

The Western Clarion

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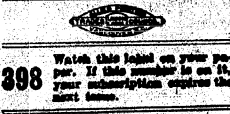
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Saturday, November 2, 1906.

"GANG APT AGLEY."

Few there are who have been watching affairs in this end of the Province since the holding of the twenty-second annual convention of the Trades Congress, which was in Victoria last month, who are not cognizant of the fact that some sort of a "frame up" was being arranged to use the trade unions for the purpose of dealing a blow to the Socio-political movement that it was fondly hoped would place it "hors de combat." That blow was to be dealt through the convention of trade unionists held in this city during the present week for the purpose of launching a Canadian Labor Party. Could this scheme have gone through without serious hitch, it could have been heralded to the world that organized labor of British Columbia had repudiated the "Socialist" movement and stood solid for action along "sane, sensible and practical lines." Great would have been the joy thereat. A splendid vista was opened up before the eyes of the instigators of the scheme in the shape of a continued lease of power to ride roughshod over the workers, while their victims floundered aimlessly and blindly in the fog and confusion that of necessity envelops all political effort that is made without a clear knowledge of its surroundings to guide its course, and a definite end to attain. Just what sort of a vista was opened up before the dupes or decoys selected to engineer the scheme is not known. It may have been one that appealed to their love of self-sacrifice, for it is well known that some there are who correctly estimating their own worth, derive the greatest of pleasure in placing their splendid talents at the disposal of less favored mortals by guiding them with tender solicitude and fatherly care, from the slough of despond to ethereal fields, the location of which is known only to themselves. Though their vanity be fed by the pleasing prospect of being able to emblazon their names in the temple of fame, and enshrine themselves in the hearts of their countrymen, because of their worth and self-sacrifice, let no dastard deed be done that their name should be forever linked into the original plot. Then, again, the vista may have been one that appealed to them more particularly through their arduous appendages. With souls attuned to heavenly harmonies a chance jangle of decays may have caused every moral fibre of their beings to tingle with such a "crystalline" delight that they were irresistibly impelled to execute a "political" "St. Vitus' dance" that could not be overcome so long as the impelling jangle continued.

HOW IT LOOKS

In no province or state of the western hemisphere are the industrial conditions more favorable for the development of a vigorous revolutionary movement than in British Columbia. The bulk of the population is proletarian. There being no extensive agricultural territory in the province, there is no considerable landed gentry to act as a conservative factor in the inevitable struggle that must come between the exploited wage slave and his conscious enemy and exploiters, the capitalist.

The most important industries in the province are mining, smelting and lumbering. Around the centers of these industries are gathered a large number of wage slaves and a few bosses, with an inconsequential number of small fry traders sandwiched in between. The class lines are thus quite clearly marked, and the workers around a mill, mine or another find themselves up against the real thing in the shape of some one capitalist who is ready to crush them with the might of his own power.

The coal miners of Nanaimo and Ladysmith too completely saw the holes and took advantage of it that they were elected to the provincial legislature. Apart from the specific instructions from unions to delegates, applying to both sides of course, there was the vital matter of the delegates to form a party, and coupled with at least one restricting condition, viz. that candidates for its emblems must be union men of one year's standing.

On the basis of one man one vote the Convention was very evenly divided and had it proceeded on that footing it is probable that the result would have been a tie on the basis of voting on the general strength represented. The Socialist side had a heavy preponderance of delegates from the mill and mine workers of the Gray following the lead of the first party division. Every delegate admitted the fairness of the Convention, and the only opposition pleaded for the right to vote as they saw "just for once" on the ground that no provision had been made in the Convention for any other method, and the impossibility of ascertaining the strength of the several delegates to their work by their tongues, but modest indeed in their hearts and purpose.

The Convention duly constituted itself a party, and the delegates, as a matter of fact, had the best of it. The Convention duly constituted itself a party, and the delegates, as a matter of fact, had the best of it.

who remained true to the trust imposed in them by their constituents represented approximately 5,000. Those who voted for the resolution, which practically ended the work of the convention, represented close to 4,500 men.

All honor to the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, which instructed its delegates to bring forward a demand for proportional representation in the convention, an against the ridiculous and un-democratic basis of one union one delegate, upon which "the cat" of the convention was issued. All honor to the delegates who remained at their post in the convention until the close of the day, and who were ac-corded to bolters under such circumstances is "comparatively" had the beaten drum in that, or any other convention being represented by but one, he would have been a poltroon had he not remained at his post and obeyed the mandate of his constituents. It is the only honorable way to leave during the lifetime of a convention (barring such reasons as might arise having no bearing upon the purpose of the convention) would be to be thrown out.

In stigmatising the bolt as a "baby act," Delegate Lehney was correct. Not only was the bolt a baby in the eyes of the workers, but it was a baby in itself, implying constitutional weakness. Being the child of so clearly defined economic interest, it cannot but be afflicted with the rickets of antiquity; though its general may be traced to New Zealand, or even Old England; neither its venerable appearance or its illustrious pedigree need be mentioned to be recognized by the political cynic that happens to wander in the jungle in search of something to sharpen its teeth on.

Political forces are played out. No trundling of anemic political infants up and down the battlefield will longer suffice to stay the approaching storm. The hour demands a new and more effective action, and accordingly. Political demagogues and wet-nurses had better take to cover.

The following resolution, which was seconded by delegate Berry of Rosland:

Whereas the Dominion Trades and Labor Congress and its 22nd annual convention, held at Victoria, British Columbia, September 17-21, 1906 took steps to organize a labor party; and whereas this convention has been called in compliance with that action; and whereas no political party can correctly stand for the abolition of capitalist exploitation and the wage system under which it is effected; and

Whereas a labor party is already in existence, which does stand for that change, and which has received the most emphatic endorsement of the most important labor organizations throughout the province, inasmuch as nearly every labor organization in the province has written to the representatives of the labor party, requesting them to take up their grievances and endeavor to get legislation passed for the betterment of their conditions; therefore, be it

Resolved that in the opinion of this convention it is unwise to organize another labor party as it would cause confusion among the workers, thus dividing their vote, so rendering it ineffective; and be it further

Resolved that we recommend to their delegates at all throughout the province the careful study and investigation of the principles and platform of the Socialist Party of Canada. That we further recommend the delegates, as we believe that in the accomplishment of its aims lies the only true and permanent solution of the labor problem.

This resolution proved itself the bone that choked the opposition section of the convention. In support, delegate Davidson, in a speech that was most forcible and convincing, traced the previous efforts of labor in the province to help itself by political activity, and combination. He also outlined his own political evolution from unionism to laborism, to his standpoint today.

The opposition, however, would have none of it, they would not or could not, criticize the resolution; they merely retorted, clamored for "another" Labor Party. Clamor for "another" Labor Party. Clamor for "another" Labor Party.

After studding a year over the follies and miseries of worldly political prophets, let us pass on to review in more detail the events of the Convention.

A report of the routine proceedings of the Convention appearing elsewhere, our purpose is not to do more than review its significance and import to the working class.

The line of cleavage between the socialist and tradesunion political forces in the Convention was evident from the start. The delegates from the Socialist side were very clearly marked, and the workers around a mill, mine or another find themselves up against the real thing in the shape of some one capitalist who is ready to crush them with the might of his own power.

As the Convention proceeded, the delegates from the Socialist side were very clearly marked, and the workers around a mill, mine or another find themselves up against the real thing in the shape of some one capitalist who is ready to crush them with the might of his own power.

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Union Directory

What They Meet; Where They Meet

W. V. M. Meets every Saturday evening at 7:30 o'clock in Mission Hall, North Vancouver, B. C.

J. H. M. Meets every Saturday evening at 7:30 o'clock in Mission Hall, North Vancouver, B. C.

G. H. M. Meets every Saturday evening at 7:30 o'clock in Mission Hall, North Vancouver, B. C.

W. H. M. Meets every Saturday evening at 7:30 o'clock in Mission Hall, North Vancouver, B. C.

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Socialist Directory

Every Local of the Socialist Party of Canada should run a card under this head. \$1.00 per month. Send for blank form.

British Columbia Provincial Executive Committee, Socialist Party of Canada. Meets every alternate Tuesday, J. G. McKeen, Secretary, 111 Barrard Street, Vancouver, B. C.

Donation Executive Committee, Socialist Party of Canada. Meets every alternate Tuesday, J. G. McKeen, Secretary, 111 Barrard Street, Vancouver, B. C.

Local Vancouver, No. 1, B. C. of C. Meets every Saturday evening at 7:30 o'clock in Mission Hall, North Vancouver, B. C.

Local Vancouver, No. 2, B. C. of C. Meets every Saturday evening at 7:30 o'clock in Mission Hall, North Vancouver, B. C.

Local Vancouver, No. 3, B. C. of C. Meets every Saturday evening at 7:30 o'clock in Mission Hall, North Vancouver, B. C.

WANTED

A Trained Nurse. Must be a Graduate from some well established hospital. For particulars write to W. B. McSAAC, Gen. Mgr. General Hospital, Box 506, Ymir, B. C.

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PARTY MATTERS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

These columns have been read at the disposal of the Party Secretaries of Local areas...

PROVINCIAL ORGANIZING FUND

The following amounts received up to date: Previously Acknowledged \$120.00

SOCIALIST PARTY CAMPAIGN FUND

It has been decided by the Provincial Executive to build up a fund to be used in general assisting in the coming campaign...

PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Business meeting postponed to the day, November 6, on account of the absence of some members...

VANCOUVER LOCAL NO. 1

Regular business meeting Oct. 29, Comrade Arnsborn in the chair. Minutes of previous meeting read and approved.

WASHINGTON

Tacoma, Wash. Oct. 29, 1906. From every part of the state come encouraging reports of growing activity in the Socialist movement.

to-work" is of course, the test of decency. Let no ribald sinner make too close inquiry into the proper classification of persons and other...

THE LABOR QUESTION

Sir—You are, I believe, inviting correspondence in regard to the labor question. I have just read Captain Olive Phillips Walley's letter...

Some three weeks ago a large space in a London journal was occupied with illustrations of the shanties and slum dwellings of Wellington...

THE LABOR SITUATION IN ENGLAND

(Continued from Page One.) This action was bitterly contested by several of its officials, especially its secretary...

All manner of tactics are being employed by the reactionists within the ranks of the leading socialists in this country...

It is evident from the tone of Mr. Wilson's communication that he has been unjustly dealt with by working people for the plaintively declares that "we do not want workers who after being with us for a few more months will leave us to find our own remunerative employment."

from the thrall of class antagonisms. The uncompromising opposition of the majority of the members of the Socialist Party...

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that after 60 days I intend to apply to the Chief Commissioner of Land and Works for a special license to cut and carry away timber from the following described lands in Rupert District:

No. 1—Commencing at the S.W. Cor. of Sec. 23, Township 14, thence east 80 chains, thence north 80 chains, thence west 80 chains, thence south 80 chains.

No. 2—Commencing at the N.W. Cor. of Sec. 14, Township 14, thence east 80 chains, thence south 80 chains, thence west 80 chains, thence north 80 chains.

No. 3—Commencing at the N.E. Cor. of Sec. 15, Township 14, thence west 80 chains, thence south 80 chains, thence east 80 chains, thence north 80 chains.

No. 4—Commencing at the S.E. Cor. of Sec. 22, Township 14, thence north 160 chains, thence west 40 chains, thence south 160 chains, thence east 40 chains.

No. 5—Commencing at the N.E. Cor. of Sec. 26, Township 14, thence west 80 chains, thence south 80 chains, thence east 80 chains, thence north 80 chains.

No. 6—Commencing at the N.W. corner of Sec. 25, Township 14, thence east 80 chains, thence south 80 chains, thence west 80 chains, thence north 80 chains.

No. 7—Commencing near the S.W. Cor. of Sec. 35, Township 14, thence north 80 chains, thence east 80 chains, thence west 80 chains, thence south 80 chains.

No. 8—Commencing at post half a mile south of the S.W. Cor. of Sec. 31, Township 15, thence north 80 chains, thence east 80 chains, thence west 80 chains, thence south 80 chains.

No. 9—Commencing at a post planted at the S.W. Cor. of Sec. 27, Township 15, thence east 80 chains, thence south 80 chains, thence west 80 chains, thence north 80 chains.

No. 10—Commencing at a post planted near the N.E. Cor. of Sec. 27, Township 15, thence east 80 chains, thence south 80 chains, thence west 80 chains, thence north 80 chains.

No. 11—Commencing at a post near the N.E. Cor. of Sec. 27, Township 15, thence east 160 chains, thence south 40 chains, thence west 160 chains, thence north 40 chains.

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Many complaints are reaching this office from subscribers who fail to get their papers. In some instances there are several complaints from the same locality.

The publishers of the Western Clarion earnestly request any subscriber who does not receive his paper to immediately notify this office.

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"SOCIALIST VOICE" 528 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, California. For the Socialist Party and by the Socialist Party.

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