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Announcement

Having decided to close out our Electric Appliance Showroom in order to provide necessary additional office space we have specially priced all stock in order to quickly dispose of same.

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Toasters

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appliances.

This is an opportunity to secure exceptional bargains while they last.

All appliances are high grade standard makes and guaranteed.

CITY ELECTRIC
LIGHT DEPT.

CIVIC BLOCK

The Woman's Page

AUXILIARIES
IMPORTANT IN
LABOR MOVEMENT

Mrs. W. F. Singer Contributes Interesting Article to Machinists Journal

The following letter was written to the Machinists Monthly Journal and appeared in the April number by Mrs. W. F. Singer, International Vice President of the Ladies' Auxiliary of the I. A. M., while in Edmonton some time ago on her organizing trip through the western provinces. While in Edmonton Mrs. Singer was unsuccessful in the organization line on account of her time being limited, she being called east before getting any results here. The letter is as follows:

"It seems a long time since I have written an article for Woman's Sphere. I don't want the members to think I am shirking this duty as I have always been a strong advocate of supplying material for this valuable space, but as Local No. 22 has a new press correspondent, I have not that duty to perform and my time has been so fully occupied in different branches of the labor movement, I have found it impossible to prepare an article for the Journal. But I am hoping I may do better the remainder of 1920. You know the old saying, 'A bad beginning makes a good ending.'"

"No doubt, some will wonder what I am doing in this part of the country and I will try to explain. I came here in the interest of our Auxiliaries in this part of Canada, also to do anything I could to help the I. A. of M. My only regret is that I cannot go as far as Vancouver to visit our Auxiliary there and help them, but the expense was so great to continue my trip that far I had to abandon the idea. There has been so much snow everywhere this winter, the weather so extremely cold and it seems to continue so up until this date, there have been many dear friends and feel much better for making their acquaintance. We have been able to do some real active work with good results considering the division in our ranks at this time.

"I can see no reason why our organization should not make progress but this progress can not come about without every one of us realizing the duty devolving upon us.

"The Industrial Association of Machinists is one of the best and strongest organizations in existence today and I believe second to that organization are our Ladies Auxiliaries. We have every reason to be proud but don't let us forget that each of us has an important part to play and it is to our interest to do so. We are the people who compose these two organizations. Therefore, don't sit back and criticize the officers or organizers and wonder why they do not get better results. Just think, what am I doing for the progress of my local? Every woman can do something. Your suggestions are not only helpful to your local but it is encouraging to the officers to know you are interested and if your suggestion is not accepted, don't be discouraged. Remember it has been the means of bringing about something better and that is why it was not adopted; yet you were instrumental in bringing a new plan before the local. When I go from place to place meeting so many capable men and women and think how hard it is to rouse any enthusiasm, I often wonder the kind of a nature they have, or what is wrong with them. They understand perfectly well that conditions are not what they should be, yet they go on suffering and complaining and waiting for some one else to bear their burden. But these same people would not make the least effort to change these conditions. Human life surely is a study. When in meetings I see people who are indifferent I feel like shouting to them to wake up and do something, and not to continue to live in darkness all their lives; to show the world they have the principle of a woman or man and are going to shoulder some responsibility.

"The reason we laboring people are not making greater progress is not because our ideas are wrong but because we are spending so much valuable time educating others—even in this enlightened age I find men professing to be sincere union men who say it is not necessary for their wives, mothers, sisters or daughters to be organized. I have been in the labor movement a long time and my experience has taught this, my dear fellow, you are still living in darkness and you will never make the desired progress until the women are educated to the principles of the labor movement. It is up to you to encourage your lady friends to become interested in the labor movement. Remember your lady friends may belong to fraternal organizations, but the labor movement is the most important of them all; through it we enjoy many privileges that no other organization can provide. I am waiting to hear from many brother lodges in Canada who promised they would try to get their ladies interested in the formation of an Auxiliary. I am anxious for the word to go and organ-

SCHOOL BOARD AT
SEATTLE ORDER OPEN
SHOP TO CONTRACTORS

SEATTLE.—The school board has ordered that building contracts in future shall contain a clause denying to contractors the right to employ only-union men.

THEATRE TAX IN
ONT. MORE THAN
LIQUOR TAX WAS

Govt. of Ontario First to Impose Special Tax on Theatre Tickets

The theatre ticket tax for the Province of Ontario is more than replacing the revenue formerly derived by the provincial government from liquor licenses, according to the treasurer's department at Toronto. During the last year that spirituous liquor was sold openly over the bars in Ontario hotels, the revenue from liquor licenses in the province totaled \$427,888. This was for the year ending April, 1916. Ontario is not yet bone-dry because it is still possible to make legal importations of "Scotch" and fermented beverages, but the provincial government does not collect any revenue from this business.

The provincial estimates for the present fiscal year, ending April 30, included a probable revenue of \$750,000 from the amusement tax. Officials of the government, declare, however, that the 1919-20 revenue from the theatre ticket tax will be far in excess of this estimate. In fact, it is intimated that the total receipts through the ticket tax will approach the \$1,400,000 mark for the current fiscal year.

How Ontario Tax Ranges
The Ontario ticket tax ranges from 1 cent on tickets up to 20 cents to a 25-cent assessment on the most expensive tickets. A 2-cent tax is charged on 25-cent tickets and 5 cents on a 75-cent ticket. Theatres are allowed to retain from 4 to 10 per cent of the tax they handle, according to the value of the tickets that they use, the smallest theatres—those using 1 cent tax tickets—being the recipients of 10 per cent of the tax collected. The theatres where high prices prevail take only 4 per cent of the tax to cover the cost of incidentals.

The Government of Ontario is said to be the first to impose a special tax on theatre tickets; the legal authority dating from 1916. Meantime, however, collecting a tax on theatre admissions for a considerable time, but in this instance it is a local measure. At the present time all provinces in Canada with the exception of Quebec are taking an amusement tax.

Fairer Than United States Tax.

It is pointed out by a representative of the Ontario government that Ontario's tax is fairer than the federal amusement tax of 10 per cent, which is collected by the United States government. For one thing, in the States the total proceeds from the tax is taken by the government and the theatres do not secure a share. The Ontario tax averages considerably lower than the 10 per cent collected by the United States government. In fact, the Ontario tax averages approximately 7½ per cent of the gross receipts of a theatre.

Ontario exhibitors are permitted to use combination tickets for admission and tax purposes if they desire, or they may use the special rolls of tax tickets which are bought direct from the government. The combination tickets relieve the work of the ticket seller to a considerable extent because it is not necessary to handle two tickets for each patron.

"I had the pleasure of organizing a new local in Buffalo, N.Y., the 21st of February. Brother Paffy aroused the interest to this extent in that city, and I extend thanks to him and the faithful brothers who helped form that Auxiliary. I hope to see them among our most ambitious locals. We elected some splendid officers and enjoyed one of the best banquets I have ever attended at the close of the ceremony.

"I cannot tell you very much about the activities of my own local at this time as I have been away for some time, but I expect our press correspondent will furnish that information.

"This is my first visit to the western part of Canada and I will never forget the many kindnesses extended to me. I hope some time to meet these dear friends again. I had the privilege of attending meetings of the brother lodges and addressing them. I hope my visit may be the means of other Auxiliaries being organized, as I have been able to explain the principles of our organization and in many cases clear up some mysteries.

"I advise every member of the I. A. of M. and the Ladies Auxiliary to stand firmly by the organization that has proved itself worthy of your support. By so doing we will achieve greater results than we can hope for in any other way.

"I extend my sincere good wishes to every local of the I. A. of M. and the Ladies Auxiliary."

MRS. W. F. SINGER,
International Vice-President.

TWENTIETH ANNUAL
MEETING I.O.D.E.
NATIONAL COUNCIL

Representatives From All Over Dominion Will Meet In Calgary May 24-29.

The twentieth annual meeting of the National Council of the Daughters of the Empire will be held in Knox Church, Calgary, May 24-29. Representatives from almost every chapter in the Dominion are expected to be there. The agenda has been sent out and the Municipal chapter of Calgary has charge of the plans for the reception and entertainment of the delegates.

Following registration of the delegates at the morning session on the opening day, Mrs. W. D. Spence of Calgary, will deliver the address of welcome, to which Mrs. Arthur Adams, regent of the Municipal chapter, St. John's, N.B., will reply. Reports from various chapters, committees and secretaries will consume most of both sessions on Tuesday. The President's address will be delivered in the afternoon, following which the convention will adjourn for a reception at the Country Club by the invitation of Mrs. Hugh Melvin, regent of the Municipal Chapter, Calgary. In the evening Mrs. Arthur Murphy of Edmonton will address the delegates. The election of councilors will take place on Wednesday and in the evening the Municipal chapter will hold a reception in the Palliser.

The reports of the educational work and war memorial committees to be presented on Thursday afternoon will no doubt be among the most interesting given. An address, followed by discussion, will be given on Thursday evening by Dr. T. M. Anderson, his subject being "Education, Its Relation to Citizenship." Discussion as to the advisability of continuing the publication of "Echoes" will consume the whole of Friday morning while in the afternoon the election of officers will take place and resolutions will be dealt with. Any unfinished business will be dealt with at a short session on Saturday morning.

A meeting has been called to take place in Knox Church on Friday, May 21, for the purpose of forming a provincial chapter of Alberta. Delegates from all over the province will be present.

Why Do Men Strike?

A Labor Leader's View

George Lansbury, an East End of London M.P., Labor, in one of his addresses says:

"I suppose it is true that there is really a very large fund of goodwill in the world, and in our country in particular, and that strikes and lock-outs and labor disputes are got over with less violence here than almost anywhere else in the world. In America none of their labor questions or difficulties are settled quite as easily as ours, but as ours can be on occasion, and nowhere else is there less bitterness and hatred than in our country.

"That is due to two or three things. It is due to the fact that there always has been, certainly for the last couple of hundred years, a body of opinion that has felt that there was something in social, industrial and political questions more than one's own interest. I think it is also due to the fact that there have always been some men and women connected with the churches—they have been a tiny minority often—but always there have been some who have struck right across the public opinion of their time, and declared themselves on the side of the people who were struggling for more freedom, money or better conditions.

"That has helped to make the discussions and the settlements rather more easily than they would otherwise have been. But it is also true to say that nowadays there is a considerable danger that we shall get a very clear-cut division amongst various sections of our people.

"The political labor movement did a very excellent social thing when it threw open its ranks to all kinds of people who agreed with their program, no matter what occupation or what work they might be doing, whether brain work, hand work, or anything, so long as the people were getting their living. That has made the labor movement less of a purely class movement than it ever previously had been.

"That of itself is a good thing, and may help us to forget some of the bitterness that is round about us. All the same, the railway strike did show us that there was a number of people in the country who, just as they thought militarism must be taught a lesson, thought that we of the labor movement must be taught a lesson also. Like begets like, and if you start out with that kind of spirit abroad there are plenty of things which will spring up to feed it, and to make the bitterness even more bitter than it would otherwise be.

"I want to try to show first that strikes are not incidents that any sane person welcomes just for the sake of

Pre-Holiday Sale of Women's and Misses'

\$22.50 to \$27.50 Outing Coats at \$19.95

We've now reached the season when various groupings are becoming more and more depleted with each day's sales. At the same time we are finding it increasingly difficult to find rack space for new summer apparel, which is urgently in need of a first showing. And it's to these circumstances you owe this exceptional bargain in Outing Coats which will be doubly welcome in view of Monday being the first big summer holiday—Empire Day!

They are smartly tailored in the favored greys and tan mixed tweeds, also the brown wool chevrons. Smart belted models, with a few flare back models, featuring convertible collars, cuffs and pockets; button trimmed. Sizes 14 to 40. Regularly \$23.50, \$25.00 and \$27.50. Friday's Price \$19.95

Women's \$3.98 Slip-Over Apron-Dresses at \$2.98

The easy-to-slip-into kind that most women prefer but very rarely if ever meet with at a saving of \$1.00 on the usual price! Made of good quality plaid gingham. Comes with square neck and short sleeves, and is smartly belted and pocketed. Neck, sleeves, belt and pockets are trimmed with rick-rack braid. Sizes 36 to 42. Regularly \$3.98. On Sale Friday \$2.98

A Clearance of Broken Lines in Voile
Blouses, \$3.95

A collection from which scores of women will choose with great enthusiasm. Every style included is new and pleasing and sufficiently varied to please every woman's fancy. They are of fine quality white voiles, featuring round, square or V shaped necks with semi-collars; fronts are effectively embroidered or tucked or trimmed with tiny ruffles. Sizes 34 to 44 in the collection, but not all sizes in all styles. \$3.95 Friday Clearance at.

Men's \$25.00

'ENNYWEATHER' COATS

On Sale Friday \$19.95

Any man who is familiar with the characteristics of a Johnstone Walker 'Ennyweather' Coat, will certainly jump at this opportunity to buy our regular \$25.00 Coats for \$19.95!

These splendid Coats serve a double purpose—being equally as suitable for a chilly spring, summer or autumn day as for defying a driving rain. Shown in plain grey rainproof, worsted grey and brown mixed rubberized tweeds. Made with belt and buckle. Very smart and dressy coats. Sizes 34 to 44. Reg. \$25.00. On Sale Friday \$19.95

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MARKETS

The victory of a strike, when the wage question is involved, is usually but temporary. With each increase in wages the cost of living goes up, and as the cost increase is usually more than the wage increase, the victory is soon turned to defeat, so far as the interest of labor is concerned.

of force that the nation considers it in its own interest to use such a weapon."

