SUPPORTED BY ONE HUNDRED AND FOUR 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 590. VANCOUVER, CANADA, FEFRUARY, 1948 Established 1924

WHAT THEY SAID . . .

Labor's Rights

Whoever produces anything by weary labor, does not need a revelation from heaven to teach him he has a right to the thing produced.—Robert G. Ingersol.

Let's Invest In Peace

The United Nations presently spends $27,000,000 in one year which is equivalent to what the U. S. War Department spends in one day. We urge that all nations make a greater investment in their resources for the building for peace.

—Resolution adopted by Central Congress for World Security.

Financial Post Prescribes

"Screaming about high prices will not help us. Hard work and prayer are the only effective cures."—Financial Post, Toronto.

We wonder whether the writer of such pious platitudes ever heard the celebrated song of Joe Hill's, whose closing lines are:

"Work and pray,
Live on hay;
You'll get pie in the sky
When you die."

—Manitoba Commonwealth.

Defeat Their Own Ends

"The coming year will see a record-breaking campaign by Canadian big business in the interests of maintaining the so-called 'free enterprise' system.

"Sometimes one wonders if the brains of Canadian industry and finance are as big as we think. These men must know that the swing to socialist forms of government throughout the world is primarily a protest against the abuses of the capitalist system. . . .

"Yet in this country, in which monopoly and a concentration of economic power have reduced the term 'free enterprise' to a joke, the capitalist interests never talk about putting their own house in order. In fact, it is standard practice to deny that profits are the cause of higher prices. Do they ever pause to think that they underestimate the intelligence of Canadians and that, in doing so, they are defeating their own ends?

"It will take a lot of high-pressure advertising to overcome, for example, some of the facts in an interesting new book now on the market called, rather bluntly, 'WHO OWNS CANADA?'"

—Jack Scott in "Vancouver Sun", January 3.

Well, Well!

"The Canadian businessman is so busy providing a high standard of living for the people of Canada that he has been lax in answering his critics."—Thus spake C. Bruce Hill, president of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce, at a Montreal meeting, as reported in the Montreal Gazette, Jan. 21.

An Anscomb-ism

". . . If there is anything wrong with it (Bill 39) it's going to stay wrong, because this is going to remain . . ."—(From Mr. Anscomb's speech to the Saanich Nominating Convention as reported in the Vancouver Sun, Jan. 21)

AND HERBIE PUTS HIS FOOT IN IT AGAIN!

". . . In his radio broadcast, Mr. Anscomb scolded the people of this province because they want to keep their fairly high standard of living. He is reported as saying: 'Time enough to complain when we have not seen many necessities for five or six years, when our children are going barefoot or our clothes are patched, our houses cold and our lighting rationed. . . ."

—(From News-Herald Editorial, Jan. 12)

Shades of The Hungry 30's!

"HUNGRY JOBLESS LINE UP FOR MEAL IN TORONTO"

Free meal tickets, donated by an unknown financier, was the target of almost 500 unemployed Toronto men who lined up at an office Tuesday. Three hundred pasteboards, entitling holders to a meal, were given out, and this will be duplicated every day until the end of March. This recalls the days of 1933, when hunger lines were common.—News-Herald, Feb. 4, 1948.

How To Solve Unemployment in These "Prosperous" Times

A vagrant who asked for a jail term until spring work opened up, had his request granted today.

George T. Lloyd, 29, no fixed address, who stands four feet 10 inches and weighs 116 pounds, told police he was unable to get work.

Magistrate W. W. B. McInnes approved his request for 30 days in jail.—Vancouver Sun, February 4., 1948.

Vancouver An Unsafe City

"Vancouver is not a safe place in which to be," Walter Marshall, chairman of the Traffic and Safety Council told members. "There is no use bringing thousand of U.S. tourists here only to maim them on our streets, right and left."—(As reported in the Daily Press.)

Province - I. T. U. Judgment Threatens Labor's Position

By ALEX MacDONALD

Two years ago the International Typographical Union was one of the most secure and financially strong unions in the labour world. But, beginning like the cloud, no bigger than a man's hand, the storm has struck the printers' union. Vancouver Local No. 226 has been at one of the storm centres, as have also locals in Winnipeg and Chicago. Now the struggles of two years in Vancouver have been capped by a clear-cut judgment in the Courts against Local 226.

The judgment does not give the Province the keys of the union's international head office. But it does give the Province everything it asked for in its claim; damages, an injunction and a declaration that the strike was illegal.

Men employed for twenty years at the Province, never dreaming of this calamity, now see their jobs taken by imported strikebreakers. The older men may never work again.

No unionist can afford to dismiss this judgment from his mind. It is the judgment of an able, forthright judge. The union's case was presented ably and well by lawyers Dryer and Tysoe. It may be appealed to a higher court. Certainly in the opinion of this writer it sets a precedent which will be pressed home time after time in the next few years.

For this reason I wish to set down in a few plain words just what this judgment means for unionists. I promise to avoid technical legal words. Labour has long looked askance at the lawyers, not without some reason. In 1881, when the Noble Order of the Knights of Labour was formed in Hamilton, Ontario, it decided to include everyone except, "bankers, lawyers and saloon-keepers"! This lawyer will at least try to be understood.

Civil Conspiracy

Back in 1854, members of the Master Printers Union (a forerunner of the ITU) were fined one penny each in Toronto after going on strike for the nine hour day. This was a "conspiracy" case. But there has not been, until now, a single Canadian case of importance holding union members liable in damages for conspiracy. So it is easy to see why the ITU case is important.

There have been English cases holding unionists liable for damages for conspiracy. But in the last twenty years they have been few and far between. There was reason to believe we had seen the last of them BUT now conspiracy is back on its feet.

Conspiracy is where you have concerted action by a number of persons with the object of harming someone else. Mr. Justice Wilson found the ITU members liable in conspiracy because: (1) there was some violence on the picket line, and (2) the Local broke the Wartime Labour Code by going on strike. Either of these might mean conspiracy.

Union officers must consider this very carefully. Many unions, often through oversight as in the ITU case itself, break some section or other of the Labour Laws in taking strike action. There must be written into Acts, such as B.C.'s Bill 39, a provision that breach of the Act is punishable by the penalties set out in the Act, and nothing more.

As to violence, it is estimated that 95 per cent of the members of Local 226 were perfectly law abiding. But under the Judgment the actions of 5 per cent who resorted to some forcible picketting have brought down damages on the heads of every member of the Local.

This is unfortunate, for it seems to me that some violence is almost inevitable when men on strike have to watch their jobs and livelihoods taken over by strikebreakers. Surely the answer is, punish those found guilty of assault or defamation or whatever it is, but don't hold the whole union guilty of conspiracy.

Injunction

Canadians have had less bitter experience with the Labour injunction than their American brothers. But the ITU case may revive the injunction. Once you have actions for conspiracy, the employer can go to court at once for an injunction. In the ITU case an excessive injunction paralysed the strike from July 15th to July 30th, 1946. It prevented strikers from even discussing the strike with a friend. Once you have an injunction you are apt to have abuses of injunction which may wreck the chances of winning vital strikes.

Delays

Trade unionists have with good reason fought the delays permitted under laws such as Bill 39. In the ITU case the Winnipeg local went out on strike on November 8th, 1945. During the winter of 1946 the Vancouver local wanted to help. It finally struck on June 5th, 1946. Even then the Conciliation procedure under the Wartime Labour Code had not been exhausted. But if the Vancouver Local had waited another few months, how could it possibly have helped its sister local in Winnipeg?

Therefore sections in Bill 39 giving the Minister power to delay the reports of Conciliation Boards should be struck out. A trade union must have some control over the timing of strike action.

Illegal Strikes

Because the Court found "conspiracy" the ITU strike was declared to be illegal. The seriousness of this is that it makes it far more difficult for the printers ever to get their jobs back. The employer's action in bringing in strikebreakers is, as it were, sanctioned by the Court.

Let us hope that these men will be back at the Province under a fair contract. Surely it is enough to lose the strike without losing the means of livelihood as well.

Divide and Conquer

The ITU judgment makes it easier for companies to adopt this strategy. The Southam Company agreed to one contract in Ottawa, Hamilton and Vancouver. It turned down the very same contract in Winnipeg. Why? The union says that the company meant to knock out this contract by taking on the locals across Canada one at a time. I think, with respect to the Court, that the union was right. But the Court decided otherwise.

To me it seems that many big employers deal with labour relations on a Canada-wide basis. The right of labour to protect its interests by concerted Canada-wide action, without running into the vague laws against sympathy strikes, must be recognized.

Labour War

The judgment in effect publicly censures the ITU and goes on to compare strikes on the industrial front with wars between nations. It is true that no one gains from wars. But every worthwhile gain on the labour front, for better wages, hours or conditions, has been won by strike action, or at least the threat of it. Indeed, labour has often won on the picket line gains which the Courts have taken years to recognize. This has been the history ever since a dozen humble weavers were sent into penal servitude for seven years for trying to stand together to improve wages. That was in 1833. They were the Tolpuddle Martyrs.

Personally, I believe that labour should always have the strike weapon in reserve in a free society. What then is the answer to industrial strife? It is labour participation in government, as in Britain's Labour Government. When Labour's influence in writing the laws is equal to Labours numbers in the country, there will be less strife, and laws in the interests of the people generally.

ALEX. MACDONALD

A native son of Vancouver, Alex Macdonald graduated from U.B.C. and from Osgoode Hall with honors in law. He practiced for a time in Windsor, Ontario, and acted as legal counsel for a number of unions. He has recently returned to Vancouver and is now associated in the practice of law with Thomas E. Wilson.

The average New York worker spends four and a quarter hours a month in the subways.

Brief Gives Labor's Proposed Amendments To Bill No. 39

The new Labor Relations Board set up under the provisions of the I.C.A. Act, 1947 (Bill 39) was presented with a strongly worded brief from the A.F.L. Provincial Executive and Vancouver Trades and Labor Council, urging far-reaching amendments to make this legislation acceptable to labor.

"After a fair trial we have found that the Act in its present form has not, by its passage, brought the industrial peace anticipated," declares the brief.

The brief also points out that the Act is cumbersome and might well be shortened and written in language the layman will understand.

A strengthening of the "Unfair Labor Practices" is also demanded, as the wording in the Act is too loosely defined, permitting company unions to function.

The brief recommends that penalties for failure on the part of an employer to sign with the union after agreement has been negotiated, be incorporated in the Act.

The Act should be amended to cut down the period of time during which proceedings may go on, and to exclude lawyers from representing parties during negotiations or before conciliation boards, except by consent of both parties.

Other recommendations included in the text of the brief read as follows:

Opposes Strike Supervised Vote

"As the vast majority of our organizations have embodied in the Constitution strict provision for taking strike ballots, there is no need for a supervised strike vote as required under this section. Such supervision by the Government is simply interfering with the constitutional rights of the citizens and the operation of legitimate trade unions.

"Should the Act be amended to conform with Labor's views, fines could then be made to fit the workers in comparison with employers.

Matters Which Should Be Covered Under the Act

"Any award made by a Conciliation Board should be retroactive to the date of application for a Conciliation officer in the case of the first agreement and where agreements are being renewed to the date of expiry of the preceding agreemnt.

Certification of Bargaining Authority

"Only an International, National or Provincial organization chartered by or affiliated with a bona fide trade union body should be certified as the bargaining authority for any group of employees. This is essential if company unions are to be eliminated.

"The extension of time in which a conciliation officer may make his report should not be granted without the consent of the parties.

"The words "or as may from time to time be allowed by the Minister" should be deleted. The Minister should not have the right to extend the time in which a conciliation board reports without the consent of the parties.

"A union should not become a legal entity.

"We wish at this time to condemn in the strongest possible manner the suggestion put forward by the Retail Merchants' Association to outlaw strikes or impose compulsory arbitration on public utilit yemployees.

"Organized labor is unequivocably opposed to compulsory arbitration and will not submit to having their right to strike interfered with.

"There is nothing at present in the Act to compel companies operating on a national basis to bargain directly with certified bargaining representatives in this province. This has led to lengthy delays while negotiations are carried on between management in other parts of the country, and bargaining representatives in British Columbia.

"We recommend an amendment whereby a national company will be required to designate some person to negotiate and conclude collective agreements after bargaining representatives have been certified for the employees."

No Electric Power If Workers Strike

A conference of all organized workers may be called for the purpose of discussing the situation prevailing in the present B. C. Electric negotiations, the council was informed by Delegate George Gee, who asked for support if the union finds it necessary to strike.

The dispute is now being conciliated and a decision is expected soon. If the solution is unsatisfactory, a strike vote will be taken. The union is doing everything it can to secure a peaceful solution.

"We realize that a strike would be a serious step and everybody in Vancouver should be acquainted with the problem," said the delegate. "We cannot stand by and see our wages going down in relation to other groups." A strike of these groups would cut off power and gas for light and cooking and all purposes.

The union had been at great pains to maintain good relations with the B. C. Electric, but it had been able to do so only at the expense of the wages of electrical workers.

At a special meeting of the Electrical Workers Union, the company's offer was turned down. The offer was a 10 cent wage increase retroactive to July 28, 1947, and an additional 10 cents from January 1st, 1948. The membership want an increase of 25 cents per hour. The matter will be further conciliated.

Civic Employees Submit Wage Demands

Civic Employees are now negotiating for wage increases for 1948. A number of the requests are as follows:

1. A wage increase of 25 cents per hour across the board.
2. A joint job rating committee to set tradesmen's rates, binding on both parties.
3. A 40-hour week for all employees.
4. A closed shop.
5. Present insurance coverage, after 6 months' service, supplemented by M.S.A. and Blue Cross coverage, later at city expense.
6. Three weeks' vacation with pay after 5 years' service.
7. Special work clothes provided by employer.
8. A minimum of four hours' pay for all emergency call-outs.
9. An adequate safety clause in the agreement.
10. Adequate shelters for outside gangs with proper, eating, heating, and drying facilities.

The City has submtted a counter-offer which has been placed before all civic groups to vote on.

Among the important changes requested is that the section providing for "Employees' organizations" be removed from the Act entirely. Only International, National, or Provincial organizations chartered by or affiliated with a bona fide trade union body should be recognized under this Act.

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Delay in Payment of Unemployment Claims Strongly Criticized

Local 138, Painters, Decorators and Paperhangers expressed the view that the long delay in making payments of claims by the Unemployment Insurance Branch is unnecessary and recommended that a more efficient procedure should be adopted to ensure prompt payment.

Reporting to the Council on this matter, President Showler explained that he had taken it up with Mr. Keech, the local unemployment official, and was informed there had been a sudden increase of from 5000 to 8000 applications. This was one reason for delay.

Many of the delays are caused by workers themselves who move from place to place, lose their unemployment books, and time is required to have their contributions checked. Others do not apply for benefits for some time after becoming idle, and a further number of days must elapse before the claim can be put through. We must urge our workers to go and register immediately they are out of a job, President Showler advised.

Local T. & L. Council Protests Imprisonment Quebec Union Leaders

The Council endorsed a resolution received from the International Association of Machinists, Local 692, protesting the recent action in Quebec of imprisoning two organizers of the United Textile Workers, Madeline Parent Bjarnasson and Azelus Beaucage.

The protest will be forwarded to the Government and T. and L. Congress of Canada.

Joint Meeting With Vancouver Labor Council Approved

A letter from the Vancouver Labor Council (CCL) proposing that a joint meeting of the two Vancouver labor council Executives be held in an attempt to work out a plan of co-operation in the interests of the labor movement as a whole.

The communication stated that the newly elected executive of the VLC were concerned with the deterioration of the relationship between the two councils in this area. It was their view that much good could come out of such a meeting, as both groups had similar aims and could work together in greater harmony in the interests of labor.

Secretary Gervin was instructed to arrange a meeting at an early date.

Delegates Withhold Support On Resolution To Curb Immigration

A resolution submitted by the Pulp and Sulphite Union asking that the Government be urged by the Trades and Labor Congress to enunciate a policy to deal with the growing unemployment situation and the influx of immigrants be halted until the matter is dealt with.

The resolution was endorsed in regard to unemployment, but the Council withheld support of the section on immigration.

Tom Parkin, Fishermen's Union, suggested that some measures be taken to halt immigration from Europe, until "we clean up our own backyard" and find jobs for citizens first.

Delegate Sam Shearer expressed the majority view when he urged caution and suggested the motion was too broad in proposing the exclusion of displaced persons. "Our nation should be a haven for the oppressed," he said.

Vancouver's T. L. C. Largest In Canada

At its February meeting, President Birt Showler informed the Council that with the affiliation of new unions, bringing the total to 109, the Vancouver, New Westminster and District Trades and Labor Council is the largest in Canada.

Legislative Committee Report Activities

Sam Shearer, reporting as chairman of the legislative committee, stated that the committee was busy on a number of matters referred to it, including the preparation of a brief on street car fares for presentation to the Public Utilities Commission.

The council voted financial assistance to engage the Trades Union Research Committee to help in this matter.

The chairman also reported that the committee had thoroughly studied the Unemployment Insurance Act and had received a comprehensive brief from the Winnipeg Trades Council. He deplored the fact that there is only one umpire in Canada, whose decision is final. Theer is no appeal. His decisions are often questionable and appear to be more concerned with guarding the funds, than the workers' interests..

The committee feels there should be an umpire for each province. The Committee feel the whole act should be streamlined, and many clauses such as the nine-day waiting period abolished. The Council endorsed the Winnipeg report for forwarding to the Trades Congress of Canada.

Halifax Trades Council Demands Price Controls

RESOLUTION ENDORSED

The Vancouver and District T.L.C. endorsed a strongly worded resolution forwarded by the Halifax T.L.C. criticizing the action of the Dominion Government in lifting ceilings on the price of food and strongly protesting the Government's failure to reimpose price ceilings in the face of rapidly rising living costs.

The resolution calls on the Government to re-establish controls at the price level of January, 1946.

Delegate Sam Shearer, speaking in support of the resolution, drew to attention of the Council the seriousness of the cost of living situation to certain groups of workers in the railways who are earning only 70c an hour. "These workers on the job are worried about how they are going to be able to make ends meet," he said.

B. C. Electric Replies On Street Car Service

The B. C. Electric have informed the Council, in reply to its resolution opposing the move to reduce street car services on Wednesday, that this matter had been under consideration by the company for some time.

The company declared that it had made careful traffic surveys of travel conditions on Wednesday, when the stores are closed, and these studies had revealed that there was not the same traffic on these days. The company expressed the opinion that it is inefficient to operate services that are not required to meet the needs of the travelling public, as this has a bearing on the fares charged.

Delegate Tom Parkyn of the United Fishermen and Allied Workers, declared that "the street car service is inadequate not only on Wednesday but every day of the week."

Price Control Petition Endorsed by Council

A plea from the B. C. Housewives Consumers' League to support them in their national campaign to secure one million signatures to a petition urging the Government to roll back prices to the level of 1946 and to restore subsidies and rental control, was unanimously endorsed by the Council.

Replying to criticism of the increase in milk prices, Delegate McCulloch explained that for many years the Dominion Government paid a subsidy of 4c a quart, which has been withdrawn. Producers of milk have had to face sharp increases in the cost of production which necessitate price rises unless Government aid is forthcoming. "We need to get the Government to reimpose the subsidy," he concluded.

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Benefits paid to policyholders and beneficiaries during 1947: $101,914,657;

Total Benefits paid since the first Sun Life policy was issued in 1871: $2,021,889,123;

New Assurances issued during the year: $380,659,514;

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Most of the members of Canadian unions have children of their own. We know that a large proportion of the world's children who are hungry, ragged and homeless, growing up bitter and suspicious, are the children of workers. We know they must have food, clothing and education if we are to assure a healthy peaceful world for OUR children.

CANADIAN APPEAL FOR CHILDREN has given all of us the opportunity to share in this vital work. Its importance is so apparent that we are assured of the full support of Canadian workers. We are asking the members of our organizations *to pledge one day's pay* to the Canadian Appeal for Children.

Labour is solidly behind this appeal — an appeal upon which the future of the world depends.

A. R. MOSHER
President, Canadian Congress of Labour

P. R. BENGOUGH
President, Trades & Labour Congress of Canada

GIVE *to*

CANADIAN APPEAL FOR CHILDREN

Appeal now being conducted jointly by United Nations Appeal for Children and Canadian Council for Reconstruction through UNESCO.

Red Cross Refusal To Use Union Labor Loses Labor Support

Secretary Gervin reported to the Council that after four years of negotiations, he had been unable to get the Red Cross to agree to adopt a policy of using the union label on all printed matter.

After considerable debate on the matter, the delegates accepted the advice of the Executive that support to the drive in 1948 be withheld and that no official sanction be given unless the campaign printing matter carries the union label.

Electrical Workers Opposed to Licensing

Delegates G. E. Ross and George Gee of the Electrical Workers' Union, strongly criticized the proposed legislation under which tradesmen would be licensed through the provisions of the Mechanics Act. The delegates stated that their union have opposed this step for the past 25 years, and asked the council to oppose the inclusion of electrical workers.

Delegates Carlisle, Plumbers and Steamfitters, spoke in support of the proposed amendments and stated that his union was strongly in favor of it. "We know that the registration of mechanics is going to be to the benefit of the people of the country," he said, "in the plumbing industry, if it were not for the inspection and certification of plumbing. it would be too bad for the health of the people."

Delegate Ross explained that his group were not interested in opposing other unions who wished to come under the regulations, but were asking only that electricians be excluded. The matter was referred to the Provincial Executive for consideration.

Request Compulsory Compensation For All Trade Union Workers

The Council adopted a recommendation of the Teamsters' Joint Council asking that the Workmen's Compensation Board be urged to make compulsory on all local unions to protect their employees through the board.

At present coverage of trade unions has been permissive only. Compulsory protection would include such employees as business agents and clerks.

Labor Broadcasts

The Trades and Labor Congress has announced a series of broadcasts which will be delivered over CBC between 8:30 and 9 p.m. On March 2nd, the speaker will be Arthur Daw, and on April 6th, John Buckley.

Life Assurance Proves Good Investment

Montreal. — New all-time records were made by the Sun Life of Canada during 1947, with over $380 millions of new business for the year bringing total now in force to nearly four billion dollars. Payments to policyholders and beneficiaries over the year amounted to more than $100 millions while the total of such payments since the first Sun Life policy was issued in 1871 now exceeds two billion dollars.

Arthur B. Wood, President of the Company, in an interesting review of the year's operations at the 77th Annual Meeting held here today, stressed how life assurance dollars go to work for the nation. "The part life assurance plays in our economic system," he said, "is not limited to its primary function of affording security to the individual as, by the very nature of the business, the companies, in the investment of their funds, contribute greatly to the welfare of the country." These funds, Mr. Wood pointed out, are the accumulation of small payments contributed by millions of policyholders scattered over the length and breadth of the land. This money which otherwise would remain idle, is brought together to form a vast reservoir, and made available for long term investment. Thus, the function of life assurance is of a threefold nature; first the collection of small sums of money from a vast number of people; secondly, the investment of these funds in sound securities yielding remunerative rates of interest; and thirdly, the distribution of these funds in due course to beneficiaries and to living policyholders when their respective contracts mature.

During 1947, continued Mr. Wood, the Sun Life of Canada had distributed to its policyholders and beneficiaries the sum of $102,000,000, of which $32,000,000 was paid to beneficiaries of policyholders who died during the year. The sum of $40,000,000 was paid out to living policyholders. Other payments included $13,000,000 distributed in payments to annuitants, and $15,000,000 in dividends to policyholders. In connection with these payments, Mr. Wood revealed that of the policyholders who died, 83 per cent were insured for less than $5,000, while the remaining 17 per cent for amounts of $5,000 and over absorbed 61 per cent of the total death claim payments. The policy of the shortest duration was in force for only seven days, and called for a payment of $2,500 for one premium of $58. Throughout the year, over half a million dollars was paid out in respect of policyholders who died during the first policy year, some because of accident, and others from disease, notwithstanding that each had been previously accepted as medically fit. These figures, commented Mr. Wood, give cause for reflection on the uncertainty of life and the importance of life assurance protection.

Organizing Campaign Health Insurance Plan

Reporting on behalf of the Joint Health Insurance Committee, Delegate Sam Shearer stated that plans are under way to inaugurate a campaign designed to induce the Provincial Government to introduce a health nisurance plan such as that operating in Saskatchewan. The committee recognized the need of a Dominion-wide health insurance plan but felt that the best hope of success lay in the direction of emphasizing action in the Provincial field.

Researches conducted by the committee revealed that thousands of citizens in British Columbia are not covered by any health protection at all, and that Canada is very backward in health insurance as compared with other countries.

An indication of skyrocketing living costs: installment purchases have increased 48 per cent in the last year.

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Pacific Coast District Metal Trades Convention Highlights

One of the biggest conventions ever held by the Pacific Coast District Metal Trades Council, was held in Vancouver, B. C., during the week commencing February 9th. There were 170 credited delegates present, 13 of these being International Representatives. There were also a number of representatives present who were not delegates, but who were there to advise and assist in every possible way.

The convention was opened by President Jack Eaves of the Vancouver Metal Trades Council, and he called upon some Local Union and Canadian government officials for a few words of welcome and information. Among these were Birt Showler, president of the Vancouver Trades and Labor Council; Mr. George Currie, Industrial Relations Officer of the Federal Department of Labor; Brother Dan. Macpherson, the first secretary of the re-organized (1938) Vancouver Metal Trades Council; Brother Chris Pritchard, the first president of the 1938 Metal Trades Council, was unable to be present because of duties on Vancouver Island, but his place was ably filled by Brother Adam Bell, Chairman of the Workmen's Compensation Board and a member of the Machinists' Union for twenty-five years; Brother James Thomson, Deputy Minister of Labor for the Province of British Columbia, and a member of the Pile Drivers' Union. Brother R. K. Gervin, secretary of the Vancouver Trades and Labor Council, who was to have welcomed the delegates on behalf of the Trades and Labor Council and who was also to deputize for the Mayor of Vancouver was unable to be present because of sickness. Alderman Charles Thompson filled the breach.

Strong Coastwide Union

Before turning the gavel over to President R. W. Johns, Brother Eaves introduced Ed. Weston, President of the Washington State Federation of Labor, who spoke of the tremondous strides made by the Washington State Federation of Labor during the past two years.

During the business sessions of the convention, President Johns introduced President John P. Frey, of the Metal Trades Department, who spoke enthusiastically of the Pacific Coast District Metal Trades Council in the building and maintaining of a strong coastwide council, and also of the strong position of the coast movement through the negotiation of a Master Coastwide agreement. He pointed out that through this agreement the coast yards had been able to obtain larger Navy Yard increases in wages than anywhere else in the country. President Frey spoke of the growth of the Metal Trades Department, and recognized the many obstacles that had been and that were yet to be overcome. He had also noted the decline in shipyard construction and was of the opinion that efforts should be made to get the government to recognize the need for more ship construction on the Pacific Coast. Later during the convention a committee of four were struck off, who, along with a similar number from management would take up this subject with the Appropriations Committee in Washington. This committee of eight is now on its way to Washington.

A "Stupid" Act

Brother J. A. Brownlow, Secretary-Treasurer of the Metal Trades Department also addressed the convention, spoke of the many problems still facing the movement; of restrictive labor legislation such as the "stupid" Taft-Hartley Act, and of the better progress made by the Pacific Coast Metal Trades through closer organization.

Nineteen resolutions came before the convention, dealing with diversified subjects and all were favorably acted upon. The convention found itself faced with a financial situation embracing yearly activities of the council, but by a series of moves to be made, there is every possibility of the situation being adjusted.

Secretary Tom Rotell and President R. W. Johns, were both re-elected by acclamation, and San Diego was selected as the next convention city.

Entertainment Enjoyed

The Local Committee, composed of President Jack Eaves, Secretary H. W. Watts, and Executive Board member James McMillan, arranged for the entertainment of the delegates. This took the form of a dinner-dance and floor-show in the Vancouver Hotel and was a very lively affair, thoroughly enjoyed by all.

A Ladies' Committee, with Mrs. J. Eaves acting as convenor, took care of the lady visitors during the convention, and 54 of these took in a bus drive to the top of the British Properties, where they obtained a wonderful view of the district. They then drove over the Lions Gate bridge, around Stanley Park—where they had tea in the Pavilion—along Marine Drive to the University of B. C.; over to Little Mountain where another good view was obtained and then past our famous City Hall, back to the hotel. Theatre tickets were also supplied for local shows.

The Vancouver Metal Trades Council, hosts of the convention, was highly praised for their efforts, and despite the variable and at times very stormy weather, the delegates were enthusiastic in the preparation and reception accorded them.

Hospital Employees Elect Officers for 1948

At a recent meeting the Vancouver Hospital Employees' Federal Union, Local 180, elected the following officers for the year 1948:

Business agent, W. M. Black; president, C. Jenkinson; 1st vice-president, W. Richmond; 2nd vice-president, Mrs. Jean Robertson; secretary-treasurer, A. Paterson, recording-secretary, G. Stevenson; trustees: W. Thompson, R. Armour, W. Rae; conductor, H. Carden; warden, J. Miller.

Entertains at Metal Trades Convention

FRANK SCOTT

Delegates to the Pacific Coast District Metal Trades Council Convention, were entertained by the Local Metal Trades Council, in the form of a dinner-dance and floor-show in the Vancouver Hotel. Frank Scott (phone HAstings 1531-Y) was given part of the job of putting on a floor-show and he provided the delegates and guests with a rollicking fast moving show that had everybody complimenting him and asking for more. Frank is an old timer in the show business, and he used most of his usual acts in this event. Among these were the well-liked Gladys and Frank Thiele, with lively tunes on the accordion and violin; the Geffen Sisters, who sing all the songs that are popular with most audiences; David Brown, a Prince of the Ivories, who has your feet tingling; Sue Ward Speare, Sunshine Sue from the Cariboo, who strums a lively Guitar and sings your favorite songs; and the Two Dancing Scotts — Frank and Norman — who do some fast moving step dancing, and Frank, who has you guessing on some sleight-of-hand tricks. Frank had a personal invitation from one of the owners of the Club Alabam of Oakland, to play this club if he ever hits California. One of the delegates who had Frank and his gang sing some old favorites, slipped Frank a five dollar bill at the end of the show.

Bill Tweedie's Orchestra

Bill Tweedie's famous five provided the delegates with a lot of lively music, and this of course was also thoroughly enjoyed.

Charlie Jones Also

Charlie Jones (phone LAngara 0148-L) had the job of opening up the first part of the floor-show, and started off with his popular "Singing Preacher in Ye Old Revival Meetings". A newcomer was Frank Huddleston, a "Brilliant Pianist from London, England. This was followed by Phyllis Carroll's "Shapely Four" dancing girls, who showed a lot of legs. Dick Benz made the music fly on his "Marimbaphone" and Charlie Jones finished off with a lot of old ballads of yesterday.

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Gold For Teeth Fillings!

By Gerald Waring and Robert McKeown, in The Standard, Montreal. January 17:

"The federal government soon will face the tricky problem of deciding the ownership of new uranium deposits found in the Northwest Territories.

"Included among the directors of Gold and Uranium Exploration, Ltd., are Solon Low, national leader of the Social Credit party, and Gene Tunney, former heavyweight boxing champion of the world.

"Some of Low's supporters have been embarrassed by the fact that a Social Crediter should be associated not only with a gold mining concern, but also with several men who might be classed as 'international financiers'—a term that's anathema to monetary reformers. However, Low maintains that there is no inconsistency between what he practices and what he preaches.

" 'While Social Credit always has opposed the gold standard,' Low explained 'we are not opposed to the use of gold for teeth fillings, jewelry or the settlement of the international balance of trade.'

"Low declined to comment on the reported discovery of uranium by his company. But he said he thought that there was nothing to prevent a private corporation from mining radio-active minerals just as long as it sold them to the government.

"This is the point that the government must clarify."

"I dreamed last night that I had invented a new type of breakfast food and was sampling it when—"

"Yes, yes, go on."

"I woke up and found a corner of the mattress gone."

Who Benefits?

The quotation for this issue is from an advertisement by the Massey-Harris Company. Here it is, the words below a lovely picture of a combine at work:

"Canadian farmers . . . are growing 4½ times as much grain (since 1900: E.S.) producing 2½ times as much milk, feeding twice as many cattle and 2½ times as many hogs, raising 5 times as many chickens; because they are providing food for 2½ times as many people in Canada and exporting 30 times as much wheat and ten times as much flour.

". . . With this machine one man can cut and thresh enough wheat in one day to make 55,000 loaves of bread."

While we are paying MORE for our bread and macaroni, while the standard of living has gone DOWN since the machine became popular! The same progress has taken place in the factory producing the machine: yet the farmers have to pay something like 30 per cent more for their machinery than they did in '39. WHO BENEFITS?

Mystifying!

"Labor", December 20th:

"A lot of strange things are going on nowadays, but here is one of the most mystifying:

"After the war, Uncle Sam turned over to China millions of tons of American equipment in China and on Pacific islands.

"Recently the Bethlehem Steel Company bought a million tons of this equipment from China, for use as steel scrap in the United States. Other American companies have bought some of the equipment also, hauling much of it from islands which the Chinese have never seen.

"The Chinese government is also selling large quantities to other countries around the world.

"Who gets the money? Generalissimo Chiang and members of the Soong family?"

THAT EXPLAINS IT

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Phone: PAcific 2942

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Vancouver, Canada, February, 1948

A Trade Union Is Now a Legal Entity

The law courts of this province have ruled that a trade union is now a legal entity.

This decision is of far-reaching import and vital concern to the organized trade union movement. It marks a complete departure from the right of exemption from legal suits long enjoyed by organized labor under British law.

The effect of this ruling is that unions may constantly find themselves involved in long, expensive lawsuits with employers who will see in this legal device a means of successfully nullifying the effectiveness of the strike weapon.

The bargaining strength of the trade union movement has sustained yet another body blow through this interpretation by the courts of the reactionary labor law of this province.

Bill 39 Must Be Amended at This Session

Satisfactory amendments to Bill 39 must be passed at the forthcoming session of the legislature. The strength of the entire trade union movement must now be organized and directed toward this objective.

A brief containing proposed amendments acceptable to labor has been presented to the Labor Relations Board. Further representations will be made directly to the Cabinet.

Despite conflicting statements by individual Cabinet Ministers for and against amending Bill 39, the majority opinion in Coalition ranks appears to recognize the fact that this legislation has failed to promote industrial peace. Not a few Government M.L.A.'s are alarmed at the unfavorable public reaction against this ill-considered labor Act.

At a recent conference, the Opposition members pledged themselves to fight for a long list of amendments which were drawn up in consultation with trade union representatives. It would now appear that only a small group of Progressive-Conservative members are committed to support the provisions of this reactionary Act in its present form. It is not unlikely that even some of them will waver in the face of a popular demand for a revision of Bill 39.

Nevertheless, the labor movement knows from long and bitter experience that it can take nothing for granted in its efforts to have satisfactory labor legislation placed on the statute books. There must be no relaxation of the efforts of responsible labor leaders, actively supported by all trade unionists, to have the Government amend the objectionable sections of Bill 39.

The Prices Committee

For many months the people of Canada have been urging the Government to take action to stop the present price spiral.

Parliament has been in special session since December 5. And now, after weeks of debate, the Government has brought forth, not a policy of action, but a committee to investigate prices.

What is needed is prompt action to prevent the inflationary rise in the cost of living now, not an investigation which may last for six months. If the Government does not know what is wrong, the average Canadian housewife does, and could readily prescribe the proper remedy without a lengthy time-wasting investigation.

Once again the present Government has failed the people who elected it to office. It has adopted a policy of delay. It has postponed action on the most critical problem facing the Canadian people today.

Billions for Atom Bombs . . . Pennies for Education

Cost of a Proposed U. S. Universal Military Training Programme Estimated at $1,842 per Boy

What would it cost the American people in taxes if Universal Military Training were adopted?

How much is now being spent for military purposes?

How do these items compare with the amount being spent by education?

Answers to those questions are given in a statement just issued by the Friends Committee on National Legislation in Washington. It points out that, according to estimates of the War Department, cost of UMT for the first six months for 950,000 would amount to $1,750,000,000 or $1,842 per man.

That is in addition to nearly 10 billion in Government funds available to the Army and Navy for the fiscal year ending June, 1948, which means about $27 million a day for every day in the year.

Not included in this are $600 million authorized for Army supervised relief in Germany, Japan and Korea; $268 million for military aid to Greece and Turkey, or $212,900,000 for the Coast Guard.

The Friends Committee contrasts these huge sums with the amounts spent for education. Total sum of money spent by federal, state and local agencies on public elementary and secondary school education during the school year 1944-45 was a little more than $2½ billion for some 23 million children, or about $125 per child—Manitoba Commonwealth.

"Would Be No Winner"

"From another major war there will emerge no victor, no vanquished, only victims," says General James H. Doolittle, famous flyer who first bombed Japan.

"In another war, there will be no winner," says General Clifton B. Cates, new Commandant of the Marine Corps.

Both know first-hand what modern war means, and their sober warnings deserve attention. Too many other generals seem to be trying to convince the country that another war would be quick and easy.

The chief victims of all wars are the plain people. They have no voice in starting wars. The diplomats, the militarists, the international bankers attend to that. The people do the fighting and the suffering. They want peace.—Labor.

So Workers Are "Captives" of Unions? Read This

During the height of the hysteria that led to passage of the Taft-Hartley Act, newspapers and the radio were filled with propaganda about workers being kept "captive" in unions against their will.

So, sponsors of the act put in a provision outlawing "closed shop" agreements—the kind where only union members may be hired. Also, they inserted a clause specifying that a "union shop" agreement—where workers must join the union within a certain time after being hired—could be negotiated only where approved by a majority of the employees involved.

Well, during December, 521 such "union shop" elections were held, the greatest number so far. Did a lot of the workers grab the chance to "free" themselves from "union captivity?"

On the contrary, in 518 of the polls they voted for the compulsory "union shop"—and by majorities averaging 93 per cent. In only three did the "union shop" lose out.

The Tory Mind

Recent public utterances of Finance Minister Anscomb are a most revealing demonstration of the working of the Tory mind. These statements are, moreover, an indication to the working-people of the province what may be expected from the Progressive-Conservative wing of the Coalition Government, of which Mr. Anscomb is leader and spokesman.

Mr. Anscomb has been reported in the daily press as saying, "If there is anything wrong with it (Bill 39) it's going to stay wrong, because this is going to remain". Again, a "News-Herald" editorial commenting on his recent radio broadcast states that "Mr. Anscomb scolded the people of this province because they want to keep their fairly high standard of living. He is reported as saying 'Time enough to complain when we have not seen many necessities for five or six years, when our children are going barefoot or our clothes are patched, our houses cold and our lighting rationed'."

It must be acknowledged that at least Mr. Anscomb is brutally frank. His frankness would be to his credit if it were enlisted in a more humanitarian cause. Apparently it is his view, and we must assume, as leader, he is expressing the official Tory attitude, that the people of this province should be prepared to accept lower standards of living because of high prices, without complaining. He has certainly left no doubt he is determined that the reactionary features of Bill 39 shall remain on the statute books.

This is an attitude and a policy that does not commend itself to organized labor in B. C., and against which it will register its disapproval at the first opportunity.

Schools and Roads

Hon. W. T. Straith has been Minister of Education for a little over a month. In a speech delivered in Victoria, one of his first public statements since assuming his new office, the Minister clearly indicated that already he has been influenced by the reactionary thinking and attitude of some of his Cabinet colleagues. "We have come to the point," said Mr. Straith, "where we will have to decide whether we will build schools or roads . . . we're in a financial strait-jacket . . ."

This is surely an amazing statement from the spokesman of a Government which maintains that we are enjoying "prosperous times". And yet, the Minister is beginning to speak the language that was the fashion in depression years.

It is, moreover, disquieting to discover that the new Minister of Education appears to be as much impressed by the need for roads as he is for the needs of education. The latter is his responsibility. It is his duty to fight for education. He need have no fear that there will be any lack of eager champions in the Cabinet who will fight for roads. His predecessor in office, Dr. Weir, never took so weak a stand. At all times, he fought hard for the betterment of educational opportunities. His absence from the Cabinet on account of illness, is a distinct loss to the province.

The people of B. C. cannot accept the choice of "roads or schools", presented to them by the Minister. With provincial revenues at an all-time high, they quite properly look to the Government to provide both schools and roads.

There Is No Alternative to Peace

Reading is often a depressing pastime today. In the daily papers and in magazines the reader is subjected to a steady barrage of articles on the possibilities of war and of the need for military preparedness.

A recently published statement by Rear Admiral Zacharias, retired wartime Deputy Chief of U.S. Naval Intelligence, is a grim warning that there is no alternative to peace. His statement points out that if every atom bomb and facilities for its manufacture were destroyed tomorrow, there would still be available weapons that could wipe out the last vestige of human, animal and vegetable life. It adds, "A single milliliter of the highly infectious psittacosis virus could kill twenty million men. This virus can be produced cheaply in bulk by a small laboratory anywhere in the world."

Peace is no longer merely a much-to-be-desired state of affairs. It is a grim necessity.

Support of the United Nations is vital. A successfully functioning United Nations organization is the last remaining hope for a world free from the fear of war. Failure of the United Nations threatens to engulf mankind in a conflict too horrible to contemplate.

There is no alternative to peace.

War Is Costly

During the war Uncle Sam spent $13,000,000,000 to build merchant ships. Now the maritime commission has sold 1,750 of them, or nearly half, for a total of $1,700,000,000.

The ships sold were "the better half." The others will bring comparatively little. Uncle Sam will lose at least $10,000,000,000 of the $13,000,000,000 the ships cost him.

That one war cost amounts to about $70 for every man, woman and child in the United States, or $280 for a family of four.

Predicts 50 Per Cent Stronger Atom Bomb

As if the present atom bombs are not enough for the world to worry about, a scientist now says it is possible to make bombs "50 per cent more powerful."

The way to do it, explains Professor John A. Wheeler, an atomic expert, is to use a "new type of fission of uranium." Instead of "liberating neutrons" from the atom, "negative mesons" would be split off in the explosion. That isn't very clear to a layman, but it has an ominous sound.

More Unions On Our Mailing List

More Vancouver and North Vancouver Unions are adding their members to our mailing list. But our mailing list outside of this district is also being increased.

Recently we have added Local 3003 of the Victoria Lumber and Sawmill Workers' Union; Local 1346, Carpenters and Joiners of Vernon, B.C. The Federation of Fruit and Vegetable Workers' Union in Kelowna, B.C.; and Local 2678 of the Lumber and Sawmill Workers' Union of Kelowna, B.C.

Industrial Peace Can't Be Legislated

Another recruit has been added to the ranks of employers who don't believe that harmonious labor-management relations can be brought about by law.

He is Clarence Francis, chairman of the board of the General Foods Corporation, a truly "big business" concern.

Senator John Sparkman from Alabama was so impressed with Francis' views that he had placed in the Congressional Record a recent speech by the industrialist.

In it Francis cautioned his fellow employers against relying upon the Taft-Hartley act to bring industrial peace.

"You can legislate conditions under which management and labor can quarrel," Francis said. "You can legislate conditions under which they can maintain an armed truce. But you cannot legislate harmony into the hearts of men.

"To attain positive industrial peace, we need something more than by-laws and compulsory rules. We need productive teamwork.

"We need workers who enjoy a sense of security, who are given a feeling of individual dignity, who are properly and fairly paid."

Francis insisted also that "the future of free labor and management in America, and of freedom itself in the world" hinges on how successfully both sides learn to live and work together.—Tacoma Labor Council.

Trades Union Directory

LABOR HEADQUARTERS, 529-531 BEATTY STREET

Auto Workers' Union, Lodge No. 1857, I. A. of M. — Business Agent, Len E. Butler, office, 531 Beatty St., phone PA. 2435.

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

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

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

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

Beverage Dispensers and Culinary Workers, No. 835—Secretary, T. Dougherty, 228 Sandringham Ave., New Westminster.

Beverage Dispensers and Culinary Workers, No. 676—Business Manager, F. W. Mills, 68 West Hastings St.; MA. 4948.

Blacksmiths' Union, Local 151—Secretary, P. Mitchell, 1703 Dublin St., New Westminster.

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

Boilermakers' Union, Local 194—Secretary, P. Moore, Box 422, New Westminster, B. C.

Bookbinders' Union, Local 105—Recording Secretary, W. C. White, 2035 West 48th; KE. 1974-Y.

Brewery Workers' Union, Local 300 — Secretary, Ed. Sims, 5292 Clarendon St.

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

Bricklayers' Union, Local No. 1—L. Padgett, Sr., 3393 W. 31st; KErr. 5293-R.

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

Building Laborers' Union (New Westminster) No. 1070 — Secretary, T. Porter, 1505 Sixth St.; phone N. W. 2179-R.

Building Material and Fuel Truck Drivers' Union, Local 213—Business Agent, H. Bonnell, 531 Beatty St., Phone PAcific 7884.

Building Service Employees, Local 244—Business Agent, A. J. Wybrew, 434 W. Pender St.; Phone PA. 8605.

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, 53 Powell St.; Phone MArine 4947.

Carpenters' Union, No. 452 — Business Agent, J. Stevenson, 531 Beatty St.; Phone PA. 6557.

Carpenters' Union (Chilliwack), No. 1843 —Secretary, J. R. Johnson, 368 Cedar St., Cultus Lake, B. C.

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

Carpenters (Nanaimo), Local No. 527 — Secretary, F. W. Bolton, 95 Wallace Street, Nanaimo, B. C.

Carpenters' Union No. 513 (Port Alberni) —Secretary, R. Stubb, Box 905, Port Alberni, B. C.

Cement Finishers (Section of Local No. 506)—Business Agent, W. J. Baskerville, Labor Headquarters, 531 Beatty St., Phone MArine 9042.

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

Civic Employees' Union (Burnaby), No. 23—Secretary, A. L. Francis, 5091 Union St., New Westminster.

Civic Employees' Union, Local 28—Business Agent, Donald Guise, 531 Beatty St.; Phone PA. 4548.

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

Distillery Workers, Local No. 69—Secretary, H. F. Redman, 460 Campbell St.; New Westminster, B. C.

Distillery Workers' Union, No. 92 — (U.D.L.)—Secretary, Geo. Guy, 545 E. 47th Ave., Vancouver, B. C.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Fire Fighters (Burnaby), Local 323 — Secretary, G. McDonald, 3319 Sussex Ave., New Westminster.

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

Floorlayers' Union, U. B. of C. J., Local No. 452—Business Agent, R. V. Nash, 1978 E. Broadway.

Furniture Workers' Union, Local No. 2533—Secretary, Mrs. P. Merrick, 967 Howe St., Vancouver, B. C.

Glaziers and Glass Workers', Local No. 1527—Secretary, A. Allen, 5215 Culloden St., New Westminster.

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

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

Hospital Employees' Union, No. 180 — Secretary, A. Paterson, 192 West 18th Ave.; Phone: FAir. 1081-L.

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

Hotel and Restaurant Employees, Local 28—Business Agent, May Ansell, 412 Granville St.; Phone PAcific 7933

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

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

Jewelry Workers' Union, No. 42—Secretary, W. Routley, 144 West Hastings St., Room 76; PAcific 2714.

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

Lathers' Union, Local 207 — Secretary, M. Finlayson, 4848 Dumfries St.; FA. 0279-Y.

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

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

Machinists, Local 692—Business Agent, Alf. Dyer, 531 Beatty St.; PA. 2435.

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

Machinists' Lodge, No. 151 — Secretary, J. D. Wildy, 1606 Seventh Avenue, New Westminster.

Maltsters' Union, No. 76—Secretary, R. G. Taylor, 1176 Duchess Avenue, West Vancouver, B. C.

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

Maintenance of Way Employees, Local 21—Secretary, R. McLure, 1736 East 30th Avenue.

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

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

Molders' Union, Local 281 — Business Agent, Louis Herzeg, 531 Beatty St.; phone FA. 1878-L.

Motion Picture Projectionists, Local 348, Business Manager, J. R. Foster; Secretary, J. H. Leslie, P. O. Box 345; Phone MArine 3042.

Musicians' Union, Local 145 — Business Manager, E. A. Jamieson, Suite 81, 552 Granville St.; Phone PAcific 7842.

Office Employees' Int. Union Local No. 15—Secretary, B. Gouthro, 531 Beatty Street; PAcific 4740.

Painters, Local 138—Business Manager, J. Eaves, 531 Beatty St.; MAr. 1516.; Res.: HAst. 5879-L.

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

Paper Makers' International Brotherhood, Ocean Falls, Local No. 268—Secretary, N. H. Compton, Ocean Falls, B. C.

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

Pile Drivers and Wooden Bridgemen, Local 2404—Business Agent, S. Allen, 193 E. Hastings St.; PAcific 4946.

Plumbers and Steamfitters (Railroad) — Local 571 — Secretary, Lloyd Elrick, 1877 Haro St., Vancouver.

Photo Engravers, Local 54—Edwin Davis, 58 Lancaster Crescent, Sea Island, Vancouver. Phone ——

Plasterers' Union, No. 779 — Secretary, H. West, 3419 West 23rd; BAy. 6223-M.

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

Printing Pressmen and Assistants' Union, No. 69 — Secretary, Thos. S. Esart, 1807 East 38th Ave., FRaser 2065.

Pulp and Sulphite (Conventers) Union, Local 433—Secretary, F. Mackinnon, 2486 West Third Avenue.

Purseers and Chief Stewards, Local 180 —Secretary, R. Stover, 1451 Woodland Drive.

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

Railway Carmen, Local No. 58—Secretary, Samuel Shearer, 3256 West 22nd Avenue; phone BAyview 5452-L.

Railway and Steamship Clerks, No. 630 —Secretary, T. W. Kirby, 3566 Triumph Street.

Railway and Steamship Clerks, No. 626 President, G. Stubbs, 4327 E. Hastings.

Refrigeration Workers, No. 516, U. A. J. P. S. F.—Secretary, L. R. Wintle, 187 West 40th, Vancouver; FRas. 4409.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Shinglers' and Roofers' Union, No. 2346 —Secretary, J. A. Gildermeister, 1974 W. 7th; BAy. 8513-L.

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

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

Sign and Pictorial Painters, Local 726—Secretary, J. Middleton, 5381 Dundas Street.

Street Railway Employees, Division 101 —Business Agent, A. Jennings, Lee Building, 175 E. Broadway; FAir. 4828.

Street Railwaymen's Union, No. 134 — Business Agent, R. Cormack, 26 Lorne St., New Westminster, B. C.

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

Teachers' Association, New Westminster —Secretary, Hester L. Richards, 2036 Stride Ave., New Westminster, B. C.

Textile Workers' Local, No. 19—Secretary, Betty Mellis, 78 East Second Ave.

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

Tile Setters, Local No. 1—Secretary, W. Richards, Pleasantside P. O., B. C.

Tile Setters' Helpers, Local No. 78 — Secretary, T. F. Rowan, 1661 W. 65th Ave.; KErrisdale 0177-L.

Truck Drivers' Union, Local No. 31 — Business Agent, Reg. Lenfesty, 531 Beatty St.; Phone PAcific 6546 & 7884.

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

United Garment Workers' Union, No. 232—Secretary, Mrs. L. Weir, 1496 Nanaimo St.

United Garment Workers' Union, No. 190—Secretary Walter W. Shaw, 3435 West 6th Avenue.

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

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

Union Label Trades Council—Secretary, Ed. Smith, 529 Beatty St.; phone PAcific 7884.

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SAYS SO RIGHT HERE

Craps, roulette and black jack are popular pastimes in Reno, but the natives seem to prefer faro or straight poker. Smaller house percentage they say. One chap didn't know much about poker as the dealer at his table would substantiate. He asked him what was a royal flush.

"Oh," he replied, "that when Queen Elizabeth pulls the chain."

HE'S ALL SET

Man: "There's a fellow who's going places."
Friend: "Ambitious?"
Man: "No, his wife is out of town."

BOARD OF TRADE HEARS LABOR M.P. ON NATIONALIZATION POLICY OF LABOR GOVT

President Birt Showler reported attending the meeting of the Transportation Bureau of the Board of Trade at which Edward A. Shackleton, son of the famous explorer, and young Labor M.P., spoke to an audience of Vancouver business men.

Although it was evident that they did not believe in nationalization, they gave the brilliant young speaker a good hearing. "When he got through they had a different outlook on the British Labor Government," commented President Showler in his report.

The British M.P. told them he would endeavor to present a non-partisan account of Britain's economic state today, adding that he was proud to be a member of the British Labor Party and might become partisan in the course of his address, but not without first warning the audience.

He told how Britain had changed from the greatest creditor nation before the war to the greatest debtor nation after the war.

He was forthright in describing Britain's nationalization program. "The Government is not prepared to let private interests stand in the way of community interests," he said. The Labor Party holds that industry should be run for the benefit of the community as a whole and not for any one particular group of workers or management, and will nationalize those industries in which "free competitive enterprise has disappeared or is disappearing."

The British Labor Party, he said, is interested in the spread of democracy throughout the world because they feel that the future for them is that which they can work out for themselves. "Democracy and freedom are essential to mankind, and only through parliamentary institutions can freedom be guaranteed."

B. C. Electric Co. Delays Negotiations

Delegate George Gee reported that his union has been negotiating since July 29 for their power, line, and maintenance men, but owing to the delaying tactics adopted by the B. C. Electric had not reached an agreement as yet.

He also complained of incorrect press stories regarding the demands of the union, which had been obtained from the Company. Owing to the protracted negotiations during which cost of living had greatly increased, the union had raised its 15c original demands to 25c an hour.

Brown Bros. Bakeries Discharge Union Men

Reporting for the Bakers' Union, Delegate Mel Kemmis reported that Disher Specialties strike had been settled and that the company had now signed the Master Bakers' agreement.

Relations with Brown Brothers' Bakeries had taken a turn for the worse. Negotiations have been going on for a long time, but the company has discharged a large number of employees, including members of the Teamsters' Union, along with other unionists, on the flimsy plea of reorganizing. It appears they intend to run a non-union shop. This firm has been union for years, although the union has always had to fight to maintain a contract. The company has now locked out its employees.

About two million workers under union contract have health and welfare programs.

You Can Assist the Organized
BAKERY WORKERS
By Buying Only Union-made Products From Any of the Following Firms

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Hastings Bakery	Fairfax Bread Co.
Hornes Bakeries	Village Bakeries
McGavin Ltd.	Weston's Bakery
Montreal Bakery	Window Bakeries

One firm has refused to sign the 1947-48 Union Contract. Their former inside employees are all locked out and are STILL ON THE PICKET LINE.
Bakery and Confectionery Workers Internation Union of America, Local 468

Mark Twain On War

Famous Author, a Long Time Ago, Told How the "Loud Little Handful" Starts Conflicts Which Engulf the World

"I can see a million years ahead, and this rule will never change in so many as half a dozen instances.

"The loud little handful, as usual, will shout for the war. The pulpit will warily and cautiously object at first. The great, big mass of the nation will rub its sleepy eyes and try to make out why there should be a war and will say, earnestly and indignantly, 'It is unjust and dishonorable and there is no necessity for it.'

"Then the handful will shout louder. A few fair men on the other side will argue and reason against the war with speech and pen, and at first will have a hearing and be applauded.

"But it will not last long. Those others will outshout them and presently the anti-war audiences will thin out and lose popularity.

"Before long you will see this curious thing: The speakers stoned from the platform and free speech strangled by hordes of furious men, who in their secret hearts are still at one with those stoned speakers, as earlier, but do not dare to say so now.

"And now the whole nation, pulpit and all, will take up the war cry and shout itself hoarse, and mob any honest man who ventures to open his mouth. And presently such mouths will cease to open.

"Next the statesmen will invent cheap lies, putting the blame upon the nation that is attacked, and every man will be glad of those conscience-soothing falsities and will diligently study them.

"And thus he will, by and by, convince himself that the war is just and will thank God for the better sleep he enjoys after this process of grotesque self-deception."—Labor.

The Third Column

THE BIG SEVEN

"Who Owns Canada?" page 57.

"Seven flour milling corporations control the flour milling industry in Canada. . . . Of these seven, the manufacturers of Robin Hood and Quaker Flour are United States corporations with wholly owned Canadian subsidiaries. The other five corporations are Canadian. These five corporations, with seven per cent of the milling plants, had 93.7 per cent of the assets and 69.6 per cent of the milling capacity of the entire industry!"

Lumber Profits

According to Canadian Finance, H. R. MacMillan Export Co. Ltd. reports net profit of $5,465,875, after all charges for the nine months period ending June 30, equal to $2.23 per Class "B" share after allowing for dividends on the cumulative Class "A" shares. This is more than double the net for the whole year ending September 30, 1946.

Higher 'Real' Wages Held Key Labor Goal

Boston.—What's labor likely to push for during the next five years? John W. Gibson, assistant secretary of labor, sought to answer that question in an address recently to the Boston chapter of the Society for the Advancement of Management, an employers' organization.

Major union goals, Gibson predicted, will be: An increase in "real" wages; a shorter work-week, better working conditions, guaranteed annual earnings, and pension plans, supplementary to social security.

"Workers are going to demand a share in the increased productivity that we are bound to realize in the next five to ten years," he said.

LED WITH HIS CHIN

The timid man saw a chance of breaking into the conversation.

"My wife is very fond of dumb animals," he said.

"Obviously," said one of the gang.

Closed Corporation

"Who Owns Canada?", page 14:

"There are 183 men on the boards of directors of the ten chartered banks in Canada, and these same 183 men sit on the boards of directors of companies which account for 91.1 per cent of the gross assets of all trust, loan and investment corporations, 89.2 per cent of the gross assets of all Canadian life insurance companies, and 82.5 per cent of the gross assets of Canadian fire and general insurance companies."

Abbott Fixes Butter Price at Peak Point

Ottawa.—Capital reporters argued whether butter would be 60 cents or 65 cents a pound when the ceiling went back on recently, but nobody guessed 71 cents. It was Mr. Abbott's own special hold-the-line figure—away up so high that even those grocers who had pushed their prices farthest during the last few weeks won't have to change their sales tickets.

Seventy-one cents was the peak to which butter climbed when controls were lifted. Seventy-one cents is the new "ceiling", solemnly announced by the Liberal minister of finance on January 15th.

Maybe it makes sense to Mr. Abbott.—C.C.F. News.

Cabinet Studies Plans To Boost Jobless Benefits

Ottawa. — Higher unemployment insurance benefits are now being studied by the Federal Cabinet. They have been approved by Labor Minister Humphrey Mitchell, under whom the Unemployment Insurance Commission operates, butt he concurrence of the Cabinet as a whole is necessary.

An increase in rates has been forecast by "Labor."

As the recommendations now stand, they call for the maximum benefit to be raised from $14.40 to $18.30 a week.

When the Cabinet finally has dealt with the recommendations, they are expected to come before Parliament this session to be incorporated into the Unemployment Insurance Act.

Cost Equalized

As the amended regulations are now drafted for the Cabinet's approval, it is proposed that employer and employee pay an equal amount, with the maximum contribution in each case set at 42 cents a week. The present maximum contributions are 36 cents weekly from the worker and 27 cents weekly from the employer.

No change is contemplated in the government's contribution to the fund. It is expected to remain at 20 per cent of the total of all contributions, plus the cost of administration.

Fund Piles Up

From July 1, 1941, when the Unemployment Insurance Act first started to function, to December 31 of 1946, employers and employees contributed $336,389,719 to the fund and the Dominion government added $67,277,776. Interest and profit on the sale of government securities, amounted to $23,706,803, making a total revenue of $427,374,298.

The fund has steadily continued to pile up.

Benefits first became payable on January 27, 1942. From that date to the end of 1946 a total of 939,560 initial and renewal claims were filed at local offices of the Commission. Of this total, 702,308 claims were allowed.

CONSIDERATE CUSS

Diner (downing his fifth glass of water during a fish dinner): "I'm trying to make the fish feel at home."

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THE SEAT OF EMOTION

The little daughter was very inquisitive and asked quite a few questions. One day she asked: "Mama how was I born and how did I grow up?"

Rather startled for a moment, mama replied: "You know, darling, God planted a seed in mother's heart and from that seed you grew. So every time you are naughty, you give mother a pain in her heart."

She hesitated a moment and to mama's surprise, said: "That isn't the place you give me a pain when I'm naughty."

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History—an account, mostly false, of events, most unimportant, which are brought about by rulers, mostly knaves, and soldiers, mostly fools.—From "The Devil's Dictionary," by Ambrose Bierce.

It Pays To Lobby

The recently-imposed 25 per cent excise tax has been taken off refrigerators and oil burners for commercial use, but not off those for household use, according to the announcement by Hon. Douglas Abbott, minister of finance in the Liberal Cabinet, on December 8th:

The minister said, "Since announcing (the excise tax) I have received many representations from business concerns. . . . In cases where these proposals have not been in serious conflict with our over-all objectives they have been adopted."

It pays to lobby!

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British Big Business May Need Some Pity

British Big Business men who have been voting the Conservative ticket all their lives are certainly in a sad plight. On the financial page of a New York paper appears the annual report of the Austin Motor Company—two columns of it. It starts off with this:

"Few of us believed this country (Great Britain) could fall to its present deplorable condition in such a short space of time."

And the concluding paragraph reads like this:

"Dividends of 20 per cent on the preferred stock and 40 per cent on the ordinary and 'A' ordinary stock were approved."

Now, isn't that enough to make you cry out loud? Imagine how "deplorable" conditions must be in Great Britain when the stockholders of this motor company are asked to be satisfied with dividends of 20 and 40 per cent! Is it any wonder the poor fellows hate the Labor government?—"Labor," Washington.

"New Look"

(As seen by a working man)

My wife, she has de "new look",
But I t'ink I like de old;
De more I look,
De less I see,
De more I have to hold;
Don't care for dese new fashions,
Dey jest run up de bills—
Dese drapes and fuss and feathers,
And furbelows and frills;
I jest give her de "dirty look",
And criticize de food;
But you know women—fellahs;
It don't do me no good.

—M. A. McCurdy.

Living On a Miracle

"Recent amendments to the Old Age Pension Act, if ratified by the Province, provide, among other things, for a raise in the basic pension from $20 to $30 a month plus whatever additional contributions might be made by the Provinces. However, the Health League of Canada states that $16.50 to $18.00 a month is the minimum cost today of the cheapest adequate diet possible. Add the cost of shelter, clothing, recreation and some provinces medical care, and the only answer is a miracle."—Canadian Welfare, July 15, 1947.

Urge Labor To Give One Day's Pay For European Children

Ottawa (CLR).—An appeal to Canadian workers to donate one day's pay to the "Save Europe's Children" campaign now conducted under the Canadian Committee of UNESCO, was made by the three leaders of Canada's trade union movement.

The appeal signed by Percy Bengough, president of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, A. R. Mosher, president of the Canadian Congress of Labor, and G. Picard, president of the Canadian Catholic Federation of Labor, urges trade unionists to contribute one day's pay earnings towards the ten million dollar campaign recently opened by Mary Pickford in Ottawa.

The campaign which is being conducted simultaneously in the United States and Canada has the backing of both North American governments and trade unionists on both sides of the border.

Daily Papers Help To Make Men Anti-Labor

Denver.—People who don't belong to a union are very apt to have anti-labor opinions, says Snowy Range Lodge 30's H. J. Cope.

Reason: Their opinions are formed by insidious propaganda from newspapers and hired anti-union writers.

In the face of the great mass of violent and untrue propaganda released against them, unions have a tough struggle to keep the real truth alive, Cope believes, and states that the BRT Saturday radio program is an important step in the battle to get the real truth before the public.

It is unforunately true, claims Cope, that people believe the side that presents the most voluminous battery of information, be it fact or not.

Unions must, in the face of the great effort to discredit them, plan for the years ahead, and maintain an even balance, says Cope.—Trainmen's News.

ESCAPED THIS ONCE

A much-bandaged man walked into a hospital. He was asked his name, and then asked:

"Are you married?"

"No," he replied. "I was knocked down by an automobile."

Mr. Truman On Controls

In mid-October the President of the United States declared, in a press conference and with some emphasis, that rationing, rent and price controls were the methods of a police state. In mid-November, the same President of the United States asked Congress for such powers as may be necessary to reimpose rationing, rent and price controls. Alas! Mr. Truman just doesn't make sense.

—Canadian Forum.

The Choice

"Our future will be a race between catastrophe and elimination of labor-management conflict. We can sit still until catastrophe comes; we can hasten it by opposing reforms by demanding blind action. To dally, to obstruct, to attempt to return to the past is not merely to court disaster but to guaranee it."—Robert W. Johnson, chairman of the board of directors of Johnson & Johnson.

NAM's Stakes

Set up by the big business boys to fight unions and run the United States for the benefit of the few at the expense of many, the National Association of Manufacturers has done a good job—for the NAM. With 1947 profits at an all-time peak of $17½ billion dollars, the NAM has opened a mammoth publicity campaign to prove that higher profits are not responsible for high prices. To jam this impossible view down the public throat, the radio, newspapers and all slick advertising media wll be used. It is worth billions to the NAM to prove that black is white and it will spend millions to do the job.—The Winnipeg News.

Who Is To Blame?

Those who are inclined to feel that perhaps the government should not be held entirely responsible for the rise in prices, and that economic forces were too much for them, should read a recent speech of Mr. Abbott's in Toronto. The Minister of Finance stated categorically that prices have moved upward almost exactly as his experts forecast them at each step of decontrol and withdrawal of subsidies. That is an admission worth remembering, for the electors will know now where to put the blame. And, of course, that is where it belong, with Mr. Abbott and his colleagues. We always knew that these appeals to business to behave were not meant seriously.—Canadian Forum.

Imagine This Sort of Thing Happening

. . . . NOT IN WAR-RAVAGED EUROPE, BUT IN THAT PERFECT PARADISE OF "FREE ENTERPRISE"—THE U.S.A.!

New York.—As an official and consultant of several New York societies, Cornelia Dunphy knows the plight of the poor in these days of rising prices. This week, she sized up the situation of "low income families".

Half their income goes for food. Its increasing cost is forcing them to cut down on other necessities, btu they run into rising clothing prices, "which are just as serious".

"This group," Miss Dunphy said, "is not worried about the new hemline discussed by fashion designers. Its problem is how to keep warm.

CALLS IT "CRIMINAL"

"With half their budget gone for food, they have to wonder whether they will be able to buy blankets for the soming winter, overshoes and a warm coat."

It is "criminal," she added, to raise the cost of clothing by drastically changing styles, as the designers propose.

She added that the cost of living is forcing low-income families "out on the limb" of debt. They are borrowing from "loan sharks", without "any foreseeable means of paying back."—Labor.

Like Father, Like Son

That now famous (or infamous) Taft "eat less" solution of the problem of high prices is typical o fthe intellectual bankruptcy of a lot of the men we send to Washington. What earthly good does it do for workers to cinch up their belts while growers and shippers destroy surpluses to keep prices up? How can reduced consumption affect a situation where the farmer gets $8 a ton for his apples and the retail store sells them at the rate of $330 a ton? During past months there has been a surplus of apples, largely because folks couldn't afford to buy many at the prevailing high price. Why, then, didn't the "surplus" bring the price down in accordance with the classic law of "supply and demand"? Who gets the difference between $8 and $330 a ton?

Senator Taft's proposal reminds us of another "solution" by his father, William Howard. During one of our depressions someone asked President Taft what could a man do who was out of work, couldn't find a job and had no money. The reassuring reply of this brilliant statesman was "God knows!"—California Labor Review.

Canada Dry Earns 45 Million Dollars; Won't Pay Increase

Employees of Canada Dry Ginger Ale, members of Brewery and Soft Drink Workers, Federal Union No. 260, Edmonton, are now on their sixth week of the strike. They are asking for an increase in wages of 5 cents an hour. Their present wage is $26.40 per week for men and $20.68 for girls, a few cents over the minimum wage as laid down in the Alberta Labor Code.

The company had a turnover in 1947 amounting to over $45,000,000, and nearly $38,000,000 in 1946.

Strong Words

(Excerpt from Speech of Prime Minister Clement Attlee:

"Today in Eastern Europe, the Communist Party, while overthrowing tyranny of landlordism and capitalism, has renounced the doctrines of individual freedom and political democracy and rejected the whole spiritual heritage of Western Europe.

"Where there is no political freedom, privilege and injustice creep back. . . .

"In Communist Russia, 'privilege for the few' is a growing phenomenon, and the gap between the highest and the lowest incomes is constantly widening."

Chinese Workers Now Organized

Secretary Gervin reported having attended the annual meeting of the Chinese Trade Workers Association. Many Chinese workers in this province are organized in this group and their objective is to maintain the standards they have managed to establish for the first time, such as equal pay for equal work for their race. They report definite efforts are being made to reduce them below the standards of other workers.

"The simple and rather sordid question which each of us faces today is whether he is for democracy or just afraid of Russia."—Samuel Grafton, N. Y. Post.

Industrial Accidents Cost $48 Millions in '46

Industrial accidents cost Canada a staggering $48.2 million in 1946. This was nearly twice the cost of 1945 industrial casualties although there was little increase in the number of accidents and fatalities were lower.

The 1946 accident toll added up to a sickening total of 375,804 mishaps. This included 1,010 fatalities. In 1945, there were 331,483 accidents, 1,010 being fatalities. But although fatalities were slightly higher than in 1946, the cost was away down to $25.1 millions.

But this only tells part of the story. Besides the dollars-and-cents costs of $50 last year, there was the untold cost in human misery and suffering.

Furthermore, for every dollar paid out in compensation and medical bills, it has been estimated that industrial accidents cost industry another $4.

Thus last year's toll may be said to have cost Canada $250 millions.

Provincially, Ontario leads all the others with British Columbia and Quebec vying for second place.

Following are the accidents and accident costs for eight provinces:

Alberta, 23,068; $2.6 millions.
British Columbia, 59,927; $12 millions.
Manitoba, 18,074; $1.4 millions.
New Brunswick, 13,891; $1.2 millions.
Nova Scotia, 29,367; $2.6 millions.
Quebec, 90,000; $11.6 milljons.
Ontario, 138,570; $16.5 millions.
Saskatchewan, 10,787; $1.1 millions.

Pure and Undefiled

The Nation, December 27th:

"Anton Refregier, painting a mural in a San Francisco post office, has been ordered by the Public Buildings Administration to eliminate from his design a projected portrait of Franklin D. Roosevelt. In addition, Refregier was told to take out a banner celebrating the 8-hour day. 'The 8-hour day is controversial,' the Public Buildings Administration said."

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Customs Officer: "Lady, what is there in that suitcase?"
Lady: "Nothing but clothes."
Officer, (after examining): "Lady, it's full of Scotch, not clothes."
Lady: "I said clothes, nothing in it but my husband's nightcaps."

Mother: "And how did you like your first day at school, Mary?"
Mary: "I did not like it at all. All the other little girls have brothers and sisters, and I have none. You and Pop will have to do something about it."

Wages Vary Widely For Identical Jobs

How wages vary tremendously around the country for the same occupations was graphically illustrated in a report issued recently by the Department of Labor covering the women's dress manufacturing industry.

For skilled sewing machine operators, the report showed earnings range from as low as 85 cents an hour in Atlanta to $2.20 in New York City; for cutters, from $1.17 in Dallas to $2.34 in New York.

Strikes Are Hard To Find In Canada

Ottawa.—Time loss by reason of work stoppages arising out of industrial disputes in Canada during 1947 was only 55 per cent of the time loss in the preceding year, Labor Minister Humphrey Mitchell announces.

Preliminary figures show 60,000 fewer workers involved in strikes and 2,000,000 fewer man-work days lost during 1947 than in 1946.

The demand for increased wages was one of the principal issues in more than 70 per cent of the strikes in 1947.

Only 3,189 On Strike

Two major strikes during the year, one of coal miners in the Maritimes and the other of the meat packing plant workers throughout Canada (both C. I. O.), accounted for about 75 per cent of the total 1947 time loss.

There were 219 strikes and lockouts in 1947 involving 77,995 workers, with a time loss of 2,422,332 man-work days.

As the year 1947 ended, strike activity was at its lowest point since February, 1946. In December only 3,189 workers were "out" in all of Canada.

THE MODERN URCHIN

Sammy Yates showed up in the eighth grade at Central School with a cigar box.

He opened it and passed out all-day suckers, explaining: "I'm a brother."

Gabrielle Speaks Out . . . Speech Is Suppressed

(Quill and Quire, December:

"When Gabrielle Roy, author of 'The Tin Flute,' was made the first woman member of the Royal Society of Canada, she did not make the usual type of inaugural address. Instead, she proceeded to describe a recent visit to the impoverished district of St. Henri in Montreal, the scene of her book.

"Following the careers of her characters in the post-war world, she described how the 'harsh prediction' of unemployment and depression was on everyone's lips.

" 'These two terrible words, heavy with fear and anger, were embittering their thoughts. St. Henri was telling me once again,' she said, 'of our waste of human energies, of human hopes when we say that we are too poor to undertake works of construction. Poor! Our social order stands condemned today primarily because we make use of so many lives and abilities only for war.'

". . . It may be that the managing editors of the various papers did not feel that the story was sufficiently newsworthy. The danger, as we see it, was that they did not print a report of it because they considered it 'surprisingly leftist.' If expressed sympathy for the difficulties of the under-privileged, nowadays, is considered 'leftist' rather than Christian, so that one of our greatest writers is denied a hearing in the newspapers of her country, particularly at a time when such a singular honor is being conferred on her as a woman and as a writer, then we feel that it is an exceedingly unhealthy situation.

"A country that stifles its greatest writers cannot be any more honest with other countries than it is with itself."

British Columbia Pensions Set Record

All previous records for numbers of old age pensioners receiving provincial benefits were broken during the fiscal year 1946-47.

This was disclosed in the annual report of the Social Welfare Branch of the Provincial Government.

March 31, 1947, there were 18,295 blind and old age pensioners, as compared to 16,977 a year before. Total expenditures amounted to $6,469,235.34, an increase of almost a million dollars over the year previous.

The report showed a decrease in the number of illegitimate children born in the province during 1947, and credited the decrease to the demobilization of the armed forces.

"If we had paid no more attention to our plants than we have our children we would now be living in a jungle of weeds."—Luther Burbank.

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Children Given "Menu of Crime and Criminals"

Parents who are worried about the mental and moral food their children get in the movies, radio programs and so-called "comic strips" will be interested in an authoritative study of this subject.

Arthur J. Freund, chairman of the criminal law section of the American Bar Association, addressed a convention of lawyers at Cleveland. His remarks were put into the "Congressional Record" by Senator Wayne Morse (Rep., Ore.) and Congressman Claude I. Bakewell (Rep., Mo.)

The movies, radio and cartoons do their best to make crimes and criminals "the chief subject of interest of the American public from the cradle to the grave," Freund said. They do that because it is profitable.

"Crime does pay the motion picture producer, the radio broadcaster and the comic strip syndicates. A vast host of economic interests are determined that crime shall continue to pay.

"In the comics—sadism, bestiality, crude eroticism, torturing, killing, kidnaping, tales of crime and criminals. All these week after week, have become the mental food of American children.

"The repetition, in word and picture, of bestial and degenerate scenes and characters is a serious matter. Such things make their deep impression upon the plastic minds of growing children, and have dangers for the minds of countless adults."

Turning to radio programs, Freund said: " 'Crime shows' and hair-raising serial 'thrillers' are psychological dangers to impressionable youngsters and stimulants to juvenile delinquency."

In movies, radio and cartoons, children get "a menu of crime and criminals, seasoned by sex. Constant repetition molds immature minds to the idea that criminal conduct is normal human behavior.

"In addition, crime techniques are blueprinted with meticulous accuracy. Criminal methods are set forth step by step, giving a handbook of anti-social conduct.

"Juvenile crime is on the increase. The surprising thing is that the rate is not still higher.

"An advertisement calls attention to a forthcoming film. It promises 'tawdry love and vicious murder'—the kind that sells millions of newspapers and box-office tickets.

"The makers of such pictures excuse their wares by saying they are only 'giving the public what it wants.' How absurd and hypocritical!

"The public's taste is as high as the imaginations and talents of the film makers are able to reach."

Socialism In U. N. Rears Ugly Head

(Headline in Globe and Mail, Dec. 18, 1947)

Lake Success, N. Y., Dec. 17 (AP) —Members of the United Nations secretariat voted at a meeting today to set up a consumers' co-operative organization at UN headquarters here.

Projects under consideration include operation of the UN cafeterias, a book shop and lending library, a grocery and dry goods store, dental service, automobile filling station, news-stand and possibly the cocktail bars at the new UN headquarters in Manhattan.

The cafeterias, bars and news-stand now are managed for the UN by a private concern on a profit percentage basis.

Then there was the business agent who ordered all of the steel venetian blinds in his place removed and replaced with wooden ones. "They're not going to encircle me with any of those Iron Curtains," he explained.

He also placed a ban on the wearing of sweaters by the office girls. "I want no suspicion of 'Popular Fronts' attached to this office," he said.

AS THE IRISH PUT IT

Mike: "The trouble with Casey is he has no backbone."

Pat: "Faith, he has backbone enough if he'd only bring it to the front."

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M.L.A.'s To Hear Labor's View on Bill 39

Members of the provincial legislature will go to the session in Victoria this year with a full knowledge of trade union views on Bill No. 39 and proposed amendments to it.

All Vancouver and district M.L.A.'s have been invited to attend a special session of the Vancouver and District Trades & Labor Council to be held on Thursday, February 26, in the Seafarers' Hall, 565 Hamilton Street, at which time briefs will be presented by the provincial executive on legislation affecting working men and women in this province.

THE WRONG CHIMNEY

She: "Do you think you are Santa Claus?"

He: "No, why?"

She: "Then leave my stockings alone!"

Metal Polishers In Bad With Boilermakers

The Vancouver Metal Trades Council heard a report from a newly affiliated union in which about 30 employees were locked out in a dispute with the CCL Boilermakers' Union. This new union, Metal Polishers, Buffers, Platers and Helpers International Union, Local No. 22, was organized last September when a majority of the members employed by the Dominion Rust-proofing Company ceased to pay dues into the Boilermakers' Union and obtained a charter from this A. F. of L. union. This union was later certified by the Department of Labor, but the Boilermakers' Union has been contesting the certification ever since. The employees, however, have declined to have any further relationship with the Boilermakers' Union, and this has caused the Boilermakers to insist on the firm taking further action, or they would prosecute.

The Dominion Rustproofing Company laid off twenty-two of the employees, with the intimation that they would have to obtain clearances from the Boilermakers' Union — to whom they had not paid any dues for over four months — before they could go back to work. Organizer Russell Newman and H. W. Watts, secretary of the Metal Trades Council took this matter up with the management and pointed out that the firm could be prosecuted for using "Coercion" to get the employees to join another union. We pointed out that the firm had already broken the "Industrial Disputes" Act by locking out the employees. The firm has since—upon the advice of their lawyer — taken the men back to work, without clearances from the Boilermakers' Union.

Machinists reported to the Council that the Conciliation Board had awarded another 2½c per hour to the members employed by the Vancouver Engineering Works, making an increase of 12½c per hour as against the 10c accepted by the CCL Boilermakers.

All the foundries, but one, have signed the new agreement with the Molders and Foundry Workers' Union.

Plumbers and Steamfitters, and the Sheet Metal Workers Unions are organizing in Port Alberni and in Nanaimo and other points on Vancouver Island. Brother J. Laurence is organizing for the Sheet Metal Workers, and Frank Carlisle for the Plumbers.

Electrical Works' Union is negotiating for an agreement for the Electrical staff of the City of Vancouver.

The Bridge and Structural Iron Workers' Union has re-affiliated with the Council.

Secretary H. W. Watts was re-elected Vice-President for the Pacific Coast District Metal Trades Council.

Only 30 Per Cent of Children Get Enough Milk, Says Dr. L. B. Pett

Ottawa.—Dr. L. B. Pett, federal health department nutrition director, sounded a warning on January 26 that only 30 per cent of Canadian children receive enough milk. He declared that it is becoming a national responsibility to see that the children drank the right amount, which he set at "at least a pint a day". Dr. Pett was addressing the annual meeting of the Associated Milk Foundations of Canada.

Neutrality Abandoned

(The Standard, Montreal, Jan. 31)

"Liberals and Progressive Conservatives in Ottawa are watching with no little interest and anxiety the growing activity of labor in politics. The anxiety is caused by the fact that the unions are showing an increasing opposition to the older parties.

"The most stunning blow from labor came when the Ontario Federation of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada met in Toronto recently. The TLC group passed a resolution castigating the two older parties as having 'consistently followed the dictates of big business'. It called for support of 'only those candidates who have proved by their actions to be worthy of labor's confidence'. . . .

"As recently as last September the Dominion convention of the TLC voted against political action in favor of any one party. Now the most important provincial branch of the TLC — it represents 150,000 of the 360,000 workers in the body — has come out against the Liberals and Conservatives. The next step, these parties fear, is the support of one party—possibly the C.C.F.

"Support by the TLC could have a a tremendous influence on the C.C.F.'s future. In Great Britain, New Zealand and Australia there are in power Labor parties that have close ties with the C.C.F. An important factor in their success has been the almost solid backing they have received from the trade unions.

"Until now the split between the TLC and the CCL has appeared to preclude the possibility of a strong, labor-backed party. . . . The action of the Ontario Federation indicates that this attitude may be changing. . . .

"But the significant thing is that so important a branch of the TLC should abandon its political neutrality. That it did so at this time almost certainly may be attributed to the rising cost of living. Labor blames this on the government's decontrol policy; the disavowal of the government party is one way of indicating this displeasure.

"It is far from certain that at its convention next fall the central TLC body will take political action similar to that of its Ontario affiliate. However, TLC's tradition of standing on the political sidelines has been bent, if not broken. This opens up possibilities that are highly disturbing to Liberals and Conservatives."

"Mom, may I ask Jimmie over here to play with my new toys?"

"No, you'd make too much noise and muss up the house too much. You go over to his house?"

Building Trades Council Notes

(By H. W. WATTS)

Employment is again picking up in the construction trades, but at no time during the present off season has it been very bad. There is now every indication that practically full employment will be in operation within a week or two.

* * *

The Federal Department of Labor estimated that employment in the construction industry in 1947 reached 284,000 in Canada, an increase of 16 per cent above 1946. An all-time record of $718,000,000 worth of construction contracts were awarded in 1947, the first quarter of the year, however, showed a sharp decrease, said to have been caused by rising costs of construction. This fear was apparently overcome during the rest of the year.

* * *

Residential construction amounted to $197,009,000, which was a decline of 8 per cent from the preceding year. The Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation, however, estimated that nearly 77,000 housing units were completed as against 64,000 in 1946.

* * *

Industrial construction work during 1947 amounted to $113,000,000; Commercial construction, $240,000,000; and Engineering construction, $168,000,000. The last two were from 28 to 34 per cent above 1946 figures.

* * *

During the past three years a total of 9,500 veterans graduated from building trades courses of the Canadian Vocational Training Plan. 3,092 of these took the carpentry course; 1,307 bricklaying; 594 painting and decorating; 187 plastering; 1437 plumbing and steam fitting; 652 sheet metal work; 2,199 electrician course. 600 veterans are still taking courses.

* * *

The Building and Construction Industries Exchange has asked for a meeting with the Building Trades Council, to consider various aspects of development in the construction industry in this district. The Council has agreed to the meeting.

* * *

Fred Welsh, a former business agent of the Plumbers and Steamfitters Union, Local No. 170, has been elected President of the Building and Construction Industries Exchange for 1948. He operates a business under the name of Fred Welsh and Son.

* * *

Wage increases are being anticipated by building contractors, and as usual this is giving them some concern again. They fear that the customers' ability to pay these increases will eventually curtail construction contracts. They also contend that while wages and material costs have gone up, efficiency has gone down. This argument undoubtedly had some truth during the past two years, when large numbers of semi-skilled mechanics entered the industry. These men, however, have had considerable training since entering the industry and should now be in a position to turn out a better and more efficient job. With the cost of living ever increasing there does not appear to be much hope of labor accepting a continuation of present wage scales, but it certainly would be in the interest of all concerned if efficiency on the job and in the office could be stepped up, in order to help curtail construction costs, and maintain an ever increasing flow of construction contracts.

From Sweatshop Pay To $2.20 An Hour

"Sadie, the sewing machine girl" of storybook fame, was a sweated worker, toiling for a few cents an hour.

By contrast, a skilled woman sewing machine operator in New York City earns as much as $2.20 an hour "straight time," the Department of Labor revealed recently in an analysis of wages paid in dress manufacturing.

That high figure, the Department said, is true only in union plants. At "open shop" plants down South, rates for the same work range down to 85 cents an hour, or less.

BIGGEST CANNON SHELL

New York.—A cannon shell weighing 7½ tons, and nearly a yard in diameter, is on exhibition here. It was made for giant guns which the Nazis used against the Russians, and planned to fire across the Channel at London.

Winston Churchill Is Invited to Study U.S. Success of 'Decontrol'

Following the recent outburst of the well known English politician, Mr. Winston Churchill, in demanding "off with all controls" and citing the "success" of America in removing all controls, United States Labor invited Mr. Churchill to cross the ocean and experience at first-hand, America's "success."

"Labor," official organ of the American railroad unions, said it would see the leaders of all parties desperately avoiding the credit for the "success" he is picturing to the victims of "austerity" in Britain.

Says "Labor": Controls should never have been removed in this country (America). They should not have been removed in Canada. The Labor Government would be foolish to remove them in England. Winston speaks for greedy businessmen.

THE INCENTIVE

Visitor: "How did your horse happen to win the race?"

Jockey: "Well, I just kept whispering in his ear, 'Roses are red, violets are blue—horses that lose are made into glue'."

Keir Hardie said: "The man who lives for himself lives for a very little man."

TO THE CITIZENS OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Judgment has been given against certain of our members in the action brought against them by the Southam Company Limited. As we understand it the principal issue in this action was whether or not these members of the I.T.U. had conspired to injure the Southam Company Limited. The Judgment finds that there was no intent to injure, and this question, therefore, was decided in our favor. The decision, however, has gone against us on another point, and unless and until the decision on that point is reversed, we will, of course, abide by the ruling of the Court. Our attitude towards the struggle between us and the Southam Company Limited, apart from the law suit, of course, remains the same as it has always been. We still feel that the Southam Company Limited cannot in all fairness expect us to conclude a contract with them and work for them in Vancouver while they refuse to employ members of the I.T.U. in other cities.

A. BEVIS, President,
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A REMINDER . . .

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Vancouver Typographical Union, No. 226

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Attention: Union Secretaries

Your Local cannot afford to ignore the value of the purchasing power of the rest of Labor. You owe it to your fair Bosses to boost them in the "UNION LABEL DIRECTORY." Send in your particulars as requested.—Ed. Smith, secretary.

TAKING NO CHANCES

A couple came to St. Louis from the Ozark Mountains to be married, and brought along the best man. They were informed by the marriage license clerk that blood tests are necessary under Missouri law. They were sent to a doctor, who proceeded to take samples of blood from the prospective bride and groom.

The best man asked: "Ain't you gonna test my blood, too?"

The doctor replied: "No. You're not getting married, are you?"

The best man said: "No, but I'm gonna board with 'em."