

# The Western Wage-earner

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In the Interests of Organized Labor

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## Vancouver Trades and Labor Council Proceedings

Vancouver, B. C., March 4, 1909.

The regular meeting of the Trades and Labor Council was held this evening in Labor Hall, President McVety in the chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Credentials were received as follows: Building Trades, W. H. Burke vice F. Little; Boilermakers, D. Duncan and J. Coil; Electrical Workers, H. E. Ellis vice G. Rule; Musicians, L. Davis, C. Toombs and J. Taylor.

A communication was read from the Bartenders' union re the efficiency of Caretaker Burns. Filed.

Secretary Cowan presented his resignation, which was accepted.

The Executive Committee reported as follows: Communications from Cigarmakers' union re Caretaker Burns, filed; from Geo. H. Cowan announcing that he was forwarding Hansard to the Council; filed with thanks. H. H. Phillips, asking permission to put up notices in the hallway; filed. From B. C. Stationary Engineers; he referred to chairman of Organization Committee. That this Executive recommend that the Council appoint a delegate to the Juvenile Protective association. All of the foregoing were concurred in by the Council.

The following accounts recommended by the Executive were ordered paid: World Printing Co., \$5.60; World Printing Co., \$3.60; L. G. Henderson, 50c; Macdonald, Marpole & Co., \$7.50; H. Godfrey, \$1.30.

Parliamentary Committee—No report; only three members in attendance at last meeting.

Delegates Benson, Cross, Colley, Swinerton, Jardine, McGeer were appointed on committee in place of Delegates Isaacs, Jardine, McWhinnie, Bell, Beatty and Ley.

Hospital Committee—Visited patients and found everything going satisfactorily. Had conversation with a number of them. Heard no complaints. Report accepted.

Delegate Knight brought to the attention the case of Sydney Harrison, which was referred to the Hospital Committee.

Secretary Cowan reported having attended at the City Council in re the eight-hour day for civic employees. Referred to Executive.

Reports from Unions.

Cigarmakers—Delegate Heuff read an article on local option and prohibition. Delegate Jardine reported that Cabello Cigar Factory was still unfair.

Bartenders—Are progressing well. Drink Hall House still unfair.

Cooks and Waiters—Are not in as good condition as they should be, and again asked for the support of organized labor.

Plumbers—Will take the Wage-earner in a body.

Moved by Delegates Pettipiece and Heuff that the previous report of the Executive recommending the dismissal of Caretaker Burns be filed. Carried.

Delegate McVety as president, and Delegate Knight as treasurer presented their resignations, and on motion were accepted.

For the office of general secretary R. P. Pettipiece was elected by acclamation. On motion of Ley and Benson, the election of president and treasurer was laid over for two weeks.

The Musicians wrote complaining of a non-union dance in Dominion hall. Referred to unions and Wage-earner.

Moved by Delegates Pettipiece and Sayers: That the secretary be instructed to wire the Attorney-General, Macdonald and McInnis, protesting against the amendment to the Elections Act fixing 30 days' absence from electoral riding as sufficient reasons for registrar removing voters' name, and favor McInnis' amendment making period one year. Carried.

Delegate McVety reported for the Wage-earner, and asked that the balance of cost of February issue (\$115 and \$10) be paid. On motion of Delegates Jardine and Haddon, the report was accepted and the amounts ordered paid.

Secretary Cowan reported on behalf

of the Harbor Improvement Committee. Accepted.

Delegate Smith was appointed to represent this Council in the Juvenile Protective association.

Receipts, \$198.10; disbursements, \$163.50.

Vancouver, March 18, 1909.

Regular meeting of Vancouver Trades and Labor Council assembled in Labor Hall this evening at 8:10 p. m., President McVety in the chair.

Minutes of previous meeting read and confirmed.

Presentation of credentials—Street Railwaymen's union, W. Burrough vice G. Baldwin; Int. Bro. Leather Workers on Horse Goods, No. 115, C. Cartes; Bartenders' League, No. 676, H. H. Harrison vice H. Davis; Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners, J. T. Staples, J. Key, J. T. C. Smith, J. Cobblestick, W. Horsburgh. Received and obligated.

Executive report—Communication from C. Colwill asking Council to purchase his certificates; secretary-treasurer instructed to advise Mr. Colwill to make draft on Council for \$37 and attach certificate. From Tourist association re advertising Vancouver at A. Y. P.; Delegates Dowler and McVety elected to represent Council. From W. J. Bowser and J. A. Macdonald, regarding amendments to Elections Act; filed. From John Manning, secretary International Laundry Workers' union, agent organization in Vancouver; referred to Vice-president Sayers, chair-

## RUBBER GLOVES

### For Household Use

Most ladies now know the advantage in wearing these gloves while doing household work; your hands are always soft and white and the fingernails in perfect condition. Some may think it extravagant to wear these gloves but they are of more real use than the gloves you wear on the street. We have two lines very suitable for this purpose. They fit the hand perfectly and are not the least clumsy. These are especially useful during the spring weather.

PRICES .....75c and \$1.25

Mail orders filled.

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man Organization Committee. From Geo. H. Cowan, in re Hansard; filed.

Accounts recommended for payment: B. C. Electric Railway company, \$8.90; J. T. Mortimer, \$3.35; C. P. R. Telegraph, \$2.45; John A. Flett, \$2.40. Confirmed.

Communications from the United Brotherhood of Carpenters, placing themselves on record as opposed to any person devoting full time to Council serving on Executive. Filed.

Parliamentary Committee—Recommend that the Provincial Government be asked to appoint six members of the Council as commissioners for placing names on the voters' list. Concurred in.

Recommendation regarding general hospital. Referred to Council's Hospital Committee, Delegates Sayers and Payne.

Recommendation that the secretary be instructed to write Salvation Army officials, Premier Laurier and Organizer Trotter, protesting against the misrepresentation and untruthful literature of the Salvation Army now being circulated in the old country to induce emigration; and the bonusing system of the Federal government. Also endorsing the work and utterances of Organizer Trotter. Concurred in. Delegates Sayers and Benson to assist secretary in drafting letter.

Parliamentary Committee has arranged to have a representative present at all City Council meetings to report proceedings to this Council.

Sports Committee reported that Plumbers and Street Railwaymen's unions had played off football match, resulting in victory for the latter, and asked that the Labor Day cup be placed in the custody of the winners. Concurred in.

Roll call—Forty-nine delegates present.

Reports from unions—Cooks and Waiters thanked some members of organized labor for assistance in demanding their card, and reported progress.

At this juncture proceedings were suspended to hear John J. Banfield, a member of the Hospital board, regarding grievances that had been registered by the Council. The present inadequate ambulance system received considerable attention, and Mr. Banfield assured the Council that it was through no lack of effort on the part of the Hospital board that the city did not take over and operate the ambulance.

Bartenders reported new additions to their ranks, and Delegate Curcock asked for the further co-operation of the members of other crafts in the demand for service by union men in union houses.

Brotherhood Carpenters—Delegate Kernighan asked the delegates to remember that the Brotherhood were giving their annual ball in Dominion hall on Monday, April 18, and promised a good time to attendants.

Amalgamated Society of Carpenters—Delegate Key announced that this organization would hold a concert and dance on the evening of Wednesday, March 31.

Nomination and election of officers.—For President: W. W. Sayers, by Delegates Thompson. There being no other nominees, Delegate Sayers re-

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The neatest we ever had and that is saying something. Costs nothing to examine and fit them on.

Agents for "Peabody Overalls" and Sargent Gloves.

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signed as vice-president, and was elected to the presidency by acclamation.

For secretary-treasurer: Delegate G. W. Curnock, by Delegate Larson. Elected by acclamation, after resignation as trustee had been accepted.

For vice-president: Delegate Ley, by Delegate Kernighan; Delegate Knight, by Delegate Abel. Ballot resulted in election of Delegate Knight, the vote being Knight, 26; Ley, 13.

For trustee: Delegate J. G. Smith of the Building Trades, by Delegate Dowler. Elected by acclamation.

President-elect Sayers took the chair, after the new officers were obligated by the retiring president, Delegate McVety, and thanked the members for the confidence imposed in him.

Auditing Committee—Delegates Benson, Staples and Matison.

New Business—The immigration policy of misrepresentation of the Salvation Army; the civic authorities refusal to enforce the plebiscite of the electors regarding the eight-hour day, and Managing Editor McVety's report of the Wage-earner received attention in the order named.

The application of C. R. Gordon of the Machinists' union received the en-

dorsement of the Council for the position of factory inspector in British Columbia.

Bank to be notified of change of officers.

Receipts, \$146.75; disbursements, \$164.78.

Adjournment at 11:10 p. m.

### I'LL TAKE THE PIANO.

A collector for an instalment system establishment, new at the business and very sensitive about performing his unpleasant task, was particularly embarrassed because the lady upon whom he had called was so exceedingly polite and beautiful. Still, the van was at the door, the lady was in arrears in her payments, and he remembered his duty. "Good morning!" said the lady. "It's a beautiful day, is it not?" "Beautiful indeed!" he agreed. "Won't you take a chair," she said. "Er—no, thank you, not this morning," he stammered. "I think I'll take the piano."

If wage-earners only recognized the relationship of their vote and their meal ticket there wouldn't be a name left off the voters' list by this day week.—R. P. F.

# Homeseekers, Attention!

A large 6-room house on a good high 50-foot corner lot on one of the best streets in Mt. Pleasant, one-half block to cars and school; fully modern; one year old.

Price only \$3800

\$1500 cash, balance arranged. No mortgage.

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### STRIKES WHEN BUILDING THE PYRAMIDS.

Human nature changes less than the superficial thinker would have the world suppose. Even away back in the times of ancient Egypt, when the Pharaohs were building themselves, the tombs that the present century calls pyramids, there were strikes and the question of capital and labor resulted in organizations.

There is a record of a building trades strike as far back as 1,500 years before the birth of Christ. Surely this is antiquity enough to give the labor strike the dignity of an established custom. The strike closely resembled many that are going on right at this minute, and more than that, it was the masons who went on strike and defied that particular Pharaoh who sat on Egypt's imperial throne one and one-half thousands of years before the Christian era.

Now, these long-vanished striking masons of Egypt were paid in rations at the end of the month and they claimed that such were the size and hunger of their respective families that the food given them each month was not enough to feed them and their families until the next pay, or ration day rolled around. In fact, by the 10th of a certain month they laid down their tools, and ceased to labor on their particular pyramid and declared that a regular, life-sized, fully organized strike was on.

They said that the paymasters which Pharaoh had put over them were dishonest and that they did not give them all the supplies that Pharaoh allowed for them, but kept lots of the food for their own private use. The paymasters retorted that the men were given all that was due to them and that it would last the whole month if it was not for the fact that the men and their families feasted like pigs all the first half of the month, and as a consequence, were forced to go hungry the last two weeks.

The men went back to work, but on the condition that Pharaoh himself would investigate their troubles and decide what was right. The king of

## Spring Will Soon Be Here

And we have laid in a good supply of

Garden Tools Poultry Netting  
Spray Pumps and Tree Sprays

All orders will receive prompt attention.

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St. W.

Egypt did finally come to where the masons were at work and decided in favor of the strikers and ordered the paymasters to give them more food each month.

The men went back to work, but in a couple of months they declared that the paymasters had again begun robbing them and once more declared a strike. Then the paymasters are said, in the ancient Egyptian hieroglyphics which tell about this first of all authentic labor troubles, to have locked the men out of their work, whereupon they rushed throughout the city and raised a riot. The king finally heard of the rumors and had a few of the strikers killed off, did the same to a few of the paymasters, and set the rest to work again under a new set of task-masters.

### SHORT ON PINS.

The other morning, says the Moyte Leader, a boy named Johnny started to school somewhat late, and to save time, cut across lots.

Coming to a barbed wire fence, he gently threw his books over and then proceeded to crawl through between the wires. In doing so, one of the barbs caught the caboose of his pants and caused a rip clear up to the waistband. Johnny found a solitary pin in his coat, and closing the rent as well as possible, went on his way, arriving at the school house just after school had taken up. As he entered the door the teacher said, "Johnny, I see you're a little behind."

"I know it," replied Johnny, "but if I'd had another pin you wouldn't." And that held her until recess.—Michel Reporter.

The Western Wage Earner is the name of a new monthly published by the Vancouver Trades and Labor Council. Its subscription price is 50 cents a year, which is a scab price when compared with what other papers charge in the province. So says the Greenwood Ledger. Judging by the contents of many of the provincial papers, there is little else but traditional nerve to blame for maintaining at the present rate of \$2.00 per.

### LECTURETTES.

By John A. Van Horn.

We serve ourselves best when we best serve others.

Whoever has political indifference has a very bad habit.

It is not always the largest desire that is answered quickest.

No man who is trying to serve mankind doubts that there are ingrates.

The political lecture falls that does not outline the brotherhood of man.

A desire may be large, yet the desirer may be doing very little to accomplish it.

The man who has the political "big head" most always has the brotherhood "small heart."

No one practices and votes for foolish economics always, but almost every one sometimes.

Doubt is the vestibule which all must pass before they can enter the temple of collective ownership.

Whenever a good plan is set in motion devils begin marching up and down in the neighborhood.

Yes, we Socialists are trying to stir up discontent. We want the workers to abolish the profit system.

Workers have brains as well as hands. Let us introduce them to each other and we will all get along better.

A very small fault in a rising political party or an industrial plan attracts more attention than all its virtues.

Remember, it's looking down that makes one dizzy; horizontally, that you cannot tell whether steady and on sure footing. Look up and the brain clears, the heart grows calm, your strength comes to you for every task and emergency. Socialism is looking up.

R. P. P. in the World says:

"There is no reason, other than profit-making for a corporation, why every resident of Vancouver should not have a telephone at \$1 per month. The present rates are little less than legalized larceny. The British Columbia government is behind the times."

And also behind the Telephone Co., judging by the powers they have given this concern in recent years.

Do you want to read the unbiassed political comment of a paper that is tied to no political party or corporation in British Columbia? Read the

"Saturday  
Sunset"

5 cents a copy

\$2.00 a year, delivered to any address.

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We can make a dollar go farther than most stores, because it travels along the line of excellence.

## J. McTaggart

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Corner Granville and Robson Streets.

### HAS IT COME TO THIS?

Seeking redress for domestic troubles, a negro woman who resembled nothing so much as she did the "before taking" half of an anti-fat remedy, appeared at the office of one the local judges a few days ago.

"I'm a wronged woman," she hissed in a give-me-back-those-papers-Jack-Dalton voice. "Ah wants redress."

"What's the trouble?" inquired the sympathetic judge.

"It's about ma ole man. He's done been caayin' on high wif a lot uv deese young niggah gals, an' it's got so baad twill I 'don see him more'n once a week. Somepin's got t' be done."

The judge's eye held a crafty gleam. "You are seeking a divorce—a legal separation?" he questioned.

"Go 'long man! Divo'ce nothin'! Think I'm gwine t' gin 'im what he wants and low dat man, who despite all his cussedness, is de handsomest niggah in Willow Tree valley, I go skybootin' round 'mong dem gals! Na, nah! I 'don want no divo'ce ner dat legal separation yer's talkin' 'bout. What I want is an injunction!"—*Washington Star.*

### WORK OF THE SCAB.

The "scab" is to labor what the traitor is to his country. He is the Judas Iscariot and the Benedict Arnold of the industrial movement.

Like the ghouls that followed the devastation of the Galveston flood and mutilated and robbed the unfortunate victims of that awful disaster, so the "scab" follows in the wake of strike disaster and participates for a mere pittance in perpetuating robbery, injustice and abuse in the treatment of labor.

He is an excrescence upon the industrial body. He is a pitiable sore in the community and a loathing in the nostrils of even those who employ him.

The employers themselves regard him as a purchasable property—a dishonest and untrustworthy agent, as a miserable piece of humanity temporarily only available for the purpose of holding in slavery those whose services are really of value.

Throughout the world there are those who have no sympathy whatever with the laboring people that will allow these "scabs" to enter their door for the sole reason that their treacherous and low-lived demeanor is such that to admit them across the threshold of their homes is to make themselves unsafe.

A man who will be a "scab" has no honor, no morality, no humanity in his makeup. He is a depraved and mentally besotted preacher, utterly without character or any redeeming element which is found generally in the criminal classes of society.

The "scab" is the lowest element of humanity there is, and the school children are only giving expression to an inherent feeling of repulsion when they deride these low, vicious creatures as they pass them in the public streets.

The "Union Labor" very truly observes—"The scab realizes his position in the world—that he is the enemy of his kind; that he is working under debasing conditions he is assisting in making those conditions; that he has no man's respect, for he deserves no man's respect. He is dishonest and disloyal to his employer, knowing that his employer is dishonest with him; plays a cut-throat game and has his own throat cut; has no respect for the rights of others, and has no manhood with which to maintain his rights; with the heart of a dog, he gets a dog's treatment.

"Why should a man be a scab?"

### A GROWING MOVEMENT.

The International Woman Suffrage Alliance will meet in London, England, April 25th to May 1st. The officers are: President, Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, New York City; first vice-president, Dr. Anita Augsborg, Hamburg, Germany; second vice-president, Mrs. Millicent Garrett Fawcett, London, England; secretary, Mrs. Rachel Foster Avery, Swarthmore, Pa.; first assistant secretary, Dr. Kathie Schirmer, Paris, France; second assistant secretary, Martina Kramer, Rotterdam, Holland; treasurer, Mrs. Stanton-Cole, London, England.

### HEADS UP! WE'LL FOLLOW.

"Labor papers should hew to the line," declares President Gompers, meaning that they should hammer the stuffing out of judges like Wright. That's what they should do, and here's one that will endeavor to do it, providing it can get sight of a few official organs getting the ads on the line. We're getting all-fired tired of doing all the hewing of wood and drawing of water while the editors of the official organs look wise and urge us to send on the per capiter, and hammer H—1 out of the opposition;"

We get a fine lot of lady-like official organs at this labor paper shop, and every time we set down to go through them we feel impelled to make a painful of fudge and marcel wave our straggling locks. What we are waiting for now is an example of hewing set by some of the fancy-vested editorial brethren who don't have to hustle out every Saturday afternoon to raise the wherewithal to put in the envelope of the printer and pressman.—*The Wageworker.*



### Blockitt Keeps a Hat Store

Sells nothing but Hats. Pays his gas bills, advertising bills, clerk hire, and sends the young Blockitts to College—all with the profits on Hats.

Blockitt keeps a Furnishing Goods Store. Sells nothing else. Store rent, house rent, butcher, baker, cocktail shaker—all have to be paid out of the profit on Furnishing Goods.

Blockitt sells Clothing, nothing but Clothing, and his ability to remain in business depends upon the size of the profits he can make on Clothing.

We have a large a stock of Hats as Blockitt. We sell as many furnishing goods as Blockitt, and we combine this with a first-class clothing business large enough of itself to pay all our expenses and more.

**A. E. LEES & CO.**  
THE CASH CLOTHIERS.  
Flack Block.

ALBERTA ELECTIONS.

The elections in Alberta resulted in a glorious victory for the Liberals, that party securing every seat but four, those being distributed among the Conservatives, Independent Conservatives (if anyone can figure what kind of a monstrosity that is) and the Socialists, the latter securing the election of C. M. O'Brien in what is known as the Rocky mountain constituency.

The Frank Paper (Liberal) commenting editorially on the candidates in that constituency, said: "As to the feeling of some Liberals that it would be a pity to have the district represented by a Socialist, and that therefore they ought to support one of the other candidates, we do not think there is any justification for it. As a matter of fact, of the three candidates, there can be no question that the Socialist has all the advantage in the matter of mental endowment, and were it not for the fact of his non-residence, that he owns no property, and cannot be expected to take a proper interest in the constituency, we would pronounce him the fittest man in the running."

SPEEDING UP.

There is a process going on in industry known as speeding up. Employers are making their workers work harder on the same pay or on less.

Upton Sinclair, in his "Jungle" showed how the Chicago packing concerns made the employees work beyond their strength. It was cheaper to wear out men and then discharge them, broken down and worked out while still young, than it was to pay them good wages and work them humanely.

A few years ago the Dominion Iron and Steel company down at Sydney inaugurated a system of bonuses for the workers. The men worked like tigers to earn their bonus, many of them working at a pace that they could not keep up year in and year out. The officials of the company kept close watch of the work done and then did away with the bonus and the men were told that if they could work as hard as they had for a bonus, they could work at the same pace for their ordinary pay. After that they had to work at the increased pace without bonus, and if they fell below the standard, they were sacked.

Last year the C.P.R. made a clear quarter of a million dollars on their news department. This year they have increased the price of the publications sold to the public on their lines and they have cut the wages of their news agents twenty-five per cent. Last year the C.P.R. paid two hundred men a dollar and fifteen cents a day to clear the snow from their Montreal tracks. They sacked these two hundred men as times were hard, and many were out of work. Next day they hired two hundred men at one dollar a day to do the same work. When these men found that they were displacing other men and were working at a lower wage, they objected. They were all sacked and two hundred more men were taken on at ninety cents a day. The men could not live on this; but then humanity was cheap, and the C. P. R. was out for dividends. Is it any wonder that the C.P.R. is not liked by Canadians?

The workers have to unite. They must stand together on the political and economic battle ground. They must organize unions; but they must also turn out the present gang of tricksters at Ottawa and put in workers who know how to beat the capitalists at their own game.—Cottams Weekly.

The United Hatters of North America are engaged in a life and death struggle with the Manufacturers' association. The very existence of their organization depends on their success in this fight. The very best help we can give these brothers is to refuse to buy any hat that does not bear the union label.

The voucher-check now used by the Typographical union is being much admired by business men of Seattle. The members of 202 deposit cash with the secretary and take a check with which to make purchases. The check bears a cut of the Home and an allied label. A little card is sent out with each check boosting the label.—Seattle Record.

WE have the largest, cleanest and most complete stock in Mount Pleasant. We buy and sell for cash, and our prices are the lowest; while the quality of our goods is the highest. Our store is full of bargains, every day is bargain day. Come and see us; we can save you money on groceries.



Andrews & Nunn

Mount Pleasant's Leading Grocers

2333 Westminister Ave. Phone 938

WORST CRIME OF ALL.

"Call the jury for the next case," said the judge.

"May it please the court," said the prosecuting attorney, "the prisoner at bar is not entitled to a jury. He—"

"Why, even the oneriest chicken thief is entitled to a trial by jury," exclaimed the judge. "It is the inalienable right of every man charged with—"

"But this is a union man charged with having violated your order not to approach a strike breaker with intent to influence him."

"What? Prisoner, stand up! You have committed a crime which is so much worse than murder, rape, incest, arson, infanticide, homicide, patricide, matricide, or fratricide, that you have forfeited all right to a trial by a jury. Solitary confinement for six months. Call the next case!"—Lincoln Wage-worker.

The wage slave builds the automobile, but when traveling, seems satisfied to walk.—John M. O'Neill.

Hard

for you if you do not own your own home

Easy

for you to buy a home-site on very easy terms

Phone 3012

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Open Evenings.

# Dan Stewart & Co.

THE LEADING TAILORS

Style and Fit Guaranteed

☞ DON'T buy clothes because they are cheap. Ours are the cheapest, consistent with good workmanship.

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## ARE YOU INTERESTED?

The following letter from J. Ramsay MacDonald, M.P., secretary of the Labor party of Great Britain, is self-explanatory and should receive the consideration of the different organizations throughout the British possessions:

London, Eng., March 10, 1909.  
Dear Sir,—

The following resolution was unanimously carried at the annual conference of the Labor party which was recently held at Portsmouth:

"This conference authorizes the executive to enter into communication with the labor and Socialist organizations within the British Dominions to ascertain whether they favor the holding of an all-British Labor conference in 1910 to consider matters of interest common to the working class in all parts, and empowers it to proceed with the arrangements if the replies justify such action."

The colonial conference will be held in 1910 in the ordinary course and it has long been felt desirable by us that, concurrently with this conference, there should be one representative of all the labor and Socialist organizations in the Empire, meeting to discuss imperial concerns and policies in which these organizations have a common interest. Before arrangements can be made for the holding of such a conference it will be necessary for the Labor party to know what response is likely to be given to the invitation conveyed in the resolution. I, therefore, hope you will be good enough to publish this in your next issue and that secretaries of organizations interested may draw the attention of their executives to it and communicate the result to me at the very earliest possible moment.

Yours faithfully,

J. RAMSAY MACDONALD,  
Secretary.

## A SERMONETTE.

"Do man dat goes aroun' singin' his own praises," said Uncle Eben, "is mighty liable to get disappointed when he looks for folks to line in de chorus."—Washington Star.

## "HAZARDOUS."

John D. Rockefeller on the witness stand said that he started in the oil business with \$2,000. Also that the oil business is hazardous.

If you've only got two thousand plunks or so within your jeans,  
It's a waste of time to bother with sure-thing business schemes;  
If you'd have your wealth accumulate in a way miraculous,  
Just put it in a business that is listed "hazardous."

The men who risk their lives and limbs in mining coal today,  
The men who in the steel mills off fall 'neath molten spray,  
The children who in sweatshops are killed by Mammon's lust—  
All these have incomes very small; their toll's not hazardous.

The brake on the freight train, the lineman stringing wires,  
The stoker on the liner, half crazed by roaring fires,  
The seamstress and the trackman must labor for a crust;  
It's economic law you see; their work's not hazardous.

If you'd "earn" a Christian profit—one that's fair and just,  
Work the workers, clip your coupons, for that's extra hazardous.  
—Ben Blumenberg.

Who is the cheapest wage worker among the civilized toilers of the world?

The following figures represent the percentage of wealth as divided between capital and labor in the countries named:

Country	Capital	Labor
Italy	51	49
Austria	63.4	36.6
Switzerland	65.4	34.6
Spain	67.4	32.6
Russia	68.3	31.7
France	67.9	32.1
Germany	73.2	26.8
Britain	73.2	26.8
Belgium	74.5	25.5
United States	82.3	17.7

Rainier Beer. Rainier Beer.

Spend an enjoyable evening with the Brotherhood of Carpenters on April 12th.

Reports from Winnipeg are to the effect that the C. P. R. Officials are again trying to force a reduction of pay upon the men, this in addition to flagrantly violating the award of the Conciliation Board during the past 5 months.

Do not forget the Carpenters' Ball on April 12th.

50 WANTED—3000 CAME.

Big Crowd Storm Winnipeg Theatre for Jobs as Supers in "Ben Hur."

The customary Sunday quietude of Winnipeg was jarred recently when a crowd of 1,000 to 2,000 men and boys gathered in a howling mob at the rear of the Walker theatre beat on securing positions as supers in the production to be put on this week by the "Ben Hur" Theatrical company. The assistance of the police sergeant and three constables were necessary to quell the miniature riot and they were aided by the employes of the theatre.

The crowd had come in response to an advertisement which called for "50 men and ten little boys, to apply at the stage door of the Walker theatre on Sunday at 8 p.m."

The crowd gathered as early as five o'clock and at 7 the noise could be heard blocks away. Led by a hoodlum element it was not long before discretion was cast to the winds and the crowd surged around the rear portion of the building like bees. Some of the men secured ropes and entered. A call for police was sent from a church near by and relief came.

The "Little Stickers"—Word was received in Chicago that the attorney-general of the United States would be appealed to by a New York mail order house to stop the use of the "little stickers" of the International Typographical union on the ground that they are a secondary boycott and in restraint of trade between the states. The "stickers" are placed on printed matter received by union men that does not bear the union label. Recently a New York company sent out 20,000 catalogues to all parts of the United States. Many were returned bearing the "little sticker," upon which is printed, "Returned because of absence of union label."—Exchange.

The distribution of Eaton's catalogues locally offers an excellent opportunity for similar action on the part of the printing trades in this city.

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**International Brokerage Co.**

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John Savage Frank Wilcox

## THE MEN WHO KNOW.

The one who has lived all his life in cities, to one who has spent most of his days and nights with the men who write the great daily papers of the cities, it is perfectly evident that ninety out of every hundred editorial writers on the press today are men who are in intellectual and sympathetic revolt against present-day conditions. You will find the average editorial writer a Socialist, and as for the reporter, he is most likely to be an anarchist.

The reason is plain enough. The men who make the newspapers are behind the scenes; they see the workings of the wire, they note the demagoguery of politicians, they are familiar with the ramifications by which the public service corporations control the old parties down to the smallest offices, and even at times finance reform movements, which always stop at the election of some respectable figurehead or dummy, but never proceed to any attack upon the fundamental evils of our social and economic system.

It is my firm belief that were it not for the capitalists at the head of the great daily newspapers, if it were possible for the men who write the news and the editorials of all the newspapers to take absolute charge of their publications and print the news exactly as they see it, and write their views exactly as they feel them, for a space of three days, there would be such a revolution as would put that of France to shame.—Barrier Daily Truth, Broken Hill, N. S. W.

## TEMPORARY PEACE.

Wages for more than 80,000 skilled mechanics in the building trades of New York were fixed for the coming year at a meeting of the business agents of the various trades unions. The wages, based on an eight-hour work day, were fixed as follows for the more important trades: Boiler-makers and iron shipbuilders, \$5; carpenters and framers, \$5; cabinet makers, \$4; cement and concrete masons, \$5; electrical workers, \$4.50; house-smiths, bridge men, iron workers, \$4.80; metal and wood lathers, \$4.50; marble cutters and setters, \$5; machinists of all descriptions, \$4.50; plasterers, plain and ornamental, \$5.50; plumbers and gas fitters, \$5; painters, \$4; decorators and gliders, \$4.50; sheet metal workers, copper-smiths, fin-smiths, metal roofers, \$4.50; stone cutters, \$5; steam and hot water fitters, hydraulic, pneumatic tube, etc., \$5.00.

## AUTOMOBILE NUMBERS AND MUMMIES.

Two small boys had strayed into the mummy room of a certain museum. "Wot's these?" said one. "Them's guys wot's bin dead a long time," answered the other. "And wot's them letters, B. C. 14, over the guy in the corner?" "Guess that's the number of the automobile wot run over the poor bloke." —Bohemian Magazine.

## THINK IT OVER.

When a union elects a member to an official position, it does so not to make him a target for censure and abuse, but that he may be a center around which the members shall gather to make effective the work of the organization. This is a lesson that has not taken hard enough hold on the minds of union members.

There is a peculiar perversity possessing many union people that makes them knock the men they have elected to office. They seem to have an idea that because they have elected a brother to office they have a right to dog him to their heart's content. They treat him very much the same way the Indians used to treat their squaws, only worse. The Indian made his squaw do the work, but he didn't have much to say. While the union man piles all the work of the organization on the shoulders of the officer and a heap of abuse on his head.

If the union members who are guilty of this folly would have as much to say in the way of boosting as they have in the way of knocking, how easy would be the work of the officers and how successful the organizations!—Exchange.

INCORPORATED 1869

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EY

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**H. A. EDGETT CO.,**

LTD

"The Store of Plenty"

**BILLY WHEELSWORF ON SOSHUL-  
ISM.**

O'd just coom aht o t'pooast offis t'other day when who should shaat aht froo scorns t'street but mi owd pal Harry Hinchcliffe. Hey up Billy he sez! Ha are 'er owd chap an' ha is a shop cuttin' na? Not too bad o sez o'm veguin' to get on me feat agocan attar t' fire an' t' typhoid fever but where's tha been this long wholee back?

O've oay just coom back froo t'owd Country whear o' went right attar t' election when ahr man Davidson wor liced. Ahr man! o sez, what does tha mean? O' never knew tha wart a Soshulist, Harry! O'm not Billy, but o' voted that ticket because t' other chaps belong to t' soide as allus gies three to t' gaffer an' nowt to t' warkin' man oay ahabit election toimes when t' candidates an' their agents is as full o' promises as some holles tha knows to full o' gas.

O've voted for t' Liberals i t' past but it seems to me they are liberal and to thersens an' t' oay liberality to us warkin' chaps is a lop o' puff be' promises an' as for t' Consarvatives they believe t' knip' howdin' on to

what they'n gotten an' grabbin' aht for mooar.

When of fust coom to Canada of wor fair capt one day to reead a noatis: "Liberal Conservative" an' of axed a chap what soort on a wite blackbird it wor. He laffed hissen fit to brussen an' when he fate his breth back, sed "Tha sees its' this road:

"They are Consarvatives what's liberal to thersens and Consarvative to t' Liberals." O' told him of didn't onderstand an' he left me sayin' "Vooat i t' fucher fer ayther on 'em an' tha'll find aht what o've told thee is t' trewth."

O'm satisfied on that nah an' whilst o'm not a Soshulist o'm fair to gie 'em a trial on see what they'll do because we cannot be any worse off than we are at t' same time tha' sez tha' art a Soshulist an' o'm bahn to ax thee some questions an' o' hooap the waynt think o'm a fatheed if o' doan't onderstand all tha sez at first yo off. O' did once ax a chap an' he began to tawk abaht it i' langwidge that sahned like t' jawbreakers they gied i' a spellin' match once i' Owlerton, an' when o' sed "Howd on a minit matey, whoas dischurny has ter swallered?" he gate huffy an' went off chunterin to hissen summat abaht foolis. O' shoated attar him of might be a fool but of wahnt an eddicated fool. Eddication often maks a fool ten toimes worse ner if yoh left him as he wor booran—a nateral. Oo t' Soshulists beleave i' dividin' up? Ah lad they doa that \* \* \* Nah Billy that's what o've heeard afoor, then ageean another chap told me they didn't but wanted to put a stop to it, w' all these different tales ha' is a chap to know which on em is reight?

That's same hoppin' Harry tha allus wor, if tha'd ony wait a bit an' not be soa impashent of think of can proovee that booath him what said Soshulists wanted to stop t' dividin' up an' me what started to tell thee they doa beleave i' dividin' up booath meean alike i' t' long run.

O' meean that all on us what can ought to work an' not some tew' an' sweat froo mornin' to noet an' goa hooam (if yoh can call t' place some on em lives in hooam) completely fagged aht whoil others dee w' t' gout and dropsy an' live on t' fat o' t' lond an' do nowt but gather in ther dividends froo businesses abaht which they often know nowt an' care less, of beleave at we shud divide up t' wark an' everybody share i' t' result accordin' to t' amahut o' good produced. Nah doesn't thaas see that this wud be a case o' not dividin' up as we'n doin' nah coe tha has to work two for theesen an' gie t' company eight besides before they'll gie thee thy two.

This of think is simple enuff an' oim sure o've not used owt but t' plainest langwidge. Tha'd like ter know ha' this is to be done an' one o' these days o'll explain it to thee, but o'm feared its abahit time of went to t' train Harry, as t' whistle blowed five minutes sin—

So long, Billy, o'll be on t' same shift as tha art next week an' then tha can tell me summet more abaht this subject.—Pernie Ledger.

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first-class music and  
a first-class cafe,

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THE SMALLEST "BILL"

A conductor on the O'Fallon Park division of the St. Louis and Suburban railway had such a good run of business Sunday afternoon that he had difficulty in keeping himself supplied with small change, says the St. Louis Globe-Democrat. Many persons who patronized his car handed him dollars and bills of larger denominations in payment of their fares.

The conductor managed to get on fairly well until a woman carrying a tiny infant boarded his car. When he approached the woman for her fare she handed him a \$5 bill.

"Is that the smallest you have, madam?" queried the conductor, fearing another shortage in change.

The woman looked at the conductor and then at her baby and made this surprising reply:

"Yes; I have been married only 12 months."

**CAPITAL AND LABOR ARE  
ENEMIES.**

In a speech dealing chiefly with the boycott and injunction question, Clarence C. Darrow, of Chicago, addressed a mass meeting of miners' delegates in Indianapolis on January 30. He said the power of the boycott and the power of the strike are practically the only weapons left for the workingman.

Lawyer Darrow declared that capital and labor are enemies. "They never will be friends," he argued, "until every capitalist is a workingman and every workingman a capitalist. There is no use to worry about going to jail. The thing to do is to fight this labor question out. We can help Mitchell, Gompers and Morrison fight their case to the finish, and if they have to go to jail, let them go, and after that the great army of workers will continue this great fight for better things."

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KURTZ'S PIONEERS  
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men in Kurtz's Cigar Factory.**

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Ask for them and see that you get them.

## INDIA FOR THE INDIANS.

Mr. Buchanan, the under-secretary of state in parliament for India, stated the other day that the government has under serious consideration the question whether it will any longer allow freedom of the press and freedom of speech about India to obtain in this country.

Mr. Buchanan himself is a person of no account whatever, in any respect; but we can scarcely suppose he would have been permitted to make such an announcement without due authority from his chief, Lord Morley, and other members of the cabinet. It is no secret that "Justice" is specially aimed at in this truly Liberal threat, as our journal is already excluded from India by fiat of Lords Morley and Minto.

Our concern is, of course, with our own paper. We defy Lord Morley and this whole administration of Whig lawyers, Radical turncoats, and Socialist traitors to prosecute "Justice," its editor, contributors and printers.

We shall continue to say what we have been saying, ever since "Justice" was established more than a quarter of a century ago: That British rule in India is one long record of wrong and robbery; that the people are being bled to death and made easy victims for the plague by our systematic extortion; that Indians are deprived of all control over their own country in that free speech, free press, free trial, freedoms of every sort are being relentlessly suppressed; that wholly innocent men are being transported and kept in prison without the chance of saying a word in their own defence, under enactments worthy of a Serjeant or a Plebe; that young university students, guilty only of political offenses of the mildest character, are being publicly flogged by Liberal orders till the blood runs down their backs; that torture in the British prisons, both before and after trial, has been quite common, and is admitted to have been so by British officials; and as a manifest deduction from all these facts, that such a government as this of ours in India is wholly infamous, and a curse alike to the people of In-

dia, the people of England, and humanity at large.

This, we repeat, is what we have said, what we shall continue to say, and what we challenge this Liberal government to prevent us from saying.

Furthermore, we contend that Indians, like Hungarians, Italians, Turks, Bulgars, Greeks, North and South Americans, are fully entitled to emancipate themselves, as soon as they possibly can, from this hideous despotism of foreign carpet baggers; and that emancipation would be in the highest degree beneficial as well to Englishmen as to Indians; for the mass of our countrymen have no interest whatever in maintaining Hindostan as a happy pecuniary hunting ground for our aristocrats, capitalists and middle class.

That is quite plain, isn't it? Very well. What we write we also proclaim by word of mouth. On platform after platform, to Europeans and to Indians, throughout the length and breadth of this island, on the continent of Europe and in America, we tell the same story. We hold up, in short, the crimes of our governing classes in India to the execration of the civilized world. That is also quite plain, don't you think?

Fortunately thanks to the pluck and vigor of our forbears in days of long ago, who fought for and won our liberties against "the base, bloody and brutal Whigs," who were the lineal ancestors of our Whigs now in office, honest Lord John Morley, the ennobled Radical and democrat, cannot deport us without trial, under the act of 1818, cannot have us publicly flogged as a precautionary measure of Radical discipline, cannot secretly torture us in prison at his convenience, cannot prevent us from being heard in our defense, or refuse us reasonable trial, or decline to appear himself on subpoena as a witness.

For which reasons, we take it, ministers will think twice before they carry "our Mr. Buchanan's" threatenings into practice. But, as they are quite sure to have the whole of the reactionary press of the country behind them in any high handed action they may take, confidence in their valuable sup-

port may give them courage to proceed yet further on their path towards irretrievable infamy. So much the better for our cause.

We, at any rate, are quite satisfied. We have done and are doing our duty by tens of millions of helpless men and women. "Bande Mataram" is our answering salute to our Indian comrades and fellow citizens today. May we live to see them realize the noble aspirations those words express!—London Justice.

## PRESIDENT TAFT ON LABOR INJUNCTIONS.

In his inaugural discussion of the labor injunction question, as in his campaign speeches, Mr. Taft wholly missed the point at issue. The question is not whether workmen shall sometimes have notice of court proceedings before they are enjoined from doing something which they claim the right to do. It is whether the process of injunction shall be so used as virtually to put innocent men upon trial for alleged crimes, including libel, according to the practice in chancery instead of the practice of the criminal courts. In chancery the testimony is given by affidavit, without right of cross-examination, and without the protection of jury trial. Consequently working men may be—indeed, have been—punished arbitrarily for criminal acts of which they are presumably innocent, upon mere affidavits, without juries, and upon the say-so of a judge. Since Mr. Taft favors abolition of the jury system, it is not strange that he overlooks the essential point in the labor-injunction question. But all the same, the injunctions which he defends are invasive of the criminal sphere of jurisprudence, and subversive of the principle of jury trial.—The Public.

The numerical strength of the United Mine Workers of America at the present time is quoted at 300,000. The coal mines of the country have felt severely the effects of industrial depression and the organization of the coal miners has weathered the storm, as well as any other labor organization in the country. With an organization of 300,000 members coupled with the missionary work that will open their eyes to the class struggle, the United Mine Workers can be made the most powerful labor body of America.

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## A "SCAB" IN TROUBLE.

James Farley, the breaker of strikes on street cars and railroads, who lately retired from that dangerous but money-getting calling, has entered the racing game with a string of trotting horses. Recently he was fined \$100 by the directors of the National Trotting association for attempting to "sell out" a race last summer. Farley pleaded not guilty, and said he was offered \$2,000 to do the very thing he was charged with. The board not only refused to believe him, but announced that if he came before them again they would expel him from every trotting track circuit in America. The "closed shop" announcement scared Farley, and he promised to be good.—Lance.

In the Western Wage Earner George Bartley has an article in which he says that "Life is labor and death is rest." Being an expert upon activity, George surely knows.—Greenwood Ledger.

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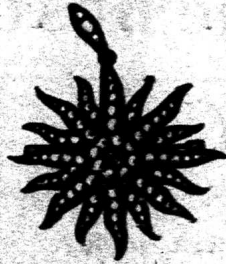
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### THE INNER MEANING OF NEGRO DISFRANCHISEMENT.

The Laborer (Dallas, Texas) says: "There is now before the House of Representatives at Austin a proposition to establish an educational test for voters in Texas. This can be done only by amending the constitution by an election, but if the question is submitted it will have a very good chance of carrying. The machine politicians will support it, for there is nothing they fear like real democracy, real people's rule. The franchise-grabbing capitalists will favor it, for they can handle a select number of men (not the United States Senate) so very conveniently. The capitalist newspapers will advocate it, for what their masters, the big capitalists, want, they, too, want and work for. Yet not one good reason can be alleged for the restriction, if we take as our point of view that of a believer in the people's rule. The "Negro domination" fraud has worked out. In combination with misrepresentations as to the real purpose of the poll tax amendment, the Negro vote was used to fool many an unthinking voter eight years ago. Now many a workingman who voted to cut out the Negro vote has found that the same poverty that keeps the Negro from paying \$1.75 for a vote, keeps him also. And this in the face of the fact that we have never had any danger of "Negro domination." The real reason for this proposition of an educational test is the same as the real reason for the poll tax infamy. It will cut out some voters. Every single voter so cut out is a workingman. The capitalist class is daily assuming more complete control of the State of Texas, and every workingman's vote destroyed, makes the complete control by the owning class easier. Every workingman, every local or union of workingmen in Texas, ought to agitate and protest against this proposed infamy."

The Trades and Labor Council of Calgary have endorsed the candidature of Mr. Geo. Howell, who is the Socialist nominee.

### STILL UNSOLVED.

Some time ago Eastern labor papers worked themselves into a frenzy over a solution of the unemployed question discovered by the "Industrial Banner" of Hamilton.

The following article, clipped from an exchange, shows the measure of success met with:

Owing to the depression in the trades in London, Ont., the London Trades and Labor Council recently started a factory to manufacture toys, to give employment to union men out of work until such time that they may find situations, when business becomes more active. There are but a half dozen engaged, but it's a good idea and may grow to become a permanent institution in time.

### THE UNEMPLOYED "HIGHER UP."

Mr. Roosevelt says—Of course, I did no work myself in connection with the Panama canal, and didn't bother my head even with the business details, but Mr. Pulitzer's article is false—he is an infamous liar.

Mr. Pulitzer says—I am the proprietor of the World; it is absurd to accuse me of working even with a pencil. I was yachting at the time that article was written. Roosevelt is another.

Mr. Rockefeller says—I haven't been to the office of Standard Oil in a dozen years. My work is gold.

Mr. Archibald says—My business is to clamor for dividends.

Mr. Carnegie says—Ooother men made my money for me. It accumulates while I sleep. Work is a fallacy.

Mr. Workingman says—I begin to suspect that these brigands who hurl mud and thunderbolts at each other over the spoils of my labor, and these non-working gentry who coolly confess they are riding on my back with a strangle hold around my neck, are not necessary to my comfort or happiness—in fact, the sooner I get rid of them the better. Maybe I was born a Jackson, but the capitalists are kind enough to enlighten me.

When asking for beer be sure and ask for U. R. G.

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Rules, Levels, Etc. Yankee  
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Hardware and Sporting Goods.

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### THE UNEMPLOYED.

The causes for the present condition of unemployment are apparent. The capacity of men to produce, owing to the invention of machinery, is more than sixfold over that of their forefathers. Government statistics show that in 1906 the average worker received only 17½ per cent of what he produced, and while his hours of labor were reduced to nine a day, his producing capacity had increased 6 per cent over that of the preceding year. Through this rapid increase of productive power by machinery the markets have become flooded, overproduction has resulted and this has been aggravated by underconsumption through the loss of wages to workingmen entirely or in greatly decreased earning opportunities. As the workingman's ability to consume has not increased with his productive power, the result is that the ranks of the unemployed are being constantly increased, with a tendency toward the growth and continuance of a large unemployed class in this country, which in time will present as serious a problem as that which confronts the people of England and the continent.—Clothing Journal.

A great many union men are loud in their talk in union halls and on the streets as regards brotherly love, standing up to obligations, supporting union institutions, etc. but when it comes to subscribing for the union paper and paying for it, they are dumb as an oyster. Why is this? How come? Are you a make-believe? Either come up to what you preach, or quit. Enough said.—Ex.

### PLATT TELLS OF CLASS STUPIDITY.

By Thomas F. Kennedy.

On page 524 of the April Cosmopolitan, in the last paragraph of the first installment of Senator Platt's reminiscences, will be found this remarkable statement:

"A lull followed his remarks (George E. Waldo of Brooklyn), broken by Senator Depew in the chair, who said: 'All in favor say aye.' There were a few uncertain ayes. 'Those opposed will say no.' There were no noes. 'Carried,' said the chairman. The delegates looked at one another in astonishment. None of them knew what the delegation had voted for."

If this had been the Socialist branch at Podunk, the Carpenters' union at Bingville or the Posey County Farmers' alliance it would afford convincing proof of the ignorance and incapacity of the workers.

Platt goes on: "Mr. Odell (who has been governor of the state of New York) turned to those on his right and said in a voice heard by at least ten delegates, 'What have we voted for?' 'Ye gods and little fishes! If the army of unemployed in New York or any other big city were holding a meeting, conference of convention, and a vote was taken, and those present did not know for what they voted, would it not afford a Powderly a text for a sermon on their unworthiness.

If this delegation were the rag-tag and bobtail, the flotsam and jetsam of our sweatshop society, what a flood of sarcastic comment would flow from forum, rostrum and school!

And, mark you, these are not the utterances of some irresponsible agitator or muck-raker, but of Senator Thomas Collier Platt of New York, one of the owners of the Republican party.

Capitalist production has divorced two functions which once were indissolubly united; on the side it puts the manual workers, who become more and more servants of the machine, and on the other the intellectual workers, engineers, chemists, managers, etc. But these two categories of workers, however different and contrary they may be in their education and habits, are welded together, to the point that a capitalist industry can not be carried on without manual laborers any more than without intellectual wage workers. United in production, united under the yoke of capitalist exploitation, united they should also be in revolt against the common enemy. The intellectuals, if they understood their own real interests, would come in crowds to socialism, not through philanthropy, not through pity for the miseries of the workers, not through affectation and snobbery, but to save themselves, to assure the future welfare of their wives and children, to fulfill their duty to their class.—Paul Lafargue.

"Reuben, Reuben, I've been thinking  
What a grand world this would be,  
If the darned thick-pated voters  
Had only brains enough to see."  
—National Rip Saw.

All dealers have our goods.

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TRY THE NEW CIGAR

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## SUNSET

Made of the best material  
and by Local Union  
Men

ASK FOR THEM

Fred Weiss  
Proprietor

Cabe Thomas  
Manager

### THE FOOTBALL CUP.

The final game to decide who should be the proud possessors of the cup donated to the union winning the most games was played off recently on the Harris Street grounds.

The contesting teams were Plumbers and Street Railwaymen. The teams lined up at 3 p. m., and for the first half the game was well contested, no score being made until the end of half an hour's play, when Lofting placed the knights of the trolley ahead with a splendid shot.

The half time score was Street Railwaymen 3, Plumbers 0. When the teams turned out for the second half it was seen that the Plumbers were a man short. The Railwaymen showed their superiority in this part of the game, and won by 8 goals to 0. The shining lights were Lofting, Mansfield and Gelling, Lofting scoring five goals.

Patten, the Plumbers' goal keeper, played a splendid game, despite the heavy score against him. Balfour and Taylor also did well for the Plumbers. Final: Street Railwaymen, 8; Plumbers, 0.

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Contributions are solicited from correspondents, elected by their respective unions, to whom they must be held responsible for contents. Copy must be in by 20th of the month.



VANCOUVER, B. C., APRIL, 1909.

### OUR PAPER.

Thanks to the active support given the paper by a number of delegates to the Council and to the advertising given by the merchants of the city, the "Wage-Earner" is now established on a firm basis, having passed the experimental stage in the first issue.

In addition to the subscribers taken over at the beginning, a number of unions have since subscribed for their entire membership in addition to placing a card in the Union Directory on page 24.

There are still a number of organizations that have, as yet, taken no action, some probably waiting for a committee to wait upon them; others may not have secured sample copies. In either case, however, a postcard or phone message to the manager will be appreciated in order that YOUR union may at once take the necessary action to still further increase the success of LABOR'S OFFICIAL ORGAN.

It is also essential to the welfare of the paper that the membership patronize the advertisers, and when doing so, tell them WHY. A number of business agents and members have already done valiant service in this respect, and if fifty per cent. of organized labor will follow their example, the size of the paper will be increased at once.

We also require more local news of the different crafts and will be glad if your union will appoint a correspondent to keep us posted on matters of interest to yourselves or labor generally.

### THE FRANCHISE.

In every country where the workers have shown a disposition to exercise the ballot in their own interests there has appeared a desire on the part of the ruling class to place restrictions on the free use of the franchise. In the United States the cry is for an educational test, the purpose being to disfranchise the foreigners and negroes who have recently shown a disposition to do a little thinking for themselves and to refuse to "stay bought."

In this country the inspired press continually harp on the necessity of penalizing every failure to vote, by removing the offender's name from the list. Without giving the question any consideration, many labor leaders have endorsed this proposal, apparently with the mistaken idea of making every working man a "live" voter.

Without entering into the merits of the case, it may be safely assumed that any movement of this kind endorsed by the capitalist press is intended to work an injury to their opponents, who are in every instance the workers, or rather the advanced section of that class and we are justified in looking on the movement with distrust even if we do not condemn it altogether.

Agreeing that many of the workers have not a proper conception of the franchise, we are of the opinion that in the majority of cases where the worker fails to record his vote, he is not in his Electoral District on election day, having been forced by circumstances to chase the elusive job in order to procure the wherewithal with which to purchase food and consequently is disfranchised through economic necessity rather than through any desire on his part to shirk his duty.

Upon those who are able to remain in one section of the country for considerable periods of time, must necessarily fall the duty of protecting the franchise rights of their more unfortunate brethren, but alas, it is those who have permanent employment who are least willing to assume this duty, and it is they who must be aroused to the necessity of protecting that which their forefathers fought and dearly paid for.

Altogether too little interest was shown by organized labor throughout the Province when the Bowser amendment to the Election Act was before the House, and had it not been for the forensic vision of the working class representatives in the house and the support afterwards given by the Lib-

erals, fifty per-cent. of the workers of this Province might have been disfranchised by the Provincial Government in the brief space of three weeks or a month.

Mr. Bowser's amendment provided that should anyone leave their Electoral District for a period of 30 days, the Registrar might write to him at his last known address and if no reply was received, his name could be removed from the Voters' list. Although the Bill was fathered by Bowser it would appear that Ross of Fernie was responsible for its introduction, knowing that unless some drastic changes were made, his seat would be greatly imperilled at the next election. The stormy sessions of the House while considering this measure need not be described here, but owing to the opposition, even from some members of the Government the measure was modified by providing that 6 months elapse before the names could be stricken from the list and they must be advertised for three weeks in the press before action is taken.

While the suggested changes of Bowser's did not carry, it certainly was not on account of a weakening on his part, and the workers of this country should make up their mind that only by eternal vigilance and by changing our representatives, can such attempts be defeated.

### TROTTERS WORK.

If persistent energetic agitation is of any service in preventing a further influx of immigrants into this country Organizer Trotter is certainly working for results, and is, we believe, getting them. No movement in Great Britain in recent years has received the same publicity as his exposures of the emigration frauds, and despite all the contrary influences at work he is sticking manfully to his guns and has succeeded in bringing even Lord Strathcona into the limelight as a defender of the emigration policies of the Canadian Government and the Canadian Pacific Railway. His Lordship's statements will, however, be taken with considerable salt, considering that he is a large shareholder in the C. P. R., and more emigrants means more fares, land sales and strike breakers, all of which go to swell the dividend to be declared on his holdings in the Company. In addition, a number of light weights who have travelled in this country and viewed the glorious prospects from the car windows are howling with indignation at Trotter, but owing to his statements regarding the number of unemployed being taken

Reinier Borg, Reinier Borg,

from Government documents and publications these protests will be of little avail and will only tend to strengthen our position among the workers of the old land.

We hoped that the Salvation Army had forever disappeared as traffickers in human beings, but despite the assurances given the Dominion Trades Congress Convention last September and the Officers of the Vancouver Trades and Labor Council recently by Messrs Howell and Lamb that they proposed to "return to spiritual work" leaving the emigration business to others, in spite of these assurances, a programme has been sent broadcast throughout the British Isles and every daily paper of any consequence contains an advertisement calling for emigrants for Canada, two ship loads of whom are to leave England this month.

The deliberate falsehoods told by the men in charge of this commercial enterprise, together with the expose in connection with their alleged relief institutions in England (particulars of which are given in another column) should be sufficient to warrant an investigation by the Government of Great Britain into what appears to be one of the worst forms of labor exploitation in existence, either with, or without the cloak of religion.

The Unions of this country could and should donate freely to keep him in the field, because his work is closely related to the negotiation of agreements and increased rates of pay.

**TRY AGAIN.**

The harsh criticism of the Liberal press has evidently had its effect upon the Hon. Mr. Bowser and he, in an effort to justify himself before the electorate has caused to be circulated printed copies of a speech made in the House during the recent session. Having in mind the statements that the Government were consumed by a desire to do something for labor, we scanned the speech eagerly, expecting

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**Two Special Features from  
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**T**HE following two excellent lines have been chosen from our stocks on account of their truly extraordinary values. These (should they interest you) are worth your while to investigate, either personally or through our mail order department. Our reputation for quality goods at the least possible cost is clearly demonstrated by the following:—

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Of excellent quality print or gingham, in neat check or stripe effects, made in attractive Buster Brown style, with round yoke; cuffs and belt of white duck. For ages 2 to 6 years. Very special at, each.....75c

**CHILDREN'S ROMPERS OR PLAY SUITS.**

An ideal garment that every child from one to six years of age should have. These play suits are made of fine quality Amoskeag gingshams in fast colors. Regular price, 85c. Price, each.....50c

575 Granville Street Vancouver, B. C.

to find the Hon. gentleman explaining his vote on all of the labor bills introduced in the House and also his reasons for attempting to disfranchise a large percentage of the workers of the Province.

To our surprise and sorrow, not one reference of any kind was made to any of the important questions (from our point of view) referred to, the whole speech being a plea of justification on the part of the Government and Mr. Bowser in particular and an attempt to ridicule the opposition members, Mr. Oliver of Delta, receiving considerable attention.

There was a time in the obscure past when an effort of this kind would delude the workers, but the Hon. gentleman has made a serious mistake if he hopes to heal the wounds received by labor in this Province with a recital of crude campaign tactics used by the old parties during the last campaign.

We would suggest that another effort be made by the Attorney-General and that he confine his remarks to an explanation of his amendment to the Election Act and his attitude on bills that have earned the title of "hardy annuals" owing to the number of times they have gone down to defeat at the hands of the Conservative Government of this Province.

It would also be in good taste if he would instruct the King's Printer to place the UNION LABEL on any printing intended for circulation as campaign literature among the workers of this Province.

**INSIST ON THE LABEL.**

The Hatters' union is making headway in its fight for the recognition of its label. The important establishment of Lamson & Hubbard has withdrawn from the manufacturers' association and will use the stamp, and word comes from Norwalk, Conn., of the capitalization of another, but smaller, manufacturer.

"Potent and imperious as the command of an industrial Jehovah, the machine compels the grand army of toil to rally to its standard, to recognize its power, to surrender body-breaking and soul-breaking tasks, to join hands in sacred fellowship, to subdivide labor, to equalize burdens, to demand joy and leisure for all, and, emancipated from the fetters of the flesh, to rise to the sublimest heights of intellectual, moral and spiritual exaltation."—Debs.

**HARSH PUNISHMENT.**

Three homeless boys, charged with loitering, according to the Cincinnati Post of recent date, were sentenced by Judge Louder to enlist in the United States navy.

## WOMEN COAL MINERS.

One of the least picturesque portions of the map in its exploitation of woman at man's work is the coal mining region of Belgium, where women slave in the mines. Some of the pictures drawn of the social conditions in this mining section have been harrowing to western civilization. In general it has been said of Belgium that half the work of the country is done by women. But even Belgium authority has been aroused in the past to alleviate the condition of the women workers drudging at man's work in the coal fields.

There are approximately 170,000 miners in the Belgium mines, of which 10,000 are women. At the present time at least, women are not allowed to enter the mine shafts to work; their employment is above the surface. But with the oppressiveness of the mine owners in all that vast district, and with the resultant evils that have attended the drudgery of the women, together with certain community features in the cities, the population of the whole district shows the "mark of the brute."

It has been referred to as the modern dwarfland. The height of the men of the district is under four feet, while the women are shorter still. Stunted and emaciated with little of color and light in their lives, these women victims of the coal mines and of alcohol in unrestricted license are representa-

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permitted to go to work at twelve years of age.

In these mining town and cities the sale of beer and alcohol is without any restrictions of law. Any one may sell drink anywhere, and the alcoholic "schnick" which masquerades as gin is said to be a fiery, maddening poison when taken to the point of intoxication. One penny will purchase a large wine glassful of the drink, while the

ly resulted from the use of cosmetics and hair dyes, from enameled cooking pots and glassware where lead salts were used as a flux to impart brilliancy and in other curious ways. The most ordinary form of chronic lead poisoning is that in which colic is the first decided symptom. After a few days of wretchedness or sometimes very suddenly the victim is taken with abdominal, colicky pains, which increase in

## Mass Meeting in City Hall Saturday Night, 8 p.m.

tive of all that is degrading from the overwork which has been put upon them.

So great was the tyranny of the coal operators at one time that in 1892 one of the most dangerous strikes in the history of the country developed. When the military was called out for the protection of the mining interests, so miserable was the lot of these slaves of the mines that fear was excited that even the soldiers were too sympathetic to act, and the mine interests gave in. Today the man worker receives from \$6 to \$9 a week, the women from \$3 to \$5 a week. Boys and girls are

daily consumption of this "schnick" is between a pint and a quart for each person.

Stunted, frowsy and blackened by her work, this Belgian woman at the mine has nothing about her to attract the artistic sense of the observer. The result is that to the women of her own country in pleasanter surroundings the woman miner is a subject for commiseration and sympathy.

### PLUMBERS AND TYPOS.

Every plumber and pipe-fitter is more or less familiar with the dangers and the symptoms of lead poisoning, far more so than the average abstract medical man, but it is a subject so vital that the Knights of Galens, an organization of plumbers, gas and steam fitters who have been more than twenty years at the trade, made it the topic of a recent session in New York, which was addressed by John C. Snackenburg, expert and anomalist of the bureau of buildings. Mr. Snackenburg declared poisoning by lead to be the most common of all poisons and pointed out that the danger is imminent wherever water is drawn through pipes, except in instances where the water contains salts of lime, and this solution is comparatively rare. The speaker proceeded with the following valuable hints:

"I would therefore, advise that in the morning you do not use the water that has stood in the pipes all night for drinking or cooking purposes, but that you let it run until you are sure that you are receiving it direct from the main. Poisoning has also frequent-

intensity until they become very severe. They are constant, sometimes dull, sometimes sharp, and are generally described as twisting, and seem to center around the navel. There is very often repeated reaching and vomiting, and the walls of the abdomen are retracted, rigid and knotted. The tongue is contracted and whitish, the appetite is gone, and the thirst sometimes excessive. Neuralgic pains in the throat and in the extremities are of frequent occurrence. These symptoms usually abate after a time, but are very apt to recur with increasing severity. Delirium or stupor is in some such cases the chief manifestation, but convulsions are more common. The most common symptom of lead poisoning is the local paralysis known as drop wrist, a complete paralysis of the exterior muscles of the forearm, which allows the hand to drop forward, and another distinctive mark of lead poisoning is the blue line upon the gums where they join the teeth. The treatment should always be under the protection of a physician. Lead is a very useful metal, but it cannot be handled with impunity or should not be treated or handled with impunity."—Plumbers' Journal.

The ambulance was provided through the good offices of ladies who solicited contributions sufficient to purchase it. Probably the City fathers are waiting for the ladies to collect money to pay for its operation?

Until the ambulance is taken over by the fire dept. no improvement in the service can be looked for. Why not do it now?

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When you have that tired feeling, Drink U. B. C.

# "One-Half Knows Not"

By Emanuel Julius.

It does not matter how long one inhabits a metropolitan center, the big city always affords new scenes, new lessons to its most careful student. This also applied with particular force to the study of the submerged tenth.

Early Sunday morning, while walking up toward the Grand Central station, New York, I came on a scene that impressed me greatly. I was passing on the east side of the Herald building; there was a foot of snow on the ground and sharp merciless blasts of wind were sweeping down from the north. Looking to my immediate left, I noticed, in a fair-sized open arcade, upward of fifty men stretched out on the cold ground—sound asleep.

There they were, all wrapped up in newspapers—overcoats cooing money and when you have no money, why you are mighty glad to substitute newspapers. One impressed me particularly—he is known as the "Standin' Sleeper"—he was afraid of the cold ground, so he got into the habit of sleeping "standin' up."

There he was to be seen, leaning against a massive pillar, with his head hanging limply on one side, while every now and then, with a regular, automatic, unconscious move, he would slowly slip down about twelve inches, and then, when you imagine that he is about to fall, by a sudden move regain his upright position, only to remain upright for a moment before he repeats the same movements—up and down, up and down, up and down, but never all the way down. Quite a character, and it may also be stated that his fame is rapidly spreading.

Everybody in New York is getting to know the "standin' sleeper." They know which pillar to find him leaning against, and many an amused idiot stands before him grinning at this pitiable sight.

No, the police never bother them. They are left alone, provided they do not make their appearance until after midnight; that is the proviso—break it and you will find yourself under arrest. The reason is simple—fewer people after midnight to see the unpleasant (for some, amusing) spectacle.

"But think of the cold ground! Sleeping on it! Good heavens, you'll catch your death of cold!"

"Aw, go on; we don't mind that as long as you leave us alone to sleep—we'll be satisfied. That's what we need—sleep."

That is the usual answer. "Sleep first; grub next." That is the motto of the destitute. "Oh, for one day of undisturbed slumber—rest, a chance to forget the bitter agony of my misery, and I would gladly give a year of my life—maybe two. We manage to get a roll or two and some hot coffee—but sleep, a bed, a warm room—ah, there's the rub!" Maybe those are not the exact words, but the sentiment is perfection.

I can hear you say, "But why the Herald Arcade at Broadway and Thirty-fifth street? Why the old ground the shivering in the snow? What's the matter with the 'dump' (Municipal Lodging house), the Salvation Army and the 'chair factory' ('chair factory' is a famous institution on the Bowery that is run by a benevolent philanthropist; you go in—it is a 'restaurant'—you get a bowl of 'coffee' and three 'rolls' as heavy as cannon balls, all for a nickel, but that is not all—you then have the privilege of promenading to the back of the store, where are to be found a couple of hundred chairs; if you want to you can sleep on one of those chairs until five the next morning. Can you beat it?)"

But I have inserted such a long parenthesis that I fear my reader has forgotten the questions I would have you ask. You are supposed to ask me why these poor-unfortunates do not go to the lodging houses for their sleep. I could give you a dozen answers—about poverty, not having the nickel, "being known at the 'dump'" (that means, after you have been at the "dump" two successive nights you are arrested if you come again on the third—two nights a month is the limit). And then again, all these places are crowded (even the morgue), but that is not the reason why they sleep in the Herald arcade.

No, no. There's a reason. You see they want work; they want it badly and they are so anxious to get it that they sleep in the snow, on the cold ground, so that they will be able to see the "Help Wanted" columns first thing in the morning, and being in the central part of the town, they can rush to the place advertised and thus avoid the crowd.

And yet this self-same paper—the Herald—would contain an editorial as

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TUCKETT'S T. & B.  
CIGARETTES  
UNION MADE

readily as would any other capitalist sheet, saying that the destitute are in want because they "wouldn't work if they had a chance," while within a stone's throw of the editor's desk are the unemployed risking their lives for the sake of a job.

## SOME EXCLUSIVE UNIONS.

To preach, marry people and collect the salary, fees and perquisites of the pulpit, you must belong to the Ministers' union, the clergy, and carry a license card.

To practice law you must belong to the Lawyers' union, the bar, and carry a paid up license card.

To practice medicine you must belong to the Doctors' union and carry a diploma card.

If you own stocks and bonds, can you go on the floor of the exchange and sell them? Not unless you belong to the Stock Gamblers' union, the Stock Exchange.

Do you see the farmers on the floor of the Produce Exchange selling their grain and cotton? Not much. They do not belong to the Produce Gamblers' union.

Do drovers sell their cattle and hogs on the floor of the Live Stock Exchange? The nearest they get to it is the office of Skins, Bilhem & Shark, live stock commission merchants, who are members in good standing of the Live Stock Gamblers' union.

The "open shop" is a beautiful institution only when applied to plain and simple work.

About the only lawful thing you may do, and not belong to a union, is to work like a dog and starve.

## YOU OWE IT

to your wife to buy her a Gas Range. You have every labor-saving device known to the trade, to assist you in your business.

### WHY?

should she be expected to labor all day every day, when by installing a Gas Range her kitchen drudgery would be lessened by at least one-half.

¶ We carry a complete stock of Ranges at our Granville Street store, and it is a pleasure to show them, whether you wish to buy or not, call in and look them over.

Vancouver Gas Company, Limited.

When dry, order a case of Rainier Beer.

# Union Correspondence

## BARBERS' UNION.

The members are considering a new agreement with the employers, and are at the same time endeavoring to line up a number of shops that have been for some time without the card.

Union men generally can assist us materially by patronizing only union shops, or in case they are frequenting a non-union establishment they should ask repeatedly for the card, and insist that it be put in the window.

Our membership is increasing, and we hope soon to be in a position to say, "We are 100 per cent organized."

## CIGARMAKERS' LOCAL, NO. 357.

Now that the Trades and Labor Council has been progressive enough to issue a paper in the interests of organized labor, the cigarmakers intend to give it their moral and financial support, as they always have done when a labor paper enters the field.

We want to become better acquainted with the union men of this city, and we want them to become more familiar with us and our "Blue Label."

"The Western Wage-Earner" is the medium through which this can be accomplished, so look for our monthly letter.

The union man who has a family to support can materially assist us. He has to buy groceries, and the grocer-man is very friendly with him when he pays his weekly or monthly bill, and sometimes treats to the cigars; then put in a good word for the Vancouver cigars, and show him where he is wrong in handling Eastern goods when he can get better in the town he earns his living in. That all counts and a boost from a customer will mean a few more boxes of union-made cigars on the shelf.

The single man who has time to kill on Sundays, very often buys a cigar in a drug store—for the licensed places are closed—and there is where he will run up against non-union cigars galore, with an occasional local-made cigar box lost in the crowd of Eastern boxes. You can start good work in any drug store by turning down these imported goods and demanding home-produced goods. If the particular store you enter has no local goods, pick up your money and get them elsewhere. That druggist will soon find out where he is at and presently a new man is working in the local factories. See how it's done! J. P.

## IRON TRADES.

The business in this section is nothing to boast of, a considerable number of men out of employment, and the prospects for the future none too bright, but the organizations are being maintained on a good basis, in addition to the formation of a Metal Trades branch of the American Federation of Labor, which tends to keep the different crafts more in touch with one another.

## 'BUILDING TRADES.

At no time in recent years have the building trades been so active at this season of the year as they are at present, especially the Carpenters, who report their membership growing by leaps and bounds. Generally speaking the outlook is bright for a busy season, and the trades are gradually recovering from the effects of a long period of unemployment for many of their members.

While a change of conditions is contemplated by some of the unions, there is every indication that an amicable understanding will be arrived at, and in order that this condition shall obtain, every member should exert his influence to maintain his organization as a progressive and militant one.

## PAINTERS' UNION.

Conditions in our trade are fairly good, and the union has again appointed a business agent to look after the work and assist in keeping the men employed steadily.

Brother White secured the appointment, and by the way he is hustling around, he appears to understand the duties of the position well. The membership is quickly increasing through his activity, and as soon as the new members are initiated he has been able to find employment for them almost immediately.

## TYPOGRAPHICAL UNION.

We are pleased to be able to report that few of our members are on the unemployed list, the activity in real estate requiring a large number of men to keep pace with the demands for add. setting.

The union has suffered the loss of two valuable officers through the decision of Secretary-Treasurer Cowan and Executive Board Member Brook-

house to embark in the job printing business for themselves. While they will not be active in union circles, no doubt they will still maintain a keen interest in anything that will benefit organized labor in general, or the Typographical union in particular.

## ELECTRICAL WORKERS, NO. 213.

Permit me to compliment the Council on the way the "Wage-Earner" is being improved. Every organization should appoint a correspondent to keep matters concerning his organization before us, and every union should support the paper, both morally and financially, because if the venture proves a financial success the surplus can be used for a most laudable purpose; the construction of a temple more befitting the needs of labor than the present building. We hope to see the preliminary work at least, started during the present year.

Speaking of trade matters, our International is pulling itself together after the controversy, and although the A. F. of L. gave a very one-sided decision, it was what might have been expected. Might, however, will not overcome Right, and as the new administration are delivering the material in good Bristol fashion, eventually the opposing factions will have to amalgamate. Line work locally is plentiful and prospects look bright for the future.

Our delegates to the Council will endeavor to be on hand more regularly and to get a better average for attendance than during the past term. Wishing the Council ever success with the paper. E. C. K.

## UNITED BROTHERHOOD OF CARPENTERS, VANCOUVER UNION NO. 517.

The membership is increasing in numbers very rapidly, also the members are getting very much in earnest as to the welfare of the organization as is attested by the attendance at the local meetings.

We are all working, and have requested the editor of our official journal, The Carpenter, to remove Van-

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CROFT & STEWART, Props

The Big Union Tailors

325 Hastings St.

Do you drink U. B. C. Beer? Try it.



cover from the list of cities to be avoided by carpenters in search of work.

The social event of the year, the carpenters' third annual ball, will be held in Dominion hall, on Easter Monday, April 12, 1909, and for a really enjoyable time with a dainty and substantial supper thrown in, this will be the occasion to be present.

Brother S. W. O'Brien, our genial recording secretary, was called to Tacoma last month to attend the case of his brother, who is endeavoring to obtain damages for the loss of a leg while sojourning in "the land of the free and the home of the brave," which was rendered by a fellow tradesman after an experience on the other side, as "the land of the flea and the home of the slave."

There has been a great deal of grain elevator talk in the local papers, from various standpoints, but one feature which is of very great importance to our membership which has not been touched on so far, is the fact that the only elevator in the city at the present time is the one under construction for the Vancouver Grain & Milling Co., and we sincerely hope that the future elevator builders of this city will emulate the example of the above mentioned firm, viz., do their work with union men.

Our business agent, Brother S. Kernighan is in a quandary as to how to regard himself since being approached by a Hindoo requesting to be made a member of the United Brotherhood.

P. W. D.

THE GENERAL OPINION.

Volume I, No. 1, of "The Western Wage-Earner," came to hand this week. The journal is the first of its kind to be published by any Trades Council in Canada, and the Vancouver unionists deserve great credit for their enterprise along this line. The first number is of 24 pages and cover, neatly bound, and of a very convenient size. One very commendable feature about the "Wage-Earner" is the fact, that while urging the workers to unite politically, it has the grace to adopt educational rather than coercive measures to attain this end. Too many so-called social reform papers seek to gain adherents to their cause by bitterly attacking all outside their particular sphere of the movement. Referring to its policy, the "Wage-Earner" says editorially:

"The policy of the paper will be of an educational nature, and until every worker realizes his true worth in human society and the necessity of securing control of the state by constitutional means—the ballot box—our mission will not be fulfilled."

Let the "Western Wage-Earner" continue in this policy, and the fulfilling of its mission will be accomplished at no very great distant date. —Regina Leader.

A correspondent in Winnipeg writes us as follows:

Editor "Wage-Earner"—Please accept thanks for the copy of the paper. I wish to congratulate the Vancouver Trades and Labor Council for producing, in my opinion, the best labor paper in Canada.

I am glad to see that we are at last to have a paper that keeps the workers posted regarding their own affairs and at the same time aims to educate them to think for themselves. Sincerely yours,

HARRY PASCOE.

From North Bay:

I have read the "Wage-Earner" and wish to congratulate the Council on the creditable production. The articles on the "Lemieux Act" show the writer to have a deeper knowledge of this legislation than any one I have yet heard discuss it. Fraternally yours,

STEPHEN LYONS.

A St. Paul, Minn., friend says:

Pleased to see the new paper of the Council and hope it will educate the workers to VOTE as they STRIKE.

LEWIS HARTHILL.

A prominent local merchant says:

Now the merchants are satisfied that the Council is actually publishing the paper and that no advertising fakes are to be endorsed, there should be no reasonable excuse offered for failing to advertise in "Labor's Official Organ."

SLEPT TOO LONG.

We are asked, why hurry into politics? We see the benefit of going into politics. If we had not rushed into politics, had not taken Massachusetts by the four corners and shaken her you never would have written your criticisms. We rush into politics because politics is the safety valve. We could discuss as well as you if you would only give us bread and houses, fair play and leisure and opportunities to travel. We could sit and discuss the question for the next fifty years. It's a very easy thing to discuss for a gentleman in his study, with no anxiety about tomorrow.

Why, the ladies and gentlemen of the reign of Louis XV, and Louis XVI., in France, seated in gilded saloons and on Persian carpets, surrounded with luxury, with the products of India and the curious manufactures of ingenious Lyons and Rheims, discussed the right of man and balanced them in dainty phrases and expressed them in such quaint generalizations that Jefferson borrowed the Declaration of Independence from their hands.

There they sat, balancing and discussing sweetly, making out new theories and dally erecting a splendid architecture of debate till the angry crowd broke open the doors and ended the discussion in blood. They waited too long—discussed about half a century too long. You see, discussion is very good when a man has bread to eat and his children all portioned off and his daughters married and his home furnished and paid for and his will made, but discussion is very bad when—

Ye hear the children weeping, O my brothers,

Ere the sorrow comes with years.

Discussion is bad when a class bends under actual oppression. We want immediate action. —Wendell Phillips.

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**"DAVID HARUM"**QUALITY QUANTITY  
and Union Made**A LABOR LEADER'S LOGIC.**

At a recent dinner of the Economic club, held at the Astor House, New York, Grand Chief Warren S. Stone, of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, delivered himself of the following significant contribution to modern economic thought:

"Any student of sociology or political economy will agree that labor creates all wealth. This being true, it is a self-evident truth that labor is entitled to a fair share of the wealth it has created."

And in order, presumably, to impress his capitalistic audience with the importance of recognizing the right of labor to the "fair share" aforesaid, he added: "Gentlemen, all that stands between you and your wealth, and the wave of Anarchy that would sweep over you, is the conservative labor unions."

If the safety of capitalist property is really conditioned on conservative labor unions, and Mr. Stone is a fair representative of the intelligence and reasoning power that serves to keep capitalist property intact, our industrial masters might well feel some uneasiness regarding the alleged security. Fortunately, however, for the safety of that institution, its maintenance in reality depends to no small extent upon such absurd, illogical statements as Mr. Stone's being accepted without question by the rank and file of the labor unions. Hence there was no desire manifested to expose the ridiculous conclusions he drew from a correct premise. Mr. Stone's weakness as a logician is not likely to injure his chances of getting "a fair share" of whatever may be picked up in the arena on which the creators and appropriators of wealth continually struggle.

**THE FATIGUE OF METAL.**

By Otto McFeely.

"Machinery needs rest," said my friend the consulting mechanical engineer, "and in every large plant this rest is a subject of discussion. It means dollars and cents to the stockholders and the men in charge of the plant to arrange to rest the machines in order to increase dividends and make themselves 'stronger' with the directors."

"In many cases that have come under my observation," he continued, "the machinery has been run at a higher rate of speed, increasing the amount the hands had to turn out. Just now when there are more men than jobs and the unions are not able to cause any trouble, we can speed up the machines greater than ever. The time saved on a job in this way makes it possible to let the machines be idle for a week or so. This gives the metal rest, prolongs its life and increases its efficiency when it is in operation."

"Do the hands get paid while the machines rest?" I asked, being from Mars and unfamiliar with the ways of this great earth.

"Pay the hands when they don't work!" he repeated in astonishment. "That question is absurd."

"Well, I just asked," I put in, somewhat injured by his tone of superior intelligence.

"It seems to me that the men who run the fast machines and increase the product should have some rest with pay," I argued in my foolish way.

The engineer laughed at the idea. "The men don't own the machinery. They don't have any money in the plant, and they have nothing to say about the product. There are plenty of men. They don't cost the stockholders a cent, but the machines do cost, and cost a lot of good money."

**BRITISH WORKMEN'S BALLOT.**

By George R. Sims.

I walked in a processin' with a banner and a band,

And they said I was a noosence in 'Igh Olborn and the Strand;

I spouted at a meeting which was in Trafalgar Square.

But they sent the cops to charge me and to clear me out of there.

Oh, it's "Demmygog" and "Soshulist," and "Damn the lazy lout,"

But it's "Bless the British workman," with the ballot box about.

The ballot box about, my lads, the ballot box about.

Oh, it's "Bless the British workman," with the ballot box about.

I struck for higher wages, and they said I was a fool.

And the crafty hagitator merely used me as a tool.

And when the kids were starving and we hadn't sup not bite,

They only shrugged their shoulders, and they said it served me right.

For it's "Ruin to the country," and it's wickedness and crime,

But it's "sacred rights o' labor," just about election time.

Just about election time, my lads, about election time.

Oh, it's "sacred rights o' labor," just about election time.

I'm lazy and I'm 'liking and a noosence and a cuss,

And I sits on trade and commerce like a blessed Inkybus,

I'm a-draggin' down the hempire and a swellin' of the rates,

And a 'orny 'anded 'umbug what the upper classes 'ates.

For it's "Workingmen are duffers" and "They're never worth a groat";

But it's "British bone and sinew" when they want your blooming vote.

They wants your blooming vote, my lads, they want your blooming vote.

Oh, it's "British bone and sinew" when they want your blooming vote.

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MACHINERY****FOWLER BROS., Props.**309 Alexander St., Cor. Gore Ave.  
**VANCOUVER, B. C.****LEARNING THE ENEMY.**

By Thos. N. Freeman.

Every animal knows its enemy. By instinct the chick hides under the grass from the hawk. The young hare knows the terrible hound. In the jungle sharp ears and bright eyes are ever alert for the faintest sound or sight of an enemy. Life is conditioned on prompt apprehension.

Man is the slowest of all the animal race to learn his enemies. The prowess and egotism of the savage walking dauntless with his big stick through the forest, scorning the poor creeping animals, is a characteristic that has been handed down by heredity to the generation of today. In his brutal strength the egotist is not afraid. He has tamed the wild beast. He has braved the ocean waves and subdud fire and lightning. He will shed his blood in war with a foreign race and slay a thief that takes his bread before his eyes. He knows that much, but there is a great and powerful enemy that he has not yet apprehended.

Slowly and surely, like the rise of a great mountain or the extension of the arm of a mighty sea, dividing the land and making new environments, is capitalism dividing the people and making literally two new species of human kind. The bad feature is that the working species does not recognize its enemy in this newly arisen environment. This new enemy resembles so much themselves, lives among or near to them and has soft manners and a mild voice, but there are decided marks by which the workers may recognize them.

This capitalist enemy may be distinguished in a general way by their rich dress, their pale faces, delicate hands and a peculiarly sweet odor of their persons. They are further distinguished by the delicate foods they eat and the very large houses they live in. Their legs are not as well developed as the working species, so as a rule they will be seen in wheeled vehicles of various kinds.

They do not work for their living, but have interclosed dens called offices, where it is hard to get access to them. In some mysterious way unknown to the workers this species obtains its food and luxuries by strange intermingling with each other. Though they do nothing but hinder the workers in their work of production, it is made to appear that all wealth springs

from the bounty of the great minds of the capitalist. Up to recently most workers implicitly believed this.

The secret of the wealth of the capitalist is the capitalist system machine. It does all the work, and the individual capitalist is relieved of being required to exercise any intelligence or energy. The very species is a product of the machine. Only the wise workers, called Socialists, understand this machine and how it silently and mysteriously takes the product of the laborers' toll.

The owners of the machine and the workers' enemies can be known by their constant talk of "business" and dollars. Their brains seem to have been shaped and molded by business and dollars. If anything gets in the way of business and dollars it is crushed relentlessly. If life and love and happiness get in the way they are all crushed.

They kill everything that stands in their way, but they dare not kill out the working specie as a whole. For the machine rests on the backs of the workers. If they should fall the precious machine would be demolished. While the capitalist cannot live without the workers, the Socialist tries to make the worker understand that he could live without the capitalist. This idea is a new discovery. Heretofore the workers have not guessed it. They began to suspect the truth when they found that they could not live because of the interference of the capitalist with the work of production during the panic. Though the workers are starving, the capitalist won't let them work on the land and with the machinery to produce food.

The Socialists have learned the enemy and the secret of their power. We must do away with the capitalist machine and substitute the workers' machine. There will be no room for parasites on this machine. We won't have to kill out the capitalist species to suppress them. Take away his machine, and we can tame him and in time his descendants will be assimilated and become one of us.

In reply to a question, Hon. Frank Oliver stated in the House of Commons that on January 10th the number of Orientals in British Columbia was: Chinese, 17,229; Japanese, 15,396, and Hindoos, 5,131.

China is becoming civilized. Press dispatches contain unmistakable evidences of the fact. A strike in Hong-kong last week resulted in the militia being turned loose and the protesting employes were shot down like coyotes.

It is estimated that it will require about \$6,000 to entertain the International Typographical Union, which will be held in St. Joseph, Mo., next August. To raise this money, the local union has decided to depart from the established custom of soliciting funds from business men and proposes to accomplish the purpose by means of an industrial fair and entertainment at the auditorium to be held upon a large scale and which will enlist the entire public.

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market.****ASK FOR IT****A CHANGE OF POLICY.**

A year ago it was sneeringly declared when the Socialist resolution was defeated that the United Mine Workers would never be committed to such folly. But there has been a great change of sentiment since that time, showing that the Socialist propaganda is making rapid progress in the trade union movement.

The leading union is now committed to Socialist principles and this means a change of front of the American Federation of Labor of which the United Mine Workers is one of the dominating bodies.

This action of the United Mine Workers is extremely significant and marks an epoch in the Socialist movement in the United States. The capitalist press recognizes its import and gravely comments on its possibilities. The Socialist press hails it as a bright sign of the intellectual awakening of the working class, congratulates the progressive spirit which prompted it and applauds the action of the delegates of three hundred thousand sturdy workmen in recognizing the class struggle.

Journal.

**INFORMATION WANTED.**

Of R. H. Munro, former painter and paperhanger who went to the Yukon country some years ago. Age, 40; height, 5 ft. 11in.; weight, 160 lbs.; brown mustache; blue eyes; very bald. Notify R. R. Miller, 304 Johnson & Howe Block, Vancouver.—Painters' Journal.

The superstition that poverty is a blessing and that property is sacred, is being dispelled by the brutal conditions that fill the world with sighs and sobs with mocking laughs and heartless jeers.—John M. O'Neal.

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## INDUSTRIAL LIBERTY.

The history of the struggle for industrial freedom and liberty has received very small attention from those who have taken on themselves the recording of the events of this old world, and from the meagre writings on this subject it is readily discerned that the struggle for freedom of the oppressed and downtrodden is marked by the graves of the champions and advocates who have gone down despairingly, to have their places filled by others with an unbounded feeling of brotherhood, who have taken up the task with the hope which comes only to the faithful and true lovers of justice. Battles for equal rights, fair treatment and a proper degree of respect from the master, mark the fields where labor has trod; where men gave up what small comforts their home and firesides provided and saw their cherished hopes shattered, were exiled and put to sufferings which have not been chronicled by statues in the halls of fame, but these are the forebears of the cost of labor's liberty.

Have these struggles and sufferings been worth the cost? Can we, at this stage of the labor movement easily answer, if we are repaid for the efforts expended? Ask those who have been on the firing line; those who have suffered in the cause of industrial freedom; reflect on the probable answer of those who are in their unmarked graves, martyrs to the cause, bearing silent testimony to the sorrow and suffering, untold trials and tribulations, privations and self-sacrifices, even unto death, of the price paid for industrial liberty. Were you able to ask them the question, was the result attained worth the struggle, worth the price; and with one accord they reply, "It was! It was!"

Now the question comes to us: Have we attained the goal; is the present condition one of industrial peace? And as we see toiling, struggling humanity being daily and hourly consumed in all stages, from the cradle to the grave, in that ceaseless grind of the treadmill of profit, the answer comes: No! Then can we afford to rest idly on our oars or trust to the wind and currents to carry us toward that peaceful isle, industrial freedom.

The industrial field of to-day will be recorded in the pages of history as the greatest battlefield of human existence—on one side unlimited wealth, forming compact lines of organized

capital, drafted out of the employers' associations, trust corporations and a thousand organizations owing their existence to organized capital, and with the sole object of adding to the already unlimited wealth, at any sacrifice, even to the despoiling of the home and fireside of the toiler. On the other side the hosts of labor are marshalled, in two divisions, yet both aiming at the same result, better living conditions.

First we find organized labor on the firing line, that is standing between the hosts of the unorganized workers, the non-union men and the common enemy, organized capital. In the rear of organized labor is the unorganized hosts, clinging to the organized workers and benefitting by every move of the union forces, and at the same time bowing and scraping and catering to the common enemy in front for a bone to be thrown them.

With these conditions staring us in the face, it impels the union forces to buckle on the armor, take up the fight and assist in the grand and noble work of closing the lines, that is organizing the laboring people, and the member who stays at home on meeting nights, or who attends only when he is near the wreck of arrears, is not dealing fairly with his organization.

"Man liveth not unto himself alone," and when you fail to attend the meetings of your union and fail to assist in the management of the affairs of the organization you are derelict in your duty and not a soldier of any value in labor's struggle for the recognition of its rights and liberties. The struggle for industrial freedom, the check of the onward march of organized wealth requires you, and it is you who are destined to bring about the industrial emancipation of the laboring classes and save them from starvation wages and the mental, moral and physical degradation which results when the wage-earner is at hunger's door.

The need for organization is so apparent that no time must be lost in gathering the stragglers into the organization, and as to how best this can be accomplished is a matter which it is up to you to give your hearty assistance, and that can in no better way be done than by taking an interest in the affairs of your organization. At-

tend the meetings, take part in the discussions and get in touch with the members, and become a vital part of the society. Uphold and assist your local and general officers in the management of the affairs of the organization, as well as assisting them in the discharge of their duties, by giving them your confidence and encouraging them in this struggle. They are the nucleus upon which we repose our hopes for industrial freedom.

Be faithful to the cause and the results will amply repay you for the effort. Build around yourselves a solid wall of organization for the protection of your interests, and as to how that can best be done can be solved better within the meetings of your union, by ascertaining what percentage of your craft is organized, and the numerical strength of the unorganized, for the great need of a more complete organization becomes apparent when we realize that we actually are an army of soldiers, without guns, ammunition or supplies, at this, the eve of battle, can we expect our leaders to advance with a mere semblance of a fighting army and poor prospects for gaining a victory that will redound to the glory and benefit of our organization.

The strength of the organization lies not in numbers alone, but decidedly also in its financial resources, its sinews of war, its bank account and the condition of the treasury. "In times of peace prepare for war." So let us all unite in an effort to provide the means for building up a reserve or defense fund, backed up with a loyal membership fully alive to the responsibilities which we owe to ourselves, families and future generations, and when the time for a clash of strength arises we may feel confident of the result of the conflict.

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 VANCOUVER, B. C.

### THE SALVATION ARMY AS SWEATERS.

#### Why Commissioner Nicol Resigned.

The United Workers' Anti-Sweating Committee was formed some months ago for the purpose of calling public attention to the conditions imposed on the inmates of its workshops by the Salvation Army, and to the unfair competition of the Army in disposing of the product of the workshops.

After several applications the Committee have at last been successful in obtaining a copy of the agreement which has to be signed by every person admitted to the workshops. We give it below:

(Copy.)

**MEN'S SOCIAL WORK.**  
 City Colony Labor Bureau,  
 20 and 22, Whitechapel Road,  
 London, E.

**AGREEMENT** between the GOVERNOR OF THE SALVATION ARMY MEN'S SOCIAL WORK on the one hand, and the undersigned on the other, on his being accepted for admission to the City Colony Elevator (workshop):

1. The undersigned, seek temporary work in your Elevator, and undertake the same on the following conditions:

1. I declare that being unable to find work elsewhere, and being homeless, friendless, and destitute, I have been admitted to the City Colony, to work only for my subsistence and shelter, and that everything allowed me beyond this will be so allowed merely by the kindness of the Governor.

2. I agree to obey all the rules and regulations made for the good conduct and management of the Colony, and to carry out all the instructions which may be given me by my Officers.

3. I promise to abstain from all intoxicating drink during my stay in the Colony, and pledge myself not to enter any premises where drink is sold, and to discourage others doing so. I understand that any departure from this rule may be followed by instant dismissal.

I will also refrain from the use of

bad language during my stay in the Colony.

4. I agree to a thorough cleansing of the body on entrance to the Colony, and to continue this every week, or as frequently as may be considered necessary by my Officer.

5. I understand that no payment of any kind is promised beyond food and lodgings, and that any grants to assist in the purchase of clothes or otherwise will be given entirely at the discretion of the Governor.

In case the Officer finds my work not worth first-class food and shelter tickets, I agree to his granting me such class tickets as he may consider just and advisable.

In case of task work, or promotion to a foreman's position with allowance I quite understand that any extra allowance beyond food and shelter is altogether voluntary, and may be withdrawn at any time, and more especially on account of bad behaviour, and I hereby fully agree that I am not legally entitled to payment of such allowance.

6. I agree to give my clothes over to the Officer on entrance; and if, in the opinion of the Officer, they are incapable of further use, the Colony to supply me on loan with the necessary fresh clothes, for which I am prepared to give a receipt, with the distinct understanding that should I, on leaving the Colony, take these clothes with me without written authority for my doing so, I render myself liable to be charged with embezzlement.

When leaving the Colony, I am only entitled to the clothes that I brought in with me, or that I may have duly acquired during my stay there. No allowance to be made to me for any clothes of my own which were found valueless by the Officer on my admittance into the Colony, and therefore destroyed.

7. I understand that in the event of my giving the Officer cause for dissatisfaction by bad behaviour, or for any other reason, I am liable to instant dismissal, and also to the forfeiture of any reward promised for industrious work.

Signed .....  
 Date .....

#### Time .....

This is an interesting document, but it can hardly be described as Christ-like. It appears to have been modelled more on the lines of the contracts of Portuguese slave-labor than on the Sermon on the Mount. Men, broken in mind and body by privation, appeal at last for help from General Booth, who, more than any other representative Christian, is supposed to be doing "God's work." God's work appears to be to kneel on the fallen wretches and nail them to this "agreement." Blessed are the poor.

This question will, however, be dealt with by the Committee. Charges of sweating have been brought against the Salvation Army for years past, and it is about time a Parliamentary inquiry were held into the management and methods of that organisation.

Quite recently, we are informed, "Commissioner" Nicol, who has been in the service of the Army for twenty years, walked out of the offices forever owing to the "Board's" treatment of the headquarter staff.

Some time ago it was the custom to pay the staff overtime, but as overtime was chronic, the "Board" concluded it would be cheaper to discontinue the overtime payment.

This action caused great dissatisfaction, but to soften the blow the "Board" graciously consented to issue tea tickets to all who worked late.

But matters did not run too smoothly after this, and the Board's tyrannical conduct actually resulted in a strike, and it was only by the strenuous persuasive powers of Commissioner Nicol that the staff were induced to go back and so avoid a public scandal. What particularly galled the officers about this time was an insinuation of the Board that they worked late purposely in order to become entitled to the miserable tea ticket.

Nevertheless, they went back. We understand, however, that the continued tyranny of the Board has at length strained the loyalty of Commissioner Nicol to the breaking point, and that he said good-bye to the Army forever three weeks ago.—London Clarion.

In Turkey the firemen are paid before they attempt to extinguish a fire and no charge is made for assisting injured citizens to a doctor or the hospital. In Vancouver no charge is made for extinguishing fires, but \$3.00 is demanded before injured persons can be taken to the hospital. How Greater Vancouver shines by comparison?

The event of the season will be held on April 12th. Ask any carpenter about it.

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**A CHILD SLAVE.**

"Ting-a-ling—b-r-r—ting-a-ling."

The hands of the little alarm clock pointed to 5, and the alarm was doing its noblest to arouse mother, so she could start breakfast. But mother had been up till 12, finishing Mrs. Bingham's ironing, and this morning her usually sensitive ear was dulled and her drugged senses were dormant to the warning.

Slowly the alarm rung itself out, and with a final feeble "ting-a-ling," stopped. Its hands continued to move, however, and quickly reached the quarter.

Mother was dreaming—dreaming of her child, little Daisy, who was delicate and small, but worked six days a week at the soap factory. She saw Daisy at work among the boiling cauldrons and the giant presses, carrying wrapping, packing, while the huge machines around her seemed to gaze with hungry eyes on the child, and then she could hardly believe her eyes—she saw a monster press walk away from its place, straight toward Daisy, who crouched, terrified and cowed, before its gleaming, baleful eyes. But just as it reached out its arms of steel, mother cried out and awoke.

She was crying, was mother, and the sweat stood out in great beads on her forehead, but her first thought was of the clock. She sprang quickly out of bed and hurried to the kitchen.

A glance was enough, and she turned back to bed and gently shook the child.

"Wake up, darling," she called, "it's a quarter after 5, and you'll be late, sure. Hurry, Daisy!"

The child, only half awake, obeyed, but shivered as the chill air of the room reached her tender flesh.

"Oh, mother, it's so cold, and I'm so tired and sleepy. Do I have to go today?"

Impulsively the mother took the child to her arms, forgetting for the instant that the whistle waits for nobody.

"Oh, my poor little Daisy. I hate to say so, but if you don't work I can never pay the rent next week. Oh, God!" she exclaimed, fiercely, "is it right for such things to be?"

Her question unanswered, mother suddenly thought of the clock, and nervously started breakfast.

Fortunately that was a very simple affair, chuck steak and potatoes warm-

ed over from supper, with a cup of black coffee to stimulate their feeble strength. Then there was a bread and butter sandwich, with a very small piece of pie, for Daisy's lunch.

And it was all done so quickly—breakfast, the wrapping up in a threadbare cloak, the final kiss—that Daisy was still half asleep when she stepped outside to the yet dark street.

The bitter winter air roused her; also the 6:30 whistle, that was just blowing, and she started at a run for the car line, car fare firmly clutched in one mittenless hand, only turning at the corner to wave to mother and hear the faint words, "Good-by, darling."

The car was late, and when it did come, very crowded. She squeezed in at the door, and stood, wedged upright between a fat colored woman and a greasy workman, and gazed out of the window at the familiar sights.

Here at the corner was the house she liked to think of so much, there were children there, and a dog and flowers.

She had seen them through an open window as she walked home once, when she had lost her car fare. It must be nice, she thought, to sleep as long as you wanted to in the morning, and to have something to eat beside potatoes and chuck steak, and to not have to work.

Her eyes suddenly filled with tears, as in fancy she saw the long weeks and months and years stretching out before her, every day she must work, always there was the rent to be paid, the coal to buy, the grocery bill—there would never be anything left over.

"Soap Works!" called the conductor, and the child squeezed out to the street again, and hurried to the gate. She was ten minutes late and that meant a ten-cent fine, a whole day's car fare, and mother needing money so bad. But business was business, and she pushed the time clock and started nervously when the foreman frowned at her.

From 7 to 12, thirty minutes for lunch, then on again till 5:30. Every minute she must hurry as if her life depended on it—sixty minutes an hour, ten hours a day, sixty hours a week, for three dollars!

All day she worked, it was just like

For the finest and freshest of meat,  
For oysters that are a rare treat,  
For sirloins, salads and fish,  
For the nicest, spiciest dish

—Come to the Olympia Cafe.

For pastry sweet and light,  
For vegetables served up right,  
For breakfast foods fresh and pure,

For eggs that you know are sure  
—Come to the Olympia Cafe.

**Setro Bancroft, Prop.**

81 Cordova St. W.

so many others that were gone, and so many more that were to come. No hope for anything better; mother was breaking her back over the washtub at home. Downtown the stores were bright with Christmas trimmings, and beautifully dressed little girls were going from place to place with their maids, haughtily ordering whatever pleased their fancy, with a "Charge it to papa" as a password, or a well-filled purse in nurse's hand.

And thus the horrible system goes along its remorseless way. Men and women who think they have hearts see it, and are not affected; it is not their child who is working. Hopeful campaign orators swell with patriotism and fill the air with bombastic oratory. It's not the working child who votes for them. Ministers preach "Do unto others as ye would they should do unto you." They apparently do not know such things exist; besides, they get their salaries elsewhere.

And still Daisy works away and wears out her life at the factory, and a million Daisies with her, a living, hopeless death, infinitely more cruel than oblivion and forgetfulness down in the graves, where nothing matters. —Lewis G. Dehart, in Chicago Daily Socialist.

Victoria's Fire Chief has been requested to resign owing to an alleged fall ure to protect property interests. We have not heard of anyone resigning in this City on account of the poor management of the ambulance service.

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# AWAY WITH LABOR

One More Step in the Rapid Displacement of Men by Machines.

BY GEORGE ALLAN ENGLAND

One of the most disquieting factors in the evolution of labor, so long as we look only to the immediate present and not beyond it into the better time, is the rapid and progressive displacement of men by machines. Ever since the Manchester riots this factor has been at work, but never so actively as today, when automatic paving block cutters, glass blowing machinery and a whole catalogue of other devices have displaced and are displacing thousands of men, thrusting them into unskilled work or even down in the ranks of absolute unemployment.

Now comes another machine, a most marvelous machine, a machine which bids fair to throw thousands upon thousands out of work, to dissolve many existing inter-relations of labor, even to threaten certain phases of trades unionism. This machine, I think is worth describing and commenting on.

It is called the Sigafos tunneling machine, and, as its name implies, it digs tunnels. More than that, it performs mining work, and, still further, as will be presently explained, it does away altogether with stamp mills at mines. This is a sufficiently comprehensive claim for any one machine. The vistas of industrial disturbances which it opens up are large and long.

The machine is 20 feet long, 8 feet in diameter and weighs 58,000 pounds. It consists of two frame heads connected by a hollow six-inch main center shaft and eight brace-rods. There are ten pulverizing stamps, so arranged as to pulverize the whole breast of an 8-foot tunnel. The machine leaves no core. All the material is crushed fine enough to be flushed out by the streams of water which are constantly fed through pipes to the cutting face.

Each stamp consists of a 4-inch shaft, upon the front end of which is the stamp-head, 2 feet in diameter, about 5 inches thick, and weighing 450 pounds. On the rear end of each shaft is a tappet, such as is used on a regular stamp-mill. The total weight of the stamp-head and shaft is 1,720 pounds.

A revolving cam engages the tappet and draws the stamp back, compressing a powerful spring upon the stamp shaft, which springs back when released and produces a rotating grinding blow. As each stamp delivers from 90 to 200 blows a minute, the total amount of power expended per minute on the breast of the tunnel or mine shaft is from 1,500,000 to 6,000,000, varying with the speed of the machine.

Electric power is used to operate the device. Fifty to 80 horsepower suffices for all usual work. The rate at which the machine advances is about 125 feet a day through the hardest rock, with correspondingly greater speed in softer varieties. With this machine and two men, the work of

100 men can be done, and done far better than by the old method of drilling and blasting. The old method produced a ragged, uneven hole, and the blasts loosened rocks which endangered life. The machine bores a perfectly round, smooth 8-foot tunnel. There is no blasting, no powder or fuse requisite, no disturbance of surrounding formations. The tunnel is also ventilated by the water, which is driven in under pressure and releases its air at the breast. Not only this, but the machine pulverizes the rock, ore etc., and delivers it back through the pipe, mixed with water, all prepared for amalgamation or concentration. The stamp-mill is, therefore, where this machine is used, a thing of the past.

In operation the machine constantly rotates, thus bringing the stamp heads into contact with all parts of the breast. From the rotary motion is derived an automatic feed, by means of the eight pairs of wheels or trunnions at the sides of the machine. The machine revolves on these trunnions, which, when properly adjusted, force it forward against the breast, much as the thread of an auger forces the point in.

The whole operation is automatic. As before said, two men to watch the machine and the motor, repair possible damage and regulate the feed, can do the work of 100 men with the old-style methods. The Sigafos tunnel borer is, on the whole, one of the big epoch markers in the advance of man's conquest over nature.

Several suggestive points arise in connection with its general introduction. What will become of the 98 men displaced by each machine? Since the capacity of the machine is fifty times that of hand labor, will each of the

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attendants receive fifty times his former pay, or from \$100 to \$150 per day? What will happen to the W. F. M. and other bodies of mine workers when Sigafos gets in his work on them? What will become of the hordes of unskilled laborers who now dig subways, tunnels and the like? What will the stamp mill people do? With the tremendous increase of gold output made possible by these machines, and the resulting rise in prices due to that introduction, just what may we expect to happen?

I leave these various questions to economists and prophets more versed in the art of forecasting than I. They are big questions; they demand an answer. No doubt a thick volume could be written about them—but, after all, the answer would just be Socialism, the common ownership of the Sigafos machine, of all machinery of production and exchange—so why go into detail? And to everybody, Socialist or not, I suggest the probability that the introduction of this machine, with the various results, will hasten the inevitable breakdown of the capitalist system, with its private ownership of those things which by their very nature ought to be public property.

To all non-Socialists, pure and simple trades unionists and others who do not accept my conclusion, however, I leave the very interesting task of answering these queries in another way.

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