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No. 612. VANCOUVER, CANADA, DECEMBER, 1949 Established 1924

WHAT THEY SAID . . .

To Join Union Is A Duty

"It is the duty of working people to join a bona fide labor union for mutual protection and progress. They must organize for their own sake and for the welfare of their families, their community and their nation.

"Only a strongly organized and wel directed labor movement has any hope of eliminating industrial conflict and economic immorality. Thus shall be established a regime of social justice."—Archbishop Robert E. Lucey, Archbishop of San Antonio.

Labor and the Farmer

"Labor and the farmer share as their common goal the desire to live at a decent standard and to rear their children in a healthy and democratic social and moral atmosphere. The attainment of this goal depends upon the prosperity of both, and the prosperity of each contributes to the well-being of the other and to the general health of our democracy."—Maurice J. Tobin, Secretary of Labor.

"The best basic economic aid for agriculture is a fully employed labor force at good wages. But labor is not likely to be fully employed and industry is not likely to be expanding production when agriculture is in economic trouble. Agriculture is not merely a recipient of good fortune, but a partner in the making of prosperity."—Charles F. Brannan, Secretary of Agriculture.

Truman Hails 75-cent Wage

"A major victory in our fight to promote the general welfare of the people of the United States," was hailed by President Truman. Those were the words he used as he affixed his signature to the bill raising the minimum wage from 40 to 75 cents an hour.

Not Exactly Straight

Mr. St. Laurent says that in the June elections "all the trump cards were on our side". But the Government was dealing, and the way the McGregor Report card got to the bottom of the pack was not exactly straight shuffling.—Toronto "Saturday Night."

U.S. Voters Thumb Noses at Newspaper Editors

During the recent election campaign in New York all the newspapers except one solidly backed the Tory Candidate, Senator Dulles. Day after day they filled their pages with endless twaddle about the dangers of the "Welfare State". Results on election day: Dulles got defeated and Lehman got elected with a smashing majority of 700,000.

A Prayer To Remember

In his prayer opening the 91st convention of the International Typographical Union in Oakland, Cal., Rev. Fred Stripp said:

"Inspire and guide our hearts to raise the minimum wage, eliminate child labor, wipe out slums, and bring medical care and economic security to every American family.

"Perfect us in our provisions so that we may be workmen worthy of our hire, that co-operative civilization may be enhanced by each of our contributions to it, that we may be worth more than silver and gold.

"Enhance this convention by the universal awareness of the spirit of the Nazarene workman who sought by teaching and example to bring the abundant life to all men. Amen."

Milk Surpluses

According to a news dispatch milk surpluses are piling up across Canada. Milk products are amassed because margarine has appeared on the market and because the United Kingdom has cut down on imports of Canadian milk and milk products. Funny, isn't it? The dairymen of Canada will build and buy new warehouses to store their surplus supplies. But they won't cut the price of their products to give the little man of Canada a chance.—Halifax Citizen.

Sign of Times

Sign of the times in England: The deer which once graced the great private parks of the "noble lords" are disappearing.

From the days of Robin Hood, the herds of deer have been a picturesque feature of the English countryside, providing sport for the wealthy landowners, and many a meal for "poachers." But two wars, with their demand for food production, and postwar taxes, have broken up most of the estates, leaving no place for the deer to roam.

Once "common lands", open to the common people, the estates were taken over by the titled families centuries ago. Now the common people are getting them back and no space is left for deer herds.

Here is the Real $64 Question

The next time anybody tries to tell you that Canada can get rich by exporting our raw materials, aside from food, ask him this question:

"Please name one country, in the whole of recorded history, that achieved an enduring prosperity by permitting foreign capital to export its raw natural resources!"——Farm and Ranch Review.

Missing Persons Announcement

For months the newspaper and radio have been telling us how wealthy Alberta has become as a result of its great discoveries. Everybody tells us Alberta is getting rich out of oil.

But where, we keep asking ourselves, are all the rich Albertans?—Farm and Ranch Review.

The Season's Message

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

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

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

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

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

BIRT SHOWLER, *President.* — R. K. GERVIN, *Secretary-Treasurer.*
TOM ALSBURY, *Vice-President.* — JACK STEVENSON, *Executive Member.*
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TOM PARKIN, *Executive Member.* — ROBT. CORMACK, *Executive Member.*
SANDY BEVIS, *Executive Member.*

T. L. C. Blasts Rule Giving Landlords Increase in Rent

Letter to Prime Minister and Cabinet Hits Disregard of High Living Cost

DECISION BREAKS FAITH

Formula Applies Boost on Maximum Permitted at Beginning of Control

Ottawa.—A blast at the federal government's decision to permit new substantial increases in domestic rents features a letter which has been sent by the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, through President Percy R. Bengough, to Prime Minister Louis St. Laurent and members of his cabinet.

"We feel that your action in this respect," the protest declares, "displays a total disregard of the cost of living problems of the many thousands of citizens in the medium and lower income brackets, the vast majority of whom placed their confidence in the present government at the last federal election."

The letter further states that "we are much concerned, and extremely disappointed, with the action taken by the government in permitting rental increases to be made to such an alarming extent."

Cites Resolution

It points out that at the 64th annual convention of the congress in September at Calgary, a resolution was unanimously adopted on price control in the following terms:

"It is regrettable that in the face of a continued increasing cost-of-living index, the government should have seen fit to further remove some of the existing controls on essential commodities rather than reimpose controls as requested not only by this congress but by all other bodies representing labor. It is our hope, and we so recommend, that the incoming executive will continue to press for these controls, and especially do we recommend that all efforts be made to maintain rental control."

A new government statement, following last week's announcement, works out a formula for applying the new rental boosts.

Clarifies Announcement

Under the formula, rentals on houses and apartments may be increased by 18 per cent where they are unheated and 22 per cent where they are heated.

Last week's announcement said the boosts being permitted would be 20 per cent where no heat was supplied and 25 per cent where landlords provided the heat. It is now explained that these 20 and 25 per cent boosts were on the basis of maximum rents allowed in 1941. The government, this week's statement said, never intended the new increases should apply on present rental but on the basic figures when rent control came into effect. On that basis the increases are 18 and 22 per cent.

But the latest government statement does nothing to remove the general unpopularity of the decision, excepting landlords who are out to get all they can. In fact, they want rent controls lifted entirely.

Apply on New Leases

The new increases apply on leases expiring on December 15 and thereafter. If a lease doesn't expire until next June, for instance, then the boost cannot come into effect until then.

Landlords may tender the offer of new leases on December 15, if they have expired then, and tenants will have 30 days to accept or reject them. If they accept new leases, tenants may move out at any time on 30 days' notice. If the new leases are refused by tenants, the dwelling becomes free of rental control. Under the plan of landlords offering new leases, with tenants given 30 days to accept or reject, the earliest date at which any new rental may become effective is February 1.—Labor.

A man should never be ashamed to own he has been in the wrong, which is but saying, in other words, that he is wiser today than he was yesterday.—Alexander Pope (1688-1744).

We Do Not Patronize

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Labor Peace Envisaged for British Columbia's Future

A progressive British Columbia that will see continued co-operation between labor and management was forecast by Labor Minister J. H. Cates at the Diamond Jubilee banquet of Vancouver and District Trades and Labor Council (AFL-TLC) Tuesday night.

"B.C. is a young province and must be developed by its people—we must all try to work together," he told 600 guests at the anniversary meeting in Hotel Vancouver.

Tributes to the Trades and Labor Council for its "great value in the development and welfare of the province" was paid by Senator J. W. deB. Farris, first provincial labor minister. He had seen great progress in labor legislation in the past 32 years, he said.

For Common Good

He urged that labor and capital work together in harmony for the "common welfare of the state.

"First, you must consolidate your position, and secondly, remember social security in the last analysis means security of the state as a whole — unless there is a background of success on all sides, nothing can be achieved."

Social Advances

Council secretary Ald. R. K. Gervin said he was "convinced the TLC has been responsible for practically every piece of social legislation on the B.C. statutes today."

He reviewed their progress from the first B.C. charter of 1889 when nine locals banded together. "From the time of the 10-hour day and a top daily wage of $3.50, we have grown into a body with 112 affiliations and over 30,000 members," he said.

"Old Original"

Old and young union members gathered at this historic meeting but for Leonard T. Sankey, 1812 Adanac, it marked a special occasion. The 82-year-old retired carpenter was the only member present from the original group which first met in the old Sullivan Hall 60 years ago.

Mr. Sankey was accorded an ovation when introduced as a surprise guest.

"I have always been interested in unions," he said.

"I was at the fiftieth anniversary dinner, 10 years ago, and I never thought I'd come to this one. I never expected to get such a welcome."

Council president Birt Showler was chairman and head table guests included: Labor Minister Cates, and Mrs. Cates; Deputy Minister Thomson; Senator Farris and Mrs. Farris; Mayor Thompson and Mrs. Thompson; Mr. and Mrs. Ted Jamieson; Mr. and Mrs. Tom Alsbury; Mr. and Mrs. Charles Peck; Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Currie; J. P. Hogg, Ald. R. K. Gervin.

Amount Spent By Labor Is Small

Newspapers and radio commentators like to talk about the "powerful labor lobby" which terrifies Congress into doing what unions want—or tries to. This sort of talk has even deceived some union members.

Now an independent, non-partisan research organization—Congressional Quarterly—has come up with the real facts. The total lobbying expenditures of all labor groups—C.I.O., A.F.L., railway brotherhoods, independents and all—was about three per cent of the total in the first half of 1949.

Here are the figures:

Total spent by registered lobbyists $4,098,653.

Total spent by all labor, $132,276.

Spent by the American Medical Association alone to fight health insurance, $508,397.

Spent by the committee for Constitutional government to fight all progressive measures, $306,297.

Mr. Bevan Reviews Health Service

"Statistics presented by the minister showed that the number of persons within the service is now 41,200,000 or about 95 per cent of the entire population, while the number of doctors is between 18,000 and 19,000, out of some 21,000. Prescriptions dispensed in the first year numbered 187 m. at an average cost of 2s 9d each.

Mr. Bevan said that annual expenditure on the health service was probably about £300 m, or about twice the amount originally estimated, due principally to the raising of remuneration above the level at first expected. But, he pointed out, the service was not itself an addition to the total expenditure of the nation, but was a gigantic transfer of expense from the private pocket to the public purse.

The total cost of the service was not an indication of the additional burden upon the community, for the amounts previously spent privately must be taken into account."

—The Times, October 7, 1949.

Gompers-Green Service Seen Without Parallel

Washington.—A veteran British trades unionist said that the service of Samuel Gompers and William Green as president of the American Federation of Labor is without parallel in the world's history of the labor movement.

William E. Jones, Yorkshire area secretary of the British Mine Workers Union, told an AFL luncheon for him and other visiting trades unionists from Great Britain that not even in England, birthplace of organized labor, is there a record of continuous service to match that of Presidents Gompers and Green.

Except for one year, the late Mr. Gompers led the AFL from the time of its founding on Nov. 15, 1881, to his death in 1924. Mr. Green has been president since.

John McBride was elected president at the 1894 Denver convention and served one year.

Government Hunts Jobs For Students

Ottawa—The National Employment Service and the Federal Department orf Labor are making the annual survey to find suitable summer jobs for university undergraduates and permanent employment for this year's graduates. Labor Minister Humphrey Mitchell states that already as many job openings have been reported, as were found during the entire campaign in 1948. Summer employment, particularly for students who are war veterans, he stated, is needed to finance next year's studies. Many other students require practical experience in their chosen field in order to complete their courses.—Labor.

To Our Advertisers

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

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The greatest wind velocity ever recorded by the United States Weather Bureau for a full five-minute period was in 1934 at the top of Mt. Washington in New Hampshire, where the wind blew 231 miles an hour. So "as fast as the wind" might be as fast as any rate up to that speed—and possibly faster—for the wind in the center of a tornado blows 400 to 500 miles per hour.

Labor Press Has Courage

(AFL-LLPE Release)

Commenting upon the increased stature of the labor press of America the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, one of the most independent newspapers in the country, said in an editorial October 22, 1949:

Almost without notice . . . the labor press has boomed into a major enterprise. The rise of this form of journalism seems to be something for the commercial press to gaze upon with wonder and some gratitude.

Labor newspapers are not direct financial competition for daily newspapers. The labor press claims a circulation of 30,000,000, about the aggregate for evening dailies, but the press generally has also increased its circulation. Labor papers may still be regarded as supplementary reading.

Competition of Ideas

What the labor press offers is the competition of ideas. And it would be a mistake to regard such papers only as a limited counterpart to industry's trade press.

Recently a trade magazine devoted to "industrial know-how" published graphs showing how business lays off manpower. How would a labor paper respond to the know-how involved in firing people? Certainly the reply would not be statistical. It would be in direct human terms of how it feels to be fired, what it does to the grocery budget and what it means to children.

Labor editors think that their readers represent so large a part of the American people that they are compelled to consider major public needs.

But there would be no labor press at all if the commercial press gave full expression to the needs and opinions of millions of trade unionists. For example, it was the labor press that dug up the story that California doctors had abandoned their usual ethics in advertising against national health insurance, which labor supports and much of the daily press opposes.

Critical of Each Other

Union newspapers did not omit the fact that the daily press had ignored the story. In this they performed a useful function. The Hutchins Commission on Freedom of the Press advised newspapers to employ self-criticism to protect their freedom, but few responded. Union papers are critical of the daily press and critical of each other.

Joseph C. Harsch of the Christian Science Monitor says the labor papers are "in possession of a public issue being sidestepped by the established commercial press." The latter is in a position to do no more than congratulate the labor editors. For if published opinion were uniform in this country, freedom of the press would be meaningless.

It's 'Okay' For Them

The Supreme Court of the State of Florida has upheld, by a vote of six to one, a law requiring lawyers to pay dues into their "union", the Bar Association, before they could work at their profession in that state. This same state has a law on its statute books forbidding this same thing to other people who make their living at other kinds of work.

Lawyers just don't have any choice about joining or not joining their "union". They join—or they don't practice law. What is that if not a closed shop?

A majority our congressmen, and many of them are lawyers, have told us by their actions on the Taft-Hartley act, that workers have absolutely no right to a closed shop, even if it is satisfactory to all concerned. Some have said that some citizen might come along who wants to go to work in a good shop which pays high wages but would not want to join the union and if he is forced to join, that would be taking his American rights away from him.

It seems all right to the lawyers, doctors, business men, politicians and manufacturers to tell us workers what is good for us, and to have laws passed "protecting" our individual freedom. But do they want their own individual freedom thus "protected"? Not much!

The lawyer must join the bar association. The doctor belongs to the American Medical Society. The manufacturer holds membership in the National Association of Manufacturers. And so on down the list—until we come to the craft and industrial worker. Then a closed shop is un-American!

Hot Bird!

Recently, after attending a football game, several out of town college boys put up for the night at a certain Southern hotel. When one of their number passed out of the picture from drinking too much corn whiskey his friends decided to have a little fun with him.

They conveyed their unconscious comrade to his room, smeared his body with vaseline, and then gave him a coat of feathers from the pillow. Then, as a parting gesture, they turned up the heat in his room full force.

The following morning the inebriated student awoke in the stifling heat of his room, and gazed bleary-eyed into the full-length mirror opposite his head.

"My God," he croaked. "Gone to h--l and turned into a bird!"

News Shows How Rich Dodge Billions of Tax Dollars

Washington Doings

Labor has repeatedly called attention to the fact that Uncle Sam is losing billions—not millions, but billions—of dollars each year because of tax-dodging schemes devised by lawyers for the rich.

This means that more tax dollars come out of the pockets of people who are not rich, because Uncle Sam needs the money and must ge it from somewhere.

This week brought a mass of new and shocking evidence on several kinds of dodging made possible by tax-law "loopholes."

The first is the kind denounced some time ago by Senator Tobey (Rep., N.H.) when he revealed how Royal Little made millions of dollars out of his "textile empire" but made his profits tax-free, by hiding the money in six alleged "charity trusts."

Tax-Free Ranches

Another big scheme of this sort came to light a few days ago. This time, a "smart" lawyer arranged a deal in which two "religious foundations" became the owners of a huge 95,000-acre Montana wheat ranch, valued at nearly $5 million, and a 52,000-acre California cotton ranch, worth $2 million.

The former owners of these ranches remained as "managers", undoubtedly at very good pay, and no more taxes will be paid to Uncle Sam on the ranches' profits.

Some idea of the size of these profits can be gained from reports that the federal government this year paid over $4 million to the owners of these two ranches, to "support" the prices of their products.

Thus, Uncle Sam gives millions to the two ranches with one hand, but his other hand is tied now so he cannot collect taxes on their profits.

Colleges in Business

Another variation of the same kind of scheme is revealed in a report that 159 colleges and universities now own "manufacturing and business enterprises," which used to pay taxes, but now pay none, because they are held by "educational foundations."

Lawyers have worked out tricks under which businessmen turn their factories, office buildings and real estate holdings over to such "foundations," in such a way that both the businessmen and the colleges profit at Uncle Sam's expense. This is a fast-growing game.

All this is made possible by loopholes which exempt "foundations or "trusts" from taxation if they operate in the name of "education, charity and religion."

What's the Explanation?

It is hard for the ordinary citizen to understand why Congress has allowed these tax-law "loopholes" to develop on a scale costing Uncle Sam billions annually.

One obvious reason is that the tax committees of Congress are surrounded by "experts" who favor rich men in hope of future reward. The only other possible explanation would be that too many members of Congress are willing to favor rich taxpayers at the expense of the poorer ones and Uncle Sam.—Labor.

Bill Hunt Passes On

W. (Bill) Hunt, another pioneer of Labor and Vancouver, passes on. Bill came to Vancouver from England as a youth and resided in the Kitsilano district for 50 years. He had an active and useful life of 85 years. He was a life member of Local 138, Painters and Decorators Union and a past president. Also he had represented his local union as delegate to the Vancouver Trades and Labor Council for many years and was active on committees for the progress of our movement. His interest and punctuality in attending to his duties was outstanding. As a member of fraternal societies he held a gold medal for 50 years' membership in the Masonic order and was a member of the Sons of England. He held the King Edward long service medal as a member of "C" Company, DCOR. His cheerful comradeship will long be remembered by the old timers of labor in B.C., particularly his brother members of Local 138. May he rest in peace.

ED. SMITH

Noseworthy Urges Federal Cash For Provincial Schools

J. W. Noseworthy (South York) urged in the House of Commons that the government, being rapidly freed of heavy expenditures for veterans' education, should immediately undertake federal grants to the provincially controlled schools.

There is no question at all about the feasibility of federal aid to the provinces, Mr. Noseworthy emphasized. He pointed out that "two departments of the federal government have spent well over a quarter of a billion dollars in the last ten years on vocational education at the secondary school and university level. There has been no friction with the provincial governments on this score.

"The federal government has spent nearly $162 million on educating veterans. This work is now nearing completion, and the government will not be required any longer to spend these millions of dollars on their education.

"I submit that millions should now be available for aid to education within the provincially controlled schools of the nation," Mr. Noseworthy said.

During 1946 the total cost of provincially controlled schools was $186 million.

"An annual federal grant of $50 million to be allotted among the provinces would give education in Canada the greatest fillip it has ever received with perhaps the exception of the educational work that was done in the forces during the war. That certainly would bring us closer to a realization of equal opportunity for all Canadian children," stated Mr. Noseworthy.

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Union Label Corner

Brother Archie Johnston, International Vice-President of the Hotel and Restaurant Workers & Beverage Dispensers Union, and Chairman of the Trades & Labor Congress of Canada Union Label League, gave a very inspiring talk at the last meeting of the Union Label Trades Council.

Bro. Johnston made a brief resume of the history of the efforts of the Congress Committee to get the wholehearted support of all members of affiliated unions in Canada to patronize only union label products and the union shop card and union button. So far labor has not given the required moral and financial support to ensure satisfactory progress.

During the past few years, however, there has been increased enthusiasm shown in various parts of the country. Cities like Vancouver, Toronto, and Hamilton have given a good lead under active Union Label Committees.

Full support by the entire trade union movement will be necessary before it will be possible to establish a branch of the Union Label Trades Branch at Washington. If Canada is to take this necessary step a great deal of planning will have to be done, Bro. Johnston said.

The speaker described his visit to the show put on in Cleveland by the Union Label Trades Department. It would be a great step forward when Canada could put on a similar annual show to promote the use of the union label and the union button.

Bro. Johnston thanked the unions for the support given to the Restaurant Workers, Local 28, in the cafes and restaurants of Vancouver. He introduced Brother Morrison, the newly appointed organizer for Local No. 28.

President Ada Halloran replied with a hearty vote of thanks to the speaker for his interesting and informative address.

1950 is just around the corner. Why not make a new year's resolution that during 1950 you will buy only from firms which display the union label, the union shopcard, and which give union services.

Don't be worried by repairs around the house. Phone the Building Trades Council office, and get the best for your union dollar.

Of course, you already go to a Union Barber Shop.

Make it a must to tell your wife to get her meats and groceries from the stores which display the union shopcard.

When you patronize a Union Laundry, you get your shirt back with all the buttons on—and, besides, it looks like new.

When you buy your wood, coal, sawdust or fuel oil, patronize union firms and be certain of quality and quantity.

For the best flavors, always buy Arctic Ice Cream, the only Union Made ice cream.

When you need a new suit, hat, overalls, ask for the Union Label.

If you want to be sure to get home safe at any time, phone a Union Taxi.

For the best in food with quick, courteous service, visit one of the cafes displaying the Union Shopcard.

For the best in catering to banquets, parties, dancing, entertainment, all trade unionists go to the Palomar Supper Club, the only union cabaret in the city.

If you have Christmas presents in quantity for safe delivery home, telephone a union moving or transfer firm.

For full value for your money, Union Made Paints assure you satisfaction and cheaper than the cheapest non-union products.

When we tell you that Howie Isman's Orchestra can be found in the New Labor Temple every Saturday evening, and you are a dancer . . . enough said. Make up a party for next week.

Oh, yes, there are Public Stenographers who can put the Union Label on your work. Ask any Union Stenographer.

We wish to extend the season's greetings to all those who read the "Union Label Corner". We appreciate your support in our efforts to maintain high Canadian standards in regard to wages and working conditions as well as in the quality produced under union shop conditions. We know that you agree with us that the Union Label, the Union Shopcard, the Union Button, and Union Services guarantee jobs, wages, hours, and security for Canadian workers.

ED. SMITH,
Secretary, Vancouver Union Label Trades Council.

Worst Time of Year for Rent Boost, Opposition Stresses

DELAY OR RECONSIDERATION OF ORDER URGED; SASKATCHEWAN ONLY PROVINCE TO TAKE OVER CONTROLS.

Ottawa.—The "very worst" time of the year—just before Christmas and in the cold of winter—had been selected by the Federal government for the new hike in rents, notice of which may be given by landlords beginning December 15, Progressive Conservative and C.C.F. members charged in the House of Commons this week.

Further charges were that it is a "sour Christmas present" to Canadian tenants; the hike is too high; and it is a tough time of the year for poor tenants who might be forced to move into makeshift accommodations which would be bad enough in the summer months.

The blast brought Finance Minister Douglas Abbott to his feet. More than a bit upset, Abbott demanded "a good reason why we should continue to exercise wartime control over one relatively small group in the community—the landlords."

Other Controls Dropped

More than four years after the war, Abbott said, the government is now out of price, wage and most other controls. The provincial governments had a chance last fall, he stated, to adopt rent control, but only one—Saskatchewan — has indicated intentions to do so. So rent controls in that province are going to be handed back to Saskatchewan and the increase won't apply there. Any other province wishing to do so will get the same treatment, Abbott said.

Abbott made it plain the new rental decontrol order which allows a very stiff increase of 22 per cent on heated and 18 per cent on unheated dwellings, would not be cancelled or softened. The hikes can be applied by landlords on the expiration date of any lease. By reason of the fact that notice has to be given, the earliest date on which any tenants may have to fork over a higher rent is February 1.

With December 10 set as a target for prorogation, this week's debate on the subject will be the last one during the current session of parliament.

Rapid-Fire Exchange

In a rapid-fire exchange between himself and Abbott, Progressive Conservative Leader George Drew declared that Abbott's views would have been more appropriately expressed last spring. The "very worst time of the year" was being used for issuing the decontrol order. He strongly urged that the government reconsider the order or at least delay it until it could be fully discussed at a meeting with the provinces.

C.C.F. Leader M. J. Coldwell referred to an earlier Abbott statement that it was goverpment policy to permit rental adjustments to be made gradually rather than abruptly.

"If increases of from 18 to 22 per cent are gradual increases then my interpretation of that word is somewhat different from that of the finance minister," Coldwell stated. He asked that the decontrol order be delayed at least until the provincial legislatures have a chance to discuss the situation.

Before High Court

"Hundreds of thousands of tenants are living in fear of rent boosts," John G. Diefenbaker, Progressive Conservative from Saskatchewan, said, "a fear that I doubt has been equaled at any time in the homes of the people of this dominion."

A reference on the validity of federal controls has been placed before the supreme court of Canada. As it is a "pending" case, that court's decision can be appealed to the Privy Council in London.

A ruling is unlikely before late winter. If an appeal is made to the Privy Council, it would probably be eight or nine months from now before it makes its decision.

"Preposterous Discrimination"

The Financial Post, November 5

"Before a lawyer trained in one province can practice in another, he must pay a fee ranging up to $1,500 to the provincial law society. It does not make any difference how experienced or qualified the applicant may be, that fee must be paid or he can't practice. To the average young man just starting his career, such charges are prohibitory and they are meant to be.

"Before a University of British Columbia forum last week, several prominent lawyers quite frankly admitted that the purpose behind the fee system was not to create revenue for the local law society but to bar outside lawyers. In other words this was a deliberate attempt to create a monopoly of the law business of each province for the sole benefit of local members.

"That sort of thing violates one of the fundamental principles laid down in our constitution, namely that there must be no interference whatsoever with the free movement of people, goods and services from one province to another. It is on this free interchange that the whole development of our country depends.

"Instead of trying to defend or explain this preposterous discrimination in the practice of law in Canada the legal professional should stamp it our promptly and decisively.

"Well," replied the confirmed criminal, "I've kept three or four detectives working regularly."

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Vancouver, Canada, December, 1949

Christmas, 1949

Christmas, 1949, as ever across the years, should be a time when men's thoughts turn toward those ideals that can make for peace and realization of the finer things for which they have been groping throughout the ages.

There is no better occasion than the traditional season of "peace and good will" for men to realign themselves with those principles which serve as the plumb line of truth and jusfice in the affairs of men. It is the season sublime, an appropriate time for men to heed the admonition given by William Henry Harrison many years ago:

> *"The false forget, the foe forgive, for every guest will go and every fire burn low and cabin empty stand. Forget, forgive, for who may say that Christmas Day may ever come to host or guest again."*

Nearing the close of the first half of the 20th Century men may well pause at this Yuletide season to reflect upon the progress already achieved by humanity and take inventory for the struggle that lies ahead.

Great advances have been made in all lines of endeavor that have to do with the material welfare of mankind. Inventive genius and mechanical skill have marked out an unprecedented era of prosperity for large segments of the human race in our own day. There remains the need for further development of the spirit of harmony and the exercise of good will to match the brilliant discoveries and accomplishments in the world of science.

Those discoveries and inventions have operated to widen the boundaries that have hitherto hedged in the life of man. They have enlarged the horizons of his vision and obliterated time and space in an unbelievable manner. With all our vaunted intelligence and progress, however, we still come back to the realization that, as Thomas Carlyle said: "This world, after all our science and sciences, is still a miracle; wonderful, inscrutable, *magical* and more, to whosoever will *think* of it."

With all its magic and charm the world still needs the touch of those who are informed and motivated by a desire to enlarge and extend the spirit of "peace on earth and good will toward men" which characterizes the Christmas season.

While much has been done to alleviate the suffering that abounds in the world there is yet a great task ahead for all those who *will* to do. As songs of good cheer resound during this hallowed season and as the coming of the "Prince of Peace" is again celebrated the world continues to need the benediction of His presence.

Have the peoples of the world misunderstandings? Have they lost their way in the quagmire of international bickering, jealousies and recriminations? What has become of their "will to peace"? As we progress away from the holocaust of World War II are we in danger of forgetting the nightmare of suffering it gave to the world? The spectacle of its bombed-out cities, its desolated countrysides and its multitudes of displaced persons are a continuing testimony to the world of the need for finding a way for the peoples of the nations to live together in peace and amity.

The shadows of wars, past and present, hang like a pall over the nations. The ideals and aspirations of their peoples are stifled by fears and uncertainty. The vision of the prophet of old who saw the time when nations would "beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks" has often seemed a "far-off divine event", but one toward which "the whole creation" moves with a particularly slow, even though a steady, march.

Through application of the principles taught by Him whose coming brought hope to the hopeless and joy to the sorrowing, mankind looks forward to the day when "nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more." Social and economic justice is the great end toward which we strive, but as the philosopher, John Dewey, has said: "Not perfection as a final goal, but the ever-enduring process of perfecting, maturing, refining, is the aim in living."

RAY SCOTT,
Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen & Enginemen's Magazine.

Where Bankers Draw The Line

"Aksel Nielsen, president of the Mortgage Bankers Association (U.S.) says certain parts of Senator Sparkman's housing bill would be 'socialized finance', so bankers are against them.

"But, Nielsen added, 'other parts of the bill are fine, and bankers are for them.' These parts are not 'socialized finance' at all.

"Let's see where Nielsen and other bankers draw the dividing line.

"The parts he objects to would have Uncle Sam lend money directly to war veterans and 'co-ops' which would build homes for their members, to help remedy the housing shortage for the men who fought the war, and for 'middle income' families.

"The parts Nielsen likes would have Uncle Sam 'guarantee' private bankers' loans to veterans and other home-buyers. That means the profits go to the bankers, and their losses are paid by the government.

"That is not a new idea. Of the total $34 billion 'mortgage debt' on American homes now, 37 per cent is 'guaranteed' by Uncle Sam. The bankers have never called this 'socialized finance', nor the billions lent to banks, railroads and other corporations by Uncle Sam's Reconstruction Finance Corporation.

"But, when it is proposed to begin lending a little government money to veterans and other people who need homes, that, in the opinion of Nielsen and other bankers, is 'socialized finance'."

TWO BASEBALL BATS

Reporter: "What shall I say about the two peroxide blondes who had the fight at the baseball game last night?"

Editor: "Why just say the bleachers went wild."

State of the Senate

Gerald Waring and Robert McKeown in The Standard, Montreal:

"In Ottawa, if you want to get off by yourself, you can't do better than drop in at the Senate. Many days you won't find even the senators there.

"A man could die in the Senate galleries and have a good chance of going unnoticed for several days. A solitary Canadian Press reporter keeps a lonely vigil in the Senate press gallery.

"The Senate sat only seven of the first 13 days of the session. The sittings usually lasted two or three hours. In that time the Senate debates filled just 61 pages of Hansard. The total for the House of Commons in the same period was 492 pages.

"The importance the government attached to the Senate was indicated by the fact that 14 of its 96 seats were vacant. In theory, many sections of Canada were unrepresented. Actually, many a senator had lost any real contact with his home province.

"A Maritime senator died recently ni Toronto, where he had made his home for years. An Alberta one forsook the province after his appointment and never went back.

"Attendance in the Senate is good when half the members are present. An ailing senator in his 90's recently showed up in Ottawa for a day. With the assistance of a doctor's certificate he would be able to stay at home the rest of the session and still draw full pay—$6,000.

"All this is frustrating to the hard core of able men in the Senate who would like to be able to do a good job. But reform, if it is coming, is on the crawl."

Shall We Deny Everything But Hate?

A new harbinger of hate arrived a short time ago in Canada. The reason for this statement is contained in an article appearing in the September issue of "New Liberty" entitled "Solving the Color Problem". The name of the author is given as John Barrett. Not much is said about John Barrett except that he was born in London, England, saw service in the Indian army during World War II, is married with two children, worked as a newspaperman in South Africa for the last three years, and has "just arrived in Canada".

It would be enlightening to know more about John Barrett and what may have warped his nature into a hate-monger. The article that bears his name could have been written by any ardent Nazi, any member of the Ku Klux Klan, most members of the Daughters of the American Revolution, or the restaurateurs of Dresden, Ontario. It just says, in effect: "put the Negroes in one ghetto, the Japanese Canadians in another, the North American Indians in another, and so on, leaving the whites the right to build the ghettos where they prefer."

Mr. Jack Kent Cooke, President and Publisher of "New Liberty", is a man who prides himself on being progressive in thought and attitude. That this article should appear in his magazine in prominent first position comes rather as a shock to those who expected something better of him. If this is to be the new policy of his magazine, let him expect his readers to be warned. Let him be warned now that, if such perverted articles continue to appear, every legitimate means will be used to have all organized workers and their families ignore his magazine. If, on the other hand, this was just an editorial error, let the "New Liberty" live up to its name and publish an article that fits the facts of racial and color conflict and the real advances that are being made in this country and elsewhere to reduce it.

The reason for bringing the names of the author of the article and the publisher of the magazine to the fore at once is that the article is written in such deceptive fashion. Several arguments are raised, many of them self-contradictory, and, with the exception of one, which will be dealt with later, not answered or even completed. In this connection, it is not without significance that one of the major burdens of the article is to destroy confidence in the Christian Doctrine of "We are all God's children, and should therefore treat one another with loving kindness." The article trots out an anthropologist to say that white men and Negroes belong to two different breeds of men. What does this do to the Mulattoes and Mendel's Law? The article conveniently fails to mention this dilemma. It can not be forgotten, in passing, that there are certain people in this world at this very time who are trying very hard to make scientific "facts" fit political opinion.

Having destroyed the human race and cut it up into fragments by the use of his "political" anthropology, and dismissed the Christian ethics as simply muddled and leading to "all sorts of unpleasant and ridiculous possibilities", the article proceeds to sweep away all that has been done by many sincere and capable psychologists on the problem of racial and color conflict between peoples. "They have never, apparently, been able to find any reasonable reason for racial strife and so have concluded that it doesn't exist." Statements of that sort in a prominent article in a national magazine should never have escaped the editorial blue pencil. Surely it is well enough known, even in the New Liberty office in Toronto, that the existence of racial conflict has been largely confined to practical means of lessening it. Perhaps it might be fair to cite just one widely publicized project of this sort—The Springfield Plan. And it might be fair to add that that project in its recorded results over several years gives the lie direct to this entire article, and its author could have seen much the same results just over in Welland, Ontario, only a few miles from his Toronto typewriter.

Says the article, "the social color bar which has existed since time immemorial is instinctively maintained to this day. The only well worn track through the barrier is the way of the transgressor . . ." What is being attempted here is a long-winded way of saying that we abhor mixed marriages. Let us admit freely that there is a considerable resistance among all peoples to mixed marriages. But it is also true that marriages that involve mixing two religions are more abhorred by most people and much more fanatically resisted than mixed color marriages. However, the article uses the word "transgressor" which in simpler language means simply sinner. Here is deception being practised in its meanest form. Having denied the validity of the eleventh Commandment as muddled and leading to "ridiculous possibilities", the reader is asked to believe that a mixed color marriage is a violation of the seventh Commandment.

The burden of the article, and the only argument carried through to its absurd conclusion, is that one is farcical and a notion born only to do-gooders. What is needed says the article is not one world or the two which now uneasily stare at each other but many worlds each with its own separate color. "The solution . . . is the erection of separate troughs—one for the white horse, one for the black. That way both can drink in social peace on equal terms." Put another way: you sit in your back yard and I'll sit in mine; we'll build a high fence between, and the higher the fence the happier we'll be. That may appear as a very fine arrangement to some very anti-social people but it will put us back to the days when men knew nothing and no one and carried nasty-looking clubs for their own protection.

The failure of South Africa to create conditions in which several color groups can live in reasonable harmony is eulogized in the article as an attempt to create conditions in which people will be able to live only in separate compartments. If there is any truth in the article at all, it would appear that South Africa is to become a compartmentized state. This will mean the erection of a multiplicity of civic authorities, courts and the like. Sounds like confusion worse confounded and the best and surest way to eternal racial strife.

All those who have seriously worked at the problem of racial conflict on this continent have come to the common conclusion that the fertile ground for continuation and promotion of such conflict is segregation. Now comes this article purporting to be serious and significant through its prominent appearance in a national magazine suggesting that all that has been done here is thoroughly wrong and urging that we retrace our steps back to complete segregation.

There are no indications that the ideas of this article will gain much favor in this country. However, labor must take no chances with such ideas. It is too soon to suggest that a new policy of hate-mongering is in the making here, but it is not too soon to sound the warning that such things are still possible.

The road towards no discrimination and greater human understanding is full of obstructions and many difficulties, but we have made progress, and new goals are in sight. To turn back now would not only seem unreasonable but an utter failure on our part to measure up to the real struggle of mankind towards one world and full understanding of all people as members of one human race. We can overtake hate and reach racial and religious harmony. Let us not be deceived into accepting a short cut such as this suggestion of compartmentalization which can only lead to greater discrimination and prejudice because it rules out forever any opportunity for human understanding or intermingling.

It is easier to hate than to love. Otherwise there would be no divine exhortation to foster the latter and abhor the first.

Sterling Plan is Working Output Up

The first effects of devaluation in Britain have so far been reassuring said Mr. Douglas Jay, Economic Secretary, Treasury. at Bristol recently.

"The drain on old gold reserve has been checked: our dollar exports over a wide area have been stimulated.

"The cost of living has not risen any faster than the chancellor predicted; and great restraint has been shown by organized labor in refraining from using devaluation as a ground for wage claims.

"But I am afraid that the dollar crisis is probably here for our lifetime, and there is everything to be said for the public regarding it as a long-term problem. It is a gloomy thought but a true one."

OUTPUT UP

Output from the British mines last week was 4,072,600 tons—4,000 tons up on the previous week and 79,000 tons better than the same week last year.

With 262,300 tons from opencast workings, the week's total was 4,334,900 tons, giving a total for 41 weeks of 167,430,200 tons—nearly 4,500,000 tons up on a year ago.

The Northern division—Northumberland, Cumberland and Durham—had its best week this year. Its output, 793,200 tons, was 32,000 tons up on last year.

Man Has Magic Broom--Can He Control It?

Ottawa (CLR)—In quiet ominous tones, Laval's Professor J. C. Falardeau warned the members of the Royal Commission on cultural activities and institutions of the grave danger man is facing. "Man has to live with man, otherwise humanity may be overwhelmed and swept out of existence by the powerful forces it had unlocked," he argued.

Professor Falardeau held the attention of the five members of the Commission when he used the classic tone poem of Paul Ducas, "The Sorcerer's Apprentice" to illustrate what he meant. In this story the sorcerer's apprentice used his master's magic broom to fetch water. All went well for a time. But when the boy wanted to stop the broom, he realized that he did not know the magic word. The result was the boy smashed the broom into pieces, but the pieces each became brooms and began bringing water. The apprentice was swept away in the flood.

Man has a magic broom, explained the Professor, in the shape of atomic energy. It could be a boon to all. But will man know how to control it?

The five Commissioners had no answer.

The only answer appears to be in Professor Falardeau's own words, "Man had to live with man".

—Canadian Labor Reports.

Mother: "What did your father say when you smashed the new car?"

Son: "Shall I leave out the swear words?"

Mother: "Yes, of course."

Son: "He didn't say a word."

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Auto Workers' Union, Lodge No. 1857, I. A. of M.—Business Agent, Gordon Webb, 111 Labor Temple; FA. 9517.

Bakery Salesmen, Local 189, I. B. T. C. and H.—Business Agent, E. Holmes, 206 Labor Temple; FA. 8714.

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

Barbers—International Journeymen of America, No. 120—Secretary, C. E. Herrett, 201 Labor Temple; FA. 8762.

Beverage Dispensers and Culinary Workers, No. 835—Secretary, J. Dye, 3248 Clinton St.; DExter 2153-F.

Beverage Dispensers and Culinary Workers, No. 676—Business Manager, F. W. Mills, 68 West Hastings St.; MA. 4943.

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

Boilermakers' Union, No. 359—Business Agent, James Downie, 529 Beatty St.; TAtlow 1047.

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

Bookbinders' Union, Local 105—Recording Secretary, F. Milne, 977 Broughton St.

Brick & Clay Workers' Union, No. 136—Secretary, P. J. Cape, 1125 Campbell Avenue, Abbotsford, B. C.

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

Building Laborers' Union, Local 602—Secretary, L. J. Milliman, 307 West Broadway. Phone FAir. 9122.

Building Laborers' Union (New Westminster) No. 1070—Secretary, T. Porter, 1505 Sixth St.; phone N. W. 3179-R.

Building Material and Fuel Truck Drivers' Union, Local 213—Business Agent, H. Bonnell, 206 Labor Temple; phone FA. 8714.

Building Service Employees, Local 244—Business Agent, A. J. Wybrew, 339 W. Pender St.; Phone MArine 8605.

Building Trades Council—Secretary, H. W. Watts, 102 Labor Temple; phone FA. 4348.

Carpenters' Union, No. 452—Secretary, James Smith, 100 Labor Temple; FA. 2396.

Carpenters' Union (Chilliwack), No. 1843—Secretary, J. E. Towes, Box 482, Chilliwack, 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, J. E. Oddson, 253 Nicol St., Nanaimo, B. C.

Carpenters' Union No. 512 (Port Alberni)—Secretary, R. Stubb, Box 908, Port Alberni, B. C.

Cement Finishers (Section of Local No. 602)—Business Agent, W. J. Baskerville, 105 Labor Temple; FA. 9122.

City Hall Employees, Local 59—Business Agent, W. M. Black, 5 Labor Temple; FA. 9233.

Civic Employees' Union (Burnaby), No. 23—Secretary, J. E. Wilson, 2131 Merritt Ave., New Westminster.

Civic Employees' Union, Local 22—Business Agent, Donald Guise, 49 West Hastings St.; Phone PAcific 4548.

Commercial Telegraphers' Union, C.P.R. Division No. 1—W. Pye, 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, G. I. Guy, 545 East 47th. Phone FRaser 5741.

Electrical Workers' Union, Local 213—Business Manager, George Gee, 116 Labor Temple; FAir. 7587.

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

Embalmers, Undertakers and Assistants Union, No. 23374—Secretary, R. F. Wilson, 5841 Alma Rd.

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, George Zallo, 380 East 15th Avenue.

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

Film Exchange Employees, Local 891—Secretary, C. W. Backus, 1938 East 40th Avenue.

Fire Fighters, No. 18—Business Agent, Hugh Bird, 2196 West 14th; CH. 5658.

Fire Fighters (Burnaby), Local 323—Secretary, B. J. Pontifex, 4006 Douglas Road, 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. 1841—Business Agent, R. V. Nash, 2803 E. 18th Avenue.

Furniture Workers, U. B. C., Local No. 2632—Secretary, Olive King, 101 Labor Temple; FA. 9712.

Furniture & Mill Workers, U. B. C., Local No. 2634 (New Westminster)—Secretary, Vic Smith, 139 E. 10th, New Westminster, B. C.

Glaziers and Glass Workers', Local No. 1527—Secretary, A. Allen, 5215 Culloden Street, Vancouver.

Gas Workers' Union, Local No. 225—Secretary, E. Rees, 2045 W. 7th; office phone: MArine 2958.

Hospital Employees' Union, No. 180—Business Agent, W. M. Black, 5 Lobar Temple; FA. 9233.

Home Service Workers' Union, No. 211—Secretary, Mrs. J. Hallock, 685 West 10th; FA. 2007-L.

Hotel and Restaurant Employees, Local 28—Business Agent, J. Price, 413 Granville St.; Phone PAcific 7333.

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, 110 Labor Temple; phone FA. 9126.

Jewelry Workers' Union, No. 42—Secretary, W. Routley, 144 West Hastings St., DExter 2493R. After 6, FR. 2774.

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

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

Laundry Workers, No. 292—Business Agent, J. H. Irving, 115 Labor Temple; FA. 9612.

Lumber and Sawmill Workers, U. B. C., Local No. 2968—Secretary, Hugh Wood, 101 Labor Temple; FA. 9712.

Machinists, No. 182—Secretary, J. Bygate, 3167 Kitchener St. Phone HA. 5582M.

Machinists, Local 692—Business Agent, Alf. Dyer, 111 Labor Temple; phone FA. 9517.

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

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

Maintenance-of-Way Employees, Local No. 167 (C. P. R.)—Secretary, S. Wray, 6487 Kitchener Street.

Maintenance-of-Way Employees, Local 31—Secretary, R. McLure, 1836 East 14th Avenue.

Marine Engineers, National Association of, Council No. 7—Secretary, H. B. McKie, 319 West Pender Street. Phone: PAcific 8549.

Milk Salesmen and Dairy Employees, Local 464—Secretary, Birt Showler, 200 Labor Temple; FA. 8716.

Molders' Union, Local 281—Business Afent, Louis Herzeg, 112 Labor Temple; FA. 9431.

Motion Picture Projectionists, Local 348, Business Manager, T. E. Foley; Secretary, J. H. Leslie, P. O. Box 345; Phone MArine 3043.

Musicians' Union, Local 145—Business Manager, Geo. E. Leach, Suite 51, 553 Granville St. PAcific 7842.

Office Employees' Int. Union, Local No. 15—Secretary, B. Goughro, 106 Labor Temple; FA. 4243.

Painters, Local 138—Business Manager, Jack Eaves, 117 Labor Temple; phone FA. 9771.

Paint & Varnish Workers' Union, Local No. 1550—Secretary, L. J. Pribyl, 150 E. 49th. Phone FRaser 8268.

Paper Makers' International Brotherhood, (Ocean Falls) Local No. 360—Secretary, Geo. L. Weldridge, Ocean Falls.

Papermakers' Int. Brotherhood, Local No. 456 (New Westminster)—Secretary, Helen Ganton, 227 6th Street, New Westminster.

Patternmakers, Local No. 1260—Secretary, Leo. Wiles, 1534 Marine Drive, West Vancouver, B.C.; West 1493-R.

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

Plumbers and Pipefitters, Local 170—Business Agent, Frank Carlisle, 109 Labor Temple; FA. 9766.

Photo Engravers, Local 54—E. J. Mathias, 5751 Balsam. Phone Kerrisdale 1670M.

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

Plumbers and Pipefitters (Railroad)—Local 571—Secretary, Lloyd Elzick, 1877 Haro Street.

Printing Pressmen and Assistants' Union, No. 69—Secretary, Thos. S. Ezart, 5407 Commercial, FRaser 1348.

Pulp and Sulphite (Converters) Union, Local 433—Secretary, F. Mackinnon, Business Agent, O. Braaten, 339 W. Pender. TAtlow 1642.

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

Railway Carmen (Port Mann), Lodge No. 280—Secretary, J .R. Doutaz, 707 Dublin St., New Westminster, B.C.

Railway and Steamship Clerks, No. 638—Secretary, T. W. Kirby, 3566 Triumph Street.

Railway and Steamship Clerks, No. 628—Secretary, A. Padgham, 5013 Payne St., DExter 1275-L.

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

Resilient Floorlayers (Section of Local No. 1841)—Secretary, Russell Nash, 101 Labor Temple; FA. 9712.

Retail Grocery and Food Clerks, Local No. 1518—Secretary, D. A. Wade, 203 Labor Temple; FA. 8242.

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

Sheet Metal Workers, Local 280—Business Manager, James Walker, 207 Labor Temple; FA. 7636.

Sheet Metal Workers (Railroad), Local 314—Secretary, T. Owen, 920 East 55th Avenue, Vancouver.

Shinglers' and Roofers' Union, No. 2346—Secretary, A. Tyckoson, 4244 Prince Albert. FA. 3773-R.

Shingle Weavers' Union, Local No. 2802—Secretary, Alex Low, 1134 West 73rd Avenue, Vancouver, Phone LAngara 0985-R.

Shipwrights, Boatbuilders, Joiners and Caulkers, Local No. 506—Business Agent, J. Evans, 49 West Hastings. Phone TA. 3725.

Shoreworkers' Local of the U. F. & A. W. U.—Business Agent, Alex Gordon, 138 E. Cordova; Phone TAt. 3255.

Seafarers' Int. Union of North America—Secretary, D. Bremner, 565 Hamilton St.; PAcific 7824.

Sign and Pictorial Painters, Local 726—Secretary, J. Middleton, 5881 Dundas St.; phone, GLen. 1326-Y.

Street Railway Employees, Division 101—Business Agent, L. Easler, Lee Building, 175 E. Broadway; FAir. 4262.

Street Railwayman's Union, No. 134—Business Agent, R. Cormack, 36 Lorne St., New Westminster, B. C.

Taxi Drivers, Local 151—Secretary, C. Gower, 204 Labor Temple; FA. 8716.

Teachers' Association, New Westminster—Secretary, W. K. Nevard, 1534 London, New Westminster.

Textile Workers' Local, No. 12—Secretary, G. F. Murphy, 78 East 2nd Ave.

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

Tile Setters, Local No. 3—Secretary, W. Richards, Pleasantside P. O., B. C.

Tile Setters' Helpers, Local No. 78—Secretary, K. S. Kennedy, 570 Rupert Street.

Truck Drivers' Union, Local No. 31—Business Agent, Reg. Lenfesty, 205 Labor Temple; FA. 8714.

Typographical Union, Local 226—Secretary, Harry Neelands, 212 Labor Temple; FA. 2608.

United Garment Workers' Union, No. 232—Secretary, Mrs. R. L. Firth, 2426 Yale 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; TAtlow 3255.

University of British Columbia Employees' Union, No. 116—L. T. Funnell, 4634 W. 7th Ave.

Union Label Trades Council—Secretary, Ed. Smith, 307 W. Broadway.

Labour-Veterans Relations Committee

By JACK HENDERSON, Chairman

Before the conclusion of World War I, forces were at work to get the ex-service men and the Trade Unions at loggerheads one with another.

So successful were these sinister forces that we had the spectacle of a group of veterans being led by a former Padre for the ostensible purpose of wrecking the Labor Temple in Vancouver.

As World War II was nearing its close, some of those who had knowledge of the aforementioned machinations directed the attention of the Veterans organizations and the Labor Unions to this matter to such good purpose that a Labor-Veterans Relations Committee was brought into being in the City of Vancouver.

On Wednesday, January 30, 1946, a combined meeting of the Unemployment Committee of the Vancouver Veterans Council and Delegates from the A.F. of L. and the C.C.L. Labor Councils were represented as follows:

Canadian Corps Association — D. Peers, H. L. Comely-Combs, R. D. Etches and J. I. Chambers.

Canadian Legion, Provincial Executive—J. Henderson, R. Macnicol and T. Kirk.

Canadian Legion Zone Council—T. M. Harnett, A. Core, H. W. Purcell, F. MacDonald and H. C. Bull.

Amputations Association — F. W. Linington, R. W. Nunns, J. Wilkie and C. Etchell.

Vancouver Trades and Labor Council A.F. of L.—R. K. Gervin.

Vancouver Building Trades Council A.F. of L. — J. Stevenson, H. W. Watts, J. Eaves and F. Carlisle.

B. C. Federation of Labor, C.C.L.—J. Turner, S. Jenkins and W. F. White.

Shipworkers Federation, C.C.L.—Malcolm MacLeod.

Comrade T. M. Harnett, Chairman of the meeting, explained the incentive for the meeting and the decision of the Veterans Unemployment Committee to meet the representatives of the Labor Unions at a Round Table Conference, and Comrade H. W. Purcell, the Veterans Committee Chairman, in an introductory statement expressed the opinion that it was important to meet with organized labor and arrive at some common ground of understanding in the matter of veterans employment.

After a lengthy discusion by the various representatives in attendance at the meeting, it was generally agreed that common understanding and co-operation between veterans and organized labor was desirable and consequently it was decided to form a joint committee whose object it would be to effect this and iron out whatever difficulties existed or were likely to arise.

The following motion was then moved, seconded and carried unanimously:

"That a committee be set up for this purpose comprising four representatives from the Veterans organizations and four representatives from the Trade Unions."

The following committee was then set up:

Vancouver Trades and Labor Council, A.F. of L.—R. H. Gervin.

Vancouver Building Trades Council, A.F. of L.—J. Stevenson

Vancouver Labor Council, C.C.L.—J. Turner and S. Jenkins.

Canadian Corps Association — D. Peers.

Canadian Legion—T. M. Hartnett.

Army and Navy Veterans—H. E. Warburton.

War Amputations Association—T. W. Linington.

Chairman—Jack Henderson.

Secretary—A. D. Darlington.

The time table for meetings of this committee was set for the third Wednesday in each month at 4:00 p.m. and emergency meetings to be at the call of the chair.

Mr. Gervin then suggested a large meeting when representatives from each veterans unit could meet representatives from each union and recommend the matter be dealt with now and that unions be contacted asking for a represenative to be appointed. It being moved and seconded "That plans be made to call the meeting within 30 days." The motion was carried.

A special meeting of the Labor-Veterans Relations Committee was held at the Pacific Athletic Club at 12:15 p.m. on Wednesday, February 6, 1946.

Present: J. Turner, S. Jenkins, R. K. Gervin, J. Stevenson, T. M. Hartnett, F. W. Linington, D. Peers, H. E. Warburton, Chairman; Jack Henderson, and Secretary, A. D. Darlington.

It was moved and seconded that the meeting of the labor representatives and the Veterans representatives called for at the previous meeting be held in the Canadian Legion Hall, 856 Seymour St., at 8 p.m., on March 29th. Motion carried. It was further moved and seconded that the date of the regular meetings of the Labor-Veterans Relations Committee be confirmed as being on the third Wednesday of each month at the Pacific Athletic Club but that the time of the meeting be amended to read 12:15 p.m. Motion carried.

The meeting of the Labor-Veterans Relations Committee with representatives of Veterans Branches and Labor Unions was held at the Canadian Legion Hall at 856 Seymour Street, at 8 p.m. on Fridayfi March 28, 1946.

All of the Labor-Veterans Relations Committee were present on the platform. Also on the platform as guests of the Committee were Mr. Birt Showler, President of the Vancouver-New Westminster Trades and Labor Council, and Mr. E. E. Leary, President of the Vancouver Labor Council, C.C.L. Chairman of the meeting was Comrade T. M. Hartnett.

After the chairman had introduced the committee and the platform guests, and outlined the purpose of the meeting, namely to bring about understanding and co-operation between Veterans and Labor organizations, he called upon the following members of the committee in the order named: R. K. Gervin, J. Turner and J. Henderson, to address the meeting, each of whom gave further enlightenment as to the reasons for the meeting and the need for seeking to bring about and maintain amicable relations between the groups concerned and endeavor to facilitate the employment of all of our citizens.

TRUSTEE JACK HENDERSON

Member of International Union of Operating Engineers and delegate to the Vancouver, New Westminster and District Trades and Labor Council.

Various speakers took the floor and expressed their pleasure and satisfaction at the establishment of the committee. Mr. E. E. Leary, President of the Vancouver Labor Council, was asked to address the meeting. In the course of his remarks, he stressed the need for unity in the ranks of Labor and Veterans and outlined the manner of priority in which men were called for jobs in the unions under his jurisdiction.

The chairman then called upon Mr. Birt Showler, President of the Vancouver-New Westminster Trades and Labor Council, A.F. of L. Mr. Showler declared that unions affiliated to the Trades and Labor Council had suspended and in some cases abolished payment of initiation fees to returned men. He pointed out that "ninety-five per cent of the delegates of his council were veterans of one of the World Wars or had sons and/or daughters in the services."

"Their sympathies lie with the veterans. Industrialists are very much concerned over the strength of the veterans and trade union organizations and they are not going to leave any stone unturned that will create the possibility of a mayor reading the riot act. We must at all costs not permit such a thing to happen."

The meeting was brought to a close with expressions of support and good wishes for the committee in the task which lay before it.

Some one hundred and fifty representatives of Veterans organizations and Labor Unions were in attendance at this meeting.

On Wednesday, April 17, 1946, the regular monthly meeting of the Labor Veterans Relations Committee was held at the Pacific Athletic Club at 12:15 p.m.

The report of the meeting with delegates from the trades unions and veterans organizations was approved and the secretary commended for his efforts in organizing the meeting.

The secretary was instructed to write letters of thanks to Mr. Showler and Mr. Leary for their attendance at the meeting.

Regularly, since the committee was formed, it has met at the Pacific Athletic Club at 12:15 p.m. on the third Wednesday of each month, and many questions relating to veterans and labor unions and unemployment generally have been dealt with at these meetings.

It is significant to note that unfavorable news reports about these relationships have been noticeable by their absence in Vancouver since the formation of the Labor-Veterans Relations Committee.

The committee has been in operation since January 1946 and it can be stated in the most emphatic terms that its efforts have been highly successful in preventing a recurrence of the events set out in the first paragraphs of this report.

The committee in the course of its operations had interviewed and corresponded with employers of labor on the matters with which it was assigned to mediate. Grievances, both real and imaginary, have been dealt with in a manner satisfactory to the parties concerned.

At the regular monthly meetings, guest speakers from the Department of Veterans Affairs and the unemployment services have addressed the committee for the purpose of enlightenment and information. The attention of Ministers of the Crown has been directed to the problems of employment and unemployment, and recently, on August 10th last, a brief dealing with the matter of employment was addressed to the Honorable Humphrey Mitchell, Minister of Labor at Ottawa; as a result of which an interview was obtained with the Honorable Mr. Mayhew, Minister of Fisheries, at which members of the committee stressed their concern about the likelihood of a recurrence of the situation which existed last winter.

To sum up the efforts of the Labor-Veterans Relations Committee. Since its inception in January 1946 during the whole of which time I have been privileged to be its chairman, it can modestly claim to have carried out the duties allotted to it in a manner highly creditable to all concerned and its accomplishments have been attained without fanfare.

In conclusion, may I extend most gracious thanks to all those who have participated as members of the committee and to all those who have contributed to its success.

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No Homes For Rent

"Canadian houses are going to be as scarce as ever for some time to come and rents are likely to go even higher, a cross-country survey reveals.

"The trouble is, The Canadian Press was told in its survey, that those who now have a place to live in the ever-crowding urban centres across the country are in no hurry to move. Those who are still looking for a home are promised little respite because building firms just can't keep up with demands . . . .

"Throughout the west, a serious lack of houses for rent to small wage earners is reported.

"Winnipeg, with only a few to rent at $70 a month, is reported awaiting a provincial housing bill to aid municipally-financed construction.

"The federal government's Central Housing and Mortgage Corporation reports from Saskatchewan that the situation is the worst in four years. They say they have 1,089 applications for homes and have practically nothing to offer.

"Edmonton can report perhaps the largest population boom in the country, with 10,000 persons coming to the oil-rich city in the last year. Emergency housing officials say there is need for 6,000 more homes even after the $17,000,000 in permits for 2,600 homes are completed."

Red-Faced Tories Miss Budget Vote!

Ottawa—The budget debate just petered out. On Wednesday, Nov 9, about five o'clock, the Speaker casually asked "Is the House ready for the question?" The half dozen Tories in the House made no protest, so their amendment was negatived without a recorded vote.

But when the Tories discovered how they had been caught napping, a crimson glow enveloped their front benches. Twenty-four hours later it still hadn't faded!

The background details of the incident make interesting reading. Nobody expected the budget to end that afternoon—least of all the Tories. There were exactly eight of them in the House. Perhaps it was due to absenteeism—the occupational disease of the P.C.'s. But there was a rumor on Parliament Hill that most of tahe Tories were confined to their rooms listening to the Ottawa-Montreal rugby broadcast.

As befits a leader, George Drew was most embarrassed of all. It seems that Mr. Drew wasn't really playing hookey; he was busy preparing a speech to deliver in the budget debate lambasting the government on its bungling of rentals.

But Mr. Drew neglected to prime his party strategists. They let the debate run out, without even a vote being called on their own budget amendment—a traditional want-of-confidence motion. Mr. Drew arrived down in the House a few minutes after it was all over. He huffed and he puffed—but the House ignored him!

Colored Girl and Priest Overcome Prejudice

A little more than two years ago this country was very concerned about a young girl in Ontario who, because she was colored, was being forced to abandon her life's ambition. Young Marisse Scott of Owen Sound had wanted to become a nurse. When she graduated from high school in her home town and applied for nursing training in the local hospital, she was turned down with six heart-breaking words: "Sorry—we don't accept colored girls".

Last month, Marisse Scott entered her third year as a nurse-in-training in a nearby Ontario city. It was a great day for Miss Scott. She was realizing her ambition.

This is a success story with a double moral. A young 18-year-old girl is gaining the training she needs to enter upon her chosen vocation despite the obstructions placed in her path two years ago. But more than that, the prejudice and discrimination that were responsible for those unnecessary obstructions are also being cleared away.

Miss Scott's parents were not prepared to let the decision of the Owen Sound hospital authorities stand in the way of their daughter becoming a nurse. They talked with other people about the situation, with clergymen, with governments in Toronto and Ottawa, and with the press. The story was flashed across Canada. Both Labor Congresses in 1947 passed resolutions abhorring the situation. Other groups indicated disapproval of the Owen Sound edict against a colored girl.

Then Father J. A. O'Reilly, pastor of the Church of Our Lady in Guelph, Ontario, announced that he had investigated Miss Scott's case, and had asked the authorities of Guelph's St. Joseph's Hospital to permit the young girl to enroll in the nurse's training course. That was on August 21, 1947. The next day, the girl's parents visited Father O'Reilly and the Mother Superior of St. Joseph's Hospital. Marisse, who had graduated from Owen Sound High School with honors, went through the aptitude tests with flying colors. She was enrolled immediately.

Looking back over her first two years of training in Guelph, Miss Scott had reason to be proud. She had led her course throughout. Hospital authorities termed her the most willing and able student nurse in the history of the institution.

But the greatest source of pride for Marisse Scott as she began her third year was not just her own successes as a student nurse. Her case and her subsequent success had shattered the prejudice against colored girls in the hospitals of the province. Proof that prejudice and discrimination need not persist if people are prepared to do something about eradicating them was the fact that Owen Sound, Miss Scott's hometown, is among those places whose hospitals have removed all prejudice from their enrollment requirements and system. Marisse Scott's younger sister expects to enter one of the Owen Sound hospitals next year as a nurse-in-training. She won't hear six heart-breaking words turning her down, as did her sister.

—Canadian Labor Reports

Expenditure Exceeds Income Average Family

Ottawa.—The Dominion Bureau of Statistics has made a survey of family expenditures across Canada. Releases covering two cities—Montreal and Halifax—reveal a pattern in which the average family is overspending its income, sometimes very seriously. Releases for other cities, provinces and the country as a whole, will follow.

The survey, conducted in the fall of 1948, covered a cross section of Canadian families and single persons. Detailed information about income and expenditures in the 12 months preceding August 31, 1948, was collected from about 6,000 families and single persons in all provinces except Newfoundland.

In Montreal the survey revealed that on the average Montreal's 526,000 families were overspending their income by $8 a year, the expenditure being $2,964.72 with the income $2,956.53.

In Halifax, however, the excess of expenditure over income is $300 per annum, the expenditure being $2,875.90 and the income $2,575.11. Part of this gap may be met in the subsequent year through delayed instalment payments.

Housing of various kinds accounted for 12% of the total expenditure, with rent alone making up 9.8%. Food eaten at home totalled 24.8%, with another 6.8% for eating in restaurants, between-meal food, beer and other alcoholic drinks.

Other elements in the breakdown included clothing, 13.2%; transportation, including net price on car, 5.1%; fuel, light, water, and other similar household expenditures, 6.1%; household furnishings and equipment, 5.4%; recreation, reading, education and gifts, 5.1%.

In addition, the average Montreal family spent 11% on insurance premiums, taxes, charitable and pension contribution; and 3.5% on medical, including dental care.

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Bevin Recalls Many Years Of Labor's Great Struggle

Let's get rid of this defeatist attitude. Rt. Hon. Ernest Bevin, British foreign secretary, had something to say about the power of rank-and-file trade unionists when he spoke in Ottawa during his visit there in October.

Fascinating History

After talking about British social services, Brother Bevin went on: "... Finally, how did all these things grow? They grew steadily. I used to like to look over the old reports of the Trades Union Congress over its 75 years, and it is really an amazing study; and if you look over your reports of the history of your own movement, as well as our own, it does become a fascination.

"You find a local of a union, miners, woodworkers, or dockers, sending in a resolution on some subject to their executive, that executive examining it, putting it on the agenda of the Trades Union Congress—and out of that has grown a great social service.

"For instance, take the treatment of the unemployed, and the unemployed insurance which has now spread all over the world. One of the first resolutions ever carried on that matter, I think 60-odd years ago, was moved by a man who afterward became the secretary of the Trades Union Congress, and who represented the London Society of Compositors. It was a simple resolution which called for unemployment being made a collective and national obligation.

Wipe Out Poor Law

"This became the policy of the Congress, deputation after deputation went to the government and the struggle went on, until finally the old Poor Law was wiped out and the insurance and now the social service takes its place.

"In the wider political field, 22 years ago last month I moved a resolution in the Trades Union Congress at Edinburgh calling for the United States of Europe. It was carried after a fierce tussle, and now, as foreign secretary, I was able to join in its inauguration at Strasbourg a month ago. All the difficulties then emerged in the discussion that took place. We saw the fight between the people. We saw the trouble with the frontiers. We saw the struggle in the international labor movement—and out of that has grown this new movement brought about by these circumstances.

Grinding Toil

"It is not some flashy, grandiose program that does it; it is the hard, grinding toil of the thousands of men and women who attend their local meetings, giving their thought, the best that is in them, and when you think on that and you sit back and think that, every week, every night, there are millions of people giving the best in them to help their fellows out of them really the best we enjoy. That is the work that helps to produce results. That is the work that helps to produce progress."

Organizing the World's Trade Unions

London Conference Called to Establish New International Labour Confederation

Aims and Ideals

—From Herbert Tracey, of Britain's Trades Union Congress.

Preparations for the international Trade Union Conference at which a new World Confederation of Free Labour will be founded, are now in their final form. The Conference will be held in London on November 28, and will remain in session until December 9 to ratify the draft constitution, to elect its officers and executive organs, to set up its administrative machinery, and to chart its future course.

Invitations have been issued to 63 National Trade Union centres, 43 other national organizations and 18 international trade secretariats, in 55 countries and 19 colonies. All the delegations that will assemble in London's County Hall, the administrative centre of Britain's capital city, will be representative of the workers organized in the free and democratic trade unions of the world, deriving their authority from their members and from no other source.

It was in London's County Hall, in February, 1945, that an attempt was made to establish a world federation of trade unions, an attempt which came to an ignominious end when it fell under the domination of communistic influences that sought to use it for political purposes. This time the declared aim and avowed purpose of the conference is to create a powerful and effective international organization, composed only of free and democratically constituted trade unions that are independent of any external domination and are pledged to promote the interests of working people throughout the world; to protect, maintain and expand the system of free labor and eliminate forced labor; and to represent the free trade union movement in all international agencies affecting the social and economic condition of working people which now exist or may be set up in future.

Businesslike Spirit

One indication of the businesslike spirit in which preparatory arrangements have been made is the stipulation that every organization sending delegates must deposit a sum of money equivalent to three months' affiliation fees on the membership they represent. This deposit is not only a guarantee of good faith but a means of providing resources to enable the World Confederation of Free Labor to start operations immediately. Annual affiliation fees are calculated on the basis of £3 sterling per thousand members for each organization up to 5,000,000 members; and an additional £2 sterling per thousand members for organizations with more than 5,000,000 members.

The agenda of the conference provides for full discussion of the constitutional and structural requirements of the free trade union movement in relation to its .....??

Life in Canada Is Much Less Hysterical

Time, November 7:

"After four months' meditation, Washington decided last week that Dr. Glen Shortliffe, associate professor of French at Queen's University, might enter the U.S., but the ruling came too late. The professor declined. Last June he was eager to go. He had accepted a new post at Washington University in St. Louis, resigned his job, sold his house and gotten a visa from the U.S. consul in Toronto. Four days later the visa was cancelled.

"Shortliffe, a member of the C.C.F., was told that his presence in the U.S. would be "prejudical to the public interest." If the prejudice lay, as it seemed, in some of his public criticism of U.S. foreign policy, especially in relation to China, Shortliffe said he was glad to plead guilty.

"By the time the ban was lifted, another man had the St. Louis job; Shortliffe had another job at Queen's but a lower opinion of the U.S. Shortliffe, who a month ago, announced that he no longer wanted to live in the U.S., said last week: 'I have no other thought than to settle down in a Canadian community (where) life is much less hysterical'."

Triumph For the People

Socialist Call, October 21:

"Gleeful forecasts by reactionaries of startling Conservative gains which would throw Norway's labor party out of office were knocked into the trash-basket last week.

"Where Labor had 76 out of 150 seats in the November, 1945, elections (four months after the British Socialist election victory), Norway's Socialists won 87 seats last week.

"As the New York Times points out: 'For four years there has been full employment, food subsidies, rationing, low interest rates, control of dividends, rent controls, heavy taxation. The policies favored the working classes at the expense of the upper and middle-class income brackets'.

"The similarity of Norway's Labor government and its economic situation to Britain's Labor government offers added assurance that Britain's Tories will be soundly disappointed in their hope of upsetting the magnificent achievements of Labor Britain.

"The Communists lost almost half the votes they polled in 1945, and dropped from 11 seats in the old Storting to nothing in the new. The Communists thus continued the unenviable record of losing heavily in every free election in recent years."

50,000 Members Granted Benefits Without Strikes

Washington. — Two newly-signed wage agreements gave more than 50,000 AFL members in Middle Western states employer-financed pensions in the aluminum industry and health and welfare programs in the trucking industry.

They are part of a developing pattern of welfare benefits being won constantly by all AFL unions.

AFL unions pointed out that both programs, among the more liberal settlements coming out of the 1949 pension and welfare negotiations, were won without strikes.

Chivalry is a man's inclination to defend a woman against every man but himself.

A minister, substituting for a friend in a remote country parish, was greatly surprised on observing the old verger, who had been taking up the collection, quietly abstract a 50c piece before presenting the plate at the altar rail. After service he called the old man into the vestry and told him with some emotion that his crime had been discovered.

The old man looked puzzled for a moment. Then a sudden light dawned on him.

"Why sir, you don't mean that old half dollar of mine? I've led off with that for the last 15 years!"

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W. J. BAKER
Representative, United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners

Carpenters and Joiners Report from Interior

This year we have concentrated on bringing the Carpenters' Brotherhood to the small towns and outlying districts. We have been very successful in this, but it has involved a great deal of work.

I have had the greatest co-operation from the executive of all our local unions and I wish to thank them one and all for their co-operation. I also wish to thank the International Office of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, for making this work possible. Without their help it would have been impossible to organize this vast territory.

I have organized from the Allison Pass Summit, on the Hope-Princeton Highway, 137 miles from Vancouver, to the Alberta border. Without exception, we have the union shop, 40 hour week and 8 hour day. Princeton and district have a rate of $1.55 per hour, and the rest of our locals are working at $1.45 per hour. As all local union agreements expire March 1, 1950, we hope to have a standard wage for carpenters throughout the province when we negotiate our new agreement.

The following is a brief outline of our local unions:

Local 1540, Kamloops, B. C.

This year Local 1540 negotiated a new agreement with the Kamloops Contractors. Some of the outstanding clauses in this agreement are: Board Allowance when away from home; after 7 days non-union carpenters must join the union; cost of living clause deleted from agreement. All Kamloops contractors have signed up with the union.

Local 1346, Vernon, B. C.

Construction work in Vernon has been good; Local 1346 has received certification for construction carpenters working for the British Columbia Power Commission at Needles, B. C. A sub-local has been installed at Salmon Arm, B. C., and carpenters in the Salmon Arm district are now receiving union wages and conditions.

Local 1370, Kelowna, B. C.

Work has been slack, after last year's record breaking construction boom, and many of our members are working out of town; consruction prospects for 1950 are good.

Local 1696, Penticton, B. C.

Construction work has held up well, and 1950 should be a banner year for Penticton carpenters. A sub-local has been installed at Princeton, B. C. Princeton School Board has been reluctant to pay the prevailing wage to carpenters working on the new school. We hope this matter will soon be adjusted.

Local 2474, Trail, B. C. (Kootenay)

Construction work has been good during the year. We completed the Sunningdale Housing Project, New Arena, and school at Warfield, and a start has been made on the $1,000,000 school at Rossland. The Kootenay engineers made a start on the $13,000,000 reconversion of the lead smelter at Tadanac for the Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company. Local 2474 made application to have the Kootenay Engineers certified; two weeks after our application for certification was filed, our carpenters were notified that the Kootenay Engineers had transferred their business to the Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company, and if our brotherhood of carpenters so wished, they could continue working, but under Consolidated wages and conditions. We have been asked to withdraw our application for certification. We are wondering what happened to Section II (8) of the I.C.A. Act and also if the Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company are afraid of the A.F. of L. unions.

Local 2458, Nelson, B. C.

Local 2548 has been very active during the year. They have agreements with all the Nelson contractors and certification for the Reeves McDonald Mine. While some difficulty has been had with the Reeves McDonald, it is hoped that this is now eliminated.

Local 1719, Kimberley, B. C.

Kimberley Local has had a very active year, in more ways than one. They have sub-locals at Cranbrook, B. C.; Creston, B. C., and at Radium, B. C. President John Ogbourne has had his hands full with these small, chiseling contractors who pay below the fair wage, where this is involved also with unfair labor practices.

Under the I.C.A. Act there are certain penalties laid down to deal with unfair labor practices, but the onus is placed on the union to lay the charge and prove their case, and to get permission to prosecute from the Board. All this takes time and money. It is up to the Labor Relations Board to see that the I.C.A. Act is enforced, not only on the union, but also on the employer.

Lumber and Sawmill Workers

Local 2861, Vernon; Local 2771, Rutland, and Local 2742, West Summerland, are still in negotiation for a new agreement. We expect that this will be signed before the end of the year.

W. J. BAKER, Representative.

Many Still Unorganized In British Columbia

In going about the province I find some groups of workers still very poorly paid. These of course are unorganized and are at the mercy of the boss, as they are being exploited to the fullest extent, and in most cases do not receive sufficent wages to pay income tax. The most glaring cases are the Retail Clerks, Restaurant Employees, as well as Bank Clerks and other office and clerical workers. This in view of the fact that the cost of living is higher in the smaller towns makes their burden in life very hard to bear. We are hopeful that before another year rolls around, some relief in the way of organization will be extended to these Canadian citizens.

During the year a number of new groups have been organized throughout the province. These workers in the low wage brackets are now enjoying the benefits of organization for the first time.

The I.C.A. Act, with all its faults, has no doubt assisted the newly formed local unions by forcing the employers to bargain collectively, with the ultimate conclusion of a working agreement.

Strange as it may seem many employers are still hostile toward their employees becoming organized. They regard dealing with the union as a nuisance and do not recognize the right of the employees having anything to say as to the conditions under which they work, or the wages they receive.

The main function of the Labor Code is to govern conduct between the employer and the union and protect the general public against the squeeze of prolonged stoppages of work.

The way the Act is being administered at present has a tendency to interfere with the fundamental rights and functions of the trade union. The trade union should be free from domination either by the church or state. Neither should the trade union be an instrument of these bodies.

We have instances in eastern Canada where a section of the workers are identified as Catholic Confederation of Labor. This of course intimates that they are dominated by the church and the priesthood. In Russia it is ascertained after a thorough investigation by the A. F. of L. and the British Trade Union Congress that the trade union is an instrument of the state and is not a trade union at all in the sense that we know them. The workers there are also denied the right to strike, which has been the fundamental right of the trade union for the past one hundred years.

The functions, rights and privileges of the trade union have become tradition in the Canadian way of life. Labor will not give these rights away without a struggle and the Labor Relations Board of British Columbia, when making decisions and in the interpretation of the Act, must use the utmost care.

W. D. WILSON, Organizer,
American Federation of Labor.

What About Those Votes For the Indians?

Toronto (CLR).—It isn't often that the Financial Post is found on the same side as Labor, but this week (October 15) it has happened. The article says, in part, "When it comes to telling other people how they should or should not treat their minority racial groups, Canadians as a rule are outspoken enough. That being the case, our own treatment of the native population we took over with the country must puzzle outsiders."

The article then proceeds to point to the unfortunate treatment we have meted out to the native Indians of Canada, and in particular, to our failure to give them the vote despite a lot of talk in that direction.

"After more than two centuries," says the Financial Post, "of white man's rule the average red man is still without a vote, still without a dominant voice in the management of his own property and in many districts still without an education.

"Our record in dealing with the Indian race is not one of which we can boast. As Chief Thomas Jones of the Cape Croker Reserve pointed out to the Hanover Rotary Club the other day: "You cannot judge any race of people unless you give them the same chance you have yourself."

"For years we have been talking about extending full citizenship privileges to the Indians. Long before this, they should have been offered."

—Canadian Labor Reports

Civic By-law to Rule Out Discrimination

Oshawa, Ont. (CLR) — Another Ontario city joined the ranks of the pioneers seeking to eradicate racial discrimination when Alderman Harry F. Benson introduced a by-law providing that when licenses are granted in the future for many types of business, the licensee be asked to agree that no discrimination will be shown "to any race, color or creed" in supplying the services or goods covered by the business license. Hamilton has such a by-law. Toronto provides for similar requirements through a police commission regulation.

Businesses mentioned in the proposed by-law include beauty parlors, garages, hotels, restaurants, dry cleaning and pressing establishments, laundries and other purveyors of goods and services.

The by-law will come before the City Council again after it has been checked by the city solicitor for drafting.

—Canadian Labor Reports

Finally counsel turned to the policeman and said: "But if a man is on his hands and knees in the middle of the road, surely that is no proof that he is drunk?"

"Probably not, sir," replied the policeman. "But this one was trying to roll up the white line!"

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News of the Month

UNITED BROTHERHOOD OF CARPENTERS AND JOINERS OF AMERICA

By GEO. R. BENGOUGH

FURNITURE AND MILLWORKERS No. 2534

New Westminster Furniture and Millworkers, Local 2534, are seeking wage increases with four firms.

Negotiations for better agreements are taking place with a view of an increase of 10 cents to 15 cents per hour, paid statutory holidays, rest periods to be fully paid.

Two firms, Dodd & Steele and Westmin Woodcraft, have the Union Security clause in the expiring contract and Local 2534 is seeking the Union Security clause with Shaw Bros. and Tru-Fit Millwork.

Regular meetings and special meetings are being very well attended and the membership drive at Shaw Bros. and Tru-Fit Millwork is meeting with great success.

The meeting of Friday, December 9th, saw President Wally Fedak back in the chair, after a short stay in the hospital for an operation on an injury suffered a few years ago. Bro. Fedak had lost none of his zip during his bout with the doctor and the meeting was handled in good style.

The boys at New Westminster are planning a "get-together" for early in the year and from what we hear they will be making a good job of the occasion.

Latest report on the wage negotiations is that discussions are still being carried on at Shaw Bros. and Tru-Fit Millwork and a conciliation officer has been applied for to assist No. 2534 with Dodd & Steele and West-Min Woodcraft.

CHILLIWACK CARPENTERS No. 1843

The boys at Chilliwack keep moving right in. Their latest victory is a signed agreement with the firm carrying out the housing project at Vedder Crossing. The firm is known as Wm. Orr and the Vancouver Associated Contractors and some sixty carpenters are employed. Business Agent James Elliott is particularly busy these days keeping the jobs organized and lining up other contractors for possible signing up. We expect to learn of further progress being made at Chilliwack very soon.

MISSION CITY CARPENTERS No. 2213

A called meeting was held last Thursday December 8th and a good turnout of members was on hand despite the tough weather.

The brothers at Mission City voted to increase their initiation fee to $20 in order to keep somewhat in line with the initiation fee established by No. 1251, New Westminster.

The question of raising the dues was handled in the following way. The Executive is empowered to raise the dues if the funds of the local get down too low. Quite a few members have had a lay-off owing to weather and some of the jobs being completed. Business Agent Bill Deckard keeps the members posted on the conditions of the trade and has been in touch with the Vancouver contractors who will be starting work at Mission City very shortly. The apprenticeship and night classes on carpentry are making good progress and are well attended. This fine, progressive work on the part of Local 2213, Mission City, has the full approval of the Apprenticeship Board of British Columbia and is a good example of what can be done in any community.

GEORGE BENGOUGH
Special Representative, United Brotherhood of Carpenters.

FURNITURE AND FIXTURE WORKERS No. 2533

Negotiations are still proceeding with the six Vancouver furniture firms. Mr. J. Muirhead of the Labour Relations Board was apointed Conciliation Officer to assist in arriving at a settlement. Local No. 2533 is asking for 10 cents an hour increase in the wages, union security clause, paid rest periods and the nine statutory holidays to be paid.

No progress has been made with the fixture shops to date. Further meetings will be held and the results dealt with at the next meeting.

Brother Herman Haw has been elected president to succeed Brother Frank Logan. Brother Logan was unable to attend the regular meetings owing to his attendance at the Vancouver Night Schools.

President Harmen Haw brings considerable experience with him to the job of chairmanship at the meetings, having been Vice-President for the past two years and active in other organizations in the past.

RESILIENT FLOORLAYERS SECTION No. 1541

Last meeting the membership approved the signing of agreements with J. W. Hussey and Hippo Floor Finishers.

The way was also paved for the signing of agreement with Burritts. This was all good news and indicates that the local is continuing to make progress. The agreement with J. W. Hussey is of particular interest for this firm carries out the contract work of T. Eaton Company in the lino and asphalt tile field.

After the regular business was transacted President Harry Neville adjourned the meeting and the rest of the evening was spent sociably.

Notes from Vancouver Island Carpenters Unions

It has often been said that the city of Duncan could not be organized. This does not hold true for the Carpenters. After continuous attempts for three years, Local Union 1812 of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters have this town almost completely organized.

The Duncan carpenters with over 125 members in their ranks have established union wages and working conditions on a par with the standard of the rest of the province and are negotiating with the local Contractors Association for a working agreement.

The carpenters' success in Duncan was made possible by the continuous efforts of a few loyal members who never gave up the struggle. This steady effort combined with assistance from the International Union in a period of two years, has increased wages as much as 55 cents per hour.

They also have credit of establishing the first organized picket line in the history of the city of Duncan.

To celebrate their success in Duncan the carpenters held a smoker and dance which was attended by over 300 members and friends, and by all reports, it was a howling success.

The Victoria Shinglers' Local 786 recently chartered by the United Brotherhood of Carpenters, is continuing to make gains, with the larger firms signed up under agreement. Wages of $1.55 an hour and union shop are some of the improved conditions in this branch of the trade. Before the union was formed the prevailing rate was $1.00 to $1.15.

Local Union 2527, Victoria Floor Layers, have recently won a 10c an hour increase for floor sanders, and a 15c hourly increase for resilient floor layers employed by the T. Eaton Co.

Construction work in general continues to be good, especially on the southern end of the island, while there are a few unemployed in Nanaimo and Courtenay. This is thought to be mostly seasonal.

News that R. E. (Dick) Hill has been appointed by the Workmen's Compensation Board as an inspector for construction work on Vancouver Island was welcomed here by all Building Trades Unions. This appointment will no doubt fill the need of many years.

Brother Hill has been active in the labor movement on the Island for many years and for the past five years he has held the office of President of the Victoria Carpenters' Union. As a young man with a good knowledge of construction he should be of great assistance in keeping down construction accidents on Vancouver Island.

It is reported that the policy of the Victoria Building Contractors in 1950 will be like that of the past year. Rather than accept conditions that the building trades establish in the rest of the province, they will fight the construction unions to the last ditch. However, this attitude will have the effect of strengthening the allied building trades unions, rather than their desired purpose, which is to weaken them.

Sooner or later the Victoria contractors will realize through delays in their work and the high cost of legal fees in fighting organized labor, that their inaptitude towards the construction workers point of view does not pay off in the final analysis.

Let us look forward to 1950 as a year that will see further gains in labor's strength, but let us not forget that it is one thing to bring members into our ranks, but the real job is teaching them the fundamental principles of real trade unionism.

—VIC MIDGLEY.

VICTOR MIDGLEY
Special Representative on Vancouver Island for the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners.

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Laborer's Union Has Made Great Strides

International Hod Carriers, Building and Common Laborers are advancing in the whole of the Dominion of Canada to the extent that while in 1939 there were only three local unions in Canada, today we have 16. These unions have all established working agreements with various contractors' associations.

In the West we have advanced so much in British Columbia that we have seven paid members looking after the interests of the local unions. This was unforeseen in 1939. During the war years very little progress was made in organizing the laborers in outlying districts, but since the end of the war progress in organizing the laborers would surprise the ordinary union member.

You will all agree with the preamble of our International Constitution i.e., "We, the members of the International Hod Carriers, Building and Common Laborers' Union of America, in order to preserve the dignity of the laborer to promote and to protect his physical, economic and social welfare through safe working conditions, adequate, compensation and reasonable hours of work, and believing that this can be best achieved by united effort and concerted action, and by establishing through just and lawful means an harmonious relationship between employer and employee."

Don't forget that a union man is the man who is honest to everyone at all times. He gives his employer a full day's work for a full day's pay. In this code we build our union.

A union man must, at all times, work, sleep and eat union to live up to his reputation, and must at all times demand the Union Label where and whenever possible. This is the only way to guarantee a continuance of good work at union wages.

The laborers of British Columbia in 1939 were the lowest paid group in the Dominion of Canada. Today we are tops in the Dominion, and working conditions are much better and are improving at a rapid pace.

At the last regular meeting of the Victoria Local 1093, Brother Earl B. Allen was elected as a full-time business agent.

We are very fortunate to have an efficient secretary of Local 602 in action. He has shown more advancement in office than any one in that position in Western Canada. When I am in fields far away it helps a lot when there is a person like Len Millman to seek advice from.

In my closing remarks, I wish everyone in any union organization the best of health and happiness for the coming year.

Consultant and Conciliator.
W. JAMES,

Political Action

Washington—Labor's League for Political Education has already mailed more than 2,000,000 receipts to local unions for contributions of $2 or more from each American Federation of Labor member to help win a liberal Congress in 1950.

The receipts in booklets of 25 each are going out of league headquarters at the rate of 28 U.S. mail bags per day.

Quebec Farmers' Sad Plight!

The Calgary Herald, Nov. 15:

"Only 540 farmers in the province of Quebec paid income tax last year. Their combined income, according to the returns they filed with the Department of National Revenue, was $1,201,000, or about $2,000 apiece, on which they paid $79,000 tax . . .

"They have managed to invest more capital in farming than all the farmers of Alberta, and nearly twice as much as the farmers of Manitoba. But all their effort is fruitless, for by the evidence of the tax records they are getting no returns woth speaking of.

"We must do something. Let us have an immediate and exhaustive survey to see what is wrong with farming in Quebec. And let the survey be conducted by the efficient and knowledgeable gentlemen who staff the income tax divisions in Alberta. We are sure Alberta farmers will be content to let these officials go east for a period—providing they are replaced by their counterparts presently charged with collecting income tax in Quebec."

—o—

Signs of the times: The laws of supply and demand are being abused. Those who have the supply are doing the demanding.—Reno Gazette.

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BUILDING TRADES NOTES

By H. W. WATTS

Plans are now under way for discusion on the new agreements which are to go into effect April 1st, 1950. Affiliates of the Building Trades Council are setting up their negotiating committees and two delegates from each of these will hold its first meeting on Tuesday, December 27.

Reports will be received from the delegates as to the desires or expectations of each union in respect to the 1950 agreements, and after the overall plan has been approved, negotiations will commence with the contractors' associations.

Annual Holiday System

Another all-out effort is being made by the Building Trades Council to have the provincial government put the Book and Ctamp system for annual holiday pay into effect in B. C. This system now operates in Ontario, Alberta and Greater Winnipeg in Manitoba. A meeting has already been held with the Honorable Mr. Cates, the new Minister of Labor, and a favorable reception was given to the delegation.

Provincial Road Work

A meeting is to be held with the Minister of Public Works in Victoria, January 6th, in an effort to standardize the road work being carried on in the province under contracts from the government. Wage scales and working conditions are not satisfactory for some of our units, and fair contractors find that they have to meet a lot of unfair competition.

Terrazzo Mechanics Organize

Terrazzo Mechanics have now been organized and have affiliated with the Council. The helpers have become part of Tile Setters Helpers Union. Brother J. Chappell, 4849 East Hastings Street, is the secretary of the new union.

Kingsway Tile Unionized

The Kingsway Tile and Terrazzo Works has been signed up with the Tile Setters Union and the Terrazzo Mechanics Union.

Fraser View Housing

Another unit of 125 houses will soon be let by the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation for the Fraser View project. It is expected that this new unit will get going early in January. Good progress has been made on the houses already under construction and a number are now ready for occupancy. All the firms building these houses are union firms and the new group of houses are being tendered by eight union firms and two non-union, but these non-union firms can be lined up.

Seasonal Unemployment

Quite a number of our affiliates report seasonal unemployment among their members. The situation, however, is not by any means serious, and there is not any indication of it becoming serious. Some unions report all members working, with the exception of members getting a few days off between jobs. Projects under way or contemplated will take care of most of our members during the winter season, and the new year has every indication of being a very active one for the building ad construction trades in this district and throughout the province.

Gas Pipe Lines

Prospects of gas pipe line construction in British Columbia look good for some of our trades. Over in the United States billions are being spent on gas pipe lines. 20,000 miles of lines have already been built or are under construction, and applications for an additional 13,787 miles are being considered by the Federal Power Commission. These latter projects will cost about $900 million. Big money has been going into these projects, the Metropolitan Life, for instance, having already invested $345 million. Revenues from natural gas lines in the U.S. has increased from $471 million in 1940 to $995 million in 1948. It is expected that pipeline expansion in the U.S. will cost well over $2 billion, in the next three years,, and many American companies have their eyes on the Canadian field.

Progress in the United States

Over in the United States construction work has had its seasonal drop, but it has not dropped as much as this time last winter. Some places have quite a boom going on. New Orleans is in the midst of its biggest building spree. In the southwest states construction records broke all records in October and November. All kinds of big jobs are getting under way in other parts of the United States. In Ohio, Armco began the construction of a $12 million plant. Down in Alabama the Reynolds Metals Company are getting ready to add an $8 million expansion to its Muscle Shoals plant, and the government Atomic Energy Commission has budgeted for an $185 million three year expansion to the Oak Ridge plant. Housing projects, financed by state and federal governments, are increasing, and appear to be getting ready for new records for 1950. Business reports from the U.S. show an encouraging increase during October and November, in almost every trade, with the exception of coal. In fact, the upturn in every line of business has been so great that it looks as though the construction industry will be kept busy for a year or two yet. Slum clearance is to get under way in 1950. Funds have been allotted to 27 states by the federal government. The cities pay half the cost of its project. Chicago, for instance, plans 21,000 units.

Slum Housing Projects

The Fraser View housing project is being labelled as a slum project. Although these houses have been built by organized labor, we have no say in the plans or specifications or the project. All we do is carry out the work with the material supplied by the contractor or the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation. The project is in an ideal location and there will be a splendid view when the job has been completed. Just now there is a sea of mud and hills and holes all over the place. But this can not be avoided. Every project of this kind will get the same mud, hills and holes during the winter.

While the materials used on the project could have been greatly improved upon, the main purpose was to build a livable home at the least possible cost. Perhaps too much stress was laid on the cost, because after all if the houses are to be sold on a long term basis, a dollar or two a month more might have provided some better materials, both inside and outside the houses.

The suggestion, however, that this project will end in a slum district depends entirely upon the people who live in the houses and the district. If they fail to keep their houses in reasonable repair and renovation, it will look slummy, but that can be prevented by the formation of a district association, which could make it its business to give special attention to would-be slum conditions.

* * *

Wishing all our officers and members a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

Electrical Workers' Union in New Home

Electrical Workers Union No. 213 is now located in a new "Home" at the corner of Dunsmuir and Beatty Street, having purchased the Navy League property at 111 Dunsmuir. This property is 120 feet by 75 feet, and is being almost completely renovated.

All the outside has been stuccoed and new windows put in, which gives the building an outstanding appearance. The inside of the building has also undergone many changes, but the big auditorium remains for many events, such as meetings, boxing and wrestling matches and dancing.

There are a large number of offices and rooms in the building, as well as a large swimming pool, showers and lockers in the basement for gymnastic events.

There is also a restaurant on the corner of the building, which is being completely renovated.

The union will hold on "Open House" for its membership on Saturday, January 14th.

The Electrical Workers Union has sold its $18,000 interest in the Labor Headquarters property, and the offices which it occupied in the New Labor Temple have been taken over by the City Hall Employees Union and the Hospital Employees Union. Offices occupied by the last named group are now taken over by the Bakers Union.

SUCCESS STORY

A college boy, after a good many years in the business world, retired with a comfortable fortune of $60,000. He amassed this large sum through courage, enterprise, initiative, faithfulness, the careful investment of his savings, and the death of an uncle who left him $59,999.50.

Taxicab Drivers' 151 Elects Officers for 1950

Last meeting of Taxicab, Stage and Bus Drivers Local 151 of the Teamsters held annual election of officers for 1950. The following will be officers for the coming year: President, Bro. A. Blais; vice-president, D. Cunningham; secretary, C. A. Gower; recording secretary, I. L. Cawker; Trustees: J. L. Draper, J. Dougall and W. Summers.

We regret to report the loss of two respected members, Bro. Tom McDonald of Port Alberni, and Bro. Glen Cameron of New Westminster. Each will be sadly missed in his respective locality especiallyand by the membership of our local union as a whole.

Bro. Sparks, an old time trade unionist of New Westminster and in recent years a dispatcher with the Royal City Taxi, passed away this month and will be sadly missed by the boys of the New Westminster operations.

We express our sincere and deepest sympathy to relatives and friends of these brothers.

Bro. Charlie Storey recently underwent an operation. We note he is back in harness again. Guess you can't keep a good man down.

Looks as though we are once again at the season of festivities. Let's make it the safest in our history. Remember that old maxim: "If you drive, don't drink and if you drink, don't drive.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all.

Children's Jubilee Camp Elects Officers

The Children's Jubilee Summer Camp Assn. held their annual convention on Nov. 20th with sixty-three delegates present, forty-two unions and organizations represented.

Reports of various committees were given. Five hundred and ninety-eight children attended camp during the summer months. New additions to the camp have made it possible to house 83 children each week.

Two delegates from the Can. Nat. Inst. for the Blind were present and expressed their appreciation for the use of the camp for eight days after camp closing for members of their organization to have a holiday.

Election of officers for 1950 were as follows:

President, Mr. D. King; vice-president, Mrs. E. Fordham; secretary, Mrs. D. King; recording secretary, Mrs. M. Vanderdassen; treasurer, Mr. T. Price; auditors, Mr. J. Liddle and Mr. J. C. Bell; publicity, Mr. George Reynolds; camp manager, Mr. C. Solem; finance chairman, Mr. C. Gower; social chairman, Mrs. C. Solem; executive at large: Mrs. R. Lenfesty, Mrs. G. Cook and Mr. C. Smith.

Humanity First

HUMANITY FIRST

"Why does this magnificent applied science which saves work and makes life easier, brings us so little happiness? The simple answer is: Because we have not yet learned to make sensible use of it. It is not enough that you should understand about applied science in order that your work may increase man's blessings. Concern for the man himself and his fate must always form the chief interest of all technical endeavours. Never forget this in the midst of your diagrams and equations."

—Albert Einstein.

Retail Clerks Union Has Brighter Future

With a membership potential of a million, the Retail Clerks International Association has one of the brighter futures in American labor. The rival C.I.O. drive in the department store field has fizzled; its retail union is crumbling and many of its units have bolted to the A.F. of L. One shadow remains—some racketeering that still lurks in a small corner of the union. Suffridge, who became head of the union in March, 1947, is vigorously wiping out the last pocket in New York. Jim Suffridge, 40, went to work after high school in a grocery chain. In 1934, he became head of the Oakland, California, local of R.C.I.A. and in ten years had raised its membership from 115 to 3,000. Moving to national office in 1944, he more than doubled the national membership to its present total of 160,000. A well-built six-footer, he has a disarming mild manner that is often deceptive across the bargaining table.—Exchange.

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U.S. Building Trades To Assist Public Housing Plans

Washington — Richard J. Gray, president of the AFL Building and Construction Trades Department, called on all affiliated unions and councils to mobilize their full strength behind the federal public housing and slum clearance programs at local levels.

Gray pointed out that 42 states have enabling legislation where these programs can move ahead if pushed at the city and county level. He urged special work to get such legislation in Iowa, Kansas, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming.

"You can be sure," Gray said in a letter, "that the die-hard opponents of public housing will be organized to sabotage the program every step of the way. Labor must be alert at each stage to be sure that all of the necessary measures are taken to make possible the authorization and establishment of a public housing program.

Number One Goal

"Local building and construction trades councils are urged to make the public housing and slum clearance programs in their localities one of their first orders of business," he said.

Then, stressing the wide community interest of organized labor in housing, he concluded:

"Here is a fine opportunity for building tradesmen to help direct these programs in a way which will make them of maximum value not only to low-income families but to their communities as a whole. We all worked hard for this legislation. We must not let the program be weakened or misdirected by our failure to take an active part in it."

Gray's letter was a swift follow-up to an appeal sent by AFL President William Green to all central labor union bodies to create local housing committees to work for the housing program.

May Lose Out

Gray emphasized also that "unless steps are taken at the local level to have the necessary requirements met and have representation of labor on local housing authorities, our efforts in securing the legislation will fall far short of the objective we set out to obtain."

These local housing committees of the central and local labor unions have been asked to report when they are established and what progress they make. The reports are to be made to Green or Harry C. Bates, president of the Bricklayers, Masons and Plasterers Union and chairman of the AFL housing committee.

Gray pointed out that public housing has already been put off indefinitely in at least one large community "because the labor and liberal forces failed to carry a referendum."

"This must not happen in other communities," he said.

Painters Get Maintenance Raise

A contract providing for 10 cents an hour raises for maintenance painters working in the big downtown hotels has been completed between the S.F. Hotel Owners Association and the Painters District Council, Rolland Young, council secretary and business rep reports.

The new rates will bring the monthly wages of maintenance painters to $277.50 per month, in 38 down town hotels. Some of the establishments employ as many as six full-time painters.

Union Pensions and The Counterrevolution

To some employers, pensions for workers are a revolutionary step; for some left-wingers, pensions are the beginning of the counter-revolution. One by-product of the Ford contract is the fear of some union "militants" that the pension eligibility requirements will make the workers more fearful of strikes. To gain the full $100 a month, a worker must have 30 years of service with a minimum of 1,800 hours each year. No credit is given for any year in which an employee earns less than 750 hours. Labor Action, a Trotskyite paper, asks: "Will this plan tend to conservatize the union, since it puts pressures on the individual worker to keep working and heightens his fear of being fired? We think so . . . ."

Cotton Picketing

California may soon see "factory farm unionism," for last month the A.F. of L. National Farm Labor Union successfully ran a strike of more than 10,000 cotton pickers in the rich San Joaquin Valley and obtained a long-sought foothold in the valley.

The strike started spontaneously when the valley labor bureau cut the picking rate from $3 to $2.50 a 100 pounds. The new rate was set, apparently, because a recent agreement between the U.S. and Mexican governments allowed Mexican nationals to be "imported" to work on U.S. farms at a minimum of 50 cents an hour. The time rate works out to $2.50 a 100 pounds. The union charged that the farmers could easily afford the old rate since the government subsidy remained at the 1948 level. The settlement finally reached re-established the old rate.

Big CIO Unions Are Getting Into Difficulties

The C.I.O. today numbers 20 unions, and only six have more than 100,000 members (as against 21 A.F. of L. unions). Of these, steel has had a drawn-out costly strike; auto income is moderate and has to be husbanded for possible struggles against Chrysler and G.M.; textile has been losing membership in the North and finds its resources drained by the slow organizing progress in the South —the clothing workers' treasury is large but the union is bogged down in an unenthusiastic retail-store drive —the rubber workers have just passed through a bitter factional battle: the telephone workers themselves require extensive financial help to organize the giant A.T. & T.

Cycles Bring In Millions

Three-quarters of Britain's output of cycles is in the hands of two concerns—Tube Investments, Ltd., and Raleigh Industries, Ltd.

The industry's recent performance has been encouraging, it says. In the first half of 1949, more than £11,000,000 worth of bicycles and parts were exported.

But it adds that the industry's traditional enterprise and efficiency will be needed to the full to cope with increasing competition, notably from Germany and Japan.

Tyneside Cuts the U.S. by 50 Per Cent

Washington—Increased state subsidies for American shipbuilding yards, to offset lower costs abroad since devaluation of the pound, are being planned by President Truman.

Major-General Philip B. Fleming, chairman of the United States Maritime Commission, who has just returned from a tour of Europe, announced this after a call at the White House.

As an example of comparative was building two cargo ships for the Alcoa Steamship Company, of New York, for 4,000,000 dollars.

Lowest bid for their construction in the United States was about 8,000,000 dollars.

£5 Against £21

Average pay of a British shipyard worker was £5 for a 44-hour week, while the American worker averaged £21 to £23.

Mr. Truman has asked General Fleming to draft an amendment deleting from the Merchant Marine Act the present maximum subsidy of 50 cent on merchant vessels and leaving only a provision for financial equality.

But the National Federation of American Shipping fears that any resultant increase in the subsidy would give the government a controlling interest and might be trend towards nationalization.—Reuter.

Ottawa and Provinces Now Worrying About Bias Against Tourists

Ottawa (CLR).—Chief figures in federal and provincial tourist activities have been meeting in a closed session of the Dominion-Provincial Tourist Conference here. Devaluation and its probable tendency to reduce the flow of traffic to this country is one of the problems taking up their time.

But devaluation was not the most important item on the conference agenda. The big problem these tourist-getters must face is the growing tendency for tourist resorts to close their doors to certain racial and religious groups. While in some provinces such practices are illegal, many resorts could as well hang out the "Gentile Only" sign and be done with it. It is becoming a problem of considerable annoyance to the promoters of Canada's tourist trade, to say nothing of those who are the direct victims of this vicious practice.

—Canadian Labor Reports

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60-Year Growth City's TLC Finds Ideals Unchanged

Sixty years ago, the Vancouver Trades and Labor Council was formed by 14 working men. This month in Hotel Vancouver, representatives of 32,000 trade unioists affiliated with the council, marked the event at an anniversary banquet.

The story of the council's growth parallels the city's.

Schooners Sailed

When the men who started it—carpenters, plasterers, printers and painters—wrote the first constitution, four-masted schooners were anchored in Burrard Inlet.

The following item was penned in the minutes book of a February 14, 1890 meeting:

"Be it resolved that the Vancouver Trades and Labor Council see to it that the fittest and best men should be chosen as labor representatives, both at Ottawa and Victoria, so that such legislation as will mostly benefit the wage earners of the Dominion will accrue to them in this manner."

Shades of the "atomic" idea of political action!

Press Gangs

So that enough workingmen could be spared to get on with the vital job of building a city, this early council petitioned aldermen and Mayor David Oppenheimer to do something about the press gangs that nightly snatched befuddled potential members from Gastown's crude streets, and transferred them to the decks of waiting sailing ships.

The Federated Labor Congress was formed in New Westminster September 24, 1890, and grew into the present Vancouver, New Westminster and District Trades and Labor Council.

A month earlier, council secretary George Barkley was elected representative to the Trades and Labor Congress convention at Ottawa, and the yellowed minutes record how every council member had to dig down deep to send him there.

More Affluent

A few months ago, 350-mile-per-hour airliners carried 40 council delegates to their Calgary convention.

Today, more than 500 trade unionists gather twice monthly in their gleaming, air-conditioned Labor headquarters at Broadway and Alberta, to carry on the tradition inscribed in the minutes of the first meeting, 60 years ago:

"For the good of the country and the working classes."

Toronto Shows Way to Administrative Bigotry

Under a zoning by-law the City of Toronto refused to allow a church to be built in a residential area. The citizens in the neighborhood had asked that the church be not allowed to be built. The Witnesses of Jehovah were the congregation seeking the right to build. When the validity of the by-law was contested the courts upheld it.

In an editorial on October 29, the Globe and Mail said: "That such a use of the zoning law is legal, however, does not in any degree justify it on moral grounds or as a basis of public policy . . . if the principle of religious freedom is to be upheld in Canada, there can be no interference with their Jehovah's Witnesses) right to worship . . . There will now be nothing it (the City Council) can do to protect Jews, Catholics, Negroes, or quite conceivably, members of the United Church and evangelistic bodies . . . If the council is not prepared to repeal this unwise by-law, it might be advisable for the provincial government to clarify the zoning statute so as to ensure that it should not be used for illegitimate purposes."

Saturday Night in its November 1 issue wrote as follows: "There is a dangerous tendency in Canada for municipal authorities to take to themselves the power under the pretext of making building regulations, to say that religious bodies shall erect places of worship in certain localities and what shall not. That this is a most reprehensible practice no liberal-minded person is likely to deny, and if carried to an extreme, it could easily make a farce of our boasted religious liberty. Our own feeling is that a place of religious assembly is neither a factory nor a commercial establishment, but is a natural concomitant of any residential district. It should be capable of being built in any such district, and we see very little risk of such places of assembly being built in such numbers as to impose a severe financial burden on the municipality."

When civic by-laws are used to foment and encourage religious discrimination, it is time to review the whole fabric of the law governing the actions and authority of civic bodies. The function of government at any and all levels is certainly in one respect at least that of an umpire. When governments lend themselves to one side of a dispute they destroy faith in themselves and faith in the democratic process.

It is the business of civic government to provide that the entire population within the municipality may live in harmony. Interfering with religious freedom is not one of the functions of municipal government regardless of under what guise such foolhardiness is practiced.

—Canadian Labor Reports

Publishers Hold Up University Students

The way Canadian university students are being victimized through high prices charged by publishers and their agents for textbooks was described in detal at the conference of the National Federation of Canadian University Students in Ottawa.

Fifty-seven delegates from 24 universities, representing 87,000 Canadian university students, listened to charges that excess profits were being made on the textbooks required by students.

The president of the N.F.C.U.S., Gordon Gwynne-Timothy of the University of Toronto, said that the facts had been brought to light in the report of a special committee appointed by the N.F.C.U.S. to investigate the problem.

Examples were cited. A recent book on hospital building, which sold for $7.50 in the United States, sold for $13.25 in Canada. Another on European history retailed at $5.50 in the U.S. and $8.50 in Canada. A text on engineering production cost $7.50 in the U.S. and $9.50 in Canada.

Executive ability is the art of getting credit for the hard work someone else does.

Ottawa "Let It Go" Although Intolerant

Racial discrimination is glaringly revealed in a publicly-owned resort in one of Canada's National Parks. Folders distributed across Canada inviting visitors to "Dalway House" in Prince Edward Island National Park extend a very warm welcome in glowing words. That is, the words are full of welcome until one reads down to the special type line where one finds the following "Restricted Clientele".

The folder plainly states that "Dalvay House" is owned by the National Parks of Canada. It is operated by a private firm, but the federal government owns the property. When the folder was brought to the attention of the government, an official said he didn't know what the words, "Restricted Clientele" meant. He thought perhaps it referred to the small capacity of "Dalvay House". To most people those words are obvious jargon used in some quarters for what in plainer English would be: "No Jews Negroes, Foreigners allowed".

The government official finally admitted that since the folders had been widely distributed when they had come to the attention of the department, the decision had been to "let it go", but later, it is understood the operator of "Dalvay House" was requested to destroy the balanace of the folders.

—Canadian Labor Reports

Poisoning People With Bromides?

'Poisoning People with Bromides Pays Big Profits' headlined an article appearing in the October 1st issue of 'Labor', an American publication.

Doctors have recently testified before the U.S. Federal Trade Commission that of every 100 new patients admitted to mental hospitals, 16 were suffering from 'bromide insanity'.

Increasing doses of bromides, so-called headache cures, it was stated, set the unfortunate person on the path to becoming a bromide addict. "The bromide accumulates in the body until it causes bromide poisoning which often leads to insanity."

F.T.C. records show that Bromo-Seltzer and other patent medicines containing bromides are responsible for many murders, violent crimes and have sent thousands to the insane asylum. And yet, the law is powerless to prevent the sale of these menaces to health.

For more than 16 years the F.T.C. has been waging a battle on these purveyors of death-in-life, and the Emerson Drug Company, maker of Bromo-Seltzer, has employed every legal delaying tactic in its fight against the F.T.C., which is said to have cost one million dollars. It is contended that advertising and labels of these products should carry a warning of the dangers of continued use. At present Bromo-Seltzer bottles state that "serious effects" may result, but doctors do not consider this sufficient. Bromo-Seltzer is too often sold over the counter at soda fountains where the public has no opportunity to examine the label. At any rate, the bromide content of its product has still not been reduced.

On the other hand, the powerful "Patent Medicine Lobby" has authored a bill now before Congress which would make the F.T.C. practically powerless to do anything about such drugs on the market.

It is to be noted that in Canada, the bromide content of Bromo-Seltzer is the same as in the United States.

The Cohens At It Again!

Yarmouth, N.S. (CLR). — British United Press reports that Jake D. Cohen, builder of a low-rental scheme here, said his rents would not be affected by the hike in rentals announced in Ottawa on November 3. A respected businessmen, Cohen is operator of a chain of credit stores. He achieved fame some time ago when he built and sold six-roomed houses for $5,000 while other builders were selling for $7,500.

—Canadian Labor Reports

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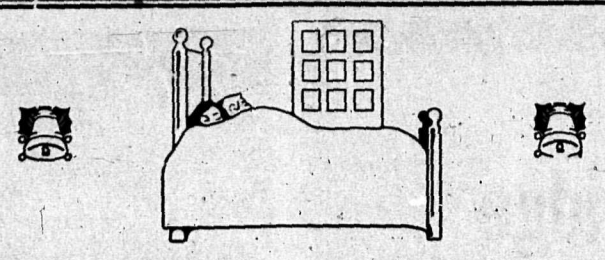

Tired of Mere Words and Declarations

"The world is tired of mere words and of solemn declarations which are no sooner passed than they are by-passed." In these words, Michael Rubinstein, national chairman of the Jewish labor committee, urged upon the workers of Canada even greater efforts in the direction of better human relations, anti-discrimination, and wider, more effective "aid and succour to all the victims of bigotry, race hatred and oppression of whatever nationality, race or creed".

All organized labor in Canada can take heed of Mr. Rubinstein's words. "Just as labor has long ago emerged as a leading organizational force in this country, participating in the multifarious activities which go to make up our national life, so is the Jewish labor committee an organization of Canadians of Jewish origin whose principle aim is to promote greater racial tolerance, better relations between one Canadian and another of whatever ethnic, religious or racial group he may be derived from." Today, we are witnessing and, perhaps, more accurately, are parties to the development of Canada into one of the leading nations of the world. Her voice is listened to wherever it is raised. What we say, and what we stand for, will influence the thought and action of the whole world for this and ensuing generations.

In this new and influential role, "the leadership which we must provide" to lead the nations into new avenues of peace and liberty will have to weigh with great skill the ponderables and the imponderables of human conduct and desire. Those leaders will also have to measure with sincerity just what contribution we as Canadians can make. "Living in human brotherhood," says Rubinstein, is the best example we can set and, thereby, the greatest contribution we can make.

This is by no means an easy task. These same ideas were very much abroad in the years immediately following World War I. On concepts of justice, individual human liberty, and national equality, the League of Nations was established in those years. But World War II came along with all its brutality nevertheless. Disaster and oppression grew in enormity and intensity in the very years that the League of Nations was expected to provide the leadership that would take this world and its peoples out of such troubles.

But all of the League of Nations was not swept away. Let us, and particularly those of us in the labor movement, never forget that what did remain of the old league was the International Labor Organization. The I.L.O. lived through the years of war and oppression to become one of the great parts of the new world organization.

Today the United Nations is struggling to lead the peoples of the world away from war and acts of oppression. Though only four years old, it has made progress. It has, of course, failed in many ways and on several occasions to live up to the expectations of many people who want it to succeed. It is, perhaps, a little like Paddy's pig. Said Paddy, "He never did as well as I expected; but then I really never expected that he would." We cannot be wrong in expecting too much from the United Nations provided we are prepared to appreciate what it actually accomplishes.

Whatever may or may not have been accomplished by the United Nations in the field of world politics, it is certain that in one field great strides have been taken. The declaration of human rights is a fact. And it is the achievement of the UN.

If every unionist in Canada has not read the Declaration of Human Rights, there can be no doubt that he should at the very earliest opportunity. In it he will find in Articles 1, 3, 7, 9 and 18 a restatement of the concepts of individual liberty as they have developed from the Magna Charta, the principles of the French Revolution, and the American Constitution. But the UN Declaration goes further than that.

It is in this extension of the rights of man that the work of the I.L.O. is readily apparent. It is in this extension that every unionist has a particular concern.

In articles 23, 24 and 25, unionists will find the same advances, which they seek daily, set forth as human rights.

Article 23 states: "Everyone has the right to work, to free choice of employment, to just and favorable conditions of work and to protection against unemployment". Canada's representatives voted for that right of every Canadian along with every other person in the world. Unionists from coast to coast now have the responsibility and the opportunity for urging upon our own government the enactment of that right into the law of Canada. The right has been written into words and declared. Now make it law.

Article 23 also states: "Everyone, without any discrimination, has the right to equal pay for equal work . . ." Though labor has asked for this very reasonable development, it is still not law in this country.

Article 24 states: "Everyone has the right to rest and leisure, including reasonable limitation of working hours and periodic holidays with pay." Progress has been made along this line, but "periodic holidays with pay" have not yet been accepted as the right of everyone in this country.

Article 25 states: "Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services, and the right to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age or other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond his control . . ." While there have been hesitating steps taken in the direction of unemployment insurance, old age pensions and mother's allowances, the day appears rather far off when the right expressed in this article will be translated into law in Canada.

Yet what seemed impossible with the disappearance of the League of Nations and onslaught of intense oppression and war, became possible with the cessation of hostilities and the establishment of the United Nations. We can be of good heart. What remained after the old league folded up was a powerful force in the world, the I.L.O. It remained because it had a practical job to do whether there were wars and rumors of wars or not. And this enduring organization of free men was able to make its influence felt in the framing of the Declaration of Human Rights.

Within the nation the same force is present, and no less strong and influential. Labor was able to determine the content of the Declaration of Human Rights and thus hold up to the peoples of the world the standard of human relations that free men believe all, regardless of origin, race, color or creed, should enjoy. By the same means, Labor in Canada can bring the necessary pressure upon our own governments for the enactment of these declared rights into law.

Labor has passed resolutions calling for the enactment of Fair employment practices laws and a Bill of Rights. Its committees against discrimination are doing excellent work. What remains is to coalesce all Canadians into the campaign for "making the Declaration of Human Rights part of our Constitution; part of the rights to be enjoyed by every Canadian," regardless of race, color or creed. "What greater example can Canada give of its dedication to human liberty, racial harmony and the welfare of its citizens" than this? Here is another opportunity for Labor to translate, as it so often has, "mere words and solemn declarations" into practical actions and laws. While Napoleon said, "I make circumstances," Labor actually has, does, and can do so now more effectively than ever before. And so long as those circumstances are for the good of all, the whole process should be stepped up both in scope and intensity.

Mandate Vital, Tobin Declares

A mandate from the voters so sweeping that "it can't be misunderstood" will be necessary in 1950 to wipe the Taft-Hartley act off the books and to enact new progressive legislation, Secretary of Labor Maurice J. Tobin declared this week.

Because the vote in 1948 wasn't great enough to break the Taft-Byrd coalition of reactionaries, the "T-H" Act is "still a blot on the American escutcheon," Tobin said.

"It still hampers free self-organization, prevents genuine collective bargaining, and places the wage earner at a disadvantage in preserving his rights and promoting his legitimate aspirations," the cabinet official pointed out.

"We have to make sure that the representatives and senators elected next year receive a mandate for Taft-Hartley repeal which they will have to make good in Washington . . . . That means organized labor will have to be more active than ever on the political front."

Only one out—Prospective roomer: "This window is quite small. It wouldn't be much good in an emergency."

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"Why not?"

Girl friend: "The motor cop behind us won't like it."

The old tramp knocked at the door and asked for a hand-out.

"Did you see that pile of wood?" asked the farmwife.

"Yeah, I seen it."

"Such grammar. You should say 'I saw it'."

"Lady," grinned the tramp, "you saw me see it, but you ain't seen me saw it."

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Secretary Gervin Re-elected Alderman

Secretary R. K. Gervin has been re-elected for the third time to a two year term on the Vancouver City Council. He was returned as a candidate on the Non-Partisan slate, and was swept into office along with all their other candidates.

Secretary Gervin has served the trade union interests satisfactorily and also the city in general, during his term of office and congratulations are extended to him for his success in being re-elected.

Toronto Council Bars Communists

Toronto.—The Toronto District Labor Council of the Canadian Trades and Labor Congress voted to require all delegates to take an oath that they are not members of nor identified with the Communist party.

Henry Simon, AFL organizer, said that the decision is "in conformity with the resolution adopted at the recent convention of the Trades and Labor Congress."

"The Winnipeg Trades and Labor Council has made a similar decision and it is expected that very soon all trades councils in Canada will bar communists from sitting in as delegates," Mr. Simon said.

The constitutional amendment directed at communists within labor's ranks was carried 71 to 33—3 votes more than the two-thirds majority required to change the constitution.

Sam LePedes of the United Garment Workers shouted hysterically and vainly that there had not been 71 votes registered in favor of the amendment.

Over the clamor and shouts of "railroading"! Treasurer William Scott turned to President William Jenoves and cried! "I think this is a fine example of communism."

At present delegates are required to take an obligation that they are not members of nor identified with the Fascist party. As soon as the amended constitution is adopted in entirety, possibly on Dec. 1, the delegates will be compelled to take the oath, disclaiming identity with either fascism or communism.

The non-Communist clause was deleted from the obligation in October, 1945, during the war-year period of pro-Russian sentiment.

Introduction of the clause raises speculation on the stand of those delegates generally identified with the Communist cause will take when they are required to swear the new obligation.

However, when it was first written into the constitution prior to 1940, none of the party liners flinched at taking the obligation.

Opponents of the amendment described the executive recommendation as a move to divide the ranks of labor and as harmful to the cause of the working class.

Discrimination Is Still Disseminated

Edmonton (CLR).—The November issue of "Social Credit", organ of the Douglas group of Social Crediters, carries an article on the front page entitled "A Trap for Fools" attacking the stand taken by the convention of The Trades and Labor Congress of Canada meeting in Calgary in September for Fair Employment Practices Legislation.

In part, the article says: "For example, if you wanted to employ a housekeeper, you dare not specify to F.E.P.C. that you desire a white woman, or a Christian, or an English or French-speaking woman—why that would be committing a crime. That would be racial or religious "discrimination". You would just have to close your eyes and wait to see what F.E.P.C. sent you—black, white, yellow. Buddist, Christian, Yiddish, English or what not—and then accept without complaint. After all you're just the employer, the guy who pays the bills. Now apply this to every phase of our society and figure out the implications for yourself. The Trades and Labor Congress bemoans the lack of Jews employed by Christians in positions of trust. But in such enterprises as the black market, gambling, narcotics, and "international" finance, the same charge of "discrimination" could be made by Christians for these "enterprises" are monopolized by the Jews."

The viciousness of the approach in this article is only matched with the fantastic misconstrual of the contents and provisions of all existing Fair Employment Practices Laws.

However, there are other articles in the issue that are quite as fantastic. One purports to "reveal" that Cardinal Mindzenty was liquidated in Rumania because he dared "to identify the Zionist Power behind Communism".

—Canadian Labor Reports

Nature gives everybody five senses —touch, taste, sight, small and hearing. Everybody needs two more — horse and common.

Health Is 'Good for Morale'

If adequate and readily available medical care is good for the "morale" of the armed forces, why wouldn't President Truman's health insurance plan be a good thing for the rest of us? That seems a reasonable question, in view of this week's developments.

First, Budget Director Frank Pace wrote Defense Secretary Louis Jornson, suggesting a new idea for reducing military costs.

The families of officers and enlisted men, Pace pointed out, get medical and dental services absolutely free, and complete hospital care at rates much lower than those paid by civilians.

As Congress recently raised military pay $300 million a year, Pace asked, can't servicemen's families afford to pay something now for medical and dental treatment, and a little more for hospital care?

Protesting this proposal, Major General Raymond Bliss, the army's chief doctor, said it would "lower morale in the armed forces."

Well, how does a civilian feel when his wife or child is sick, and he can't pay for the needed medical or hospital care?—Labor.

Employee Should Be Given 'Sense of Belonging'

Canadian workers generally are fully alive to the importance, in the national interest, of turning out a good product and, by increasing individual productivity, making goods available at lower prices, according to M. M. Maclean, Chief of the Industrial Relations Branch of the Dominion Department of Labor.

Mr. Maclean makes this point in a review of the present labor situation in a radio broadcast heard throughout Canada.

Mr. Maclean maintains that it is "an almost universally expressed conviction that workers are definitely interested in their jobs and fully alive to the importance of their role in the production process." He states, "The output of workers (during recent months) is of a better quality and there are fewer 'rejects' per man. The big reduction which has taken place in labor turnover means that workers are not so readily changing jobs. Lateness and absenteeism have been substantially reduced."

He reports that some companies have embarked on definite programs to enlist the aid of their workers in getting better and lower-priced products. One large electrical manufacturer has arranged personal conferences with each and every employee with the result that the men do not think of themselves only as "mechanical cogs in a big operation."

Mr. Maclean says this is getting at a basic problem of modern industry —the dispiriting influence of mas production labor. "If the worker can be given a sense of belonging, a sense of having real value apart from that represented by his weekly pay cheque, benefits will accrue, not only to him and to his employer, but to the nation as a whole."

"Employers should also be quick to reward in a material manner, better performance, increased efficiency and increased production. That growing numbers in both management and labor seem to appreciate the responsibilities in these matters augurs well for Canada's future.

"There have been differences between labor and management, as was to be expected during our increasing industrial development, but with maturity has come a more friendly and co-operative attitude around the conference table. There is also a greater responsibility resting upon organized labor and management today than ever before for the welfare of industry and the workers engaged in it."

The Pitcairn Bible

William McDowell, a writer and marine painter who has given many broadcasts, told listeners to the BBC's Pacific program something of the Pitcairn Bable, owned by the survivors of the famous mutiny on the Bounty. It is highly probable that the Bible was issued to the Bounty as a naval store before she sailed, in which case it is the very Bible with which Bligh held divine service at sea, while Fletcher Christian, the mutineers' ring leader, stood by. It was Christian and twenty-five men who at musket point dragged Bligh from his bed and set him and eighteen others adrift in an open boat. The mutineers reached Tahiti, quarrelled and split up. Sixteen stayed in Tahiti and Christian and the other eight, together with twelve Tahitian women, six men and a child, sailed away to find a new home out of reach of the British Navy.

They found Pitcairn Island, first discovered some twenty years before, and as it was uninhabited and fertile decided to stay. They took everything movable from the Bounty and the nine men divided the island into equal parts. They treated their native companions as slaves, which Christian did nothing to prevent, and after three years the Tahitians murdered him. The mutineers fought among themselves and with the natives until, within a year, only four white men, Young, McCoy, Quintal and Adams, remained alive. The men co-operated at last in a period of comparative calm until McCoy succeeded in distilling a potent spirit from roots. After this he and Quintal were almost always drunk until McCoy, in a delirious frenzy, threw himself over a cliff. Quintal became so violent that Young and Adams killed him in self defence. There were now nine women and twenty children, and Young, disgusted by years of strife, repented, drew the Bible from its hiding place, and turned to it for consolation. He started a school and, using the Bible as a spelling book, taught both women and children the rudiments of reading and writing. Then he died, leaving Adams as sole survivor. Adams became deeply religious, and modelled his life and teaching of the children on the Bible and Prayer Book. He became the patriarch of the small community, made a simple code of laws, and married and buried his flock, and when the first ship called at Pitcairn, visitors found there a highly moral little community.

In 1814, two British warships found Pitcairn and realized that they had stumbled on the descendants of the Bounty mutineers. In 1823, two strangers landed from a whaler and decided to stay an done, who was quite well educated, took over the school from Adams, who died in 1829. When his restraining influence was removed the islanders developed bad habits and began to drink again. Their fortunes fluctuated; twice they went to Tahiti but each time they drifted back. Ships began to visit Pitcairn with tolerable frequency and in 1839 the American whaler Cyrus called. Her carpenter, Lovi Hayden, came ashore for a few days and became friendly with the colony and when he left John Adams' grandson gave him the Bible. Hayden recorded the gift inside the cover and the faded inscription is still clear. The Bible eventually passed from his family into the care of the Connecticut Historical Society. Then last year a New Zealand schoolmaster, now teaching in Pitcairn and trying to collect relics of the founders of the community, approached the Society who handed the Bible to the British ambassador and asked him to return it to its home. For one hundred and ten years the Bible has been away from Pitcairn but now it is back there as a perpetual reminder of their forefathers to the present population of one hundred and fifty-two people.

A Beacon Light

(Lines in memory of Eugene Victor Debs written for New York Debs Day Dinner, October 28, 1949.)

Debs' spirit shines, a beacon light,
Set on a hill above a plain where terror rides the
winds of night
Over the slayers and the slain.

That light leads on to brotherhood.
To ending of this senseless strife.
To equal sharing of the good that all may have
[illegible] life.

Now unto us the torch is passed
And we'll arise and hold it high
Till the night winds have done at last
And a red dawn comes up the sky.

So in these troubled times we pause
In memory of our pioneer, to pledge devotion to
our cause,
To keep 'Gene's spirit shining here.

McAlister Coleman

Lawyers Win Jurisdictional Dispute

We enjoy poking fun at the "Lawyers' Union," not because we don't like lawyers, but because most of them are very criticial of labor unions. So here we go again:

"Lawyers versus accountants" is the headline on a business magazine article. It tells how Bernard Bercu, a New York City "certified public accountant," charged a corporation $50 an hour for his services as a "tax consultant."

For years after the income and corporation tax law went into effect, American citizens who felt they needed advice could consult almost anyone.

But when accountants like Bercu began to get $50 an hour and more for tax advice, lawyers all over the country "took another think." As a "test case," the New York County Bar Association prosecuted Bercu for "practicing law without a license."

The New York State Society of Certified Public Accountants, a branch of the "Accountants' Union," rushed to Bercu's defense. Big money was at stake, and the battle was on between these two "unions" of college-trained "professional men."

Now the lawyers are glad, and the acountants sad, because a court judge, who is a member of the "Lawyers' Union," rendered a decision practically putting the accountants out of the "tax consultant" business in New York State. Similar battles are expected in other states.—Labor.

Now is the time of year when rich men reduce their income taxes by "establishing losses" on stocks, a New York "Times" financial writer points out. As the end of each year approaches, the wealthy start selling stocks which have gone down in price, thus reducing their tax. Early in the next year, they can buy the same stocks if they wish. The only loser is poor old Uncle Sam whose tax laws are full of "jokers."

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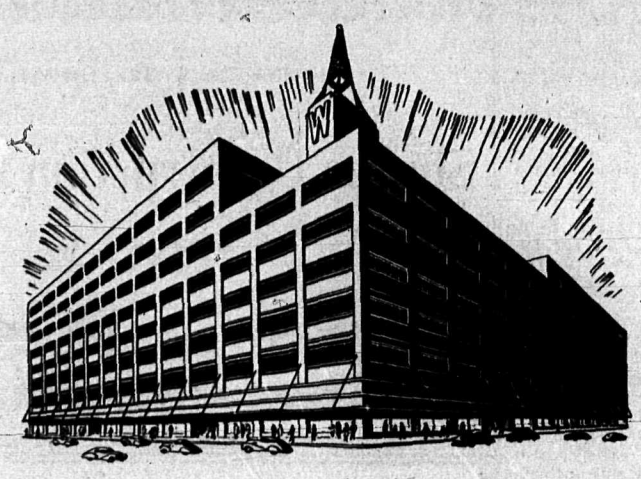

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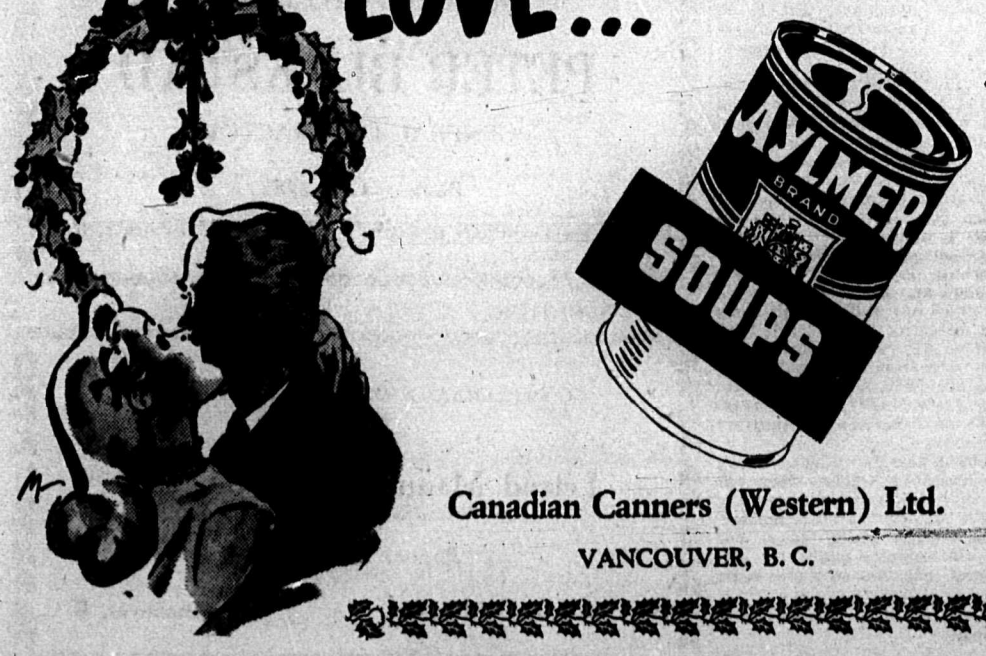

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Don't you realize it's unpatriotic to ask for a raise? You wanna deprive your government of some of my income tax?"

Right of Self-Restraint

By RUTH TAYLOR

There is one civil right which, though it is not mentioned in the Bill of Rights, should nevertheless be numbered among them. It is the right of self-restraint without which the other rights would be valueless.

Have you ever stopped to consider what is implied in our constitution? It is simply this—the citizens who enjoy its benefits are men and women worthy of its privileges, capable of enjoying its rights because they are mature in thought and trained in the spirit of freedom to show self-restraint.

Democracies flourish only when its adherents practise this right and rite of self-restraint, when they so conduct their lives that they do not infringe upon the rights of others. In the past when democracies have gone down, they fell because individuals and groups ignored this basic civil right. When they clamored for privileges for themselves, when they ignored the responsibilities of citizenship they lost their freedom.

Democracy is the most difficult form of government because it is a society of free men, because it does not regiment the minds of its citizens nor legislate their every act. Its laws are the outgrowth of the wishes of the majority for the protection not of themselves alone but of all men.

There is no room for free riders in a democracy. Each citizens has a part to play. The rules under which he lives are of his making. He is not restrained by a master, but restrains himself. And a man who cheats his own laws or seeks to find a way around them—well, he is the kind who would cheat at solitaire. He is hurting himself first of all.

Self-restraint is a sign of maturity. It is one of the insignia of the responsible man, the man who is first of all accountable to his own conscience and to his own ideals of what is right and wrong. It is the direct antithesis of self-indulgence or selfishness—that fault which is the root of so many vices, the key to Pandora's box of troubles.

—Canadian Labor Reports

Too Loud To Hear

By RUTH TAYLOR

Don't you get annoyed with people who think that if they turn a radio up to the greatest volume, they will get clarity? I always want to call out "Turn it down! It's too loud to hear."

Haven't you known people who do just the same thing? The weaker their argument, the less they have to say, the louder they talk. They tune up rather than tune in. Instead of trying to get on the beam, they use pressure methods.

Yes, I know—I keep harping on this subject of speech—its content, its format, and so forth. BUT—can you tell me of any group to whom speech—or the clear presentation of facts—is more important than to the labor movement as a whole? You have to convince your fellow workers, your employers and the public of the justice of your case. You need good clear speech to put across your organization—so, by your leave, I shall keep right on harping on the subject.

In this connection, I am going to quote a labor man—Eric Peterson of the International Association of Machinists. It was at a meeting of the Speech Association of America in a program on "Speech in Conciliation" that he made what I—and the audience—thought a classic statement. Let me quote:

"The need for better lines of communication between labor and management, and between the conciliator and disputing parties, is a distinct challenge. For basically, the failure of these two groups to iron out their disputes without ill-will or violence is part and parcel of the broader problem of discord which plagues the world today in its quest for peace.

"Perhaps the starting point for the teachers is to pay a little less attention to Demosthenes, the ancient Greek, who became a great orator by practicing shouting until he could be heard above the roaring of the waves and a little more to developing men whose voices may not be so loud, but whose skillful persuasion can be heard above the misunderstanding in men's hearts."

Mr. Peterson's last clause sums up the great communication problem not only of today but of all time. What is wanted is not loud talk—but talk that will be so bolstered by common understanding of common needs, that it will touch the hearts of men, destroying by its verity the misunderstandings that keep men apart.

There is a lesson in this for every labor leader—and for every one of us. as well. Restrain the tone of your voice, so that the tone of your heart may come through.

It's funny how a tree will stand in one place for years and then suddenly jump in front of a lady driver.

You're an optimist if you don't care what happens so long as it happens to somebody else.

Notable Quotes

Mayor de Lesseps Morrison of New Orleans—"I have no qualms about the future, as long as we have a strong labor movement. That is the guarantee of our future prosperity."

Cyrus S. Eaton, Cleveland financier—"To avoid extinction, if for no loftier motive, we who are capitalists will have to make immediate changes in our attitude toward labor and our methods of dealing with labor.

"We will have to begin by muzzling such organizations as the National Association of Manufacturers. Our next step ought to be full and ungrudging recognition of labor as human beings and as our partners who do the work."

William Green—"The poorest worker can march to the ballot box beside the wealthiest banker. His vote counts just as much and there are more workers than there are bankers. We've got the votes. It is up to us to se that these votes get in the ballot boxes."

William P. Kennedy, president, Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen—"The public press is unable to find space to give labor unions fair and equal consideration. The newspaper editors or the owners, or both, are purblind when it comes to reporting both sides equally."

Professor John Gillin, University of North Carolina—"What is wronk with the word 'welfare'? The Standard Dictionary of the English language defines 'welfare' as 'prosperity', and as 'exemption from pain or discomfort'.

"Are Mr. Hoover and the others trying to tell us that they are against prosperity? Perhaps they are plugging for 'pain and discomfort' If that is the case, why don't they come out and say so in plain words."

Ellis Arnall, former governor of Georgia—"The people want a program of education that will be both realistic and democratic. They want good schools and feel that Federal assistance through an equilization fund to economically distressed areas of the nation are essential. The people are concerned that our nation spends only 1½ per cent of our national income on education of our youth."

Nails 'Doctors' Trust' Falsehood

To discredit President Truman's "health insurance" program, "Doctors' Trust" propagandists say it is like the British system, and that the latter is "compulsory" on both doctors and patients.

"That is wholly incorrect," replies Arthur M. Skeffington, a Labor member of the British Parliament, who is visiting the United States.

"No British doctor is forced to oin the program. No patient is forced to take advantage of the service. Under the British plan, you choose your own doctor just as anywhere else," Skeffington declared.

"What the plan does mean is that ability to pay no longer puts you at the head of the line for medical treatment. The oldest and poorest old-age pensioner in my district can have the finest treatment in the land if she requires it."

It would be difficult to improve on that statement. It is just as true of the Truman plan as it is of the British Labor medical system.

30-Hour Week Goal Seen Reality by 1980

Washington.—The AFL objective of a 30-hour week was given a surprise endorsement by Sumner H. Slichter, big business economist on the Harvard University faculty.

Dr. Slichter cautiously forecast that the American economy would be operating on a 30-hour week by 1980. Most AFL leaders believe it will come much more quickly than that.

Writing in the current issue o"The Atlantic Monthly," Dr. Slichter forecast these things by 1980:

A total population of 175,000,000, a work force of 72,500,000, number of hours worked by each person per year one-fourth less than at present, a national output of goods and services ($246,700,000,000 in 1948) of $416,000,000,000 and more likely in excess of $550,000,000,000.

Consumption up 50 to 100 per cent per capita, a country of 2-car families, almost every home with a swimming pool, wider use of medical services of all kinds, growth of travel and the number of people completing high school and college, and a certainty that with the greater leisure for the people the arts will flourish in the United States as never before in the history of the world.

Unionists in Germany Lead Fight for Democracy

14 Labor Leaders, Ending Tour of U.S., Tell of Efforts to Stamp Out Totalitarianism.

Ten "Grass Roots" Unionists from Germany have just completed a 60-day tour of the United States under the guidance of the Department of Labor. At a press conference on Wednesday they told their impressions of this country and their hopes for the future of their own.

They were impressed by the way their fellow workers in America produced such huge quantities of goods, but saw little hope of being able to duplicate this feat in their homeland for two reasons. For one, they lack the machines and the abundant power. For another, they would have no place to sell their products.

Force for Democracy

But it was when they were asked about the political and economic troubles of their country and their labor organizations that they showed the greatest interest. They made it clear that the unions are one of the strongest forces working toward a truly democratic Germany.

For instance, one of the important activities of the labor organizations is the conducting of classes for their younger members, men and women who grew up under Hitler and who knew nothing of any other system of government until the Allied armies came in at the close of the war.

"We try to explain to them the reason for the dire disaster that overcame our country," said one of them, "and to point out the evils of Hitlerism. There is some evidence that we are making progress."

Youths Avoid Politics Now

Another explained that the present youth groups are entirely non-political. "They feel that they were burned once, when they followed Hitler," he said, "so they want to make sure that they don't make the same mistake again."

As for Communism, they said, there is no danger from that source unless economic conditions become worse.

No Split in Ranks of Labor

Both groups also said they are confident there will be no split in the ranks of German labor on political lines. One of the Christian Democrats indicated that there would be no disposition among Germans to join an international alliance of Christian parties, such as has been discussed in Western Europe, lest it tend to break up the labor solidarity.

The ten unionists are all from different industries, and the party included two women. The interview was conducted by interpreters, but it was apparent that there was complete agreement on most of the ideas expressed. —Labor.

Only a Few U.S. Families Benefit from Earnings of Corporations

Propagandists for corporations like to give the impression stock ownership is so widespread in the United States that nearly everyone shares in the profits of industry, or suffers when those profits are taxed.

However, a study of the assets of typical American families, or "spending units," made for the Federal Reserve System by the University of Michigan, gives a different picture. This study, published in the latest issue of the Federal Reserve "Bulletin," shows that only 8 per cent of all families own any corporation stock.

Of that 8 per cent, less than half, or about one family in 25, has as much as $1,000 worth. Even if their stocks paid 6 per cent dividends, a family with $1,000 invested would rarely get over $60 a year, which would not buy much.

Another fact disclosed by the study is that well over half of the corporation stock owned by individuals is in the hands of a small group of families, less than 1 per cent, with holdings of $25,000 or more.—Labor.

STRAITJACKETED BULLETS

The van driver, who was also the ace shot in his gun club, was passing through a small town where he saw evidences of the most amazing shooting. On trees, walls and on fences there were numberless bulls-eyes with the bullethole in the absolute centre. He asked to meet the person responsible for this marksmanship. The man turned out to be the village idiot.

"This is the most wonderful shooting I have ever seen," said the van driver. "How in the world do you do it?"

"Easy as pie," answered the village lame-brain. "I shoot first and draw the circles afterward."

THE BALD TRUTH

Woman's voice on phone: "Hello, are you Harry?"

Man: "Not especially, lady, but I am a long ways from bald."

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Labor Relations Board

Weekly Summary of Activities

Scrutineers at a Strike Vote

Section 33 of the "Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act" reads as follows:

"Notwithstanding anything contained in this act, no person shall declare or authorize a strike and no employee shall strike until after a vote of the employees in the unit affected as to whether to strike or not to strike has been taken and the majority of such employees who vote have voted in favor of a strike."

The vote prescribed by this section is a vote not simply of the union members, but of all employees. The vote is not a union vote; it is an employees' vote. Every employee has a right to vote whether he is a union member or not; therefore, the act did not deliver the conduct and control of the vote into the hands of the union. Section 75 imposes the duty of supervising the vote on the Labor Relations Board. The supervision must have due regard to all the interests involved, namely, the interest of the employees as a whole, the interest of the union, the interest of the employer, and lastly, the over-riding interest of the general public. The vote must be open to each employee, and by the same token, it must be confined exclusively to employees. To achieve these purposes there seems to be no better method than to permit the presence of at least one scrutineer for the employer and one scrutineer for the bargaining authority. Regulations of this kind are authorized by Section 75 (2).

Experience has shown that in the conduct of strike votes questions have arisen as to the eligibility of an intending voter to cast his vote. A question of this kind is determined by the government supervisor, the decision being sometimes in favor of the intending voter and sometimes against him, according to the facts as they are presented to the supervisor. If questions of this kind were to be raised by the supervisor on his own initiative, his fitness to decide the question raised by himself would be questioned and his reputation for impartiality would be destroyed. It is better that challenges of this kind should be raised by the respective scrutineers, so that the supervisor may make his decisions in a disinterested and impartial manner.

A scrutineer has no means of knowing how an employee votes, because the ballot is secret.

There is nothing, of course, to prevent a union taking a strike vote inside the confines of the union, and in such vote there would be no intrusion by outsiders. Such a vote, useful as it may be for union purposes, is not the vote that is required by Section 33 as a prerequisite to a legal strike.

It is interesting to note that Saskatchewan, by regulations made under the Saskatchewan Labor Act, has provided that a scrutineer for each party involved is entitled to be present at every vote taken, by virtue of the act. There is no strike vote in Saskatchewan, but there is a vote to decide who is entitled to be the bargaining authority.

Certificates Issued

Building Service Employees Union, Local 244, A.F.L., for employees of J. G. Fraser Ltd., employed as janitors and/or cleaners at Fraser Building, Vancouver.

Vancouver Auto Workers Lodge 1857, T.L.C. for the employees of Grant Gunn Limited employed in the tire shop at 551 W. Broadway, Vancouver.

Bakery and Confectionery Workers International Union, Local 468, A.F.L., for the employees of Ivan Godina, National Bakery employed at 625 Hawks Ave., Vancouver.

Vancouver Auto Workers Lodge 1857, T.L.C., for the employees of B. F. Goodrich Rubber Company of Canada Ltd., employed in the tire repair shop, accessory installation mechanics and front service men at Vancouver.

International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 918, A.F.L., for employees of Victoria Public Library Board employed as janitor-engineer.

? Building Material, Construction and Fuel Truck Drivers Union, Local 213, A.F.L., for employees of Sydney Dines employed as truck drivers at 215 Commercial Dr., Nanaimo.

United Assn. of Journeymen and Apprentices of Plumbing and Pipefitting Industry, Local 180, A.F.L., for the employees of Smith and Elkins Ltd., Prince Rupert Plumbing and Heating and Saanich Plumbing and Heating, employed as journeymen plumbers, steamfitters, welders, pipe-coverers, asbestos workers, oil burners, mechanics and their helpers at Prince Rupert.

Union, Local 292, C.C.L.,-etaoinshn

General Truck Drivers and Helpers Union, Local 31, A.F.L., for employees of Clarke Simpsons Limited employed in the tire repair shop at 999 Seymour St., Vancouver.

General Truck Drivers and Helpers Union, Local 31, A.F.L., for employees of Towler Fuel and Transfer, employed as truck drivers and swampers at Nelson.

Vancouver Auto Workers lodge 1857 T.L.C., for employees of Clarke Simpsons Limited employed in the tire epair shop at 999 Seymour St., Vancouver.

General Truck Drivers and Helpers' Union, Local 31, A.F.L., for employees of Queen City Fuel Ltd., employed as truck drivers and swampers at Nelson.

General Truck Drivers and Helpers' Union, Local 31, A.F.L., for employees of Black's Motor Freight, employed as truck drivers, swampers and warehousemen at Vancouver.

General Truck Drivers and Helpers' Union, Local 31, A.F.L., for employees of William Oliver (Oliver Transfer) employed as truck drivers, swampers and warehousemen at Vancouver.

General Truck Drivers and Helpers' Union, Local 31, A.F.L., for employees of Crawford Storage and Distributing Co. Ltd., employed as truck drivers, swampers and warehousemen at Vancouver.

Reports of Conciliation Boards

General Truck Drivers and Helpers' Union, Local 31, A.F.L. and Ladner Transfer Limited and Delta Freight Lines, both of Ladner.

Employers' nominee, Mr. E. F. Carruthers, Vancouver; employees' nominee, Mr. C. A. Gower, Vancouver.

A unanimous report was submitted by the members of the board in which it was stated that it had been agreed by all parties to the dispute that the decision of the board would be acceptable to all concerned.

The board recommended that the companies enter into an agreement with the union to include in addition to the sections of the standard agreement, which has been previously agreed upon an increase in basic wage rates of one and one-half cents per hour, effective December 1, 1949 to December 31, 1949, inclusive; two cents per hour from January 1, 1950, to April 30, 1950, and three cents per hour from May 1, 1950, to expiry date of agreement, September 16, 1950.

The board also recommended pay for one statutory holiday when not worked as follows: Eight hours pay at straight time for statutory holiday, New Year's Day, 1950, when not worked. In order to qualify for the eight hours' pay the employee must have:

(a)—At least 30 days service with the company;

(b)—Reported for work on his last regularly scheduled working shift preceding the holiday.

Should circumstances warrant special arrangements, the provisions of clause (b) may be varied by arrangements between the companies and the union.

No change in the annual vacation plan now in effect was recommended.

United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipefitting Industry of U.S. and Canada, Local 170, A.F.L., for the employees of B.C. Bridge and Dredging Co., Ltd., employed as journeymen plumbers, steamfitters, pipefitters, pipewelders, asbestos workers and helpers in B.C.

Hospital Employees Federal Union, Local 180, T.L.C., for the employees of King's Daughters' Hospital employed as graduate nurses at Cavell St., Duncan.

Birds of Feather Sing Same Song

Hitler said: "Labor unions are controlled by Jews, therefore, they are banned from Germany." They were.

Mussolini said: "Labor unions are a menace to the expansion of Italy; anyone who advocates labor unions will be imprisoned." And to prison they went.

Chiang Kai-Shek said: "Labor unions are dominated by foreign devils; cut off the head of anyone who tries to organize the workers." This was done many times.

WHERE ARE THESE THREE AND THEIR COUNTRIES NOW—HERE ARE TWO WHO ARE SINGING A DUET—CHANGING THE CHORUS.

Stalin says: "In order to protect the workers from the harmful influence of western imperialism, labor unions MUST be controlled by the government." And controlled they are in Russia—ruthlessly!

Senator Taft says: "Labor unions are controlled by Communists, therefore to protect the workers, the government must supervise labor organizations." He is trying to have this done.—Halifax Observer.

A building had this sign posted on it: "For sale. Any reasonable offer will be rejected."

Sign on a California lingeries shop —'Sally's Pantee Shantee."

Britain's Excellent Health

Annual report of Britain's Ministry of Health shows that Britain's health is excellent and the war on diseases which took heavy toll of life a few years ago is being fought with success.

The report includes a survey on the physical condition of the British by Sir Wilson Jameson, the chief medical officer. Covering the year ended March, 1948, the report deals with the eighth year of austerity, which included the severest winter in memory and a tightening of rationing.

This period saw the highest birth rate since 1921, 20.5 per 1,000 of the population—and the lowest infant mortality rate—41 per 1,000 live births against 83. Fewer mothers lost their lives having babies, the rate for the year—1.17 per 1,000—being less than one-third of that in 1938.

Sir Wilson attributes this to the high standard of the nursing and other staffs and to an enlightened food policy. This has ensured that the nutrition of expectant and nursing mothers, babies and young children has been maintained by essential extras.

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BRITAIN FORGING AHEAD

"Some of these government's decisions on measures to bring the British economy into balance, Mr. Herbert Morrison said, are bound to be unpleasant to us all, but they are far less unpleasant than the alternative of drifting into economic chaos and unemployment.

"Britain is forging ahead economically, and only two things can stop her continuing to do so. The first is trying to snatch out too much too quickly, and trying to put into the kitty too little too slowly. The second is not being on our toes to do, and to demand of our fellows, the best that each of us can give.

"If we all watch those two points and act accordingly, our economic recovery which has advanced so well in so many ways during those four years, will forge ahead again until it brings its own reward."

For Critics

Critics at home and overseas should remember that it was always safe to criticize the British, but it was never safe to write Britain off.

A lot of people are saying or thinking that devaluation proves that the country has been on the wrong road. It does not prove that at all, for if it were merely Britain which was heading for trouble, why did over 20 other countries have to alter their dollar exchange rates at the same time?

The fact was that a large number of arbitrary and artificial exchange rates had been carried over from the war or immediate post-war periods until reconstruction had reached a stage when realistic post-war rates could be worked out.

We, in Britain, are producing more and more wealth, but our trouble is that we keep on behaving as though we have more wealth to distribute than is actually the case.

So both as individuals and collectively as members of the community we keep on pressing for more tickets in the share-out than can be honored out of the amount we have all actually put into the kitty.

We are like a man whose income rises a little each year, but who is always spending this year at a rate which he will not be earning until next year or the year after.

If we can only brace ourselves to hold off for a little we would soon find that production had gone up sufficiently to honor all our commitments, but as long as we continually press for more personal incomes and more state services than our current production will cover we are asking for trouble, and getting it.

Every citizen can do this much. He can refrain from hindering the men who are engaged in that export drive to earn enough to pay for the food we must eat, and the materials we need to keep our jobs secure.

Cut Costs

Everyone who tries to take more out of the kitty at this stage is helping to raise British costs and to hinder the efforts of the exporters on whom all our livings depend.

That is why restraint is so important at this moment. We don't want Britain to be a dear country whose goods no one will buy, and which no one can afford to visit. We want Britain to be a country where the cost of living is reasonably low, whose goods are eagerly sought all over the world, and a country to which overseas visitors will flock to spend their valuable foreign exchange.

If we can keep down the cost of living we will be helping every housewife in Britain, and we will be helping at the same time everyone who is bearing the brunt of Britain's export drive.

Every job well done from the housewife's to the factory worker's, is in a very real sense helping to lift Britain on to the level where the dollar problem will cease to trouble us.

Nothing For Little Guy

A fine example of the unprincipled behavior of big executives of big corporations is seen in the negotiations of the steel corporations and the steelworkers in the U.S. The steelworkers are asking for a modest retirement pension for workers that reach the age of 65. This pension is to be on a non-contributory basis. The big shots of the steel corporations say they are irrevocably opposed "on principle" to the granting of pensions on a non-contributory basis; thus they have tied up the entire industry in a strike.

Yet every one of the top officials who are refusing to grant these pensions to their workers are themselves in line for non-contributory pensions when they retire from their well-paying jobs.

The United States Steel Corporation provides a good example. The corporation's own proxy statement, dated March 25, 1949, shows that at the age of 65 Irving S. Olds, chairman of the board, Enders M. Voorhees, chairman of the finance committee, and Benjamin F. Fairless, president, will each receive a pension of $50,000. This is a non-contributing pension.

It is interesting to note, in the same proxy statement, that Mr. Olds received a wage increase last year of $22,367; Mr. Voorhees a wage increase og $21,567 and Mr. Fairless, a wage increase of $20,167.

Mr. Olds salary last year was $161,-300; that of Mr. Voorhees was $160,-700 and that of Mr. Fairless, $207,-900.

And these are the men who are opposing the demands of the steelworkers for a modest retirement pension!

A local food market has a sign on the tomato rack which reads: "Don't squeeze me until I'm yours."

PET-TY LARCENY?

S.S. Attendant: "And now I'm going to steal a little kiss, baby!"

Pretty motorist: "Let the crime wave begin!"

AFL Drivers Win Two Wage Increases

Chicago.—The Central States Drivers' Council of the Intl. Brotherhood of Teamsters (A.F.L.) won two wage increases and an employer-financed welfare and health program in a new 26-month contract recently signed with employers in 11 states.

The 40,000 Teamsters covered by the agreement received an increase of eight cents an hour and one-fourth cent per mile effective Nov. 16. In January, 1951, they will receive an additional five cents an hour and one-eighth cent per mile.

The 3,000 employers agreed to pay $1 per week for each employee into a union health and welfare program for the entire 26 months of the agreement, which covers drivers in Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska and Kansas.

Betting On the British

JOHN W. VANDERCOOK, FAMOUS U.S. RADIO COMMENTATOR, LECTURER AND AUTHOR:

"London—If permanence is the mark of success, Socialism in Britain has succeeded. No important measures of the Labor government now in effect risks repeal, or even serious alteration, whatever party may come next to power . . .

"The sense of the new Britain and the new effort is at once apparent. There is everywhere a bustle, a sound of hammers, a sense of things not merely being put right again but, hopefully, righter than before . . . .

"By March, 1949, 635,000 new houses were finished; and the job goes on to the stirring tune at present of 20,000 freshly completed dwellings a month, only 84 of which in one recent month were of the temporary type.

"It is a record no other country has approached. Almost without exception (as was to be expected in a more ingenious decade) the new houses are handsomer, more roomy and convenient than those the Germans with such unconscious philanthropy smashed.

"I put that most positive achievement first, for none is more conspicuous. Nurtured as most outlanders are on tales of British austerity, of Socialism being a device to distribute not wealth but poverty and on Sir Stafford Cripps' discouraging statistics, the inquiring visitor expects on arrival to be enveloped in a grey fog of discouragement. Instead, on almost every urban street in England he must look lively to avoid piles of new bricks, a paint splash from aloft, or a smart spraying from the steam guns of a crew cleaning some public or private structure.

"A people building do not seem, cannot seem, a people discouraged."

It Happens Here, Too!

During this last week many, too many, windows have broken in city schools. Young vandals, out for an evening's sport, have hurled brick after brick through school windows. Two schools on Brunswick street have been most heavily hit. Can no protection be afforded the school windows? Are there no police officers in the vicinity of the vandalism? If this is a regular affair, as indeed it seems, would it not be wise for the school board to protect the windows with wire? It must be a costly business replacing glass in the countless school windows. As we have said before in this column the police need but catch one boy, and instead of letting him go scot free, take him to the juvenile court and ask the judge to make an example of him. That done, we rather imagine that there would be less broken glass in the Halifax schools. We are assuming, of course, that the breakers are juveniles! Seriously, the only people benefitting by the orgy of vandalism are the glass merchants.—Halifax Citizen .

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B.L.F.E. Legislative Board Seeks Real Housing Program

Ottawa, Nov. 16.—J. Guy McLean, vice president and national legislative representative, Canadian Legislative Board, Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen, has placed before Prime Minister St. Laurent, the housing resolution unanimously adopted by the board at its sessions here.

The resolution calls for an adequate plan for housing accommodation "at a cost within the reach of our Canadian people." Copies have been sent by McLean to Progressive Conservative George Drew, C.C.F. Leader M. J. Coldwell, Social Credit Leader Solon Low, Reconstruction and Supply Minister R. H. Winters, Transport Minister Lionel Chevrier and Finance Minister D. C. Abbott.

The resolution declares: "That, inasmuch as uncontestable evidence establishes the fact that a deplorable condition exists throughout Canada in shortage of housing accommodation for our Canadian people, and inasmuch as we recognize that adequate food, clothing and shelter are the primary and essential requirements for the health, comfort and happiness of our people:

"Be it therefore resolved that this legislative board of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen, in session assembled, request our federal government to immediately formulation, make effective and progress an adequate plan for housing accommodation at a cost within the reach of our Canadian people. Also that priority of construction material be made effective to further this end."—Labor.

FRED MILLS

Business Agent, Beverage Dispensers Union, Local No. 676.

'No One Would Stop British Health Service System Now'

"Bob" Returns From Trip to Study Medical Problem, Compares English, Swedish, Truman Plans

"In England, health services are free for everyone, so anybody can use them without feeling any stigma of charity," Congressman Robert Crosser (Dem., Ohio) said this week to a representative of "Labor".

"Bob," an old friend of the railroad workers, had just returned from a trip to Britain, Sweden and France, where, with other members of his House interstate commerce committee, he studied medical services.

The purpose was to secure first-hand information to lay before the House when it takes up President Truman's health insurance bill.

The committee will make its report later. Crosser, emphasizing he was speaking only for himself, said:

Paid By Taxes

"Sweden has a system which seems to satisfy the doctors and about everyone else. It is paid for mostly out of general taxes, but the patients are charged part of the cost.

"The British system goes still further. Practically, the entire cost of doctor, dentist, hospital and other services, as well as such things as medicines and eyeglasses, is paid by general taxes, not by the patients.

"Both the British and Swedish systems go further than the Truman plan," Crosser pointed out. "The President proposes an insurance system, in which the costs would be paid by special taxes on employes and employers, as old-age pensions are paid for under the Social Security insurance system."

Conservatives Convinced

How do the people in England feel about their system, which was established by the Labor government? Crosser made this comment:

"No one we talked to—plain people, doctors and representatives of all political parties—would abolish the system now. Some say they would like to make changes, but even the Conservatives are for continuing the health services on the present general plan."

Crosser talked with Aneurin Bevan, British Minister of Health and formed a good opinion of him.

Visited Scotland

Incidentally, Bevan is Welsh and his wife, Jennie Lee, a leading Labor member of the House of Commons, is Scotch. This illustrates the fact that many besides the "British" share in the Labor government.

Crosser made a happy pilgrimage to the land of his forebears—Scotland. He visited the birthplaces of Annie Laurie and "Bobbie" Burns, the poet the whole world loves. "Bob" said he was so inspired he recited Burns' poetry to anyone who would listen, and had a "wonderful time" doing it.—Labor.

U.K. Trade Unions Expand Membership

London.—The membership of registered trade unions in Britain has increased 75 per cent with a decade, according to statistics published by the registry of friendly societies.

Over the same period unions' financial resources have nearly trebled though there were fewer trade unions on the register at the latest count.

Figures covering the years 1938 to 1948 showed total membership of unions jumped from 4,867,055 to 7,885,019. Union funds rose from 20,014,000 pounds to 54,398,000 pounds.

Spend Money

At the predevaluation dollar-sterling rate prevailing when the funds were assessed, they totaled $180,056,000 and $217,592,000.

Unions are in the big money class as money spenders. Expenditures in 1948 totaled 12,915,000 pounds $51,660,000) compared with 7,575,000 pounds ($30,148,000) in 1948.

Unemployment benefits cost the unions only 180,000 pounds ($720,000) in 1948, compared with 866,000 pounds ($3,464,000) 10 years earlier.

Politics Costly

Unions' expenditures for political purposes soared last year to 375,000 pounds ($1,500,000), the highest in a decade and 29,000 pounds ($116,000) more than the unions spent in the election year of 1938.

Political expenditures includes the unions' contributions to Labor party funds and the cost of financing union candidates fighting elections on the socialist platform.

The colored soldier had been peeling potatoes until his hands ached. Turning to his a fellow K.P. he said: "What dat sargeant mean when he call dis K.P.?"

"Ah dunno," replied his co-worker, "but from de look on his face, ah thinks he meant 'Keep Peelin'."

Civilian Labor Force Hits Record 5,253,000

All But 98,000 Have Jobs, Report of Statistics Bureau Shows

Ottawa.—Canada's civilian labor force reached an estimated 5,253,000 persons in the week ending August 20 this year—an increase of 144,000 over the estimated total of 5,109,000 in the week ending September 4 last year.

Of this year's August total, an estimated 5,155,000 had jobs—a rise of 113,000 over September last year and the largest number of job holders ever recorded in Canada. The number idle and seeking work at 98,000 for the August 20 week was 31,000 greater than in September last year.

These figures are based on the quarterly sample survey of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. For the purpose of this survey, the civilian labor force includes all persons 14 years of age and over who, during the survey week, were at work, had a job at which they did not work because of illness, temporary layoff or other reasons, or who did not have jobs and were looking for work. The group at work includes both those who worked for pay or profit or did unpaid work that contributed to the running of a business or farm.

Some on Part Time

The gain in number at work in August this year over September a year ago was due entirely to a rise in non-agricultural employment, which increased from 3,795,000 to 3,920,000, while agricultural employment fell off moderately from 1,247,000 to 1,235,000.

A breakdown of the latest estimate shows 4,522,000 persons working 35 hours or more during the survey week as against 4,449,000 in September last year. There were 312,000 working 15 to 34 hours compared with 314,000 and 92,000 persons working under 15 hours compared with 102,000.

Of the total at work in August, 4,012,000 were men and 1,143,000 were women. Of the total of 98,000 seeking work 81,000 were men and 17,000 were women.

Hollywood Unions Face An Unemployment Issue

The new five-year basic agreement caps a four-year fight by the A.F. of L's International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees (I.A.) to regain its solid control of Hollywood labor. In 1945, the I.A. still shaken by revelations of the highhanded extortions by union heads George Browne and Willie Bioff, faced an additional threat from a grouping of rival A.F. of L. crafts combined into the Conference of Studio Unions (C.S.U.). It's always curious weather when strange bedfellows get together, but the labor skies have rarely seen a weirder rainbow than the alliance in the C.S.U. of party-liner Herb Sorrell and arch-conservative burly Bill Hutcheson.

In 1945, Sorrell called and won a violent eight-month strike. However, the I.A. could not be counted out. It had strategic control of the motion-picture projectionists and, if read out of the studios, could retaliate with crippling boycotts. Its new leadership, Richard P. Walsh, the national head, and Roy Brewer, the Hollywood chief, was stable and responsible. And the heat against the Communists melted some of Sorrell's support. When the C.S.U. declared a major strike against the producers and the I.A. in 1946, the studios stood firm and the C.S.U. began to crumble. Today it is an empty shell.

If Hollywood labor is now at peace to work, it faces the basic problem of finding work. The slump in U.S. movie production had left the union somewhat limp at the bargaining table. The I.A. did not press its major demands; a wage increase to meet the cost-of-living rise since January, 1948, and an industry pension plan.

A more uneasy calm envelops the Hollywood major talent union —the Screen Actors Guild (A.F. of L.). S.A.G., headed by movie star Ronald Reagan, has been vigorous in combatting the Communists and in promoting employment in the West Coast studios. Two important union issues are the flood of reissues of old films and television. If the guild fails to stop the release of reissues, it may try to obtain royalties for actors who appear in them, and also in films used for television.

Some jurisdictional conflicts now threaten in television. The "Four A's" (Associated Actors and Artists of America) the parent body of all actors' unions in the A.F. of L., voted recently to set up a TVA (television authority) to conduct bargaining in the new field. Since television programs use films, the actors feel that the new agency would have veto power over various clauses in the guild's Hollywood contracts.—Exchange

Un. Electrical Workers Are No Longer United

His small bony face contorted by rage, Jim Carey stood on the convention floor and screamed into a mike: "Stop lying, Fitzgerald. The C.I.O. helped build labor. You Communists are against labor." Catcalls arose from all over the large hall. A party-liner stood up and shouted: "Carey and his lickspittle stooges are just trying to stall for time to spill their filth." "Go back to Moscow," roared some Carey supporters in defiance. One leather-lunged heckler, pitching his voice above the din, yelled, "Carey, you're nothing but a pimp . . ."

And so it went for five days at the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers Union (U.E.), fourteenth—and probably last—convention. The party-line victory, in the third-largest union in C.I.O., posed for Phil Murray the thorniest internal question he had ever faced: how to sweep out the obstreperous Communist minority without wrecking C.I.O.

They were swept out however. and the United Electrical Workers' Union has split, some to remain with it, some going into the new CIO International Union of Electrical Workers, and others switching into the A.F. of L. International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

It seems the gate broke down between Heaven and Hell. St. Peter appeared at the broken part of the gate and called out to the devil, "Hey, Satan. It's your turn to fix it this time."

"Sorry," replied the boss of the land below the Styx. "My men are too busy to worry about fixing a mere gate."

"Well, then," scowled St. Peter, I'll have to sue you for breaking our agreement."

"Oh, yeah," laughed the devil; "and where are you going to get a lawyer?"

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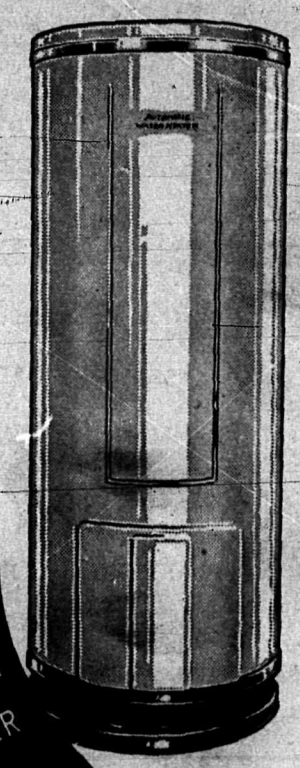

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No "Slickering Beamsters." At Local Employment Office

Local offices of the department of employment report they have no "slickering beamsters", "leach house liquor runners", "puerers" or "hoop double end punch and coiler" operators registered.

The titles mentioned above are professional men listed in a special dictionary of occupations, prepared under federal direction and which lists 40,000 jobs from "A" machine helper to "zoologist".

A "slickering beamster" for example is employed in the leather industry to remove flesh and last traces of hair from wet hides; a "leach house liquor runner" is also employed in this industry and prepares tanning solutions by boiling bark and other ingredients; a "hoop double end punch and coiler" operator helper, works in the cooperage industry and assists at a machine that punches rivet holes in the ends of barrel hoop strips; the "A" machine helper, shrinks and strengthens felt hat bodies. Other jobs listed in this dictionary include a "buzzle buffer" who operates a machine which buffs sides of a hide or skin at once; an "oil-of a hide or skin at once; an oiling off machine table" hand, assists at a machine which coats the grain side of tanned hides with a softening oil; the "puerer" removes lime from hides by treating them with a solution; the "sammy man" brings leather to a uniform condition of dampness by covering the damp hides with sawdust; the "smutter" mixes, applies and bakes a solution on embossed leather to obtain a two-tone effect, and is also classified as a "Spanish finisher", "spanisher", "tipper and "topper"; a "screen ape" works in the metal mining industry and breaks oversized lumps of ore so they will sift through a screen.

And speaking of hides, this special dictionary, even classifies a "strip tease artist" in the semi-professional category as a "peeler", "strip-tease dancer", "strip teaser," "strip woman", "stripper" and "teaser".

A.F. of L. Membership of 7,500,000 Goes Political

In the last decade and a half, the A.F. of L. has grown hugely. With 107 affiliates, less than ten of which are of recent vintage, the A.F. of L. has grown more by clumsy accretion than by large-scale planned drives. Almst half of its 7,500,000 membership has been added in the war period.

This tremendous growth is in part responsible for the changes now unfolding. In the middle-sized A.F. of L. unions, a younger leadership is emerging that is politically and internationally minded. (For four such representative union leaders, see page 194.) The liberal elements—William Green, David Dubinsky, George Meany, George Harrison—have gained luster with the Truman victory.

To the old-line A.F. of L. leaders these changes are anathema. Carpenters chief Hutcheson, the embodiment of old-style building-trades-union mentality, does not try to hide his isolationism, says publicly that Dubinsky's international schemes are a lot of falderal. But Hutcheson is of an ancien regime. Old and ailing, he holds on to office only because he cannot as yet name his son Maurice as his successor.

While the A.F. of L., in fact, has largely swung over to support of the "welfare state" it has not thought through its position in ideological terms. To do so would be outside its character. But the change nevertheless is real. While the position it has adopted is not as radical-sounding as the early A.F. of L. declarations of the 1890's—which called for collective ownership of the tools of production—in political terms it is more far-reaching. The old voices of left-wing thunder were ritual declarations of the 1890's—which called for collective ownership of the tools of production—in political terms it is more far-reaching. The old voices of left-wing thunder were ritual declarations to strange gods; the new, quieter voices are calls to concrete political action for social change.—Exchange.

Some Control!

"A few blocks from where I live (in Toronto) a house that was built for $8,000 in the middle thirties has, under government rent control, been sold and resold until a few days ago it sold for $22,000; and it is now rented for $175 a month whereas, prior to the war, it was renting for $55. That is the kind of thing that has happened under the government rent control policy. There were no end of loopholes."—J. W. Noseworthy, M.P. for South York, Hansard, page 1574, 1949.

New World Body Must Be "Free"

By WILLIAM GREEN
President American Federation of Labor

Washington.—I am sailing for London with a delegation from the American Federation of Labor to attend a world labor conference which will have a profound effect on international peace and economic progress.

It is the purpose of this conference to establish a new world congress of free trade union organizations. We expect to have delegates from labor organizations of over 40 nations representing more than 50,000,000 workers.

In emphasizing the word "free" in connection with the new labor federation, I want to make it crystal clear that it will not be tained by any Communist or Fascist membership. We know that under totalitarian government, labor cannot be free or independent. We are convinced that it is time for free labor, all over the world, to band together to combat the totalitarian menace to the freedom of workers. That will be one of the foremost objectives of the new world labor body.

By following this basic policy, the new federation of free labor organizations can effectively promote a program of better living standards, social justice, broadening of human freedom and lasting peace throughout the world. That is labor's great hope for the future.

Bill Jones called in a plumber to fix an upstairs faucet and as he and his wife were coming downstairs they met the plumber coming up. Bill said:

"Before I go downstairs I would like to acquaint you with the cause of the trouble."

The plumber politely removed his hat and murmured:

"Pleased to meet you ma'am."

The Soviet System Of Mind Control

THE RESPONSES OF THE PEOPLE

Immediately after the release of an important resolution, the Soviet press throws its entire weight to the support of the Central Committee. It does this through editorials, accounts of meetings, reports of confessions, and publication of conforming resolutions and memorials to Stalin. Also it may devote pages to "responses from the people". These "responses" take the form of letters from individuals or groups, all supporting the central committtee without limit or reservation.

This method of mind control was employed extravagantly in the propagation of the "ideological resolutions": Its nature will be revealed by a few samples from the "responses of the people" to the positions taken by the central committee on music and biology.

Moscow Line on Music Praised

The resolution on music attacked savagely the foremost Soviet composers for "formalism" and "servility toward the West". A typical account of popular reaction states that the "Soviet people passionately approve the resolution and regard it as most timely and wise". It is then proceeds to quote from scores of letters. An actress writes: "I love music very much, but I cannot imagine a spiritual condition which would lead me to want to listen to the works of Shostakovich." A nurse asks why critics have "praised music which only irritates and fatigues the listener." Two communications workers observe that the central committee "judged quite correctly the musical grimaces of Shostakovich." Two factory workers thus dispose of the compositions of Shostakovich, Prokofiev and Khachaturian: "It is impossible to discern any melody in them whatsoever; and as for sense, you get nothing at all". Two mill workers charge that the same composers "offer to the Soviet people under the guise of music ear-splitting noise and racket".

"Stalinist Soviet Science" Triumphant

An account of the session of the Academy of Agricultural Science, where the party made its position clear on the question of the transmission of acquired characters, reported that "it seemed as if the walls of the auditorium moved." At once "an endless torrent of telegrams, letters, and responses poured in." Inspired by "the victory of Soviet science over alien and hostile pseudo-science," representatives of all occupational ranks "at the end of the working day seized the pen." An "ordinary man," being "neither a biologist nor an agronomist," regretted that he had not been present to "help vanquish" the enemy, but he rejoiced in the fact that "a shattering blow was struck against dried-up reactionary theories both outside and within our country." Another declared, "I simply do not know how to express the feeling that beats in my breast." Yet he seemed to be able to express the universal sentiment in these words: "Permit me, not a scientist, but a plain man, to proclaim: let our own patriotic, revolutionary, bold, Stalinist Soviet science be triumphant." This sort of sanctimonious and chauvinistic balderdash fills the pages of the Soviet press.

The mechanism by which these "responses of the people" are obtained is not entirely clear. But one may be sure that the party network plays a central role, if indeed the letters are not written in editorial offices. One may be sure too, that they are about as genuine as a Soviet election in which practically 100 per cent of the electorate vote for the same persons and measures. Clearly, if the Central Committtee had taken the directly opposing position in any one of its resolutions, it would have received an equally unanimous and enthusiastic approval "from the people".

Big Drop In Debts

Hon. C. E. Fines in Monetary Times: "Financially, I was able to report in my 1948 (Saskatchewan) budget address that our public debt had dropped from $214,253,120 at April 30, 1944, to $145,744,565 at December 31, 1947. This represented a reduction of 32 per cent, a record unparalleled by any province since Confederation. The sinking fund, increased by over 50 per cent to nearly $39,000,000, put us in the position of having the second highest sinking fund of any Canadian province. The assistance we have been able to render our municipalities, together with improved economic conditions, has also resulted in a drop in municipal indebtedness from $68.4 millions at the end of 1939 to $17.7 millions at the end of 1947, a reduction of 74.2 per cent."

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World Can Feed Added Millions

"If economic activity is to continue to be organized competition in greed there is little hope of peace at home and none of peace on a world scale."

This was the conclusion of a geographer, Professor George Kimble of McGill University, speaking in Ottawa last week. He came to that conclusion after refuting the contention that the world would not be able to maintain its growing millions.

"Some would have us believe keeping business, that she is tired keeping business, that she is tired of patching up the scars of war, drought and exploitation, and that the world's cupboards will soon be bare," Prof. Kimble said.

But he pointed to the Nile: after 6,000 years of cropping this valley supports a denser population than ever before. The same is substantially true of the Ganges valley and of the master streams of China "where many an irrigated area is annualy soaxed into producing three separate sizeable harvests."

On the fenlands and polders of western Europe, the geographer stated, farmers think nothing of threshing 60 to 80 bushels of wheat an acre in spite of capricious weather and perennial draining problems.

According to Prof. Kimble, there is no reason for doubting that there is still enough real wealth to go around. The big trouble is that we don't know how to handle the world as a whole —what is called good-neighborliness in a world community.

CAPPING THE CLIMAX

Donald and Mary MacTavish decided to adopt a child and asked at the orphanage for a little girl. One was produced and Mary was about to close the bargain when Donald tapped her shoulder.

"Mary," he whispered, "let's take a wee lad. Hae ye forgotten the lad's cap we found on the train?"

Fun in The Sun!

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Green Says New World Body To Back 'Point Four' Plan

LONDON PARLEY SETTING PROGRAM TO FURTHER FREE TRADE UNIONS

By ARNOLD BEICHMAN
New York Correspondent for AFL News Service

New York—Headed by President William Green, a delegation of ranking leaders of the American Federation of Labor sailed for London for the formal convocation of the Free World Labor Conference, comprising free trade union organizations of 55 democratic countries

The conference, out of which will grow the pro-democratic international trade union federation, was scheduled to open Nov. 28 and conclude Dec 9. Its mere organization has already panicked the Soviet Cominform, whose spokesmen have unleashed furious propaganda attacks against the AFL and CIO leaders who unitedly are participating in forging this weapon against Communist infiltration of free trade union movements.

At a press conference aboard the SS. Ile de France, President Green told newspapermen that the international federation of free democratic unions "will stand against invasion by the Communist party and totalitarianism in the ranks of labor."

In agreement with him as he spoke to the press were President Green's fellow-delagates: Secretary-Treasurer George Meany, Vice President David Dubinsky, George M Harrison, and Charles J. McGowan. Vice President Matthew Woll is already in Europe, having left earlier to study trade union and economic conditions in Germany. Other AFL delegates were already in Europe.

"This organization," said President Green, "has already made its influence felt. It is a matter of deepest historic significance that such a free world federation is being set up. It will speak for 50 million workers all over the world, South America, China, India, Korea and Japan. Only the workers behind the Iron Curtain, imprisoned by the Soviet Union, will be unrepresented."

Scene of the new conference in London will be the County Hall, where in 1945 were held the sessions which led to the establishment of the World Federation of Trade Unions, an organization which the AFL condemned from the beginning because it treated as equals Soviet trade unions, and which the AFL, therefore, bluntly refused to poin. Today, the WFTU, following secessions by virtually every free trade union organization in the world and most recently by the CIO, is completely and openly Soviet-controlled .

The present meeting in London, which will include trade union movements which adhere to a democratic credo, was authorized by the Preparatory International Trade Union Conference at Geneva June 25 and 26.

The conference is being attended by 124 organizations, among whose aims are:

1. Achieving universal recognition of the right of workers to organize in free trade unions.

2. Provide help for workers to organize unions in economically backward countries. President Green indicated that the constitution to be adopted by the new federation would also affirm its support for the Point Four program of our government. This policy is to provide technical assistance for undeveloped nations and areas.

3. Supporting the rebuilding, economically, socially and culturally, of countries suffering the after-effects of the war. President Green also declared that the conference would affirm its support of the Marshall Plan.

4. To fight against forced labor anywhere in the world.

5. To back an international system of collective security parallel with regional agreements essential to strengthened democratic countries and fully compatible with the charter of the United Nations.

6. To seek more economic co-operation among democratic countries.

7. To represent free labor in international agencies, both governmental and non-governmental, to promote democratic trade unionism.

Troubles Mounting In the Ranks of CIO

At the 1948 convention, the C.I.O. theme was "organize the unorganized." The convention voted to increase the monthly per capita tax from 5 to 8 cents, earmarking 2 cents of the new increase for the southern drive. Other areas marked for action were department stores, federal employees, office workers, and farm-equipment workers.

During the year, however, organizing has been at a standstill. C.I.O.'s progress in the South has been slowed by Taft-Hartley and restrictive state laws, and the drive has been virtually limited to textiles. The C.I.O. board ordered the farm-equipment workers (F.E.) to dissolve into the auto workers, but they refused. The two have clashed in 11 NLRB elections. U.A.W. won seven, but F.E. holds the edge in the crucial Harvester plants.

In the department-store field, units of the tottering union urged C.I.O. to set up a new organizing committtee, but the national office, lacking personnel and unwilling to incur the large financial risks, turned jurisdiction over to the Amalgamated Clothing Workers. But the secure and aging Amalgamated leadership was unwilling to risk the rough and tumble of clashes with the entrenched party-line unions on the one hand and the rambunctious A.F. of L. teamsters on the other.

Despite pleas from anti-Communist units in the office-worker and government-employee field, no C.I.O. board action was taken in those situations. Membership of both unions sagged badly.

The C.I.O. has had trouble not only in organizing new areas but in administering old ones. The two largest shipyard locals in the Marine and Shipyard Workers' Union bolted to the A.F. of L. The National Maritime Union has lost half of its wartime membership; Mike Quill's Transport Workers has been unable to control the party-wired airlines mechanics' section, which threatens to form a new federated airlines union. The rubber workers suffered an internecine fight. The Retail and Wholesale Union has almost fallen apart.

—Exchange.

THE LASS AND LASSO

She was waiting for him in the shadows of the hall. When he appeared she asked eagerly:

"What did father say when you asked him if you could marry me, dearest?"

"He didn't absolutely refuse," replied the young man sadly, "but he imposed a very severe condition."

"What was it?"

"He said he would see me hanged first."

Can't Afford Medical care

The Oregon Labor Press of Portland says:

". . . . most people cannot afford decent medical care."

The Labor Press continues ". . . . instead of offering helpful suggestions or constructive solutions the doctors have merely fought every effort to get at this problem.

"We are very sure that had the doctors made genuine efforts to find a way to provide medical care at a price people can afford that much of the current bitterness and loss of confidence in the medical profession could have been avoided.

"The medical societies have actively tried to destroy hospital and pre-payment medical care. Many doctors, in violation of their oaths, have refused to treat people covered by such plans.

"Some doctors and the medical societies have sought to prevent the practice of the profession of medicine by other doctors by making it impossible for them to use hospitals if they accepted payment from hospital associations."

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