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

NUMBER 564. VANCOUVER, CANADA, DECEMBER, 1945 Established 1924

BRITISH COLUMBIA CONTRACTS GOING TO EASTERN FIRMS

Despite Unemployment Situation Here Government Officials Are Awarding Contracts to Eastern Canada Firms — Local Firms Are Turned Down — Impediment to British Columbia Industry

SIX MILLION DOLLARS WORTH OF CONTRACTS have been given to contractors outside of this province in the past few months by provincial government officials, and organized labor thinks that in view of the intensified unemployment situation that an emphatic protest should be made. But where the work is being done in British Columbia efforts are being made to have it done with cheap labor.

Supporting the Building Trades Council in its emphatic protest against the letting of contracts to firms outside of British Columbia, the Trades and Labor Council will take the matter up with Premier Hart in an effort to stop such further contracts being awarded by officials of the Provincial Government.

Five road construction contracts have been let to such firms in the past few months. The Emile Anderson Construction Co. of Ontario was given a $1,300,000 job on the Hope-Princeton Highway, The W. C. Arnett Company of Ontario was given a $1,500,000 contract and the Dominion Construction Company a $1,500,000 on other parts of the highway. The Fred Mannix Company of Alberta was given a $1,300,000 for a road job from Commotion Creek to Peace River Highway and another job from the East Pine River for $170,000. These were let by the Provincial Department of Public Works.

Following this the B. C. Power Commission has just awarded a half million dollar contract to the Canadian Bridge Company of Walkerville, Ont., for 3600 tons of steel towers for transmission lines.

Change In Policy Needed

When it is realized that residents of British Columbia will have to pay the bills for this work, and that the unemployment situation is growing worse, it seems to organized labor that it is about time some drastic change was made in this policy by the government. Because it was considered good business in the past to award contracts to the lowest bidder, we feel that it is time that this policy was reconsidered and other means found for giving more work to provincial firms.

In connection with the road construction jobs, the Building Trades Council found out that more than half the men on some of these jobs were brought in from the East by the company, and the Eastern rate of pay was applied. When a protest was made to the Department of Labor, we were informed by the Minister of Labor that the contract provided that employees were to be: 1st, returned members of the Allied Forces; 2nd, local residents, and 3rd, residents within the province. The Minister stated that after investigation he found that there were not many employees of this type employed at all"; he promised to have this matter checked very carefully.

Lower Wage Scales

Two of these firms made application to the Regional War Labor Board to have a sliding scale of wages awarded for the jobs, which would run from 10c to 30c per hour below the prevailing wages for such work. Is it any wonder that these firms could give a low figure for the work when all these things are taken into consideration? The Regional War Labor Board did award those firms and the Building Trades Council is appealing the "Finding and Direction".

In the case of the steel tower contract, a local firm was about eight per cent higher than the Eastern firm, but our local firm pays wages four per cent higher. It was the intention of this local firm to have an addition constructed to their present plant, to provide for a galvanising unit so that the firm could take care of future steel contracts, among which would be further B. C. Power Commission work, the B. C. Electric Bridge River transmission lines and similar work. The unit would have cost $100,000, but because this firm was about $60,000 higher than the eastern firm, this expansion is held up.

When it it remembered that all the money spent on these and other towers, will have to be paid for by residents of British Columbia, we certainly think that there is need for a change of policy by our government officials.

Callously Indifferent

When we also realise that the unemployment problem in British Columbia, especially among returned men, is growing in intensity, we must come to the conclusion that our government officials are either utterly ignorant or callously indifferent to the unemployment crisis in our midst.

The Building Trades Council says that instead of impeding industry by enabling eastern firms to profit and thereby continue to successfully underbid British Columbia firms, the B. C. Power Commission, and the Department of Public Works should have given that needed impetus to our industries thereby enabling them to be in a better position to assist in relieving future unemployment problems.

The Council thinks that competitive bidding should be kept within the province, and that if there is no competitive bidding, that our local firms should be given a chance to obtain the contract by some means of government supervision of costs.

Stevenson Heads Carpenters' Council

Jack Stevenson of Vancouver was elected president of the Provincial Council of Carpenters at the close of a two-day convention in Labor Headquarters, Beatty Street.

Alex Simms, Victoria, is vice-president; Howard Lyons, Vancouver, is secretary.

Thirty-one delegates from 20 locals of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters attended. They passed resolutions in favor of a 40-hour week with no reduction in pay for all carpenters in British Columbia.

They wired to Prime Minister King protesting against Bill 15 as "giving arbitrary powers to the governor-in-council" and "as a revival of Section 98 of the Criminal Code." Section 98 was long the subject of bitter protest by laborites.

The meetings terminated with a banquet in Hotel Georgia.

A science note says there are 50,000,000 insects in one square mile of air. Of course there are; didn't everyone of them land on our neck when we were fishing out at Clear Lake?

NOAH KNEW HIS STUFF

Concluding the Sunday School lesson with a clinching question, the teacher asked, "Why did Noah take two of each kind of animal into the Ark?"

"Because," answered a bright lad, "he didn't believe in the stork."

Alderman-Elect R. K. GERVIN
General Secretary-Organizer, Trades and Labor Council; Vice-President St. Railwaymen's Union, Div. 101

PERCY R. BENGOUGH
President, Trades and Labor Congress of Canada.

R. K. Gervin Gets City Council Seat

R. K. Gervin, General Secretary of the Vancouver, New Westminster and District Trades and Labor Council, was elected to the City Council in the Civic election, making second place in the results.

Brother Gervin obtained 14,419 votes which were only 168 votes below Alderman H. L. Corey, who is a member of the Typographical Union. Alderman Jones and Alderman Price were also re-elected. Alderman Price is a member of the Street Railwaymen's Union.

Brother Gervin, was a candidate on the United Labor Candidates ticket, having been nominated by the Trades and Labor Council, but he was "adopted" as a "Non-Partisan Association" candidate along with the other three above mentioned aldermen and was one of the four elected out of eighteen contestants.

General Hospital Signs Agreement

A union agreement was signed recently between Vancouver General Hospital and Vancouver Hospital Employees' Federal Union.

William M. Black, union business agent, said the contract provides:

(1) Appointment of hospital and union bargaining committees which will meet at request of either party to settle disputes which may arise between the hospital and its workers.

(2) If the bargaining committee are unable to reach agreement on ad ispute, it will be submitted to arbitration and the arbitration award will be binding on both hospital and union.

(3) A union maintenance clause under which any hospital employee belonging to the union must continue their membership as a condition of their employment.

The agreement, which becomes effective January 1, also provides for a slight upward increase in hospital salaries and inclusion of the $19.92 a month cost-of-living bonus in the basic wage.

BURNABY FIREFIGHTERS' OFFICERS FOR 1946

Burnaby Fire Fighters Union, No. 323, elected the following officers for 1946: president, Gordon Monk; vice-president, Samuel Davies; secretary-treasurer, Roderick MacRae.

FILM EXCHANGE UNION ELECTS OFFICERS FOR 1946

Film Exchange Employees Union, Local B-71, of the IATSE & MPMO, elected the following officers for 1946: president, Sam Isman; vice-president, Marvin Proudlock; secretary-treasurer, Donald H. Findley; business agent, John Allison; recording-secretary, Doreen Fitzpatrick.

GIGANTIC LOBBY IS SET UP BY REALTORS

Another lobby has been set up in Washington. In order to head off any program of public housing which will interfere with their profits, real estate interests have formed what they call a "research foundation" and have endowed it with a fund of $500,000.

Protests Efforts To Divide Labor-Veterans

Strenuous protests have been made against what looks like an effort to create dissention in the ranks of the returned veterans against the trades union movement. Despite the fact that the individual in person is denying such motives, there appears to be enough convincing information about the man and his statements to warrant our protests and to make us wary of his motives.

The Building Trades Council sent the following report to the Trades and Labor Council, and it is herewith published to assist in the counteracting of any similar statements. The letter says:

"The Building Trades Council takes this opportunity to inform you and the organized labor movement, that the alleged statements made recently by Lewis MacDonald, an officer of a local branch of the Canadian Legion, in which he attacked the trade unions, does not apply to unions affiliated with the Building Trades Council, nor so far as we can find out, does it apply to any unions affiliated to your council.

"Hundreds of returned veterans are now working in the construction industry, and practically all of them have been taken into the various trades without the payment of any initiation fee. In any case where an initiation fee has been charged, it has not been more than five dollars, and our officers of these unions have yet to hear a complaint from any veteran who has paid it.

"Our unions have given every assistance to the returning veterans, not only in placing them on jobs, but also helping them to get adjusted on the job.

"For the past year and a half the Building Trades have been meeting with contractors and government officials in drawing up an apprenticeship and training plan to take care of these veterans. The plan not only provided for a decent wage while the men were under apprenticeship, but it also cut in half the time needed in providing for the payment of a journeymen's scale of wages.

"Statements made by such persons as Mr. Lewis MacDonald are received by us with misgiving. There does not appear to have been any effort made by him to verify his statements or to correct them before making them public property, hence we feel that despite the damage that was attempted, returned veterans know that they have had the co-operation of the Building Trades, and we believe that can be said generally of the rest of our movement.

PERCY BENGOUGH RE-ELECTED TO I.L.O. GOVERNING BODY

President Percy R. Bengough of The Trades and Labor Congress of Canada was re-elected to represent the Workers' Group as a member of the Governing Body of the International Labor Organization at the Paris Conference recently. The new Governing Body is elected for a period of three years and meets from time to time at the call of the Directr of the I. L. O.

I'm not old, so long as I continue setting a bad example for the youth of the community.

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.*
R. H. NEELANDS, *Executive Member.*
TOM PARKIN, *Executive Member.*
ERNIE HOLMES, *Executive Member.*
C. E. HERRETT, *Executive Member.*
H. W. WATTS, *Managing Editor.*

Firm Cuts Hours, Boosts Pay

If General Motors, Westinghouse, and the other major corporations want a pattern for their wage policies, Black & Decker Manufacturing Co. here has it—for free.

Black & Decker announced that on Jan. 1 it would reduce its work week from 45 to 37½ hours, and at the same time provide a 20 per cent wage increase.

To make the 1700 employees of the firm even happier, the management gave a cash bonus on Dec. 1 to tide them over the holidays, and hired 200 more workers.

The reason for all this was explained in a formal announcement commenting on the new tax law abolishing the surplus profits levy saying it "gives management another opportunity to pass along to our employees unsolicited benefits of a very substantial nature, and at the earliest possible date."

BAKERY WORKERS FORM NEW DISTRICT

The Bakery and Confectionery Workers' International Union is proceeding with organization work in Western Canada, and has placed the four western provinces, British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba, in a new district, No. 10.

A convention of representatives of all the local unions in District No. 10 was held recently in Calgary.

A man's eyes are like a bird . . . they flit from limb to limb.

BUILDING PRODUCTS WORKERS CERTIFIED

Winnipeg Building Products' Workers' Federal Union No. 212 has been certified as the bargaining agency for the workers employed in Building Products Limited and the Union has now presented the management with their proposed agreement.

SURPLUS SHIPYARDS

The United States Navy announces that it has turned 126 shipyards and industrial plants over to the Surplus Property Administration for disposal.

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*

Speaking of Dictatorships!

General Motors is one of the largest corporations in America, and that means in the world. It is engaged in an acrimonious controversy with its employees which has paralized a large sector of the automobile industry.

The dispute is about wages. General Motors says it can't pay the increase demanded by the union, and the union retorts, "Give us a look at your books."

General Motors' reply, as voiced by one of its vice-presidents, Harry M. Anderson, is truly extraordinary: "Under no circumstances will General Motors open its books to the union. We don't even open our book to our stockholders."

Now the stockholders own General Motors and Vice-President Anderson is just their hired man, but Mr. Anderson tells the world that even the owners of General Motors will not be permitted to look at these sacred records.

So far as we have seen, not a single daily newspaper has uttered a word of criticism of Mr. Anderson's statement.

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FIVE PER CENT

Because I have ten thousand pounds I sit upon my stern,
And leave my living tranquilly for other folks to earn.
For in some provocative way that isn't very clear,
Ten thousand pounds will breed, they say, five hundred every year.
So as I have a healthy hate of economic strife;
I mean to stand aloof from it the balance of my life
And yet with sympathy I see the grimy son of toil,
And heartily congratulate the tiller of the soil.
I like the miner in the mine, the sailor on the sea;
Because up to five hundred pounds they sail and mine for me.
For me their toil is taxed unto that annual extent,
According to the holy shibboleth of five per cent.
So get ten thousand pounds, my friend, in any way you can
And leave your future welfare to the noble working man.
He'll buy your suits of Harris tweed, an Airdale and a car,
Your golf club and your Morning Times, your whisky and cigar,
He'll cosily install you in a cottage by the stream,
With every modern comfort, and a garden that's a dream.
Or if your tastes be urban, he'll provide you with a flat,
Secluded from the clamour of the proletariat,
With pictures, music, easy chair, a table of good cheer;
A chap can manage nicely on five hundred pounds a year.
And though around you painfully signs of industry you view,
Why should you work when you can make your money work for you?
So I'll get down upon my knees, and bless the working man,
Who offers me a life of ease through all my mortal span.
Whose loins are lean to make me fat, who slaves to keep me free,
Who dies before his prime to let me round the century,
Whose wife and children toil in turn until the strength is spent,
That I may live in idleness upon my five per cent.
And if at times they surse me, why should I feel any blame,
For, in my place, I know that they would do the very same.
Aye, though they hoist a flag that's red on Sunday afternoon,
Just offer them ten thousand pounds and see them change their tune.
So I'll enjoy my dividends and live my life with zest,
And bless the mighty man who first invented interest.

—Anonymous.

White-Collar Workers

By A. J. D.

Nearly two-thirds of a group of experts participating in a labor poll believe: "It is to the interest of the white-collar and professional employees to belong to unions."

The poll was held by the American Magazine; and the results will be in the December issue. Here is a preview.

Dr. Arthur Kornhauser, Columbia University Bureau of Applied Social Research conducted the poll.

Experts representing labor, business and the professions were asked as to the advisability of white-collar employees affiliating with unions. Answer: Yes 63 per cent.; No 15 per cent.; Doubtful 22 per cent.

Percentages among experts from business were: Yes 33 per cent.; No 27 per cent.; doubtful 40 per cent.

Among all other experts, the poll showed that five out of every six expressed the view that unions are a good thing for the employees. The reasons given were that white-collar employees need to exert group pressure to protect and advance their interests.

Here's how the experts voted on whether white-collar and professional employees are better or worse off than before the war: Worse off 72 per cent.; better off 13 per cent.; no difference 10 per cent.; doubtful 5 per cent.; worse hit than manual workers 87 per cent.; less affected 0 per cent.; no difference 7 per cent.; doubtful 6 per cent.

"Other groups considered badly off are clerical workers and retail sales people. Government employees are often mentionad."

More than four out of five experts say definitely that steps should be taken to improve the position of the white-collar groups, and the majority advocate active remedial measures by government, employers and employees themselves.

In British Columbia the teachers have affiliated with the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada. This is true also of the Retail Clerks Union which has shown definite progress in the past few years. The provincial government employees recently voted to join the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada.

Fund For Mobile Hospitals For Poland

The United Polish Relief Fund Committee, currently appealing to British Columbians to raise $10,000 to purchase two mobile hospitals for Poland, reports the response to its initial announcements has been good from outside points but contributions from Vancouver have not been as much as anticipated.

The Committee, through Chairman Douglas Brown, asks us in a spirit of thankfulness that we have been spared the devastation of war and the tragic aftermath of disease plagues to "Share Our Christmas Joy" with Poland.

Contributions—large or small — may be sent to the United Polish Relief Headquarters, 850 West Hastings Street, Vancouver. Cheques should be made payable to the United Polish Relief Fund.

Your dollars will speed mobile hospitals to Poland!

There was the wife who wondered where here husband went nights . . . So one night she came home early—and there he was!

—Walter Winchell.

This Is War

You Get Out of Your Union Only What You Put Into It

Do you ever wonder what you get out of your union? Of course you do. What is your answer? Invariably you are in doubt as to whether you are getting anything out of it and why. What do you get out of your church or lodge that you may belong to, your home or family? Do you get anything out of them? If you do it is because you mett your obligations to them, for what you get out of anything you must first put in. Generally, what you get out depends upon how much you put in.

Did you ever try and draw your money out of a bank before first putting some in? If you did you had the experience of learning a lesson in gravity—that before you can expect to get something you must first put something in.

You may purchase an automobile, but unless you put something in it—oil, gas and water—it will not operate. And so it is with your union. Because you join a union does not make that union function successfully. The union needs life to operate. It needs fuel, and that fuel comes from the membership of the union. They must supply it, and from no other source can it come. Money is essential but manpower and mental applications supply the fuel. You can purchase oil and gas for your automobile, but unless you apply them to their task, they would be worthless. So it is with the payment of moneys—unless you apply those moneys to the task to which they were contributed, they would become worthless.

In order to make money work and bring a return it must be applied to its task judiciously, and that requires the active cooperation of those who are the contributors. When you pay your dues to the union, you do not cease to be the possessors of that money. You are placing it in atrust fund over which you have a voice and vote.

Try to look upon your union as your investment, your economic insurance against low wages, long hours of labor, unsanitary conditions of employment, poor food, excessive charge for uniforms, and maintenance, cruel and abusive treatment. If you can view the purpose of your union from that angle and realise the necessity of giving your help, then you will get a return on your investment. But if you are going to pas sthe buck to others and try and sit on top of the world and wait for the parade to pass by, there is little hope that your investment will prove profitable to you.

"The Bridgemen's Magazine"

ISN'T IT THE TRUTH

Organized labor in the United States has time and time again informed the government that the Cost of Living Index published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (Federal Government) is misleading. Now the new Minister of Labor has announced that after an investigation it has been revealed that the former method and name was misleading and the new name will be "Consumers' Price Index for Moderate Income Families in Large Cities" instead of the "Cost of Living Index". The Canadian "Index" has been "haywire" also.

A nation's morals are like its teethe the worse they are decayed the more it herts to touch them.

—Bernard Shaw.

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G. Johnson, Proprietor

A good thing to remember,
And a better thing to do,
Is work with the construction gang,
Not with the wreckin' crew.
—Maurine Hathaway.

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What of Political Action in Unions?

When we sit down to express an editorial opinion, there are many rules to be observed, certain taboos to be avoided, and yet at the same time an editorial can be of little value if it does not express an opinion that is both constructive and of an educational and progressive nature.

N. H. Compton

Therefore when you read that we are going to write our feeling on political action, there are many who will throw up their hands and cry aloud, "This is a union paper and the policies of our International is to leave politics to the politicians, and besides such action is in contravention of the constitution." But, my friends, just a moment, stay with us for a while.

Politics in unions is not a recent inovation, it dates back to the dim dark past of the 1890's when Samuel Gompers that great leader of the A.F. of L. held sway. It was he who first saw the advantages of power politics and first devised the standard A.F. of L policy of "reward your friends and punish your enemies." From this inauspicious beginning has originated the powerful pressure blocks of today, such as the C.I.O. Political Action Committee, which worked fo rthe re-election of President Roosevelt in 1944.

It was in the year of 1896 that the A.F. of L. moved its headquarters to Washington where it could take a more active part in pressure politics. In the year 1908 the A.F. of L. asked that both political parties include in their platforms legislation prohibiting the use of the Sherman Anti-Trust Act against labor unions. The Republicans not only ignored the demand, but nominated William Howard Taft, who as a judge had issued many injunctions against labor. The Democrats on the other hand went on record as opposed to the use of the Anti-Trust against labor, from then on the A.F. of L. leaders worked for the election of Bryan, the standard bearer of the Democratic party that year. Though not successful in this initial attempt at political action, by the year 1912 the organization of the A.F. of L. succeeded in helping to elect that great Democrat, Woodrow Wilson. Although non-partisan in theory, the A.F. of L. has tended since 1908 to unofficially support the Democratic party.

For the past forty years this policy has not changed to any marked degree. In fact on the contrary today more and more people are hiding their heads in the sand at the mention of political action in the union meeting. Such persons feel that outward expression of political beliefs are to be hidden from society as a loathsome disease. They feel politics is only a fit subject for discussion every four years whe nthe candidates visit the local ridings with their hue and cry for votes.

This is the attitude that as much as anything else is "selling Labor down the river." Politics is all important in our daily lives, day in, day out, week by week, month by month all through the year.

How can we hope to get Union Security, decent base rates of pay, health insurance, paid holidays, increased Social Security, when all of these issues are controlled by—Labor Relations Board, Regional War Labor Boards, National War Labor Board, etc., appointed by the government if we do not work to elect governments who are pledged to give us these benefits so vital to the well being of our daily lives.

It is time, my friends, that we elect our Locals, active Political Action Committees whose business it will be, from month to month, to inform the Union of the trend of political thought and action. This committee will work to bring before the local members in both the Federal and Provincial Governments, the issues dear to the hearts of the workers in this community. This committee will report back at the union meeting the actions of our elected representatives and the way they vote in Parliament on matters vital to the cause of Labor. In such a way the members of these unions may be informed over the period of time between today and the next election; and when that time comes then the rank and file, educated by the reports of the Political Action Committee, will rise up and do their duty at the polls, voting intelligently and with reason, for that friend of Labor.

—Newman H. COMPTON, Paper-Makers Local 360, in "The United Worker," Ocean Falls.

A SUPREME COURT JUSTICE

How well this figure represents the Law—
This pose of neuter Justice, a sterile Cant;
This Roman Emperor with the iron jaw,
Wrapped in the black silk of a maiden-aunt.

—Louis Untermeyer.

ERNIE G. COOK
Business Agent, Iron Workers' Union, Local No. 97.

WILLIAM JAMES
Business Agent, Building Laborers, Plasterers' Helpers, Cement Finishers Union, Local No. 602.

Sound Philosophy

During World World II:—

Casualties in the British Commonwealth until May 31, 1945, were 434,85 killed and missing; 468,388 wounded.

Casualties in the U.S.A. until V-J Day were 296,352 killed and missing; 651,168 wounded.

Casualties in the Soviet Union until V-E Day totalled 12 to 15 million civilians and Red Army personnel killed.

These figures represent but a portion of the casualties of World War II.

The suffering caused by World War II is too vast for people fully to grasp or feel: millions of Frenchmen, Rusians, Jews, Poles and others imprisoned in Nazi concentration camps, executed in horror chambers or tortured for years; 84 million people in China driven from their homes. So long as there is war, so long will there be suffering.

The full accounting of the destruction caused by World War II will take years to compile. A few examples will convey some idea of its extent.

In Greece, between April, 1941, and March, 1944, 1,085 towns and villages weer destroyed;

In Great Britain, one of every three homes was damaged or destroyed by air action;

In Holland, at least five years will be required to return to cultivation the land inundated by salt water;

In Belgium, damage to railways alone is estimated as over $50 million.

In the U.S.S.R., during the war, 71,700 towns and villages were destroyed.

Figures as to the cost in money of World War II are so astronomical as to be meaningless. Up to March 31, 1945, World War II had cost Canada alone over $15 billion. This amount would pay for:

A house for every second family in Canada at $8,000;

House repairs for every other family up to $210;

And for every family —a car at $1,000; a refrigerator at $200; a washing machine at $150; a radio at $100; a vacuum cleaner at $50; a sewing machine at $100; a cooking stove at $150; new furniture worth $200.

Union Label Buying More Than Half the Job

I. M. Ornburn, Secretary-Treasurer
Union Label Trades Department
American Federation of Labor

On behalf of the Union Label Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor, I wish to express our appreciation for the keen interest the officials and members of all affiliated unions in Canada have shown in every campaign for union labels, shop cards, and service buttons. I also desire to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to the editors of the Canadian labor press for their co-operation in every Union Label drive to urge their readers o buy only Union Label goods and to use only union services. The members of Women's Auxiliaries and Union Label Leagues of the Dominion have also given their ardent support to our great cause and it is the combined effort of the members of labor unions, their families and friends, as consumers, that will sustain American labor union standards.

When the members of a labor union, through collective bargaining establish decent wages, shorter hours and better working conditions, they have completed only half their job. The other half is buying back the Union Label goods and patronizing the Union services — the source of their union wages. This means that we must patronize only those manufacturers, merchandisers and other firms that display the Union Label, Shop Card, or Service Button. This is the best peacetime recovery plan to sustain purchasing power to a point that will guarantee permanent prosperity in Canada as well as in the United States.

Collective bargaining and intelligent buying are a fifty-fifty proposition. Every trade unionist must work union and buy union to secure his job at decent pay. Our returning veterans are rapidly discovering these facts when they apply for employment and are offered jobs at sweatshop wages.

SAME PRINCIPLE

A Negro was accusedby a friend of insulting the minister by asking him to pray for his floating kidney.

"Why, that was no such a insult! Whut's the matter with askin' him to pray for a floatin' kidney? Las' week he done prayed for the loose livers!"

Women bathers are wearing just enough to cover where they should get tanned for wearing so little.

—Reader's Digest.

Air Lines Adopt Forty-hour Week

While many spokesmen for business interests, including C. E. Wilson, head of General Motors, assert that it is impossible for industry to meet union demands that reductions in hours worked per week should result in no reductions in workers' weekly earnings, the Air Transport association announced recently that nine airlines have already put into effect the 40-hour week without reduction in pay.

The airlines which have adopted the 40-hour week include American Airlines, American Export Airlines, Eastern Air Lines, Mid-Continent Air Lines, Northwest Airlines, Pan American Airways, Pennsylvania Central Airlines, Transcontinental and Western Air, and United Air Lines.

The 40-hour week will be in effect on most, if not all, the airlines of the United States by January 1. The move will increase airline personnel by 20 per cent and raise the employment rolls to about 120,000 by the end of 1947, the association reports.

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Medical Association Battles Legislation

Pressure from the organized doctors of America is expected to make Congress move slowly on President Harry S. Truman's charter for health carrying out President Roosevelt's economic bill of rights provision for adequate medical care for all Americans. The American Medical Association, fortress of private medicine, warned Chicago that it would battle the proposal as "socialized medicine", despite specific guarantees confined in it to avoid just such criticism.

The health insurance program contained in the proposal would cost an estimated $3 billion annually to be paid for under taxes, and it carries adequate provision to halt attacks from reactionary doctors and surgeons.

Community Chest Campaign is on its way for better for worse, for richer for poorer—We watch its progress with anxious eyes.

Full Health Care In New Union Pa[ct]

Seattle, Wash.—Signing of a con[tract] granting full medical, surg[ical] and hospital care for 1100 Seat[tle] apartment house employees by the Building Service Employees Inter[na]tional Union brings to 2500 the num[ber] of privately employed work[ers] who have gained this security throu[gh] the union in two months.

In adidtion, county commission[ers] announced they were following su[it] for 2500 county employees to b[ring] terms of public employment cons[is]tent with those of private emplo[y]ment. A sum to cover the costs h[as] been included in the county's 194[6] budget.

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4th Assessment, Oct. 1, 1945	5.00
Total for year	$25.00

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You may pay your full year's computed costs of $25.00 in advance, saving you time and expense, which hundreds of our members prefer to do, for should a Policy become a Claim, any assessments paid in advance at that date, will be refunded, so there could be no loss to the holder by paying in advance.

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Hoarding Sugar For Huge Profit Gyp

The sugar situation remains a mystery. A U.S. government official who knows the facts admitted that sugar shipments for relief of Europe and other parts of the world make only a small dent in the American supply and are no reason for scarcity.

Sugar production in the United States has been encouraged by subsidies to both growers and refiners. Prices paid to the big sugar companies of Puerto Rico and Cuba were raised during the war to boost imports from those two main sources of supply.

In view of these measures, the present scarcity is hard to explain. Is someone hoarding sugar until control of its retail price ends?

Men who know the sugar "game" say that whenever the retail price goes above 5 cent a pound, there is profiteering, and that each one-cent increase in the price puts $100,000,000 a year into someone's pocket.

The big money in sugar is made by the refining companies and by the big plantation owners—most of them Americans—in Cuba and Puerto Rico and Hawaii.

"You Gotta Have Competition!"

Competition may be the life of commerce, but it is the ruin of the human mind.—W. B. Yeats.

"Workers of the future will require fears of unemployment and poverty to ensure the necessary drive in this world of internal and international competition."—The Bankers' Magazine, London, Aug. 1943.

Competitiveness and agressiveness are the dominant themes of our culture—those which appear most productive of neuroses.—Dr. R. D. Gillespie, Prominent British Psychiatrist.

Suppose 100 men produced 100 loaves of bread. If they piled them in a heap and fought for them, so that some got more than they could eat and some got none, that would be competition. Were it not for that competition the hundred men would all be fed.—Robert Blatchford.

ALICE IN WONDERLAND

Big business economics: "Make a lot of stuff to sell to the workers and pay them so little to make it that they can't buy it back!"

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A New Floor for Wages

By BORIS SHISHKIN,
A. F. of L. Economist

The American Federation of Labor is urging Congress to establish a minimum wage of 65 cents an hour. Is that unreasonable or extravagant? Let's see.

Suppose you are paid 65 cents an hour. Working 40 hours a week, you earn $26 a week. But there is a catch: $26 is what you earn, but that is not what you get.

Even if you have dependents, your withholding tax knocks the $26 down to $22.50. Social security and other small deductions bring it down to $22. Now, surely, this should be all yours to spend on yourself and your family. But wait! Haven't you forgotten something? How about that rainy day? Of course you would like a little something saved up. If you could only afford it, you would like very much to have 10 per cent taken out of your pay for that Victory savings bond. But you can't quite make it: you are a pretty low-paid worker anyhow and, besides, not much of a saver. The very best you can do is to try to save $100 a year. This means that another $2 a week comes out of the pay envelope before your pay gets home. And all you have left for yourself and your family to live on is just $20.

Now, if you are an hourly-paid worker, you know very well that you don't have much chance to work every week in a year. In most jobs there are seasonal layoffs. But suppose your luck holds and you get a break, and you work 50 weeks in the year. That will mean that you and your family will have, at the most, $1000 a year, or $83 a month, to live on. Count them over now, very carefully—$83 a month. For you and your wife and two kids.

And don't forget, you will have to pay 1945 prices. Your $83 a month today will buy only $69 worth of necessities of life at prewar prices. That makes your 65 cents an hour wage today exactly the same as 46 cents an hour in 1939.

To provide a bare minimum of subsistence living for a family of four today would take a wage of 87 cents an hour. The 65-cent minimum wage would give you only three-quarters of a minimum living.

Is the 65-cent minimum wage, then, too much to ask in a country with the greatest productive capacity in the world? Is the 65-cent minimum wage extravagant? Figure it for yourself. And while you still have that pencil handy to do your figuring, write a postcard to your Congressman, asking him to support the 65-cent minimum wage law.

NEW BREWERY WORKERS' AGREEMENT

Brother John Gavin, Organizer for the International Union of the United Brewery, Flour, Cereal and Soft Drink Workers of America, reports that his organization recently renewed agreements with Canadian Breweries for the employees at Toronto, Waterloo, Windsor, and Ottawa. The agreements call for a forty-four hour work-week, two weeks' vacation with pay, full pay for statutory holidays, and a forty-five hour work-week for drivers and helpers, to be worked in five days, with vacations and pay for statutory holidays.

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Trades Union Directory

LABOR HEADQUARTERS, 529-531 BEATTY STREET

Aeronautical (I.A.M.) Lodge No. 756—Business Agent, Tom Price, 413 Granville St.; Phone PAcific 6631.

[illegible] Lodge No. 1760—Secretary, Ora Percy, 1719 London Street, New Westminster.

Auto Workers' Union, Lodge No. 1857, I.A. of M.—Secretary, J. W. Corbett, Room 6, 413 Granville St.; Phone PAcific 6631.

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

Barbers' Union, Local 493—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 6954.

Bakers' Int. Union of North America—Secretary, H. Murphy, 144 W. Hastings; PAc. 7524.

Beverage Dispensers' Union, Local 676—Business Manager, J. P. Nohan, Room A, 535 Homer St.; MArine 4948.

Beverage Dispensers and Culinary Workers No. [illegible]—Secretary, W. Morton, 81 Campbell Ave., New Westminster.

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

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

Bookbinders' Union, Local 105—Recording Secretary, Mrs. W. Leak, 1557 Larch Street.

Brewery Workers' Union, Local 300—Secretary, Ed. Sims, 5393 Clarendon St.

Bricklayers' Union, Local No. 1—L. Padgett, Sr., 2066 W. Eighth; BAy. 1869-R.

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

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. 512R.

Carpenters (Nanaimo), Local No. 527—Secretary, Wm. Little, 317 Irwin St., Nanaimo, B. C.

Carpenters' Union (Chilliwack), No. 1848—Secretary, S. A. Borrell, 590 R. R. 1, Chilliwack, B. C.

Carpenters' Union No. 513 (Port Alberni)—Secretary, R. Stubb, Box 966, Port Alberni, B. C.

City Hall Employees, Local 59—Secretary, J. Tarbuck, 3917 West Eleventh, Elliott 944-L.

Civic Employees' Union (Burnaby), No. [illegible]—Secretary, J. Grover, 3813 Myrtle Ave., New Westminster.

Civic Employees' Union, Local 28—Business Agent, Dave Ross, 195 East Pender; Phone Acific 4848.

C.P.R. Constables and Special Agents, Local No. 112—Secretary, G. A. Saunders, 4460 East Pender St.

Commercial Telegraphers' Union, C.P.S. Division No. 1—Secretary W. D. Brine, Box 432, Vancouver, B. C.

Distillery, Rectifying and Wine Workers Int. Local 92—Secretary, Frank Davie, 2189 West 47th Ave.

Distillery Workers, Local No. 69—Secretary, Eileen Davidson, 1053 17th Ave., New Westminster, B. C.

Electrical Workers' Union, Local 213—Business Manager, Jack Ross, 531 Beatty St.; MArine 6736.

Elevator Constructors, Local 82—Secretary, R. Holmes, 531 Beatty Street.

Embalmers, Undertakers and Assistants Union, No. 23374—Secretary, J. A. Dougall, 1324 Nicola Street; Phone MArine 3561.

Engineers, Hoisting and Portable, Local 115—Business Agent, Chas. Wren, 193 E Hastings, Ste. 114-16; MArine 2649.

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, Donald Finlay, 2539 Birch Street.

Fire Fighters, City, Local 918—Secretary, Chas. A. Watson, 935 East 20th.

Fire Fighters, New Westminster, Local 256—Secretary, Loyd C. Bussey, No. 1 Fire Hall, 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—Tom Alton, Business Agent, 1384 Nelson St.; Phone MAr. 5883.

Gas Workers' Union, Local No. 378—Secretary, A. F. Chandler, 2535 Elizabeth Ave., New Westminster, B.C.

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

Hospital Employees' Union, No. 180—Secretary, W. H. Lewis, 2226 West 13th Avenue.

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, 531 Beatty Street; Phone PAcific 4740.

Jewelry Workers' Union, No. 42—Secretary, Carl Zuker, 413 Granville; Phone PAcific 7933.

Ladies' Garment Workers, Local 276—Business Agent, C. Carr, 2836 East 22nd; DEx. 2782-M.

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

Laundry Workers, No. 292—Secretary, W. A. Taylor, 2694 E. 5th Ave.; Phone HAstings 4224-R.

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

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

Machinists, Local 182—Secretary, J. Bygate, 1734 E. Seventh; HA. 5760-Y.

Machinists' Lodge, No. 151—Secretary, H. Walsh, 1141 Douglas Road, New Westminster.

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

Maintenance-of-Way Employees, Local [illegible]—Secretary, R. McLure, 1736 East 5th Avenue.

Maintenance-of-Way Employees, Local No. 167 (C.P.R.)—Secretary, F. J. Doyle, 3631 Trafalgar; BAy. 9656-R.

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

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

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

Molders' Union, Local 281—Secretary, Alec Paterson, 1609 Cypress Street.

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, Mrs. Rene Nellilsen, 339 W. Pender; PAc. 9481.

Painters, Local 138—Business Manager, J. Raven, 531 Beatty St.; MAr. 1530; Res.: HAst. 5879-L.

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, H. W. Halverson, 1523 Seventh Ave.

Pile Drivers and Wooden Bridgemen, Local 2404—Business Agent, E. 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, Archie Mathieson, 529 Beattie St.; Phone MArine 5010.

Photo Engravers, Local 54—Joseph A. Hinke, 3776 W. 38th; KErr. 2054-L.

Plasterers' Union, No. 779—Secretary, N. Byers, 3863 Franklin St.; Phone HAstings 3742-L.

Printing Pressmen and Assistants' Union, No. 69—Secretary, Thos. S. Heart, 1607 East 38th; FRas. 0341-Y.

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

Pursers and Chief Stewards, Local 180—Secretary, R. Stever, 1461 Woodland Drive.

Radio Station Employees' Union, No. 20727—Secretary, Margarette Duncan, 1235 Nelson Street, Suite 108.

Railway Carmen (Port Mann), Lodge No. 180—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. 680—Secretary, W. J. Mason, 3116 West Thirteenth.

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. White, 187 West 40th, Vancouver; FRas. 4609.

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

Secondary School Teachers' Association—Secretary, Wm. Alsbury, 2604 East Sixth; HAstings 2672-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, 1110 7th Avenue, New Westminster.

Shinglers' Union, No. 2946, U. B. of C. J. of A.—Secretary, J. A. Gildermeister, 2053 Cypress St.; BAyview 2632Y.

Shipyard Riggers, Local No. 661—Secretary, E. G. Cook, 531 Beatty Street; Phone PAcific 4740.

Shoeworkers' Local of the U. S. & A. W.—Business Agent, Alex Gordon, 133 E. Cordova; Phone MAr. 4046.

Sign and Pictorial Painters, Local 726—Secretary, W. O. Clarkson, 5802 Larch; KErr. 0395-Y.

Street Railway Employees, Division 101—Business Agent, G. M. Morrison, Lee Building, 175 E. Broadway; FAir. 4363.

Street Railwaymen's Union, No. 134—Business Agent, R. Cormack, 3164 Sperling Ave., New Westminster, B. C.

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

Teachers' Association, New Westminster—Secretary, Evaline Scott, 317 14th St., New Westminster; Phone 646-R.

Textile Workers' Local No. 10—Secretary, Jessie Armstrong, 3736 Albert St.

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

Tile Setters, Local No. 3—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 5005.

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 2142.

United Garment Workers' Union, Local 190—Secretary, Walter W. Shaw, 2466 West Sixth.

United Garment Workers' Union, No. 232—Secretary, J. Mitchell, 1361 Clyde Ave., Hollyburn, B. C.; West 35-L.

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

Upholsterers' International Union, Local 306—Secretary, D. Garside, 531 Beatty St.; residence phone High. 1008-M.

University of British Columbia, Employees' Union, No. 116—W. T. Erwood, 4654 West 14th Ave.

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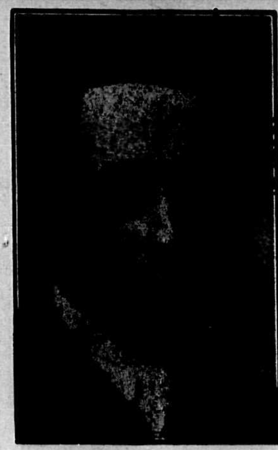

JAMES THOMSON
Local Officer Provincial Dept. of Labor. Member of Pile Drivers Union, Local 2404.

Labor Management

Labor Market — By six months after V-J Day most workers who lost their jobs at that time will have exhausted their unemployment benefits an da substantial part of their savings.

Many who are vacationing after the wartime effort will flock back onto the labor market.

Demobilization will reach a peak by January, 1946. Veterans will be demanding jobs at the same time that war workers will be reconciling themselves to reduced incomes.

The U. S. Dept. of Labor and the Federal Security Agency are undertaking to gather some facts on the nature and dimension of the current unemployment problem. It has just made available the findings of a three-city survey of what's become of war workers in the peacetime economy:

(1) The labor market was inflated during the war by workers who had been especially trained in a single skill;

(2) There were few, if any, peacetime jobs requiring these special skills;

(3) The number of jobs available in all skilled categories had tumbled sharply;

(4) Lower-skilled jobs pay lower-rate wages, and workers' incomes have been reduced further by a return to the 40-hour week;

(5) While most job openings are for men, most job seekers are women.

Unemployment Can "Snowball Overnight" and quickly run into the millions, reconversion officials fear, if strikes spread. To date, employment has been much greater than anticipated. In mid-August, Government economists predicted six million unemployed in the fourth quarter; the U. S. Census Bureau, however, put October jobless at only 1.52 million.

An Unemployment Rise is beginning to accompany the rise in strikes; veterans and women promise to make up the bulk of the unemployed. Demobilization is pouring 1,500,000 veterans a month into civilian life; this will confront industry with its big employment problem in the next six months.

Legislation Now Before Congress To Curb Strikes indicates a feeling among the legislators that they cannot expect a cure for the country's present strike troubles to come out of the Labor-Management Conference. So Congress is considering its own formula for curbing strikes.

That formula is contained in a bill by Representative Howard W. Smith (Dem.), of Virginia, providing punishment for unions that violate contracts carrying no-strike provisions. The penalty for breaking a no-strike agreement would be loss of collective bargaining rights for a year. Also unions would become liable to suits for damages by employers.

While providing this new method of curbing strikes, the bill proposed by Mr. Smith also would deprive the Government of the only real weapon it now has to end strikes. It would do this by repealing the plant-seizure authority granted to the President by the War Labor Disputes Act.

Double Pay For Overtime Restored In Shipyards—Double-time pay for work in excess of eight hours a day, forty hours a week, or on Saturdays, Sundays or holidays has been restored in West Coast shipyards by action of the Pacific Coast Shipbuilding Zone Conference.

The double-time rate in ship repair will be effective retroactively to October 19, 1945, and in new construction as of November 1, 1945. Some 95 shipyards, employing 145,000 workers, are affected.

Strikes, Large and Small, Continue To Retard Reconversion and to hold back production of needed civilian goods.

Management never has been in a better position to wait out a strike, in the knowledge that a big market is waiting when work does start again, and knowing, too, that goods made and sold next year will bear lower taxes than this year.

Veterans are about to begin pouring into the labor market, looking for jobs of the kind that strikers will be staying away from. That can be a complicating factor from the union standpoint, can accentuate what is to be a big problem.

The Stamford Situation—Practical lessons in the issues involved and the tactics used in labor-management disputes, are provided by a strike in Stamford, Connecticut, a city of 60,000 population.

Issues at Stamford have been much like those all over the country—labor's demand for a 30 per cent increase in hourly wage rates to offset the loss of overtime income—management's resistance to the wage demand and to continuing in the post-war period the union-maintenance and some other union-security guarantees of wartime.

WLB, through the war years, built tling disagreements. Under its ruling up a volume of precedents for settings the gulf between workers and employers was narrowed. The use of its machinery came into general acceptance by both labor and management. The union was relying on it in the Stamford case.

But, when war ended, President Truman ordered the War Labor Board liquidated. Labor and management were left, abruptly, to settle their own arguments at a time when new fears were being expressed by both.

The situation is of a kind that can become general. With effective mediation machinery absent, labor feels the gains it has made through the years now are in jeopardy. There is no present means of bringing disputant together to bring all the facts into the open. The result is strikes.

Secretary of Labor Schwellenbach asked Congress to empower his department to operate public employment offices "in any States which fails or refuses" to operate such offices in line with Federal standards.

Mr. Schwellenbach was a witness before a Senate Labor Subcommittee considering proposals affecting the future of the U. S. Employment Service. He appeared one day after a Senate appropriations sub-committee voted to return this service from Federal to State control promptly.

The Third Regional Labor Conference of American states is scheduled for Mexico City, April 1, 1946, and will cover social and economic problems under an agenda prepared by the International Labor Office.

Woman's Auxiliary To Typographical Union

The Woman's Auxiliary, No. 75, to Vancouver Typographical Union No. 226, is composed of women relatives of Union printers.

Regular meetings are held on the fourth Monday of each month at 2 p.m. in the Daily Province auditorium at 198 West Hastings street.

The objects of the Auxiliary are to create closer association and foster fraternal feelings between the families of members of the Typographical Union; to instil in feminine relatives of Union printers the principles of trade unionism. Each member is pledged to further the use of the Union Label of the Allied Printing Trades Council and to purchase only Union-Made goods whenever possible.

Mrs. W. H. P. McClure, president of No. 75, supported by other officers, has put forth every effort to make the meetings most interesting. Other officers of the Auxiliary are Mrs. G. W. Jones, first vice-president; Mrs. C. A. Evans, second vice-president; Mrs. G. A. DeGear, secretary-treasurer; and Mrs. R. P. Pettipiece, chaplain.

Mrs. H. T. Chambers, one of the local members, has held office in the International Auxiliary for a number of years and at present is third vice-president of the parent body.

Ever since its institution Vancouver Auxiliary has been associated with many community activities, has purchased a number of Victory Bonds, and made donations to Red Cross and other war efforts.

From time to time prominent guest speakers bring messages on current topics to regular meetings.

A cordial invitation is extended to all women relatives of Union printers to affiliate with the Auxiliary.

SURVEY REPORT

L. E. Norrie, survey expert, reported his findings on the recreation and group work survey recently completed in Vancouver under the auspices of the Welfare Council and Community Chest. One highlight was his statement that only 4½ per cent of the city's population is in any way affected by existing facilities. You can imagine that his recommendations to rectify this unsatisfactory state of affairs included much increase and expansion.

LIVING EXAMPLE

Down in the South Seas, an American soldier was discussing his favorite subject, food, with a native.

"Men are largely what they eat," remarked G. I. Joe.

"You are right, sir," affirmed the native. "Look at me—I am a living example of that fact. Once I was a cannibal, but what do you suppose I am now? I am a missionary."

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Here's Your British Gentleman Surgically Dissected

(By PROFESSOR HAROLD LASKI)

Every 15 minutes, according to an informed source, some 500 babies are born within the British Empire. But only one of them is destined to represent "that climax of creation—the gentleman."

In his celebrated essay on "The *Danger of Being a Gentleman*," Prof. Harold J. Laski gets off to a flying start by describing the distinguishing marks of the traditional gentleman:

"He is interested in nothing in a professional way. He is allowed to cultivate hobbies, even eccentricities, but he must not practce a vocation. He must not concern himself with the sordid business of earning his living; and he must be able to show that, at least back to his grandfather, none of *his near relations has ever been engaged in trade.*"

Then, after showing how essential it is for a gentleman to have been to Oxford or Cambridge, to have relatives in the army and the diplomatic service, to belong to some exclusive club and to the Tory Party, Mr. Laski adds: "An ability to endure the Riviera in the winter and to make the round of English country houses from August to November is a valuable, though not an integral, part of his equipment . . . He should know nothing *of political economy* and less about how *foreign* countries are governed. He should equate bolshevism with original sin . . . He should be properly conscious of the merits of Empire and *feel* that only the strong hand can maintain our prestige in the East . . . He may become a director of a company, provided he is not too well informed about its business . . . He has the habit of graceful command. Save to Indians, Socialists, trade union organisers and poachers, he is almost uniformly tolerant."

"He is the type by whom, with the aid *of* the lawyer, England has been governed until the last half-dozen years; it is only since the War that his supremacy has been seriously threatened."

No small part of England's difficulties, contends Mr. Laski, are the outcome of the rule of the gentleman, whose characteristic attitude may be summed up as: "Be so certain of yourself that your code of behaviour is imposed as a universal. Never doubt your supiriority over other people."

Also part *of* the traditional gentleman's bag *of* tricks, says Laski, are: "A passionate devotion to excessive ecrecy both in finance and method of production; so the gentleman must live his own life in his own way without counsel or interference from outside. An incurable and widespread nepotism in appointment; so the gentleman has always been loyal to his relatives without undue regard for their fitness for the posts to which he has called them . . .

"*For* him the workers have been misled by wicked agitators whose ideas are probably inspired by Russia. He, the leasured and secure, thinks that the workingman has been pampered into disobedience against his masters by reckless ocial legislation. He believe that there is too much education abroad, and that the natural loyalty of his inferiors has been unsettled by training above their station. He is incapable of that imaginative realism which admts that this is a new world to which he must adjust himself and *hs institutions*, that every privilege he *formerly took as of right* he can now attain only by offering proof that it is directly relevant to social welfare."

In Search of Justice

The law, in its majestic equality, forbids the rich as well as the poor to sleep under bridges, to beg in the streets, and to steal bread.
—Anatole France.

* * * *

Morality and religion are but words to him who fishes in gutters for the means of sustaining life, and crouches behind barrels in the street for shelter from the cutting blasts of a winter night.—Horace Greely.

* * * *

Principles have no real force except when one is well fed.
—Mark Twain.

* * * *

The law locks up the man or woman
Who steals a gose from off the Common.
But leaves the greater villian loose
Who steals the Common from the goose.
—Anon.

* * * *

SO NOW YOU KNOW

Treason doth never prosper; what's the reason?
For if it prosper, none dare call it treason.
—Sir John Harington.

* * * *

Judge: So you were convicted of burglary twice, robbery with violence three times and manslaughter once?

Prisoner: That's right, sir. After that I seemed to drift into a life of crime.
—Union Labor Advocate.

* * * *

"I swear to the lord, I still don't see
Why freedom means everyone else but me!"
—Langston Hughes, Negro Poet.

* * * *

SING A SONG OF JUSTICE
(From the Prison Poems of John Olday)

Little for the many,
Plenty for the few.
Justice?—There's not any
Left for me and you.

Yours the farthing, yours the penny;
Pounds are for the boss!
God?—He hasn't any
Time for such as us.
—Courtesy of "Industrial Worker", Chicago.

* * * *

"The golden rule is denied by the rule of gold."
—"Christian Century"

* * * *

"Where did you learn your profession?" asked Mr. McMurray.

"What do you mean by profession?" demanded the witness.

"You know what I mean. What should I call it, art? I don't know much about robbery, outside of the legal profession."

—Hon. E. J. McMurray, cross-questioning a former convict.—"Winnipeg Free Press".

When Laughter Went "Underground"

EVERY BLOW HELPED!

"Take a full minute to blow your nose," was the advice braodcast by Radio Orange (the Netherlands station in London) to forced labor battalions in the Reich. The braodcast pointed out that every time some 300,000 Dutch slave workers tok a minute off t oblow their nose it meant a *loss of* 5000 working hours for Hitler.

* * * *

When our bombers struck a war plant in a Danish town, Goebbels issued a communique saying that only a cow had been hit. The Danish Underground press published it, with the added comment: "And the cow burned for four days."

* * * *

A fat German officer is walking arm in arm with a lady. A newsboy runs after him and offers him a portrait of Laval.

"Mr. General, would you buy Mr. Laval's portrait? It is only 20 cents."

"Go away, young fool. We can buy Laval himself for that."
—From "P.M."

* * * *

Petain wil be remembered as the man who said, "They shall not pass!" and rushed to open the gate.

* * * *

—Albert Guerard, in "The Nation".

A comedian came on the stage in Berlin weeping and ejaculating.

"We are deprived of this and of that, no butter, no coffee, no soap, and all on account of that hound."

During the shocked silence that followed in rushed the Gestapo and hustled him off to the nearest police station. The comedian protested violently and said the police had made a mistake.

"Of course," he said, "I only had Churchill in mind, but who were you thinking of?"

* * * *

A drunk who had caused a row by calling Goebbels a schweinhund was tried and punished for three offences. First, for being drunk and disorderly; second, for using abusive language about a person in authority and, thirdly, for endangering the safety of the State by revealing an official secret.

* * * *

An AMG man in Aachen, questioning civilians about their political beliefs, was assured that they were unanimously anti-Nazi and always had been. "That's strange", he said, "I thought the Nazis had quite a bit of popular support." "Nonsense!" replied the German spokesman. "That's just pluto-democratic Jewish propaganda."—"The Nation", New York.

LEFTWING HUMOR

The above two columns were taken from a 95-page book, containing 250 of the best cartoons, thirty pages of social satire, and other features. On sale at bookstores, 25c.

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$10 Weekly Paid Typo Union Pensioners at 60 Years of Age

"Any member of the International Typographical Union who has reached the age of 60 years and having a continuous membership of 25 years, and who is unable to continue in or secure sustaining employment because of age or disability, may receive the sum of $10 per week."

The paragraph above is quoted from section 1, article 18, of the I.T.U. Book of Laws. It is thus seen that the Typographical Union looks after its aged and disabled members much better than our Dominion and provincial governments.

This $10 a week pensions is the main fraternal benefit available to members of the I.T.U. The union's total membership is about 85,000, 5,000 residing in Canada and the balance in the United States. On July 20 last there were exactly 6,842 members on the pension roll, 451 in Canada.

Members of the I.T.U. man nearly all the daily newspapers in both countries, also most of the commercial printing shops. These newspapers almost without exception are proud to display the Union Label of the Allied Printing Trades Council, which signifies that members of international unions only are employed in their mechanical departments.

Members do not have to be destitute before they get the I.T.U. pension. In fact, the pensioners are allowed to earn up to $15 per week and still draw the pension, providing that no members of the local are unemployed.

Another fraternal feature of the I.T.U. is the Union Printers' Home at Colorado Springs, Colo. Originally, the Home was built to care for members of the union suffering from tuberculosis, which at one time was the bane of printers. However, the union so shortened the working hours, improved sanitary and working conditions that few members contracted tht disease, and eventually the Home was thrown open to members suffering from other diseases. Now the Union Printers' Home is open to all members except those suffering from mental and infectious diseases.

450 Residents at Home

At present some 450 members of the union are being cared for at the Home, which is located on 600 acres of land adjacent to the city of Colorado Springs. About 30 lady members of the union are numbered among the residents.

The Home is for "invalid, aged and infirm members in good standing" and when necessary the local union defrays the transportation expenses. While there residents receive every care and necessary treatment from the resident staff of physicians, and if necessary specialists are called in from Denver, 40 miles distant.

Residents are supplied with clothing, dental and optical requirements, and are even supplied with $1 weekly spending money, though the only things not supplied are tobacco, razor blades and stamps.

If the treatment proves effective, as it does in the majority of cases, transportation to their home is supplied. Thousands of members have been rehabilitated and returned to their jobs in the 50-odd years the Home has been functioning.

10,000 Members in Uniform

More than 10,000 members of the I.T.U. entered the armed forces of Canada and the United States, and during the time they were in uniform these members were all kept in good standing by the International union.

A third fraternal feature is the mortuary benefit. Members are eligible for a small amount after one year's membership and the sum increases each year until after 15 years he or she is entitled to $500.

These above fraternal features are supplied in addition to all the regular benefits the member receives from a strong labor union.

While some might think the dues paid by I.T.U. members are high, when the benefits received are considered they are not. Each member pays 2 per cent of his earnings into the Pension and Mortuary funds. He or she also pays 80 cents per capita each month. This money goes direct to the headquarters in Indianapolis (all Canadian funds are deposited in Canadian banks). In addition most local unions collect another 1 pet cent, making in all 3 per cent plus 80 cents. Practically all locals, however, allow a rebate for attendance at union meetings. This rebate, whatever the amount, would reduce the member's local dues by that amount. —G. C. K. in "The (Calgary) Call"

Christmas
and a New Era of Peace

This Christmas, people throughout the land will join with thankful hearts in the gaiety of the holiday season. At last the war has ended and the world is entering upon a new era of peace. All of us have a passionate desire to see the peace continue forever . . . to have an opportunity to promote social progress, to improve the standards of life and live together as good neighbors in freedom and security. This lasting peace *can* come. It can come when men resolve to practice tolerance and spread the spirit of cordial fellowship, which seems to take temporary possession at Christmas, more evenly, the year round. Then will the star of the Peace of Christmas shine with a steady and undimmed light all over the world.

Sicks' CAPILANO BREWERY LIMITED

463A

Correspondence

THE HOUSING SITUATION

Editor, Labor Statesman:

The preacher this morning, to a large congregation, said that housing help was urgently needed for some 2500 service men and their families now in process of getting together in our potentially wealthy city. Yet our area has plenty of building materials —wood, cement, plaster, gravel, nails, lead, zinc an dtrained men. All we seem to lack is the leadership to decide on housing action.

Action is a matter of leadership not individual or small group planning. Top flight leadership can settle both the mechanics and the finance.

Under democracy we should be able to get now leaders or leaders willing to settle this small matter of housing. It can be easily settled overnight if the leaders are in earnest about housing.

One American manufacturing company—the largest of its kind in the world—has built many houses for its workers. Houses at $2000 complete—one-third down and $30 a month. Each home has beds for four of a family, hot water heating, full plumbing, frigidaire, gas stove and plenty of cupboards—all complete ready to use and none of this idea of six months to wait.

The attached suggestion shows how to provide housing and feeding for 6000 tourists nightly, a problem entirely apart from the routine citizen housing problem above mentioned.

Yours truly,
D. F. McCALLUM.

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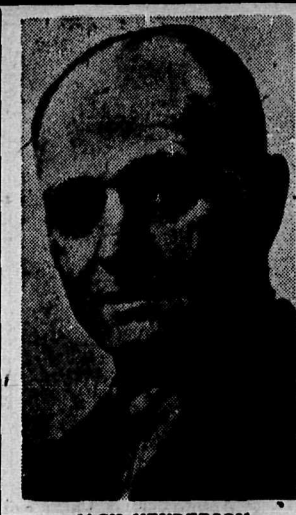
BUSINESS AGENT W. JAMES AND THE OFFICERS OF
Building Laborers, Plasterers' Helpers and Cement Finishers Union
LOCAL No. 602
Wish the members of the union and Officers and members of Organized Labor
A MERRY CHRISTMAS and HAPPY NEW YEAR



JACK HENDERSON
Business Agent, Engineers' Union, No. 882.

Unity of Veterans and Unions Urged

Picturing the economic situation swung full circle from World War I to World War II with thousands of veterans on the unemployment roll, Jack Hendersen, Business Agent of Engineers' Union, No. 882, and provincial president, Canadian Legion, Sunday night appealed for unity between the legion, the church, and labor, to "seek full employment."

"Unless we are to see civilization perish, some amongst us must unite and speak the truth," he said.

Speaking at St. John's Forum, he disclosed that on December 1 nearly 5000 new veterans were unemployed; 50 a day were applying for out-of-work benefits; and a total of 3000 were seeking homes.

"There are no homes and there are no jobs, and it is only by having jobs that men can establish homes."

Greatest contributing factor to unemployment was said to be the application to industry of technological and scientific advances designed to reduce cost of production by reducing the number of man-hours.

Building Laborers Elect Officers for 1946

Building Laborers' Union No. 602 held a bumper meeting with over three hundred members in attendance for the election of officers. There was very little opposition to those in office and where any took place there was little support given to the present office holders.

The union is manning all the big jobs in the district and at the present time have been sending large numbers of returning veterans to the jobs, where calls are being sent in for men.

The following are the officers elected for 1946:

President, Seth Burnley.
Vice-President, J. Van Dyke.
Business Agent and Financial Secretary, W. James.
Corresponding Secretary, L. Souter; Guard, G. Lomas; Executive Board, C. Roberts, M. Marich, Wes. Kidd, J. Johnson.
Delegates to Trades Council: T. Johnson, J. F. Johnson, F. Buttle, J. Josephson, S. Burnley.

"The Eyes Have It"

With about 87 per cent of our impressions being visual, there can be little doubt that the eyes hold the potential crux of accident prevention. In order to avoid accident it is essential that the hazard be seen in sufficient time for proper action.

Hundreds of factories, large and small, have wholly inadequate lighting systems even in new installations. Good lighting must be engineered to prevent fatigue, to eliminate glare, both direct and reflected, to minimize shadows, and to provide seeability for the prevention of accidents. Competent lighting engineers should be consulted.

The lighting system must be maintained and a depreciation factor must be provided in the design, otherwise a satisfactory installation may, in a few months, become only one-third adequate. For Safety's sake—let there be light.—Plant Administration, July, 1945.

Spinster insurance flourishes in Denmark in the organization of the Anti-Celibacy Insurance Society. For girls between 18 and 30 the dues are low, and if marriage occurs before 40 the money is lost; if not, members collect a regular income from that time on.—Argonaut.

Culinary Labor In San Francisco Hits Top

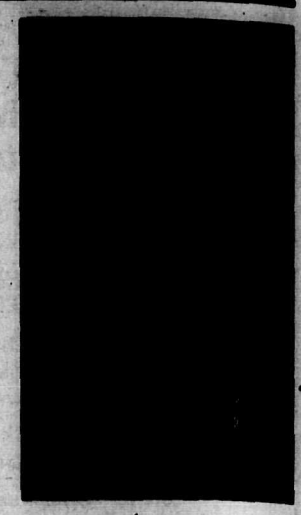
Some 200 members of the Office Employees Union, Local 36, received pay raises recently.

Approximately 100 office workers in the S. F. drug industry got raises for beginners from $15 to $25 a month minimum, retroactive to Sept. 1. Others got proportionate pay increases.

Nearly 90 clerical workers in the wholesale drygoods industry at the Butler Co., got hikes from $10 to $20 a month, retroactive to Aug. 18.

White collar workers of the Mohawk Oil Co., got a 15 per cent pay hike, retroactive to Nov. 19, plus any raise given in the contract now under negotiation with the Refinery workers.

The Brewery industry office help has negotiations under way to obtain increases approximating 20 per cent up to $150 per month; and $80 a month across the board more for those in brackets above $150 a month.



BILL RIGBY
General Secretary-Treasurer United Fishermen and Allied Workers' Union.

It Was Just Like This

I'm one of the fellows who made the world safe for Democracy. What a crazy thing that was. I fought, and I had to go anyway. I was called in Class "A." Next time I want to be in Class "B"—B here when they go, and B here when they come back. I remember when I was registered. I went up to the desk and my milkman was in charge. He said, "What's your name?" So I said, "Young man, you know my name." "What's your name?" he barked, so I told him, "August Childs." He said "Are you an alien?" "No," I replied, "I feel fine." Then he said, "When did you first see the light of day?" and I said, "When we moved to Philadelphia from Pittsburgh." He said, "The first of September you'll be in Australia, and that will be the last of August."

A veterinarian started to examine me. He asked me if I had ever had measles, smallpox, St. Vitus dance, and if I took fits. I said, "No, only when I stay in a saloon too long." Then he said, "Can you see me all right?" I told him, "Sure, but I'll be cock-eyed tonight if I pass." Then he listened around my chest, and said, "I think you have a wart somewhere." I said, "Wart, my neck, that's a button in your ear." The doctor said that he had examined 140,000 men and that I was the most perfect physical wreck that he had examined. Then he handed me a card—Class "1-A."

Then I went to camp, and I guess they didn't think I'd live long. The first fellow wrote on my card, "Flying Corpse." I went a little further, and some guy said, "Look what the wind's blowing in." I said, "Wind nothing, the draft's doing it." On the second morning they put these clothes on us. What an outfit! As soon as you are in it you think you can lick anybody. They have two sizes, too large and too small. The pants are too tight. I can't sit down. The shoes are too big. I turned around three times and they didn't move. And what a raincoat — it strains the rain. I passed an officer all dressed up with a fancy belt and all that stuff. He said, calling after me, "Didn't you notice what I have on?" I said, "Yeah, what are you kicking about? Look what they gave me."

I landed in camp with $75.00. In ten minutes I was broke. I never saw so many 3's and 12's on a pair of dice. No matter what I did I went broke. Something went wrong even in cards. One time I got five aces and I was afraid to bet. A good thing I didn't for the fellow next to me had six kings. Finally I said, "This is a crooked poker game." The fellow next to me said, "We're playing pinochle." Everything is crazy. If you were a livery hand, you were put in the Medical Dept., if you were a watchman, you were made Officer of the Day. I saw a guy with a wooden leg and asked him what he was doing in the Army. He said, "I'm going to mash the potatoes." Oh, it was nice—five below zero one morning and they called us out for underwear inspection! You talk about scenery—red flannels, BVD's of all kinds. The union suit I had on would fit Tony Galento. The lieutenant lined us up and told me to stand up. I said, "I'm standing up—this underwear makes you think I'm sitting down." He got so mad he put me out digging ditches. A little while later he passed and said, "don't throw that dirt up here." I said, "Where am I going to throw it?" He said, "Dig another hole and throw it in there." By that time I was pretty mad, so another fellow named Jones and myself drank a quart of whiskey. Finally Jones acted so funny I ran to the doctor and told him Jones was going blind. He asked me what we were doing and I told him. So he asked me if Jones saw pink elephants. I said, "No, that's the trouble, they're there alright, and he doesn't see them."

Three days later, we sailed for Australia. Marching down to the pier I had some more bad luck. I had a sergeant who stuttered and it took him so long to "halt" that 27 of us marched overboard. They pulled us out and the captain came along and said, "Fall in." I said, "I've just been in." I was on the boat twelve days—seasick all the time. Nothing going down, everything coming up. I leaned over the railing all the time. Now in the middle of one of my leans, the captain rushed up and said, "What company are you in?" I said, "I'm all by myself." He asked me if the brigadier was up yet. I said, "If I swallowed it, its up." Talk about your dumb people, I said to one of the fellows, "I guess we dropped anchor." He said, "I knew they'd lose it. Its been hanging out ever since we left New York." We had a life boat drill and when the boat was being lowered over the side of the ship, it spilled some men into the water. Only the second lieutenant and I were left in the boat. The lieutenant gave orders to pull the men out of the water by the hair of their heads. I was struggling with one man when another fellow with a bald head yelled, "Pull me out." I said, "Go down and come back up the right way."

Well, we landed in Australia, and were immediately sent to the trenches. After three nights in the trenches all the cannons started to roar, and the shells started to fall. I started shaking with patriotism. I tried t ohide behind a tree, but there weren't enough trees for the officers. The captain came around and said, "Five o'clock and we go over the top." I said, "I'd like a furlough." He said, "Have you no red blood in you?" I answered, "Yes, but I don't want to see it." He said, "Where do you want to go?" I said, "Anywhere it's warm, so he told me where to go. Five o'clock and we went over the top. Ten thousand Japs came at us. They all looked at me as though I had started the war. Our captain yelled, "Fire at will." But I didn't know which one was Will. I guess the fellow behind me thought I was Will. He fired his gun and shot me in the excitement. On my way to the hospital, I asked a fellow where they were taking me and he said, "You're going to the morgue." I said, "There's some mistake. I'm not dead." And he yelled, "Lie down, do you want to make a fool of the doctor?"

(Reprinted by Request)—STEV.

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Living Costs Due to Soar As Price Subsidies End

Washington, D.C.—The ending of subsidies and the subsequent lifting of price ceilings can be expected to cause increases of from 10 to 40 per cent in the prices of at least 37 basic foods within the next six months, it is stated in an official survey prepared by government economists for the Office of Price Administration and the Department of Agriculture.

Jahn C. Collett, economic stabiliser, announced that food price subsidies will be removed gradually between now and June 30. Congressional action placing subsidies back on these commodities, the economists say, would change the situation and make unnecessary any food price rise. Otherwise, they say, the price rise is "unpreventable". No congressional move is thus far known to be afoot to continue the subsidies.

The survey states that increases will be necessary in the prices of meats, bread, butter, milk, canned vegetables, cheese, dried fruit and other commodities.

The economists said the increases will cause the highest one-year percentage rise in the cost of living since 1930 and will increase the nation's food bill for 1946 more than $2,000,000,000—about $15 a person.

One of two subsidies controlling the price of butter was lifted November 8 and the price rose five to six cents a pound.

In Lighter Vein

MISPLACED PANACEA

A very- very bald-headed man never lost hope that some day, somehow, he would find something that would restore the mop he once wore on his head.

He bought everything that was offered at drug stores.

Came the day when he read an ad in a magazine and he hied him to the beauty doctor that professed to perform miracles for people. He bought a bottle of something and omitting the reading of the label he applied it all night and all day.

The third day he reappeared at the beauty doctor's and taking off his hat to prove his statement said:

"Look here. I bought this hair restorer and all it's done for me is raise these two big bumps on my head."

"My gracious," said the beautician, looking at the label on the bottle, "I made a mistake and gave you a bottle of our never-fail bust developer!"

• • •

PURELY HEREDITARY

"Gosh! That sounds like a gun, and I've been afraid of firearms since birth."

"Was your mother scared by a gun?"

"No, but I think my father was."

• • •

Civilization will either go all out for good, or go out for good and all.

• • •

A BUNKO GAME

A hillbilly and his bride came to Pittsburgh for their honeymoon and bought tickets for the performance of a touring musical show. At the end of the first act, the hillbilly presented himself at the box office to have his seats changed from the balcony to the orchestra floor. Ten minutes later he was back at the box office.

"Give me ou rmoney back," he demanded. "That's the same bum show that's playing upstairs."

• • •

ACCOMPLISHED URCHIN

Little Michael was spending his first night under his Aunt Minnie's roof. She came in to hear him say his prayers. "You did beautifully, Michael," she told him, when he had finished.

"That was nothing," boasted Michael. "You oughta hear me gargle."

• • •

LORD SMILES AGAIN

"How's the wife, George?"

"Not so well, old boy. She's just had quinsy."

"Gosh! How many is that you've got now?"

• • •

STUMPING THE TEACHER

The pretty teacher had been questioning the class at length. Finally she slowed up and said:

"Now it is only fair that I should give you a turn, children. You are at liberty to ask me any question you see fit."

A little boy in the front row held up his hand.

"Please," he said, "I know a man who has two eggs for breakfast. He doesn't keep hens, he doesn't steal eggs, and nobody gives them to him. Can you tell me where he gets them?"

The teacher puckered: "No, I'm afraid I cannot. Where does he get them?"

"Please, ma'am," said the boy, "he keeps ducks."

• • •

KID KNEW THE ANSWER

In the grammar lesson one day the teacher wrote on the blackboard: "I didn't have no fun at the seashore." Then she turned around to her pupils and said to one: "Roland, how should I correct that?"

"Get a boy friend," he answered.

• • •

Men might go to Heaven with half the labor they put forth to go to Hell. —Ben Jonson.

Office Employees Get Nice Increases

Described by John A. St. Peter, executive secretary of the AFL Culinary Joint Board of S. F., as "one of the best contracts in the United States," the new pact with restaurant owners here provides for wage increases as high as 40 per cent, it is pointed out.

All increases provided for are over and above the 1942 wage levels and include:

(1) Dishwashers, 40 per cent hike. They, vegetable men and porters are granted $6.75 for a full shift, with $1 extra for those working in jobs combining any of the listed classifications. (This compares with $5 in the 1942 contract.)

(2) Bartenders, 25 to 40 per cent.

(3) Cooks, 23 per cent. Head cooks will receive $14.80 a day, as compared with $12 in 1942. Second cooks are given $11.70, as compared with $9.50 in 1942.

(4) Waiters and waitresses, 20 per cent. These classifications, along with bus boys and bus girls, are granted $6 for 7½ hours within eight hours, as compared with $5 under the previous pact.

The AFL Culinary Joint Board in S. F. has bargaining rights now covering some 18,000 workers. There are about 5000 waitresses, 2300 dishwashers, 2700 cooks, 2500 bartenders, 2500 waiters, and about 2200 hotel service workers, janitor. lobby porters, etc.

The new contract runs for five years, but can be reopened annually on the wage question.

Plumbers Plan To End Jurisdictional Disputes

Washington, D. C.—Approval of a plan to end jurisdictional disputes within its own organization was announced by the executive board of the United Association of Plumbers and Steamfitters of the United States and Canada.

It is further proposed to change the name of the union to the "United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipe Fitting Industry of the United States and Canada."

"We regard this plan as an opportunity to strengthen and harmonize our union and wipe out the root cause of unnecessary jurisdictional disputes," Mr. Durkin said. "I am confident that it will be overwhelmingly approved at our next convention."

Dairy Workers Get Wage Increase

Negotiations between Dairy and Creamery Workers, Local No. 951, an affiliate of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Warehousemen and Helpers, and the Tacoma Milk Distributors, representing the dairy employers of Tacoma and vicinity, were completed recently providing for improved working conditions and a wage boost of 50 cents per day, with some specific classifications being granted raises of $1.00 and $1.25 per day. All route drivers and nearly all inside workers will now receive $9.50 per day which is comparable to the scale now being paid in Seattle and vicinity.

Did You Know?

—That the Chicago fire in 1871, the Johnstown flood of 1889, the Galveston tidal wave of 1900, the San Francisco earthquake of 1906, the sinking of the Titanic in 1912, the Boston Club fire of 1942, and all other major disasters since 1865 have killed less than 25,000 Americans? Compare that with the startling total of 94,000 fatal accidents in the U.S.A. in 1944.—What's New in Safety—E. D. Bullard Co.

Year-End Greetings

—and may 1946 be to you one of continued success and happiness.

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Here's Why Your Kids Won't Get An Orange From the Biggest Crop

This is a story about your cost of living. It deals with oranges, lemons and grapefruit—and price ceilings. It also relates the biggest double-cross pulled on the public in many a day.

There is no shortage of citrus fruit today. In fact, there's a big surplus. And a bumper crop. Armed with these facts, the representatives of the citrus growers and packers appealed to the OPA chiefs in Washington to toss price ceilings out of the window.

Since it is the announced policy of OPA to remove price controls when plenty takes the place of scarcity, ceilings on all citrus fruits were taken off.

But what happened? In view of the big surplus, prices might easily have dropped. Certainly there was not the slightest excuse, except outright greed, for boosting prices.

Yet, prices soared. For example: a survey made by OPA shows that the wholesale price of oranges jumped from $5.38 to $9.00 per box in Seattle. Lemons shot skyward from the old ceiling of $6.66 a box to $10.50. Pink grapefruit advances from $4.90 to $6.00. That is what happened at wholesale. When the retailers got through marking up their citrus fruit the price increases were between 70 per cent and 100 per cent!

Try that out on your cost of living budget!

Many retailers simply refused to handle citrus fruits, and informed their customers that prices had gone too high. Grocers were ashamed to ask the prices they would have to charge. Other stores jumped their prices only slightly and hoped for a break in the price. Most of the stores, however, are urging the OPA to put the ceiling prices back.

Not First Time

This isn't the first time prices have soared when ceilings were taken off. A short time ago cabbage ceilings were abolished on the plea of growers that a huge surplus existed. Prices jumped—and stayed up! When the OPA dropped its control of luxury items all immediately doubled in price.

Meanwhile, tremendous pressuhe is being exerted by the National Association of Manufacturers to force the OPA to discontinue ceiling prices in all manufactured or processed items, by Feb. 15.

Well, the working man can go without cabbage. It may even be possible to boycott citrus fruit, though this is not so easy. Citrus fruit are required for children in a great many instances.

The anly answer is higher wage levels. That's the only way to keep anywhere near even with the price gougers.

$1.05 Minimum Wage For Plywood Workers

Tacoma plywood and door plants employing over 2,000 men will resume full operation within the next few days, as a result of acceptance recently of an agreement reached by representatives of the Tacoma District Council of Lumber and Sawmill Workers and plywood and door industry representatives.

The settlement provides a straight 15 cents hourly wage increase with a $1.05 base, which is 75 per cent of the original demands, and higher than the 50 per cent compromise offer accepted by CIO officials several weeks ago.

All plywood and door plants in the Tacoma area, except the Tacoma Box Company, Tacoma; Spruce Veneer Corp., Puyallup, and the Brew Manufacturing Company, Sumner, are covered by the new agreement.

Break in Strike Came Last Week

The first break in the lumber and sawmill workers' strike came late last week when delegates representing all locals in the Puget Sound area accepted a compromise offer of $1.05 per hour minimum, straight across the board, thereby settling the pattern for settlement in other northwest areas.

During the past week some 25 lumber mills and allied plants in the Tacoma area, employing approximately 1,500 workers, have resumed production.

Elsewhere in the Pacific Northwest pine districts the bottle neck has also been broken and settlements are now taking place rapidly.

Strike leaders point out, however, that the 15cent per hour increase was the ticket for the fir belt only, and that a higher increase would have to be granted for pine operators in parts of Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Montana, where the scale is considerably lower than that paid in the fir belt.

Although no date has been set for pine negotiations, it was generally felt, according to late reports, that a "beachhead" would be made at an early date, and definite progress in this direction is expected shortly.

URGES TEACHERS UNIONIZE

A dispatch from Rome, Italy, said recently that the Pope had urged members of the Italian Catholic Teachers Association that they should be active in their union. The Pope spoke of the "current that in these days runs through all professional and social activities." He advised teachers against being borne "along passively," in the stream of social progress.

NO RIGHT TO EXIST

No industry has the right to survive if it can't afford to pay decent wages, Senator Wayne Morse of Oregon declared in a radio discussion of the bill to set minimum wages at 65 cents an hour. Morse said the buying public shouldn't expect to purchase cheap products if it is at the expense of poorly paid workers. We can't ask labor to subsidize us, he added.

Future Policy of Union Label Trades

I. M. Ornburn, Secretary-Treasurer Union Label Trades Department, A. F. of L., says:

"On behalf of the Union Label Trades Department of the A. F. of L., I appreciate this opportunity to express our deep gratitude for the splendid co-operation we have received from the officials and members of the Union Label Trades Council of Vancouver, New Westminster and vicinity. We are particularly grateful to the editor of the Labor Statesmen for the privilege of sending a message to our brother trade unionists in Canada. It is just such support that you are giving the Union Label cause that makes every campaign for Union Labels, Shop Cards, and Service Buttons an outstanding success.

"The gigantic job of war production was Union-made as well as American-made. In peacetime, it is up to the union workers of the United States and Canada, as consumers, to demand the Union Label on civilian goods—the Shop Card and Service Button for all services.

"Generally speaking the policy of the Union Label Trades Department of the A. F. of L. will be the same as it has been in the past. Our principal efforts should be to publicize Union Labels, Shop Cards, and Service Buttons and to promote the sale of Union Label goods as well as the use of Union services.

"Many large corporations continued to advertise products, not available during the war, just to keep their brand names before the buying public. We pursue the same policy regarding Union Label goods. We urge all members of labor unions, women's auxiliaries and their friends to continually demand the Union Label, Shop Card and Service Button so that manufacturers and merchandisers will display one of these official emblems in order to sell their goods or services.

"During the next few years our supreme effort will be to educate all members of labor unions and their families as well as consumers generally to become Union-Label-conscious. Promotion, publicity and education are the top-level activities of our department. We believe that the Union Label idea forms the best peacetime recovery plan that has yet been submitted to maintain American Labor Union standards in the United States and Canada.

STEP LIVELY

London, England—LPA—A "Passengers' Trade Union" is crystallising here as a result of long dissatisfaction with antiquated methods and rules of travel within the city. A million Londoners are expected to join, to get for themselves and others relief from crowded, dilapidated bus and train transportation systems.

AFL ELECTRICAL WORKERS WIN 18c RAISE

Detroit Local 58, Intl. Bro. of Electrical Workers, will enjoy an hourly rate of $2.00, 60 days after government restrictions are lifted. This is an increase of 15 cents an hour over the previous scale.

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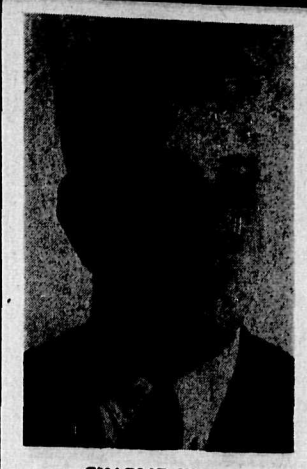

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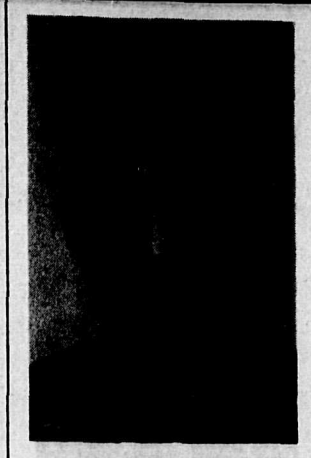

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Business Agent, Pile Drivers' Union No. 2404.

Confederation and Confusion

There is an imperative need of national unity in Canada and the urgent necessity of uniformity in labor and social laws throughout the Dominion. One of the main purposes of this Congress is to secure legislation that will bring a bigger and a better life to those that this Congress represents. We cannot do this without improving the living conditions of *most Canadian citizens.* We are glad that it is this way. The trade union movement has no desire to be a "dog in the manger." We have to determine our policies and approach Governments irrespective of what political party that Government represents. Governments change periodically but the trade union targets are fairly stable. It is the recognition of these facts that has prevented the Labor Movement, as represented by this Congress, from becoming a tail to any political kite. We know what we want and we go after the Governments to make laws that will give a better division of the worthwhile things and conditions of life for the common man. We do this whether the Government of the day is composed of Independent Co-operators, Progressive Conservatives, or Stingy Liberals. With such views in mind we say that our Provincial Governments must now participate fully with the Dominion Government in doing something worthwhile to bring uniform labor and social laws and advance the standards of living of the citizens of this Land of Plenty for all.

Arising out of the Ford strike has been the consistent inquiry: Why doesn't the Dominion Government make laws compelling hostile antiquated employers to recognise the rights of their employees? The answer is they possibly would if they had to accept full responsibility and were on the spot. The facts are they are not on the spot. All the Dominion Government has to do when the seat gets hot is the same as their predecessors did, just pass the buck to the Provincial Government who, in turn, put the nasty looking baby back on the Dominion door step. In the meantime organized labor and other well intentioned citizens keep on running from one to the other trying to find the daddy.

For sixty odd years we have been given this run around. It is time to get down to business. The International Labor Organization has recently concluded its Twenty-fifth Session in Paris. This organisation is made up of representatives of governments, workers and employers. The I. L. O. makes recommendations to Governments that they enact minimum laws for the protection of the workers. Governments are requested to report to the I. L. O. Conference on progress made. The following is taken from the reports as submitted to the recent Paris Conference of the I. L. O.:

"The Government of Canada states in its latest report that there has been no change in its situation with respect to the three Conventions it ratified in 1935, i.e., Hours of Work (Industry) (No. 1), Weekly Rest (Industry) (No. 14), and Minimum Wage Fixing Machinery (No. 26). In a letter dated 8 January 1938 the Government stated that the Acts of Parliament adopted to give effect to these Conventions were declared by the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council to be 'ultra vires' of the Parliament of Canada; and that the Government was awaiting a report by the Royal Commission on Dominion-Provincial Relations which was appointed to re-examine the distribution of legislative powers in the light of the economic and social developments of the last seventy years. In a letter dated 24 February 1941 the Government added that it had received the report of the Royal Commission and had referred it to a Conference of Dominion-Provincial Ministers which met in Ottawa on 14 January and adjourned the next day without reaching this subject, which therefore remains in abeyance."

That's the story. The Judicial Committee of the Privy Council says the Parliament of Canada cannot have anything to do with Hours of Work, Weekly Rest and Minimum Wages, yes and a Dominion Collective Bargaining Act. These are questions under the Provincial Governments. It says so in the old horse and buggy British North America Act. This is the bottle neck to real progress in Canada. However, it can be changed but the Provincial Governments have to agree. That is why we advise our membership, now is the time for all to insist on our Provincial Governments participating fully in the next Dominion-Provincial Conference. We don't want any more stalling.

Organized labor and the mass of the people of Canada have every justifiable right to expect that the laws of Canada be brought into gear with this atomic age. The Fathers of Confederation did a good job in their time and age. They made a British North America Act for a Canada as they saw it. They did not visualize the Trans-Canada Air Lines or a Dominion that could produce enough to clothe, feed and supply a modern army and donate billions to other countries at the same time.

The workers of Canada want laws *established in this Land of Plenty* that will guarantee to every citizen, able and willing to work, an adequate income, sufficient to provide a good home and a comfortable living for himself and his family free from the fear of want for the whole of their lives, with efficient treatment during illness, and full protection in old age.

At the next Dominion-Provincial Conference we want both the Dominion and Provincial Government members to quit thinking in terms of scarcity and about adding mites to measly doles, and bigger bags of peanuts to the needy. We want them to think and act in conformity with the times and give the people of Canada a streamlined British North America Act that will allow for progress and prosperity for all in Canada.

—Trades Congress Journal.

How About Strikes?

By ROBERT J. WATT
Member of the National War Labor Board

America faces a troubled industrial situation. Strikes are on the increase. Threats of new stoppages are popping up all over the map. What can be done about them?

First, let us remember that strikes are not an economic disease, but merely the manifest symptoms of a disease. There is no cure-all for strikes. They can't be stopped by passing a law. That was tried by Congress when it adopted the War Labor Disputes Act. The effect of this law has been to make the situation worse. Congress enacted legislation to correct what was troubling us without taking the time to find out what was causing the trouble.

A doctor doesn't attempt to cure a patient's illness by treating the symptoms. He attacks the basic causes. That's what we must do with strikes.

All strikes have the same basic causes — injustice, misunderstanding and lack of labor-management cooperation.

While the immediate causes of current strikes vary with each particular case, the main trouble is that peace has brought serious pay cuts to most American workers. With wage rates frozen during the war, workers had to depend upon overtime to meet higher living costs. Now that the overtime is gone, pay envelopes have shrunk considerably. In the case of a mechanic receiving one dollar an hour, his take-home pay has dropped from $52 a week to $40 a week due to the loss of eight hours overtime at time-and-a-half. Out of that $40, about $8 is deducted for taxes, leaving him $32. This worker may have been able to get along on $32 a week before the war, but it takes $45 at present-day prices to buy the things he could get for $32 then. That means he has to reduce his standard of living and deprive himself and his wife and children of the things they want and need. At this stage trouble begins.

It is essential to the best interests of the nation that wage rates be lifted immediately to make up for peacetime losses. It is likewise imperative that better government machinery be devised to deal with industrial disputes. We look to the labor-management conference set for November 5 to recommend such machinery.

Meanwhile, the American Federation of Labor appeals to all the nation's workers to conduct themselves with patience and restrait during the coming weeks and months until new policies are developed. Extreme action may prejudice labor's cause and it will certainly delay the reconversion program which workers must depend on for lasting peacetime jobs.

AIRCRAFT HARD HIT

Hardest hit of the war industries has been that of aircraft, the Department of Labor revealed recently. Employment in that industry has dropped more than 1,750,000 from a wartime peak of 2,080,000 back in November, 1943. In the last two weeks of August alone, 700,000 were laid off. Present aircraft employment was estimated at only about 300,000.

TRY TO PULL FAST ONE

British and Dutch rubber interests are attempting to put one over on Uncle Sam. They argue that most of the synthetic rubber plants in this country should be closer to rubber plantations in the East Indies may have a profitable market. That would take jobs from Americans, but owners of the rubber plantations would get dividends.

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WILLIAM PAGE
International Representative, United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America; member of Carpenters' Union, No. 452.

HERB FLESHER
International Organizer, Int. Union of Operating Engineers; Member of Local 115.

Carpenters' Unions in B.C. Making Splendid Progress

ORGANIZER BILL PAGE of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, made the following partial report of his work in the Province of British Columbia, during the past year. It was received with appreciation by the delegates to the recent convention of the Provincial Council of Carpenters, held in Vancouver.

As your representative, I am taking the liberty of submitting a brief report on the activities of our United Brotherhood in the Province of British Columbia since our last annual convention.

The 1944 convention approved a standard agreement for our affiliated local unions and I was asked by the President in Convention to render all assistance to put this agreement into effect with the following pleasing results:

During January 1945, our Nanaimo Local Union No. 527, completed the standard agreement with their employers, which same was later approved by the British Columbia Regional War Labor Board. Chilliwack Local Union No. 1843, during February, 1945, also completed an agreement with their employers which was approved by the Board. Prince Rupert Pile Drivers and Bridgemen Local Union No. 1549, completed an agreement with their employers providing for a wage scale of $1.20 per hour in March, 1945.

In December, 1944, Kelowna Local Union No. 1370 was installed, and in June, 1945, Penticton Local Union No. 1696 was installed, and in the same month agreements were completed between both these locals and their employers.

During August, 1945, Victoria Local Union No. 1598 amended their agreement with the employers to provide for the 5-day week with the $1.12 per hour wage scale. This change was approved by the Regional War Labor Board.

During September, 1945, Local Union No. 1998 was installed in Prince George and an agreement made with their employers which has since been approved by the British Columbia Regional War Labor Board.

During October, 1945, our Powell River Local Union No. 2068 completed an agreement with the employers which was approved by the Board.

Change Classifications

In February, 1945, our Courtenay Local Union No. 1638 reported the Iron River Logging Company were carrying on construction work at Oyster Bay and classifying the carpenters as maintenance men at a wage of 97c per hour, the rate recognized by the I. W. A. for this class of work. We took the matter up with the Regional War Labor Board with the result that this company was directed by the Board to pay the proper wages to men doing carpenter work ,viz., $1.10 per hour retroactive as from February 16th, the date of application.

During October, 1945, a dispute over wages on Wartime Housing in the Okanagan Valley was brought to a head through a Direction by the Western Labor Board ordering the contractors affected to pay carpenters $1.02 per hour. Direction was vigorously contested by our Vernon, Kelowna and Penticton local unions, who refused to accept this rate. Following protests to the proper authorities I appeared on behalf of our local unions before the Western Labor Board at Edmonton, who, after hearing evidence, changed their Direction to read $1.10 per hour, the rate established through our agreements, retroactive as from October 9, 1945, effective on all Wartime Housing work in the Vernon, Kelowna and Penticton districts. This was a distinct victory for our Brotherhood.

6,000 Membership

These agreements and disputes have necessitated many appearances before the Regional War Labor Board and I have always been ably assisted by Brothers Jack Stevenson and Jack Bannan, Business Agents for Vancouver and New Westminster locals, respectively. As representatives of this council we were at all times shown the utmost consideration and courtesy, due, of course, to the prestige built up by this council of our brotherhood. The United Brotherhood now have twenty local unions in this province, with a membership approximating 6,000. Fourteen of these are construction carpenter locals, three Piledriver and Bridgemen's locals, and three Shingle Weavers' locals. Five of our Carpenters locals have agreements providing for the 5-Day Week, wages $1.12 per hour; eight have 44-hour week agreements with a wage scale of $1.10 per hour; one other is at present negotiating an agreement which may be completed any day now. Our Piledrivers and Bridgemen's locals all have good agreements with their employer groups. The Shingle Weavers are in process of organization under the competent leadership of Brother Jack Chute, who has charge. In spite of opposition from the I. W. A., they will make good.

In closing, let me make this statement: Our organization and its members now enjoy the best wages and conditions of any craft in this province and, in fact, the whole of Canada, due, of course, to the sincere and active work put in by the Officers and Members of Affiliated Locals, under the leadership and guidance of this council. May I further state that it has been a pleasure to me for the past year to work with such good fellows, whose confidence I hope to retain. Thanking you all for the consideration and courtesies shown me when working in your respective districts. Wishing the Council and its affiliated Local Unions continued success.

Your Representative,
BILL PAGE.

World or War

Two world wars in a single generation have seared into men's hearts and minds some idea of the meaning of war. New discoveries — the rocket bombs, the atomic bomb — have given us a preview of the war of the future, a war that may annihilate mankind and shatter the world. Our choice is no longer war or peace. It is literally WORLD OR WAR.

People everywhere know that they have a world to keep and a world to build. They are determined to banish war and to save their world.

In that determination, the representatives of the United Nations met at San Francisco earlier this year to build an international organization to save coming generations from the scourge of war. Convinced that victory in peace, as victory in war, could be won only by common effort, they pooled their hopes and their plans. Out of their work came the Charter of the United Nations.

The Chater is not a perfect document. It embodies the thinking of representatives of diverse political, economic and social systems. In many respects, it is a compromise of differing views on how peace can best be maintained.

But the important part is that it represents the methods which the majority of nations agree can best keep the peace.

The Charter itself will not automatically end war. It simply embodies a set of ideas. And ideas don't work unless men do. In the final analysis, the success of the United Nations will depend not so much on the work of statesmen as on the work of ordinary men and women in all lands. To make the Charter work, people in all countries must undertake certain jobs. What are some of these jobs?

Attempting to understand rather than misunderstand each other. Emphasizing the things that unite rather than those that divide. Levelling the barriers of race and creed and colour.

Recognizing that the suppression of one ultimately means the suppression of all.

Establishing social progress and economic security as the foundation of peace.

Labor Did Its Full Share

Now that the strain of war production has eased, all American labor is being highly commended for the really sensational production record achieved. This commendation comes from numerous government sources and fro mmany private individuals. It was the production on the home front that enabled our boys on the far-flung battle fronts of the world to gain their brilliant victory in the world's greatest war.

Also, it is pointed out by responsible officials, over two-and-a-half million members of organized labor have served in the armed forces of the United States during this war. A typical example is that of the International Hod Cariers, Building and Common Laborers' Union of America. This union, with something over 300,000 members, furnished 100,000 members to the various branches of our armed forces—a hundred thousand members from this one organization. And it might be added that they, along with all of our men and women in the service of the nation, acquitted themselves with distinction and with honor.

So, labor may be said to have contributed its full share, both on the home front and on the battle fronts, in winning the mighty victory which all people of good will fervently hope may result in an enduring peace.

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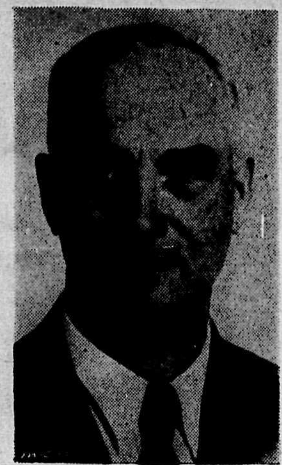

JACK STEVENSON
Business Agent, Carpenters' Union No. 452; President Building Trades Council.

Law Firms' Files Conceal Crimes

A reader of LABOR, who is in a position to know what he is talking about, submits the following:

"Without the slightest qualification, I say that the files of the big law firms have become the depositors of documents which corporations do not dare to keep in their own files.

"The Senate Munitions, Senate Civil Liberties, and other government investigations made rich hauls from the files of corporations. After that, the corporations began destroying incriminating papers and put others in the files of their law firms, where they were safe from prying eyes, because of the ancient theory of 'confidential relations between lawyer and client.'

"So far as I know, no government agency has ever tried to look into law firms' files. If they could be dug into, they would reveal many interesting secrets—not only deals and arrangements between big corporations in this country, but international cartel agreements and international high finance.

"As one government official said after experience with this subject—the law firms are the 'General Staffs' of Big Business and High Finance. Like military staffs, they keep the facts in secret files."

Typos' Wages Raised, Hours Lowered

Recent wage raises won by members of the International Typographical Union in various parts of the country are believed by government economists to be among the highest obtained during the war.

The gains over January, 1941, rates range as high as 57 per cent with an increase in one instance—Lynn, Mass.—from $1.06 an hour to $1.61. Other cities where the hourly percentage rise has been large, include: Lubbock, Texas, 51 per cent; San Diego, 41; Shreveport, La., 32; Amarillo, Texas, 34; Rochester, N.Y., 31; Litchfield, Ill., 37, and Huntington, Ind., 32 per cent.

Improved contract scales have been reported from all over the country, with the Chicago newspaper contract setting a new all-time high in pay rates. For day work (7¼ hours) the Typos won an increase from $66.70 to $75; for nights (7¼ hours) and lobster shift (6 hours) from 70.70 to $81. In addition they obtained three weeks vacation instead of two.

Newspaper scales in New York were also increased providing for $77.50 for day work; $81 for night work and $83 for the lobster shift. The union won six paid holidays with double pay when the holidays are worked. The new agreement also calls for reduction in hours from 40 to 37½ now and to 36¼ in six months.

RED DEER LODGE OF AUTO EMPLOYEES

The auto employees of Red Deer recently organized a local of the International Association of Machinists with more than 40 members. It is expected that other locals will be organized in other parts of the province in the organising campaign now under way.

BAKERY WORKERS' ORGANIZER FOR ALBERTA

Bakery and Confectionery Workers' International Union has appointed Brother "Bill" Garner of Local 252 as an organizer for the Province of Alberta.

An extensive organization campaign will be undertaken in the baking industry, and Local 252 has been granted jurisdiction rights for all Southern Alberta. Organization work will be commenced in Red Deer, Drumheller, Lethbridge and Medicine Hat immediately with a view to standardizing conditions in these cities.

DOESN'T TAKE LONG

"You know, dear," said she, "love is a wonderful thing. I've just read an article here in this paper all about a man who reached the age of forty without learning to read and write. Then he fell in love with a woman, and for her sake he made a scholar of himself in two years."

"That's nothing," replied her husband. "I know a man who was a profound scholar at forty. Then he met a woman, and for her sake he made a fool of himself in two days."

SHIPYARD LABOR NOW 19,000 LESS IN SAN FRANCISCO

Cutbacks in private San Francisco May area shipyards have reduced payrolls by 19,000 workers since V-J Day, leaving 60,000 employed, Paul Scharrenberg, State Industrial Relations Director, announces.

In Lighter Vein

UNAPPRECIATED

"How are you getting aolng?" asked a friend of an acquaintance who had gone on the stage.

"Oh, I have met with a share of success. I played Hamlet for the first time."

"Did you get through all right?"

"Yes, except that I happened to stumble and fall into Ophelia's grave."

"That must have been embarrassing."

"It was, but I wouldn't have minded if the audience hadn't seemed so disappointed when I got out."

.... WASTE

As two flies weree njoying a promenade on the ceiling, one said:

"Aren't those human things silly?"

"How do you mean?" asked the other.

"Well," said the first, "they spend a lot of money building a beautiful ceiling like this, then they go and walk on the floor."

APPEALED TO HIGHER COURT

Father (sternly): "I though I issued an injunction against that young Tully coming here."

Daughter: "I know you did, Dad, but he's a lawyer, so he appealed to a higher court, and mother reversed your decision."—Glass Topics.

EVEN STEVEN

Two casual golf acquaintances were walking toward the green when they sighted two women ocming over a hill.

"I say," remarked one of the men, "here comes my wife with some old hag she's picked up somewhere."

"And here comes mine with another," retorted the other, icily.

WEATHER NOTE

Keep cool! Remember if your feet get hot you can always turn your hose on 'em.

Hello, Musty, saw you at the Rodeo with a stunning brunette. You must be loosening up, old dear, what!

Glasgow, Scotland, is in the same latitude as Alaska.

Girl: I don't think I'd like to go out with a perfect stranger.

Boy: Gee, I'm not perfect!

Salmon (as he took the hook): "Ill likely get canned for this."

Love may laugh at locksmiths, but you never hear a girl chuckle when the car breaks down umpteen miles from anywhere.

POSSIBLY

A Tennessee woman 80 years old, has never seen an automobile. Which may be the reason she is 80 years old.

Girl: What do you like in girls' clothes?

Boy: Girls.

Girl: Do you ever go out with girl marines?

Boy: No—I might have to kiss a sergeant!

Girl: I like to meet men before going out with them.

Boy: I lose more women that way!

AS SHE IS SPOKEN

Down in New Orleans a patriotic civilian noticed a sad-looking soldier standingoutside the Pelicans' ball park and evidently determined to cheer him up by talking in the khaki-clad boy's own language.

"Say, corporal," he greeted, "what times does the game start this afternoon—1400 hours or 1430?"

The sad-panned doggie doffed his hat, scratched his head. "Far as I make out, Bub," he answered in pure and beautiful Brooklynese, "it commences at t'ree toity!"

If a man empties his purse into his head no one can take it from him.—Ben Franklin.

AST YOUR BREAD ON THE WATER!

A charitable woman, much interested in a poor neighborhood, noticed that whenever she went through the street, a down-and-out man stood at the corner. One morning, feeling sorry for him, she slipped a dollar into his hand and whispered, "Never despair."

Next tie she saw him, he stopped her and handed her $9.

"What does this mean?" she asked.

"It means, mum, that Never Despair won, 8 to 1."

DAD WAS SOME RUNNER.

"Dad must be quite an athlete, mother."

"Why do you say that, Junior?"

"I heard you say that he'd been out seven nights running."

PLASMATIC-THERAPY
The first Plasmatic-Therapy instrument was developed and completed in 1932 for the purpose of helping syphilitic mental cases in the treatment of paresis. After a great deal of difficulty, permission was obtained to demonstrate this method on a selected list of cases at the Julietta Hospital for the Incurable Insane in Marion County, Indianna. Every one of these cases received a negative Wassermann during the course of demonstration and their mental condition was remitted.
For some two years Plasmatic-Therapy was demonstrated by Col. F. B. Knyvett in mental hospitals throughout the country, including Longview Hospital, Cincinnati; Luden's Hospital, Long Island, New York; the Harlem Valley State Hospital, New York; and Rest Haven Sanitorium, Elgin, Illinois. It was during this period that the further use of this method for all organic disorders was discovered and enlarged.
From 1934 until 1939, Plasmatic-Therapy was successfully demonstrated in various public and private hospitals and clinics — over periods of two weeks to two years—in the treatment of all types of arthritis, high and low blood pressure, all types of paralysis, including Parkinsonian and paralysis-agitans, multiple sclerosis, lateral sclerosis, Reynaud's Disease, epilepsy, uremia, Wasserman-fast condition, "Polio" and various types of pelvic infections, etc.
Among these hospitals were Bellevue Hospital, New York City; Cook County Hospital, Chicago; Springfield Infirmary, Springfield, Massachusetts; Ottawa General Hospital; Gotham Hospital; Rest Croft Hospital and a number of other well-known clinics. The treatment data given to doctors, as a guide for Plasmatic-Therapy, was compiled by Col. Knyvett as a result of this bedside experience.
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"We shall be glad," a firm wrote to the Selective Service board, "if you can assist us in retaining this man a little longer. He is the only man left in the firm, and is carrying in with 15 girls."—Commerce.

In Seattle, "The [illegible]" a naval-hospital newspaper, offered a prize to anyone at the hospital who could identify Betty [illegible] legs from a selection of [illegible] photos. The winner: the chaplain.

The Labor Statesman

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H. W. WATTS, Man. Editor

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Vancouver, Can., December, 1945

GOVERNMENTAL INDIFFERENCE

Despite the fact that tremendous changes have been taking place in the field of industry, governments seem to cling to the old established forms and formulas. Mass production methods have revolutionized industry. Science has devised new processes, new metals, new formulas. Inventors are throwing an ever-increasing number of new gadgets into our homes, our factories and our lives. All these things have created a desire for a better living, better homes, higher rates of pay, more leisure and more pleasure.

During the war, thousands of industrial workers found their way into British Columbia, not only to take part in war production, but also to get the higher standard of living that British Columbia offered them. Now that the war is over, a large part of those people have had to find work in other industries, or are now drawing unemployment insurance and odd jobs.

Added to these are thousands of men and women from the armed forces, who are now finding it hard to get the jobs that were promised them. The new industries that have been taking shape in this province have not been able to absorb the great numbers of men and women looking for peace-time jobs, and the unemployment situation is growing tense in spite of the business boom that has sprung up in our midst.

In a situation such as this, one would imagine that the government and all government offices would give serious consideration to the need for providing jobs, but instead of that we find these government officials giving tremendously large orders to Eastern Canada firms. A few weeks ago a Provincial Government office gave three large road building contracts to Eastern firms, who have since brought equipment and men from Eastern Canada. Now we find another government office giving another Eastern firm a contract valued at several hundred thousand dollars while our firms seek contracts and our unemployed seek jobs.

What kind of a government have we to permit hirelings to award contracts to outside firms while this province is being inundated with unemployed? Must these officials always seek a cheaper market, when they know full well that British Columbia has obtained and must maintain a higher standard of living? Why should these officials say that they cannot award contracts to our local firms because they were higher than Eastern firms, when they know that the rates of our firms would be higher because of the higher wages they pay and because of the shorter hours they work? These officials and the government all get their living out of the dollars and dimes of the workers and business of this province, and we think that is a downright piece of indifference to send huge contracts back East that will have to be paid for by the people of this province.

If our tenders for these jobs are higher than Eastern tenders, the difference in those tenders would still assist in helping this province. The extra wages and the profits would all be spent here, whereas hardly a nickel will come back from the East.

We think that it is about time that our government used a little common sense in this business of awarding contracts. It is time they got away from the old formulas and forms and took note of the changing events, and help British Columbia firms build up a real industry.

ROBERT STEVENSON
International Representative, Painters' and Decorators' Union.

Henry Dubb Tells 'Em

"It is to be hoped that depressions are never abolished, for they have many desirable features. Those who learn to 'ride the business cycle' can find as many advantages in depressions as in booms . . ."

Now, that there piece come out of "Opinion and Comment," a paper that's put out by the College of Commerce of the University of Illinois. Readin' sumpin' like that kinda makes you proud of your country, don't it? Now, here's another by William L. Leitz, vice-president of the Guarantee Trust Company:

"I think that depressions are inevitable under the free enterprise system and the best we can hope to do is to limit their depth and duration."

See? None of your dirty ol' commoon-ism in that! No, siree! An' here's another solid bunch of red-blooded American patriots that won't sell our freedom to a bunch of long-haired bolshe-veek-ies:

"Depressions are the price we pay for freedom."

That's what the New York Chamber of Commerce said, but the Atlanta Chamber of Commerce's got even more good ol' red blood than the New York one. It really hits the ol' nail on the head and shows up these here Washington crackpots when it says:

"Private competitive capitalism requires a floating number of unemployed."

No pussyfootin' there, see? They really tell off them there Roosian reds. An' then there's a lot of them nitwits that are talkin' about clearin' up the slums an' givin' a lotta lazy, good-for-nuthin' loafers places to live. Now, you take this here John W. Scoville—he's a economist for the Chrysler Corporation, and he's gotta head on 'im. He sees how the com-moon-ists are tryin' to tear down our sassiety. Look how he blasts 'em:

"If the people living in slums don't like them, let them move out. Some people like to live in one-room shacks. There is no solution to this problem . . ."

Yessir, it sure makes a feller feel dam' good that the big men are spendin' all their spare time savin' this here country from the wreckers! It's sure mighty fine to know our big men are onto these here red rat stooges for this here dirty Roosian dictator Stawilin. An' decent citizens like us are gonna get back to them good ol' days when a red-blooded he-man stood on his own feet an' sol' apples if he had to to pertect his free enterprise. You betcha!

—California Labor Review.

British Medical Trust Is Repudiated

Socially minded doctors in Vancouver are reading with glee the story, just received from the British Labor party, of how the British Medical Assn., known as the British medical trust, was repudiated by its own members on the question of a government health plan for all Britishers.

When the British plan in the form of a government report was published in England the leaders of the British Medical Association viciously attacked it, just as the Canadian Medical Association attacks all efforts here to extend government health protection to the workers.

A Boot in the Fanny

Then a remarkable thing happened. The medical trust, confident that its reactionary views were shared by its membership, sent out a questionaire on the government plan. But the membership by huge majorities favored the plan in face of their own leaders' opposition.

"In regard to the health centers for instnce," says the material from the British Labor party, though the leadership of the BMA "wished to limit them to a few experimental centres, 68 per cent of all doctors who replied, and 83 per cent of doctors already in some form of the government health service, approved of the health center principle. Of those in favor, some two out of every three wanted them to be centers where both preventive and curative work is done, including for instance maternity and child welfare and school medical treatment."

QUICK ON INTAKE

Two tight Scotchmen were sitting at a bar, each waiting for the other to buy a second round of drinks. To make conversation, one asked:

"Did you have a good hunting trip?"

"Yes, it was a good one," replied the other. "I shot a moose right between the yours."

"What's yours?" asked his puzzled friend.

"Double Scotch and soda," said the hunter quickly, "thank you very much."

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The old familiar things . . . the tree lights glowing in the windows . . . haunting echoes of carols long remembered . . . the happy flurry of excitement unwrapping the gay parcels on Christmas morn . . . these have a deeper meaning now.

Let's make it a really Merry Christmas—an old-fashioned festive season for enjoying the good things of the table and the quieter pleasures of home firesides.

But, in our season of rejoicing with the men returned from overseas we shall remember those yet to come home . . . the valiant wounded in our military hospitals . . . and all those in less fortunate circumstances than our own.

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"How does an old maid finish her prayer?"

"I don't know, how?"

"Ah, men!"

Rail Unions Ask Pay Boost and 6-Hour Day

Chicago.—The railroads are to the fore in the labor picture as union-management negotiation conferences on wage-hour demands by the nation's railroad workers opened here.

Committees representing the Eastern, Western and Southwestern railroads and heads of 20 labor organizations are taking part in in the conferences.

Five brotherhoods or operating employees, engineers, trainmen, conductors, firemen, enginemen and switchmen drew plans last summer for a 25 per cent. wage increase, overtime pay, terminal delay rules and similar requests for their approximately 300,000 members.

Later, the AFL Railway Employees Department, representing about 400,000 shop crafts workers, demanded a cut from 48 to 36 hours in their workweek, asking a six-hour day and 6-day week without reduction in their present straight-time weekly pay.

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"Oh," said the colored girl, generously, "I'se very fond of children, so don't go restricting yourself on my account!"

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THE FACTS OF LIFE

Sally (startled by boy friend): "Well! Where did you come from?"
Bill: "Didn't your mother ever tell you anything?"

ENTIRELY IMPARTIAL

Marilyn: "I wonder if Jack really loves me."
Carolyn: "Sure he does! Why should he make you an exception?"

TOM PARKIN
Chairman of the Press Committee; Rec. Sec. Aeronautical Mechanics' I.A.M. Lodge 756

DAVID REES
Business Agent, Civic Employees' Union No. 28.

Situation In China Is Old Story: Foreign Traders, Bankers Hope To Keep Privileges from People

By "OBSERVER"

For hundreds of years the "war-lords" and the landlords, with the aid of the money-lenders, have robbed the peasants and the coolies (ku-li means "bitter life") of China. As a result the richest men in the world were in China. They built great castles surrounded by massive stone walls. In deep vaults were stores of gold, silver and precious stones.

As a sample of the many styles of robbery, let us take the tenant-farmer. He furnishes his seed, tools, animals, fertilizer. The landlords take as rent from half to three-fourths of the crop—even in the driest years when the poor farmers die by the millions of starvation. If the tenants have eaten their share of the crop the landlord lends them seed and takes back DOUBLE!

The great rivers are lined with warehouses holding the landlords' share of the crops—perhaps owned by traders or money-lenders. Junks and river boats carry the crops to the cities and ports where they are sold to the foreign trade.

For many years (more than fifty) the United States government maintained a navy on the great Yangtse river. If the starving people raided a warehouse, a gunboat would steam up and fire a few volleys into the town. In the same way this navy protected the great tanks that provided "oil for the lamps of China."

Traders from all over the world took the food and clothing material from the peasants and coolies. The "great powers" had "taken over" vast tracts of China and policed the country, making and administering their own laws. In 1900 the people of north China rose in rebellion and killed a lot of "foreigners" in Peking (Peiping). Russia, Japan, Germany, France, England and the United States sent armies to China, killed a few thousand Chinese, kept troops there until huge indemnities were paid. (The U. S. gave back its share by paying expenses of Chinese students in our colleges. Others kept theirs.)

That was the REAL beginning of the strife in China today. Then after long years of agitation Sun Yat Sen began his revolution against China's social system. Then the war-lord-landlord gang induced Chiang Kai Chek to desert Sun Yat Sen and the people's hope of democracy was sadly checked. Chiang fought the people instead of the Japanese invaders.

Chang, a Manchurian prince who sympathized with the people, took Chiang Kai Chek into custody and held him until he promised to quit fighting the common people and to fight the Japanese. This man's brother, now in Manchuria, is organizing the resistance to Chiang Kai Chek because the latter didn't keep his promise to democratize China.

And now we are using our forces to help prevent China to become a democracy. Future chroniclers will no doubt have twinges of conscience a sthey try to "write down" this reeking episode in American history.

Correspondence

Editor, Labor Statesman:

REFERENCE: EMERGENCY SLEEPING ACCOMMODATION

The current press continues to inform us of the lack of sleeping accommodation likely to ensue in Vancouver when auto tourists start coming this way by the tens of thousands. In the U. S. A. over six million new cars are likely to get on the highways next year.

We must double our present transient room accommodation in fairness to our future visitors. Why not start preparation now step by step:

1. Complete six of those maintenance ships, making necessary internal changes so as to handle one thousand people daily on each ship.
2. Each maintenance ship can be easily arranged to sleep and feed one thousand tourists as it is reported that each ship is fully self-contained in all requirements from telephones to radio.
3. It is assumed that each ship has the basic setup for everything needed like electric lighting, hot and cold water on all decks everywhere, elaborate sanitary arrangements, emergency hospital, bakery, dining rooms, several kitchens, storage space, complete ventilation, steam heating, loud speaker system, telephone service and waterproof floors.
4. The war partitions and naval setup can be easily and quickly adjusted by the local shipyard workers and one thousand double decker discarded air force and army beds installed in a whole series of Pullman type bedrooms similar to those arranged in many hotels and Y.M.C.A.'s across the United States and Canada for the use of travelling defence people and overflow hotel guests.
5. Anchor the six ships at landing slips in Upper False Creek at Main Street across from one main traffic entry to our city via G.N.R., C.N.R. and auto tourists coming on Main Street. In case anyone asks about the sanitation, well the six thousand shipyard workers in the same area did not create any sanitation problem nor will the six thousand daily ship guests. Every day a half dozen ships are docked in our city and no sanitation problem has ensued all these years.

In due course the ships will have dropped in value to about $100,000 each anyway so meantime the Provincial Government could provide very fine housing for six thousand tourists by just getting a lease on the ships for a year or two until the price drops, after which the Provincial Government could buy them for above stated amount or even less.

7. The cost of completion should be borne by the Provincial Government as the whole province will benefit by the spending ratio of the six thousand tourists in continuous attendance. They should spend ten million dollars a year, according to average tourist figures.
8. There can be plenty of car parking space in the area near Main and Terminal in addition to the space available by using one whole deck of each ship as a car park for three hundred cars.
9. This plan would give work to several hundred shipyard workers for this winter and would make it possible to advertise in the spring: "Come to Vancouver and we'll guarantee all visitors a place to stay!" Thousands will come and we'll all benefit. The local hotels will not have to turn folks away as they do today. The very best advertisement our city can have will be the publicized fact that there will be sleeping accommodation for any tourist who visits Vancouver by air, sea or land.
10. Only drawback I can foresee is that six ships may not be enough for the millions who will want to see Vancouver the next few years.

Submitted by D. P. McCallum.

Art Exhibition To Go Around Circuit

Twenty-three entries from the Second Annual "British Columbia at Work" competitive art exhibition, recently sponsored by B. C. Trade Unions and conducted by the Labor Arts Guild in the Vancouver Art Gallery for three weeks closing December 2, have been selected by the Federation of Canadian Artists to tour the Province, under auspices of the Extension Department, University of British Columbia.

The abridged exhibition will travel a four months' circuit, commencing in January, and will be shown at the following points: Kamlops, Vernon, Kelowna, Nelson, Penticton, Trail, Kimberley, Creston, Alberni and Grand Forks.

A representative cross-section of working life in the province, through the artist's media of oil, water colour, and black and white, is revealed by the FCA selection covering shipbuilding, lumbering, fishing, mining, construction and transportation; also, including workers of the foundry, cannery, mill, pattern shop, gravel pit and hop-fields.

Artists whose works have been chosen for this circuit are A. W. Allen, Arnold Belkin, Kay Anglin, Bruce D. Boyd, B. Callegaro, H. G. Crumplin, Gladys K. Ewan, James Dalsell Johnston, W. Kenneth Hoff, McGregor Hone, W. J. Newcombe, Harley W. Parker, Cliff Robinson, Lieut, J. L. Shadbolt, Ronald J. Thom, Gordon Kit Thorne, Fraser Wilson, Margaret Lougheed, Dorothy Willis and R. W. Major, the last three named with two selected works each.

BIG INCREASE IN PRODUCTION OUTPUT SHOWN

Detroit, Michigan.—Auto workers were producing 20.4 per cent more per hour in 1940 than in 1929, says a technical study by researchers here. It is charged that Manager George Romney of the Automobile Manufacturers Association deliberately distorted the facts in a government report when Romney claimed an 11 per cent drop.

No Help Wanted!

With the coming of peace, the crutch of war has been kicked out from under the North American Price System. Canada and the United States not only face the old pre-war social problems but the same problems in more violent form.

While other countries emerge from the ruins appalled by their poverty, we are baffled by our abundance. While other nations will need the toil of every available person to keep them from starvation, we are already confronted with a surplus of millions of unwanted citizens.

Machines are displacing men at an accelerating rate. The United States automobile industry "hopes" for a 60 per cent increase in production over the pre-war level but expects a 40 per cent cut in jobs from the wartime peak. Increased mechanization made it possible for mining to boost output during the war despite a decline in employment from 916,000 in 1940 to 835,000 in 1944. United States Government figures indicate that altogether 8,000,000 persons have been displaced by improvements in efficiency over the six-year war period. The same trend is observable in Canada.

Technocracy has long shown that the Price System is doomed by the impact of technology. The use of atomic energy and other technological advances will force more and more North Americans to accept Technocracy as the solution to the social problems of our time.

Investigate Technocracy

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THIS COMPLEX WORLD

An old codger sat smoking a cigarette in the waiting room of a bus terminal when a porter came along and said: "Can't you read that notice on the wall over there—'No Smoking Allowed'?"

"Oh, sure, I can read all right," said the old codger, "but I can't keep all your rules. There's another sign on the wall there which reads 'Wear Garter Girdles'."

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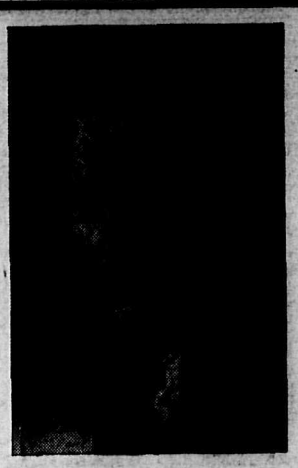

BERT WYBREW
District Representative of the International Association of Machinists.

JACK EAVES
Business Agent, Painters and Decorators' Union No. 138; Executive member of Trades and Labor Council.

General Motors Biggest Firm In Existence

General Motors Corp. is the largest industrial concern in the world. It has more than 100 plants in the U. S. with more than 77 million square feet of space and before the war had 36 plants abroad.

During the war, when it was also operating 18 government-owned plants, it turned out $10 billion worth of war goods—with the labor of half a million workers.

Huge Profit Shown

The auto industry increased its profits—before taxes—by 120.1 per cent in the years 1941-44 over what they made in 1936-39 and profits—after taxes—by 20.6 per cent in the same period. In addition to increased profits, GM salted away $76,051,805 as "postwar and contingency reserves" and can do very nicely on this amount, plus tax rebates Congress has lavishly voted for industry, while it waits for strikers without "postwar and continency reserves" to get hungry on the picket line.

Controlling stockholders in GM are the duPont family, which also dominates U. S. chemical and munitions industries. Its chemical empire is almost completely unorganized although a few plants have been unionized during the war.

Before the war, various members of the duPont family were the principal financial backers of the misnamed semi-fascist Liberty League and some are known for their contributions to the Christian American Association, the Texas-born American fascist organization that has been prompting anti-closed shop, anti-picketing, union registration laws in a score of state legislatures.

Slogans Sell 'Em

Ever since crackers were sold in barrels, in the nineteenth century, the American public has been bombarded with trademarks and slogans which both reflect and change our wants, and above all sell products.

Since 1919 "Printer's Ink" has preserved more than 8,000 Advertised phrases.

In the field of slogans just out, one of the best is "Carpets Make It Home." Leroy A. Beers, president of the Carpet Institute, said: "The carpet manufacturers have adopted this slogan because they realize that home has never meant so much to so many." He's right!

DON'T INTERFERE

Don't you interfere with Business,
be the business what it may.
Don't you interfere with Business,
interference doesn't pay.
Let the briber breed corruption with
his foully-gathered hoard;
Let the money changers flourish
in the Temple of the Lord.

Let the poison-venders prosper, let
the franchise-grabber cheat;
Let the deft financial juggler pile up
millions through deceit;
Let the sharper tempt the gudgeon
with his shining gilded lure;
Let the grafter burst his coffers
with the plunder of the poor.

Let the soul-betrayers fatten on
their depths of native slime!
Don't you interfere with Business
thought that business be a crime!
Live in oily, fat complaisance! Be a
sweet, submissive clod!
Don't you interfere with Business—
If the Dollar be your God!

—Labor, Washington.

• • • •

LOOK AT WHO'S AFRAID!

"Will private property disappear under socialism" is one of the most frequent questions flung at socialist speakers. My own answer usually is:

"It is quite true that the average person is afraid of losing his private property, and if he happens to be one who owns practically no private property at all he is scared beyond description. For some people, the possibility of losing waht they have is bad. But, for others, the mere prospect of losing what they never had seems to terrible to contemplate. Happily, however, socialism does not, and never has, proposed to take away private property. On the contrary one of its most important functions is to distribute to the people more personal property than they ever had before."—William Irvine, M.P., in "Is Socialism the Answer?"

• • • •

SELECTED SAYINGS FROM ART YOUNG'S "POOR FISH"

"The workers don't need unions—the boss will act fair if his workers will col ytrust him."

"If it weren't for the labor leaders, there'd be no strikes."

"I do not believe wages should be high or low, but they ought to be reasonable."

"I am always glad there are some poor people. The rich can give them gifts, and that makes everybody so much happier."

Running Trades Seek Wage-Hour Adjustment

Railroad unions in the United States seeking wage increases, or shorter hours without reduction in pay, pushed ahead with their demands this week.

There were many important developments in the wage movements of the rail unions. Here are the highlights:

1. Transportation Brotherhoods won an agreement from the carriers to appoint three regional committees to handle the wage demands on a national basis. The unions are asking for a $2.50-a-day increased and many rules changes to improve working conditions for 400,000 train, engine and yard service employees.

Shopcrafts Defend Demand

2. Shopcraft unions, which are seeking a six-hour day and 36-hour week, without reduction in present earnings for an eight-hour day and 48-hour week, prepared to resist a counter-proposal from the railroads which would seriously undermine present conditions. Also, the unions put out a statement which vigorously sustains their demand. Details of this are carried below.

3. The Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees filed cases with the National Mediation Board, involving 240 railroads which have rejected the union's demand for sweeping correction of present wage inequities and for a 75-cent-an-hour minimum.

Clerks Seek Conferences

4. Conferences with individual carriers were sought by the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks on its demand for a 15-cent-an-hour across-the-board pay raise, plus substantial increases to bring lower-paid employees up to proposed standard minimum scales. President George M. Harrison insisted the adjustments are long overdue.

5. Parleys have started between the American Train Dispatchers' Association and individual railroads on the union's demand for a six-hour day, without reduction in present earnings for an eight-hour day and a 48-hour week. The Dispatchers' program is similar to that of the shopcrafts.

In support of the shopmen's program for a 36-hour week without cut in take-home pay, the A. F. of L. Railway Employees' Department, in a new statement, pointed out that wholesale "technilogical unemployment" confronts the mechanical trades unless the shorter week is instituted.

Proposal Not Revolutionary

A 36-hour week is by no means revolutionary, the Department declared. It cited the fact the mine workers for some time have had a basic 35-hour week and that the six-hour day prevails in many individual plants, as well as among some building trades. In other industries the 40-hour week is standard, while in the railroad industry there has been no reduction in the 48-hour week for a quarter century, the Department declared.

"Railroad workers have failed to get the benefits of increased productivity and technological improvements through reduced hours as have workers in other industries, and as a result, the volume of employment has declined seriously in the railroad industry," the Department said.

It cited the fact that employment on the rails, even at current high wartime levels, is 30 per cent below 1920, though freight traffic is nearly 80 per cent higher and passenger traffic 104 per cent greater.

Workers' Greater Output

On a yardstick of traffic units handled (arrived at through measurement of loads carried plus distance), each employee is doing 166 per cent more work than in 1920.

"The necessity of reducing hours without a reduction of compensation in the railroad industry is abundantly clear from the foregoing figures, and it is even more compelling for mechanical employees."

NIGERIANS DON'T LIKE STARVATION WAGES

Are colonial workers expected to starve quietly when their wages remain frozen at miserable low levels while living costs aim for the sky? That was the basic issue in the strike which swept Nigeria recently, developing into one of the longest and most widespread strikes of organized African workers yet to occur.

According to British officials the strike ended August 5 but a cable to the Council on African Affairs from Lagos said the strike was still unsettled and the workers had received no satisfaction on their demands for wage increases.

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The sergeant blew his whistle and ordered us to "police" the area. "See that you pick up every blessed thing that isn't growing!" he admonished. We'd hardly started when a cute blonde teen-ager out across the green. A couple of the men started after her. Again the sergeant blew his whistle. "Men, men!" he shouted. "That's still growing."

—The American Legionnaire

It's your union. Attend the meetings regularly!