THE INDEPENDENT.

VOL. 3. VANCOUVER, B. C., SATURDAY, AUGUST 24, 1901. NO. 22.

THE C. P. R. STRIKE.

The men out on strike here have the fullest confidence in their committee at Montreal. The men all over Canada are loyal to their representatives at Montreal. The men are as firm as ever. The trains are arriving over 24 hours behind time.

A special dispatch from Winnipeg states that an important meeting of railroad men was held there early in the week, and that the different railway orders had decided to give the C. P. R. but four days to settle the strike. This statement has not been denied or confirmed by the railway men here, so we print it for what it is worth.

Headquarters Joint Protective Board, Maintenance-of-Way Department Employees, Canadian Pacific Railway.

Grand Union Hotel,
Montreal, Aug. 16, 1901.

Dear Sirs and Brothers,—The general chairmen of the other orders on the C. P. railway have been in Montreal for some time. Last Friday they were accepted by the president of the Canadian Pacific Railway company and myself to act as a "conciliation committee." Instead of their trying to conciliate and effect a settlement through the president of the C. P. R. company and myself they took the matter up with the general manager. After conciliating for about a week, the following is a copy of a message which shows the basis of the settlement proposed by the general manager, comment upon which I consider unnecessary:

Copy.

Montreal, 12th August, 1901.

The second vice-president and general manager will approve circular setting out he pay for trackmen, in accordance with his letter of June 12th, and also reciting rules and regulations governing the employment and service of the trackmen, and at the end of one year from this date, if the trackmen of the Canadian Pacific Railway company have effected a responsible and workable organization, the company will meet a committee and grant them a schedule; provided, however, that such schedule shall only apply to foremen and first and second men of one year's standing in the company's service, and neither the schedule nor any of its conditions shall apply to others employed either on section work or on extra gangs, nor shall any committee representing the organization at any time interfere or attempt to interfere with the relations between the company and employees in its maintenance-of-way department, to whom the said schedule will not apply as above set forth. The company will reinstate all men in their respective positions, provided such positions have not been filled, under promise of permanency during the absence of strikers. In the case of positions having been filled, the company will give such remaining men preference in filling other similar positions as near to their old location as possible. This clause not applicable to those who have been guilty of violence. The fact that men have been engaged in the strike shall not prejudice their positions once they are restored to the service. The company will always be glad to meet any committee of its employees, whether engaged in the maintenance-of-way or any other department, for the purpose of discussing suggestions calculated to remove any disadvantages under which the men may labor, or to promote the interests of the company. (Signed),

D. McNICOLL,
Second Vice-Pres. and Gen. Manager.

Mr. Charles Pope, Chairman, Conciliation Committee, Montreal.

To be Embodied in the Rules and Regulations.

13. Employees suspended or discharged will have the right of appeal from the decision of their immediate superiors. (Signed), D. McN.

Your committee declined to accept the proposed terms of settlement, and sent the following letter to the general manager:

Copy.

Grand Union Hotel,
Montreal, Aug. 14, 1901.

Mr. D. McNicoll, Second Vice-Pres. and General Manager C. P. R., Windsor Street Station, Montreal:

Dear Sir,—We, the committee representing the maintenance-of-way men on the Canadian Pacific Railway system, have been in Montreal the greatest part of the time since April 13th. During the month of June, and while we were holding conferences hoping to effect an amicable settlement of all differences, your subordinate officials were going over the road trying to break up our organization. About one week ago the general chairmen of the other orders which have been established on the C. P. R. arrived in Montreal. On Friday of last week they (the general chairmen) were accepted by the president of the C. P. R. company, and by the the president of the Brotherhood of Railway Trackmen, as a "conciliation committee." According to advices received your subordinate officials are still making strenuous efforts to break the strike. We believe the contest between the C. P. R. officials and the maintenance-of-way men has lasted too long. Had a settlement been made earlier lives that have been lost might have been saved, and men who have been maimed and crippled for life might be well and hearty to-day. We believe the maintenance-of-way men are entitled to an agreement with the company setting forth the terms and conditions of their employment, which would be considered a fair settlement by experienced, honest, capable and honorable men, therefore, we propose to accept the general chairmen of the other orders as arbitrators, with the understanding that they will arrange what they consider to be a fair settlement for both parties to the controversy under the circumstances. If the company will allow them to determine what is fair and be governed by their decision, as soon as we receive a written agreement from you to the effect that the company will accept the general chairmen as arbitrators, the strike will be declared off, and they can arrange the details of the settlement afterwards. (Signed.) Yours truly,

JOSEPH LENNON,
Chairman Committee.

No answer has been received to the above.

We have requested the general chairmen of the other orders to recommend to the company, and your representatives, that the differences be settled by a board of arbitration, the arbitrators to be selected in the usual way. Your case is in a condition to be presented to the public in a true light. If you will be true to yourselves the honest people of Canada, who believe in upholding right and crushing wrong, will assist you in securing an honorable and fair settlement. Some of the men, who were deceived and influenced to return to work, suspended work again, and have notified your committee that they will stand firm until matters are settled right, or sever their connection with the company forever. Yours in B. L. & U.,

JOHN T. WILSON, President

Peter Righter, the pioneer engineer of the C. P. R. in B. C., had his foot amputated, having had it badly crushed in the train accident on Monday near Hope. He is at St. Paul's and will come around. No doubt had there been no strike men who know their business would have prevented this big smash-up.

ON DESPATCHES.

There is one man in the employ of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company with whom every news editor in British Columbia would be delighted to have a quiet talk for just five minutes. He is the individual who is entrusted with the work of selecting from the mass of associated press despatches such news as he considers interesting to the public of Canada. A big strike is going on in San Francisco, but for days not a word has been received over the wires about it by either morning or evening papers, and like our contemporary we have been obliged to reprint the telegrams published in the United States papers. While, however, the C. P. R. man takes no interest in the San Francisco affairs, he considers a trotting match at New York so important that the other night he sent a despatch of about a thousand words on the subject through to the coast. He is strong, too, on lynchings. Indeed he seems to fairly revel in them. It would be almost possible to keep a daily lynching news column from the despatches which are thrown on the floor of the editorial rooms of the British Columbia papers every night. Other instances of the ineptitude of the official question might be given by the dozen, but enough has been said to explain just why the Canadian news editor wishes to have a little conversation with him.—Nanaimo Herald.

EARLY CLOSING STORES.

The Retail Clerks' Association are doing good work. Last spring they circulated a petition among the clothing, furnishing and shoe merchants (which was almost unanimously signed), praying the city council to pass a by-law to compel the aforesaid places of business to close at six o'clock each evening, excepting Saturday and nights previous to public holidays. It came before the council, and the city solicitor, in looking over the charter, discovered that the council had not the power under the Shops Regulation act to pass such a by-law. The clerks wrote to the different members at Victoria, asking the government to amend clause sixteen of the act to give the council power to enact a by-law. The act was amended and shortly afterwards the council passed the by-law, which came into force on Thursday, Aug. 15th. The clerks appointed H. L. M. Stewart and G. Cathral to see that the shops were closed according to the by-law. In making their rounds, these gentlemen found two shops violating the law. One, a Mr. Goldberg, situated on Water street, was convicted and let go on suspended sentence with a warning. The other, a Mr. Goldberg, situated on the corner of Powell and Carrall streets was not only found guilty of being open for business, but threatened these gentlemen he would take a revolver and split them open, besides using dirty and abusive language. Mr. Stewart at once swore out a summons, and the affair was threshed out at the police court, with the result that Mr. Goldberg was fined and warned. Mr. Grant, of Hall & Grant, was counsel for the Clerks Association.

AMONG THE WOODWORKERS.

In the woodworking trades all lines are filled. The wages paid are not governed by the union. The men claim that they would be better off employed at 20 cents an hour in the east, instead of at 30 cents in B. C., the cost of living making more than the difference. Machine men and bench hands must be first-class men and all-round mechanics to receive the following rates of wages for 55 hours a week—10 hours for five days and 5 hours on Saturday: Millwrights, 30 to 35 cents an hour; carvers, 35; cabinet-makers, 27 1-2 to 30; polishers and finishers, 27 1-2 to 30; turners, 30; stair builders, 35; doormakers, 20 to 30; sash and blind makers, 20 to 30; frame makers, 22 1-2 to 30; bench hands, 22 1-2 to 30; shaper hands, 30 to 32 1-2; sticker hands, 32 1-2; band and jig saw hands, 30; circular saw hands, 20; matcher and plainer hands, 60 hours a week, 25 cents an hour.

Regarding draughtsmen, men work direct from plans. Laborers—Japs do the work and receive 60 cents to $1 a day.

INTERNATIONAL LONGSHOREMEN.

To interested members of trades union organizations:

At the last convention of the International Longshoremen's Association it was decided to organize and affiliate the warehouses and package freight handlers employed by the different railroad companies of this country. Our organization being composed of men who are engaged in marine and transport industry, it is essential that the railway package freight handlers and the marine package freight handlers should be part and parcel of one organization. The interests of each are identical. The wages paid for this work are small, and the conditions surrounding the men engaged in it are very undesirable. For this purpose the I. L. A. has taken up the work to assist these workers by organizing them. We appeal to members of trade unions to interest themselves in this cause to a small extent. A little interest may encourage these hitherto neglected workers, and cause them to see the benefits of organization. Kindly communicate with us if there is an opportunity to organize railway freight handlers in your vicinity.

HENRY C. BARTER, Sec.-Treas.,
Colonial Building, Detroit, Mich.
Detroit, Mich., Aug. 9, 1901.

The Independent wants a report of each union meeting and news concerning the members of every organization. Such reports and news will do much to sustain and create interest in the organizations. Secretaries are especially urged to send in these reports, but news from any member of an organization will be received with pleasure.

FATHER YORK'S GREAT SPEECH.

The mass meeting held at Metropolitan hall Thursday night by the union men of San Fracisco was a tremendous success from every point of view. Long before the hour announced for opening the programme the place was packed with every seat occupied and every aisle and odd corner filled. At 7:30 o'clock policemen were stationed outside to turn away the multitudes that could not be accommodated. A number of prominent citizens spoke for the unions, but the chief speech was made by Rev. Father York, who spoke in part as follows:

I have spoken many times in this hall, but never with such reluctance, and with such a sense of responsibility as this night. We are face to face with a great crisis. The question between the employers and the employees is no longer a question of hours or wages, but it is a question of hours or unionism.

A Strike is a War.

It is the last recourse. Like every other war, it entails suffering. Both sides suffer, but the burden, perhaps, falls heavier upon the third parties, the innocent third parties that are caught between the upper and neither millstone. I should not like to be the man to stand in the way of an amicable arrangement between the forces of capital and labor, but at the same time he would be no friend of labor and he would be no real friend of capital, he would do no good to this city and to this state who would conceal the real issue that faces you, and who would not warn you that while you desire peace, you cannot afford to accept any peace but peace with honor. When men are in earnest; when the matter between them is of supreme importance, even as the matter is, exhortation are useless. I will speak to you, first on the question of the rights and duties of labor in general; secondly, on the nature of the present crisis, and thirdly, on your duty in the premisss. I wish to call your attention to a decision delivered here recently by one of the higher courts of this city upon this

Question of Labor and Capital.

Therefore, in speaking of the decision given by Judge Sloss, I wish to speak as respectfully as possible of him in his official capacity. I have nothing to say with regard to the substance of the decision, which seems to be merely a quantity of words, but I wish to call attention to the reasoning which preceded the substance of the decision. If you take the trouble you will find that the learned judge lays it down as a theory that the present condition of labor arises from these two principles: First, that the employer tries to get as much as he can out of the laborer for as little as possible; and, secondly, that the laborer tries to get as much out of the employer as he can and for as little work as possible. He lays down this principle, not as a matter of fact, but as a matter of philosophy, as a matter to decide how wages are to be earned, and what is the value of a man's time. He says that it is right for the employer to try to make the employe sell his labor in the open market at the smallest price at which he can get it. I say that such a doctrine as that is not only

Unchristian,

but it is unnatural. The price of labor is not determined in open market and with unlimited competition. There is such a thing as a just price. There is such a thing as a fair wage. A man who tries by competition, or by throwing dust in your eyes, or by any other means, to get your work for less than your work is worth, commits one of the sins that Christ inveighs against, for he defrauds the laborer of his hire. Any employer of men, who offers less than that minimum wage is one who defrauds the laborer. It may be that through the stress of competition, or for other reasons, men will work for less than a just and minimum wage; yet what is that but slavery? Suppose the learned judge's philosophy were invoked in San Francisco to-day, namely, that it is the right of the employer to get all he can out of the employee for the least wages. What limit is there to his right, what certainty that he will not force the laborer to work for him for the wages the negroes worked for in the south? The man who is strong enough under such a philosophy, the man who can hire all the clerks to work for him and think for him, who can

Hire the Papers

to speak for him, the man who can pay the policeman to shoot for him, the man of that class which is strong because it has the sinews of war, can, if such a philosophy hold, even in our free country, force the workingman into a condition of far worse slavery than that in which the condition of the negroes was freedom itself. The second branch of my discussion deals with the most efficacious cry that has been made against you, which is this: That they have the right to run their own business as they please. No man likes to be interfered with. I do not care who he is, whether he is high or low. So this cry is taking, and that is a thing you must remember. The wise man never underestimates the strength of his enemy, and that is one of their strongest claims. I wish to say emphatically that no man has a right to run his business as he pleases. There was never but one man who could do just as he pleased, and that was Adam; and he could not do it for long—only until Eve was created. In a small village there are certain regulations, in a large town those regulations become more and more onerous, and the more advantage I get out of society the more liberty I must give up. While, when I was on the mountain, I could do as I pleased, now that I am in the city, I must think of what my neighbor pleases. So I say that it is perfectly plain that a man has not a right to run his business as he pleases, and when employers insist that they have a right to run their business absolutely as they please, they are like the mole when he comes out of the ground and blinks at the sun and says:

"There Is no Sun."

Another point which the employers try to make is that they will not deal with the union directly; that they will deal only with individual employees. If John Brown or Tom Robinson has a grievance against the firm, let him come up promptly and let him make his complaint to the firm, they say, and the firm will attend to it. "But we will not have anything to do with walking delegates, or presidents, or secretaries, or anything else of that kind," say they. "We will not recognize the union. The union can exist in Terra del Fuego, for all we care, but we will not allow it to encroach upon our dignity and our nobility. The union must have nothing at all to do with us." This is, perhaps, the most fundamental point in the workingmen's contention.

Reaching the third branch of the discussion: What is your duty in the present circumstances? In the first place let me say that it is my conviction, that your

Quarrel is just:

that this thing has been forced upon you, and that what is at the bottom of it is not a desire to resist injustice or interference, but that it is the desire to so cripple and hurt the unions that the employers may do what they please in the days to come, and that they are willing to suffer a little now in order that in the future time they may reap the benefits of their action. They might as well go out, the three or for hundred of them, armed and jacketed with brooms, and try to keep the Pacific from coming into the Golden Gate. If the men cannot form a corporate body and appoint their deputies to speak for them to any employer whatsoever, then they might as well give up and bury their unions. What is the good of a union? The good of a union is in its strength, in that a large number of men are banded together, and where there is unity there is strength. The employer who will turn his back on man will think ten times before he offends five hundred. Therefore there is more of a chance of a man getting his rights, if it is the voice of the union that speaks instead of the voice of a single man. And I say that it is the cry of shame that, while the workmen

Have Been Orderly,

and whatever shooting has been done has been from those who have been trying to take your places—it is a crying shame, I say, under such circumstances, that the police force of this city, paid for by your taxes, should be turned into guardian angels of the draymen. If, when this strike began, the government of this city had held even justice between employer and employed, and had not thrown the whole force of this city's prestige and power into the hands of the employees, I believe the strike would have been ended before this time.

I believe in the cause of the working men. I believe in a fair wage. I believe in fair hours. I believe in one rest day in the seven. I believe in enforcing those things by unionism. I believe in putting them into the law whenever you can. I believe that those things are at stake in this city to-day; that it is not a question of wages or of hours, that it is not a question of teamsters or longshoremen, that it is not a question whether you will haul this freight or whether that steamer will go to sea; but it is the great question: Shall men for whom Christ died to teach them that they were free men, with free men's rights, be crushed beneath the foot of the least bright of all the angels that fell from Heaven, Mammon, the spirit of Greed? (Tremendous applause.

THE REFERENDUM.

To the Editor of THE INDEPENDENT:

Sir,—Being more or less interested in the welfare of your city, and also being opposed to what we will call the "snobocracy" both there and in the old country, I would like to know why the question whether or not the city should spend $5,000 to entertain a titled nobody and those insane mimics who will crowd around him in the hope of toucing his most sacred garments, was not put to the referendum vote along with the other matters the people were voting on the other day? Are Mayor Townley and his clique afraid that the people of this city have arrived at that state of intelligence that they would vote such unpardonable extravagance down? To a uitlander like myself it certainly seems like it. The city fathers cry out in their blindness, "poverty! poverty! all is poverty!" and yet they can afford to throw away about $1,500 on a street fair and $5,000 more on a titled parasite and a handful of snobs. But there, I have said enough. THE UITLANDER.

Vancouver, Aug. 22, 1901.

HO FOR VICTORIA LABOR DAY.

Have your say at the union meeting and abide by the majority. The sidewalk or the nearest tavern is not the place to discuss union matters.

THE TURF.

The last meeting of the season will be held on Saturday, August 31st, and Monday (Labor Day), September 2nd. From present indications it promises to be a most successful one. Already there are a large number of horses in training at Hastings, and inquiries are being received daily from intending visiting horsemen and the fields for the various events will be large ones. The Jockey Club have spent over four thousand dollars in improvements this year, and deserve the liberal patrooage of the people. The full programme for the various events is as follows:

FIRST DAY—SATURDAY, AUGUST 31ST.

First race—Free-for-all trot or pace, mile heats, three in five; purse, $350.

Second race—Half-mile dash; weight for age; purse, $100.

Third race—Three-quarter mile dash; weight for age; purse, $150.

Fourth race—Three-quarter mile dash; weight for age; for non-winners this year; maidens and provincial-bred horses allowed seven pounds; purse, $150.

Fifth race—One-mile dash; weight for age; purse, $200.

SECOND DAY—MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 2ND, LABOR DAY.

Sixth Race—Three-minute class, trot or pace; records made after July 15th, no bar; purse, $200.

Seventh race—Five-eighths mile dash; previous winners at the meeting to carry seven pounds extra; non-winners this year and maidens allowed five pounds; purse, $125.

Eighth race—Six-and-a-half furlong selling race; weight for age; winner to be entered to be sold for $500; if entered to be sold for $400, allowed three pounds, and three pounds for every $100 less, down to $100; purse, $150.

Ninth race—Labor Day handicap, mile-and-quarter; purse, $300. Weights announced on Saturday, August 31, at 9 p. m.

Tenth race—Three-quarter mile consolation race; post entries; open to horses not winning first or second moneys at this meeting; purse, $100.

Entrance fees to all races except Nos. 1 and 6, 10 per cent.

Entrance fees to Nos. 1 and 6, 5 per cent. and 5 per cent. additional from money winners.

Money divided 70, 20 and 10 per cent. in all events except 1 and 6.

Harness races—Purse divided 50, 25, 15 and 10 per cent.

Entries to all events close Wednesday, August 28th.

The anniversary social dance of the Uniform Rank of the Knights of Pythias will be held at the Pavillion, English bay, on Wednesday, August 28th, at 8:30 p. m. The affair promises to be a big success. The committee has left no stone unturned and have already disposed of a large number of tickets.

HO FOR VICTORIA LABOR DAY.

THE INDEPENDENT.

GEO. BARTLEY ..... Editor
HARRY COWAN ..... Business Manager

PUBLISHED WEEKLY IN THE INTEREST OF ORGANISED LABOR

BY

THE INDEPENDENT PRINTING COMPANY.

AT 312 HOMER STREET, VANCOUVER, B. C.

SUBSCRIPTIONS IN ADVANCE.

A week, 5 cents; month, 15 cents; three months, 35 cents; six months, 65 cents; one year, $1.25.

ENDORSED BY THE TRADES AND LABOR COUNCIL, THE VANCOUVER LABOR PARTY AND THE BUILDING TRADES COUNCIL.

UNION LABEL

SATURDAY.....AUGUST 24, 1901

THE INDEPENDENT.

There are quite a number of union members who have not yet subscribed for this paper, but who should do so. The Independent is their paper, it stands for them all the time and it is the only paper on the coast that will stand for them in time of trouble. Some of the daily papers are more or less friendly to organized labor, and show their interest in the workingmen by the attention given to labor news in their columns. But when it comes to a stand-up fight between labor and capital in this community you will find that they are not with you any further than to, maybe, give the news in an impartial manner, and after all that is about as much as can be expected of them to do. It has been found, though, in many cases they have not done this, but on the contrary have dished up their news in such a way as to favor capital and make labor appear in a wrong and sometimes ridiculous light. Especially is this true of the C. P. R. trackmen's strike.

It may be depended on that The Independent will not do this. It will give the news as it is, and make as good a fight for labor as it can. We again appeal to all union men who have not yet subscribed to do so now. A union labor paper is a real necessity in a community composed of wage-earners as this is, but in order to keep one alive it must be fed. The union men are the people who undoubtedly should see that it is properly taken care of. It is for their interests that it should be healthy and prosperous, and possessed of sufficient vigor to make a square fight when necessary. Not that we are looking for a new fight or expect one, but such a thing cannot long be foretold, and the unexpected is often the thing that happens. Therefore it is well to be at all times prepared with all the ordnances and paraphernalia of war, and be in such a position as not to be caught in ambush. Remember, union men, The Independent is working for you. Don't you think you ought to do a little work for it? Send in your names and your subscriptions and be placed on the honor roll. The editor and devil can't stand the wind diet much longer.

THE WORKINGMAN'S HOLIDAY.

Every store in Vancouver ought to be closed on Labor Day. It is the workingman's especial holiday, and no employer should deprive him of the privilege of enjoying it. It is his by the law of the land, and every employer of labor who compels his employees to work on that day takes advantage of the fact that they are to a certain extent in his power, to rob them of that which the law gives them. The parliament of Canada has given to every laborer this day as his own, to do with it as he sees fit, and no man has the right—he may have the power, but he has not the right—to deprive him of it. Every merchant or storekeper of any kind that takes advantage of his employees to rob them of this day of recreation should be remembered by every man who is a member or organized labor.

THE STEEL STRIKE.

There is practically no change in the situation since the abandonment of all means of conciliation, which was caused by the proposition made by Mr. Morgan as an ultimatum being such as the Amalgamated officials could not accept with honor. Every evidence was given that the Amalgamated men were desirous of a settlement, and were even willing to make concessions to the combine rather than prolong the strike, but Messrs. Morgan and Schwab, thinking the Amalgamated officials were weakening, made a bluff with a proposition that could not be accepted by the men. Mr. Morgan became hot at their effrontery in refusing to be bluffed, and declared that the Amalgamated Association's organization should be crushed. And this is the question in dispute: Shall the steel trust be permitted to crush the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers? President Shaffer ordered a general strike, which took place Saturday night in all the mills conducted by the combine. There can be no question about the outcome of the strike if the men stand firm. The struggle will be a hard one, but thousands of men can afford to lose a few dollars in wages each, better than a few men can afford to each lose millions. And the aid that will come to the men from the millions of workingmen throughout the country will make it possible for the poorest of them to remain out indefinitely. Taken altogether the men have a hard fight on their hands, but they can win if they will it so.

Go to Victoria Labor Day.

Don't miss a union meeting.

Trust the officers of your union. But be careful in selecting them.

There is talk of organizing an editorial association among interior papers.

A stomach full of bread is of more practical benefit to a man on strike than a brain full of theories.

The way some of our aldermen pump air into their bicycle tires demonstrates the fact that their long suit is wind.

Up in Butte the bartenders have a union and own a hall; in Vancouver they have no union, and hardly own themselves.

Socialism, accomplished, might prevent strikes, but preaching socialism will not settle a strike in progress.—Union Record.

It is a sure sign that labor unions are beneficial to workingmen when organized capital becomes so bitter against them.

We have filled all the strikers places—the roadbed is in excellent condition—a smash-up daily only lets the public know that the company is alive and don't just give a darn how many of them it kills.—C. P. R.—Toronto Toiler.

The truth has been brought home to organized labor that as long as it is without a creditable labor press it can look for neither advocacy nor defense in print from any quarter whatever, even while it is fighting a fight to the death.—Union Record.

The Fort Worth (Texas) News says: Our merchants have begun to insist that clerks must be members of the union and keep their dues paid up. This is the result of customers asking for union cards and refusing to buy goods in stores whenever a clerk is found without a current working card.

M. E. Ingalls, president of the Big Four railroad system, says: "My observation in the last twenty-five years has been that labor has steadily won and capital lost in the struggle which always exists more or less." Mr. Ingalls is undoubtedly correct. For whatever the temporary reverses may be, organized labor usually emerges stronger than before.

The report of the prosy proceedings of the city council were missed from the columns of the News-Advertiser on Tuesday morning. Upon enquiry at police headquarters the officer spoke in a whisper that he thought some of the aldermen had gone fishin' with the editor of The Independent, who was thought to be an anarchist whose sole amusement was throwing bombs, and consequently were liable to go up in a baloon, and that some had gone over to Tacoma to attend the street fair; also the citizens were liable to protest. Not so; they all felt relieved on Tuesday morning, and are now talking of getting up a petition, praying them to take summer holidays till January at least. "For which relief much thanks," says Shakespeare.

The British Amalgamated Society of Engineers, the most powerful and wealthiest trades union in the world, recently issued its report for 1900, showing a membership of 87,672 and over £400,000 in funds. The report makes a volume of about 300 pages, and it is learned that "the society has now completed fifty years of existence," and that "an organization covering nearly 100,000 men must necessarily have reflected with more or less accuracy the weakness as well as the strength of industrial democracy." The income of the society last year was £333,555, and the expenditures £234,194, showing a saving of £99,361, which brings the funds up to £406,529 in exact figures. Of that balance £217,143 stands to the credit of the superannuation fund, leaving £279,386 for benefit and trade purposes.

The Inland Sentinel now carries the union label at the head of its editorial columns.

A man got called down the other day for calling a fellow worker McNicol. He got off easy for such a crime!

The steel trust is to remove some of its mills to places where the people are friendly to it. Such places are not to be found on the map.

John Phillips, secretary of the United Hatters of America, says there is no union of straw hat makers, in consequence of which there is no label to be found in straw hats.

An exchange says that a girl who doesn't like to kiss ought to be treated to lots of ice cream and taffy for it. But then, are there any girls in Vancouver who don't like both?

The street railway men are evidently up against it hard. President Mahon a few days ago said that he had received 14 telegrams within two days telling him of as many strikes. It looks as if the street railways had agreed upon concerted action against the unions.

The local barbers have decided to petition the city council to enact an early closing by-law. Those in the trade are practically unanimously in favor of it, and we don't see why there should be any objection by our city fathers to oppose the request.

The late friction between Union No. 618 of Carpenters and Joiners of America and the management of the Ironsides mine, Phoenix, B. C., has been happily removed, and a settlement, honorable to both parties concerned, has been obtained through the mediation of the Phoenix Trades and Labor council.

The labor men of the province will get up a monster petition to the Duke of Cornwall and York, protesting against the influx of Mongolian labor. Victoria has resolved to that effect already. The other councils will in due course be in line. No doubt this big proposed anti-Mongolian demonstration will be popular with the people and be appreciated by the Dook—we don't think.

The series of articles, or lessons, on economics, by "Phiz," appearing in The Independent for some time past, are concluded in this issue. Though some of our readers may disagree with him on some points—and the greatest minds sometimes differ—yet all agree that they at once stamp the author as being one of the brightest and at the same time most practical writers in Canada to-day. We all appreciate the efforts of "Phiz" very much, and were well repaid for the study of his writings.

A kind of counterfeiting that has become popular in England of late is the manufacture of spurious shillings out of genuine silver. As the amount of silver contained in a shilling is worth only about half of that sum the coiners reap excellent profits. All of the false shillings detected heretofore have been cast in a mold, but it is pointed out that were the counterfeiters to enlist the services of an expert engraver and die sinker, detection would be almost impossible, and the only obvious remedy would be to increase the size and weight of the coins.

It is very significant how labor papers all over the continent are being patronized by leading firms. Men of business are beginning to realize the necessity there exists of co-operating with the labor class in helping their paper. They are getting on to the fact that the battle of labor is their fight also. The big departmental stores and the trusts are running their institutions to the wall, besides, as a rule, the readers of a labor paper have full confidence in its utterances, and are mostly always suspicious of party organs. One prominent business man told us that he hoped we would have a daily labor paper soon, because he was so well satisfied with the results obtained through his advertisement in The Independent. If labor papers were patronized as they ought to be by business communities and workmen it would not be so very long before there would be hundreds of daily labor papers.

The great industrial struggles which are taking place in all parts of the United States and Canada are but the ripples which foretell the storm. The thousands of steel workers, the machinists, the dockmen, the trackmen, the smeltermen and a hundred other trades will some day federate in one grand union and strike for the emancipation of labor. When that day comes Judge Hanford injunctions will be impotent and Pinkertons and Strathcona specials will be on strike themselves or seeking the kindly shade of some dark alley. Magnates with colossal fortunes will have less influence than the walking delegate and all the power and might of a plutocratic government will not induce men to return to work for less than they are worth—the full product of their labor. Then will come the great trust of the people. Men will no longer toil for a tithe of what they produce. The machine will no longer impoverish the worker to enrich the owner. The great railway systems will no longer pay millions on water and starve the trackmen. Smeltermen will not be placed under surveillence and treated as criminals for demanding what they consider their due. The labor struggle is going on and on until some day it reaches final victory. No power can avert the end.—Sandon Paystreak.

CURRENT OPINION---ALL SORTS.

Different in America.

A banker, cashier or other man prominent in financial affairs in Germany kills himself after performing a disgraceful act.—Youngstown Laborite.

Misery Loves Company.

We are not glad to hear that our Canadian friends are suffering from corrupt judiciaries, but somehow or other, we can't get over the fact that "misery loves company," and as we on this side of the line are suffering from a similar cause, the lonesomeness of the feeling is a trifle ameliorated by knowing that "there are others."—Portland Labor Press.

We'll Bet on Vancouver.

Pipestone, Manitoba, an alkali town with a horrible nerve, has offered to play any old kind of a game with any town in Manitoba or the N. W. T. for any kind of money up to $10,000. Maybe those Pipestone jays would like to open up a city council contest. We have a bunch of aldermen that we will match against anything in the municipal line that ever chewed a rag; and a mayor that can—oh! but what's the use. Simple words and cold metallic type fail when it comes to describing Sandon's mayor. He's a peach. Give him a 10-bore sawed-off and he will make a stand-off with the universe.—Sandon Paystreak.

Pay up your subscription to the Independent. It does not cost you much and you should not hesitate about giving your support readily to a labor paper.

The striking garment workers at New York have decided to call out the cutters employed by several manufacturers, partly to force those who have not complied already with the demands of the strikers to do so at once, and partly to force the manufacturers to accede to the demands of the contractors in order that the strikers may return to work as soon as possible. The attitude of the contractors is unchanged. They have issued a letter or proclamation, alleging that for the last few years the clothing trades have been agitated each year by the strike of the workers, who have won all their demands, and a lot more capitalistic bombast. The extremely low wages and long hours that are enforced on the workers are almost intolerable.

Union Directory.

VANCOUVER TRADES AND LABOR COUNCIL—President, John Crow; vice-president, W. J. Lamrick; secretary, T. H. Cross; financial secretary, W. J. Beer; treasurer, C. Crowder; statistician, W. McKissock; sergeant-at-arms, G. F. Lenfesty. Meetings—First and third Friday in each month, at 7.30 p.m., in Union hall, corner Dunsmuir and Homer streets.

COOKS, WAITERS AND WAITRESSES' Union, Local No. 28. President, Chas. Over; vice-president, W. W. Nelson; recording secretary, Jas. H. Perkins; financial secretary, R. J. Loundes; treasurer, Wm. Ellender. Meeting every Friday at 8.30 p. m. in Union Hall, corner Homer and Dunsmuir streets.

VANCOU'R TYPOGRAPHICAL UNION, No 226 meet the last Sunday in each month at Union hall. President, C. S. Campbell; vice-president, George Wilby; secretary, S. J. Gothard, P. O. box 64; treasurer, W. Brand; sergeant-at-arms, Andrew Stuart; executive committee, E. L. Woodruff, S. R. Robb, J. H. Browne, N. Williams; delegates to Trades and Labor council, J. C. Marshall, Robt. Todd, J. H. Browne.

STREET RAILWAY MEN'S UNION—Meets second and fourth Wednesday of each month, in Sutherland Hall, corner Westminster avenue and Hastings street at 8 p. m. President, G. Dickie; vice-president, C. Bennett; secretary, A. G. Perry; treasurer, H. Vanderwalker; conductor, G. Lenfesty; warden, J. Marshall; sentinel, F. C. O'Brien; delegates to Trades and Labor Council: John Pearey, Jas. Barton, Geo. Lenfesty, G. Dickie and J. Howes.

UNITED BROTHERHOOD OF CARPENTERS and Joiners—Meets every second and fourth Thursday in Union Hall, room No. 3. President, Wm. F. McKenzie, 487 Ninth avenue; vice-president, Hugh Wilson; recording secretary, A. E. Coffin, 730 Nelson street; financial secretary, H. S. Falconer; treasurer, George Walker; conductor, Jas. Ferguson; warden, Jos. Dixon; delegates to T. and L. council, Jos. Dixon, Robt. Macpherson, H. Wilson.

THE RETAIL CLERKS' INTERNATIONAL PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION meets in O'Brien's Hall, the first and third Tuesdays of each month. T. A. Phillip, president; W. J. Lamrick, secretary, 248 Princess street.

TEXADA MINERS' UNION, No. 113, W. F. M., meets every Saturday at 7.30 p.m. in Foresters' hall, Van Anda. President, R. Aitken; vice-president, C. A. Melville; secretary, A. Raper, Van Anda, B. C.; treasurer, H. V. Price; conductor, P. Burt; warden, John Linklater.

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MACHINISTS—Beaver Lodge, No. 182—Meets second and fourth Wednesday in each month in Union Hall. President, Wm. Beer; corresponding secretary, E. Timmins, 726 Hamilton street; financial secretary, J. H. McVety, 1211 Seymour street.

VANCOUVER FISHERMEN'S UNION, No. 2. Meets in Labor Hall, Homer street, every first and third Saturday in each month at 8 p. m. Ernest Burn, president; Chas. Durham, secretary, 847 Harris street.

JOURNEYMEN BAKERS' AND CONFECTIONERS' INTERNA'L Union of America, Local, No. 46; Vancouver, B. C. President, Jas. Webster; vice-president, R. F. McDonald; recording secretary, Wm. H. Barnes; corresponding secretary, F. Rawling, 640 Granville street, room 10; financial secretary, C. J. Salter, 413 Powell street; treasurer, W. Wood; master-at-arms, F. Moyles; delegates to Trades and Labor Council, C. J. Salter and F. Rawling.

CIGARMAKERS' UNION, NO. 357—Meets the first Tuesday in each month in Union hall. President, A. Kochel; vice-president, C. Crowder; secretary, G. Thomas, Jr., 148 Cordova street west; treasurer, S. W. Johnson; sergeant-at-arms, J. W. Brat; delegates to Trades and Labor Council, J. Crow, F. Jost, A. Kochel.

BROTHERHOOD OF PAINTERS AND DECORATORS, Local Union No. 138. Meets every Thursday in Labor hall. President, W. Pavler; vice-president, E. Crush; recording-secretary, C. Pinder, 1759 Eighth avenue, Fairview; financial secretary, W. Stanley, 413 Keefer street; treasurer, H. McSorley; trustees, C. Irwin, B. Cross and W. Cole.

JOURNEYMEN TAILORS' UNION OF AMERICA, No. 178—Meets alternate Mondays in room 1, Union Hall. President, F. Williams; vice-president, Miss Graham; recording secretary, H. O. Burritt; financial secretary, Walfred Larson; treasurer, C. E. Neilson; sergeant-at-arms, A. J. Kennedy.

LESSONS.

[CONCLUDING ARTICLE.]

I have for many weeks been reviewing briefly, but, I hope, intelligently, the main features of the great struggle which all friends of labor have been engaged in for nearly one hundred years; and I have noted the various reverses sustained, and points gained during that time.

Now, let us see where we stand, and let us see what the past has to say, both to the present and the future. Well in the first place we are in a far better position to-day than ever before. It is better to be optimistic than pessimistic. Some are apt to think that labor is in a worse plight today than ever it was. But the facts are against those who think so. Bear in mind I do not mean to say that we are entirely delivered from all our troubles. No, no, we have these to-day, more perhaps than we should have, but the grand fact remains that the laborer ought to realize that, in spite of the difficulties which lie in the path of labor, he ought to rejoice at what has been accomplished.

In these days—now happily gone—the world you might say was against him, and his aspirations. He was a thing of scorn, and his demands and needs were laughed at and treated with derision. Now, while he may not yet have reached the proud pedestal to which he has been aiming and working—still he is recognized as an important faction in life—and his needs are now recognized as legitimate.

Formerly it was unlawful for him to be a member of a trade union, and, if he dared, the strong arm of the law was against him. Now his right to associate has been almost universally recognized.

In those days, the condition of the laborer was truly revolting, and in order to perpetuate what was a disgrace to our common humanity, the rich and the powerful declared and acted on their declaration, that the state had no right to interfere.

Now the state declares not only that it has a right to interfere, but that it will interfere, and it has interfered to the benefit of the laborer every time. I need not go over again what has been done, but the laborer in the mine, the workshop and the factory are all enjoying the benefits derived from State interference, and beneficial legislation.

The laborer has some pleasures in life to-day, though not as many as he should have. This change is perhaps more apparent in the ranks of skilled labor rather than in unskilled labor, and their improved condition is largely due to the helpfulness derived from trade unions. In those days the individual was everything. He was given the right, no matter whether he was able to use it wisely or not to sell his labor in any way it seemed right in his own eyes. I need not tell you again how ruinous this was to others.

To-day the individual is made to feel that his industrial freedom is to be attained not by setting himself against all others, but in subordinating his interests to the interests of the whole of his brethren. In those days a sort of tin god was set up for men to worship in the shape of competition.

We have shewed again and again that competition as an industrial system is ruinous and demoralizing that in short it is a vicious form of savagery. To-day as the result of the attacks made against it, the god is less powerful, has fewer worshippers than ever, and the hopeful reformer sees the time not far distant when this awful monstrosity will be swept away.

Yes, we have made progress, great progress and the man who realizes this, will become the most hopeful as regards the future. Do not whine my brother. To you is given the privilege of taking up the work brave souls by death have laid down. Instead of grumbling that all your troubles have not been cleared away, rather rejoice that to you is given the chance to do some service if not for yourself at least for those coming after you. The message of the past to you is:

> In the world's broad field of battle,
> In the bivouac of life,
> Be not like dumb, driven cattle;
> Be a hero in the strife.

Another lesson which this history impresses upon us, that the onward march of progress or reform is slow. It is well for us to realize this. We think oftentimes that this thing and that thing should be done, and done at once. And because they are not done when we think they ought to be done, we lose hope in both men and things. This is very foolish.

The impatient man, the impatient word and act have often retarded genuine reform. The most progressive governments in the old land have been those which have been defeated at the polls. Those who thought they did not go far enough and those who thought they had gone too far united together to put in power those who would not do anything. Waiting or patience is ever an element in true progress.

Man's life is short, and often he thinks no progress is being made at all. Some of the brave impetuous spirits of the past may have thought so over and over again, but to-day as we look back, we are amazed at what has been done.

We cannot go back, we cannot stand still, but to move forward the body politic must ever be slow work. We have the same seeming ground for impatience as all earnest men have had, but remember the advice of the poet.:

> Let us then be up and doing,
> With a heart for any fate:
> Still achieving, still persuing,
> Learn to labor and to wait.

There is sublime wisdom in that line "learn to labor and to wait!" That is one of the hardest things in life to learn. But it will be better both for ourselves, and the cause for which we labor, if we learn to wait, for the victory is sure to come, if only we are faithful to it, and wise in the use of means.

Another lesson which this history teaches is: that what has been accomplished has been through all kinds of agents and instrumentalities. When a victory has been obtained the selfish man is apt to say, I have done it; and labor men are apt to claim for themselves all the honor of what has been achieved. Let us be fair; and let us above all things be just in our recognition of the services of others on our behalf. Let us always be willing to give honor where honor is due.

There are some enthusiastic labor men who say to-day, Let us have a labor party; let us cut ourselves adrift from this one and that one; let us depend entirely upon our own initiative and what we can accomplish ourselves. While I have the deepest sympathy for a labor party, yet, if this policy should be carried out, the effects that would follow would be disastrous.

There are good men and true to be found in every walk of life, and if ever the cause of labor is to attain that success which we fondly desire, it must and will come only through the help of every man who is willing and able to enroll himself under the banner which labor proudly unfurls to-day. This is the lesson of the past.

I give the first place in the battle and in the triumph to labor men. They deserve far more credit than what they have received, or, perhaps, ever will receive. They fought nobly. In season and out of season they stood by what they thought was right. They were the sufferers, and it is but just to say that if it had not been for the fight which they put up these reforms would not have been carried out.

But could they have done it all alone? I think not. Anyway history shows us that they did not do it all alone. They had able helpers working out with them their salvation. Carlyle, Ruskin, Earl of Shaftesbury, Owen, Kingsley, Maurice, all had their work to do, and they did it well. The assistance of such men was simply invaluable when they spoke as speak they did; when they wrote as write they did; and when they worked and labored as they did in the interest of labor, the effect was to hasten the reforms for which the laborers were striving for.

Let us avoid all narrowness. Refuse the help of no good man. Take all and welcome all, and then reforms of the future will be accelerated.

Another lesson which this history teaches is, the value of labor organizations. It was a great day for labor and for reform when labor unions were recognized by law. Before that workingmen were so many units, and their atomic condition was the symbol both of their weakness and helplessness before the strength and power of capital. It's otherwise now.

I almost feel ashamed when I hear a supposed workingman flout and jeer at trade unions. They may not have done anything expected of them, but without them what would have been the condition of the working man today. In spite of all hostile criticism such unions are a power in the land today, and that body of workingmen today is the best off that has the largest and strongest union both numerically and financially.

When I consider the terrific fight our brethren made in the past to get these unions, and when I reflect on the good which they have done, I am amazed beyond measure when I read that out of every ten working men one only is in a union. This is a lamentable state of affairs, because it makes the cause of labor so much the weaker, and the work of unions so much the more difficult. If every working man did his duty as he ought to do it, then he would with the least possible delay become an active member of some labor organization.

What we need today is unity among the forces of labor. We have what we call single taxers, trade unionists and socialists. But why should they be opposed to each other. I am a socialist. I believe in socialism; but when I read in a socialist paper savage attacks against this man and that man because he can't see eye to eye with me, thereby dividing the ranks of labor, I get out of patience with this senseless tomfoolery.

Legislation comes bit by bit, and every bit is a distinct gain, if not for our isms, at least for the cause of labor. In the ranks of labor there will be difference of opinion, but let the advanced thinker join hands with his less advanced brother, and let him pull with him as far as he goes. Perhaps by the time he gets what he wants he will be ready to go further.

Anyway let us have unity amid deversity. We need the pull, the long pull, and the pull altogether. As each working man realizes the strength of the forces arrayed against his class, then I think he will feel that the man is a traitor who attempts in any way to sow dissensions among those who should be united.

These then are some of the lessons of the past. As I said, I am an optimist. I think the prospects are bright, in fact, sunny, I see a roseate hue across the sky. The good time is coming and is not far off either, if we be wise.

Let us have faith in our cause, in our leaders, and in our brethren. Let us extend the glad hand to every man; be he peer or peasant, rich man or poor man who wants to help us. Let us marshall our forces. Let us teach, teach, teach everywhere and, everyone, and then let our ballots be so sacred in in our sight, as that they will even be cast, not for money, but for the men and the truth by means of which our redemption is to be accomplished.

In concluding I have to thank you, Mr. Editor, for giving me your valuable columns for this series of articles. And I have to thank my readers for their interest in the same. They have covered so much space and time, that I fear many of you have not derived the benefit you would derive if you had them now in some handy form. Were I rich I would issue them in phamplet form, but as I am not I would like you to read them more continuously. If I have caused anyone to take a deeper interest in labor matters by means of these fragmentary sketches, I am more than compensated for the time and labor bestowed in their preparation.

> Nor deem the irrevocable past
> As wholly wasted, wholly vain,
> If, rising on its wrecks, at last
> To something nobler we attain.

PHIZ.

THE BAKERS.

Half the bread supplied to London, Eng., comes from cellar bake-houses that violate the first principles of sanitation and frequently cause typhus and other zymotic diseases, according to Dr. J. F. Waldo, the newly elected coroner of the city of London. "The total abolition of these places," said Dr. Waldo, "is the only means of insuring the production of bread under healthy conditions. A year's investigation in the capacity of health officer of Southwark convinced me that the government must take most stringent measures, otherwise trade opposition, backed by the suppiness of the local authorities, will render powerless all efforts to remove this public scandal which constitutes a grave menace to the health of the community."

The Trades and Labor Council of Toronto has elected officers as follows: President, Samuel Moore (acclamation); vice-president, R. H. Cox (acclamation); recording and corresponding secretary, D. W. Kennedy (acclamation); financial secretary, W. R. Warde (acclamation); treasurer, John Acheson (acclamation); librarian, D. J. Honwood; sergeant-at-arms, W. H. Poplin; trustees, Isaac H. Sanderson, Wm. Henderson, W. A. Douglas; auditors, David A. Carey, Chas. March, John Tweed.

SALMAGUNDI.

The Toronto Star says that in a rural newspaper office in Ontario the editor who writes a bad fist used the expression "from Dan to Beersheba," and the apprentice set it up from "Darn to Bejabers." He knew the last word was not right, but from what he could make of the context that was the best he could make of it.

It is said that President McKinley has bought a mountain of chalk. Probably to mark Hanna.

On the road to Padunk there is a sign posted up near a blacksmith shop, which reads "Four miles to Padunk. If yer can't rede ast the blacksmith how fer Podunk is." The city aldermen read the sign and passed on. When within a mile of Podunk one said that he was thinking about that sign and asked his fellow aldermen if they saw the joke and explained it by telling them that if they had asked how far Podunk was the blacksmith would have said to them that he didn't know.

An Idaho cowboy appeared at a railroad station and stated that he desired to ship to parents in the east the body of a comrade who had been killed by a grizzly bear. In shipping the box the agent noticed that it was quite heavy and not the usual shape.

In a few days came a telegram, which read:

"Some mistake; Bill's body not arrived: box contained a bear."

The cowboy, who was still at the station on a protracted spree, wired back:

"No mistake; Bill's inside the bear."

Times have changed. "Did he leave any insurance?" is now asked instead of "Was he prepared?"—The Cynic.

Life is accustomed to give nothing to man without a world of toil.—The Reflector.

The largest circulation of any copyright English work is believed to be a reference book, "Enquire Within for Everything," of which 1,250,000 copies have been sold. "East Lynne" has had the largest circulation of any English novel—nearly 500,000. The earliest published work still in copyright is "Poems by Two Brothers"—the Tennyson brothers—which was published in 1837. The largest sum for serial copyright was given to George Eliot for "Romola."—$35,000.

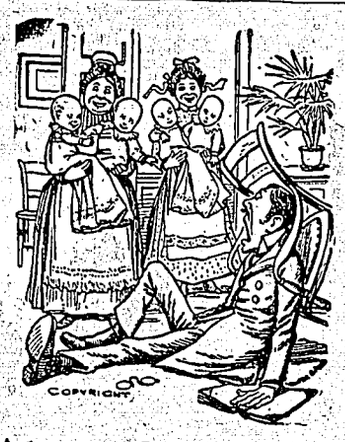
Backward, turn backward, oh time in your flight, feed me on gruel again just for to-night; I am so weary of sole leather steak, petrified biscuit and vulcanized cake, oysters that sleep in a watery bath, and butter as strong as Goliah of Gath; weary of paying for what I can't eat, chewing up rubber and calling it meat. Backward, turn backward, how weary I am; give me a swipe at my grandmother's jam; let me drink milk that has never been skimmed, let me eat butter whose whiskers are trimmed; let me once more have an old-fashioned pie, and then I'll be ready to curl up and die.—Ex.

A man has invented a Shamrock cocktail. It may safely be inferred that at least one ingredient is no sham.

Some men would rather fight than eat; but a man who has a temperament the opposite usually lives longer, gets fatter and dies a heap better liked by his fellow humans.

The popular idea of the genesis of the word "news" is that it is composed of the initials of north, east, west and south, which the early newspapers printed as a "headline" to show that information was contained in the paper from the four centers of the earth. As a matter of fact, the word appears first in old English as "news" or "newsy," the plural of new. It is not a native English idiom, but a translation of the French "nouvelles"—news. Another supposition is that news represents the partitive gemtive of the Anglo-Saxon "hwaet niwes," but this is not borne out by old English examples.—Ex.

The International Boot and Shoe Workers' union, at Toronto, organized the projected district council. The new council will have control over the affairs of the union all over Ontario. Headquarters will be in Toronto. The delegates comprising the council were appointed as follows: W. Stewart, president, Hamilton; Wm. Kew, corresponding secretary, Markham; J. McFadden, secretary-treasurer, Toronto. James Albrack, Berlin; Miss Catlin, Hamilton, and Messrs. Lennon, McLean, and Johnston, Toronto. E. W. A. O'Dell, business agent, has opened an office at 15 Leader lane, Toronto.



NEWS OF THE LABOR WORLD

Canadian.

Half of the members of Painter's Union, No. 123, Rossland, have left for pastures new.

The London, Ont., Trades and Labor Council has appointed a committee to consider the formation of an independent labor body.

Another powerful syndicate of American and Canadian capitalists has been formed to carry on the wood pulp industry on the north shore of the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

Labor day will be observed at Keremeos, B. C., in proper style. A committee of citizens and ranchers has been appointed to prepare a programme and collect subscriptions for the prizes. The celebration will last both Monday and Tuesday.

At a special meeting of the Marine Firemen's union, of Victoria, resolutions of condolence with the relatives of the late Messrs. Burke and Hatch, drowned in the Islander disaster, were passed. Pending the arrival of the bodies, definite arrangements for attending the funerals of the deceased members were left over to a further meeting. The union decided to affiliate itself with the International Seamen's Union of America. Messrs. Alex. McLeod and W. H. Shade were selected to represent the firemen at the Victoria Trades and Labor Council.

The following resolution has been unanimously adopted by the Slocan T. & L. Council, viz.: "That, whereas, it is provided by the general statutes that fair wages shall be paid by the city under any contract; and that whereas the union label is a badge of honest workmanship and fair wages; therefore, be it resolved, that this council in meeting assembled do endorse the principle of a fair wage clause, and do hereby order that the union label shall be affixed to all printed stationery and other supplies procured by any and all departments of the civic government and service."

An organizer of brewers' workmen has been in Victoria for some time endeavoring to form an association. He was successful in enlisting most of the men, and had collected the ordinary fees, when a complaint was made to the police that a stranger from the other side was collecting moneys and should be apprehended. Last evening he was met by an officer, who took him to the police station, where the man says he was searched and his credentials taken from him. Later in the evening the members of the Trades and Labor Council interested themselves in the matter, when he was at once released.

Of all the conventions to be held in the Dominion during the fall, probably none will attract the same amount of attention and interest as that of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, which will convene for the seventeenth time on the third Tuesday of September. It has been decided to publish for the first time a souvenir book, containing a greeting to the delegates, directory of officers, names and addresses of affiliated trades and labor unions, history of the Congress, portraits and biographies of the officers, and a treatise on technical education, edited by the secretary-treasurer, P. M. Draper, of Ottawa.

American.

Machinists, blacksmiths and other employees in the Port Richmond repair shop of the Reading railway, at Philadelphia, have rejected an offer of 5 per cent. advance in wages, demanding an increase of 12 per cent.

Itis reported by the settlement committee of the striking East Side tailors of New York, that over 100 of the largest manufacturers have settled, and, their contractors having also signed an agreemnt, 15,000 of the strikers have returned to work.

The girls employed at Stone Brothers shirt waist factory, New York, have gone on strike. A hundred girls employed in making cigarettes for the American Tobacco Company, New York, have also struck for an advance.

Labor organizations of Seattle are considering a general sympathetic strike in aid of the iron workers.

The Port Costa, Cal., strikers have returned to work unloading schooners and barges, but refuse to load ships. In the matter of hours and pay, a compromise has been agreed upon. Formerly men worked ten hours a day for $2.50. They struck for nine hours a day at $3, and have gone to work on a nine-hour day for $2.75 a day.

The Fall River cotton manufacturers have voted to impose a reduction of 14 per cent. in wages of all mill operatives, to take effect September 8. The wages are already very near to the starvation point and it is the general feeling of the operatives that the reduction must be resisted. The unions will decided in a few days whether to order a strike.

The girls who have been on strike for two months at the National Shirt Waist factory in New York have won their battle. They earned the victory well.

The strike of the coal miners of Bridges, Mont., has been settled on a basis of 80 cents a ton of clean-screened coal from long-wall workings and 90 cents a ton for mining from room and pillar workings. House rent is reduced and discrimination against union men removed.

Chicago sleeping car porters are forming an organization for "mutual benefit" to be called the Railway men's Mercantile league.

Striking ice wagon drivers of Columbus, Ohio, being granted a ten-hour day and pay for overtime, have resumed work.

The miners of the United Verde mine at Jerome, Ariz., have struck for an eight-hour day. Abour 1,200 men are involved.

Negro ministers at Birmingham, Ala., have issued circulars addressing the members of their race against going north and east to take the place of striking workmen.

The striking iron molders at Chicago have refused the offer of $2.65 per day for bench molders and $2.85 per day for floor molders. They have voted to hold out for $3 flat per day.

The 535 mailers and packers employed in the 22 flour mills of Minneapolis, who have been granted an increase of wages, have voted to insist upon their demand for a year's contract.

An effort is being made in St. Louis, Mo., to form a building material trades council. If successful, a rule will be made that only union material will be used in the coming world's fair buildings.

THE BOILERMAKERS.

The Boilermakers and Ironship Builders' union has held a very successful convention at Buffalo, N. Y., at which several very important alterations to the constitution and rules of the order were made, amongst others being the following: "Any boilermaker or shipbuilder arriving at any city looking for work, without a traveling or working card, will have to go back to where he started from to get his card, before he will be allowed to start work. Boilermakers and shipbuilders are forbidden to work with men without a card."

A sick and health benefit has been added to the list of benefits. Any boilermaker getting sick or hurt through no fault of his own will be entitled to $5 a week sick pay, and $50 at death. This fills a greatly needed want.

No boilermaker will be allowed in future to buy goods without the union label or, them without being liable to a fine of $5 for each offence.

The dues of the brotherhood are increased to meet the demand for the sick benefit fund and other things.

These and many other alterations have been made to meet the growing needs of the union which, during the last year, has had an unprecedented increase in its membership. To meet the demands of its growth the convention, at the suggestion of its grand president, has divided the continent into nine districts, so that each district will be governed by its own council, subject to the grand lodge. This, it is thought, will regulate the prices better than the past system. Altogether the convention just closed was the most successful one held. A marked improvement in attendance and unanimity of opinion amongst its members being amongst its chief features. Every subject was discussed in an intelligent and manly manner with a view to better the condition of its members and the cause of trade unionism generally. Bros. McNeil and W. J. Gilthrop were unanimously elected to fill the offices of president and secretary-treasurer respectively, which positions they have held so long, the brotherhood having full confidence in their ability to fill these offices of trust.

The French National Miners' Federation has issued a circular proposing a general strike of miners on November 1st, unless the government and the mining companies grant an eight-hour day and a pension of two francs per day after 25 years' service.

It is reported that 4,000 Japanese laborers will arrive at Honolulu during the next three or four months.

It has been announced that $30,000 of the $100,000 needed for the new Labor Lyceum of Brooklyn has been raised. It is hoped to complete the building by January 1st.

MACHINISTS' PICNIC.

One of the most unique outings of the season was held by the members of Machinists' union, No. 182, last Saturday, at North Vancouver, when 75 composed the long-to-be-remembered Bohemian party. The committee certainly know how to get up a stag picnic, and deserve full credit for its efforts. It comprised: Messrs. W. Rae, Geo. P. Downey, "R. G. Maxwell," F. Coughlan, F. Yendell, N. Prescott, R. Arundell, Geo. Bowes.

The baseball game was between the journeymen and apprentices, and was a different article from that put up by either the Vancouver, Victoria or American teams, inasmuch as the batting was strong and heavy, Yendell, on a balcon hit, ran the bases twice, and never let up till he ran right into the refreshment pavilion. It is reported by a policeman that he caught his second wind on the second round, and his third wind at the pavilion. This was a most marvellous bit of play on the diamond, the scorer registering a double run. Prescott and Hastings made star plays. The batteries were whirlwinds. "Billy" Myles' boomerang curves and Ted Clark's dead-cynch catches gave the apprentices the best of the game, although Pitcher Littler and Catcher Rogers did good work for the journeymen. The policeman said that he thought the best runs were made from the first base to the pavilion. The great match was never really finished—but it is known that the score was large—as along about the middle the players were summoned to the pavilion by their admiring fans, when in the hearty reception or "scrimmage" both umpire and scorer were lost. They were last seen each with a glass of lemonade or something else. Wm. Rae, the master of ceremonies, was kept busy at the pavillion. The game over, all settled down and listened to well-rendered songs by W. Winsickle, Mr. Quinn, and a quartette of C. P. R. men. H. Tegg performed on a trapeze. The policeman says he was fine, as was also the unknown contortionist from the C. P. R. shops. W. Fowler played the piano, which fact speaks volumes for the concert part of the programme.

The speeches were mostly delivered as choruses, and all first-class. There were about 80, the subjects discussed being principally hot-air—furnaces, nobleness of character, unionism and other heavy and interesting picnic topics. The policeman says that during the afternon there were several engines and boilers erected, but were all invisible.

The refreshment pavillion was presided over by Fred. Coughlan and G. P. Downey. The only sign of anything left in the sandwich line was the map of the world, with the Sandwich islands on it, but as usual very indistinct, and the supply of liquid refreshments saved would have been even disappointing to Carrie Nation. All had good appetites, which were more than satisfied long ere 8 o'clock arrived, the time of departing. The atmosphere was hot in more ways than one, but a feature of the day was in the evening, when a procession was formed by the jolly picknickers from the boat to the tram cars. G. Goad, official photographer, took two fine negatives, before and after the picnic. They will no doubt be on exhibtion at the New Westminster fair, where all the ladies can gaze admiringly on the members of the most progressive union in Vancouver.

BUM BARBERS.

The barber colleges located in several cities, where they turn out a "jour" barber in from six to eight weeks who either gets a job in some cheap shop or starts one himself, must be very damaging to the barbers' unions all over the country. Hundreds of these college barbers are being graduated weekly and turned loose to prey upon the public, while an apprentice to the regular trade is required to serve three years. It is but natural to infer that the young man who serves a regular apprenticeship will doubtless be an honor to the profession, while the college bred "barber" will be a disgrace to it. The following letter written by President M. M. Faucett of the Sioux City Trades Assembly will give an idea of what the barber colleges produce: "I have been asked to write a few lines in regard to the barber schools, and give some of the tendencies and effects. When you come to handle a subject of this kind you must look at it just as it is, not as it could be or should be. In the first place, the tendencies are to drag the profession down. As a bare assertion is no argument, I will proceed to give you a few of the reasons why. In the first place, a barber school graduate is no more of a barber at the expiration of his allotted time, nor stands any more show among the up-to-date barbers than a draft horse would in a trotting race; consequently the student has been robbed of his money and derived no benefit from it. I have visited a few barber schools in my time and know whereof I speak. There is an old saying, which is a true one, that water never rises higher than the fountain; so, with this saying in mind, permit me to picture to your mind the difference between a barber school student and a regular apprentice as authorized by the Journeymen Barbers' International Union of America. A barber school is strictly a cold-blooded business proposition. They throw their doors open to anyone that comes along, regardless of their adaptability, and pat them on the back and tell them they will be able to hold a good job in any shop or run a shop for themselves. When you first go in a school they put you on one of the back chairs, where you wrestle with nothing but the genuine bum, and get nothing from your service but the odor from the bum, which he gives off very freely, and after you are there a few days the bum does not have the student bested but little. Please don't ask me about the towels, and how long they use one without washing it. I don't like to tell the truth about it, and I am like Washington, I won't lie. I will say this. It is an outrage on humanity. As time goes on the student moves up along the line toward the front chairs in the shop, where in most of the colleges they get 5 cents a shave. As the student gets along about the last of his term (which is in most all colleges from six to eight weeks) he is told very confidently he would be a god man to manage a shop for himself, and the professor knowing he could not command a good price for his labor, usually advises him to start a 5-cent shave shop, 10-cent hair cut. What more could you expect of a person who is that easily duped out of his money? I think an institution of that kind is nothing short of a bunco game. But as they are still able to sell gold bricks, it is no wonder they are able to fill their schools."

RALPH SMITH AND THE TRACKMEN'S STRIKE.

We are sorry to note a tendency on the part of some provincial newspapers to cast reflections on Ralph Smith, M. P., president of the Dominion Trades and Labor Council, for not taking a more active part in settling the trackmen's strike. These papers seem to think it is Mr. Smith's duty to push himself in wherever there is trouble between capital and labor and take a hand in adjusting matters in the interst of laboring men. In the past Mr. Smith has always shown a willingness to act as arbitrator in labor disputes, but wisely refrains from doing so until asked. In the matter of the trackmen's strike, Mr. Smith has never been requested to use his good offices as an arbitrator. He, however, promptly took up the matter of importation of alien laborers and has done everything in his power to have the act enforced. For years past Mr. Smith has acted as arbitrator in labor disputes on the island, particularly between the coal barons and their employees, and in nearly every case his efforts have been more or less successful.

Working men have not so many representatives in parliament that they can afford to lose a man of Mr. Smith's undoubted ability and influence. He is much respected in Ottawa and his advice is always sought by the government in matters affecting the interests of labor. Moreover, he has a clean record and none of his enemies can point to a single instance where he has betrayed his trust.—Golden Era.

FROM STEVESTON.

The trouble reported in a daily newspaper as taking place at the Vancouver cannery on the North Arm of the Fraser river last week was as follows:—It appears that a Chinaman, being overworked, complained that he wanted rest, when the net boss hit him in the face with a club. The other Chinamen protested in a body by stopping work, and taking up their knives chased the white man out of the cannery. Manager Russell, who was in the Japanese quarters, called on the Japs for assistance, who chased the Chinese to their quarters, and proceeded to build fires and burn up their baggage. The Chinese still refused to work, and consequently no fish were packed until Saturday. Before they resumed operations they were guaranteed by General Manager Russell that all damage done to their property would be settled for. The cannery could not take fish Friday or Saturday, promising to take them Tuesday morning.