be reinstated with pay for all the time they lost.

With the constitutionality of the Wagner Law established, the Amalgamated Association is redoubling its efforts to bring the benefits of its organization to all employees of the Nation's bus lines under its jurisdiction.

The Amalgamated Associat affiliated with the American F tion of Labor and through its ter has jurisdiction over bus d and certain miscellaneous emp of the bus and motor stage panies.

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Work Increase In Building Trades

Conditions in the building trades are showing greater improvement and the prospects are brighter than they have been for many years. The five-day week is now in effect and several unions have already obtained new agreements with wage increases.

Over forty ironworkers made another start on the New Westminster Bridge this week and the work is expected to continue now until the finish. Pile driving work is under way on the First Narrows Bridge and other trades are preparing for an early start. This work will be under the jurisdiction of the International Unions, a crew of All-Canadian Pile Drivers having already gone over to the International. Several other big jobs are under way as well as numerous small construction and alteration jobs.

Del. Page of the Carpenters reported that agreements with some contractors have not yet been concluded, and there may be some trouble before the agreements are signed. He stated that the Union was not satisfied with the Con Jones Park settlement and that further action may be taken.

Delegate McPherson of the Sheet Metal Workers' Union informed the Building Trades Council that the Sheet Metal section of the Builders' Exchange had agreed to put a new wage scale of $1.00 per hour into effect on June 1st. They also agreed to the five-day week.

Machinists Appoint Local Organizer

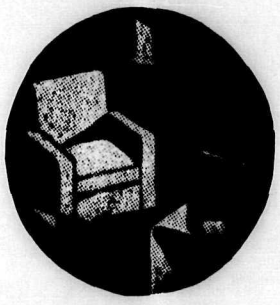
In order to follow up the gains made by Machinists' Lodge 692 during the past few months, the International Association of Machinists has appointed Harry Arbuckle to continue the organizing work around Vancouver district. Harry Arbuckle is an old-time and popular member of the Vancouver Lodge and has alalready signed up a lot of new members and got most of the former members, who are now working, back into the union.

The International Association of Machinists is still continuing to make gains in membership and in the signing up of new agreements in the United States.

Twenty-eight new wage agreements, improving the condition of workers in 15 states and 19 cities, were reported to international headquarters this week.

Many of the contracts were with employers who for the first time had accepted collective bargaining.

Some of the wage increases were spectacular, running as high as 25 per cent of old schedules. Shorter hours and the union shop were among other gains.



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MICHIGAN STATE PRINTER SIGNS UP FOR UNION SHOP

Lansing, Mich.—The Typographical Union of Lansing, has negotiated a closed shop contract with the Franklin De Kline Printing Company here. The company holds the contract for State printing and is the largest printing office in Lansing. Under the contract 21 members of the Typographical Union will be employed under union conditions.

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Trades Union Directory

LABOR HEADQUARTERS, 529-531 BEATTY STREET

UNIONS AFFILIATED WITH TRADES COUNCIL

...men, Local 189, I. B. T. C. ...Secretary, Birt Showler, 531 ...Street, Seymour 7495.

...Confectionery Workers' International Union, Local 468—Secretary, ... Humphry; Business Agent, J. ..., 531 Beatty St. Phone Sey-...49.

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

...Dispensers' Union, Local 676 ... Manager, T. J. Hanafin, ...er Street, Seymour 4753.

...r Union, Local 151—Secretary, ... Arman, 2048 West Second ..., Bayview 1567-L.

...r Union, Local 194—Secretary, ... Fraser, 5079 Ross Street, ...341-Y.

...r Union, Local 105 — Rec. ...y, A. Cummings, 5710 Mc-...St.

...Workers' Union, Local 300—...y, A. Bullock, 2620 West 10th, ...4335.

...r Union, Local No. 1—W. S. ..., 1442 East 20th, Fair. 845-R.

...Structural, Ornamental and ...al Ironworkers, Local 97 — ... Agent, J. P. Rankins, 531 ...St., Seymour 7495.

...Trades Council — Secretary, ... Page, 539 Beatty St.; Phone ...4335.

...Mill Workers, Local 31—...y, T. Umezuki, 544 Powell St., ...2189.

...Workers, Jam, Fruit and Vegetable Canners, Union Local No. 105—...g Secretary, Sarah Ann ...4407 Nanaimo Street.

..., Local Union 452—Secretary, ...Hatley, 531 Beatty St., Trinity

...Employees, Local 59—Secretary, ... Farbuck, 3917 West Eleventh, ...944-L.

...Workers' Union, No. 91—Secretary Johnston, 769 E. Hastings

...Workers' Union, Local 213—... Manager, E. H. Morrison, ...tty Street, Seymour 3510.

...Constructors, Local 32—Secretary, ... Holmes, 531 Beatty Street, ...7495.

...Hoisting and Portable, Local ...retary, J. Flynn, 531 Beatty ... Trinity 4335.

...Stationary, Local 882—Secretary, ... W. King, P. O. Box 1102; ...599-Y.

...School and Caretakers, Local ...retary, J. L. Enefer, 525 East ...

...ers, City, Local 518—Secretary, ...s. A. Watson, 1626 E. 13th.

...ers, New Westminster, Local ...retary, B. Nixon, 925 19th ... Westminster.

...ers, North Vancouver, Local ...retary, Wm. H. Galbraith, ...ll, North Vancouver.

...ank Drivers' Union Local 31. ...dent, R. Atkinson; Secretary, ...owler.

...Restaurant Employees, Local ...retary, W. Stewart; 702 Dunsmuir Street. Trinity 1706.

...men's Union of the Pacific, ... of A. (B. C. Division)—Secretary, ...mes Maskell, 47 Powell Street, ...ver.

...al Longshoremen's Association, ...No. 38/126 — Secretary, L. J. ..., 233 Main St., Seymour 9449.

... Workers' Union, Secretary, ... Hawken, 303 East 47th Ave.; ... Fraser 1141-L.

...ers, No. 44.—Secretary, J. A. ...ie, 467 East 15th Ave.

Lumber and Sawmill Workers' Union, Local 2783 (Lake Cowichan)—Secretary, J. C. Bailey, Box 51, Lake Cowichan, B. C.

Lumber and Sawmill Workers' Union (U. B. of C. and J.) Local 2775—Business Agent, N. O. Arseneau, 1423 West Eleventh; Phone, Bay. 4477-Y.

Machinists, Local 692—Secretary, P. R. Bengough, 531 Beatty St., Sey. 6279.

Machinists, Local 182—Secretary, J. G. Keefe, 4514 West 11th, Pt. Grey 847-L.

Mailers' Union, No. 70—Secretary, H. Fader, 2735 Eton Street.

Meat Cutters and Packing House Employees Union, Local 95 — Secretary, W. Evans, 319 Dawson Bldg; Trin. 2171.

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, E. J. Williams, Box 345, Bay. 5884, Bus. Man., Trin. 5708.

Musicians' Union, Local 145—Business Manager, E. A. Jamieson, 319 Pender West, Douglas 2290.

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

Pile Drivers and Wooden Bridgemen, Local 2404—Business Manager, A. A. Tutton, 144 W. Hastings, Sey. 7874.

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

Plumbers and Steamfitters, Local 170—Secretary, C. Pritchard, 529 Beatty Street, Kerrisdale 105-L.

Plumbers and Steamfitters (Railroad)—Local 571—Secretary, T. H. Poulton, 725 Second St., New Westminster.

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

Railway Carmen, Local No. 52—Secretary, J. R. Robertson, 637 West 18th, Fairmont 2258-L.

Railway Carmen, Local 280—Secretary, W. E. Bradley, 3020 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, Jas. B. Collin, 4462 John Street. Fair. 4269L.

Stenographers, Typists and Bookkeepers, Local 15177 — Secretary, Anne MacDonald, 531 Beatty St., Sey. 7495.

Stone Cutters, Journeymen of North America—Secretary, Frank Hall, 2931 East 42nd; Carlton 243-R.

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 4530.

Tailors, Journeymen, Local 178—Secretary, H. Nordlund, 531 Beatty St.

Taxi Drivers, Local 151 — Secretary, C. McIvor, 727 W. 20th Ave.

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

Textile Workers, Local 1700—Secretary, Catherine Wilson, 3327 West Sixth.

Tile Setters, Local No. 3—Secretary, W. Hamm, 2646 Trinity, Highland 3120-L.

Typographical Union, Local 226—Secretary, Harry Neelands, 531 Beatty St., Seymour 6221.

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...E OLDE ENGLISH FISH RESTAURANT
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...DANVILLE FIRMS SIGN TEAMSTERS PACT

...local union of the Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Stablemen and Helpers of America in ...ville, Ill., is making rapid strides ...organization work, five baking ...anies and the Checker Cab ...any having recently signed ... agreements.

UNION PRESSMEN LAND PAST WITH BIG CHICAGO COMPANY

Chicago, Ill. — Union pressmen in Chicago, after organizing 90 per cent of the pressroom employees negotiated a contract with the I. S. Berlin Printing Company, one of the largest printers in Chicago in their line of work, granting union wages and hours and the union shop.

Con Jones Park Agreement Signed

An agreement has just been reached between the management of Con Jones Park and the Trades and Labor Council, in which the company agrees to have all future work, comprising construction, alterations or maintenance, done by members of unions affiliated with the Vancouver Trades and Labor Council. The company also agrees to employ union musicians and other union members who may be employed by the company for purposes of entertainment.

Con Jones Park and stores were placed on the "We Do Not Patronize" list of the Trades Council after the burned-down grandstand was built by non-union labor. At the last meeting of the Trades Council the delegates opined that a more intensive campaign should be carried out by the Carpenters' Union to discourage attendance at the games in the ball park. The Carpenters' delegates agreed that the union would take action as suggested, but before this was put into effect the company approached the Trades Council for a settlement of the grievance.

A committee of the Trades Council went into session on the subject and after a long discussion it was decided to ask the company to agree to employ only International Union men on all future work.

The following agreement was drawn up by the committee and a representative of the company came down to the Labor Headquarters and accepted the agreement.

Non-union carpenters and painters were laid off and next morning ten union carpenters and two union painters were put on the job.

The agreement reads:

This agreement made and entered into this 22nd day of April, 1937, by and between Con Jones Limited, owners and operators of Con Jones Park, hereinafter designated as the Company, and the Vancouver, New Westminster and District Trades and Labor Council, together with its affiliated local unions doing business in the province of British Columbia, hereinafter designated and known as the Council.

That for and in consideration of harmonious relations, the following is agreed to:

Section (1). The Company agrees that on all present and future work undertaken by them, such as the construction, alterations and maintenance of buildings, that they will employ exclusively members of Unions affiliated with the Council and will pay or cause to be paid, the current union rate of wages with union conditions of employment.

Section (2) It is understood that these conditions will apply to any contractors or sub-contractors directly or indirectly under the control of the Company.

Section (3) It is understood that this agreement will apply to all maintenance men such as carpenters, electricians, engineers, painters, etc.

Section (4) It is further agreed that where others are employed by the Company for the purpose of entertainment, such as Musicians, that the same conditions will apply.

(Sgd.) T. B. Jones, for Con Jones Limited.

(Sgd.) Percy R. Bengough, for Trades and Labor Council.

Laundry Workers In Westminster Organize

Laundry workers in New Westminster made a request upon the Trades and Labor Council to be organized. Acting upon this, Secretary Bengough and Birt Showler obtained enough workers to make application for a charter. At a well attended meeting the objects of the trade union movement were explained and enthusiastically accepted. Arrangements were made to instal the charter and officers at a meeting when the charter arrives. The local will start off with about fifty-five members.

PLASTERERS RE-ORGANIZE AT HALIFAX

As a result of organization activities of the Halifax Trades and Labor Council, plasterers in that city have recently been re-organized and application made for a charter to the International Association of Operative Plasterers of United States and Canada. Temporary officers are: President, Wm. Duggan; vice-president, J. Little; and financial secretary, W. Tibbets. Eighty per cent of the journeymen in the city have joined the new local.

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The Labor Statesman

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

H. W. WATTS, Man. Editor.

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Vancouver, Canada, May, 1937

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LUCKY LAGER

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VANCOUVER - NEW WESTMINSTER - VICTORIA

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MAY-DAY

In the olden days May-Day took the form of a religious festival, and it was looked upon as a day of rejoicing at the survival of vegetable life. It was a day of prayer and sacrifice to their multiplicity of gods in hopes that such action would lead to rewards in the shape of a bountiful harvest. Today, however, there is some doubt as to the efficacy and necessity of prayer in bringing about a bountiful harvest, for it seems that the greater the quantity of natural or manufactured products, the greater the poverty and the number of unemployed. In the recent past we have burned and destroyed our crops, or left the fields uncultivated in a futile attempt to raise prices, while millions were unable to buy even small amounts of the desired products. We build huge factories and tremendous labor saving machines, and then fill the labor market with millions of unemployed, and at the same time hope that there will still be enough employed left to purchase the goods produced by the machine. Prayer has not been needed to produce tremendous crops nor has it been needed in the building of machines or the application of science to the production of commodities. But there has been a great deal of sacrifice. Labor has been sacrificed on the industrial field. Labor builds the labor-saving machines and applies the labor-saving sciences and then walks the streets vainly in the search for work. How can it be expected that that vast unemployed army can rejoice and participate in "Bringing Home the May" when for many months and sometimes for many years, the only thing they have been able to bring home has been the pittance from the Relief Office? And despite the fact that some governments have been making strenuous efforts to reduce the vast army of unemployed, it still remains a vexing subject. Over in the United States, the government has been spending billions of dollars to cut down unemployment, but there is still ten millions who want work but cannot get it. Industry has again reached the boom output of previous years, but there are more unemployed than in the previous boom period. Over in Great Britain where millions are being spent upon armaments, the unemployed army has not been noticeably reduced and the same can be said of other countries. But perhaps the armament question will be the one that will eventually reduce the unemployed army, for no matter what the powers-that-be say about the brighter outlook for peace, war will break out just as suddenly as a thunderburst, because war seems to be the only thing that the powers-that-be can think of to reduce the army of unemployed. Reduction of the hours of labor and increasing the purchasing power of labor, one of the most potent weapons in the fight against unemployment, seems to be impossible of attainment. Governments seem to be hopeless, or exceptionally slow, in making this their objective for the unemployment fight and it is left entirely in the hands of the organized labor movement to battle for these objectives. And because labor is battling for these things, it is being fought, condemned and maligned from all sides. The organized labor movement is sacrificing its money and its time, is trying to reduce the number of hours on the job so as to make jobs for the unemployed; it is trying to increase the leisure hours of the workers, so that they can enjoy the sun and the flora, the sea and the mountains, the sports and travel, and all the things that labor and science has made for the enjoyment and leisure of mankind. That is the task that the Organized Labor Movement has set itself and it will never be satisfied until every man, woman and child can enjoy all these things and the shadow of poverty removed forever from our midst.

MUST WORK FOR IT

Health Insurance has been one of the many social reforms that the organized labor movement has been striving for these many years in every province in Canada. Now in British Columbia we are within reach of attaining it ,but unless we are prepared to lay aside our differences as to various provisions of the Act, and strenuously fight for the principles of the legislation, we will have a setback, from which it will take a great deal of time and work to recover. We feel that if the proposed plebiscite is overwhelmingly favorable for the measure, that the next government, whoever they may be, must not only put the scheme that has already been drawn up, into effect, but must also enlarge its scope just as fast as the necessary details can be obtained. Organized labor knows that the opposition that has been thrown into the path of the legislation is mainly from the medical fraternity on the question of payments to them; from business elements who have to make payments on behalf of their employees; and from a political opposition, whose natural function it is to oppose all legislation put forward by the party in power. And judging by the opposition that has already been made against the legislation, we should imagine that the fight by the interests will increase with intensity up to the time of the election. For our part we cannot see how any family of three or more can oppose the legislation, because sickness seems to be one of the things that is ever cropping up in the homes of such residents. Health Insurance should be just as necessary as life and fire insurance, and these things are quite common in the average home. But by government operation of Health Insurance, the cost can be kept down, more than it would be in the case of the other insurances, because there will not be any profits to pay shareholders, company directors or high-salaried officials. We feel that the act should be made to cover all persons, then the assessment can be reduced and the benefits increased. The government had this in mind when the legislation was being prepared, but all social legislation can only be applied gradually and improved as time, necessity and experience provides. That has been the case with the various labor legislation already in operation, and it is only natural to expect the same of Health Insurance. The indigent can be taken care of as at present, for were these classes added to the provisions of the Act, it would greatly increase the assessments of those able to pay. Probably if every person were included in the act, the indigent might be brought into the scheme without any increased assessment. But it will take time to make these adjustments, and we feel that if the measure is given sufficient support, that it will encourage the government to make speedy plans for the extension of the legislation, and it will give the organized labor movement a weapon with which it can prod the government to action, if such is needed. Work for it and vote for it.

COLLECTIVE BARGAINING IN ENGLAND

The wage earners of Great Britain, under the leadership of the British Trade Union Congress, with which most of the British labor unions are affiliated, similar to the affiliation of national and international unions with the American Federation of Labor, have succeeded in establishing recognition and collective bargaining in nearly all lines, a recent survey reveals.

Unions have brought about vastly improved conditions for the workers and have prospered themselves, many of their treasuries growing substantially. A notable example of this may be found in the National Union of Railwaymen, which has reserves of over 2,000,000 pounds sterling, or $10,000,000.

Conciliatory efforts, through machinery set up by employers and workers, has also helped to bring peace with progress. This is notable in the railway and steel and iron industries. Shipbuilders, miners and others throughout the long list of industries and occupations, "point with pride" to practical results from effective organization.

The banks have not yet recognized their employees' guild and two leading automobile concerns, Ford and Morris, are said to have established policies of not recognizing unions. However, it is stated they can only get by with such a policy by paying wages as high or higher than the normal union scale, in which the workers benefit definitely through organization of others.

It is reported that there are now approximately 5,000,000 union members in Great Britain.

U. S. Must Provide 3,000,000 With Work

Washington, D.C. — In order to meet the minimum requirements of the unemployment crisis the Federal Government must provide at least 3,000,000 jobs in a planned and expanded public works program during the next fiscal year, declared William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, in a statement on unemployment.

In commenting on the Federation's figures which show that the unemployed army now numbers 9,722,000 with the various Federal emergency projects providing intermittent work for only 2,939,000, the head of the A.F. of L. said there were at least 1,000,000 more jobless and their families who are actually suffering the pangs of poverty with but few of them being tided over by local relief.

A significant feature of Mr. Green's statement was his denunciation of the "pauper test" generally imposed upon the unemployed when they apply for so-called "relief" work. He insisted that this degrading practice be abolished and that "those who cannot find work in private industry" must be given jobs by the Government "without the stigma of relief."

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NOT THIS GUY

Guide: "We are now passing the most famous brewery in Vancouver."

"We are not," replied Atlas Farland as he hopped off the car.

...ving Wage Held As Best Way To Safeguard Nation's Health

...lth insurance is the next ob-... of forces for protection of ...ple", the American Associa-... Social Security declared this

...unition for the fight has just ...rought out by the American ...tion, an extremely conserva-...ganization operating on funds ...d by Edward Bok, one-time ... of the reactionary "Ladies' ... Journal".

...wing 18 months spent in ...ing thousands of physicians ...rgeons in all parts of the ..., the American Foundation ... two facts stand out like ...ses:

...dequate medical care is not ...le to a large part of the pop-...

...edical care that is available ... good enough.

... number of those who lack ...l care," the report observes, ... also adequate anything. The ...ution would be a living wage ...erybody employed."

... Foundation does not make re-...endations, but the implication ... finding is clear. It leaves no ... that without compulsory ... insurance millions of Ameri-...ill continue to suffer in silence ... before their time.

"The parties in interest," the report says, "are the medical profession, the public and the government. *All three must search together if* the answer to the problem is to be found. The degree to which the government has responsibility must certainly be pre-determined."

As the situation stands today, only the poverty-stricken treated at clinics and the wealthy able to pay fancy prices enjoy hospital service. Its cost is so great that it is beyond the reach of the middle classes, the report contends.

One of the startling charges of the report is that the medical profession reeks with incompetency. Many physicians are pictured as little better than racketeers, interested only in wringing the last penny from their patients.

"The public generally," the report concludes, "does not understand *that much of the population is at the* mercy of quacks, cultists and patent medicines. Present medical training is not uniformly good and licensing is too broad. Too many graduates do not keep pace with developments in the profession and refuse to see that prevention rather than cure is the real goal of medical science."

...,000,000 Aqueduct ... New York City

..., N.Y. — The necessity ...nteeing the adequacy of ...k City's water supply was ...d in this Ulster county ... Mayor La Guardia of the ... metropolis fired the first *dynamite for sinking a shaft* ...hot of Shawangunk Moun-... the first step on construction ... the new Deleware aqueduct ... estimated to cost $273,000,-...ned to furnish 540,000,-...s of water daily for the ...eeds of New York City's ... of inhabitants. The aque-... be 85 miles long. Its depth ...ght feet to 2500 feet, the ...nderground point being ... where it passes beneath the ...

...ABORERS' UNION ...WINS WAGE BOOST PACT

...ville, Ohio. — International ...ion and General Laborers ...ion No. 496 of Painesville ... County, Ohio, has negotiat-...tract with the Rutland Con-... Company of Willoughby, ...viding a ten cent an hour ... in laborers wages. The for-...ly rate of 72 cents an hour ... 82 cents under the agree-...

RAILWAY SHOP CRAFTS WIN AGREEMENT

Representatives of the six railway shop crafts unions recently finalized a collective bargaining agreement for the adjustment of wages, hours and working conditions with the management of the Carolina, Clinchfield and Ohio Railway, with large repair shops at Erwin, Tenn. In addition to the principal shops at Erwin the new contract will affect more than 350 men employed by the C., C. & O. working at Spartanburg, S. C., and *extending to Elkhorn City, Ky.* The agreement affects the personnel of the following unions: International Association of Machinists, International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, International Brotherhood of Blacksmiths, Sheet Metal Workers International Association, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Brotherhood of Railway Carmen.

WALL STREET CHEERS

New York. — Perhaps the most cheering story to reach Wall Street recently was the announcement by the Associated Press that it had examined the reports of 130 of the largest corporations in this country and had discovered that their profits had increased 47 per cent in 1936, compared with 1935. The total clean-up was $873,958,105.

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Screen Actors Demand Recognition Of Guild

New York. — The Screen Actors' Guild demanded recognition as the collective bargaining agency for Hollywood players at the annual labor conference of the film industry in session here in the office of Pat Casey, the producers' labor relations counsel. The Guild, whose president is Robert Montgomery and whose executive secretary is Kenneth Thomson, includes among its members such well-known film peo le as Joan *Crawford, Bing Crosby,* Ginger Rogers, Gary Cooper, Fred Astaire, Eddie Cantor and John Barrymore. The Guild claims a membership of 5,600.

The demand for recognition, which climaxes a four-year fight against the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences in Hollywood, asks a basic agreement covering all Hollywood performers from stars to bit players, extras and "atmosphere" groups.

Rest Period Asked

Mr. Thomson explained that the Guild's chief aim for stars and featured players is the guarantee of a twelve-hour rest period after overtime work. He said the top stars are able to regulate their own working conditions, but that other performers are relatively helpless.

He pointed out that players who work by the day and "atmosphere" groups are the ones who need a guild contract. He claimed that extras have been subjected to all sorts *of abuses, particularly in the method* of hiring through the Central Casting Bureau and in the practice of "layoffs."

Atlantic Coast Seamen Get Pay Increased

Ten Dollars Per Month More and Better Conditions Given Unlicensed Men

New York, N. Y.—The most of the unlicensed men employed on vessels floating the flag of the United States operating from Atlantic and Gulf ports received a wage increase of $10 a month, with all of the unlicensed personnel receiving overtime pay and improved working conditions, as the result of negotiations concluded here between committees representing the International Seamen's Union of America and forty-one steamship companies.

COAL SOLD WITHOUT WEIGHT TAGS; DEALERS FINED $522

Confronted with indisputable evidence that coal dealers were defrauding the poor with short-weight coal, the City Council of St. Louis, Mo., enacted an ordinance requiring dealers to have each container labeled with a city coal tag stating the weight of the coal. A recent round up of violators of the ordinance brought 45 dealers into the Police Courts. When they left they were worth $522 less as a result of the fines imposed for absence of the weight tags.

FRENCH RAIL WORKERS WIN FORTY-HOUR WEEK

According to press dispatches from Paris, France, the French Cabinet has approved a forty-hour week for all French railroads. The government regulation reducing the length of the work week was signed by President LeBrun after a Cabinet Session. The shorter hours became effective January 25.

VANCOUVER DRUG COMPANY, LIMITED

Items of Interest For Friday and Saturday — April 30, May 1

Kruschen Salts	25c, 43c and 69c	Minard's Liniment	29c and 59c
Sun Glasses; reg 25c for	14c	Dodd's Kidney Pills	44c
Gillette Blue Blades	25c and 50c	Ex-Lax Chocolate	15c and 29c
Carter's Little Liver Pills	23c and 69c	Feen-a-Mint	20c and 35c
Fruitatives; large	39c	Bovril; 2 and 4-oz.	37c and 69c
Nox-All Mouse Seed (kills mice)	25c	Blind Craft Hand Cleaner	15c
Barbasol	25c and 45c	Dr. Reid's Blood Purifier	56c
Molle	47c	Dr. Reid's Burdock and Sarsasparilla	56c
Rolls Razors	$6.95, $8.95 and $10.00	Sulphur and Molasses with Cream of Tartar	19c
Sterno Canned Heat; 2 for	21c	Sulphur and Cream of Tartar Tables	14c

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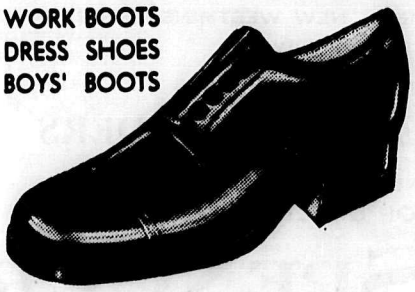

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Big Nation-wide Organization Campaign Mapped By A.F.L.

Conference of General Organizers Plan Intensified Drive Among Workers in Fabricated Steel, Cement, Aluminum, Chemical, Match, Agricultural, Cereal and Flour Industries and Gasoline Station Attendants.

Washington, D.C.—A two-day conference here of about fifty general organizers of the American Federation of Labor, convened by William Green, president of the Federation, surveyed the labor situation throughout the country and planned an intensified campaign to enroll unorganized workers in unions affiliated with the A.F. of L.

The meeting was one of the periodical conferences of the field staff of the American Federation of Labor held for the purpose of examining the general activities of the labor movement and mapping details of organization work in various sections.

The organizers came from every part of the United States loaded with tabloid pictures of organization activities and achievements in all sections, together with accounts of the propaganda carried on by various disruptive groups against the bona fide trade union movement.

Many Agreements Negotiated

The conference also developed plans for intensified organization efforts among agricultural and cannery workers, cereal and flour mill workers, match workers, distillery workers, chemical workers, cement workers, aluminum workers, gasoline station attendants, and many other miscellaneous groups.

A recent report made by the A.F. of L. Executive Council indicated the remarkable progress already made in enrolling the workers in these industries in local trade and federal labor unions directly affiliated with the beneficial results achieved through collective action.

The Executive Council said that during the last few months these unions, over two hundred in number, had negotiated around sixty agreements covering wages, hours and work conditions.

Chemical workers unions negotiated five agreements; aluminum workers' unions, eleven; gasoline station operators' unions, ten; cement workers' unions, nine; match workers' unions, five; agricultural workers' unions, three, and flour, cereal and corn products workers' unions, twelve agreements.

Agricultural Workers' Council Planned

Rowland Watson, Pacific Coast representative of the American Federation of Labor, reported that a State-wide Agricultural Workers' Union had just been established in California under the direction of the California State Federation of Labor.

In this connection Mr. Green announced that by direction of the A. F. of L. Executive Council he would call a conference in the near future to unite various unions of agricultural workers and citrus, vegetable and cannery laborers unions into a National Agricultural Workers' Council. The Council would be a clearing house of information and service, he said. He believed it would be the means of organizing all classes of agricultural workers on a national basis.

4 Film Unions Win $3,000,000 Pay Raise

New York. — A ten per cent increase in wages for 15,000 motion picture industry employees, amounting to $3,000,000 a year, was approved by officials of the producers and the unions at the film trades annual conference here. The increase becomes effective May 1.

It was stated that the present wage advance lifts the total wage increases in the last two years to 21 per cent, or approximately $6,000,000.

The unions receiving the $3,000,000 increase this year are the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees and Moving Picture Machine Operators, the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, the Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and the Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Stablemen and Helpers. Officials representing the Screen Actors Guild and the American Federation of Musicians were at the conference but did not ask for wage increases.

SHOE WORKERS WIN CLOSED SHOP STRIKE

Boston. — After a nine-day strike 600 workers of the Jay Shoe Company, of Cambridge, led by the United Shoe Workers of America, won a victory which netted them a closed shop, 15 per cent increase in wages, a 40-hour week and other important concessions. This is a key shoe factory in the non-union area of Boston.

A. F. of L. Gains Cited by Morrison

Washington, D.C. — The successful organization activities of the American Federation of Labor and its affiliated national and international unions since July, 1933, and especially since September 1, 1936, were revealed in the following statement by Frank Morrison, secretary-treasurer of the Federation:

"The A.F. of L. membership paid and reported for March, 1937, is 3,731,460, which shows an increase of 1,604,664, over the membership for the year ending August 31, 1933.

"The affiliated unions, including the local trade and federal labor unions, and not including the ten National and International Unions, that stand automatically suspended since September 5, 1936, shows an increase since September 1, 1936, of 308,967 paid and reported members over the average membership for the fiscal year ending August 31, 1936.

"The sentiment for organization is running high and we have been receiving and issuing during the past four months a greater number of charters than has been received since the month of June, 1934.

"The local unions directly affiliated with the A.F. of L. are securing increases in wages and more satisfactory working conditions.

"In 1936, charters were issued to the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, and the American Newspaper Guild.

"Since September, 1936, charters have been issued to the International Ladies' Handbag, Pocketbook and Novelty Works' Union, with 10,000 members, with their headquarters in New York City; the International Association of Cleaning and Dye House Workers, with a potential membership of many thousands, with their headquarters at Cleveland, Ohio; and the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, with their headquarters at Madison, Wisconsin.

"We have seven National and International Unions in the making. They will be formed from local unions directly affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, namely: Cement Works, Aliminum Workers, Filling Station Employees, Agricultural and Fruit Workers; Flour, Feed and Cereal Workers; Optical Workers, and Distillery Workers.

"Each of these seven groups has a National Council, with a chairman, and they meet at intervals to discuss matters affecting the membership of the local unions of each group."

UNION GOES BACK HOME

The Danish Firemen's Union, which in 1933 severed its affiliation with the International Transport Workers' Federation, has now as a result of a ballot of its members, decided by 1061 votes to 88, to reaffiliate. At the same time it was decided by 1087 votes to 81, to return to the Danish Trade Union centre.

FRISCO IS CONVENTION CITY FOR STREET RAILWAY UNION

Detroit, Mich. (AFLNS).—The 25th convention of the Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railway Employees of America will convene in San Francisco, Calif., on September 13, 1937, officers of the Association announced here.

JACKSONVILLE BEER FIRM ADOPTS UNION SHOP PLAN

The Brewery Workers' Union of Jacksonville, Fla., negotiated a union agreement with the Old Union Products Company, local distributors of Old Union beer. Union officials said the firm is the first beer distributor in Florida to sign a union contract.

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Spectacular Gains Made By Organized Labor Movement

By BUDD L. McKILLIPS in "Labor"

Big business soothsayers a few years ago were profoundly predicting that the depression would wipe out the organized labor movement.

Had they written this prediction on strychnine tablets they would all be deader than Caesar's ox today as a result of being forced to eat their words.

A survey completed this week by LABOR shows that every legitimate union in existence in 1929 is not only actively functioning today but that a great majority are actually stronger than during that "boom" year.

Ahead of "Boom" Peak

Thirty-five unions picked at random from the list of A.F. of L. affiliates, were chosen for this survey. All except four had a larger membership at the end of March, 1937, than they had in September, 1929, when the "boom" was at its peak.

The four which had been subjected to particularly hard wallopings by the depression were back to their 1929 strength and showing every indication of passing that mark within the next few weeks.

Fourteen of the unions have more than doubled their 1929 strength, four have tripled it, one is four times larger, one has five times as many members, and another has increased its membership six-fold.

Every one of the Standard Railroad Labor Organizations has registered not only gratifying increases in membership, but in the concessions gained for its members.

Waymen's Great Strides

As an example, the Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees has added approximately 200,000 new members since last September. And during the last two years it has established representation on 30 additional railroads.

The International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, which has members outside of the railroad industry, is 40 per cent stronger than in 1929. Many new agreements have been negotiated in important industries and the membership is steadily increasing at an average of 1000 a month.

Two other "mixed" unions—the International Brotherhood of Firemen and Oilers and the International Association of Machinists — have more than doubled their 1929 strength. The Machinists' Union, now hitting close to the 140,000 mark, is averaging a net gain of 2000 a week, and negotiating approximately 80 new agreements each month, all providing for substantial wage increases.

Enters Unorganized Fields

The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers not only held virtually all of its building and railroad membership during the depression, but, during the last 18 months has made tremendous strides in the hitherto unorganized manufacturing and utility fields. In the 12 months prior to September 1 1936, the Brotherhood added 70,000 new members and since September there has been an approximate increase of 30 per cent in membership.

At the rate applications are being received by the Hotel and Restaurant Employees' and Bartenders' Union, 20,000 more members will be added during the next three months. Eighty thousand have been added since 1934 and 20,000 of them came in since last September. The union's total strength is now 115,000. That is 50,000 higher than at any previous time in the organization's history.

The Pattern Makers' League has doubled its membership since Oct., 1934, and is 50 per cent above pre-depression strength. Coincident with these gains have been wage increases, averaging 75 per cent for each member.

Significant membership increases are shown by the Retail Clerks and the Laundry Workers, two unions having jurisdiction over classes of workers generally regarded as "hard to organize." The Retail Clerks' Union is now the largest in its history, having added more than 20,000 new members since last Labor Day.

Government and municipal employees are also marching along. The National Federation of Post Office Clerks has initiated 4,050 members and issued 64 charters since September 1. The International Association of Fire Fighters—one of the first unions to suffer from misguided "economy" waves—is now past its pre-depression strength.

Teachers Forging Ahead

The American Federation of Teachers has tripled its membership since the depression struck. Similar records were made by the Glove Workers, the Building Service Employees and the Coopers.

An organizing campaign launched by the Brewery Workers following repeal of the Eighteenth Amendment has multiplied its membership fourfold. The International Fur Workers' Union is five times larger than it was in 1929 and the International Jewelry Workers' Union is six times its pre-depression strength.

A few of the other unions which are now larger than they were in the prosperous days of 1929 are the Bakery and Confectionary Workers, the Photo Engravers, the Foundry Employees, the Letter Carriers, the Longshoremen, the Meat Cutters, the Paper Makers, the Potters, the Seamen, the Pulp and Sulphite Workers, the Stage Employees and Motion Picture Operators, the Teamsters, the Tobacco Workers and the Stove Mounters.

Virtually every organization affiliated with the A.F. of L. has been making gratifying gains in organizing the unorganized. Last week a report made public by Secretary-Treasurer Frank Morrison of the A. F. of L. showed that the Federation's membership has increased 308,967 since September 1, 1936.

Rail Shipments Show Big Increase In 1936

Tonnage of Primary Products Is Greater

The increased prosperity of British Columbia is well reflected by the greater movement of primary products within its borders.

During 1936, the Pacific Great Eastern Railway carried greater tonnage on products of the farm, the mine, and the forest. Manufactured goods moved over that railway also increased in tonnage.

Agricultural products continued their slow but steady increase. According to latest figures, 326 tons more of agricultural products were shipped over the P.G.E. in 1936 than in 1935.

The largest freight increase on the line was in forest products, an increase of 1,935 tons being recorded. This consisted principally of poles and ties.

The greater activity of gold mining in British Columbia is clearly shown by the increase in shipments of mine products, consisting mainly of gold concentrates. The increase recorded was 1,552 tons over 1935.

The movement of petroleum products and machinery was chiefly responsible for an increase of 1,721 tons in manufactures.

Freight shipped in less than carload lots also showed a small but healthy increase. There were 297 tons more of this type shipped over the P.G.E. in 1936 than in 1935.

Roosevelt Lauded As Friend Of Labor

New York. — "Never before in the history of this country did the workers have a more sympathetic and understanding President than you have in Washington today," declared Mayor F. H. La Guardia, addressing 20,000 union garment workers packed into Madison Square Garden. He continued:

"I can remember when you were an unorganized, exploited mass of workers, laboring in insanitary shops, under the system of homework, at starvation wages, and I see how you have grown into a mighty and powerful organization of self-respecting workers, employed under sanitary conditions, under your own control, and decent wages, and such a fine research department that when you go into negotiations you know more about the business than employers."

NEW FORT SMITH TEAMSTERS UNION WINS CAB COMPANY

A local union of the Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Stablemen and Helpers' Brotherhood has been organized in Fort Smith, Arkansas. It started off with 62 members. The Black and White Cab Company is a 100 per cent union concern, but the Checkered Cab and Transfer Company was picketed because of the alleged discharge of five men for joining the union.

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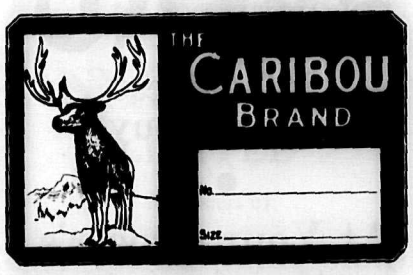

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Yakima Teamsters Win Two Wage Increase Agreements

After two years' organizing effort, the Teamsters' Union of Yakima, Wash., negotiated an agreement with several wholesale bakeries in the Yakima territory increasing the wages of bakery drivers approximately $1 a day. The union also signed an agreement with truck operators for a 25 cent per day increase on local pick-up and delivery trucks.

CLEVELAND BAKERY DRIVERS

Bakery Drivers' Union No. 52 of Cleveland, Ohio, has secured a union shop agreement with five companies providing a ten per cent wage increase, a five-day 48-hour week, no deliveries on Saturday, a week's vacation with pay, seniority rights and free uniforms. Wages are now $33.60 a week instead of the former $30.00.

Millions Doomed To Remain Jobless

A belief that everything will be hoity-toity when business gets back to the 1929 "boom" level was rudely shattered this week by an impressive report prepared for the National Resources Board by the Works Progress Administration.

For one thing, we will then still have a staggering unemployment problem. What sufficed seven years ago, the report says, is no longer good enough for this country.

Before the number of jobless men and women can be reduced to the *figure of* 1929, which is *somewhere* between 1,500,000 and 2,000,000, it is emphasized, production must be speeded up at least 20 per cent beyond the highest point ever reached.

Difficult Goal

Meanwhile, the report contends, the situation is getting worse, because of the steadily increasing efficiency of workers and the addition of millions of young men and women to the list of job seekers.

It is significant that the deliberate conclusions reached by the econo*mists, after studying* all available data for more than ayear, are identical with those repeatedly voiced by Harry L. Hopkins, WPA administrator.

Hopkins holds that there is no reason to anticipate a 20 per cent gain in production in the immediate future, unless the buying power of the masses is vastly increased.

Shorter Hours Are Answer

The dynamic relief chieftain insists that one way out is a 20 per cent reduction in working hours. Along with that, he says, there must be wage increases to enable workers to consume a larger proportion of the things they produce.

A fact that does not receive proper attention, the report points out, is that technological changes have been remorselessly "killing" jobs for several decades.

The *mortality* between 1920 and 1929 was frightful ,but the consequences were not immediately realized because a large percentage of the workers turned adrift by productive industry were absorbed by the so-called "service" occupations, the report says. It adds that this refuge has reached the saturation point.

Why Men Are Idle

The main reason why there are now between 8,000,000 and 9,000,000 persons on relief, the report declares, is that one workers is now re*quired to do* what was the work *of* two men a few years ago.

Between 1920 and 1929, the report recalls, the amount of labor required to produce specific units in manufacturing decreased practically one-half. In those nine years production increased 40 per cent while man-hours worked dropped two per cent.

This is said to be the answer to the oft-heard question as to why there was such a large volume of unemployment in 1935 when business was then about as good as during the relatively prosperous days of 1923-1925.

The end and aim of industry the report makes clear, is to produce as much as possible with the fewest possible workers. When unemployment was most acute employers in their greed for profits were straining *every energy to devise ways of* increasing output while slashing payrolls. That tendency continues and is expected to be accelerated, the report says. —, "Labor".

2500 Seattle Teamsters Get Wages Increased

Local 174, General Teamsters and Truck Drivers' Union of Seattle, have just negotiated a new agreement calling for a flat increase of seventy-five cents per day and a ten cent per hour increase for extra men. Wages range from $5.50 to $7.25 per day.

The new scale covers about 80 per cent of the 3500 members of Local 174, the major exceptions being Auto Freight, Beer, Fuel and Dump Truck Drivers. New agreements covering these special classes will be negotiated as present agreements expire. Employers also renewed their agreement to hire through the union and to pay for any unions required.

ST. LOUIS MACHINISTS

Officials of the Machinists Union in St. Louis, Mo., announced that hereafter machinists employed on outside construction or erection work will be paid $1.50 per hour in place of the former rate of $1.25 and that foremen will be paid $1.65 an hour instead of $1.37½.

A VOICE VISIT TO MOTHER ON MOTHER'S DAY

If your mother is too far away for you to see her on Mothe Day, you can pay her a voice visit by long-distance te phone.

Mother's Day will be on Sunday, May 9, this year.

Plan to "go home" on Mother's Day by long-distance telephone.

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BIG PROFITS IN WRITING COMPENSATION INSURANCE

An indication of the large profits made by private insurance companies which write workmen's compensation insurances are indicated in figures compiled by Robert J. Watt, legislative agent of the Massachusetts State Federation of Labor, according to which the premiums collected in 1932 amounted to more than $9,000,000, while the amount paid out in insurance was only $5,210,330.

"In 1935," Mr. Watt said, "the insurance companies received $12,968,252 in premiums for policies, while they paid out only $4,408,146, thereby showing a surplus of nearly $8,000,000 for the year."

48-HOUR WEEK MEANS PAY RISE FOR BELGIAN MIN

Dispatches from Belgium that representatives of the Bel mine owners and mine workers agreed to terms for settlemen the walkout of 15,000 miners, had demanded a five-hour reduc in the recently-instituted 48- week. The men agreed to cent for the present on the 45-hour b which was a tangible reductio the length of the work week wit change in the wage scale. It th fore represented a seven per c increase in the hourly wage rat

Unionize for collective bargai and organize for collective buyi

Cost Of Labor Far Below 1920

The cost of labor is 41 per cent less than in 1920! That's not the claim of the American Federation of Labor, but of the Alexander Hamilton Institute, an ultra-conservative research organization in New York City.

"The cost of labor depends not only upon wage rates, but upon productivity per man hour," the institute points out, and then announces that in 1936 American workers were producing, per man per hour, approximately 71 per cent more than they produced in 1920.

What a body blow to the claims of those who are constantly asserting that wages are too high! The fact is, as these figures amply demonstrate, wages are miserably low.

Unless we do something about it, this failure of wages to keep up with producing power will inevitably lead to disaster, because record production cannot continue unless the masses of our people have sufficient buying power to purchase the things produced. That simple truth cannot be stated too frequently, or too emphatically.

Labor Spies' Criminal Records Are Revealed

Washington, D. C.—In a partial report presented to the Senate in support of its request for an additional $50,000 appropriation the Senate sub-committee of the Committee on Education and Labor investigating labor espionage emphasized the wide use of spies by detective agencies and pointed out that strike-breakers frequently have criminal records.

Spies Are Double-Dealers

"Pinkerton's" said the report in referring to the Pinkerton National Detective Agency, "who for the first seven months of 1936 spent something like $240,000 of employers' money for corrupting men to sell out their fellow workers, and who assert that their company does no work on divorce matters, tells in the ironical words of its general manager what they require for character in their informants: 'We make inquiries in the neighborhood in which they live, to learn what their standing in the community is, whether they are considered honest, trustworthy, law-abiding people.' In striking contrast to this character reference is a hooked man's description of his work: 'I have known Ferguson for twenty years and Kepler for ten years (both of them union men), and now I am selling them out, as they tell me most anything.'

Chowderhead's Slimy Career

"Drawn from the underworld, a large number of strike-breakers have criminal records. An interesting example is Sam Cohen, alias Sam Goldberg, alias Chowderhead Cohen, alias Charles Harris, who testified before the committee.

"His preparatory work in industrial relations included a term in Atlanta for conspiracy, four years in State's prison and four years in Sing Sing for burglaries, and detention as material witness in a notorious murder case. Out of thirteen strike-breakers furnished by Railway Audit and Inspection for the General Materials strike in St. Louis in 1932, seven were wanted by the police of other cities on charges including burglary, forgery, larceny, inciting to riot, and assault."

LIBBEY-OWENS-FORD GRANTS 8-CENT RAISE IN SIGNED AGREEMENT

Toledo.—Members of the Federation of Flat Glass Workers have won an 8-cent hourly wage raise from Libbey-Owens-Ford. The glass company agreed to the same increase obtained by the union a week earlier for 7,000 employes of Pittsburgh Plate Glass.

A similar number benefit from this latest victory here and in towns in Illinois, West Virginia, and Louisiana.

The six weeks strike in Libbey-Owens-Ford, together with that in the Pittsburgh Plate Glass plants, had practically tied up the auto glass supply.

Ninety-cent Average

The average wage will be 89.8 cents an hour, as compared with 81.8 cents an hour under the agreement that expired with the calling of the strike.

NURSES WIN 8-HOUR DAY

The eight-hour day has been established in Toronto by the Central Registry of Graduate Nurses, composed of special and private nurses, in hospitals, replacing the 12-hour work day which was long in effect. The new schedule became effective January 15. The wage rate will be for the present $4 per day and one meal for each nurse, thus costing the patient "not more than 75 cents more a day." The move met with commendation from doctors and hospital authorities, who pointed out that it would spread employment, make life "more livable" for the nurses and increase their efficiency.

Correspondence

Editor, Labor Statesman.

Dear Sir: Having just received a copy of your paper, from where I have no idea, but being interested in all Trades Union activity was delighted at the stand taken re the Health Insurance project and other matters pertaining to the general welfare of the wage earners. There is little chance of organized action in this area except by the teaching profession and although they are associated it's too lukewarm to be termed union. Why I cannot understand, as they had a real grievance. In this part of the province we are situated in a kind of No Man's Land and hardly ever get a chance to place our troubles before those in authority. The salary of the teachers sent here started at $780.00 per year, rising to $800.00; at one time a poorer type of instructor received $1320. If a situation of that description don't demand unity then I ask what does?

Having been connected with the school affairs here since after the war, I tried every angle possible to get redress but of course the depression excuse was uppermost. My personal contention was that no inducement was given to youth to excel in the profession but that in future the teaching profession would just include those that were fit for nothing better with the result that the future generations would be hindered by lack of assistance from the better brains. I am now able to state that the Department of Education through the request of Mr. Charlesworth and the inspectors here have looked into the matter and better inducements will prevail after April 1. Commendation to Drs. Weir and Willis would do no harm and might probably assist the Trade Union movement along other lines. I enclose $1.00 subscription for future copies of your paper.

—Peter M. Hyndman.
Dawson Creek, B.C.

MINERS RATIFY PACT

Glace Bay, N.S. — Nova Scotia miners have voted to accept the agreement recently negotiated by the United Mine Workers with the Dominion Coal Company, calling for increased wages.

Workers receiving less than $4 per day will receive an increase of 9 per cent; those in receipt of wage in execess of $4, 6 per cent; and contract workers, 6 per cent. The contract is retroactive to Feb. 1, last.

PREDICTS CURB ON MASSING OF WEALTH

Montreal, P.Q. — "It is the intention of the Quebec government to put into effect legislation for a true social doctrine, that will effectively prevent the gathering of all wealth in the hands of a few at the expense of impoverishing others," declared Hon. T. J. Coonan, minister without portfolio in the Duplessis, cabinet in an address here this week.

The declaration was made in reply to a previous speaker, who suggested that Canadians should "preserve the independence of the individual from the deadening restraints of government."

40 LOS ANGELES FURNITURE FIRMS OPERATE UNION SHOPS

Over forty furniture factories in Los Angeles, Calif., operate under agreements with Furniture Workers' Union No. 1561 of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners and Local No. 15 of the Upholsterers' International Union.

BAKERSFIELD LAUNDRY WORKERS

Members of the Laundry Workers' Union of Bakersfield, Calif., recently secured a new agreement providing for an increase in wages of from two cents to three cents per hour.

SEATTLE TEAMSTERS' UNION ENROLLS 80 NEW MEMBERS

Fifty new members were recently initiated at one meeting into the big Teamsters' Local No. 174 in Seattle, Wash. Union officials said this was the smallest number initiated in several months, business in trucking having slowed down in the middle of winter. The union increased its membership by over 800 during 1936.

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FRISCO WAREHOUSEMEN

An improvement in wages and hours was reported in the settlement of the strike, lasting 67 days, called by the Warehousemen's Union of San Francisco, Calif. It was said that under the agreement 500 men returned to work at a wage scale providing 75 cents an hour for straight time in the public warehouses and a minimum of 70 cents an hour in grain, feed and milling warehouses. The agreement also provided a 40-hour week.

SHORT-WEIGHT DEALERS FINED

The eternal vigilance necessary to protect the poor from the wiles of unscrupulous merchants, through the medium of an adequate weights and measures law throughout Canada. Typical of this was the appearance of three defendants before Magistrate Cowan, in Toronto, a few days ago, all of whom were found guilty of giving short weight to customers in the various stores. Fines of $10 or ten days were imposed in each case.

PEORIA NEWSPAPER TYPOS

A new agreement between Typographical Union No. 29 of Peoria, Ill., and the Peoria Journal, Peoria Transcript and the Peoria Star grants a wage increase of 7½ cents an hour, with the night force receiving an additional amount of 50 cents over the day rate of $1.12½.

Union Members In B.C. Urge To Vote For Health Insuran

A resolution sponsored by the Teamsters Joint Council, de with the plebiscite on health insurance, was passed unanimousl the Vancouver, New Westminster and District Trades and L Council with eighty-seven delegates present.

The delegates felt that the proposed plebiscite is of vital portance at the present time, because if health insurance is defe at this time, it will not only tend to prevent the introductio health insurance in this province for a number of years, but also have a similar influence on other provinces in Canada.

Undoubtedly there will be a tremendous amount of money s in efforts to defeat the measure, as in the past, hence it become perative upon the Trades Union Movement, who fostered this sure, to not only get out and vote for it, but to put up an inte campaign in order to get other working class voters to vote fo legislation.

The resolution says:

Whereas the Government of the Province of British Columbia is submitting a plebiscite to the citizens on June 1st, 1937, asking their approval of the principle of Health Insurance, and whereas the Trade Union movement has for many years asked for this legislation, and

Whereas if this plebiscite fails to carry by a majority of the votes of our citizens, the whole principle of health insurance will be set back for many years;

Therefore be it resolved that this Council circulate all Labor Unions in this province and ask their cooperation in circulating all their members and their friends to get out and vote for the plebiscite on health insurance.

Parks Board Helps Local Unions

The Board of Park Commissioners received several bouquets at the Trades and Labor Council meeting in connection with their recent actions on behalf of organized labor. The union members, Alex. McDonald of the Street Railwaymen's Union, R. P. Pettipiece of the Typographical Union, and Ronald Macaulay of the Sheet Metal Workers' Union, were named as having supported and spoken in favor of having union bands play in the park during the summer months, and for having a union firm given the contract to supply milk to the refreshment stands in the park.

Both the Musician's Union and Milk Salesmen's Union expressed thanks to these members for the help given.

Logging Operators Get Police Authority

It has been alleged that the Provincial Police have given logging camp operators authority to use force in preventing loggers' union organizers from landing or entering on property being operated as lumber camps. In view of this, the Vancouver, New Westminster and District Trades and Labor Council has sent a strong protest to Victoria condemning the alleged action of the Provincial police.

The Lumber and Sawmill Workers' Union has launched an organizing campaign, which to date, has met with very good success. In this campaign a motor boat is used in which some organizers visit the camps around the coastline of British Columbia. At one of these camps the operator forbid the organizers to land and obtained an authority from the Provincial Police to use force if necessary to prevent the organizers from landing.

Conditions in B.C. logging camps are very bad and the blacklist is still in full operation. The new campaign, however, is beginning to have some effect as wages are being voluntarily raised and other conditions remedied. The union, however, intends to carry on its work until it becomes strong enough to obtain and enforce agreements similar all over the province.

MUNICIPAL STREET RAILWAY PROSPERS

Returning prosperity was reflected in the annual report of the Toronto Transportation Commission, in charge of the city's municipally owned street car system, which showed an increase of .95 per cent over the previous year. Passenger traffic in December, 1936, was 13,917,624 fares, as compared with 13,388,293 fares in December, 1935. Revenue passengers carried during the past year totalled 150,135,192.

Westminster I.L.A. Joins With Co

Local 38-127 International shoremen's Association of Westminster, which recently o ed a charter, have applied and accepted for affiliation with Vancouver, New Westminster District Trades and Labor Co This local has a splendid opport of making the port 100 per ce ternational and every assistan that end is urged of the New minster members of organized

Conciliation Urged In AFL-CIO Dis

Acting upon the request o Rochester N.Y. Central Labor cil, the Vancouver Trades and Council has urged the Am Federation of Labor and the mittee for Industrial Organi to each appoint seven represent and attempt to settle their ences through arbitration. A present time ten unions compo the C.I.O. stand suspended fro A.F. of L.

Domestic Workers Urge Fair Wage S

Domestic Workers' Federal No. 91 has brought to the att of the City Council the fact city relief authorities have coercing women to take positi domestic servants at scand low wages and long hours of in lieu of being placed on reli

It appears that these wom sent as domestic help to hom relief and for home nursing, i instances having to look aft many as six children as well sick persons, for which they $12.00 per month.

The union points out tha condition fosters unemplo among trained nurses and down wages of domestic hel below the minimum wages for classes of female labor.

The union urges the City C to adopt a fair scale of wag hours of work covering this c labor coming under the jurisd of the civic authorities.

DETROIT NEWSPAPER PRIN

According to a new contract tiated by the Detroit Typogra Union with the Detroit daily paper publishers, recently acc by a referendum vote of the members, the scale for day w $10.40 for 7½ hours; five $52.01. Night work, $11.02 fo hours; five days $55.08. Third $11.55 for 7½ hours; five $57.74. The pay increase $3.50 per week and calls for and a half for overtime.

DANVILLE BUILDING TRA

The Vermillion County Bu Trades Council, Danville, Ill. negotiated a new agreement wi Allied Builders Association, posed of the principle contra providing increases of from 4 cents an hour for common lab carpenters, bricklayers, plas lathers, painters and plumbers lowing are the increases: Carp painters, and cement finishers, $1 an hour to $1.25; bricklaye plasterers, $1.25 to $1.50; la $1.20 to $1.37½; common la 60 cents to 65 cents. Hod ca wages will remain at 80 cen hour. It is reported that wag electrical and sheet metal w and chauffeurs were not inclu the agreement, which covers 1,000 men.

A minute of constructive a brings greater growth than a icle wishing.

sconsin Labor Law Is Mile-one on Road to Social Justice

ion Bans "Company Union", Spies and Blacklists, Governor Says; Refusal to Bargain Made Unfair Practice

sconsin, which has pioneered in many forms of labor legisla- ill be the first state to have a labor disputes law modeled after ional Wagner-Connery Act. Last Friday the Wisconsin Sen- ter fighting a 12-hour filibuster by reactionaries, passed the e by a vote of 30 to 3. Fifty-six crippling amendments were down. The bill is now before the Assembly and is expected to ed speedily. The Assembly has already passed an identical bill, vote on the Senate measure will be hardly more than a ity.

e features of the bill are explained in the following article, n exclusively for Labor by Governor Philip F. La Follette, the Progressive who is Wisconsin's chief executive:

PHILIP F. LA FOLLETTE
Governor of Wisconsin

Labor Disputes bill passed by sin Senate last week and fore the Assembly, will be the mprehensive and effective ever taken by any state to the rights of labor and industrial peace. It consti- declaration of independence This bill seeks to accomp- main objectives, namely, to the causes for labor dis- to provide machinery for eful settlement of disputes y do arise.

d after the National Labor Act, it contains several im- improvements which will promote the achievement of

lly and effectively outlaws y unions." The "company ho been one of the chief ob- to the progress of organized person cannot bargain with Genuine collective bargain- ssible only when two inde- parties sit down across the reach an agreement.

this measure, the state Board is authorized to give recognition only to labor or- ns which are not "company and the latter are denied of the bill. To be recognized, organization must show the t it is not a "company un- ned in the bill.

unfair labor practices are on the part of the em- The employer cannot inter- any way with the right of to self-organization, nor courage membership in any d labor organization or en- membership in any "com- n."

ring of spies, the distribu- ack lists, the refusal to bar- ctively with his employees practices are prohibited by

ery is set up to determine entatives of employees for of collective bargaining e jurisdiction of the state Board. The board is empow- hear complaints of unfair ctices and to issue orders them or granting affirm- ief. The board is also em- to arbitrate labor disputes.

ion is made for labor and to keep their own houses practices, other than unfair ctices, which are detrimen- bor and industrial progress. Labor Board will appoint a labor committee and a employers' committee. r committee will receive ts concerning bad practices employees, and the employ- mittee will receive com- concerning bad practices employers.

e respective committees are to iron out the complaints them, the board may itself te. The law also provides for joint co-operation between labor and industry in the interest of industrial peace.

This measure has been drafted after months of careful study and consideration. It has received the enthusiastic support and indorsement of all groups of organized labor in the state. Wisconsin has earned a reputation which it highly cherishes today for leadership in social and economic legislation. The labor bill now before the legislature will prove to be another milestone in Wisconsin's forward march toward social justice.

Truck Drivers' Union In Organization Drive

During the past month an extensive organizing campaign has been in progress by the Truck Drivers and Helpers' Union, Local No. 31 in the Vancouver district. Over one hundred new members have been signed up and now agreements have been mailed to several large cartage companies. Negotiations will be carried on and it is hoped to have a peaceful settlement of matters in dispute.

Naturally some employers are quite hostile to the idea of their employees organizing, but this will wear off, just as it is wearing off in the United States where the government has taken a hand in helping the employees to organize.

And organization is needed just as badly here as it was in the U.S. Wages here are appallingly low and the employees have to work under deplorable conditions, some employers paying their employees as low as five dollars a week. They keep men hanging around until a job comes along and then the man might get only an hour's work.

Of course competition in the trade has a great deal to do with this. Cartage rates are a disgrace to the city, and this has been brought about through lack of organization among the employers. Were the employees organized they could help to bring about greater co-operation in the trade and the industry could show dividends to all those who are connected with it.

Union Donations To Meat Cutters' Union

The following donations have been received by the Meat Cutters' Union Local No. 95, since our last report. In most cases these are further donations from the same unions.

Street Railwaymen's Union	$500.00
Bakers' Union	48.00
Beverage Dispensers, 676	25.00
Plumbers and Steamfitters No. 170	25.00
Machinists, No. 182	5.00
Painters, No. 138	5.00
Carpenters, No. 452	10.00
Milk Salesmen, No. 464	25.00
Molders, No. 281	15.00
Cumberland U.M.W.	15.00

23,000 Dualists Join Maintenance Union

One of the outstanding events in the history of organized labor took place in Pittsburgh, Pa., recently when the Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees, an affiliate of the American Federation of Labor, absorbed an independent union of maintenance of way men on the Pennsylvania Railroad.

As a result of the merger the dual independent union, which had 23,000 members, ceased to exist and the representation rights and the existing agreements and contracts with the Pennsylvania and subsidiary lines were taken over by the Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees.

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