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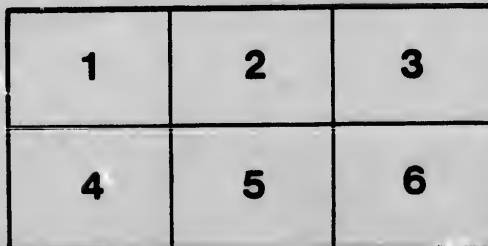
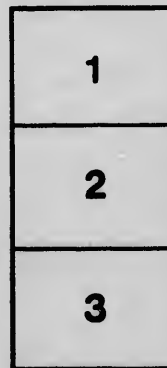
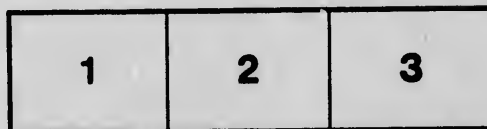
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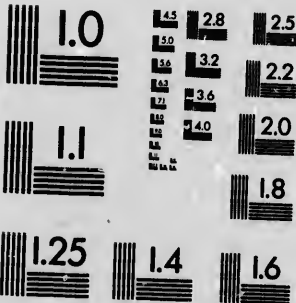
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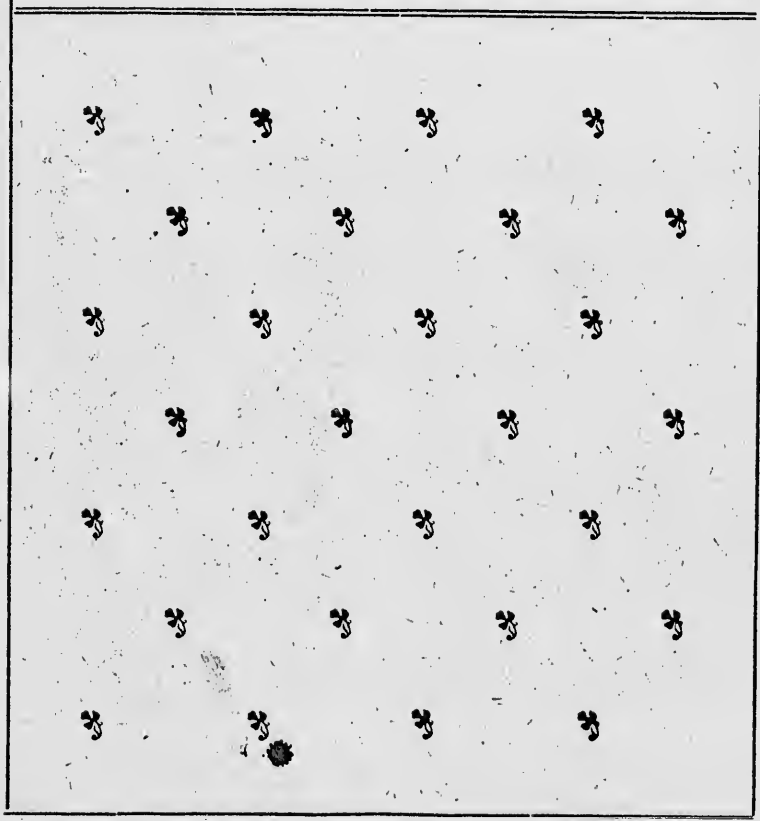
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OF THE WESTERN FEDERATION
. . . OF MINERS, DISTRICT No. 6 . . .

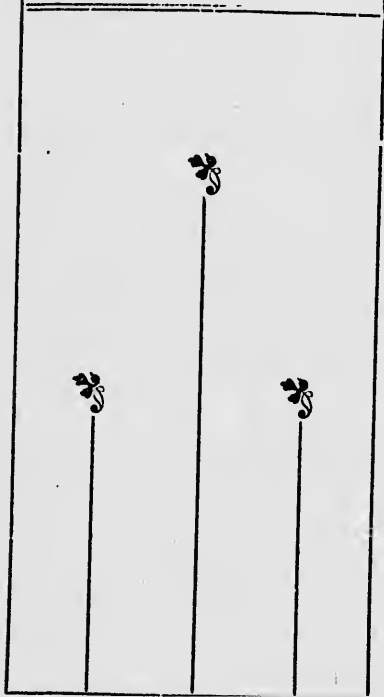
Held at Rossland, B. C., December, 1899.





Convention of the
Unions of the
Western Federation
of Miners,

Of District No. 6, . . .
Held at Rossland, B. C.
December 18th, 1899. . .





STUNDEN & PERINE,
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Rosslaud, B. C.

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Convention of the Unions

... OF THE ...

Western Federation of Miners,

Of District No. 6.

Held at Rossland, B. C., December 18, 1899.

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OKRINDERS,

The convention was called to order by Brother C. Foley of the executive board, W. F. M. at 10 o'clock, Dec. 18th, 1899.

Appointment of Committee on Credentials.

After welcoming the delegates to the convention and briefly outlining the work which the convention was called to do, Chairman Foley appointed the committee on credentials, which was as follows: Jas. Wilkes, of Nelson; A. Parr, of Ymir; J. C. Tyree, of Silverton.

Report of Committee on Credentials.

Mr. Chairman and Brother Delegates:

We, your committee on credentials, respectfully submit the following report:

We find all unions of the district represented and the following named delegates entitled to seats in the convention:

Ymir Union No. 85, Alfred Parr.
Nelson Union No. 96, Jas. Wilkes.
Silverton Union No. 95, Jno. C. Tyree.
Sandon Union No. 81, Wm. Davidson.
Slocan City Union No. 62, A. E. Teeter.
New Denver Union No. 97, D. J. Weir.
Greenwood Union No. 22, M. H. Kane.
Moyie Union No. — , D. J. Elmer.
Lethbridge Union No. 59, Henry Noble.
Camp McKinney Union No. 43, J. C. Douglas.
Phoenix Union No. 8, Martin Griffin.
Fernie Union No. 76, Jno. Hascott.
Rossland Union No. 38, A. L. Houston, T. E. Kirby, Jas. Devine, Thos. Bestwick.
Whitewater Union No. 79, J. J. McDonald.

Signed,

JAS. WILKES, Chairmam,
A. PARR, Secretary,
J. C. TYREE,
Committee.

Appointment of Committees.

The chairman appointed as a committee on organization: Jas. Wilkes, A. Parr, A. E. Teeter, Jas. Devine and J. C. Tyree.

Committee on order of business: H. Noble, J. C. Douglas, A. C. Teeter, Wm. Davidson and Jas. Wilkes.

Committee on resolutions: D. J. Elmer, Jas. Wilkes, J. C. Douglas, John C. Tyree and Jas. Devine.

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Committee.

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r, Jas. Wilkes, J. C. Douglas,

Report of Committee on Organization.

We, your committee on organization, recommend that a chairman, and secretary, *Pro. tem.*, be elected. In conformity with these recommendations, we further recommend Bro. C. Foley for chairman and Bro. A. Parr for secretary.

Signed
JAS. WILKES, Chairman,
ALFRED PARR, Secretary,
A. C. TEETER,
JAS. DEVINE,
J. C. TYREE,
Committee.

Report of Committee on Order of Business.

We, your committee on order of business, respectfully submit the following: We recommend subjects for discussion as follows:

- First, uniformity of wages.
- Second, contract system.
- Third, district association.
- Fourth, policital action.
- Fifth, education.
- Sixth, miscellaneous.

Signed,
H. NOBLE, Chairman,
J. C. DOUGLAS, Secretary,
A. C. TEETER,
WM. DAVIDSON,
JAS. WILKES,
Committee.

Uniformity of Wages.

Under the first order of business the following resolution was offered by Parr, of Ymir, and adopted by the convention:

"We recommend the withdrawal of all union men from the mines at Nelson who are working for wages below the union scale, in the event of a failure of the negotiations pending at Sandon, or in the event of the Nelson district not being included in that settlement should it be successful; and that an assessment of \$1 per month be levied on all members receiving a wage of \$3 and upwards, and an assessment of 50 cents on all members receiving less than \$3. The funds to be handled by the officers of that union, and a statement of expenses to be furnished to all unions."

Contract System.

Under the second order of business, Devine, of Rossland, offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

"Be it resolved, that the contract system is injurious to labor and should be abolished; and we advise that steps be taken by all unions tending towards its abolition."

District Association.

Under the third order of business, Douglas, of Camp McKinney, offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

"Whereas, a very unsatisfactory state of affairs has existed among the different unions of the W. F. M. in Canada, on account of a lack of

f Wages.

the following resolution was offered at the convention:

of all union men from the mines at below the union scale, in the event of a strike at Sandon, or in the event of the fact that settlement should it be successful, 1 per month be levied on all members, and an assessment of 50 cents per man \$3. The funds to be handled for the payment of expenses to be furnished.

System.

Mr. J. Devine, of Rossland, offered the following resolution which was adopted:

That a system is injurious to labor and that steps be taken by all unions to prevent the same.

Association.

Mr. J. Douglas, of Camp McKinney, offered the following resolution which was adopted:

That the state of affairs has existed among miners in Canada, on account of a lack of

united and concentrated effort and un-uniform conditions; and, whereas, it is expedient that a central board or association should be formed:

"Therefore, be it resolved, that we recommend an organization to be known as District Association No. 6, which shall consist of one delegate from each union, who shall elect a president, vice-president and secretary-treasurer annually, by a majority of votes cast at a meeting to be held each year on the first Monday in June."

Constitution of the Association of the W. F. M. District No. 6.

The president appointed a committee to draft constitution and by-laws for the association who reported as follows:

We, your committee, respectfully submit the following:

This association shall be known as the District Association No. 6 of the Western Federation of Miners, and shall work in conjunction with and be subordinate to the Western Federation of Miners.

ARTICLE I.

SECTION 1. This association shall be composed of one delegate from each local union in the District Association No. 6, W. F. M. who shall meet subject to the call of the president in any of the towns containing local unions.

SEC. 2. A majority of the delegates from the local unions shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE II.

SEC. 1. The officers of this association shall consist of a president, vice-president and secretary-treasurer, all of which shall be elected annually by a majority of the votes cast.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

SEC. 2. The election of officers shall be by ballot and shall be held at the first meeting in June of each year.

ARTICLE III.

SEC. 1. It shall be the duty of the president to preside at all meetings of the association, to preserve order, enforce the constitution and watch vigilantly over the interests and affairs of the association. In this he shall be assisted by all the officers of the association. He shall decide all questions of order, subject to an appeal to the association. He shall have the right to vote at the election of officers and when the members are equally divided he shall have the deciding vote on any question. He shall sign all orders drawn by the secretary-treasurer in compliance with a vote of the majority at any meeting of the association. He shall, with the approval of the association, fill all vacancies occurring in the offices of vice-president or secretary-treasurer. He shall take no part in any debate while in the chair, but may call the vice-president or any qualified member to the chair when he wishes to discuss any question.

DUTIES OF VICE-PRESIDENT.

SEC. 2. It shall be the duty of the vice-president to assist the president to preserve order at all meetings and assist him in the discharge of all his duties, preside during his absence, and perform all the duties devolving upon the president.

DUTIES OF SECRETARY-TREASURER.

SEC. 3. The secretary-treasurer shall have charge of and preserve the seal and all books, documents and effects of the general office of the

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association, shall record the proceedings of all meetings of the associ-
ation, and shall keep copies of all important letters sent out by him, re-
ceive and receipt for all moneys, pay all current expenses, prepare and
submit in circular form to the local unions a quarterly report of all
moneys received and disbursed by him, give a bond in such amount as
the association may from time to time demand, but shall not at any
time have more than \$500 subject to his order. All other funds must
be deposited by him as directed by the association. He shall for his
services receive such compensation as the association may determine;
and shall at all times have his books ready for examination by the as-
sociation. All property of the association in his possession he shall
turn over to his qualified successor.

ARTICLE IV.

REVENUE AND DISBURSEMENTS.

Revenue
X

SEC. 1. The revenue of this association shall be derived from an
annual per capita tax of 40 cents per member in good standing, to be
paid from the general fund of each local union in advance quarterly;
and in case of emergency such assessments as in the judgment of the
association may be necessary.

ARTICLE V.

SEC. 1. Whenever a strike shall be approved by the association
and a local union, as authorized by Sec. 1, Art. V of the constitution
W. F. M., such local union shall designate the person or committee to
whom aid shall be sent by the secretary-treasurer; and such person or
committee shall be held responsible for the proper use of such aid, and

make complete returns to the association and the local union of the receipts and disbursements and the persons aided.

Signed,

JNO. DOUGLAS, of McKinney,
JAS. DEVINE, of Rossland,
D. ELMER, of Moyie.

The report was adopted and the following officers elected by ballot for the initial term:

President, James Wilkes, of Nelson.
Vice-President, John Hascott, of Fernie.
Secretary-Treasurer, Alfred Parr, of Ymir.

Political Action.

Under the fourth order of business, Wilkes, of Nelson, offered the following resolution which was adopted:

"Resolved, that the energies of this association be exerted to the end that the Provincial Legislature be induced to introduce and pass legislation requiring mine owners to post up in conspicuous places on all working properties copies of the Metalliferous Mines Inspection Act and all amendments thereto; and that all men engaged in said metalliferous mines be required to be able to read, understand and exp'ain the clause and provision of all laws tending to improve the conditions of employment of and make more safe and secure to lives and limbs of underground workmen."

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Signed,

JNO. DOUGLAS, of McKinney,
JAS. DEVINE, of Rossland,
D. ELMER, of Moyie.

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Education.

Under the fifth order of business, Hascott, of Fernie, offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

"Resolved, that the "Industrial World," of Rossland, be the official paper of the association, and that all local unions appoint a member to furnish weekly articles of general interest and solicit advertisements and subscriptions."

By Tyree, of Silverton:

"Resolved, that all local unions open libraries wherever possible, and recommend lectures on current topics as an efficient method of education."

By Noble, of Lethbridge:

"Resolved, that we form in connection with the association a bureau of labor statistics, and provide for the election of an officer of each union to collect and forward a quarterly report to the executive board, as to the number of men employed and unemployed, wages paid, etc., within the jurisdiction of this union. Blanks furnished by the association through the secretary-treasurer."

Miscellaneous.

Under the sixth order of business, the following resolutions were offered:

By McDonald, of Whitewater:

"Resolved, that we, the delegates and brothers assembled in convention, do hereby severely criticise the action of the mining inspector in this district; and, be it further resolved, that we urge the necessity of bringing this matter before the legislature, believing that they will take speedy steps toward investigation, and that a copy of these resolutions be handed to the Hon. Jas. Martin, our representative."

By Hascott, of Fernie:

"Whereas, we believe that the passage of the eight hour law by our legislature is in accord with the best interests of humanity, and should be sustained: Therefore, be it resolved, that we pledge our support to sustain the said law in its entirety."

Inquiries being made as to the duties and rights of District Association, the president appointed a committee, who reported as follows:

We, your committee, respectfully submit the following as the duties of the association:

First, that the District Association have full power to act on political matters.

Second, to deal with all questions of an educational nature.

Third, to deal with all questions wherein all unions are concerned.

Fourth, but at no time can they deal with any local question except by request of the union affected.

A ballot being taken as to the next place of meeting, Moyie received a majority of votes cast, and it was so ordered that the next meeting should be held at that place.

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A conference committee was appointed by the president to report
in writing to the delegates, consisting of the following named brothers:

T. E. Kirby, of Rossland.

A. Houston, of Rossland.

A. Parr, of Ymir.

Wm. Davidson, of Sandon.

Jno. C. Douglas, of McKinney.

The president appointed a committee on printing, who were given
full power to act.

The convention having completed all the business brought before
the body, was, upon motion, adjourned at 1 p: m., Dec. 21st, 1899.

Signed,

ALFRED PARR,

T. E. KIRBY,

J. C. DOUGLAS,

Committee on Printing.

