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VOL. 5. VANCOUVER, B. C., SATURDAY, APRIL 19, 1902. NO 4

## PROVINCIAL PROGRESSIVE PARTY

### The Convention at Kamloops a Success—The Platform Adopted by Labor—Chris. Foley Elected President—Other Business of Importance Transacted.

At Kamloops, B. C., the Provincial Labor convention was called to order at 10 a. m. on Monday, April 14th. Jas. Wilks, Nelson, and T. H. Cross, Vancouver, were selected temporary chairman and secretary respectively.

CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE

was appointed as follows: J. H. Watson, W. Davison, John Graham, H. Buckle, J. McLaren, H. L. Fife and W. Ebbs.

Convention adjourned until 1 p. m. to permit of the credential committee preparing their report.

Convention reassembled at 1 p. m. Report of credential committee read as follows:

DELEGATES.

Socialist League, No. 42—Wm. Ebbs.

District Lodge, No. 6, Western Federation of Miners—Chris. Foley.

Slocan Miners' Union—H. L. Fife.

Phoenix Miners' Union, No. 8—W. Rogers.

Vancouver Trades and Labor Council—T. H. Cross and R. Macpherson.

Vancouver Labor Party—G. Bartley.

Council of Railroad Trainmen, Kamloops—A. McDonald and D. Stevens.

Rossland Trades and Labor Council, No. 6—J. McLaren.

Western Federation of Miners and Independent Labor Party, Rossland—T. Brownlee.

Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen, Kamloops—W. Hume.

Ymir Miners' Union—A. Parr.

Slocan Miners' Union, No. 62—J. A. Baker.

Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers—Thos. Clouston, Vancouver.

Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen, Kamloops—C. J. Bourne.

Phoenix Trades and Labor Council—C. H. Towns.

Vancouver Fishermen's Union—Sydney Harris.

Sandon Miners' Union, No. 8—W. Davison.

Kamloops Trades and Labor Council—J. H. Martin and J. Bunbury.

Greenwood Carpenters' Union and Greenwood Socialist Club—C. W. Stack.

Slocan Miners' Union—Jos. Purvviance.

Nanaimo Socialist Party—E. T. Kingsley.

Slocan Socialist Party—J. M. McGregor.

Nelson Miners' Union, No. 96—James Wilks and C. McKay.

Kamloops Miners' Union—J. Graham.

Victoria Trades and Labor Council—J. D. McNiven.

Vancouver Typographical Union—R. Todd.

New Westminster Typographical Union—D. Jamieson, Kamloops.

Cigar Makers' Union, Kamloops—F. Caseman.

New Denver Miners' Union—C. H. Richardson.

Nanaimo Trades and Labor Council—H. Buckle.

Vancouver Boilermakers—J. H. Watson.

International Association of Machinists, Revelstoke—Wm. Neild.

Greenwood Miners' Union—George Dougherty and M. Kane.

Nelson Carpenters' Union—A. Lockey.

Lardeau Miners' Union, Ferguson—A. Gordon.

Sandon Socialist League—Wm. McAdam.

Sandon Miners' Union—J. H. Thompson, T. McRoske and A. McDonald.

Brotherhood of Railway Trackmen, Ashcroft—T. Phillips.

Whitewater Miners' Union—J. B. Burke.

Kaslo Miners' Union—G. T. Kane.

Brotherhood of Railway Trackmen, Revelstoke—T. Gillespie.

Silverton Miners' Union—J. Tyree.

Rossland Miners' Union—R. Bulmer and F. E. Woodside.

Phoenix Miners' Union—T. Buckton.

Rossland Carpenters' Union—T. Beamish.

Ferguson Socialist Party—Alex. Cummains.

Ymir Miners' Union—A. McDougal.

Fernie Miners' Union—C. M. O'Brien.

Nelson Trades and Labor Assembly—E. Kirby.

Nelson Labor Party—Jas. Jones.

Vancouver Socialist Party—E. Burns.

Kamloops Federal Union—J. McGee.

Kamloops Single Tax—A. Thompson.

Nelson Cooks and Waiters—H. A. M. Fortier.

Order Railroad Telegraphers, Kamloops—Ed. Goulet.

On motion report accepted and delegates seated.

Next order of business—

ELECTION OF PERMANENT OFFICERS

for the convention.

Delegates Kilby, Kane and O'Brien were appointed scrutineers, and Delegate A. McDonald doorkeeper.

Nomiaations for chairman: J. A. Baker, Slocan; J. Wilks, Nelson; Chris. Foley, Rossland.

Before balloting was proceeded with a motion was adopted to admit press representatives.

Upon the ballot for president being taken the vote was declared to stand as follows: J. A. Baker, 32; J. Wilks, 16; Chris. Foley, 9. J. A. Baker was declared duly elected and took the chair.

Before proceeding with the election of a vice-president, a motion was carried after a short debate that no candidate for permanent office be eligible unless he be a British subject and a voter.

Nomination for vice-chairman: Jas. Wilks, Robert Macpherson. Result of ballot: Jas. Wilks, 30; Robt. Macpherson, 27. Jas. Wilks was declared elected, and upon motion of Mr. Macpherson and George Bartley the election was declared unanimous.

Election of secretary, T. H. Cross, of Vancouver, by acclamation.

COMMITTEES.

On motion the following committees were elected:

Orders of the Day—W. MacAdams, A. Parr and Thos. Clouston.

Platform—Chris. Foley (chairman), Robt. Macpherson, C. McKay, W. Davison, T. Brownlee, J. McLaren, J. D. McNiven.

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

Report of committee on orders of the day presented and on motion considered seratim. Report as adopted read:

1. Call meeting to order.
2. Roll call.
3. Presenting petitions.
4. Reading and receiving petitions.
5. Presenting reports by standing or select committees.
6. Motions and resolutions, all motions and resolutions to be submitted in writing.
7. The committee on order of business recommends that the adoption of a platform is a matter of primary importance, and that, therefore, under the head of motions and resolutions it take precedence over all other business.
8. It also recommends that no delegate be permitted to leave the hall during sessions except by permission of the chairman.
9. The convention shall be called to order at 9 o'clock a. m. and sit until the noon hour. At 1.30 p. m. and sit until 5 o'clock p. m. Night sessions shall be held when so ordered by this convention. Signed,

WM. McADAMS,
ALFRED PARR,
T. CLOUSTON, Committee.

Adjourned till 9 a. m. Tuesday.

TUESDAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

In Raven's hall, at 9 a. m., J. A. Baker called the meeting to order. After the roll of delegates had been called a motion limiting speakers to 10 minutes was passed. It was also decided to throw the doors of the convention hall open to the public.

The platform committee, through Chairman Chris. Foley, presented a preliminary and partial report, asking for further time to complete their labors.

Upon motion it was decided to take up the discussion of the rough draft of the platform, allowing the committee further time to prepare the same.

Upon motion it was decided to defer consideration of the name of the party until the platform had been definitely decided upon.

Delegate Foley said that the platform committee had exercised extreme moderation in preparing it. He held that this was the wisest course to pursue. He had found that in the east, as well as in many districts in this province, the impression was abroad that the whole trouble in the interior had been brought about through labor organizations. And this assertion had been freely circulated by promoters of mines who boodled and laid the loss of investors to labor troubles. It was therefore about time a bridle was put on them and remove the wrong impression. If this were done a great deal of good would be accomplished by the party. He thought the alien labor question was one of the most important questions to come before the convention.

Plank 1, "That the franchise be extended to women," was then discussed.

Delegate Beamish, of Rossland, made an eloquent appeal for unanimous support of this plank, and dared any delegate present to question the intelligence of his mother to cast a vote. If the government was turned over to the women to run they could not make a worse botch of it than the men had done during the past ten years.

Delegate Buckton, Phoenix, based his support of this plank upon the ground that women were socially and intellectually the equals of men. "If," he asked, "you compel women to pay taxes and obey the laws, why should you not give them the privilege of voting?"

Delegate Coxhead, of Nelson, pointed out that women were largely the trustees of men's property, and if they were intelligent enough to perform this service, they were entitled to the franchise.

Delegate Bulmer, of Rossland, opposed the granting of the franchise to women on the ground of their irresponsibility, and also because he objected to loading up a platform with impracticable planks. At the last municipal election at Rossland the better class of women joined with the lower class of women to defeat the labor candidate.

Delegate Larking, of Nelson, supported the plank on the ground of justice.

Delegate Burns believed women would be a reactionary force in politics so long as they were excluded from political rights. To give them the franchise was simply an act of absolute justice.

Delegates Purvlance (Slocan) and Ebbs (Nelson) also favored the plank on the same grounds.

Delegate Kingsley, of Nanaimo, considered the plank irrelevant, and wanted discussion confined to questions directly affecting labor and wages. The class struggle was the real issue.

Delegate McGregor, of Slocan, favored granting the franchise to women, holding that even if at first they voted against wage earners' interests they would soon become educated up to a proper understanding of political issues.

Delegate Foley made a forcible and humorous appeal for an unanimous endorsement of this plank.

Delegaes, Wilks, Gordon, and Macpherson also spoke.

Upon the questioin being put the plank was adopted by a large majority.

CIVIC WELCOME.

At this juncture Mayor Gordon and Aldermen Brown, Gill and Stevens were introduced and accorded seats on the platform.

Being introduced by the chairman, Mayor Gordon extended a cordial welcome to the delegates to the city on behalf of the citizens of Kamloops, and expressed the hope that the labors of the convention would be fruitful of much good to those directly concerned and to the province at large.

Aldermen Brown, Stevens and Gill also briefly addressed the assembly.

DISCUSSION RESUMED.

on the platform.

"Absolute reservation of the sale or lease of a certain portion of each known coal area, so that state owned mines, if necessary, may be easily possible hereafter made to contain a provision enabling the government to fix the price of coal loaded on cars or vessels for shipment to B. C. consumers."

Delegate Burns (Vancouver) moved that this be referred back to the committee. "This is a mixed plank," he said. "It seems to be an attempt of the committee to straddle the fence on the question." This motion was lost and the plank adopted.

The next clause taken up was: "Conservation of our forest riches. Pulp land leases to contain a provision for reforesting, so as to produce a perennial revenue, and make pulp manufacture a growing and permanent industry."

Delegate Burns (Vancouver) moved to strike out all words after "revenue." "It's all right for a board of trade to use the sentence, but it was out of place in a plank of a so-called labor platform." The amendment was lost and the clause adopted as read.

"The application of a land tax that will discourage large holdings and prevent monopoly," was next read, and Delegate Thompson, Kamloops, moved to amend as follows, by adding these words: "That we gradually abolish all taxes upon labor, or the products of labor, fixing them upon land values."

After some discussion it was decided to defer consideration of this plank until the completed plank had been presented to the committee.

"Government ownership of the means of transportation and other public utilities" was under discussion when the convention adjourned to dinner.

Delegate Buckle, of Nanaimo, moved its adoption.

Delegate Rogers, of Phoenix, moved to amend by inserting these words after "transportation:" "And communication; also government operation of coal mines, coke ovens, smelters and refineries."

Delegate Kane, of Kaslo, moved to amend by substituting the word "public" for the word "government."

A warm discussion ensued, covering every phrase of this important subject. Among those participating were Delegates Burns, Vancouver; Bunbury, Kamloops; McKay, Nelson; Watson, Vancouver; Beamish, Rossland; McGregor, Slocan; MacAdams, Sandon; Brownlee, Rossland; Kingsley, Nanaimo; Vautin, Kamloops; and Buckton, Phoenix.

As finally adopted, the plank reads, "Government ownership of transportation and means of communication."

The following plank read, "to protect us from Asiatics already in the province, the government to insert a clause in all private acts to the effect that the act should be null and void if the company fails to enter into an agreement with the government as to conditions of construction and operation, and that the House pass a resolution instructing the government to prohibit the employment of Asiatics on all franchises granted by the provincial house." This was adopted.

The next plank compelling the scaling of logs by government scalers was also passed with little discussion.

The plank next following was that "all transportation companies be compelled to give free transportation to members of the legislature and supreme and county court judges."

Delegate Rogers (Phoenix) moved that all words after "assembly" be struck out.

Delegate Bulmer (Rossland) thought that these officials were well paid and had a right to pay their own fares.

Delegate Watson (Vancouver) was of the opinion that if all legislators and judges could claim free transportation they would not be under any obligation to the different companies.

Delegate Burns (Vancouver) thought that the matter was so trivial and entirely foreign to our interests that it should be passed over.

Delegate Ebbs (Nelson) thought those psing passes were under obligation.

On going to a vote, the amendment was lost, and the original motion carried.

The preamble of the platform was then taken up on the motion of Delegate MacAdams (Sandon), seconded by G. Kane, (Kaslo). This read, "That this party lay it down as a first principle that it will nominate, endorse, or support only such men as will place their resignation, undated, in the hands of the convention, which nominates or endorses them; that this resignation be sworn to, and that it may be handed into the hands of the lieutenant-governor-in-council, whenever a majority of the convention shall consider such action advisable."

Delegate Beamish said that this was one of the most essential planks in the platform. It was as near the imperative mandate as you could get. There was never a platform gotten up yet by a labor party that a politician would not endorse. It reminded him of a conductor telling a man who was riding outside on the platform of a car, that that platform was not to ride on, it was one "to get in on." (Laughter.) If the candidate at election time got elected on a platform with this clause

[Continued on Page Three.]

## CURTIS WITHDRAWS.

The News-Advertiser in its editorial columns on Sunday last thus speaks of the alleged investigation into the iniquitous Canadian Northern deal of the Dunsmuir government:

"Whatever may be the finding of the commission, it is impossible to deny that Mr. Curtis has rendered substantial service to the public interests by the action he has taken, and it is also equally certain that, under great difficulties and under conditions imposed, as we think, most unfairly, upon him by the manner in which he has been compelled to conduct the inquiry, he has elicited facts from unwilling and interested witnesses, like the premier and other ministers, that have shed a flood of light on one of the most astounding and disreputable episodes in the political history of British Columbia. Moreover, he has secured material on which, in the public interest, the foundation can be laid for a searching investigation into the manner in which the right of the province to draw large revenues from the millions of acres included in the land grant to the Esquimalt & Nanaimo Railway has been completely ignored by past provincial administrations."

Curtis Withdrawal.

Dealing with Mr. Curtis' withdrawal from the Royal commission, the Victoria Times administers a scorching roast to Commissioner Walkem. The following is the article in full:

"Events have proved that the government was wise in its choice of a Royal commissioner to sit upon its acts. All who have attended the sittings of the august body know that Mr. Justice Walkem's strong arm has always been ready to shield the government whenever the evidence appeared to be getting dangerously close to any point of importance. The government took the unnecessary precaution of providing counsel to look after its case. It might have saved the taxpayers of the province that altogether unnecessarw expense. In spite of all this the public also know that Mr. Curtis has demonstrated to the fullest extent that he was warranted in publicly making the charges he did and in calling for an investigation. The culminating point in the history of this extraordinary investigation, it was generally surmised, would have been reached to-day with the reading of telegrams which were alleged by the ministers to have no bearing on the case, being private political communications. They are so private that they are charged to the public accounts. They are all in cypher, and it was ruled by the commissioner that the interpretation put upon them by the government must be accepted. There must even be no cross-examination of witnesses, which might reveal the code under which the government transacts this private business at the public expense. Has the testimony of the members of the government during the investigation been such as to induce the belief that their interpretation of messages upon which their life as an administration may depend should be accepted in perfectly good faith by the prosecution? We think not. We think it will be conceded by all fair-minded men that at least cross-examination should be allowed in order to verify the correctness of the translation. But it was ruled to the contrary, because such an inquisition might reveal the government's code. As if there were any secret about that. The plea was merely the usual subterfuge to save the government. An examination of one of the messages shows that the code telegram contains two more words than the translation. Is that a usual circumstance in connection with such messages? Code words sometimes contain whole sentences. In one message the word "convinced" occurred. Mr. Curtis asked Mr. McNeill, the secretary of the chief commissioner, if the word should not be "contract." The witness refused to answer, and the commissioner upheld him. That appeared to be a very relevant question, but the only possible answer might have created an awkward situation for the government, and so it was conveniently thrown out. Mr. McNeill was also asked if the first part of the same telegram to Mr. Greenshields did not read: 'IT'S UP TO YOU TO HAVE THAT CONTRACT SIGNED SATURDAY AND SAVE SITUATION. GOVERNMENT PRACTICALLY IN YOUR HANDS.' This shows that Mr. Greenshields occupied an even more important position than that of accredited agent of the government. The ministers were in his hands. He could make any bargain he pleased, and he exercised his power to the full. Of course that question was ruled out. Is it not plain on its face that it is irrelevant and impertinent? Is it any wonder Mr. Curtis decided to withdraw from the case in which he was not only being hampered from the beginning by every device the presiding officer could think of, but has also been treated with discourtesy, if not something even more unbecoming such a court. Nevertheless doings have been revealed that will result in an even more untimely end for the governmnt than was expected."

## THE CIVIC SOLONS.

When Mayor Neelands called the city fathers to order on Monday night the "standing room only" sign was out in the auditorium. The crowd had gathered, no doubt, in anticipation of hearing a debate on Ald. McQueen's by-law making it unlawful for hotel or saloon men to sell "hootch" after 11 o'clock.

After the minutes were read and approved permission was granted to Lawyer Taylor to address the "fathers" on behalf of the Licensed Victuallers of the city.

In the beginning he presented a petition from 40 license holders protesting against the enactment of the proposed law. These men were large contributors to the revenues of the city, therefore their request should meet with full consideration. They were law abiding citizens and as a class would compare favorably with any in the Dominion. First of all those urging this law should show there was a necessity for it. It had been urged that a large petition had been presented in its favor. Well, petitions were easily gotten up and he had found in going over it that it was signed very largely by women and children. It has been asserted that all night drinking was the cause of vice. Would it improve matters to close up licensed places that were under the eye of the authorities and drive men into unlicensed places, some not of very high repute. The petition referred to was not represntative and the licensed victuallers challenged a plebiscite on the question. Mr. Taylor quoted prominent clergymen to show that early closing did not prevent crime, but rather increased it.

Concluding, he asked the council "In in the interests of the people of Vancouver and in the interests of temperance, to leave the law as it is and strengthen the hands of the licence holders, and do not drive traffic into the hands of those conducting places of more questionable repute."

Ald. Foreman reported that it would be necessary to acquire a small piece of land near the park entrance or move the water pipe. The matter was left in the hands of the chairman and the engineer.

On the report of the police committee Ald. Foreman and McGuigan moved to amend the report, giving two of the police officers 14 days' holidays instead of 10.

Ald. Brown—"I think this is a very liberal allowance. If they were going to visit their parents or were sick, then I do not object. But if it was just to go round and have fun, then I am opposed to it."

The amendment was defeated and the original report adopted.

The Finance and Board of Works reports were adopted.

Ald. Foreman moved to amend by-law 369, relating to water rate. It was given three readings.

Two by-laws—one to prohibit the use of certain buildings for laundry purposes, and the other to compel property owners to remove stumps and brush from vacant lots—were put through all stages.

Ald. McQueen's motion re closing bar-rooms, etc., was read a first time.

"The Kamloops Convention" will be the subject for discussion at a meeting of the Socialist party, on Sunday evening. The place is at 132 Powell street, and the speaker will be Ernest Burns, who was a delegate to that body. All welcome.

"Why I Am a Single Taxer" will be the subject for discussion at the Central Congregational Church, Homer street (Economic club), on Monday evening. Mr. F. Williams will give the address. Open discussion. Come and bring your friends. Commence at 8 o'clock.

# THE INDEPENDENT.

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

UNION LABEL

SATURDAY..... APRIL 19, 1902


## THE NEW PARTY.

The Provinacial Progressive Party is now a reality. The *Kamloops* convention was the most representative ever held in the province, and its deliberations were marked as being in earnest. The socialist and trades union elements agreed to disagree like honest men, and utmost harmony prevailed, which speaks volumes for the new progressive movement. Taking everything into consideration, the platform is a good one. It is true that it is not one of socialism, but rather one in keeping with the present conditions which will go a long way toward the amelioration of the worker. Socialism is a growth and can only be brought about through evolution, and when this point is considered well the platform will have the hearty endorsation of every thinking socialist as well as every true trades unionist, and in fact by everyone who must work for a livelihood. One thing noticeable at the convention was the spirit of antagonism to anything that savored of fusion with either of the old parties. One delegate said in cases where the Progressives were not strong that he thought that to fuse would be a good plan. We take exception to this idea, and hold with the great majority of the convention that now that the party is united it is somewhat different to when it was divided into several local labor parties. In localities where the new party cannot run candidates the proper course to pursue will be not to fuse, but let the members of the Progressive party chose personally between the candidates of the old parties. It is expected that ten or twelve straight Progressive candidates will be elected next election. The formation of the party marks a new epoch in the politics of this province.

Smith Curtis should call the attention of the minister of justice to the action of Commissioner Walkem anent the recent inquiry. The matter should not be let drop.

In Brussels the working people are making it hot for the powers that be. There revolutions must prevail before they can accomplish anything. In this country we have a free ballot, yet we haven't learned to use it.

It's a pity the new chief justice was not appointed on the commission to investigate Smith Curtis' charges. The probability is he would have made such a searching inquiry as would have made the people of this province sit up and look round.

Kamloops is certainly a hospitable place. The many kindnesses of the people there extended to the delegates to the convention were without number. The C. P. R. officials and employees, in a great many instances, went considerably out of their way to oblige the guests of the inland capital, which fact was much appreciated. Also the mayor and council gave them the freedom of the city. The Kamloops convention and the many little incidents connected therewith will long be remembered by those who shared therein.

We Canadians boast of our judiciary and generally speaking and compared with other countries it certainly does stand high. But there is one mistake, we think, that is made in permitting men to remain on the bench after advancing years have unfitted them to perform the very delicate work of adjudicating all the many crimes and controversies of life. Then, too, old age shows the effects of any weaknesses of mind or body, and the work of a judge is too important to allow it to be so affected. The Dominion government should therefore put them on the retired list.

During a brief debate on the qualification of an officer at the Kamloops convention on Monday the subject of citizenship came up on a question of Delegate Brownlee, of Rossland. It was held that men earning a livelihood in this country should become voters; that by debarring themselves of this privilege it showed that they were not interested in matters pertaining to legislation. In the mining centres of the interior many workingmen belonged to unions and contributed to the funds, paid the poll tax, and were at all times willing to fight for their rights, but were not willing to take up the cudgels and assist their fellows at the ballot box. The cause has suffered very materially in this regard in the past. Mr. Foley said that he had waited on the Ottawa government last summer to ask for the enforcement of the alien law. The question he met with was that there was officers and members of unions who were aliens. It is, therefore, quite essential that every wage-earner have his name placed on the voters' list immediately.

Smith Curtis, M. L. A., has withdrawn from the Royal Commission recently appointed to investigate the charges he had preferred in the legislature against the Dunsmuir government. He did so because of the action of the commissioner in refusing to permit him to cross-examine Mr. Wells' private secretary anent the alleged translation of a cypher telegram. That Mr. Curtis did right no fair minded man will doubt. Had he done so many days age he would have been justified. But the people should be thankful that he remained to bring to light evidence that leaves a black spot on the political history of British Columbia. What will be the decision of the commission is a matter of indifference. The evidence has been brought out and each can judge for himself. Mr. Curtis deserves especial credit for the action he has taken in view of the fact that he made the fight single handed, when many other members were saying or insinuating in private what he dared to put his name to. Mr. Curtis has been called a liar, a "crazy loon," and told that he is insane. He is none of these. Neither is he a whiskey soak, a liar or a thief.

### A WORKINGMAN'S CLUB.

"You *cannot* destroy the workingman's club room," says the defender of the social feature of the saloon. The phrase was perhaps first used in comparing the rich man's club, where he can be supplied with the choicest of wines and liquors, and where he can amuse himself in anything from cribbage to poker, with that of the saloon, where the poor man can afford to enjoy himself, like his more fortunate worm in the elaborate club-room. Says the Duluth World:

"Laws may be enacted to destroy the social feature of the saloon, which may serve a purpose in the interest of morality and decency, but what shall be provided as a club-room—if you please—for the workingman who has no home and whose abode is a cheerless room in a lonely, comfortless lodging house on the Bowery? Go to the Bethel? Why, it is as dismal and as mercenary as any other business institution in that locality. Its best feature is its reading room, which is the smallest part of the building, unless it be the bedrooms, 7x14 feet, in which are eight bunks. No smoking is permitted in the reading room. Now who would say that any workingmen's institution is complete without a smoking room?"

Delegate Watson struck the right chord at a recent meeting of the Trades and Labor Council, when he suggested a club for workingmen. Give them large, healthy and commodious quarters, a smoking room, a reading room supplied with periodicals, magazines, good books and newspapers; also let it contain tables for amusing and harmless games. Start something like this and we will go as far as the most enthusiastic temperance advocate in the destruction of the social features of the saloon.

### LABOR PRESS INFLUENCE.

The gregarious instinct that impels our kind to herd for self-preservation, naturally develops methods of defence and attack. Hence the birth of the labor press. It is generally conceded that the labor press has cut no subordinate figure in the great fight for liberty and justice in this transitional epoch of ours. It has pierced the bubbles of exaggerated artifice, and educated the working people, not in a pedantic way, but by intelligent discussion of the various problems that arise from time to time.—Labor Clarion.

### THE KICKER.

He attends a meeting about once a year,
And acts just like a fool;
On every question he'll raise an objection,
And kick just like a mule.
He would never accept an office,
Or assist in committee work;
But he'll growl and complain, and his rights he will claim,
And every duty he'll shirk.—Ex.

Advertise in The Independent.

## ANOTHER DEAL.

The following questions and answers were recently presented to the legislative assembly:

1. Amount of royalties collected on timber cut within the Esquimalt & Nanaimo railway belt in the years 1899, 1900 and 1901.

2. From whom such royalties were collected.

3. Amount of timber cut within said limits in the years 1899, 1900 and 1901.

4. How much of same has been exported not manufactured.

5. How much timber cut within said limits in each of said years paid no royalty whatever.

6. By whom it was cut.

W. C. WELLS,
Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works.

1 and 2. Timber cut within the Esquimalt & Nanaimo railway belt is not subject to the payment of royalty and none has been collected.

3. Unknown.

4. Unknown.

5. All.

6. The Victoria Lumber and Manufacturing Company; the Esquimalt & Nanaimo Railway company; the coal companies; sundry mining companies; contractors, and many others.

Captain Tatlow is to be commended for asking for the above return, for we have now another light thrown upon the action of the government in which the president of the E. & N. Railway is premier. To make plain to our readers what has taken place during the past years, and also to show that the government has failed in its duty to the finances of the province, we must quote from the judgment of the Full Court, in which the question of the E. & N. company's liability to pay the royalties is dealt with.

Judgment of Full Court, 1st February, 1897: "The E. & N. Railway company acquired the lands from the Dominion government for the construction of the railway, as part of their land grant under Stat. B. C. 47 Vic., chap. 14, sec. 22, which provided: 'The lands to be acquired by the company, from the Dominion government, for the construction of the railway, shall not be subject to taxation unless and until the same are used by the company for other than railway purposes, or leased, occupied, sold or alienated.'"

The E. & N. Railway company did give to H. the right to enter and select 50,000 acres of their railway lands. Later on H. assigned all his interest under the agreement to the lumber company known as the Victoria Lumber company.

The question brought before the then government and by the government before the Full Court was: "Whether under the true construction of the Island Railway act the lands in question are exempt from taxation."

The E. & N. Railway company's plea was that the lands had not yet been paid for, consequently no taxation could be levied, or in other words so long as any balance was due by the Victoria Lumber company no tax could be paid, but the lumber could and would be cut and sold to the injury and loss of every other company endeavoring to compete with the Victoria Lumber company.

The learned judge sums up in these words: "Sec. 22 is then to be construed by the ordinary rules governing the construction of acts of parliament, and I think leaves the lumber company LIABLE TO HAVE THEIR LANDS ASSESSED." The other two judges agreed. Appeal allowed.

The Victoria Lumber company is not, however, to be dominated over by any judgment, even of the Full Court, for we find in the timber inspector's report, 31st Dec., 1901, that during the year 1901 "There has been cut on E. & N. Railway lands (so far as reported) 28,476,929," upon which no royalty has been paid.

The lands department in the above return, dated April, 1902, states that "No royalty has been collected." That the amount of timber cut within the limits of the E. & N. Railway is "unknown" to the department. The amount exported is "unknown" to the department. The timber cut in the three years, 1899, 1900, 1901, i. e., since the judgment of the Full Court, has paid "no royalty whatever," and yet it has not been cut for "railway purposes," but by "the Victoria Lumber company, E. & N. Railway company, coal companies, mining companies, contractors and many others."

Why should the premier-president be allowed to evade an order of the court, when the hand logger, the mills, the shingle mills and the poor man is compelled by the self same government to pay all royalties or go to jail?

Why is it that Mr. Joseph Martin and his followers will help to defraud the decreasing revenue of the province by a continued support to a government which acts in the illegal and arbitrary manner made public by the return referred to?

Yet the self same government increased the poll tax from $3 to $5 to help them provide sufficient revenue to carry on their extravagant expenditures, calling upon the underpaid masses to contribute from their hard earned wages an amount that cannot be easily spared.

Who are the shareholders of the Victoria Lumber company?

SOUTHERN CROSS.

### TELEPHONES.

The Spokane Journal is opposing the application for a new telephone franchise in that city. That paper has always advocated public ownership in matters of this kind, and The Independent approves its course in this regard. It says that while it would be glad to see the expenditure of money in the city, it questions the advisability of giving franchises for nothing. It questions the advisability of giving them away even for a consideration. The telephones, street railways and other public conveniences occupy the same relation to the public that the elevator does to the tenants of a Riverside block, and would be no more illegical, it says, for the owner of a block to let the privilege of the elevator to private parties than it is for the city to endow corporations with valuable franchises, which enable them to levy tribute on the citizens.

The people of Vancouver will understand and appreciate what is meant by this. Municipal ownership is the only proper solution to the question. It is no answer to say it is impracticable. It is being tried elsewhere. Its success is beyond almost the most sanguine expectations. It is in the air. It is the very spirit of the age. Great as have been the strides in this direction, they are as nothing compared to what will be done in the near future, and the Journal says that it gives it as its candid opinion that Spokane "will have enough watered stock to negotiate when it undertakes to administer the several public utilities mentioned without giving away any more franchises." Valuable franchises have one peculiarity—the more valuable they are the more water they will hold. We would suggest that the Vancouver city council take up this matter and see if a plan could not be arranged whereby it could control the telephone service.

## PUBLISHERS' NOTICE.

Owing to our supply of paper running short accounts for the four pages being published this week instead of eight.

Canary show in the land of "Unco' Guid":
First prize, a bottle of whiskey.
Second prize, box of havanas.
Third prize, a Holy Bible.


## Fashionable Dress Goods

The styles in costumes this season are exceedingly charming and the materials were never so beautiful—clingy fabrics are predominant—and nowhere in B. C. can be seen a more varied and extensive assortment of these beautiful fabrics.

For those who wish the heavier stuff for Tailor Costumes we show a complete stock of this class of woollen goods—including the handsome and ever popular Tweeds, Geheline Cloths, Venetians, Broadcloths, Etc., in the newest shades.

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## Wait a Minute!

a day—a month, is the common excuse. It was what the captain of a vessel said—on returning from the voyage he would insure. But he never came back. The vessel was wrecked; he was lost; his family was stranded, too, financially, by his procrastination.

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## MINERS' AND LOGGERS' OUTFITS

Parties going north or into the woods for logging purposes, if they consult their own comfort or consider the question of economy, will call and inspect our stock of supplies, which is the largest and most economicaly priced quality considered) in the city.

We enumerate a few of the articles, such as Grey and Scarlet Blankets, in medium and heavy weight; Robes, medium and heavy weight; Underwear and Shirts, union label Overalls and Jumpers, Leather Suspenders and Working Gloves, from 25c per pair upward. In fact, everything necessary for the comfort of prospector, miner or working man can be found in our large store.

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## NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given to contractors and others that the building trades of Vancouver have adopted the card system among its members, to take effect on May 1st next.

A. J. MORTIMORE,
Secretary Building Trades Council.

Vancouver, April 4, 1902.


Gold Seal Canadian Rye is Seagram's Grand Old Rye. Only, 50c bottle. Gold Seal Liquor Company.

If you want a really good rye whisky at a low price, our 50c rye is IT. Gold Seal Liquor Company, 746 Pender street.

For stomach trouble of any kind take Flint's Dyspepsia Tablets. They cure or you get your money back. 50c box. McDowell, Atkins, Watson Co.

Drink Red Cross Beer, the beer that's pure, 75c pints, $1.50 doz. quarts. Gold Seal Liquor Co., 746 Pender street.

Telephone 1—2—5 for a fine livery turn-out. J. J. Sparrow, Palace livery stables.

Convalescents need Eisen Port—"the builder up of the weak"—50c bottle. Gold Seal Liquor Co., 746 Pender street.

PARIS GREEN, HELLEBORE AND WHALE OIL SOAP for the extermination of the CUT WORM and other insects—for sale by the McDowell, Atkins, Watson Company, The Druggists, Vancouver.

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# PROVINCIAL PROGRESSIVE PARTY.

[Continusd from Page One.]

in it, he could not very well be handled by the lobbyists. Because he then would be in a position like a workingman working for a corporation. This was not a radical proposition, for there are men already in the legislature who would be willing to sign it.

Delegate Lackie (Nelson) approved of the proposed preamble. He said the proposition was the only safeguard the party had.

The preamble was then carried.

The next plank considered was the "gradual abolition of all taxes upon the producer and the products of the producer, and that these taxes be shifted upon the land values."

Delegate Buckton (Phoenix) suggested that after the word "taxes be," be added "a graduated tax on land values."

A long drawn out discussion ensued, in which the socialists took part, Delegate Foley (Rossland) urging them to be moderate in their demands.

Delegate Watson (Vancouver) moved an amendment to the amendment that the land tax be so applied as to discourage large holdings and to prevent monopoly.

Delegate Buckton (Phoenix) explained that the original motion shifted the burthen of taxation upon the farmer, whereas the graduated tax shifted it upon the land grabber.

Delegate Burns (Vancouver) said that the proposition was one simply of shifting the taxation off the shoulders of one capitalist to another.

Delegate Beamish (Rossland) held that it was shifting taxation from producer to capitalist.

Delegate Thompson (Kamloops) said the proposed tax was not upon land, but upon land values, and that these latter were greatest in the cities, so that the small farmer was not hurt.

Delegate Rodgers (Phoenix) showed that the tax on city land values would inevitably result in lowering wages and raising rents.

Delegate Mackay (Nelson) said that the farmer would not be affected inasmuch as he would be exempt as a producer, and the exemption would balance or more than balance the impost.

After some further discussion the question was put, with the result that the amendments were voted down and the motion as originally put, was carried.

The next plank was that on Oriental immigration, which recommended that it should be discouraged and an act upon the lines of the Natal act, passed, with a proviso that if it were disallowed it should be again and again re-enacted.

Delegate MacAdams (Sandon) raised the point that the Natal act only applied to Asiatics, whereas it was advisable to exclude certain classes of Europeans.

Delegate Macpherson (Vancouver) said that this was not the case, and further, that in his opinion, the Dominion government had no power to disallow the Natal act if passed by the provincial legislature, and that this being the case, the proper procedure was to pass the act again and again, so as to bring the matter to a head at once.

Delegate Kane (Kaslo) declared that the disallowance of the act was not the work of the Imperial, but of the Dominion government. In support, he quoted the words of the Colonial Secretary, Hon. Joseph Chamberlain, saying that the Natal act would meet the views of the Imperial government, and also alluded to the fact that the Imperial parliament had not disallowed the Natal act in the colony of that name.

On the question being put it was carried unanimously.

Abolition of the property qualification for the holders of office was the next plank, and it was carried unanimously also.

Next came up the questioin of Sunday labor, a plank being introduced urging that double time might be paid for any necessary work to be carried on during that day.

Delegate Burns (Vancouver) declared that the plank was too indefinite, and should lay on the table.

Delegate MacAdams (Sandon) urged that the conditions in the Slocan were such that such a law would not be in its best interests, and further, Sunday work was a matter more of religion than politics. It could be settled by the men involved.

Delegate Watson (Vancouver) said that Delegate Wilks was instrumental in having this same clause carried by the Dominion Labor Congress in 1898.

Delegate Wilks (Nelson) said that that was so, but that the Kootenays had all they wanted in the eight-hour law, and that any further legislation in this direction for the present was undesirable.

Delegate Beamish (Rossland) wanted a day of rest.

Delegate Bulmer (Rossland) said it were better for seven men to work six days than six men seven days, and that the companies would not be hurt.

Delegate Davison (Sandon) thought that the platform should not be made a code of laws.

Delegate Macdonald (Sandon) agreed with Delegate MacAdams, that there were matters more at stake in the country than Sunday observance.

Delegate Mackay (Nelson) said that this country must be better settled before such laws should be enacted. As things were if miners insisted on their natural born freedom they would get discharged.

A vote to table the plank was then carried.

The last plank to be carried was that of the government ownership of smelters and refineries, and their operation by the government.

Delegate MacAdams (Sandon) showed that the smelters in the province were in a combine with certain refineries in the United States, and with the C. P. R.; that the American Smelter trust had withdrawn from the province, which left the lead mines at the mercy of these smelters; that this combine brought lead in ore from the Slocan at the London rate of $2.43 per hundred less $1 for transportation to London, whereas the lead in ore thus purchased never went there; that it was shipped in bond to the States, refined there and shipped back in bond to Canada and sold on an eastern market at $5 per hundred, the unfortunate mine owner thus only obtaining "a poor little $1.43." He held the only way out of this clinch was the remedy proposed by the plank.

After some further discussion the plank was adopted.

A plank was introduced with reference to the granting of subsidies and valuable franchises, and demanding that prior to the granting of the same, the matter should be referred to the direct vote of the people.

Delegates Slack and Towns offered the following resolution, which was tabled:

"That the following be added as a final plank to the platform: But in advocating these steps in the overthrow of capitalism and the establishment of the co-operative commonwealth, we caution the workers against such public ownership movements as are an attempt of the capitalist class to secure government control of public utilities for the purpose of obtaining greater security in the exploitation of industries and not for the amelioration of the condition of the working class. It must be remembered that there is a vast difference between 'government' and 'public' ownership. While the corporation own the senate and parliament, we will have the government ownership, and not until the people own and control the legislatures can we have true public ownership.

Following committee was struck on thanks: Delegates Wilks (Nelson), Watson (Vancouver), Macdonald (Sandon), Buckton (Phoenix), and Graham (Kamloops).

An invitation was received from the Kamloops Quadrille club to attend a ball that evening, which was received.

FROM J. H. HAWTHORNTHWAITE, M. P. P.

Just before adjournment the following telegram was read by Secretary Cross, amid loud applause:

VICTORIA, April 15, 1902

James Baker, chairman labor convention, Kamloops:

Congratulations to yourself and convention on excellent progress made. Regret could not be present. I hope that convention will arrange a progressive platform, moderate, but essentially labor, and that you will decide unalterably for independent action in politics.

J. H. HAWTHORNTHWAITE,
M. P. P., labor representative.

WEDNESDAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

The convention resumed its session at 9 a. m., with President Jas. Baker in the chair. Secretary Cross was in his place.

The platform was then taken up and discussed at length.

The question of referring valuable franchises or subsidies to the people was again taken up. After some amendments had been put before the convention the original clause was carried.

An amendment to the plank that no land subsidies should be granted, but be kept for settlers, was offered by Delegate Burns, to also read that "no cash" subsidies be granted.

Delegate Lackie thought that the plank was unnecessary, as the referendum plank already covered the point.

Delegate Burns agreed to this.

The next plank was that 10 per cent. of all public lands be immediately set aside for educational purposes.

Delegate Kane, of Kaslo, wanted to know if such land was to be sold to the speculator.

Delegate Davison (Sandon) objected to the large number of planks.

Delegate Parr (Ymir) thought "there was enough planks to build a wharf." (Laughter.)

Delegate Ebbs (Nelson) spoke at length in a very forcible manner on the great responsibility of the question of education.

Delegate Bulmer (Rossland) said he had voted on many a plank in which he believed to facilitate matters.

Delegate Slack (Greenwood) moved, and Delegate Watson (Vancouver) seconded, that "education, meals and books of all children up to 16 years be free."

Delegate Mackie (Nelson) held that the platform should be one for the whole province. If men in the mining districts were satisfied with some of the planks, the same applied to men in the farming districts as well as to the industrial schools. In these places certain planks would be championed, while others of no material interest would not be taken up.

Delegate Burns (Vancouver) thought the platform was too long.

Delegate Watson (Vancouver), regarding the matter of free education, said that in our large cities to-day there were little fellows who don't go to school, not through any fault of their own. One delegate asked him, he said, did he want to "run a government boarding house," to which he said yes. Was it not better to help those little fellows and pay for their education now, than to pay for their keep as criminals later on? Have we got free education?

Delegate Ebbs—Not wholly.

Delegate Watson—There was a continual changing of school books, consequently they should be issued to the pupils free and printed in this province.

Delegate Macpherson said that the plank submitted was not a substitute but a separate one. The public lands should be set aside for school purposes. There was quite a feeling throughout the province that education was costing too much. The question had been asked why not take the money out of the treasury? There was no money there to take out, and besides there was an overdraft of some $2,000,000. Free education was necessary, and also if anyone had not the means to get it, they must be provided for. Ten per cent. of the lands of the province should be kept and leased out and the revenue therefrom applied to education.

Delegate Banbury held there were too many planks.

Delegate Beamish was in favor of both amendment and motion.

Delegate Thompson said that the question of education was most far reaching and that 10 per cent. of the lands was not too much for education.

Delegate Kane and MacAdams moved a substitute "that the government furnish free books, board, clothing and all other requirements to each and every child of school age, and that said children be compelled to accept same and attend school." On a vote this was lost.

The original motion was carried.

Platform was adopted in its entirety as follows:

PLATFORM.

That this party lays it down as a first principle that they will nominate, endorse or support only such men as will place their signed, undated, resignation in the hands of the convention which nominates or endorses them; that this resignation be sworn to; that this resignation may be handed in to the lieutenant-governor in council whenever a majority of the convention shall consider such action advisable.

1. That we gradually abolish all taxes on the producer and the products of the producer, shifting them on land values.

2. Government ownership of railways and all means of communication.

3. That the government establish and operate smelters and refineries to treat all kinds of minerals.

4. That the franchise be extended to women.

5. The abolition of property qualifications for all public offices.

6. Farm improvements, implements and stock not to be taxed, and wild lands to be assessed at the price asked for them by speculative holders.

7. No land or cash subsidies. Lands to be held for the actual settler.

8. Ten per cent. of all public lands to be immediately set aside for educational purposes and education of all children up to the age of 16 years to be free, secular and compulsory, text books, meals and clothing to be supplied out of the public funds where necessary.

9. Compulsory arbitration of labor disputes.

10. Restriction of Oriental immigration by a law on the lines of the Natal act, and if said law be disallowed, it be repeatedly re-enacted until the end sought is attained.

11. That to protect us from Asiatics already in the province the government insert a clause in all private acts to this effect: "This act shall be null and void if the company fails to enter into an agreement with the government as to conditions of construction and operation," and that the house pass a resolution to prohibit the employment of Asiatics on all franchises granted by the provincial house.

12. Conservation of our forest riches, pulp land leases to contain a provision for re-foresting so as to produce a perennial revenue and make pulp manufacture a growing and permanent industry.

13. That the act compelling the scaling of logs by government scalers be enforced.

14. Absolute reservation from sale or lease of a certain part of each known coal area, so that state owned mines, if necessary, may be easily possible in the future. All coal leases or grants hereafter made to contain a provision enabling the government to fix the price of coal loaded on cars or vessels for shipments to B. C. consumers.

15. Municipalization and public control of the liquor traffic.

16. The right to a referendum where a valuable subsidy or franchise is to be conferred.

17. That all transportation companies be compelled to give free transportation to members of the legislative assembly and supreme court and county judges.

18. Election day to be a public holiday, and provision made that every employer shall be free from service at least four consecutive hours during polling time.

RESOLUTIONS.

By H. Buckle and R. Macpherson—That in the opinion of this convention all books used in the public schools of British Columbia should be printed at the government printing office at Victoria, and sold at cost, instead of as at present, by contractors in eastern Canada. Carried.

By R. Todd and H. Buckle—That the provincial government be asked to have placed on all its printing the union label and that the union label be made a specification in all contracts when the same is obtainable. Carried.

By the same—That the Dominion government be requested to pass an act legalizing union label. Carried.

By R. Macpherson and J. H. Watson—Whereas—The premier of the province, while on the witness stand under cross-examination before the Royal commission, stated that he believed the people wanted or was in favor of railways being aided by cash subsidies and land grants. And whereas—The workers in this province constitute a majority of the people of this province. And whereas—As they are opposed to either cash or land grants to any corporation or individual or combination of individuals. Therefore be it resolved—That this convention in session assembled declare against the bonus system, and especially against the agreement entered into by his government with Mackenzie & Mann, as being the most outrageous proposition ever submitted to any deliberative body. And be it further resolved—That we ask all the representatives to the local house from the various districts represented at this convention by delegates to vote against said railway aid or on a vote of want of confidence in the government based on said agreement with Mackenzie & Mann. Also be it further resolved—That a copy of this resolution be sent to each member of the executive of the government and to each member of the house from the districts here represented by delegate to this convention. Carried.

By C. Foley and C. A. Mackay—That this body views with indignation the refusal of the attorney-general of this province and minister of justice to enforce the alien contract labor law, and recommend the enactment of a law making it compulsory on the part of said official to secure its enforcement; further, that circumstantial evidence as applied in criminal law shall suffice to secure a conviction, applying alike to the manager or imported labor. Carried.

By D. W. Stevens and J. H. Watson—That this convention pronounces unequivocally in favor of the rigid enforcement of the Sunday law, and recommends such additional legislation as will make it more workable and effective. Carried.

By R. Bulmer and J. H. Watson—Resolved that in view of the fact of the present building of the Pacific cable and the movement in Great Britain to secure other links in the chain of a round-the-world, all-British cable and wire, it is in the opinion of this convention that the time has arrived for the representatives of this province to urge the assumption of the Canadian Pacific telegraph by the government. Carried.

By J. D. McNiven and J. H. Watson—That this convention hereby endorses the principle of the bills now before the provincial legislature, entitled "The Workmen's Compensation act," by G. H. Hawthornthwaite, M. P. P., and the act "respecting actions against Trades unions and kindred associations," by Hon. Smith Curtis, M. P. P., and call upon the house to support said bills, also that copies of this resolution be forwarded to Messrs. Hawthornthwaite and Curtis. Carried.

By James Wilks and Wm. Ebbs—That we, the delegates from the various labor unions and reform organizatations throughout this province, hereby express our disapproval of the indifference of present and past governments to the interests of the working people. Be it further resolved—Thas this convention immediately proceed to organize an independent political party and adopt a platform for the guidance of labor and other reform organizations in future political campaigns. Be it further resolved—That the name of this party shall be the Provincial Progressive Party of British Columbia. Carried.

By Geo. T. Kane and W. Rogers—That the government immediately enact legislation compelling all employers of labor to pay all wages due his employees in currency, and that such currency be made every two weeks, and that failing to so pay to be punishable by fine and improvements unless such employees have previously entered into a written agreement to the contrary. Carried.

By Alister Thompson and Jos. Graham—That we appoint a permanent executive committee, consisting of a president, vice-president, secretary-treasurer, and four others. Also that a secretary be selected from each constituency represented in this convention wit hauthority to correspond with the provincial progressive party, and further, that the executive be given power to elect a secretary from each district not represented in this convention. Carried.

OFFICERS.

Nominated for president—Delegates Foley, 30; Wilks, 18; Thompson, 2; Watson, 2; McNiven, 5; Bartley, 3; and Macpherson.

Second ballot—Foley, 35; Wilks, 26.

On motion of Mr. Wilkes, seconded by Mr. Watson, the election of Mr. Foley was made unanimous.

Mr. Foley thanked the convention for honoring him with the presidency, and if he makes a mistake it will be one of the head rather than one of the heart, and he hope dthat the delegates would not let the grass grow under their feet from now on in the interests of the new party.

Sec.-treas.—J. D. McNiven (Victoria), 35; Richardson (New Denver), 22; and T. H. Cross (Vancouver), 23. McNiven elected.

Executive committee—J. H. Watson (Vancouver, H. Buckle (Nanaimo), D. W. Stevens (Kamloops), Railroad Employees council; T. Buckton (Phoenix), Miners' union.

THANKS.

Following is the report of the committee on thanks:

"We recommend that the thanks of this convention be extended to:

"The mayor and aldermen of Kamloops for their address of welcome, and to the citizens generally for their kind hospitality to the delegates during their stay in this city.

"To Mr. F. J. Deane, editor of the Kamloops Inland Sentinel, for printing minutes and for placing his office and library at the disposal of our committees, which was the means of materially promoting the work of this convention.

"To the Kamloops Quadrille club and the ladies for the pleasant evening's entertainment, which was thoroughly enjoyed and heartily appreciated by all the delegates.

To the Inland cigar factory, for enabling the delegates to thoroughly enjoy the luxury of a first-class home-made union cigar.

"To the Kamloops Brewing company, for refreshments which were thoroughly enjoyed.

"To he following labor papers, for their advocacy of labor interests: Vancouver Independent, Sandon Paystreak, Nanaimo Herald, Kamloops Sentinel, Rossland World, Lardeau Eagle, Slocan Drill, Moyie Leader, Revelstoke Herald and Kootenay Mail.

Respectfully submitted. Jas. Wilks (chairman), J. H. Watson (secretary), Jos. Graham, A. J. McDonald, Tom S. Buckton.

THE LABOR CONVENTION.

There is gathered in Raven's hall to-day (Tuesday) probably as important an assemblage as has ever met in this province. A convention of the labor and reform organizations in the province is in session. No one will gainsay that the decisions arrived at by these men, who represent the wage-earners and consequently the majority of our people, will be other than of very material and vital moment to this province, either for good or evil. It is too early in the proceedings yet to express any opinion as to what will be the outcome of this convention, but judging from the business-like procedure that characterises this assemblage, the high order of intelligence displayed in the discussions, the apparent desire to consider every subject of a political nature dispassionately and thoroughly, and withal the very noticeable absence of anything like sectionalism, or desire for personal aggrandizement, we cannot but think the matured deliberations and decisions of this, the first provincial labor convention ever held in British Columbia, will be of immediate and lasting benefit to the province. At the present juncture in provincial politics it is specially gratifying to find so large and influential an element of the body politic, calmly and judiciously considering ways and means, not solely of bettering their own condition, but that of the province at large.—Kamloops Sentinel.

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# NEWS OF THE LABOR WORLD

### CANADIAN.

St. Thomas labor unions are protesting against the acceptance of a Carnegie gift for a public library.

Parliament will be asked for a further sum of $75,000 to build an addition to the printing bureau at Ottawa.

Six hundred longshoremen are on strike at Halifax, who now receive only 20 cents per hour, and demand 25 cents, with additional for night work and holidays.

The Toronto T. and L. council last week passed a resolution consuring the Labor Gazette for announcing that the strike at the Gurney Foundry company works was no longer in existence.

At a meeting of the Montreal branch of the Canadian Manufacturers' association it was decided to strenuously oppose a bill just introduced into the Federal house by A. W. Puttee, framed for the purpose of inaugurating compulsory arbitration and to illegalize a contract stipulating non-union labor.

"We will not accept any intervention from a government that hands out its work to scab painters," said an officer of the Painters' and Decorators' union in Toronto recently, when asked if any government official had approached them yet with a view to closing the existing breach between them and the master painters.

There is trouble brewing in Port Dalhousie. The Maple Leaf Rubber Company have introduced a new scale of prices to be paid in the lasting department, which will mean a cut of from 10 to 30 cents a day. The rubber workers have been organized for some time, and are determined to resist any cut in wages, for at the old scale the workers could only make a living, and the cost of living is steadily increasing.

The Ontario executive committee of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada and a large gathering of representatives of various labor organizations have presented many requests to the legislature affecting the interests of the several bodies and labor generally. Among other things asked were that the appointment of plumbing inspectors be made compulsory in all cities having sewage and water works systems; that the government establish a printing bureau for the province of Ontario; that any state aid for immigration be discontinued; that the factory acts of the province and the law requiring the use of sanitary labels on clothing be enforced; that all prison-made goods be labeled as such; that the law prohibiting Sunday labor in bakeries should not be repealed, as requested by the master bakers. The government promised consideration to the various measures submitted, but on two subjects they gave definite promises—that, on the expiration of the present contract, the brooms made at the Central prison shall be labeled "prison made," and that the law affecting bakeries would not be interfered with.

### FOREIGN.

The South Wales mines have lately become overcrowded with workmen, owing to the return of so many old hands who have been hunting Boers, instead of hewing coal, in South Africa.

Messrs. Hugh McManus and William Liddell, T. C., Belfast, will represent the Irish Trade Union Congress at the Scottish Trade Union Congress to be held at Falkirk towards the end of next month.

Two hundred dock laborers who struck work at Aberdeen, Scotland, for an advance of pay from 4 1-2d. to 5d. per hour have been unsuccessful in their demand and have resumed work at the old rates.

A distinguished governor, discussing this question of a shorter work day, gave utterance to a noble sentiment, saying: "The fact that there is unrest and dissatisfaction when man is confined to unremitting toil is one of the brightest omens of the times. It is an indication that his better nature is struggling for emancipation; it is a happy sign of finer and nobler manhood in the future. Such efforts for improvement should never be discouraged, but always encouraged."

The miners of Great Britain have voted to go into politics. They will levy an assessment that will bring in nearly $100,000 a year for such purpose. They will nominate candidates for parliament in 37 districts, where they stand an excellent opportunity of electing their men. The carpenters, machinists, general laborers, railway employees, and other large organizations have also voted to assess themselves and accumulate funds to fight for representation in parliament. The movement is spreading all over the kingdom.

A bill to "fix the minimum rate of wages to be paid to workers in particular trades" has been introduced into the British House of Commons. "A wages board will have power, if they think fit, to fix a minimum rate for any single kind of work or for any single class of workers in a particular trade." This measure is backed by Sir Charles Dilke, supported by Mr. John Burns, Mr. Bell, Mr. McKenna, Mr. Tennant, and Mr. Trevelyan. The bill is the same in principle as that adopted by the New South Wales legislature some time ago.

Forty-one new trade unions were registered in Great Britain last year, and three new trade federations. At the same time there was nothing in the shape of a new employers' association formed, and for the third year in succession there were no large general trade disputes in 1901. One-third of the total number of strikes were settled in favor of the employers, something ove ra third were compromised, and above 27 per cent. resulted favorably for the workmen. With regard to changes in wages generally, it comes out very clearly that, while for the five years, 1896-1900, inclusive, there was a steady rise, this was reversed last year, the wages of mine and metal workers, especially, suffering.

In view of the approaching termination of the sliding-scale agreement regulating wages in the South Wales coalfields, both coal owners' and miners' representatives have for some time past been making the closest inquiries into all matters connected with the trade, ascertaining minutely the conditions of labor in other coal-fields at home and abroad, the percentages of large and small coal gained, and the fluctuation in prices. Next July the workmen will hand in a six months' notice to terminate the scale agreement and they ask for its abolition in favor of the formation of an arrangement by which wages shall no longer automatically follow prices. It is hoped that during the period of notice some solution of the problem will be found that will obviate what is very much feared, a repetition next year of the disastrous struggle of four years ago. In pursuance of this policy of investigation, the South Wales Miners' Federation have agreed to send delegates to all British and continental mining centres.

### AMERICAN.

The cooks and waiters of Salt Lake City have secured one day's rest in seven through the aid of the arbitration committee of the State Federation.

The condition of labor in Oregon is steady and fair for this time of year. All machinists are busy and the mills and factories are running night and day.

Railroad men in Texas are organizing rapidly and securing reasonable hours and good pay. All locomotive firemen have received an increase on the big engines.

The general condition of trade in Montana is quiet at present and copper sinelters have started up again and are employing several men who were laid off in the shut down of October, 1901.

The coal miners employed in the Allegheny and Kiswimenetas valleys ordered a strike on April 1, the companies having refused to sign the scale. About 2,500 men and thirty-five companies will be affected.

The coopers report 142 local unions, gaining three during the month. The total membership is 61,000. Unions have been formed at Trenton, N. J., Minneapolis, Minn., and Norfolk, Va. There is a strike at Hawkinsville, Ga., against reduction of pay.

Barbers in Rhode Island have succeeded in putting a bill through the house compelling the barbers in this state to carry a licence to work at that trade. There is a bill pending in the house for the 58-hour week in all shops in this state, another for the ten-hour day for the street car men. Both have a favorable prospect of passage.

The advance of 10 per cent. which was granted to the 27,000 employees of Fall River cotton mills early in the month has become general in Southern New England. It is estimated that by April 7th fully 60,000 hands in this section will have had their wages increased. While no authoritative announcement has been made as to what the big mills of Lowell, Lawrence, Manchester, Lewiston, Nashua and other cotton centres will do, it is generally believed that, as usual, they will follow Fall River and New Bedford.

### CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETY.

We congratulate the city upon the earnest manner in which the above society is taking up the work of protecting and removing young children from evil surroundings and giving them a chance to become useful members of society as they grow up to manhood, and pure good girls who are being taught and influenced to become bright, happy children and a credit and ornament to our beautiful city. The secretary informs us that the society has now 27 children under its control, ranging from two years, and that suitable homes have been found for seven of the number, and that in every case the children are giving every satisfaction.

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Parson: Why don't you come to church? It does not look well for a man in your position never to attend.

Court Bailiff: My dear parson, were I to come I would have to bring writs for half of the congregation. (Collapse of parson.)

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The bill now before the British House of Commons, likewise a similar bill before the British Columbia legislature, relating to trade unions, aim at protecting unions against unauthorized acts of officers and members. There is no intention to free the perpetrators of illegal acts from personal responsibility. Comparisons have been made between corporations and trade unions, but there is little similarity. If a doctor is guilty of malpractice, it is the doctor the law proceeds against, not the medical association; if a lawyer does wrong, it is the lawyer who is responsible, not the law society. Trade unions ought to be classed in the same category.—Ex.

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An old copy of the Columbian Songster, dated at the close of the 18th century, contains a parody of God Save the King, of which the following are stanzas:

Fame, let thy trumpet sound,
Tell all the world around,
Columbia's free!
Tell Germaine, North and Bute,
And every other brute,
Tyrannic George won't suit
Her liberty.

The bloody George in vain
May forge a stronger chain,
The deed is done!
A greater George than he
Hath set Columbia free;
Immortalis'd shall be
George Washington.

---

Charles Lamb was once persuaded to attend a Methodist "experience" meeting in company with a friend. The friend spoke with great fervor and self-abasement, and finally Lamb himself was called upon to address the meeting. He rose and stuttered out, "I have nothing to say as to myself, but I can quite c-c-confirm what my friend has said as to his being a m-m-miserable sinner."


**The Mint.**

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C. Ellis, corner Cambie and Cordova streets, is the place you can get your hair cut in an artistic manner.

---

Try a bottle of Eisen Port, the sunshine of California, 50c bottle, at Gold Seal Liquor Co., 746 Pender street.

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| KNOTS—New Shape | 50c and 75c. |
| "IMPERIAL"—New Style | 50c and 75c. |
| FLOWING ENDS | 50c and 75c. |

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## Union Directory.

THE VANCOUVER TRADES AND Labor Council meets first and third Thursday in each month, at 7:30 p. m. President, W. J. Lamrick; vice-president, F. J. Russell; secretary, T. H. Cross; financial secretary, J. T. Lilley; treasurer, C. Crowder; sergeant-at-arms, C. J. Salter; statistician, J. H. Browne.

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF Electrical Workers, Vancouver Local 213.—Meets second and fourth Tuesday in Union hall, room No. 4. President, Geo. Coulins; vice-president, R. P. Irwin; recording secretary, A. D. Hotson, 635 Richards street; financial secretary, John Dubburly.

JOURNEYMEN BARBERS' INTERNATIONAL UNION, No. 120—President, G. W. Isaacs; vice-president, Fred Haw; corresponding - financial secretary, J. A. Stewart, 51 Cordova St; recorder, C. D. Morgan; treasurer, E. Morgan; guide, N. A. Bradley; guardian, P. J. Bennett; delegates to T. & L. Council: G. W. Isaacs and Fred. Haw. Meets first and third Wednesdays of each month in Union Hall.

COOKS, WAITERS AND WAITRESSES' Union, Local No. 28. President, Wm. Ellender; vice-president, W. W. Nelson; recording secretary, Miss Adella Connant; financial secretary, J. H. Perkins; 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 meets the last Sunday in each month at Union Hall. President, C. S. Campbell; vice-president, W. J. McKay; secretary, S. J. Gothard, P. O. Box 66; treasurer, Geo. Wilby; sergeant-at-arms, A. F. Arnold; executive committee, F. W. Fowler, G. E. Pierrott, W. Brand, Robt. Todd; delegates to Trades and Labor Council, W. Brand, Robt. Todd, F. Fowler; delegates to Allied Trades Council, F. A. Fowler, W. J. McKay and C. J. Marshall.

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, H. A. McDonald; vice-president, John Gardiner; secretary, A. G. Perry; treasurer, H. Vanderwalker; conductor, Geo. Lenfesty; warden, D. Smith; sentinel, J. Dubberley; delegates to Trades and Labor Council; H. A. McDonald, J. C. Barton, C. Bennett, Robt. Brunt and A. G. Perry.

UNITED BROTHERHOOD OF CARPENTERS and Joiners—Meets every second and fourth Thursday in Union Hall, room No. 3. President, G. Dobbin; vice-president, J. M. Sinclair; recording secretary, W. T. MacMullen; financial secretary, H. S. Falconer; treasurer, J. Ferguson; conductor, R. MacKenzie; warden, J. McLeod; delegates to T. and L. council, Robt. Macpherson, G. Dobbin, J. M. Sinclair.

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, J. Arnell; vice-president, J. R. Edwards; recording secretary, A. J. Thirtle, address, Vancouver P. O.; financial secretary, H. J. Littler, 673 Hastings street, east; treasurer, E. Timmins; conductor, S. H. Bossisstow; guard, F. Coughlin.

VANCOUVER FISHERMEN'S UNION, No. 2. Meets in Labor Hall, Homer street the last Saturday in each month at 8 p. m. Sydney Harris, secretary, care of water works shops, Powell street.

JOURNEYMEN BAKERS AND CONFECTIONERS' International Union of America, Local No. 46, Vancouver, B. C. President, Wm. H. Barnes; vice-president, Fred. Jay; recording secretary, Sam Walker, St. George St., 7th Ave.; financial secretary, N. McMullin; treasurer, W. A. Woods.

CIGARMAKERS' UNION NO. 357—Meets the first Tuesday in each month in Union Hall. President, A. Koehel; vice-president, P. 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, C. Crowder, C. Nelson.

BROTHERHOOD OF PAINTERS AND DECORATORS, Local Union No. 138. Meets every Thursday in Labor Hall. President, W. Pavier; vice-president, W. Halliday; recording secretary, E. Crush, 221 Georgia street; financial secretary, A. Gothard, 822 Howe street; treasurer, H. McSorley.

JOURNEYMEN TAILORS' UNION OF AMERICA, No. 178 — Meets alternate Mondays in room 1, Union Hall. President, F. Williams; vice-president, Chas. Whalen; recording secretary, H. O. Burritt; financial secretary, Walfred Larson; treasurer, W. W. Toombs; sergeant-at-arms, J. McPherson.

THE RETAIL CLERKS' INTERNATIONAL PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION meets in O'Brien's Hall, the first and third Tuesdays of each month. D. McLean, president; W. J. Lamrick, secretary, 248 Princess street.


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