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SUPPORTED BY NINETY-TWO LOCAL UNIONS

TO EACH UNION MEMBER THE POLITICAL PARTY OF HIS CHOICE

LABOR STATESMAN

OWNED BY THE VANCOUVER, NEW WESTMINSTER AND DISTRICT

TRADES & LABOR COUNCIL

BUILD STRONG UNIONS FOR SOCIAL SECURITY

Department of Labour
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NUMBER 576 VANCOUVER, CANADA, DECEMBER, 1946 Established 1924

Prov. Carpenters' Council Membership Nears 6000

The Fourth Annual Convention of the British Columbia Council of Carpenters was held recently in the Labor Headquarters on Beatty St. There were thirty-two delegates present from eighteen of the 21 unions operating in various parts of British Columbia.

These represent a membership of nearly 6000, all of whom belong to the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, and embracing various trades in the Woodworking industry.

The convention was in session two days, says Secretary-Treasurer H. Lyons of Vancouver, and finished up with a banquet in the Georgia Hotel. Among the speakers and guests at the banquet were James Thomson, Deputy Minister of Labor, and also a member of the Brotherhood; Michael McGeough, Executive Secretary of the Regional War Labor Board, who was able to announce to the delegates the "retiring" of the Board, at the same time as it was being announced over the air from Ottawa. Bill Watts, Secretary of the Building Trades Council, was also an invited guest and speaker.

Secretary Lyons reports that the 40-hour week and $1.25 per hour is now general throughout the province, with most of the carpenter members working under agreements. The membership has also increased about 25 per cent since last year's convention.

Among the legislative requests that the Council's officers will make are: Old Age Pensions of $50 per month at 60 years of age, with no means test. Widow's Pensions increased; more publicity for "Annual Holidays with Pay" Act, and holiday time to be paid for actual time worked; Health Insurance and State Medicine; 40-Hour Week Act for B. C.; Apprenticeship Act ratio to be increased to 10 per cent; Central Hospital for Industrial Accidents. The convention also favored the setting up of an A. F. of L. British Columbia Federation of Labor.

Officers elected for 1947 are: President, Jack Stevenson; vice-president, Alec Sims of Victoria; Secretary-Treasurer, H. Lyons; Honorary Officer, William Page.

Plebiscite Wanted on B. C. Electric Franchise

Delegates to the Trades and Labor Council expressed the desire that a plebiscite be held in Vancouver before any further Franchise is signed by the City with the B. C. Electric Railway Co. Rumours that the Franchise would be signed before the new Council took office forced the complaint from many delegates, and the City Council will be so informed by the secretary.

While there was some doubt in the minds of many delegates about the City ownership of any transportation service, there appeared to be strong opposition to what is now claimed to be a monopoly by the B. C. Electric.

The delegates were not so sure that they favored a dual setup in the city, but they felt that another effort should be made to buy out the B. C. Electric. When this was mentioned, other delegates felt that by buying out the B. C. Electric, they would have to sell bonds to do it and this would simply mean transferring the present ownership to an ownership by money-lenders.

The main question however boiled down to the idea that there should be a little more democracy displayed and the citizens should be given a chance, by plebiscite, to have some say in the extention of the present franchise.

The traveller in the railway carriage had eaten a large pastry with gusto. A few moments later he was doubled up with pain, and a sympathetic fellow-traveller asked if he could help.

"No, thanks," came the reply. "My wife put some nuts in that pastry and forgot to shell them!"

"Great Scott!" exclaimed the fellow-passenger. "And can you crack them by just bending your body?"

OLD FRIENDSHIP ROAD
(By Tessa Sweazy Webb)

The journey that leads on the
Old Friendship Road
Is pleasant, no matter how
heavy the load;
There's gladness and joy in the
smiles that we wear,
And the songs that we sing
bring happiness there.
Along this old pathway the radiance is bright,
Which makes life worth living,
a joy and delight.
No spot can be found where
rich pleasures descend
Like the old trodden road between friend and friend.

Teachers' Federation Presents the Facts

With reference to misleading statements appearing in the press re legislation proposed by the British Columbia Teachers' Federation, we positively deny:

1. That our proposals that all teachers automatically become members of the Federation is a "radical" measure. Such legislation has been a fact in Ontario for years.
2. That we are asking for "the closed shop."
3. That we seek to usurp from the Council of Public Instruction the power to issue or suspend certificates.
4. That we expect the Government to pay the teachers' fees.

What We DO Propose:

1. Legislation, similar to that now in effect in seven of the nine provinces, that all teachers trained and certificated under the powers and regulations of the Department of Education shall automatically become members of our professional organization, and share in the benefits and privileges of this association. (Persons now teaching to have the right to exclude themselves from membership without affecting in any way their status as teachers.)
2. The right to suspend membership of any teacher guilty of unethical or unprofessional practices, subject to his right of appeal to the Council of Public Instruction which would have final authority to decide whether or not his certificate should be suspended.
3. Collection of fees at that source, such fees to be then deducted from members' salary cheques.
4. Not the "closed shop" but professional status enjoyed by teachers in other provinces.

—B. C. Teachers' Federation
per C. D. OVANS, General Secretary
C. J. OATES, President.

Fire Hazards Need More Attention Here

Because of the epidemic of fires in many parts of this continent, delegates to the Trades and Labor Council felt that the City Building By-laws should be amended so as to take care of fire hazards that are not covered in the present By-laws.

Delegate Sam Smylie brought the matter up and Secretary Gervin will write to the City Council in an effort to have changes made. Delegate Smylie pointed out that three story apartment blocks do not have to have water lines and hydrants in the buildings, and in four story apartment blocks only one dry hydrant is called for. He is of the opinion, and the delegates also, that there should be wet hydrants in all apartment blocks with sufficient hose that would reach the furthest apartment. Tenants then could fight any fire that took place, before the firemen arrived, which might mean saving of lives.

He felt that firemen were doing a good job, with the out-of-date equipment they have to use, and there should be some means whereby immediate attention could be given to any outbreak of fire.

A much better use of sprinkler systems should also be used in schools and other public places, where such are not installed at the present time.

The Season's Message

FROM THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE VANCOUVER, NEW WESTMINSTER AND DISTRICT TRADES AND LABOR COUNCIL

TO WISH You a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year—no more kindly thought was ever uttered than this age-old greeting handed down through the generations. It still retains its humane appeal, unchanged by the vagaries of time and unspoilt by the materialism of the modern skeptic. It remains, as of yore, the sincere expression of good fellowship and goodwill among mankind on this festive occasion.

We know of no occasion that lends itself more than this to the practical demonstration of the principles upon which our movement is founded, the commemoration of the birth of the lowly carpenter of Nazareth, the prophet and preacher of the brotherhood of man.

Living as we do in an age when social inequalities and consequent injustices predominate, it is safe to say that no occasion gives rise to greater rejoicing, while, paradoxically, no day gives cause for more poignant sorrow and regret.

It is to the elimination of social injustice that our movement is dedicated. It is to this task that our members are pledged. Ours is the duty of protecting the fatherless, strengthening the weak and helping the needy. Ours the obligation of making that grand old message, "A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year" something more than mere words.

BIRT SHOWLER, *President.*
R. K. GERVIN, *Secretary-Treasurer*
SAM SMYLIE, *Vice-President.*
JACK STEVENSON, *Executive Member.*
JACK EAVES, *Executive Member.*
WM. RIGBY, *Executive Member.*
SAM SHEARER, *Executive Member.*
GEORGE GEE, *Executive Member.*
C. E. HERRETT, *Executive Member.*
H. W. WATTS, *Managing Editor.*

$25,000 For Fuel -- ITU Xmas Gift To Locked-out Printers

Stating its belief that winters for locked-out printers in all Canadian cities "are of equal intensity", ITU headquarters in Indianapolis, Ind., has allotted $25,000 for the purchase of fuel for some 400 of Southam's ex-employees.

Thus it appears the spectre of the Southam claims of "foreign domination" may again rear its ugly head over the "forgotten men" of Province editorial fame.

Canadian ITU Representative Harry Finch had drawn headquarters' attention to the problem of discharged printers of the Southam Winnipeg Tribune and Sifton Free Press in keeping warm in 32-below weather.

It appears that the ITU Executive Council, in considering the request for special assistance for the prairie members, decided that the same applied to all cities where Southam has locked-out its old-time printers and acted accordingly.

Since requisitions from the fund are to be used only for fuel, the ex-employees of the Southam Province are wondering how they can avail themselves of the ITU'S heart-warming Christmas beneficence and still square themselves with Leo Sweeney and other boosters for Vancouver's balmy climate.

And somehow we don't think Leo would prefer the alternative of a "yellow raincoat fund" any more than the non-union Southam Province would.—Typo Times.

Painters Union Starts Course of Training

Because of the big increase in membership in the Painters Union, Local No. 138, the union has decided to start a demonstration and lecture course of training for members who have not had the benefit of apprenticeship, and for those who want to find out the newest methods in painting, decorating and paperhanging.

The union also proposes a course for ex-service members and for indentured apprentices, and are planned as follows:

Course 1. Any member wishing to take advantage of this course, will pay on enrolment the sum of $6, the cost of the course. If the member has a record of 90% attendance at the termination of the course, the Local Union will refund the enrolment fee of $6.

It is proposed to start the 2nd week in January, 1947, and to continue for 2 nights a week, 12 weeks, for a total of 24 lectures, on the basic principles, practices and problems of painting, and decorating, etc.

Course 2. Ex-Service members and Indentured Apprentices may apply for enrolment in night classes, free of charge under the Canadian Vocational Training Plan for a full course of painting and decorating (practice and theory). These courses are recommended to you by your Apprentice and Trades Training Committee and advises all members and ex-service men to take advantage of these courses.

Truck Drivers With Sixty-five Agreements

Three more cartage firms have signed up with the General Truck Drivers' Union, Local No. 31, making a total of 65 firms now signed up under agreements with the union.

The three new firms, says Reg. Atkinson, Secretary of the Union, are: Traders Service Ltd., Brade's Storage Ltd., and Chilliwack Cartage Company.

Three firms have also just renewed agreements. They are Bowman's Storage Limited, System Parcel Delivery, and Murray & Davidson.

Machinists' Lodge 602 Has 21 Agreements

Sixteen new agreements have been obtained this year in machine shops in Vancouver, during the past few months, says Business Agent Dick Osman, and this makes a total of 21 now in effect, aside from the shipyards.

There has also been a general wage increase of 15c embracing members employed in the shipyafrds and also in the contract shops in various parts of the city.

The membership in the union is also again making an upward trend since the big layoff in the shipyards, when war work stopped. It is now again up to the 1100 mark, and there is every prospect of continuing its upward trend.

Molders' Union Gets Closed Shop Pact

The International Molders and Foundry Workers Union of N.A., Local No. 281 (A. F. of L.) and the Associated Foundry Limited have just completed negotiations and signed a closed shop agreement. This agreement embodies the 40 hour week and a 15c an hour increase in pay right across the board and is the finest of its kind in the industry to date. Some 50 odd men are affected. This is the first Closed Shop Agreement signed in the Foundry Industry in British Columbia, says Louis Herzeg, Business Agent, Local 281.

All through the negotiations the feeling between the Company and the Union was most cordial. Agreements of this nature tend to create greater harmony between Labor and Management and we feel that this harmony will have a greater effect in strengthening the Foundry industry in this area.

Other closed shop agreements are also being negotiated. Local No. 281 is still making gains and bringing in new members and is stronger than it has been for many years. The Molders Union holds certifications in some twenty-five foundries, out of some thirty-eight in the Vancouver area, and hope to get others.

Good Progress Made By Laundry Workers

In the year now ending the Laundry Workers and Drycleaning Union in Vancouver and New Westminster has made rapid advances, starting with practically nothing this union now has 300 members.

It has seven shops signed up with maintainance of membership clauses in all agreements, plus an average advance in pay of 25 per cent. Some shops were brought up from as low as 31 cents per hour to 50 cents and washermen to as high as $38.50 per week, says Organizer J. H. Irving.

The average wage is now 50 cents per hour. The greatest gain made was the stepped-up rate where all employees are assured of reaching the top scale in 9 months. Before this was instituted, no employee had any hope except with the employer's good will, and in many cases never got to the top.

The union is looking forward to a good year in 1947 and would ask all employees of Drycleaning and Laundries not organized to get in touch with the organizer, J. H. Irving at 529 Beatty Street, phone PA. 4548.

You could tell she was the type—pretty as a doll and just as dumb—as she floated through the cocktail lounge with a fuzzy poodle under her arm. She seated herself and as the waiter prepared to take her order, baby-talked the dog into exasperation.

Trying to comfort the fidgeting animal (the waiter still waited) she cooed: "There, there, now, Mama's itsy-bitsy baby—nobody's going to hurt 'oo."

The poodle settled after a while, and the affectionate girl turned big blue eyes to meet the icy glare of the waiter, who asked, courteously but bitingly: "Your first dog, madam?"

17 Certifications For Auto Workers' Union

Automobile Workers Union, Lodge No. 1857 I.A. of M. have opened up a new campaign in that industry, and the prospects are very much brighter than they have been for some time.

The union has put a full time business agent on the job, and L. E. Butler, who is filling the job, hopes to overcome a lot of the difficulties that has confronted the union since it was organized in September 1944.

Despite the tremendous turnover in labor in the Vancouver garages, several agreements were obtained, and nine were in effect in October of this year.

Brother Butler has followed this up and now has seventeen garages certified to the union, despite the abortive efforts made previously in many of these places. These certifications are to be followed up by negotiations for agreements, and Brother Butler expects to overcome the prejudice of many employers towards unions.

Business Agent Butler has his office at present in those occupied by Machinists Lodge No. 602 in Labor Headquarters, and can be contacted there or by phoning PAcific 2435.

Assistance from officers and members of organized labor will also be appreciated.

Canada To Import German Scientists

Ottawa. — Canada has decided to allow the entry of a limited number of German scientists who may be of use in the scientific and industrial development of this country.

High government spokesmen disclose the question has been dealt with by the Federal Cabinet and the decision means that a "small hand-picked number will be given entry".

Approximately 300 German scientists and expert technicians are reported to have been admitted into the United States within recent months, and more are on heir way. The plan is said to envisage the importation of somewhere around 1,000 carefully selected German experts in industry, finance and medicine for the United States.

Britain has addopted a similar policy.

Brought Back Samples

Last year some thirty-five Canadian experts from the National Research Council, industry and universities visited Germany to make a survey on industrial and scientific research in that country and they brought back much information and samples of equipment. The United States and Britain have also sent similar teams to Germany.

Many of the German industrial secrets are now under study here. Some of the samples of equipment and information gathered in Germany range from heavy machine tools to delicate precision instruments, from a combustion chamber for the VI rocket to a bicycle pedal, from airplane instruments to a machine that makes butter in one continuous process.

The manager discovered one morning that he had left his pen-knife at home. Eentering the general office, he tried vainly to borrow one from the clerks.

Finally, the office boy put his hand in his pocket and pulled out a rather battered knife.

"How is it," said the manager, looking at the boy with admiration, "that you alone of my staff have a pocket knife with you?"

"Don't know, sir," replied the boy, "unless it's that my wages are so low that I can't afford more than one pair of trousers."

The dear old lady was telling her family about her trip to town.

"I met a nice young man in the train," she said, "and he offered to give me the winner of the St. Leger."

"And did he?" asked one.

The old lady beamed and shook her head.

"Naturally, I thanked him very much, but I explained that the chickens take up so much of the garden that it would be quite impossible for us to keep a horse."

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Issued by Retail Clerks' Union, Local 279

To Our Advertisers

We are proud to have these earnest leaders of Organized Labor in Vancouver, join us in wishing all our good friends and supporters—A Very Happy Christmas, and the prosperity they so richly deserve throughout the coming year.

H. W. WATTS, Managing Editor
W. STIRTON, Advertising Solicitor

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Trades Union Directory

LABOR HEADQUARTERS, 529-531 BEATTY STREET

Aeronautical (I. A. M.) Lodge No. 756—Financial Secretary, Tom Price, 4558 Henry Street; FAirmont 3824-M.

Auto Workers' Union, Lodge No. 1857, I. A. of M. — Secretary A. L. Mills, 2719 Ontario St.

Bakery Salesmen, Local 189, I. B. T. C. and H.—Business Agent, E. Holmes, 531 Beatty Street; PAcific 6546.

Bakers' Union, Local 468 — Business Agent, Melvin Kemmis, 16 East Hastings St.; Phone PAcific 4741.

Barbers — International Journeymen of America, Local 120 — Secretary, C. E. Herrett, 531 Beatty St.; PAcific 4924.

Seafarers' Int. Union of North America —Secretary, H. Murphy, 144 W. Hastings; PAc. 7824.

Beverage Dispensers' Union, Local 676 —Business Manager, F. W. Mills, Room 4, 531 Beatty St.; MArine 4948.

Beverage Dispensers and Culinary Workers, No. 835 — Secretary, W. Morton, 405 Campbell Ave., New Westminster.

Blacksmiths' Union, Local 151 — Secretary, Albert Arman, 2048 West Second Avenue; BAy. 1567-L.

Boilermakers Union, No. 359 — Business Agent, James Downie, 531 Beatty St.; Phone TAtlow 1047

Boilermakers' Union, Local 194—Secretary, P. Nicholson, 490 - 14th Ave., New Westminster, B. C.

Bookbinders' Union, Local 105—Recording Secretary, Mrs. W. Leak, 1337 Larch Street.

Brewery Workers' Union, Local 300 — Secretary, Ed. Sims, 5392 Clarendon St.

Brick & Clay Workers Union, No. 136—Secretary, S. W. Jeffery, R. R. No. 1, Matsqui, B. C.

Bricklayers' Union, Local No. 1—L. Padgett, Sr., 2066 W. Eighth; BAy. 1558-R.

Building Laborers' Union, Local 602 — Secretary, W. Baskerville, 531 Beatty St.; Phone MArine 9042.

Building Laborers' Union (New Westminster) No. 1070 — Secretary, M. J. Musa, 1115 Sixth Avenue.

Building Material and Fuel Truck Drivers Union, Local 213—Business Agent, Custer Solem, 531 Beatty St., Phone PAcific 6546.

Building Service Employees, Local 244—Business Agent, S. W. Smith, 434 West Pender St.; Phone PAc. 5834.

Building Trades Council — Secretary, H. W. Watts, 531 Beatty St.; Phone PAcific 2942.

Canadian Seamen's Union (T. & L. C. C.) —Secretary, J. M. Smith, 16 East Hastings St.; Phone MArine 4947.

Carpenters, Local Union 452—Business Agent, J. Stevenson, 531 Beatty St.; Phone PAcific 6557.

Carpenters, Local 1251 (New Westminster)—Business Agent, J. T. Bannan, 1008 - 6th Ave., New Westminster; Phone N.W. 513R.

Carpenters (Nanaimo), Local No. 527—Secretary, Wm. Little, 217 Irwin St., Nanaimo, B. C.

Carpenters' Union (Chilliwack), No. 1843 —Secretary, S. A. Borrell, 590 R. R. 1, Chilliwack, B. C.

Carpenters' Union No. 513 (Port Alberni) —Secretary, R. Stubb, Box 908, Port Alberni, B. C.

Cement Finishers (Section of Local No. 602)—Business Agent, W. J. Baskerville, Labor Headquarters, 531 Beatty St., Phone MArine 9042.

City Hall Employees, Local 59—Secretary, T. H. Lewis, 2157 West 18th Ave.; BAyview 4755L.

Civic Employees' Union (Burnaby), No. 23—Secretary, Doris Smith, 3633 Jersey Ave., New Westminster.

Civic Employees' Union, Local 28—Business Agent, James Buchanan, 531 Beatty Street; Phone PAcific 4548.

Commercial Telegraphers' Union, C.P.R. Division No. 1—Phyllis M. Cline, Box 432, Vancouver.

Distillery Workers, Local No. 69—Secretary, Harold Mackay, 503 Fader St.; New Westminster, B. C.

Distillery Workers Union, No. 231 — (U.D.L.)—Secretary, Geo. Guy, 545 E. 47th Ave., Vancouver, B. C.

Electrical Workers' Union, Local 213—Business Manager, Jack Ross, 531 Beatty St.; MArine 0736.

Elevator Constructors, Local 82—Secretary, H. C. MacKechan, 2057 East 7th Ave.

Embalmers, Undertakers and Assistants Union, No. 23374 — Secretary, J. A. Dougall, 1334 Nicola Street; Phone MArine 3561.

Engineers, Hoisting and Portable, Local 115—Business Agent, A. W. Scott, 193 E. Hastings, Ste. 214-16; MArine 2849.

Engineers, School and Caretakers, Local 963 — Secretary, Len A. Roach, 2932 Sophia Street.

Engineers' Union (Stationary Operating), Local No. 882 — Business Agent, J. Henderson, 193 E. Hastings, Ste. 214-16; MArine 2849.

Film Exchange Employees, Local B71—Secretary, C. W. Backus, 1928 East 40th Avenue.

Fire Fighters, City, Local 818—Secretary, Chas. A. Watson, 935 East 20th.

Fire Fighters New Westminster, Local 256 — Secretary, D. Anderson 1823 Hamilton Street New Westminster.

Fire Fighters (Burnaby), Local 323 — Secretary, Roderick MacRae, 3506 Booth Ave., New Westminster.

Floorlayers' Union, U. B. of C. J., Local No. 452—Business Agent, John Soderman, 5650 Balaclava; KErr. 3442-M.

Furniture Workers Union, Local No. 2533 — Secretary, Betty Ward, 3756 Ontario St., Vancouver, B.C.

Glaziers and Glass Workers', Local No. 1527 — Secretary, E. Shirley, 2791 Willingdon St., New Westminster.

Gas Workers' Union, Local No. 225—Secretary, F. Alty, 3746 Yale Street, office phone: MArine 2958.

Glove Workers' International Union, Local No. 104—Secretary, Dorothy Halsall, 2834 East Georgia.

Hospital Employees' Union, No. 180 — Secretary, P. C. Hurley, 4226 West Eighth Avenue.

Home Service Workers Union, No. 211—Secretary, Mrs. J. Hallock, 635 West 11th Ave., Vancouver, B. C.

Hotel and Restaurant Employees, Local 28—Business Agent, May Ansell, 413 Granville St.; Phone PAcific 7933.

International Longshoremen's Association, Local No. 38/163 — Secretary, James Darwood, 2049 Kitchener St.; HAstings 3154-M.

Ironworkers, Local 97—Business Agent, E. G. Cook, 193 East Hastings Street, Room 216; MArine 0940.

Jewelry Workers' Union, No. 42—Secretary, W. Routley, 2747 East 18th Ave.; DExter 2493-R.

Ladies' Garment Workers, Local 276—Business Agent, C. Carr, 119 West Pender St.; Phone: DExter 2782M.

Lathers' Union, Local 207 — Secretary, T. R. Crane, 222 West Sixth Avenue; FAir. 2412-L.

Laundry Workers, No. 292 — Business Agent, J. H. Irving, 531 Beatty St.; Phone PAcific 4548.

Lithographers, No. 44 — Secretary, A. Robold, 2974 W. 15th.

Machinists, Local 692—Business Agent, R. Osman, 531 Beatty Street; Phone PAcific 2435.

Machinists, Local 182 — Secretary, J. Bygate, 1784 E. Seventh; HA. 5760-Y.

Machinists' Lodge, No. 151 — Secretary, T. Kenyon, 448 Fader Street, New Westminster.

Mailers' Union, No. 70—Secretary, R. G. Taylor, 1176 Duchess Avenue, West Vancouver, B. C.

Maintenance-of-Way Employees, Local No. 167 (C. P. R.)—Secretary, S. Wray, 2487 Kitchener Street.

Maintenance of Way Employees, Local 31—Secretary, R. McLure, 1736 East 54th Avenue.

Marine Engineers, National Association of; Council No. 7—Secretary, D. Heard, 319 West Pender Street.

Milk Salesmen and Dairy Employees, Local 464 — Business Manager, Birt Showler, 531 Beatty St.; PAcific 6546.

Molders' Union, Local 281 — Secretary, J. Smith, 1012 Queens Ave., New Westminster, B. C.

Motion Picture Projectionists, Local 348, Business Manager, J. R. Foster; Secretary, G. E. Thrift, P. O. Box 345; Phone MArine 3043.

Musicians' Union, Local 145 — Business Manager, E. A. Jamieson, Suite 31, 553 Granville St.; Phone PAcific 7842.

Office Employees' Int. Union Local No. 15—Secretary, Winnie Williams, 504 Holden Building; PA. 4151.

Painters, Local 138—Business Manager, J. Eaves, 531 Beatty St.; MAr. 1536.; Res.: HAst. 5879-L.

Paint & Varnish Workers Union, Local No. 1550 — Secretary, N. Stewart, 1610 East 11th Avenue.

Paper Makers' International Brotherhood, Ocean Falls, Local No. 360—Secretary, N. H. Compton, Ocean Falls, B. C.

Papermakers' Int. Brotherhood, Local No. 456 (New Westminster) — Secretary, Walter Ross, 222 Ninth Street.

Pile Drivers and Wooden Bridgemen, Local 2404—Business Agent, S. Allen, 193 E. Hastings St.; PAcific 4046.

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

Plumbers and Steamfitters, Local 170—Business Agent, Frank Carlisle, 529 Beattie St.; Phone MArine 3819.

Photo Engravers, Local 54—R. H. Grantham, 3941 West 11th Ave.; Phone ALma 0669-L.

Plasterers' Union, No. 779 — Secretary, H. West, 3419 West 23rd; BAy. 6333-M.

Printing Pressmen and Assistants' Union, No. 69—Secretary, Thos. S. Ezart, 1807 East 38th; FRas. 0841-F.

Pulp and Sulphite (Converters) Union, Local 433—Secretary, Agnes Nickel, care Pacific Mills, foot of Campbell).

Pursers and Chief Stewards, Local 130 —Secretary, R. Stover, 1451 Woodland Drive.

Railway Carmen (Port Mann), **Lodge** No. 280 — Secretary, A. M. Cawley, R. R. No. 4, New Westminster, B. C.

Railway Carmen, Local No. 58—Secretary, Samuel Shearer, 7641 Osler Ave.; KErrisdale 3263Y.

Railway and Steamship Clerks, No. 626 —Secretary, A. T. Padgham, 5013 Payne Street.

Railway and Steamship Clerks, No. 626 —Secretary, J. E. Fitzgerald, 925 Bute Street, Suite 15.

Refrigeration Workers, No. 516, U. A. J. P. S. F.—Secretary, L. R. Wintle, 137 West 40th, Vancouver; FRas. 4409.

Retail Grocery and Food Clerks, Local No. 1518 — Secretary, Geo. Johnston, 198 West Hastings, Room 406; Phone PAcific 5720.

Retail Meat Employees, Local No. 222—Business Agent, J. O. Stinson, 198 West Hastings St., Room 406; Phone PAcific 5720.

Retail Clerks, Local 279 — Sec.-Treas., Geo. Johnston, Room 406, Province Bldg., Phone PAc. 5720.

Secondary School Teachers' Association —Secretary, Wm. Aisbury, 2604 East Sixth; HAstings 2072-R.

Sheet Metal Workers, Local 280—Business Manager, James Walker, 531 Beatty St.; PAcific 9032.

Sheet Metal Workers (Railroad) Local 314—Secretary, G. H. Dobb, 1116 7th Avenue, New Westminster.

Shinglers' and Roofers' Union, No. 2346 —Secretary, J. A. Gildermeister, 2053 Cypress St.; BAyview 2622-Y.

Shingle Weavers Union, Local No. 2802 Secretary, Alex Low, 1184 West 73rd Avenue, Vancouver, Phone LAngara 0985R.

Shoreworkers' Local of the U. F. & A. W. U.—Business Agent, Alex Gordon, 138 E. Cordova; Phone MAr. 4046.

Sign and Pictorial Painters, Local 726—Secretary, W. O. Clarkson, 5802 Larch; KErr. 0295-Y.

Street Railway Employees, Division 101 — Business Agent, G. M. Morrison, Lee Building, 175 E. Broadway; FAir. 4262.

Street Railwaymen's Union, No. 134—Business Agent, R. Cormack, 3194 Sperling Ave., New Westminster, B. C.

Taxi Drivers, Local 151 — Secretary, C. Gower, 531 Beatty Street, Phone PAcific 6546.

Teachers' Association, New Westminster — Secretary, Ruth McDonald, 229 Townsend Place, New Westminster.

Textile Workers' Local No. 12—Secretary, Jessie Armstrong, 3736 Albert St.

Theatrical Stage Employees, Local 118—Secretary, Walter Blake, P. O. Box 711.

Tile Setters, Local No. 2—Secretary W. Richards, 5326 Spencer Street; Phone DExter 1064-L.

Tile Setters' Helpers, Local No. 78—Secretary, D. F. Snow, 802 Richards St.; Phone MArine 8002.

Truck Drivers' Union, Local No. 31—Business Agent, Reg. Atkinson, 531 Beatty St.; Phone PAcific 6546.

Typographical Union, Local 226—Secretary, Harry Neelands, 531 Beatty St.; MArine 8542.

United Garment Workers' Union, Local 190—Secretary, Walter W. Shaw, 2425 West Sixth.

United Garment Workers' Union, No. 232—Secretary, Mrs. Dora Turner, 2911 East 44th Avenue.

United Fishermen and Allied Workers' Union — Secretary, Wm. Rigby, 138 East Cordova; MArine 4046.

University of British Columbia Employees' Union, No. 116 — A. C. Hill, 4474 West 14th.

Trades Congress Explains Need for National Labor Code

For many years The Trades and Labor Congress of Canada has pressed for labor and social legislation on a Dominion basis. It is a sound objective and particularly so in legislation dealing with the right to organize, collective bargaining and labor and employer relations.

Order in Council P.C. 1003, which was introduced under the War Measures Act in 1944, with all its apparent and proven shortcomings, was better than none at all. We have reached the place where we have to be frank and fair about it. There were lots of complaints about some of its provisions and more regarding its administration. In a democratic country we have the right to protest and we will continue to exercise that right any time we get a raw deal. However, the fact remains that the big majority of cases before the Regional Boards and the National Board were disposed of satisfactorily to those most concerned and certainly tended to eliminate a lot of struggle and strife that would not have been in the best interests of labor, management or the general public.

There were advantages in having a Court of Appeal. The many cases that were appealed to the National Board, both by employers and employees, certainly proves that the idea of an appeal to a Court outside of local influence and politics has some merit. It has been mooted in many places that such legislation as Labor Relations can best be administered by Provincial Authorities. We are not going to progress towards national unity if this is allowed to happen.

In the International field it has long been recognized that countries with low standards of living and long hours of employment are a menace to the living standards of all. However, a country can protect itself to some extent by customs and tariffs against the introduction of cheap foreign produced goods. There is no protection at all in inter-provincial trade and no Provincial Government, however well intentioned, can raise the social and economic standards of its citizens much beyond those in other parts of the Dominion.

In world affairs poverty anywhere is a proven menace to prosperity everywhere. In national affairs, competition from low paid areas is disastrous. Full recognition must be given to the fact that national unity in Canada cannot possibly be achieved without uniform labor and social legislation. Workers in all provinces have either to hang together or they will hang seperately.

We must insist that the basic principles of P.C. 1003 be retained and a National Labor Code maintained on the Dominion statutes. If improved features are now in effect in some provincial laws governing collective bargaining and labor relations that is all to the good but this should not debar all Provincial Governments from agreeing to a basic national code.

The provisions contained in P.C. 1003 that need adjusting are:

The regulation requiring that 51% of the employees must vote for the union should read "51% of the votes cast," in the same manner as all democratic elections.

A clearer definition is also required of who is to be excluded from the bargaining agency so as to prevent the past procedure of excluding thousands of bona fide employees on the pretext that they are employed in a confidential capacity and outside of the benefits of the Act.

In all cases in which both the employers and employees agree, there should be no interference either in their reaching or changing the provisions of an agreement.

Company unions must be difinitely prohibited.

Where all employees of an employer or organization of employers are required by agreement to be members of a specified union, there should be no provision in the law tending to prevent.

The union concerned should be named as the bargaining agency and not individuals.

There are a few other features that could be improved. However, with the changes as set out, a National Labor Code retaining the principles of P.C. 1003 and amendments suggested would be good legislation and worthy of full support.

Organized labor, believing in national unity, desires a National Labor Code. The Dominion and all Provincial Governments must now be impressed with the need of such legislation being retained.

—Trades & Labor Congress Journal.

Board Proposes No Change In $30 Pension, 70-Year Age

Much to the disappointment of organized labor, the conference of the Interprovincial Advisory Board on old age pensions has wound up without making any recommendation to increase the rates.

Pressure will be renewed on the floor of Parliament at the next session to increase the present $30 maximum monthly pension, lower the eligible age from 70 to 65 years and remove the means test.

Methods of streamlining old age pension regulations and administration were considered at the conference. A detailed examination resulted in a number of suggestions as to the desirable amendments which Dominion and Provincial governments are now to be asked to consider.

Apparently Canada can afford to lend billions of dollars to other countries, but cannot find money to keep its old people from suffering and starving.

Export Trade Is Beginning To Soar

Ottawa, Ont.—Plenty of takers for Canadian products are being found in markets abroad. Post-war export trade is beginning to soar.

For the first nine months of this year, Canadian exports climbed to $1,664,000,000—more than one billion dollars higher than they were for the five year average before the war.

Exports to the United States and Britain have dropped below the 1945 level, but are still higher than prewar years, and exports to South America are three times the prewar figure.

Canadian exports to seven countries which have received loans totalling $591,000,000 under the Export Credits Insurance Act have risen noticeably. Of the total loans $193,300,000 has already been used up. The countries which got these loans are Belgium, China, Czechoslovakia, France, Netherlands, Dutch East Indies and Norway. Biggest buyers so far are France, Belgium and the Netherlands.

Russia also under the Act was given a $3,000,000 loan; but Russian imports from Canada have far exceeded the amount of the loan, and now total more than $16,000,000.

Exports to South and Central America so far this year add up to $63,700,000—which is 60 per cent over the 1945 figure.

The number of varieties of electric lamps made for all purposes is too large to be estimated with certainty, but the armed services alone had more than 2000 reference numbers for lamps in common use during the war.

CAR OPERATORS GET RAISE

Chicago, Ill.—District 900 of the Amalgamated Association of Street, Electric Railway and Motor Coach Employees (A.F.L.) have just announced a wage increase of 18½ cents an hour for 500 of the North Shore and Milwaukee railroad employees.

Uniform Bargaining Throughout Canada

Ottawa, Ont.—Adoption "as far as practicable" of uniform collective bargaining legislation by the Dominion and the Provinces was recommended by the Dominion-Provincial Labor Relations conference which has been in session here.

At the next session of the Dominion Parliament, convening in January, legislation will be brought down revising the Federal Industrial Disputes Investigation Act. The measrre is to be a model which might be followed in legislation adopted by the various provinces to apply to industries within their jurisdiction.

Following the discussions, an official statement was issued declaring that Federal government proposals are generally acceptable, because:

They recognize the responsibility and jurisdiction of the provinces in the matter of collective bargaining legislation, with the exception of industries of a national character, such as transportation and shipping.

The recommend adoption, as far as practicable, of uniform collective bargaining legislation by the provinces and the Dominion.

The parley urged the desirability of annual conferences between the Dominion and the provinces on labor problems.

The conference was called to discuss what action should be taken when the Federal wartime labor code expires in April.

Organized labor had expected the Dominion would propose, in a concrete way, adoption of a Federal code with over-all application.

FLIN FLON STILL GOING AHEAD

Reports from Brother Thomas Ward, Business Agent of Flin Flon Base Metal Workers' Federal Union No. 172, indicate that that Union is still making excellent progress. The Union recently conducted two elections, one for a bargaining representative and one for a member for the Labor-Management Production Committee. Very good reports are issued from time to time by the Union on the Labor-Management Production Committee, the latest of these showing that twenty-nine awards amounting to $165 were made to members of the Union for suggestions.

REALLY MEANT BUSINESS

It was back in depression days when circumstances made for cold-blooded business methods. When an eastern firm received word its salesman had been found dead in 'Frisco, it wired as follows:

"Send samples back by freight and search the body for orders."

AND DON'T FORGET

Letter from a GI to his wife:

"Please send me $5 for shaving cream and stuff."

Came the reply:

"Honey, enclosed herewith is 25c for the shaving cream. The stuff is back here."

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Union Shop Means Security, Shishkin Says On Air Forum

Washington, D. C. — The union shop assures the American worker of job security, fair wages and decent living standards, Boris Shishkin, A.F. of L. economist, declared in an address on the American Forum of the Air, broadcast over the Mutual Broadcasting System.

"The derogatory label of closed shop was manufactured by the enemies of organized labor years ago to provide themselves with an argument where they didn't have one," Mr. Shishkin said. "The union shop represents the full and final acceptance of mature collective bargaining between workers and management. The union shop is democratic because it is established through the majority vote of the workers themselves in each bargaining unit.

"Union shop agreements do not deny competent workers opportunity to get a job. They merely require that the new worker join the union when he si employed or at some later date. They don't close the door to the qualified newcomers. Unions welcome new members. Job security, fair wages and decent living standards have been attained by workers through union organization.

"Unions rightly insist that all workers who share in these benefits secured by unions, also share in union's responsibilities. A union shop helps maintain industrial peace. It enabled labor and management to get down to the real job of union management co-operation to improve production. It does away with the constant strain in labor-management relations where the union becomes an instrument of co-operation with management.

"The entire history of America's industrial relations demonstrates that the union shop has brought to industry greater production, higher efficiency, lower costs and greater stability. To eliminate union shop agreements which now cover six and a half million workers in key industries is to set off a wave of industrial warfare instead of promoting industrial peace."

Should Help Poor Pay Rent of Homes

Ottawa, Ont.—C. E. Pickering, chairman of the Citizens' Housing Committee for Ottawa, and a former municipal controller, wants the Federal government to assist needy tenants to meet high rentals.

In a public address, Pickering urged a "flexible subsidy" system under which homes would be built by private enterprise and tenants be aided in paying their rent by the government.

"To a large extent housing now being built is beyond the financial reach of a large section of the population in Canada," he declared. "I consider that good homes will be within the reach of the low wage earning group only when the government helps people to pay their rent.

"Just building more houses will not solve the problem,' Pickering continued. "What good is it building $6,000 homes to rent at $50 a month, when there are thousands of workmen who cannot afford to pay $25 a month?"

Landlords may welcome Pickering's scheme, as it would have all the Canadian people subsidize high rentals.

Commission Hears of Timber Monopoly

Port Arthur, Ont.—Big pulp and paper companies have been given a "stranglehold" monopoly of the vast timber lands in Ontario, lumbermen and war veterans testified here before the Royal Commission on Forestry.

The charge was made by E. E. Johnson, president of the Pigeon Timber Company, Ltd. It was repeated by Gerald McGonigal, a former bushworker.

He said he came back from service overseas and applied to the Department of Lands and Forests for a timber concession, only to find that "every accessible stretch of timberland was in the hands of some big company."

Other witnesses suggested ways to stop the present wasteful destruction of Ontario's forest resources. A particularly well-thought-out program was presented by O. A. Kaulbeck, a graduate forester and former soldier. He recommended:

1. A ban on shipments of "raw wood" to the United States.
2. In granting timber concessions, give preference to companies, big or small, which will use the best lumbering and conservation methods.
3. Give out the timber areas in "blocks" of 36 to 50 square miles, and require that each of these blocks be operated under supervision by a trained forester appointed by the Department of Lands and Forests.

BROTHERS!

Not so very long ago Britain's National Union of Journalists was holding its annual meeting in Blackpool, England. And as it happened the British Union of Fish Friers was holding its annual meeting in the same place at the same time.

As the journalists settled down for their opening session, their president read out the following message, just received:

"Fraternal greetings to the National Union of Journalists from the National Union of Fish Friers! Our work is wrapped up in yours!"—This Month.

BOOM AND BUST

The man went into a lingerie shop to buy a new "bra" for his wife.

"We have three sizes," the clerk told him. "The Archie Brown, the Keller, and the Fletcher. Which do you want?"

"What's the difference?"

"Well, the Brown is for the masses, the Keller is for uplift, and the Fletcher is for making mountains out of molehills."

Canadian Wheat Crop Near 418,000,000 Bus.

Ottawa, Ont. — Canada's 1946 wheat crop was placed at 418,000,000 bushels in the second estimate of production of field crops by the Dominion bureau of statistics.

The first estimate, issued September 12, placed the wheat crop at 440,567,000 bushels. The 1945 crop was 305,912,000 bushels.

Oat production for all Canada tsis year was estimated at 399,500,000 bushels, barley at 159,900,000, rye at 6,900,000 and flaxseed at 7,700,000.

Wheat production in Saskatchewan was estimated at 198,000,000 bushels, against 216,000,000 in the first estimate, while output in Alberta was placed at 137,000,000 bushels against 142,000,000. Manitoba's production now was estimated at 63,000,000 bushels, up 1,000,000 from the earlier estimate.

Electrical Workers Dispute Is Settled

The jurisdictional dispute between the Winnipeg Civic Federation (CIO-CCL) and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (AFL) has finally been settled in favor of the latter group.

Both unions had applied to the Manitoba Labor Relations Board for certification and on a government supervised ballot the I.B.E.W. had a mapority of 12 votes. One hundred and forty-six employees out of 149 voted, and the final tabulation showed that 79 employees preferred the I.B.E.W., and only 67 were in favor of staying with the Federation.

The I.B.E.W. in their original claim only applied for certification for three departments, but Mr. Mitchell, business agent for the Civic Federation, appealed against this claim. However, the latest ballot gives Mr. McBride, local representative of the I.B.E.W., jurisdiction over seven departments, four more than he originally asked.

The firm, without pliancy, and the pliant, without firmness, resemble vessels without water, and water without vessels.—Lavater.

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. . . these are the gifts that make you incomparably rich on this day and *every* day . . . pricelss gifts. Look well to them, son, for these are your greatest gifts.

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REAL TREAT IN STORE

The country pastor up in the hills of Arkansas was making an announcement during the services:

"Sistern and brethren, you have a great surprize in store for you next Sunday. The sermon will be delivered by Bishop Fuddle. You may think you know something about sin, but you won't really know what sin is until Bishop Fuddle gets here."

A 16-cent hourly wage increase has been gained by members of Local 570, International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Baltimore, employed at the Terminal Warehouse.

POPCORN BALL DECORATIONS

Popcorn balls, wrapped in red and green tissue paper, silver paper or glistening cellophane, and piled in a decorated basket, make attractive centerpieces for Christmas dinner or party tables. A small favor may be placed in each ball, to add interest at a party. Hung on the Christmas tree, these balls make pretty ornaments for the strong lower branches that always seem to be neglected when the tree is decorated.

Dried fruit are some of the best confections for children because the sweet is less concentrated.

TWO'S A CROWD

When the army and navy offer to help China, or Japan, attain democracy, it reminds us of the little girl whose mama offered to help cut a tough piece of meat for her. . . "I'm having enough trouble all by myself," the little one said.

NOT FOR FREE

During an intense love scene at the movies when the handsome hero was doing his stuff, wifey nudged hubby and whispered, "Why don't you ever make love to me like that?"

"Say," hubby replied, "do you know the salary that guy gets for doing that?"

Contractors Assoc. Appreciates Building Trades Co-operation

The past year's activities of the Vancouver General Contractors' Association were reviewed by H. H. Johnson, retiring president, in an address to members at the annual meeting held last month in Hotel Georgia. Excerpts from Mr. Johnson's address follow:

"I do not think any member will contradict when I say I believe never before since this association was formed have we had any year like this one now drawing to a conclusion, and the amount of work that has been accomplished — the meetings held, general, directors and committees, to carry out that work. Nor do I think anyone will deny the fact that we are fortunate to have had such an association, that our industry would have been in a sorry mess if we had not had this association ready at all times to take up the various questions, problems and difficulties very promptly as they arose. I think I can safely say that never before has it been so well demonstrated the importance to our industry of working and co-operating together in an association such as ours, and I think we may be justly proud of the way we have come through probably the most difficult year we have ever had.

"I presume our greatest headache throughout the year is the question of materials. I touched on this matter last year, hardly believing at that time that we would ever have fallen into the difficulties that we have had to contend with. They have grown steadily and rapidly worse in many supplies that we have to obtain for our work, and we are no different from anywhere else in Canada, according to reports we receive through the daily press, our trade journals and particularly from our national organization, the Canadian Construction Association.

Labor Co-operation

"I am very glad to be able to say that our relations with our organized labor still continues to be cordial and on the whole satisfactory. I suppose that after the long period of waiting for the war to end, throughout which there was very little change in our various agreements, it was only natural to expect all of our unions to ask for raises in the wage scales, and for new conditions, and undoubtedly the writing of these new agreements has taken your various committees and your board of directors, with some general meetings, more time than any other single item. We satisfactorily concluded agreements with nine of our unions. And I may here pause to congratulate you, the members of this association, in having such an extraordinarily fine labor committee to work for you. The secretary tells me that never once throughout the year has one member of this committee ever raised his voice in protest at being called to a meeting, and outside of being out of town, only occasionally has any member failed to turn up for a meeting and then only when they have been deterred by other important business. This committee consists of A. J. Armstrong, J. G. Bennett, M. C. Cameron, L. G. Murray, R. C. Pybus.

"I should like to take this opportunity on your behalf to particularly thank each member of this committee for the time he has given and the work which has been accomplished. The agreement which took the most time and actually was the first after the New Year to be tackled was that with the United Brotherhood of Carpenters. It would appear that the agreement with the carpenters is always the basic agreement for the whole of our industry; I presume because we employ many more carpenters than any other trade. Agreements during the year have been concluded with the United Brotherhood of Carpenters, and also one with their shinglers' section; the Reinforcing Ironworkers' Union; the Bricklayers' and Masons' International Union; the Pile Drivers, Bridge, Dock and Wharf Builders; the International Union of Operating Engineers to cover both dredging and building construction, and the International Hod Carriers, Building and Common Laborers and the Cement Finishers' Section of that union. Amongst these there are several new agreements which were not in existence before this year, one being with the Cement Finishers' Section of the Laborers' Union, which actually was signed in December last year. We also concluded a new agreement to cover the placing of reinforcing steel, originally known as Rodmen but now as Reinforcing Structural Ironworkers. Copies of all of these agreements have been sent to all members of the association for their files. While we have no part in directly arranging agreements between the subtrade sections of the Exchange and their unions there undoubtedly is an indirect connection and our actions have some bearing on their working agreements and to clarify the situation we had two meetings with the subtrades which were unquestionably very useful to both parties.

Escalator Clause

"Early in the year it was brought to our attention, not only by our own supply firms but also by subtrade contractors, that it was almost impossible to receive a quotation for any material or subtrade contract without there being a provision to cover any increase in price or labor rates during the continuance of the contract. We, therefore, approached both the Provincial and Dominion governments requesting that either we be allowed to put in what is known as an escalator clause into our tenders or that a P.C. sum should be provided to cover any increase in these costs which could be expected. The provincial minister of public works turned this request down very flatly and would not consider it in any way whatever. It was pointed out to him that if this were not done, probably the public would pay, in some cases, considerably more to cover such risk, but this made no difference. In the case of the Dominion government, the inclusion of an escalator clause or a P.C. sum was turned down, but the deputy minister stated that any claim for increased cost over and above the submitted contract price would have consideration, and implied that if found justified, some compensation might be expected. We also submitted the question to the Architectural Institute of B. C. and also the Association of Professional Engineers and from both these sources we received an assurance that an escalator clause would be accepted and I believe in many cases this has been satisfactorily carried out.

Holidays With Pay

"One matter which has given us considerable concern during this year was the enactment at the last meeting of the Provincial Legislature of the 'Holiday With Pay Act'. When this Act was published and after some study, we came to the conclusion that it must have been thrown together without very much consideration for industry generally at possibly the closing days of the Legislature, and it certainly was not written with any thought of how our industry could make it operative.

"This Act came into being on July 1st this year and we, together with the Exchange, set up a special committee to study it and to try and find a solution. This committee consisted of four or five members of our various firms who might be considered experts in payroll matters under the chairmanship of Walter Leek. This committee, after a number of meetings, brought in recommendations which, after further study by the directors of both organizations, have been put into the form of a brief and presented to the minister of labor. We have not so far had any reply from him but we understand that it is now being considered and it is hoped that some amendments will be made at the next sitting of the Legislature. Any member who is interested can obtain a copy at the office. A small delegation of members of the Victoria Exchange is coming over shortly to confer with us further on this matter as they have, while agreeing in principle with what we have said to the minister, some other suggestions to make. So we hope to get this Act fixed up in such a way that we can operate under it and carry out the intention of the government when they originally put through this Act.

Apprenticeship Training

"I would like to say a few words on the subject of apprentice training which is now under way. While this association does not directly take any active part in the work as an association, all our member firms are undoubtedly most vitally interested in this work. The joint committee, known as the Construction Apprentice Training Committee, working under the chairmanship of Mr. Tucker, consisting now of 11 appointed by the Building Trades Council and 11 by the Building Exchange, has done a splendid piece of work. Mr. Crisford, the provincial director of apprenticeship, and his officials, and Henry Hill, regional director of vocational training (B. C. and his officials all have seats on this committee and bring along many of their problems which are often ironed out, besides many questions brought up by the members. Although this committee is purely advisory in authority, the members have such a complete knowledge of what is the best in training that is nearly always an excellent solution is suggested which is followed by the authorities.

"The goodwill dinner which is now being organized by the Exchange will no doubt be a real highlight in their training course for our trainees and it is hoped will impress on them the splendid opportunity which this great industry will give them for their life work. I would like to acknowledge, on your behalf, the outstanding contribution which Mr. Tucker is making to our industry in giving the lead which he is doing in this great effort for the future.

"This meeting brings to a close my term of two years in the office of president and in handing over the gavel to my successor, I do so with mixed feelings. No president could have had more loyal support from the officers, directors and members than you have given to me, which has made the burden, heavy as it has been, certainly much lighter than it could well have been and I give over with some regret. I bespeak that this splendid support may be extended to your next president, as I know full well it will be. I fully appreciate what a very great honor it is to have received the confidence of you, my fellow members, that you have voted me into this office of president for two successive years. May I extend to all my very grateful thangs."

—Journal of Commerce.

Co-operative Employer

Our reporter had a very nice interview with Mr. W. A. Long of Vancouver Weld-Rite Company, Limited. He is an interesting person. Starting from scratch in a small shed, he has through his natural organizing ability, built up a business employing approximately fifty loyal workers, whose best interests have his constant consideration.

Being an old A.F. of L. railroad man, to co-operate with the workers comes as second nature to Mr. W. A. (Bill) Long.

A Frenchman, struggling with the English language, turned to an American friend for counsel:

"What," he asked, "is a polar bear?"

"Polar bear? Why he lives away up north."

"But what does he do?"

"Oh, he sits on a cake of ice and eats fish."

"Zat settle! I will not accept!"

"What in the world do you mean, you won't accept?"

"Ah," explained the other, "I was invited to be a polar bear at a funeral, and I will not accept."

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Management and Labor Can Agree

Strikes play an important role in our business and social life, so it is only natural details of these incidents should be given considerable space in the daily press. So many reports on strikes have appeared in recent months that the general impression conveyed is that cases of harmonious relations between management and labor are few and far between.

It was therefore enlightening to attend the annual meeting of the Vancouver General Contractors' Association held here last week and hear H. H. Johnson, retiring president, report on the cordial relations existing between members of his association and labor.

Value of construction projects undertaken here during the current year has reached all-time high proportions, being limited only by shortages of materials.

In a review of the association's activities in the year just drawing to a close, Mr. Johnson pointed out that it was one of the most difficult periods in the history of the construction industry; yet the various questions, problems and difficulties were disposed of almost as promptly as they arose, demonstrating the results that can be attained by a general understanding throughout the trade.

Perhaps one of the most remarkable accomplishments of the Vancouver General Contractors' Association in the past year was the satisfactory conclusion of agreements with nine unions. This required considerable time by representatives of labor and management in the discussion of wage problems. The results of this work are evident in the agreements formulated, which have resulted in a cordial and satisfactory relationship between members of the Vancouver General Contractors' Association and organized labor here.

Residential building is falling miserably short of normal requirements, but this is due to shortage of construction materials, and not to any lack of harmony between management and labor in the construction industry here.

Vancouver's fortunate experience in the field of management and labor relations in the construction industry deserves emphasis because it is a concrete demonstration that, given a willingness on the part of both to get together and discuss their problems in a receptive mood in the early stages of their development, it is possible to reach an understanding agreeable to all without recourse to costly strikes.—B. C. Journal of Commerce.

Book Reviews

"The American, a Middle Western Legend", by Howard Fast. Duell, Sloan and Pearce, 1946.

Howard Fast is one of the greatest fighters for political freedom in America today, and his latest book, "The American", hits out hardest of them all. His hero is John Peter Altgeld, the son of a German peasant, who rose to be Governor of Illinois, and the period covered is chiefly the last decade of the 19th century.

The times were very like our own, with rapidly expanding industry, boom and slump, plentiful labor, and cut-throat capitalism. American trade unionism was just finding its feet, despite the guns of the police and the clubbings of organized thuggery, and through the book stalk the almost legendary figures of American socialism, Albert Parsons and Eugene Debs.

Against this vividly and sympathetically drawn background, Altgeld, a self-made man, finds gradually his political soul. Knowing it will mean his ruin, he openly supports labor in the face of a constant stream of abuse from the capitalist press and the military measures of President Cleveland over the Pullman strike. Put on his mettle by his enemies, indeed, Altgeld wrests the control of the Democratic party from Cleveland and in the following presidential election the party loses to McKinley only because of the clever terrorist tactics of the Republicans.

It is an engrossing and sometimes moving book, so alive and modern it is easy to forget it is history too. For a good story and a calm dissection of the ugliness of capitalist politics, don't miss this new novel!

FLY-PAPER GOOD RAT-REMOVER

One of the most novel rat-removers since the Pied Piper of Hamelin led rodents to a watery grave is suggested by Sanitary Inspector Chisholm of Sydney.

Ordinary sticky fly-paper is the answer, he says. Place it in an appropriate spot on the floor and when the rat (or mouse) steps on it he gets tangled up as badly as if he were a fly. Then he can be despatched in the morning.

Old Uncle Mose, an e-clave, was picking his way slowly through the headlines of the evening newspaper, while his faithful wife, Martha, hovered nearby to hear the scraps of comment which, from time to time, fell from the lips of the ancient darky. At length he came to the art column.

Uncle Mose scanned the headline casually, then with an expression of growing incredulity, scanned it again.

"I do declare," he exclaimed, turning to his wife. "I jes can't believe it! In de old days de Massa sold de slaves, but look at dis here paper. It says dat they sold an old Massa de other day fur ten thousand dollars. Does you 'spose de slaves did it? Times sho' is changin'."

Visitor: Why is the church bell ringing, Sexton?

Sexton: 'Cos I be pulling this 'ere rope, mister!

CCF Conference Seeks New Trades Union Act

A conference of CCF trade unionists, meeting recently, decided to request CCF members of the provincial legislature to press for a new Trade Union Act for British Columbia, patterned after the Saskatchewan Act. A resolution setting out detailed provisions for incorporation in such an Act was adopted by the conference, in line with requests already made for labor legislation by the two Labor Congresses.

A resolution presented by Arthur Turner, MLA, embodying a legislative amendment to prevent the use of injunctions against trade unions in labor disputes, was also unanimously passed by the meeting.

Federal CCF members will be asked, through the CCF Trade Union Committee which sponsored the conference, to press for an over-all social security act at the next session of the federal house. The resolution adopted urged "the federal government to seek without delay the co-operation of the provinces in formulating a policy for a national social security program" to cover "the individual and the family in every circumstances where they are deprived of the opportunity of earning their own living."

Angus MacInnis, M.P., who was present, promised his support of such a move. Herbert Gargrave, MLA, stated "This does not mean we will discontinue our efforts to improve present pieces of social security legislation, such as our fight to raise the amount of old-age pensions, but a complete social security system under one act, similar to that of New Zealand and Great Britain must be our objective."

The conference also decided to "study means by which domestic service workers could be brought under Workmen's Compensation," and went on record for extension of industrial hygiene research and activity in the province, with closer co-operation between the department of health and the Workmen's Compensation Board on the treatment and prevention of occupational diseases.

Among the people filing into an air-raid shelter was an old man. In one hand he carried a long-handled shovel to deal with incendiaries, and under the other arm he had an old-fashioned harp, presumably for entertainment.

"Lumme!" said one shelterer to another, "there's a fellow who's backed himself both ways."

Mabel: "Jack told me I was the eighth wonder of the world."

Eleanor: "And what did you say?"

Mabel: "I told him not to let me catch him with any of the other seven."

A wealthy woman asked an assistant in the wool department of a big shop for instruction on how to make a dog's sweater.

"How big is the dog?" asked the salesgirl. The woman's illustrations were not very successful.

"Maybe you'd better bring him in," suggested the girl.

"Oh, I can't do that," said the woman. "It's to be a surprise for him."

HORNS OF A DILEMMA

Then there is the story of the annual picnic of the nited Association of Lady Vegetarians. The ladies were comfortably seated and waiting for the kettle to boil up the spuds, beets and carrots, when—horrors of horrors!—a savage bull appeared on the scene.

There was a wild hush for safety while the raging creature pounded after one lady who, unfortunately, had a red parasol. By great good fortune she managed to hurdle a fence before the bull could reach her. Then, regaining her breath, she turned around defiantly and screamed:

"Oh, you ungrateful creature! Here I've been a vegetarian all my life. That's gratitude for you!"

KEEPING TREE FRESH

If a Christmas tree is set in water when it first comes into the house and is kept in water while it is part of the Christmas decoration, it will remain fresh and green for at least a week longer. Water should be replaced as it evaporates. If the base of a Christmas tree is trimmed with a sharp knife just before it is mounted, the pores will be left open, allowing water to rise in the stem to the living cells which are still trying to provide the tree with food and moisture. Spruce and fir retain their needles longer than most other Christmas trees.

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MOUNTAINS
By LUCY LARCOM

For the lifting up of mountains,
In brightness and in dread;
For the peaks where snow and sunshine
Alone have dared to tread;
For the dark of silent gorges,
Where mighty cedars nod;
For the majesty of the mountains,
I thank Thee, oh, my God!

FAIR WARNING

The waitress had just accepted a ride on a truck to the big town. She was taking a hurried look at herself in the mirror. To the image therein she said:

"Clothes, I am going to town; if you want to come along, just hang on."

FROM THE SAME JUG

Doctor: Nurse, how's the truck driver patient in 339?

Nurse: All right. He saw four pink elephants!

Doctor: That's odd. I only saw one!

SECURITY PERSONIFIED

Moe: "Say, what makes old maids?"

Zoe: "Nobody."

DAMAGE REPARABLE

A life guard describing his latest rescue to a rural father said, "I pulled your daughter out just in the nick of time. But fortunately I was able to resuscitate her.'

The pop replied: "Well, by George, young man, if you did you'll marry her."

JUST GETTING SET

Teacher: "Johnny, why can't you speak more distinctly? Have you gum in your mouth?"

Johnny: "No. I'm soaking a prune to eat at recess."

ALL IS FORGIVEN

She planted herself firmly in front of him and gritted her teeth. "Henry," she snapped, "you thought I didn't see you, but I did. You kissed the maid."

He paled. "But, darling, you asked me to try and persuade her to stay another week."

"Henry," she melted, "tell me—did she promise to stay?"

HUBBY AND BIDDY

And then there's the story of the man and his wife who both talk in their sleep. He's a golfer and she likes to attend auction sales. The other night he yelled "Fore" and she came back with "Four twenty-five."

BETTER IN REVERSE

"Do you think the senator put enough fire in his speech?"

"My opinion is that he didn't put enough of his speech in the fire."

REVENGE AT LAST

"This weather reminds me of the time I was in Alaska. It got so cold one night that the lampflame froze."

"Yes, you scoundrel, and I've been looking for you these 40 years. You broke that flame off and threw it out, right against my shack. Next day the flame melted and burned it down."

THE REAL TRAGEDY

A Sunday School teacher was showing her class a picture of the Christian martyrs in a den of lions. One little boy seemed very sad about it.

"Gee," he exclaimed, "look at that poor lion away in the back. He don't get any."

'MORE TRUTH THAN'—

He had just boarded the ship when he was handed a telegram. It read: "Heaven keep you from loving wife."

"Are you engaged to Harold?"

"Yes, I have promised to marry him as soon as he has made his fortune."

"That isn't an engagement, that's an option!"

EASY OVERCOME

Sailor: "I see there's a rule agaist tips here.'

Waitress: "Bless your heart, apples were forbidden in the Garden of Eden, too."

AROUND SHE GOES!

Two crusty old hunters sat behind a blind, guns poised for action, when a teal duck whizzed over them with the speed of light. Neither had time to fire, but one of them raised his gun and waited expectantly.

"What the devil are you doing?" barked the other hunter.

"Shut up!" rejoined the man with the upraised gun. "Ef the world is round like they say, that dern duck will be over again in a minute!"

Every child born into the world is a new thought of God, an ever-fresh and radiant possibility.—Kate Douglas Wiggin.

THINKING OUT LOUD

The most annoying person to talk to is the one who, instead of listening to what you are saying, is merely thinking of what he is going to say.

JUST TOPS

Lucy had won first prize in English composition. Mother was delighted.

"Dear," she exclaimed, "weren't you awfully afraid you wouldn't get it, when there were so many other brilliant contestants?"

"Not for a sec'," was the careless rejoinder. "Why, with that bunch of dripickies, mom, it was a lead-pipe cinch!"

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Hunger and Glut -- Can It Really Be True?

(By MICHAEL FOOT, Noted British Journalist and Labor M.P.)

At the very moment when death and disease and the aching horror of slow starvation face tens of thousands of human beings in the British zone of Germany, Sir John Boyd Orr, the greatest authority on the subject in the world, speaks.

He steps ashore at Liverpool and announces that food supplies are "piling up in certain quarters" and that if this process goes on there will be a danger of an unmarketable supply of food, which would mean in turn "a slump in food in 1949."

The ordinary citizen must rub his eyes and wonder whether such madness and inhumanity is really possible.

Crisis Foreseen

Have we not been through this tedious and tragic story before?

Were not the world's statesmen in the Thirties busy restricting agricultural production while some two-thirds o fthe world's inhabitants were underfed?

Must millions more endure or fail to endure the agony of hunger before men and women come to their senses?

The answer is that the present crisis was foreseen. The ruling statesmen gave promises and pledges galore. President Roosevelt promised freedom from want and Mr. Churchill gave the pledge that the victorious powers would pile up food stocks for the liberated peoples of Europe, including the Germans.

Herbert Morrison went to Washington to warn the Americans of the peril, and obtained a guarantee of the equalization of rations in the British and American zones of Germany.

Of No Avail

John Strachey gave warning, when he introduced bread rationing last July, that if the United States was not prepared to send the necessary supplies, she would be risking the most appalling crisis in Germany.

Tirelessly and endlessly, in Copenhagen and in Washington, Sir John Boyd has repeated his recipe for sanity and salvation.

All has been of no avail against the barbarian urge of quick profit-making. Millions are near starvation while stock are "piling up." If any of us ever doubted our Socialist faith, then we have only to look upon this monstrous crime which is being committed before our eyes.

History must record the fact that in the week or two before the stark news of Germany's horror reached the world, the American Department of Agriculture abandoned the bulk purchase of food for other countries and the American Government rejected Sir John Boyd Orr's plan for a World Food Board.

The victorious nations of this war will be judged more by the kind of peace they make than by their feats of arms.

Sabotaged

So far, in our dealings with our defeated enemy, we have not much to be proud of. There is much truth in the accusation which comes to us from Germany.

"The mess we are in is our own fault," says a Dusseldorf newspaper, "but it is not our fault that we haven't made an inch of progress out of the mess."

The Great Powers divided Germany into zones; the zones have created barriers and the solemn pledge to treat Germany as an economic unit has not been fulfilled. That is chiefly the fault of the Russions, and it is partly responsible for the food crisis.

The amalgamation of the British and American zones has not resulted in equal treatment, and the attempt to organize world food supplies on a civilized basis of human need has been sabotaged.

That is chiefly the fault of the Americans, and the British Government may justly claim that it has fought long and hard to guard against the danger.

Blackest Winter

But we would still be wise to examine our own stewardship. Despite the heroic efforts of many people on the spot, despite the good intentions of those in control in Whitehall, our machinery of administration has been clumsy and ineffective and without a plan.

Germany will not be able to wait long on the discussions between the Foreign Ministers in New York. She is entering the blackest winter of her history without a glimmer of hope shining through the darkness.

He's Symbolic

The tragedy—and at the same time the glory—of the whole situation is that there are men and women in Germany who are ready and capable to play their part in reconstructing a democratic country.

If there are any who doubt that, if any are still bemused by the Vansittartine nonsense which was taught during the war, I ask them to read the "German Diary," by Fenner Brockway, who has recently seen for himself.

This is his description of Kurt Schumacher, the leader of the Social Democrats, the man who is slandered by the Russians as a puppet of British Imperialism for no other reason than that he wants his country ruled by democratic methods and not by new dictatorship.

"He stands at the oak rostrum," says Fenner Brockway, "and I see in him all the tragedy of Germany. He lost his right arm in the first world war. His face has the pain of twelve years of concentration camps and bears its physical marks—his eyes are glazed and his teeth knocked from his mouth by Gestapo men.

"His nose looks abnormally large, because there is so little flesh on his bones. Furrows line his face. His lips are thin and straight. His shoulders are bent, his body is lean and he looks tubercular. If a film make-up man wanted to depict suffering he could not make it more vivid than in the person of Schumacher.

No One's Puppet

Schumacher is nobody's puppet. He speaks as fearlessly in protest against what he considers to be the wrong or sluggard actions of the Military Government as he denounces the new totalitarianism which the Russians have sought to introduce or as once he staked his life against the Gestapo.

If Germany is going to be re-educated, the task will be done by such men as these. Perhaps the greatest choice before Europe is whether we are going to give such men the opportunity of leadership or whether they are to be overwhelmed by frustration, famine and economic disaster beyond the power of mortal men to hold at bay.

We have won the war. The harder decision has still to be made: whether we are to act as liberators and deliverers or mere conquerors with no capacity but to destroy and break in ruins.—People's Weekly.

Railway Labor In U. S. Coal Dispute

The chief executive of the great Standard Railroad Labor Organizations were meeting in Washington when the decision in the coal miners' case was announced.

Rail Labor Disappointed

The rail labor chiefs said:

"The attitude displayed by the government in dealing with the coal dispute is regrettable and disappointing."

"Regardless of any technical rights of either party to the disputed agreement, there rested on the government the duty and responsibility to deal fairly and equitably with the complaints and requests of the mine workers for an adjustment in their hours of work, wages and conditions of employment.

"Certainly, a government dedicated to the principles of fairness and equality for all could do not less.

"Repugnant to Free People"

"The lack of imagination and statesmanship in dealing with this problem clearly demonstrates a total failure to properly appreciate the national interest and the fundamental responsibilities of government.

"The use of injunction and oppression to continue and enthrone injustice among the mine workers is reprehensive and repugnant to a free people.

"We condemn the arbitrary conduct of the government and submit that the public interest demands an immediate settlement of the issues upon a basis of equitable consideration of all interests involved."

Union Labor Must Have Good Leaders

Noting that a reader has asked "Will John L. Lewis go hungry through the coal strike?" a columnist in an Ontario paper puts his own supplementary question: "Did C. H. Millard or E. B. Jolliffe go hungry through the steel strike at Hamilton?"

Questions of that kind which have often been asked in the past in an attempt to drive a wedge between labor and its leaders ignore the fact that without leaders labor would get nowhere. It pays labor to pay capable men to conduct its affairs, but those who would weaken labor whisper: "They don't suffer in a strike like you do." For that matter, army generals do not usually suffer in a battle like the rank and file. But what would an army be without them?

Labor is used to being told that its leaders fare too well. But labor is well aware that many would like to see labor leaderless, or led by meek individuals who would not get for labor the things to which labor is entitled.—Toronto Star.

Union Opposes Women In Beer Parlors

Toronto, Ont.—Barmaids "would not be conductive to the preservation of order and decent behavior in ladies' beverage rooms and would tend to harm the interests of the trade and its employees," the Ontario provincial council of the Culinary Workers, Bartenders and Hotel Service Employees Union (A.F. of L.) stated in a resolution "emphatically opposing" the measure, which they have sent to provincial authorities.

A statement issued by the union and signed by Helmi Caren, secretary, stated the introduction of barmaids "will be vigorously opposed by our organization and by labor in general. We further state that irrespective of the provisions of the Liquor Control Act, that females must not serve beer in hotel beverage rooms, this practice does exist. It came about in wartime and is still being continued in small towns in our province in spite of labor's protest against such action. We oppose any plan that would legalize the hiring of women barmaids in the beverage rooms of this province."

THE LIMIT

"How do you spell 'graphic'?" asked the young woman. "With one 'f' or two?"

The old man sighed. "Well," he said at last, "if you are going to use any, you may as well go the limit."

"There's only one way to get rid of your surplus fat. Exercise, and plenty of it."

"Nonsense. How do you account for my wife's double chin?"

FREEDOM FROM WANT!

It is reported that the Duchess of Windsor is to take to England 12 trunks of clothes from the latest collection of autumn and winter styles shown in Paris.

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RAVEN-OUS REMARKS

JOHNNY: "A little bird told me what kind of a lawyer your father is."

JIMMY: "What did the bird say?"

JOHNNY: "Cheep, cheep!"

JIMMY: "Oh, yeah! Well, a duck told me what kind of a doctor your father is."

Every man and woman should be to-day a law to himself, herself—a law o floyalty to Jesus' Sermon on the Mount.—Mary Baker Eddy.

It is wonderful what strength of purpose and boldness and energy of will are roused by the assurance that we are doing our duty.—Scott.

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Rings On Their Fingers

(By CLIFFORD E. LEE)

Superstition is as old as the hills and the valleys of thought, and it lies deep in the valleys.—James Remington McCarthey.

Superstition is one of the most dominating influences in human life. Modern people congratulate themselves that they have shaken free from superstitious customs but to an amazing degree they still prevail. Superstition still governs much of social attitudes, political thinking, some religious practice, a high degree of day to day human activity.

Superstition is as close as the ring on your finger. According to Greek mythology the finger ring came into use this way: Prometheus stole the sacred fire of heaven. For this crime Jupiter chained him to a rock in the mountains for a thousand years. The victim finally broke away taking part of the rock with him. Jupiter eventually relented, allowed him to be released from his burden, providing he would wear part of the chain forever around his finger, the link attached to the mountain rock, with part of the stone still attached

This story was enough to set the world to wearing rings set with stones on their fingers down to our time. One is grateful that Jupiter did not ordain the ring should be worn in Prometheus' nose.

Ring-Lore

Literature is replete with ring-lore. Men wore rings to protect themselves from flames, illness, battle wounds, to attract wanted mates and repel unwanted ones. Solomon had a ring which every day transported him into the heavens and was supposed to account for his wisdom. Helen of Troy had a ring bearing the figure of a fish, supposed to be a potent love charm. Some rings were supposed to make the wearers invisible; others protected the owner against poisons. In some the stone was said to change color in the presence of enemies. Rings set with amethysts were regarded as a cure for drunkenness. Bronze rings were protection against the Evil Eye.

Ask "Specific Results"

Unprincipled men of that day, as now, were ready to cash in on the superstitions of the people In Athens they began to manufacture cheap rings of varying styles in wholesale quantities. They were claimed to be lucky rings, but each type of ring provided a different kind of luck. You had to make up your mind in advance which kind of luck you wished and buy the appropriate ring. This is probably the earliest historical reference to the people demanding specific results.

Jasper set in rings was supposed to have great healing powers. Rubies kept your enemies from anger. Jacinth made you sleep well. Rings made from silver coins cured convulsions; the figure of an elk hoof cured epilepsy.

Even as late as 1854 a famous New York newspaper published in all seriousness a story of a ring with a "mad-stone" which would protect the wearer against the rabies infection from the bite of a mad dog. Newspapers have improved somewhat since then.

Hannibal, the cruel Carthaginian general had a hollow ring containing poison. When defeat came and it appeared he was to be handed over to vengeful Romans he cheated his enemies by drinking the poison. Could it be that Goering had a ring?

Vicious Weapon

Mediaeval princes, murder bound, had a vicious weapon. History describes cleverly made rings which could be turned in such a way that a friendly handshake injected poison from the ring into the "friend". This appears a ridtry trick even by modern standards.

One modern researcher into the superstitions and treacheries of the past declares sarcastically:

"For the most part the age of superstition has been left behind. We have grown up. We are mature. We are scientific. We do not depend upon amulets or talismans to heal, but rather we have hospitals equipped with all the precision instruments and chemical wonders of science. We do not kill a person with the Evil Eye, but press a button and let a bomb do the rest."—People's Weekly.

Text - Lewis Statement to Court

Washington, D. C.—Following is the text of the statement delivered in the United States District Court by John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers (A. F. of L.), following his trial on a charge of contempt of court:

The history of the labor injunction prior to 1932 is a sordid one. Congress in 1914 recognized that by passing the Clayton Act, and again in 1932 by enacting the Norris-LaGuardia Act. The latter act, in plain language which any intelligent citizen can understand, provides that:

"No court of the United States . . . shall have jurisdiction to issue any restraining order or temporary or permanent injunction in a case involving or growing out of a labor dispute. . . ."

The United Mine Workers are in a dispute over working conditions in the mines which, in our opinion, spells nothing else but a labor dispute. The Clayton Act and the Norris-LaGuardia Act clearly enumerate certain traditional union activities which shall not be restrained or enjoined by any court, among them being ceasing or refusing to perform any work or to remain in any relation of employment, and the giving of publicity to the facts involved in any labor dispute.

On October 21st this union asked for conferences to discuss our grievances. Outstanding among these grievances which cries aloud for immediate adjustment is the deadly, brutal fifty-four hour work week, underground in American coal mines. Our miners work at the operators' option, nine hours per day, six days per week, which is a longer work day and work week than prevails in the mining industry of any civilized country in the world. These disputes over working conditions in the mines were not resolved and the representatives of the United Mine Workers determined that the so-called Krug-Lewis agreement was brached. The representatives, after a period of twenty-five days, on November 15th, notified the Secretary of the Interior that the contract was terminated as of November 20th.

The agens of the Government, in what we believe to constitute a violation of both the Clayton and the Norris-LaGuardia Acts, applied for a temporary restraining order which this court granted without notice and without a hearing.

This court has now ruled that the Clayton and Norris-LaGuardia Acts do not apply to this controversy. That is a matter for legal counsel to appraise and evaluate.

But above and beyond those statutes there is a Federal Constitution bind-on all, even upon the Government, and that Constitution guarantees to the miners, as it does to all citizens, freedom of speech, freedom of press, freedom of assemblage and freedom from involuntary servitude.

Your injunction, sir, I respectfully submit, deprives the miners of these constitutional rights. As citizens the miners and I stand upon the rights guaranteed in the Constitution. This is labor's traditional position. For he purpose of acquanting the court with the historical position taken by the American Federation of Labor, permit me to read a paragraph from a report unanimously adopted by the American Federation of Labor at its 1919 convention:

"The fate of the sovereignty of American people again hangs in the balance. It is inconceivable that such an autocratic, despotic and tyrannical power can long remain in a democracy. One or the other must ultimately give way, and your committee believes that this convention should declare that, as wage-earners, citizens of a free and democratic republic, we shall stand firmly and conscientiously on our rights as free men and treat all injuctive decrees that invade our personal liberties as unwarranted in fact, unjustified in law and illegal as being in violation of our constitutional safeguards, and accept whatever consequences may follow."

This is still the declared and effective policy of the American Federation of Labor.

We are now confronted with the restraining order issued by this court November 18, 1946, which this court holds that the United Mine Workers and I have violated. Most respectfully, I must state to the court that the considerations that prompted our original course of action with respect to this coercive and all-embracing restraining order, issued without any opportunity given the defendants to present their side of the case, have not changed. On the contrary, recent events have greatly and acutely enhanced our initial conviction.

Speaking and acting in my official capacity as president of the United Mine Workers, an organization composed of some sx hundred thousand coal miners, and as vice-president of the American Federation of Labor with a membership of almost eight millions of American wage earners, and profoundly mindful of their highest traditions and basic rights I cannot, by action or by inaction acquiesce in what must be described as the ugly recrudescence of "government by injunction." I cannot disavow labor's principles or policies, nor am I disposed to adopt a course which will inevitably amount to a betrayal of their constitution rights.

The mine workers are God-fearing, law abiding American citizens. They have not ceased work in defiance of their Government. On the contrary they have asserted their rights as free men to protect the unjust and arbitrary acts to which they have been subjected by individuals employed by the Government.

Without intending any personal disrespect to this court, I must respectfully but firmly stand upon those vital rights and freedoms that are rooted in our Constitution and that have been given full expression by the Congressional mandates of 1914 and 1932.

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EVERYWHERE

Building Exchange Hosts To Apprentices

A local firm with contracts running into millions of dollars but with only six trained stone masons available to do the work illustrated to nearly 700 apprentices of the building trades the need there is for them in this province when they were addressed by Henry Hill on December 2 at a dinner given by the Building & Construction Industries Exchange.

Mr. Hill is regional director of the government's vocational training schools which give apprenticeship courses for the building trades. The sceme was created in May, 1944, when representatives of the Provincial and Dominion governments with members of various branches of the building industry formed a committee. Mr. Hill referred to the building industry as the world's largest, in welcoming the apprentices into its membership.

This meeting, the first held here of trainees, was under the chairmanship of John Tucker, Dominion Construction Co. Ltd. He stated that success of the scheme was made possible by the co-operation between employers and the building trade unions.

Col. F. T. Fairey, deputy minister of education, conveyed greetings from Hon. G. M. Weir and congratulated both the Exchange on forming the committee and the veterans on their foresight in taking the course. He stressed pride in good workmanship in preference to desire of big pay.

Vocational training along similar functional lines will commence soon in local schools of the province, he predicted. This will be under the Dominion Training Co-ordination Act and will prevent the country being caught short of skilled craftsmen again in an emergency, he said.

Byron Jonnson, M.L.A., said that regardless of the outcome of Premier Hart's talks regarding Dominion-Provincial tax relations at Ottawa he could foresee prosperity in B. C. for many years. He felt that no other part of Canada offered more opportunities to young men than this province.

He said the job of the construction industry is to get costs down "so we can give a dollar's worth of value for a dollar paid."

Mr. Johnson presented certificates to graduate apprentices Peter Basil and August Schaub, Dominion Construction Co. Ltd.; Robert Bradbury, W. A. Thom Sheet Metal Works; Robert Houston, Walton & Sons; George Page, Page & Harper (plumbers); Robert Steves, H. & H. Sheet Metal Works; Thomas Taylor, Westminster Iron Works.

E. R. Gilley, vice-president, represented the Canadian Construction Association at the banquet. Jack Stevenson, Building Trades Council president, hoped that the apprentices would graduate into members of the various unions representing their trades.

Synthetic Soap

If the housewife who's vainly looking for soap can hold out long enough, the oil industry may come to her rescue.

An official of Standard Oil Development company discloses that synthetic soap has been produced from petroleum and gas and claims it is superior to the old fat-alkali kind to which mankind has become accustomed.

The offcial also predicted that within a few years 25 per cent or more of all soaps used in the United States will be synthetic.

CLEVER SOLUTION

Then there was one time when the millionaire lost his sang froid. He came home unexpectedly and found his pin-up bride making violent love to a total stranger on the divan. For days he was wild with distraction. He loved his wife far too much to contemplate divorce. Suddenly he found the perfect solution. He threw out the divan.

NO WAY OF KNOWING

INVETERATE AD READER (to friend): "She laughed when I sat down to play, but how was I to know she was ticklish?"

THE ETERNAL PUZZLE

FRIEND: "When your husband craves a kiss, do you always give it to him?"

JEALOUS WIFE: "I wish I knew."

Was That Nice?—Alyce—"Believe it or not, I said 'no' to six different men last summer."

Grayce—"I know, dear—those door-to-door salesmen are getting to be a pest."

OBJECTIVE—TIMELESS

MOE: "Did you hear about Mary?"

ZOE: "What was that?"

MOE: "Well, it seems she accidentally swallowed her Ingersoll and rushed to get some Epsom salts."

ZOE: "What in the world for?"

MOE: "Oh, just to pass the time away."

COMPLETELY MISQUOTED

A patient in an insane asylum was trying to convince an attendant that he was Hitler.

"Who told you that you're Hitler?" inquired the attendant.

"God did," replied the inmate.

"I did not," came from the next bunk.

LET US SPRAY

KIT: Gee, but that boy last night was fresh.

GERT: Why didn't you slap his face?

KIT: I did, and take my advice, never slap a guy when he's chewing tobacco.

In Lighter Vein

Two lovers on a ladder,
Were hanging mistletoe,
But when he tried to steal a kiss,
They found themselves just so.

A little word of comfort,
When things are going wrong;
A little snatch of melody
From some old faded song;
A little pressure of the hand,
When bidding a farewell—
A whispered word at parting—
Are the little things that tell.

BE QUIET

"Mummy, is the devil a man?"

"No, my dear; he's worse than a man."

"But, mummy, you don't mean he's a woman, do you?"

DEFINITELY WRONG

Police Captain (using telephone): "Is that Mr. Joskins speaking? Good! I thought I'd ring you up at once and inform you we have found your missing wife."

Mr. Joskins: "Have you really? What does she say?"

Police Captain: "Nothing!"

Mr. Joskins: "Then you've made a mistake. The woman couldn't be my wife."

The fewer the words, the better the prayer.—Luther.

NOT EXACTLY

Employer (interviewing applicant for job): "Know anything about electricity?"

"Yessir."

"What's an armature?"

"A chap who boxes for nothin'!"

ASK THE CLERK

Uncle Ephriam is an aged darky, who has retired from his labors to sit upon his shady veranda and watch the world go by.

"Mandy," he said to his faithful wife, the other day, "I has noticed one big difference twixt men and women."

"Whut's dat?" asked Mandy.

"Jes' dis," answered Uncle Ephriam; "a man'll gib $2 for a $1 artickle dat he wants, an' a woman'll gib $1 fer a $2 artickle dat she doan' want."

Let your hook be always cast. In the pool where you least expect it, there will be fish.—Ovid.

RIGHT OUT

Mary Ann: "I've come to tell you that the gas stove has just gone out."

Mistress: "Well, light it again."

"I can't. Sure, it went out th' roof."

SURPRISED—BUT READY

The young politician stood flushed with pride and happiness as his friends gathered about him to congratulate him upon his nomination to the state legislature.

"We you surprised when they nominated you?" a friend inquired.

"Was I!" exclaimed the not-so-dumb vote-seeker. "I was so surprised that my acceptance speech nearly fell out of my hand."

ANOTHER UNION JOINS AFL AUTO WORKERS

The unaffiliated union at the Northern Rebuilding Co., Escanaba, has joined the United Auto workers (AFL).

The greatest artist is always a devout man—a scoffing Raphael or an irreverent Michael Angelo is not conceivable.—Blaikie.

IF THE SHOE FITS—

At the court of Signor della Scala, the Governor of Verona sought one day to cast aspersions on the character of Dante, saying to the poet, "I wonder, Signor Dante, that a man so learned as you should be hated by all the court, and that this fool, the court jester, should be so loved."

"Your Excellency," replied Dante, "you would not ask me that question if you considered that we like those best who most resemble ourselves."

"Gwen said if any man kissed her without warning she would scream for her father."

"What did you do?"

"I warned her."

"I've been asked for references for our last maid. What on earth can I say in her favour?"

"Well, she has a good appetite and sleeps well."

In New York, an Italian was being examined in court after applying for citizenship.

He answered correctly questions as to the name of the President and the capital of the United States. Then came this.

"Could you become president of the United States?"

"No," was the reply.

"Why not?" persisted the official.

"You pleasa excuse," begged the Italian. "I very busy right now sella de peanuts."

Feeling in rather a lively mood one evening during the festive season, the men in D Hut gathered round a really raw-looking recruit and started pulling his leg.

But the "rookie" remained quite calm and collected.

"Cripes man!" burst out "Nobby" Clarke at last. "Can't you hear what we're saying?"

"Sure, I can," was the reply, "but I'm quite used to it. You see, in Civvy Street I'm an attendant in a lunatic asylum."

"Madam, what do you mean by letting your child snatch off my wig?"

"Sir, if it is just a wig, think nothing of it. I was afraid that the little devil had scalped you."

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At last he had screwed up his courage to kiss her, and they both liked it. So he did it again—and again.

After about an hour of it he whispered fondly:

"Every time I kiss you I feel a better man, darling."

"Oh, well," she said coyly, "you don't have to reach perfection in one night."

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Food, Famine and Fools

By CLIFFORD E. LEE.

Seventy per cent of the human body is water. Seldom is the supply of this material cut to the point of affecting health. But the other 30% is essential chemicals. Very often the supply of these if deficient, causing various disruptions in the human machine from minor maladies to death.

Even those who get plenty to eat sometimes suffer from malnutrition. Our tastes lead us to omit certain elements from our diet which are essential to health. Education is the only required corrective for this. We must learn to buy health, not food in the grocery store.

Except from actual famine, the mast serious dietary deficiencies are related directly to income. Typical of our social stupidities is the fact that the producers of food have suffered from "surpluses" at the same time that the consumers suffered from food deficiencies. In the United States, the world's wealthiest country, in its richest year, 1929, 75% of its people were unable to afford completely adequate diets. Had they eaten as they should the farmers of that country would have had to produce 70% more milk, 35% more beef and poultry, 50% more sheep, twice as much vegetables and fruit.

He we dropped a few atomic bombs in Europe in polishing off the Nazis the human damage could have been no worse than that being caused by food shortages there now. Chances are that when the score is toted up the war will have killed more people by malnutrition and its consequences than by bullets and bombs.

What will kill most of them is lack of proteins. Man's resistance to disease is provided by antibodies. These keep up a constant and normally winning fight against germs. But antibodies are made of the proteins we derive from meat, cheese, eggs, and other such foods. Without proteins germs run wild. Plague and pestilence kill the ones who escaped the bombs.

Society Will Pay

These consequences persist and weaken generations yet unborn. Society, in deteriorated human mechanisms, will be paying for generations for the diplomatic failure that means war as it has and will pay for the stupidity of the depression.

It is almost impossible for North Americans to appreciate famine as is stalking war-torn Europe today. These people look like our neighbors. They think the same thoughts. They have the same feelings. They have no hope of enough food to satisfy hunger or to prevent many of the diseases of malnutrition. They have no chance of keeping their children from constantly crying for food. They are desperately trying only to keep themselves and their infants alive. They drop in the streets almost unnoticed. Late as it is we must get that picture now.

High Stakes

We are tryig to build a new order in Europe. We are trying to teach democracy to the victims of fascism. We are trying to make another Hitler ideologically impossible. We are not altogether unselfish in this; we know our own future in the modern world is tied in with the future of these people. The stakes in this game are the lives of our own children a few short years hence.

Yet nutrition experts such as Dr. Paul R. Cannon declare, "when people are undergoing severe malnutrition, neither slogans, propaganda, nor the fanfare of trumpets can induce them to struggle hopelessly against overwhelming odds." Food for Europe is now a political weapon, the means by which we may save our world.

We waste enough food to feed much of Europe. According to the Food Distribution Administration, in 1942 enough food was wasted in the United States to have fed the American Army and met America's commitments in lend-lease.

We can produce naturally on our farms the required food. Little effective attempt has been made to plan or encourage agricultural production for this great humanitarian goal.

Science Can Help

Science can help. In August, 1943, researchers announced a synthetic beefsteak. Its raw materials are yeast, water, and molasses. Ammonia converts the yeast to protein, provider of germ-killing antibodies. Laboratory beefsteak has the same food value as the real thing.

Transportation difficulties is given as the reason that what most of us would gladly sacrifice from our own tables has not found its way into starving stomachs. Yet the U.S. recently tied up its huge fleet of warships at the docks. Thus was lost the chance to accomplish more with an armada of food-laden ships than we ever did with explosive-laden ones.

Canadians on the whole would have welcomed greater sacrifices on behalf of starving humanity. We would have gone much further than the minor rationing our governing representatives laid down for us.

Idle Rich Rushing To Florida to Loll

Clearly a lot of people in New York made a lot of money out of the war.

At the rate of about 7,000 a day, they are going to Florida to loll in the cun, watch the races and otherwise pursue luxury.

Trains are jammed and, with the exception of coach seats and a few upper berths, they are sold out up to January 2.

The Miami "Herald" estimates that considerably more money will be thrown around than was the case last year, when close to a billion dollars were harvested by the hotels, night clubs, horse and dog tracks, gambling casinos and other busiesses catering to the free-spending visitors.

Of course, there are no workers in this exodus and precious few farmers, except the corporation variety.

Favored Few Allowed To Hog War Contracts

The conservative Washington "Star," in its Sunday edition, displayed prominently a story on the growth of Big Business. It is calculated to shock every thinking American.

If the facts did not have such a conservative sponsor, they might have been regarded as the outpourings of an irresponsible "radical."

The article at the outset declares that, while this nation and its allies were destroying "concentrated aggressive political power in the hands of a few Europeans," the concentration of economic power went forward in this country at a greater pace than ever before. For example:

In 1939, the last year before the war, small firms accounted for 52 per cent of total manufacturing employment, but by 1944 this figure had declined to 38 per cent. Quite a drop for the "little fellows"!

On the other hand, the "Big Fellows," firms with 10,000 or more employees, accounted for 13 per cent of total employment in 1939, but after three years this jumped to 31 per cent.

"Half a million small retail, service and construction firms," the "Star" declares, "disappeared entirely during the war."

What enabled Big Business to grow bigger while little business languished or died off altogether?

The answer, according to the "Star," is that the bulk of war contracts was allotted to a comparatively few firms.

All together, supply contracts awarded by the government aggregated about $200 billions.

Two-thirds of this business went to the largest 100 firms. Nearly one-half of the value of contracts awarded during the four-year period went to the top 30 corporations. Five concerns received more than a fifth of the contracts.

During the war about $26 billions of new plant and equipment were added to manufacturing facilities, and the comparatively few companies which "hogged" the war business also got the new facilities.

Another interesting revelation is that 31 of the 250 largest manufacturing companies are controlled by five groups—Morgan, New York City's First National Bank, Mellon, Rockefeller, duPont and a Cleveland group of financiers. The facilities of these 31 corporations total $18.2 billions, or 30 per cent of the nation's usable manufacturing facilities.

By the beginning of this year, 63 of the largest manufacturing companies had increased their net working capital by about $10 billions. "With this money these giants could increase their power in a multitude of ways," the "Star" points out.

That they are using their war-increased strength to increase their power at the expense of little business is indicated in a sharp rise in mergers and acquisitions, the "Star" says.

It adds the movement became marked in 1943, and swung into high speed in the fourth quarter of 1945, when the rate of mergers and acquisitions in manufacturing was higher than at any time in the preceding decade and a half.

"Should the nation enjoy continued prosperity in the years ahead," the "Star" declares, "giant corporations will dominate the economy more and more through the tremendous magnitude of production capacity and accumulated working capital."

The "Star" did not grab these startling facts and figures out of thin air. It makes clear that every statement it makes is backed by reports of the Temporary National Economic Committee, the National Resources Committee, Smaller Plants Corporation, the Securities and Exchange Commission and other responsible governmental agencies.

—Labor.

Says Labor's Foes Playing With Fire

New York.—The Chamber of Commerce of the Borough of Queens made news here this week when it invited a spokesman of labor—President William Green of the A.F. of L.—to address its annual dinner.

What Green told the 900 assembled merchants and industrialists made even more dramatic news.

"Any business man who advocates government control of labor through legislation is digging his own grave and the grave of the free enterprise system," Green declared bluntly.

"For your own interests, and for the interests of the nation as a whole I advise you to reject the policies of a vengeful and vociferous minority who would turn over control of your relations with your employers to the hands of the bureaucrats."

Green cited what happened abroad when ruling regimes embarked upon a policy of suppressing and destroying labor unions.

Employment Procedure For Replacing Strikers

On June 4, the minister of labor clarified the procedure followed by Dominion employment offices with respect to he employment of persons to replace strikers.

If an employer, whose employees are on strike files a request for employees, the offices canvass those looking for jobs and such persons are cautioned that there is a strike and that they are taking jobs to replace men on strike.

The proud father decided to take his many children for a stroll down the street. He walked for a ways when a cop nabbed him.

"I didn't do anything," said the man.

"You must have done something," said the cop, "with all that crowd following you."

Merry Christmas

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Southam Company Has To Reduce Sub. Rate

Hamilton.—Daily newspapers must have circulation to maintain their advertising income and the Southam Company are finding this out. They have reduced their price from $1.00 per month to 75 cents. An army of canvassers is trying to regain lost subscribers. They are conducting the most intensive telephone campaign to persuade people to subscribe to the "Province". Anything goes, lies and misrepresentation—get the subscribers is the battle cry.

A REAL TOUGH ONE

She was a regular visitor at the zoo and her favorite spot was the monkey village. One day she noticed with some concern that the monkey village seemed to be deserted and asked an attendant what had happened to her pets.

"They're all in the houses, Ma'am," replied the attendant. "This is the mating season for monkeys and they seldom come outside at such a time."

"What a pity!" she exclaimed. "I miss them so. Do you suppose they would come out if I offered them a peanut?"

"Gosh, I dunno, Ma'am. Would you?"

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100,000 Union Workers Take Strike-Holiday In Oakland

GREATEST WESTERN LABOR DEMONSTRATION in a decade began on Tuesday, December 3, in Oakland, key city of the San Francisco Bay Area, as the AFL labor movement of 100,000 members took a holiday in protest against scab-herding of 300 policemen at a struck department store Sunday morning.

East bay communities with a population of well over one million were slowed down to snail's pace as everything but hospitals and other emergency and essential services were shut tight in massive protest against "a city administration that allows itself to be used as a tool by Oakland's sacred cow, the Retail Merchants Association."

Pickets of the AFL Unions had been barred off of the streets of the city of Oakland, after the pickets had received word that merchandise was to be delivered to the Kahn's and Hastings stores. There were only sixty-five pickets present to cover six entrances at Kahn's and one at Hastings.

This holiday highlighted a month-long strike at two big Oakland stores, Kahn's, local unit of the west's richest chain department store, and Hasting's men's store, which were struck by employee majorities in protest against miserable wages, hours, and working conditions.

Solid Front Put Up

Retail Merchants Association cunningly demanded that Retail Clerks Union represent a majority in all stores instead of the two, and the Oakland labor movement grew out of short pants overnight to stage one of the most militant and well-conducted battles in west coast labor history.

As all union services were denied to the struck stores, they grew desperate for merchandise, and an elaborate plan was laid out to get it. A group of strike-breaking ex-soldiers were recruited, told to don their battle jackets and khaki trousers, for publicity purposes, and six big trucks were loaded Sunday morning at a warehouse in Berkeley with Christmas merchandise.

Call Out Police

The police were asked for protection, and police chiefs readily furnished it, numbering about 350 in all, including guns and tear gas and a motorcycle escort with wailing sirens which convoyed from Berkeley to the Oakland strike scene, where a big array of cameras was waiting. Streets were blocked off, forcing pickets across three surrounding streets and thus closing off all public transportation through that area for six hours.

In response to this official municipal strike-breaking and flouting of the legal rights of citizens by the police, the AFL labor movement immediately called for all-day sessions. Officials of every AFL unit in Alameda county, meeting again Monday morning, voted unanimously to call the work holiday for Tuesday.

Metropolis Asleep

Though scattered shops were operating, the city as a whole was dead as a flat beer, and the giant Key System bridge trains which carry San Francisco's "brains" to work across the bay every morning, to the number of 120,000 daily, were silent for the first time in the ten years since the great Bay Bridge was completed. The San Francisco bridge terminal, world's busiest terminal with an annual passage of 40 million patrons, was as quiet as a church on Monday morning.

Mass Meeting

Large crowds milled around the struck stores during the day as a gesture of protest. Scheduled for Tuesday night was a giant mass meeting in Oakland's huge civic auditorium, and with the headline publicity given the matter already this promised to be the largest labor turnout in this area's history.

Dailies Picketed

In protest against distortion of the news to fit the purposes of big advertisers, pickets were placed before the East Bay's two major dailies, the Oakland Tribune, run by the Knowland-Warren machine, and the Post-Enquirer, Hearst's local sheet. San Francisco dailies were not delivered starting at 5 a.m., and the area went pretty much without newspaper service.

East Bay shipyards, factories, building construction, all teamster services, transportation, restaurants and bars, and other projects and services were closed up tight, while schools and other activities were shut down by lack of transportation.

100% Labor Support

CIO groups gave the holiday full support, observing picket lines and aiding in other ways.

AFL labor units of the entire Bay Area voted 100 per cent support, morally, financially, and physically, and AFL members from surrounding cities streamed into the area to lend a hand.

Greatest labor demonstration in Bay Area history at Oakland Civic Auditorium Tuesday night pledged a fight to the finish by Organized Labor to attain collective bargaining rights and to squash Fascist police methods.

More than 16,000 men and women drove and hitch-hiked in the rain from all sections of the Bay, jamming the massive auditorium to the rafters, filling every square inch of space on stairways, floor, corridors, and out into the street, where another 8,000 turned away, unable to find parking space within 10 city blocks or not wishing to stand in the rain.

The orderly but determined crowd roared its approval of a dozen speakers, regional AFL leaders, each of whom pledged a finish fight in no uncertain terms. Report was given on a meeting with city heads and business leaders that afternoon, at which labor's capable strategy committee heard but turned down a settlement they considere dunfair.

Instructions were issued to continue and extend the holiday indefinitely and to continue aiding with the picketing in downtown Oakland, where a 10,000-man picketline was maintained on Monday.

Here are sample remarks by speakers, which drew roars of approval: "I predict: the next time they attempt to bring in fink merchandise the police will need protection."—JACK REYNOLDS, Bldg. Trades Council. "Women pickets have been bruised and battered by company goons. . . Scab-herding power groups have insulted the sacred emblem of the GI by putting it on strikebreakers. . . This is the start of a national program to break labor."—JOHN PHILPOTT, Retail Clerks 1265.

"I can never again believe Bob Tracy (police chief). He has broken faith with labor in Alameda County. . . . The Teamsters are in this fight until it is won."—JIM MARSHALL, Teamsters 70. "This is Fascism in America. . . Those were just average finks, the superfinks are the city administration of Oakland. . . The Retail Merchants is an auxiliary to the Merchants and Manufacturers, the biggest scab-herding outfit in the U.S. . . . No ships will sail out of the East Bay."—HARRY LUNDEBERG, Sailor Union Pacific.

"This is an elaborate program to break labor, such as was instituted after the last war, master-minded by the notorious, infamous Merchants and Manufacturers of L.A. and protected by police escort which would have done homage to the President of this country. . . This tremendous turnout should inform the City of Oakland just who its elected officials should properly represent."—DAN FLANAGAN, western director, AFL.

"We ask: that Retail Clerks at these two stores only be returned to work under union shop conditions, all other matters to be negotiated and that the strikebreakers be sent back to L.A. and full assurance given that police will not continue such tactics as demonstrated Saturday and Sunday."—BOB ASH, Central Labor Council.

Strike Is Won!

But the "strike" was a victory. From the city the AFL Steering Committee gained full assurances that police would not be used in this way again. The cause of the Retail Clerks, striking at two local department stores against miserable wages from stupendous profits, was given a million dollars worth of publicity, and negotiations were pushed ahead, though deadlocked early this week.

Discarding all minor setbacks, most of them arising from confusion, the holiday was the most spontaneous and effective and the largest demonstration in the 60 years of this area's labor movement. It gained nationwide publicity and served notice on any short-sighted, newly-elected Republicans that the labor movement is a force to be reckoned with.

Lake Ship Strikers Still Await Jail

The A.F. of L. Seamen's Union lake ship strike has long since ended, but some officers and members of the union still face terms in jail. The organization is taking every possible step to see that they do not suffer for their efforts in the workers' cause.

Among them is Cyril Lenton, national treasurer, who was sentenced to three months' imprisonment; several members who received similar sentences, and Acting President Harry Davis, who is being prosecuted by the Ontario government.

Union officials charge that Ontario Premier Drew and Quebec Premier Duplessis are "misusing the courts in the interests of the shipowners."

Abolition of Wage Controls Satisfactory

Ottawa.—The abolition of wartime controls on wages in Canada, effective from midnight November 30, is satisfactory to organized labor. The Federal control of salaries has also been removed. These controls have been in operation since 1941.

"We had asked for modifications of the wage controls, but in view of the fact the government has decided to eliminate them we are quite satisfied," President Percy R. Bengough of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada said.

"We do want, however, to see some Dominion legislation that will take the place of the old Industrial Disputes Investigation Act, retaining the good features, but going further."

Bengough said there should be a National Board which could hear appeals in wage disputes, to take the place of the National War Labor Board, which is to discontinue functioning. He favored a three-man National Appeal Board composed of a chairman, a representative of labor and one of industry.

One Rail Case Pending

Price controls should be continued and gradually relaxed as conditions warrant so as to guard against inflation, Bengough declared.

NICKELS FROM NICKEL

"Second quarter net profits of The International Nickel Co. of Canada jumped 18.53 per cent to $6,623,608, equal to 42 cents a common share, compared with $5,588,055, or 35 cents in three months ended March 31."—Financial Post, August 17, 1946.

Two gold strikes have been made in California where prospectors are busy digging up the stuff so that the government can bury it again.—Frank Hanley in "The Advance."

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Mightier Than the Atom

It is now admitted by informed scientists that the atom bomb is a "merciful" weapon, of limited killing power, compared to the arms of biological warfare, says the Canadian scientist, Dyson Carter.

These incredibly barbarous weapons have received little attention in the press, but any nation could wage biological warfare. The weapons are fundamentally superior to atom bombs, technically and strategically. They are very cheap and can be turned out in small factories modestly equipped and manned by a few scientists. They could be prepared in absolute secrecy.

Disease has played a decisive part in many wars.

German agents in 1915 made an attempt to infect Allied horses and cattle with virulent diseases. During attacks on Crimean cities in the 14th century, the Tartars hurled upon the defenders parts of corpses dead from plague. Pizaro's troops deliberately gave Indians clothes from small-pox victims, starting uncontrollable epidemics causing over 3,000,000 deaths in Mexico and Central America.

Few people, including technicians, have grasped the enormity of the work now being carried out on disease that could be used for biological warfare.

3,900 scientists and military technicians are mobilized in America alone. They are backed by very heavy cash expenditure.

Biological Warfare

Biological warfare is much broader than germ warfare. It now covers three general types of weapons.

First, living disease organisms, such as bacteria, fungi, viruses and rickettsias.

Second, toxins extracted from such organisms.

Third, synthetic chemicals which destroy or distort life in ways quite different from the action of poisons.

In a highly technical magazine recently a statement by three (3) leading scientists gave facts regarding a toxin extracted from the botulinus organism. One ounce of this pure toxin would be more than sufficient to kill every man, woman and child on the American continent.

Death for 100,000,000

There is a tetanus toxin, one ounce of which could provide fatal doses for more than 100,000,000 people. Last May, the American Congress was told that the navy had a weapon "far more deadly than the atomic bomb." This probably referred to the spreading of pneumonic plague directly through the air from victim to victim instead of through fleas.

Biological warfare differs in a real and ghastly way from atomic war. Whilst other nations may not possess the atomic bomb, it is certain that a number of countries possess biological arms now. We can also be sure that if Imperialism carries us into another war, then, for every atom bomb hurled, our opponents will reply with infinitely worse weapons. The majority of us would perish before our scientists could find protective measures.

Science has discovered how to develop new types of disease organisms —giving us new plague and new poisons—in a way not remote from the breeding of new flowers, vegetables and grains.

Crop Destruction

If the direct destruction of human life were not enough, another branch of biological research has concentrated upon methods of mass starvation by means of wiping out basis crops. Included are new types of rusts, bacterial rots and virus diseases. The military counterparts to the weed killer (2-4-D) lay waste to useful plants like the cereals and legumes.

The authorities admit that we were ready to use such chemical on a mass scale against Japan. Spread early in the rice season with no apparent effect, this "growth regulator" would have permitted the crop to approach the harvest stage, and vast areas would have suddenly withered away. In a recent issue of "Science," men of the American Chemical Warfare Service admitted that the results reported thus far are "only the beginning."

Only the people can save our scientists from the maniacal plot which, unless it is halted, will surely destroy them along with world peace. Now the upholders of exploitation are starkly revealed as literally the enemies of life. And upon the people, organizing for the defence of peace, rests our only hope of rescuing all the world's intelligence and culture.

Saskatchewan Power Has Highly Successful Year

Regina.—Operations of the Saskatchewan Power Commission showed a net profit of $156,835 for the year ending December 31, 1945, thereby reducing the commission's deficit to $74,582, Natural Resources Minister J. L. Phelps revealed in tabling the annual report of the commission in the legislature. The deficit, which has been accumulated over a period of 16 years, amounted to $231,417 at the end of 1944.

The commission expects to be able to wipe out the deficit completely during the present year, Mr. Phelps declared, thus bringing it out of the red for the first time in 16 years.

During the year, the commission increased its transmission lines from 1,626 miles in 1944 to 2,486 miles, reaching 234 towns and villages and supplying 24,627 rural and urban services, as compared with 146 towns and villages and 12,989 services at the end of 1944. This includes the transmission lines of the Dominion Electric Power Ltd., purchased by the commission along with Prairie Power Company, Ltd., in 1945.

Total revenues increased from $1,877,572 in 1944 to $1,963,613 uring the past year, despite a drop of $78,746 in the amount obtained in 1944 for service to airfields under the Commonwealth Air Training plan. A total of 110,164,575 kilowatt hours was generated and purchased in 1945.

In all, 1,426 new services were built and connected to the Saskatchewan Power Commission system proper during 1945. Of these approximately 200 were rural customers.

Further Reductions

The report stated that the commission will attempt to make further rate reductions in the coming year, even though it still carries a deficit of $74,582. At present, a rate study is being made. A rate reduction, covering practically all the towns and villages on the Saskatchewan Power Commission system, was placed into effect, in May, 1945.

Delivery of a new 15,000 kilowatt turbine for the Saskatoon generating station, ordered nearly six years ago but held up by wartime regulations, has been promised for April, 1946.

Other construction and extension work planned for 1946 includes installation of a steam generating unit in the Estevan plant.

The report observed, that difficulties in securing electrical equipment have increased rather than diminished, and this might possibly curtail the large construction program planned for the coming year.

A collective bargaining agreement between the Power Commission and its employees has been in effect since January 1, 1945. Also, an agreement between the Dominion Electric Power and its employees was negotiated, effective from February 1, 1945. "These agreements give the employees the most favorable wage rates and employee benefits in the history of the two organizations," the report stated.

Women At Work

"Now is the time to push for elimination of discrimination against women workers and to gain headway in improving their wages and working conditions," Secretary of Labor Lewis Schwellenbach told a conference of union leaders held last week by the U.S. Women's Bureau.

Asserting that the problem was not merely legislative, but also a matter for collective bargaining, Schwellenbach urged the labor movement to accept the responsibility of seeing that there was no discrimination against women in industry.

Women showed their capabilities during the war, he said, and the lesson should not be forgotten in the present need for workers.

Main subjects discussed at the conference were equal pay, wage determination techniques, minimum wage legislation, women's earnings, night work and the political and civil status of women.

Plans were also laid to press the drive for a national Equal Pay Act and to redouble efforts to arouse strong "back-home" support for the bill introduced as S 1178 in the 79th session of Congress. The point was stressed that equal pay legislation would safeguard men's wages as well as women's by protecting the general wage structure and purchasing power.

THE TERRIBLE TRUTH

A woman teacher in trying to explain the meaning of the word "slowly" illustrated it by walking across the floor.

When she asked the class to tell her how she walked, she nearly fainted when a boy at the foot of the class shouted, "Bow-legged, ma'am!"

REGAINING NORMALCY

JOE: "How's you patient in room thirteen today, doctor?"

MOE: "Fine! He took a turn for the nurse last night."

Senate Group Studies Newsprint Monopoly

Washington (FP).—Small publishers are letting the Senate small business committee know their main problem is bucking the monopoly control of newsprint which is squeezing out independent publishers and labor papers, a committee source told Federated Press.

The committee had written to 10,000 United States publishers in October inquiring into their newsprint problems, sharpened recently by decontrol of paper prices.

"The information we are getting will probably be gathered in a report to Congress which will stress the importance of straightening out this problem of newsprint," the spokesman said.

"A lot of small publishers are wondering how it is that they can't get newsprint for 25,000 copies of their paper when a big New York daily can get enough for a 132-page Sunday issue full of advertising," he said.

Hoffman Condemns Anti-Labor Drive

New York.—Enactment of "punitive labor bills" by Congress will create resentment which will increase strikes and cause employers, workers and the general public "to suffer terribly."

That warning was sounded this week by Paul G. Hoffman, president of the Studebaker Corporation and chairman of the Committee for Economic Development.

He urged management to "show statesmanship and turn its back" on shackling proposals and favor legislation which "is fair and promotes peace in labor relations."

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In Lighter Vein

FILLED THE BILL

"There are four requisites to a good short story," explained the English teacher to the class, "Brevity, a reference to religion, some association with the royalty, and an illustration of modesty. Now, with these four things in mind, I will give you 30 minutes to write a story."

Ten minutes later the hand of Eva went up.

"That's fine, Eva," complimented the teacher, "and now read your story to the class."

Eva read: "Heavens!" cried the countess, "take your hand off my knee."

PERPLEXING PROBLEM

Mrs. Geranium Plotnik was consulting earnestly with Mr. Anthony, noted radio authority on personal problems.

"Mr. Anthony, first I must tell you about the blonde I found in the room with my husband. To my humiliation and disgust, my husband looked up long enough to tell me to hurry to the kitchen to put two thick steaks on the fire. This I did. A week later, Mr. Anthony, I found my husband with another woman (this time a brunette and again he looked up only long enough to tell me to go to the kitchen to cook a chicken with noodle soup. This I did. Last night, however, came the crowning humiliation. I found him in that same room with a red-head, and again he looked up only long enough to tell me to hurry to the kitchen to make some French toast.

"Now, Mr. Anthony, in this hour of humiliation, here is my problem: How do you make French toast?"

TRUE CONFESSIONS

"Darling," he crooned, "I must tell you, and you must believe, that I have never loved any woman but you; that you are the only woman in the world for me; and that you are the first girl I've ever kissed. You believe me, don't you darling?"

He gazed into her luminous brown eyes for his answer. He grasped her hands in his. "You must believe me!" he cried.

She hesitated and then, nestling her head on his shoulder, whispered:

"Yes, I believe every word you say. I love you as I have never loved before. I must never really have cared for a man until now. You are the strongest, the bravest, the best, the most perfect man in the world. You believe me, don't you, sweetheart?"

And why SHOULDN'T they believe each other? For she was Eve, and he was Adam.

FAIR PROPOSITION

The barber, not of great experience, had been giving his customer's chin a rough time for a few minutes.

"Wait," said the customer. "Have you another razor?"

"Sure," said the barber. "Why?"

"Well," said the victim, "I guess I ought to have a means of defending myself."

FIRST THINGS FIRST

A Florida citizen brought to court recently wanted to appeal to heaven.

"I'll try you first," said the judge, "and the Lord can deal with you later."

DANGEROUS PASTIME

Mary: "Why did you stop dating that checker champion?"

Jane: "He was always trying to get me in a corner."

SURE OUGHT TO WORK

We still like the crack in which some bird says his Uncle Willie, a small businessman, sold out lock, stock and barrel. He promptly reinvested his money in a skunk farm. Uncle Willie is supposed to have said: "Now, maybe the government will keep its nose out of my business."

EXCELLENT MEMORY

The little girl in the zoological park tossed bread crumbs to the stork, which greedily gobbled them and bobbed its head toward her for more.

"What kind of bird is that, mama?" the child asked.

The mother glanced at the placard and answered that it was a stork.

"O-o-o!" the little girl cried, "Of course—it recognizes me!"

About the only surplus in sight these days is a surplus of scandals concerning the sale of government surplus supplies left over from the war.

A REAL COMPLAINT

"Another farmer is bringing suit against our road on account of his cows," said the railway clerk.

"No! This time he complains," said the manager, "that our trains go so slow that the passengers reach out of the car windows and milk the cows as they go by."

MEANING OF CHRISTMAS

The first meaning of Christmas is that of generosity, inspired by the great gift of consciousness to mankind. The selfish sway of the world is broken at least for a time, and the Christ spirit is born in our hearts. Sometimes the exchange of presents is carried too far and becomes a burden instead of a pleasure; but anything that makes the world unselfish is beautiful and good.

DOUBLE TROUBLE

A army corporal hauled a man ito a police station and charged him with lifting his wallet.

"I'm guilty, Judge," confessed the man. "Please give me a sentence and a divorce, too."

"Why the divorce?" asked the judge.

"I opened the corporal's wallet," said the defendant, "and the only thing I found in it was three pictures of my wife."

Journeymen wiremen, members of Elictrical Workers 6 in San Mateo, San Francisco, and Marin Counties, have received a wage icrease which provides journeymen a $2 per hour rate ad cable splicers $2.30.

Racism: Creed of Hate

By DYSON CARTER, M.Sc.
Member of Canadian Institute of Chemistry

Next time you meet someone who hates the Jews, Negroes or other racial groups —watch out! Such people are not only a menace politically. They are also mentally dangerous. In plain English, the person who has strong racial prejudices is on the verge of going crazy.

This is the finding of the two leading American psychologists, Doctors E. Frenkel-Brunswik and R. Nevitt of the University of California. It is not an opinion. These experts have just finished a radically new kind of scientific experiment which has revealed facts of great interest to all progressives.

A great many adults were examinted by Dr. Frenkel-Brunswik. Some were itelligent college students. Other groups included business men, average citizens, mentally sick patients and criminals in prison. All were given the same, standard psychological tests.

These tests are used to determine a person's mental and emotional condition. They have been tried on vast numbers of men and women during the last five years, and rarely give errors. Besides these, the scientists used a simple questionnaire to find out each person's attitude toward race questions.

Blamed Faults On Others

Results were astonishing. The people who scored highest in prejudice were those who had serious mental troubles. Most of these mental cases were unaware of their dangerous condition. Or they vigorously denied it.

Strangest of all, their most serious defects were exactly the faults they blamed upon the innocent groups they hated. For example, many of the race-haters accused the Negroes of sex crimes, while they themselves showed very dangerous tendencies toward criminal sex behaviour.

Again, the anti-Semites insisted that Jewish people are either aggressive or cowards. In each case the prejudiced person himself had such weaknesses to an outstanding degree.

On the average these hate-ridden men and women showed a typical and highly unsatisfactory personality. They were extremely selfish, very superstitious, aggressive and had abnormally strong family ties. Besides hating racial minorities they also despised creative, artistic and intelligent people. Anyone who has read Nazi books like Mein Kampf will recognize here the typical traits of the murderous storm-troopers.

Dangerous People In Disguise

Of special significance is the discovery that inmates of a certain Federal prison, all of whom were under sentence for crimes of violence, showed high ratings in the race-hatred test. But another fact is of keen political interest. One typical feature of those race-haters who were not convicts was a peculiar sort of "conservatism," which gave them strong impulses to fight progressive ideas by taking the law into their own hands.

Dr. Frenkel-Brunswik found also that these dangerous people often disguised their mental weakness by arrogant, bold behavior. And they all used race prejudices as a kind of outlet for the seething mental conflict tearing them apart from within.

Dr. Sanford's research included a fascinating, detailed case history of an American who went over to the enemy during the war. This is the first scientific study of a quisling. It brought to light the fact that this traitor was a mental case who viciously hated the Jews and his own mother. Incidentally, he hated his mother not because of any bad qualities but because she was a frail woman who had desperately tried to hold out against the cruelties of a brutal husband.

There are several conclusions a working-class scientist can draw from these researches. Research has at long last verified what all anti-fascists have been vigorously maintaining ever since the rise of Mussolini some 25 years ago: the race-haters and those who advocate violence to stop progressive movements are mental cases with criminal tendencies.

Fascist Tendencies: An Enemy

The psychologists make a serious error in stressing the "unconscious" nature of fascist tendencies. There is nothing unconscious about the fascist brutality of lynchings, pogroms, and the vile propaganda of Coughlin, the Social Creditors, British Israelites and their kind. It would be wonderful if we had enough psychiatrists asd mental institutions to care for these "unfortunates." It would be better if we had laws that would send such creatures into confinement. But we haven't.

The practical problem is to expose them as public enemies trying to destroy our freedom, to fight them politically, and at the same time explain to all honest folk the utter depravity of race-hating.

We can back this up, too, with the warning that any normal person who allows himself to slip into fascist thinking and talking is heading straight for serious mental trouble.

Citizenship Week January 5th to 11th

Ottawa, Ont.—The granting of Canadian citizenship is to be a Dominion-wide ceremonial. A Canadian citizenship week will be observed throughout Canada from January 5 to January 11 next, with ceremonies in the principal cities.

Secretary of State Paul Martin made this announcement in an address recently. At the last session of Parliament, legislation providing for a distinctive Canadian citizenship was put through, to go into effect on January 1 next. In all official documents, citizens of this country will identify themselves as "Canadians" and not simply as British subjects.

Newcomers to Canada who obtain naturalization as Canadians are to be educated in their responsibilities to their country of adoption. They are to be impressed with the fact that their allegiance is now to Canada—not to the country from whence they came.

For this purpose, Citizenship Week in Canada may be made an annual affair along the lines of "I am an American" day in the United States.

British Goods Not Coming To Canada

Toronto, Ont.—Who is getting Britain's textiles, chinaware, cutlery and Scotch whiskey—all of which are scarce in Canada?

This $64 question was raised by C. Gordon Cockshutt, of Brantford, president of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce. The people of this country are wondernig why so small a part of Britain's exports are coming to Canada, Gordon declared.

"Canada," he said, "offers a market for British goods and is eager to buy again the products of Sheffield, Manchester, Leeds and those special products for which Scotland is famous.

"In spite of the trade figures which show the high levels of British exports, we don't see British goods on sale in Canada. Canada wants to continue to export her goods—food, lumber, minerals and manufactured goods too. We would like to see British goods being shipped back in mutual trade."

Will Respond To Argentina Invitation

Washington, D. C.—The American Federation of Labor will send a delegation to Argentina if Argentina's invitation to such a mission is supplemented to a similar invitation from the Argentine Confederation of Labor, it was announced here by AFL President William Green.

In reaching this decision, Mr. Green said, the AFL was influenced by the fact that at the recent conference of the International Labor Organization at Montreal, all of the Latin American trade union delegates presented a resolution unanimously supporting the Argentine Confederation of Labor.

Mr. Green accepted the invitation extended by the Ambassador of the Republic of Argentina to assign representatives to visit Argentina as the guests of that government with this proviso:

"In conformity, however, with a traditional policy which we have ever scrupulously followed, we respectfully ask that the very kind invitation extended by the representatives of the government of Argentina be supplemented by an invitation from the representatives of the organized labor movement in Argentina. If such supplemental invitation is extended, be assured the American Federation of Labor will resignate a delegation of capable representatives to visit Argentina as the guests of the Argentine Government at the earliest possible moment."

Discussing the significance of the AFL's decision in this matter today, Mr. Green said:

"Our willingness to send a delegation to visit Argentina under the proper circumstances does not imply either approval of disapproval of the present Argentine government and its policies. We regard the invitation as an opportunity to determine the facts at first hand and then we will be able to decide for ourselves whether the charges made against the Argentine government are well founded."

N. Y. City To Build [illegible] Apartments

The City of New York has started construction of more low-rent apartments. The newest development will contain 608 units, renting for $15 to $37 a month. Applications have already been made by four times as many families as can be accommodated.

This is the seventh project of the City Housing Authority. Altogether they will accommodate nearly 8,000 families. Eight more are planned. But that is only a drop in the bucket compared with the hundreds of thousands of families in need of homes.

Mayor O'Dwyer will ask the state legislature to appropriate another $300,000,000 to keep this program going.

At Larchmont, N.Y., ground was broken for 50 garden-colonial homes which a veterans' corporation is building on a five-acre plot dubbed "Foxhole Acres." The veterans figure they can save considerable by shutting out the realtors and their big fees.

VICTORIA THEATRE WORKERS ORGANIZE

Victoria. — Theatrical Assistants' Guild, Federal Union No. 252, chartered by the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, has been organized in Victoria among ushers, doormen, cashiers and stenographers of the four British Columbia Paramount theatres.

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". . . the merry voices and smiling faces . . . crowd upon our mind at each recurrence of the season, as if the last assemblage had been but yesterday. Happy, happy Christmas, that can win us back to the delusions of our childish days, recall to the old man the pleasures of his youth, and transport the traveller back to his own fireside and quiet home!"

—CHARLES DICKENS.

And while we rejoice in this season of happiness with our own folk and our friends and neighbours, let us remember the valiant whose Christmas must be spent in military hospitals, the handicapped and all those in less fortunate circumstances. Their Yuletide can be made brighter by our sharing and our remembrance.

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Ingersoll's Vision of The Future

The following glorious sentences flowed from the soul of Ingersoll, and they will live. The first portion is Ingersoll's vision of the war, and the second, of the future.

"The past rises before me like a dream. . . . We hear the sound of preparation, the music of boisterous drums—the silver voices of the heroic bugles. We see thousands of assemblages, and hear the appeals of orators; we see the pale cheeks of women, and the flushed faces of men, and in those assemblages we see all the dead whose dust we have covered with flowers. We lost sight of them no more. . . .

"We see them part with those they love. Some are walking for the last time with maidens they adore. We hear the whispering and the sweet vows of eternal love as they lingeringly part forever. Others are bending over cradles, kissing the babes that are asleep. Some are receiving the blessings of old men. Some are parting with mothers who hold them and press them to their hearts again and again, and say nothing. Kisses and tears, kisses and tears—the divine mingling of agony and love!

"And some are talking with wives, and endeavoring with brave words, spoken in the old tones, to drive from their hearts the awful fear. We see them part. We see the wife standing in the sunlight, sobbing. At the turn of the road a hand waves—and she answers by holding high in her loving arms the child. He is gone, and forever. . . .

"We go with them, one and all. We are by their side on all the gory fields—in all the hospitals of pain—on all the weary marches. We stand guard with them in the wild storm and under the quiet stars. We are with them in ravines running with blood—in the furrows of old fields.

"We see them pierced by balls and torn with shell in the trenches, by the forts, and in the whirlwind of the charge. . . . We are at home when the news comes that they are dead.

"We see the maiden in the shadow of her first sorrow. We see the silvered head of the old man bowed with the last grief. . . . They sleep beneath the shadows of the clouds, careless alike of sunshine or storm, each in the windowless Palace of Rest. . . ."

Visions of The Future

"A vision of the future rises. . . . I see a world where thrones have crumbled and where kings are dust. The aristocracy of idleness has perished from the earth. I see a world without a slave. Man at last is free. Nature's forces have by science been enslaved.

"Lightning and light, wind and wave, frost and flame, and all the secret, subtle powers of the earth and air are the tireless workers for the human race.

"I see a world at peace, adorned with every form of art, with music's myriad voices thrilled while lips are rich with words of love and truth; a world in which no exile sighs, no prisoner mourns; a world on which the gibbet's shadow does not fall, a world where labor reaps its full reward, where work and worth go hand in hand; where the poor girl, trying to win bread with a needle—the needle that has been called the sap for the breast of the poor—is not driven to the desperate choice of crime or death, of suicide or shame.

"I see a world without the beggar's outstretched palm, the miser's heartless, stony stare, the piteous wail of want, the livil lips of lies, the cruel eyes of scorn. I see a race without disease of flesh or brain—shapely and fair—married harmony or form and function, and, as I look, life lengthens, joy deepens, love panoplies the earth, and over all in the great dome shines the eternal star of human hope.

Living in Glass Houses

It has been said that those who live in glass houses should never throw stones. There is more than one interpretation that can be made of this saying. It epigramatically expressed the idea that those who are conspicuous should lead a life that is above suspicion. We of the trade union movement should keep this saying very much in mind.

The trade union movement is founded upon the most sacred principle of mankind—brotherhood. Our organization came into existence because of the need of wage workers for mutual protection. Through its long years of activity it has stood in the vanguard of the progressive army. Thoughtful people look upon the trade union movement as a leader in the march toward better things for humanity. Our history in this regard is the best justification that we can have for our existence.

Like all organizations or movements that have established a reputation for right thinking and doing, the trade union is greatly damaged by adverse publicity. One thinks nothing when he reads of a well-known thug committing another crime, but when a deacon of the church flirts with a girl, takes a drink, or smokes a cigarette, the neighborhood is scandalized.

So, too, with the trade union movement. The eyes of the community are upon it, and it behooves those who are honored by leadership in our cause to realize that they live in glass houses, and that, like Caesar's wife, they should be above suspicion. Trade unionists should be as circumspect in their actions and in the choice of their associates as it is possible for them to be, in order that the ever watchful enemies of the organized labor movement may not find excuses for their propaganda against the trade unionists.

Pilot Stultz showed that he is something of a philosopher, as well as a flier, when he remarked that among birds the parrots, which are the best talkers, are also the poorest fliers.

England hopes to be free of debt in fifty years. But wars, alas, are like cars. There's always a new model before the old one is paid for.

The Price of Liberty

"A people may prefer a free government; but if, from indolence, or carelessness, or cowardice, or want of public spirit, they are unequal to the exertions necessary for preserving it; if they will not fight for it when it is directly attacked; if they can be deluded by the artifices used to cheat them out of it; if, by momentary discouragement, or temporary panic, or a fit of enthusiasm for an individual, they can be induced to lay their liberties at the feet even of a great man, or trust him with powers which enable him to subvert their institutions—in all these cases they are more or less unfit for liberty; and though it may be for their good to have had it even for a short time, they are unlikely long to enjoy it."—John Stuart Mill.

CALIFORNIA REDWOODS

Teamsters and Carpenters are united on a solid front to battle the struck open shop mills in California's redwoods, an all-out finish fight, it was indicated last week. Carpenters are assessing themselves a dollar per member per month to fight this drive by powerful employer groups to re-establish the open shop. The strike of 50,000 AFL Lumber Workers is 320 days old.

It's as easy to approach some men as it is difficult to get away from them.

The difference between a good and a bad reputation is that the former is easily lost.

NOT WELL POSTED

The irate prosecutor whirled on the defendant: "Madam," he shouted, trying to prove a vital point, "While you were taking your dog for a walk, did you stop any place?"

The spectators waited tensely for her answer.

"Sir," she said quietly, "did you ever take a dog for a walk?"

TALK UNITED STATES!

PROFESSOR: "Who was Talleyrand?"

STUDENT: "A fan dancer—and cut the baby talk."

The Labor Statesman

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Vancouver, Can., December, 1946

PROSPERITY FOR ALL

Except for minimum wages acts, wage controls are no longer under the control of government boards. The removal of those controls have been met with a mixed feeling, but the general concensus of opinion seems to have been that the working people were given a fairly good deal in this part of the country. Had it not been that the cost of living kept rising in spite of controls, the workers would have only had to seek wage increases to better their standard of living.

Organized workers of course made better progress than the unorganized. In most cases our unions made joint applications for wage increases, and usually the amount was approved by the boards, but the unorganized only obtained increases when the employer found it difficult to hold his employees in his factory or offices. Because of this we find that many workers are obliged to endure a standard of living lower than that preceeding the recent war. This will have a very bad effect upon business because there are still many thousands of workers who will be unable to purchase and enjoy the products of our factories, and the merchandise in our stores to the same extent as before the war.

It may be true that the standard of living of many thousands of workers have been improved on account of the wage increases, but so long as there are large groups of underpaid workers in our midst, so long will they not only be a detriment to the business element, but they will also be a threat and a scotch to further progress of all workers. The purchasing power of the great mass of workers not only helps to increase the sales among the merchants, but it keeps the factory wheels revolving and space enlarging.

There can be no mass production unless there is a continuous and increasing mass consumption. There has been a lot said about "spending sprees" but if the workers help produce good food, fine clothing, beautiful homes and furniture, as well as up-to-date household appliances, then there should be every opportunity for them to obtain and own those things. If these things can be produced for anybody, they can and should be produced for everybody. Why should the worker be expected to be satisfied with the cheap and shoddy things of life? Why should the worker's wife and family be condemned to a life of drudgery and undernourishment while the natural resources of this country, in tremendous quantities, can be turned into every conceivable kind of food and products?

But even now, with wage controls barely removed, we find business launching wage cuts and battering down the standard of living of their employees. While this has not yet been done on a large scale, it could develop into a movement that will bring about a fast moving depression. And this is a dangerous situation not only for British Columbia, but also for all of Canada.

We know that organized labor is going to oppose wage slashing with every means within its power, but we think that employer organizations should look very seriously into this situation, and should urge the business element to stop wage slashing, because if they permit this situation to get out of hand, it will not be long before there will be closed factories and a long line at the relief offices.

Neither organized labor, nor the organized returned veterans will stand for this condition, so it behooves the business element to take heed while there is still a feeling of goodwill in our midst. Our natural resources can maintain a prosperous country for all, let us make it one and keep it one.

Christmas Morning

In the rush of the merry morning,
When the red burns through the gray,
And the wintry world lies waiting
For the glory of the day;
Then we hear a fitful rushing
Just without upon the stair,
See two white phantoms coming,
Catch the gleam of sunny hair.

Are they Christmas fairies stealing
Rows of little socks to fill?
Are they angels floating hither
With their message of good-will?
What sweet spell are these elves weaving,
As like larks they chirp and sing?
Are these palms of peace from heaven
That these lovely spirits bring?

Rosy feet upon the threshold,
Eager faces peeping through,
With the first red ray of sunshine,
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Home Building Costs Have Jumped Over 62 p.c. Since '39

Ottawa, Ont.—Highlights of a housing report issued this month is that the cost of building a home in Canada jumped between 47 and 62 per cent in the period of 1939 to 1945, and is still going up.

A second feature of the report is that there will be between 50,000 and 55,000 new housing units completed in 1946, compared with 47,700 last year.

This year's constructions fall badly short of filling the need for shelter. The new report is issued by the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation—the government body set up a few months ago to speed up home building and co-ordinate efforts under Reconstruction Minister C. D. Howe.

Another development of interest to the Canadian people is two speeches by Donald Gordon, head of the Wartime Prices and Trade Board. Gordon said that:

1. Removal of rental controls would bring distress to thousands of Canadians.

2. The cotton supply situation stays tight and Canadians will have to make their present shirts, house dresses, and even bed linen do for still some time.

The new housing report says prices of building materials rose about 42 per cent and hourly rated labor costs increased about 31 per cent, which combine to give an over-all boost in the price of an average house of about 37 per cent.

Lower [illegible] of efficiency in the construction industry due to untrained labor, and delays due to shortages of materials added another boost varying between 10 per cent and 25 per cent to each house.

Taking all these factors into account, the over-all cost of a house has risen between 47 per cent and 62 per cent, the report declares.

Those figures run up to the end of 1945, and since then the government's building corporation estimates there has been a further increase of five per cent in over-all labor costs.

The report contains some surprises. For instance, production of cement in Canada is much less than in 1920, when 12,300,000 barrels were turned out. In 1946, it will be only 10,000,000 barrels.

The Prices Board chairman said there is no expectation of any change in controls over rentals and evictions. Controls had averted a very serious inflation of rents.

"Under existing conditions of congestion and housing shortages," Gordon stated, if controls were abandoned, rents would rise substantially and there would be many thousands of evictions."

Low Incomes Get Break In Australia

Canberra, Australia. — Australia's high income-taxes were left unaltered by the new budget announced by Prime Minister Chifley, but the purchasing power of the small wage earner was increased by a reduction in the sales tax on household essentials and clothing.

Covering the fiscal year ending June 30, 1947, the budget was presented as an anti-inflation" plan. Expenditure of $1,400,000,000 is provided for in the budget which also anticipates revenues $200,000,000 less than the former fiscal year. Wage, price and rent ceilings introduced during the war and due to expire next month are extended under the terms of the budget.

During the last two years the government has reduced taxation by a total of $200,000,000, Mr. Chifley pointed out, with the most recent cut, announced last July, lopping off 11 per cent. Current income tax rates levy $50 from a man with dependants and annual wage of $1,000; $700 from a man with dependants and an annual income of $3,000.

Mr. Chifley told parliament that the country's war organization had largely been dismantled and 520,000 men and women had been released from the services. Several hundred thousand civilians formerly employed in war industry had returned to their civilian jobs and the country was enjoying full employment. During the last year the number of persons employed in Australian factories had risen to 770,000 which was 20,000 better than the wartime peak and more than 200,000 above the 1939 level.

The budget eliminated special wartime customs charges which were fixed at 10 per cent of normal customs and excise duties. This reduction will apply to imports from Canada although they still are governed by a system of import control based on the conservation of exchange. Australia's largest recent imports from Canada are motor vehicles and newsprint.

Wall Street Clerks Vote To Join A. F. L.

New York.—Wall Street's big "white collar" union, the United Financial Employees, is now under the A.F. of L. banner.

Members of that independent organization, which represents clerical workers on the New York Stock and Curb Exchanges, have voted by more than a six to one majority to affiliate with the A.F. of L. Office Employees' International Union. Bids from the C.I.O. and District 50 of the United Mine Workers were rejected.

Leaders announced that an "all-out drive" will now be undertaken to unionize the financial district "100 per cent."

Over 900 members of the union have been covered in a new agreement with these exchanges.

Official Predicts Mortgage Panic

No man is better qualified to testify concerning the baneful results of unbridled real estate speculation than John H. Fahey, successful newspaper publisher, former president of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, and from its inception chief of the Federal Home Loan Bank Administration, which has loaned hundreds of millions of Uncle Sam's cash—and, miracle of miracles, got it back!

During the depression of the '30's he rescued more than a million homes from the auction block, and, incidentally, baled out banks, building and loan associations and other lending institutions which had gone hog-wild in making loans in the "roaring '20's."

The other day, in a letter to the United States Savings and Loan League, Fahey declared the United States is now "in the midst of the most serious inflation of real estate prices in our history."

He warned that the country "is in for a repetition of the conditions which caused the unprecedented mortgage panic of the '30's, with its attendant obliteration of thousands of lending institutions and the loss of billions of dollars to millions of people of small means."

Fahey protested that "many thousands of veterans and others are being forced to buy homes they cannot afford and will be unable to pay for."

If the earlier disacter is repeated, he said, there will be far-reaching consequences, and he added this word of advice to lending agencies:

"It is up to you to do everything in your power to curb present trends and bring down prices of homes and apartments."

Attlee Hopes For All-out Production

London.—Prime Minister Clement R. Attlee told the Parliamentary Labor Party that trade unions and employers' organizations must discard any restrictive practices which prevent allout industrial production.

Attlee was reported to have discussed a particularly urgent need to promote increased industrial production, giving a survey of the manpower problem and describing it as one of the most serious facing the government.

Asked for the Government attitude towards a 40-hour working week—which has been demanded by the labor unions—Labor Minister Isaacs said in the House of Commons that the length of the working week was a question to be settled by tse two sides of each industry. It should be considered "in the light of the circumstances of each industry and the economic position of the country."

He added:

"The Government is confident that in any discussions between the two sides in this question there will be a mutual realization both of the desirability of securing the maximum amount of leisure to the workers for recreational and social activities and of the vital importance of increasing production in the interests of our export trade."

It was understood that Attlee told the Parliamentary Labor Party that the government intended to establish conscription on a permanent basis with 18 months' service in the forces for all young men and five years on the reserve.

Legislation to implement this long-term conscription would be outlined in the speech from the throne opening the new session of Parliament and the necessary bill would be taken early in the session.

Canadian Industries High In Plant Output

New production records are being set in many Canadian industries, the Reconstruction and Supply Department revealed in a recent announcement.

There are many things which now are reaching retail stores in quantities far above the pre-war levels. Here are a few examples:

Shoes are going out to retail shops at a rate above the best pre-war years.

In the first seven months of this year, 250,000 radio sets were produced in July alone. That is at a rate of 720,000 a year. In 1937, the total production was 289,000.

In the production of range boilers, the figure is 30 per cent above pre-war production.

In 1937, paint production stood at $25,000,000 annually. Up to the end of August this year, production is running at the $50,000,000 annual rate.

The output of hot air furnaces now is running around 40,000 a year, compared to 20,561 in 1937.

Asphalt roofing—vital to new houses—is at an all-time high. Shingles are now pouring from factories at double the 1939 rate. Production of asphalt sidings in August this year was 900 per cent greater than in August, 1939.

The 1946 production of pig iron is not expected to be below the 1937 figures, despite the steel work stoppage, and 1937 was one of the best pre-war years. The same is true of steel ingots and castings. Sales of gasoline are at an all-time high, and in May and June soared well over the 100,000,000 gallon mark.

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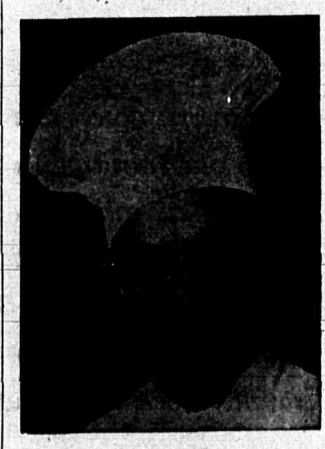

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79,000 People Can't Be Wrong

In the City of Vancouver there are three daily newspapers—two evening papers, The Sun and Province; one morning paper, The News-Herald.

Before a labor dispute overtook the Southam Publishing Company, its Daily Province was looked upon as its pride and joy. The Southams paid one million dollars for it and it grew to be British Columbia's finest daily paper. Its circulation soared to an average of 119,000 daily.

The "Province" had a reputation in Vancouver for square-dealing and integrity of purpose. Behind the scenes though, its mechanical staffs had to fight for everything they got in the way of wages and better working conditions. The general public heard little if anything of this aspect of the Company's private life. The people of Vancouver were wont to speak of its Daily Province with pride and even make comparisons with it and other daily newspapers in Canada.

Then the Southam Publishing Company went haywire. It permitted its general manager of the Winnipeg Tribune to tie up with the Siftons' Winnipeg Free Press in a union-smashing campaign. The Siftons hated unions, particularly the International Typographical Union, because it had more money to protect its members than most unions had. It therefore became necessary to hogtie the Tribune's manager to prevent him from signing any contract with the Union and thus thwart the Sifton plan. Some agreement toward this end was apparenly made, eventually resulting in all the Southam daily papers, except the Calgary Herald, becoming involved.

The Southams have taken a terrific loss in circulation and advertising. In Vancouver they have had to meet competition from the opposition papers. In Winnipeg, the Free Press had no other recourse than to carry the Tribune and force advertisers to use the Tribune whether they wanted to or not, othrwise they could not advertise in the Free Press.

Can the leopard change its spots or the Ethiopian his skin? No. Neither can the Southam Company change its real nature. The mask was torn aside and it was revealed to the public in its true light as a hard, grasping, avaricious and unprincipled company. It tried to emulate the Roman deity Janus, presenting to the citizens of Vancouver the face of injured innocence, but to its printers, who had given anywhere from 10 to 40 years of faithful service, it presented a contumelious face.

In order to save face with its subscribers, this Company then sponsored a strike-breaking union and used its "union' label on its front page. This attempt to make the people of Vancouver and Ottawa believe that the Southam "Province" and the "Citizen" were union operated, backfired. The "union" label was taken from the "Province" front page at the request of the Pressmen who objected to its use. The Southams had not become sufficiently adept with the tactics of A. Hitler & Co. The circulation of the Daily Province began to sink to unprecedented depths—from 119,000 to 40,000 daily.

This poses the question whether 79,000 citizens of Vancouver can be wrong and the Southams right?

The circulation of the Southam daily papers involved in the labor dispute has taken a beating. In Winnipeg, frantic efforts are being made to revive the Tribune and get it back into the good graces of its former subscribers. They have tried the magazine-with-paper stunt—it flopped. The quiz program continues. The beauty program in conjunction with the Vancouver Daily Province invoked the ire of the Saskatchewan University as a publicity stunt . They have given the paper away as sample copies, but the bad typography made it anything but attractive to the citizens. What next? They are now trying to run a ski school and canvassing the schools with posters which state that further information on the ski school can be obtained by reading the sports page of the Tribune. We understand this is a violation of the school bylaw which prohibits canvassing in the Winnipeg schools.

There must be approximately 100,000 people in Canada who have persistently refused to buy a Southam newspaper. Can all these people be wrong and the Southams right?—The Winnipeg News.

Veteran Vocational Training Tripled In Last 12 Months

"The old machine may have creaked a bit in the early stages but it successfully handled the chore that was placed before it." That was the way Arthur MacNamara, Dominion Deputy Minister of Labor, summed up the work of the Canadian Vocational Training organization during the past year in an address to the Vocational Training Advisory Council meeting attended by educationalists from all parts of the Dominion and held in Ottawa recently.

Mr. MacNamara pointed out that there were in September 35,800 veterans taking vocational training, three times as many as were enrolled one year ago. He stated that the rehabilitation training of veterans would probably continue for at least another year. It had been anticipated that a total of 100,000 veterans would request training. Up to the present time 70,000 veterans had been looked after.

The Deputy Minister also indicated what would be expected of the Vocational Training organization in the future. He said that although the emphasis on veterans' training must be continued until the job is finished, careful consideration should now be given to plans for the training of civilians who had been engaged in war work. He pointed out that it was becoming more and more important that the training given be related to employment opportunities.

R. F. Thompson, Director of Training, Department of Labor, in making his report to the meeting showed that at the end of September a total of 11,310 veterans were taking training under the "training-on-the-job" plan; 4,662 were taking training through arrangements with private schools; 6,411 were attending C.V.T. schools for pre-matriculation work, and 12,557 for vocational training; and 958 were taking correspondence courses arranged for by C.V.T.

Reports from every province indicated that veteran students who had taken their pre-matriculation courses at C.V.T. schools were coming to the universities better prepared than those from the ordinary high schools. H. W. Jamieson, Superintendent of Vocational Training, Department of Veterans' Affairs, endorsed these reports. He said that he was in touch with every university from coast to coast and that "without exception their experience has been that veterans are doing excellent work at universities," This was undoubtedly due, to a great extent, to the pre-matriculation training given by C.V.T. "We have something in this country which should not be allowed to disappear with the end of veterans' training.

Mr. Thompson gave the following figures in regard to those veterans training-on-the-job; carpenters, 462; painters, 250; plasterers, 50; plumbers and steamfitters, 537; and sheet metal workers, 188. Veterans placed in industry in those occupations from April 1, 1944, up to the end of September, 1946, were: carpenters, 885; cabinet makers, 379; bricklayers, 115; sheet metal workers, 342; painters and decorators, 412; plasterers, 111; and plumbers and steamfitters, 912.

A. W. Crawford, Director of Training, Department of Veterans' Affairs, expressed the appreciation of his department for the "splendid job" which had been accomplished by C.V.T. in the training of veterans. He stated that the numbers of veterans coming forward for training had been up to expectations and that the quality of training carried out had been increasing steadily until two months ago.

The Council passed a resolution recommending to the Directors of Apprenticeship a free and complete interchange of credits between the provinces, and that the Directors study the possibility of Dominion-wide uniform requirements in standards of attainment and hours of training.

United Garment Union Signs New Agreement

Toronto Locals 185 and 202, United Garment Workers of America, recently signed new agreements with the Hamilton Carhartt and Larned Carter companies with substantial improvements in wages and other working conditions.

All piece work rates were increased by approximately 15%. Cutters' and timeworkers' rates were raised 10c an hour.

A regular work week is now forty hours, divided into five days. Waiting for work or waiting as a result of machine failure will be paid for.

If members were not notified the previous day and report for work when work is not available, they are to be paid for four hours or be given other work at their average rates of pay.

A 25% increase in vacation pay was also obtained, and workers with three years' seniority will receive up to twelve days' vacation pay and also will be paid for Labor Day.

The new agreement was approved at a special membership meeting of both locals and is considered the best Canadian agreement signed by the Union in the shirt and overall line.

Unemployed Insurance Payments Information

The Congress Headquarters recently took up with the Unemployment Insurance Commission the question of supplying members, at the end of each year, with the number and amount of contributions made during the previous year. After consultation, it was found that it would be extremely expensive for the Commission to endeavour to supply this information in each individual case. There are over two million insured people in Canada now, and in some cases the information would be a year old before it could be made available.

We were informed, however, that it has always been the practice of the Commission to make this information available on request; and if any member wishes to know the number of days and the amount of contributions made on his behalf for any period, all he has to do is to make application, either personally or in writing, to his Local Employment Office and the information will be obtained for him. —Trades & Labor Congress Journal.

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A hypnotist was in court and being sued for divorce by his wife on charges of cruelty.

"Your honor," the woman complained to the judge, "my husband is the meanest man in the world. He hypnotized me into thinking I was a canary, and gave me birdseed for breakfast, lunch and dinner.'

The husband appeared very distraught. "I beg your pardon," he said, "but I don't think that was mean."

The magistrate's eyes popped: "How do you explain that?" he demanded.

"Well," replied the husband, "I could have hypnotized her into thinking she was a sparrow, and let her find her own food."

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Electricians, Employers Sign Trail-Blazing Pact

Leaders of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and the National Electrical Contractors' Association recently formally signed a precedent-making agreement which they had previously negotiated and under which 2,000 contractors will contribute to the union's liberal pension fund.

The signing was considered of such epochal importance that it was staged in the office of Secretary of Labor Lewis B. Schwellenbach. It was witnessed by newsmen and recorded by photographers.

Perhaps even more newsworthy than the ceremony was a statement put out by the association in which it told the "secret" of peaceful labor relations in the electrical industry.

The employers pointed out that the agreement was "successfully negotiated during a period of widespread labor unrest in other industry.

Good Relations No Mystery

"There is nothing mysterious about successful employer-employee relations. Given any normal problems of adjustment, it can be solved if employers and employees acting in good faith have the will to solve it."

Trouble in certain other industries was blamed largely on the injection of "legalities and high-sounding hocus-pocus."

By contast, "the successful relations in the electrical contracting industry have been established for more than a quarter of a century."

Machinery for settlement of disputes—capped by a joint council which functions as a sort of final court of labor relations—has existed that long and it has made the industry virtually strike-free.

How to Achieve Co-operation

This success was ascribed to an attitude of "reasonableness" on both sides.

'The long-time relationships between the N. E. C. A. and the I. B. E. W. are dedicated to the single proposition that cooperation is an art not to be had merely by wishing for it," the employers stressed. "It demands intelligence, honesty of purpose and just as constant attention as any other activities of the union and the employers."

Secretary Schwellenbach was much impressed by the statement. It is, he told reporters, "the most sensible and most understanding statement of employer-employee relations that I have seen since I've been secretary."

Signers of the agreement for the union were President Ed. J. Brown, Secretary G. M. Bugniazet, and C. F. Preller, a member of the Executive Council. For the contractor's association, the signers were President Robert W. McChesney, Executive Vice-President Paul M. Geary and E. C. Carlson, chairman of its labor relations committee.

Under the pact, more than 2,000 contractors who are members of the association will contribute 1 per cent of their payroll. This fund will be administered by a board of 15, composed of seven members of the union, seven of the industry and one public member, selected by the Secretary of Labor.

At the signing ceremony, Schwellenbach disclosed he had appointed Dr. Edwin E. Witte, University of Wisconsin economist and former member of the National War Labor Board, as the public member. Members of the board will receive no compensation.

Each quarter, this board will pay over to the union's pension benefit fund an amount equal to the total paid in by the Brotherhood's members for that quarter. Each member now pays 60 cents a month. Up to now, members who retired at 65 after at least 20 years of good standing received $40 a month from the union, but under recent convention action that was raised to $50. This is in addition to what the retired workers get from Uncle Sam's Social Security Fund.

"Social Justice" is Guide

Explaining why they entered into the agreement, officials of the contractors' association declared that the employers in the industry acted from "the same sense of social justice" which motivated the union in starting the pension fund.

The employers conceded that the benefits provided under the Social Security Act are insufficient and that the additional $50 a month would help sustain retired electricians "near the standard of living established by their normal income."

"We considered that the industry owed a great deal to men who had worked in it for a lifetime," the association added.

Taxi Drivers Seek Additional Wages

Dave Erickson, the business agent for Edmonton Local 514, International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs and Warehousemen (A. F. of L.) said in Edmonton recently that taxi drivers have opened negotiations asking a 48-hour week with a guaranteed minimum salary of $30 a week, plus commission.

Mr. Erickson said there was no talk of strike action. It was hoped, he said, that an amicable settlement of the demands would be reached.

Building Costs In Canada Up 60 P.C.

The Financial Post states that building costs in Canada rose between 47 and 62 per cent between 1939 and 1945, and a further unstated amount in 1946.

Lumber rose 70 per cent, glass, 81; paint, 25; brick, 16 per cent, and, says the report, cement, plaster and nails up only 8 to 9 per cent.

UNION MADE GOLD

Operating Engineers Local 3 reports 22 gold dredges in N. California now under closed shop agreement, nine others in negotiation, and seven organizing, with a total of 700 of its members engaged in this work from Siskiyou County on the north to Merced County in the south.

The Fighting Christ

Soon, around the whole world will be celebrated the birthday of, perhaps, the greatest warrior that ever lived, one who fought—not with firearms and swords, but with words and phrases; whose battlefield was the world; whose enemies were reactionaries and their flunkeys scared into servility by the golden rod of exploitation; whose reward was contempt, contumely and poverty, and whose end was the bloody death of a martyr. Such a fighting man was Jesus Christ.

Nor is this to be wondered at since he was born of a fighting Jewess who a short time before she gave him birth, stung by the servile conditions or Roman despotism, might be heard singing, no doubt with the fervency that the words of her song indicated:

"He hath showed strength with his arm; he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. He hath put down the mighty from their seats, and hath exalted the humble and meek." If anybody thinks that is mild language let him go and express the same sentiment in the country of some slave-owning despot.

Such was the song of Mary, and under the prenatal influences of the emotions that conjured it up, was it any wonder her son was one of the world's greatest warriors? The use of the term "greatest" is not hyperbole, since the effects of His struggles with ignorance and error, with superciliousness and servility, in moulding the institutions of men were probably greater than that produced by all the battles of any warrior known to history. Yet 'twas He who said: "Resist not evil, but whosoever shall smite thee on the right cheek turn to him the other also." Who would think that in these words He was merely teaching the idea of class solidarity? In order to understand this we must take into account the historical environment of the day, since He saw amongst the Jewish masses—a "scene of infinite wrangle, crimination, and recrimination, strife lingual, strife physical, strife legal. Therefore with militant work in mind he enjoined amongst them a life of peace amongst themselves." (Turn the other cheek also "was the counsel of a general, who discovering his soldiers fighting amongst themselves, commands upon them an attitude of forbearance towards each other, not in order to lessen their militancy, but precisely in order to increase their militancy."—Call of the Carpenter, 106. What a lesson for the workers of the world!

"Jesus sought to breed a type of man that would look oppression in the face and wring its neck. In him the warrior spirit was incarnate and all the more so in that he took not up the sword. A teacher revolutionist like Ferrer is more to be feared by the federated destroyers of the poor than an army with banners: because in him are the seeds of one hundred armies. Potent to the pulling down of strongholds is a warrior idea more than whole parks of artillery."—Ibid, 107.

When circumstances called for the use of either hand or tongue in emphasizing reproof, Jesus Christ was a doughty warrior as witness His whipping of the money-changers in the temple, or His remarks to the proud Pharisees when they ordered Him out lest Herod kill Him: "Tell that fox that I am going to continue healing for a day or two longer," and He refused to move an inch in response to unreasonable demands.

Speaking of the Jerusalem oligarchy on another occasion His "hot metaphors raced on the heels of one another surging from out of an oceanic wrath, and speeded by a poet's command of epithet: Child of Hell; ye blind guides; hypocrites; whited sepulchres; serpents; generation of vipers. How can ye escape the damnation of Hell?"

And this was the warrior who was so infinitely gentle that His reputation on that score is as wide as the world. "Gentle Jesus, meek and mild," are the words of the hymn. But his gentleness merely shows that He was voluntarily a warrior because He was too tenderhearted to keep the peace as long as oppression reared its reptilian head.

Such was the great character whose birthday will soon be celebrated around the world. Let us commemorate it by remembering that oppression is still rampant and that idealistic warriors are still badly needed.

Forty-Hour Week In New Zealand

An amendment to the factory act has provided for the application of the 5-day, 0-hour week, in all factories in New eZaland and time and a half as the statutory rate for all Saturday work.

A further statute empowers the arbitration court to fix hours of work for shops and offices and direct the day of closing, so as to reduce the working week to a 5-day, 40-hour week.

A. F. of L. Certifications In Saskatchewan

The United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, Local 1990, has been established as sole bargaining agency in the Piggot Construction Company at Prince Albert, it was announced recently by the Saskatchewan labor relations board.

Certification of this Local affects thirty-four employees.

Also certified recently in the same province were:

Bread and cake Local No. 250, chartered by the Bakery and Confectionery Workers' International Union of America, representing thirty employees of the Canadian Bakeries Limited, at Moose Jaw; and Western Canadian Greyhound Lines Employees, Division 1374, affiliated with the Amalgamated Association of Street, Electric Railway and Motor Coach Employees of America, representing twenty-two employees of the Prince Albert Northern Bus Lines Limited, Prince Albert.

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