

**CIHM
Microfiche
Series
(Monographs)**

**ICMH
Collection de
microfiches
(monographies)**



Canadian Institute for Historical Microreproductions / Institut canadien de microreproductions historiques

© 1998

Technical and Bibliographic Notes / Notes techniques et bibliographiques

The Institute has attempted to obtain the best original copy available for filming. Features of this copy which may be bibliographically unique, which may alter any of the images in the reproduction, or which may significantly change the usual method of filming are checked below.

- Coloured covers / Couverture de couleur
- Covers damaged / Couverture endommagée
- Covers restored and/or laminated / Couverture restaurée et/ou pelliculée
- Cover title missing / Le titre de couverture manque
- Coloured maps / Cartes géographiques en couleur
- Coloured ink (i.e. other than blue or black) / Encre de couleur (i.e. autre que bleue ou noire)
- Coloured plates and/or illustrations / Planches et/ou illustrations en couleur
- Bound with other material / Relié avec d'autres documents
- Only edition available / Seule édition disponible
- Tight binding may cause shadows or distortion along interior margin / La reliure serrée peut causer de l'ombre ou de la distorsion le long de la marge intérieure.
- Blank leaves added during restorations may appear within the text. Whenever possible, these have been omitted from filming / Il se peut que certaines pages blanches ajoutées lors d'une restauration apparaissent dans le texte, mais, lorsque cela était possible, ces pages n'ont pas été filmées.
- Additional comments / Commentaires supplémentaires: Part of front cover and inside back cover hidden by label.

L'Institut a microfilmé le meilleur exemplaire qu'il lui a été possible de se procurer. Les détails de cet exemplaire qui sont peut-être uniques du point de vue bibliographique, qui peuvent modifier une image reproduite, ou qui peuvent exiger une modification dans la méthode normale de filmage sont indiqués ci-dessous.

- Coloured pages / Pages de couleur
- Pages damaged / Pages endommagées
- Pages restored and/or laminated / Pages restaurées et/ou pelliculées
- Pages discoloured, stained or foxed / Pages décolorées, tachetées ou piquées
- Pages detached / Pages détachées
- Showthrough / Transparence
- Quality of print varies / Qualité inégale de l'impression
- Includes supplementary material / Comprend du matériel supplémentaire
- Pages wholly or partially obscured by errata slips, tissues, etc., have been refilmed to ensure the best possible image / Les pages totalement ou partiellement obscurcies par un feuillet d'errata, une pelure, etc., ont été filmées à nouveau de façon à obtenir la meilleure image possible.
- Opposing pages with varying colouration or discolourations are filmed twice to ensure the best possible image / Les pages s'opposant ayant des colorations variables ou des décolorations sont filmées deux fois afin d'obtenir la meilleure image possible.

This item is filmed at the reduction ratio checked below /
Ce document est filmé au taux de réduction indiqué ci-dessous.

	10x		14x		18x		22x		26x		30x	
	12x		16x		20x		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		24x		28x	32x

The copy filmed here has been reproduced thanks to the generosity of:

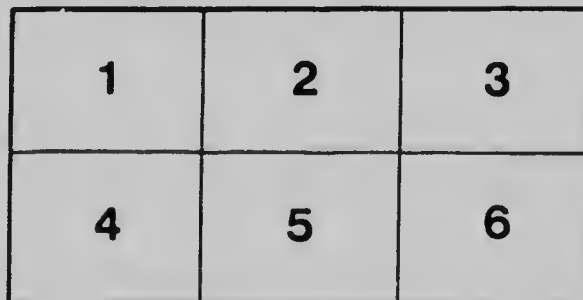
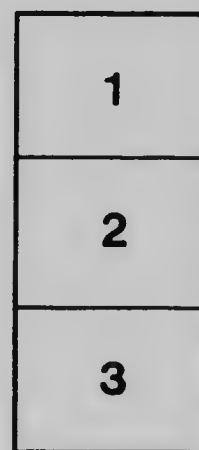
University of Alberta
Edmonton

The images appearing here are the best quality possible considering the condition and legibility of the original copy and in keeping with the filming contract specifications.

Original copies in printed paper covers are filmed beginning with the front cover and ending on the last page with a printed or illustrated impression, or the back cover when appropriate. All other original copies are filmed beginning on the first page with a printed or illustrated impression, and ending on the last page with a printed or illustrated impression.

The last recorded frame on each microfiche shell contains the symbol → (meaning "CONTINUED"), or the symbol ∇ (meaning "END"), whichever applies.

Maps, plates, charts, etc., may be filmed at different reduction ratios. Those too large to be entirely included in one exposure are filmed beginning in the upper left hand corner, left to right and top to bottom, as many frames as required. The following diagrams illustrate the method:



L'exemplaire filmé fut reproduit grâce à la générosité de:

University of Alberta
Edmonton

Les images suivantes ont été reproduites avec le plus grand soin, compte tenu de la condition et de la netteté de l'exemplaire filmé, et en conformité avec les conditions du contrat de filmage.

Les exemplaires originaux dont la couverture en papier est imprimée sont filmés en commençant par le premier plat et en terminant soit par la dernière page qui comporte une empreinte d'impression ou d'illustration, soit par le second plat, selon le cas. Tous les autres exemplaires originaux sont filmés en commençant par la première page qui comporte une empreinte d'impression ou d'illustration et en terminant par la dernière page qui comporte une telle empreinte.

Un des symboles suivants apparaîtra sur la dernière image de chaque microfiche, selon le cas: le symbole → signifie "A SUIVRE", le symbole ∇ signifie "FIN".

Les cartes, planches, tableaux, etc., peuvent être filmés à des taux de réduction différents. Lorsque le document est trop grand pour être reproduit en un seul cliché, il est filmé à partir de l'angle supérieur gauche, de gauche à droite, et de haut en bas, en prenant le nombre d'images nécessaire. Les diagrammes suivants illustrent la méthode.

MICROCOPY RESOLUTION TEST CHART

(ANSI and ISO TEST CHART No. 2)



4.5

5.0

5.6

6.3

7.1

8.0

9.0

10

11.2

12.5

14.0

16.0

18.0

20

22.5

25

28

32

36

40

45

50

56

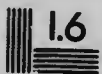
63

2.8

3.2

3.6

4.0



APPLIED IMAGE Inc

1653 East Main Street
Rochester, New York 14609 USA
(716) 482 - 0300 - Phone
(716) 288 - 5989 - Fax

B. C. PROVINCIAL FEDERATION OF LABOR

FIRST ANNUAL CONVENTION

REPORT OF THE PROCEEDINGS



HELD AT VICTORIA, B. C.
March 13 to 15, inclusive, 1911

Declaration of Principles

The British Columbia Provincial Federation of Labor is organized for the purpose of voicing the needs and aspirations of Labor, legislatively and otherwise; and to provide a place for worthy members of its affiliated unions to participate in the discussion of those practical problems, upon the solution of which depends their welfare as workers, individually and collectively.

With the introduction of the modern machinery of production and the harnessing of the forces of Nature, it is only fitting that the wealth producers should participate in the benefits derived.

We therefore, pledge ourselves to unceasingly demand a universal work-day of eight hours or less, so that no labor-power is sold as a commodity.

We believe there is more efficacy in electing working-class representatives to write the law than by supplementary methods; and our efforts will be more in that direction in the future.

We are firmly convinced that the future belongs to the only useful people in human society—the working-class.

"Workers of the World Unite."

The B.C. Provincial Federation of Labor is organized to do industrially and
legislatively what its affiliated membership gives it the
power to do.

R E P O R T
OF THE
PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
**FIRST ANNUAL
CONVENTION**



Chartered March 1, 1911, by Trades and
Labor Congress of Canada

HELD AT VICTORIA, B. C.
March 13 to 15, inclusive, 1911



EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

B. C. Provincial Federation of Labor

1911-12

President.

J. C. Watters.....527 Rithet Street, Victoria, B. C.

First Vice-President.

J. Wm. Wilkinson.....Box 1195, Vancouver, B. C.

Second Vice-President.

R. A. Stoney.....Box 965, New Westminster, B. C.

Third Vice-President.

Christian Sivertz.....1278 Denman Street, Victoria, B. C.

Fourth Vice-President.

Jas. H. McVety.....1744 Broadway West, Vancouver, B. C.

General Secretary.

R. Parm. Pettipiece, 2349 St. Catherines St., Vancouver, B. C.

Secretary-Treasurer.

Victor R. Midgley.....Box 1195, Vancouver, B. C.

Delegate to Trades and Labor Congress of Canada.

J. C. Watters.....527 Rithet Street, Victoria, B. C.

**Fraternal Delegate to Washington State Federation
of Labor.**

R. Parm. Pettipiece, 2349 St. Catherines St., Vancouver, B. C.

2 LIBRARY
UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS

FIRST DAY—Morning Session

Labor Hall, Victoria, B. C., March 13, 1911.

The first annual convention of the British Columbia Federation of Labor was called to order in Labor Hall, Victoria, B. C., at 10:30 a. m., by Christian Sivertz, chairman of Victoria Trades and Labor Council entertainment committee.

Mr. Sivertz.—Fellow workers: It is my privilege to call this meeting to order, and on behalf of Victoria Trades and Labor Council to extend a most hearty welcome to the delegates to this first annual meeting of the Provincial Federation of Labor. That is easily said, but there is a great deal more that goes with it. We are pleased indeed—immensely glad—to see you here, and to know that, for the first time in the history of the labor movement, so far as British Columbia is concerned, you present to the world now a complete and perfect labor movement, built from the foundation to the top. We are organized locally into the international craft unions, and they are affiliated with central labor bodies for local purposes. We are now organized provincially for the first time, and we are glad to say British Columbia leads; and then we are organized for Dominion purposes in the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada. As you know, we have hitherto been represented through the Congress appointing a committee to look after the affairs of B. C. workers. Now, we have an organization not appointed but elected by the workers of the province to look after their interests. It does one good to see you, and to see your faces here. The labor movement is also divided into industrial and legislative branches, and every man has a task and a duty in these two respective spheres. The importance becomes clearer to us all, as we have important offices to fulfil legislatively and otherwise. We cannot get the legislation that we want, nor can we resist the legislation that we don't want unless we are organized for that purpose, and for that reason this convention will have its first task today, and as long as the convention lasts, in securing to labor the full product of its toil and how we can best strengthen the hands of our representatives. This occasion is a history-making epoch in the history of the labor movement in the Dominion. A year ago steps were taken for the organization of this Federation, and it is true now we have this splendid organization of working men from the mainland, from the mines and from the island. I do not know what kind of a

B. C. FEDERATION OF LABOR.

reception we can give you outwardly, but inwardly you have our warmest one. The task you have before you is a great but glorious one, because the work rests with the working people. Organized society, as it stands today, is as we know, divided. The workers have, and for all ages have had, interests in common, and they are now fast recognizing it. The other division of society has interests that do not harmonize with those of the workers, and for that reason the workers must study their own interests and learn that they have only one friend under the sun, and that is themselves. Again I extend a most hearty welcome to the delegates. I now call upon the president to take the chair.

President J. C. Watters, in taking the chair, said in part: It has been my lot to give a little time to the organization of workers. If I only had the adaptability, I dare say I could give a speech of half an hour or more, but every member recognizes that we are here for business. I hope that no member has come for any other purpose than to represent the class he represents. Mr. Sivertz, representing the Trades and Labor Council, mentioned that this convention was not alone provincial. British Columbia has been the first to form a Provincial Federation of Labor. There was no necessity for it in the minds of some. Others thought that it was not needed—the organization of a Provincial Federation. Since the Federation has been formed there is ample evidence that it was needed. It is only a matter of a short time until we will have 100 per cent. of the unions of British Columbia. You can understand the importance of this Western Federation affiliation. Now, as a matter of fact, the Mine Workers are also favorable to affiliation. It is my opinion that it is only a very short time until we shall have all the miners of this province, which will be an important factor—one of the most important factors. You can understand the necessity of closer federation all round. When we co-operate with these miners we can secure some concessions from the employers. The same holds good with respect to provincial legislation. As Mr. Sivertz has pointed out, the political conditions under which we are living makes it necessary that such questions be dealt with by this Provincial Federation of Labor. I believe that it is the desire of every one that the Provincial Federation will be the factor. But let us get down to business without further preliminary. I therefore declare this convention now duly opened and ready for the despatch of such business as may be brought before it.

Secretary Pettipiece read list of committees, named by executive committee, as follows:

Credentials—Geo. Litster, Chas. Stowe, B. D. Grant, H. C. Benson, Geo. Hardy.

Constitution, Rules and Order of Business—J. H. McVety, J. L. Martin, F. McBroom, A. C. Chislett, L. H. Burnham.

Officers' Reports—Walter Dodd, A. W. Wright, H. Marsh, Geo. W. Williams, H. A. Kerr.

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS, 1911.

Resolutions—J. W. Wilkinson, John Barradale, Christian Siverts, H. McDonald, J. H. McVety, J. A. McKinnon, G. A. Coldwell, A. Herburger, J. L. Haddon, Victor R. Midgley, Wm. Clark, Phil R. Smith.

Audit and Grievance—J. F. Fisher, E. Smith, W. Dodd, M. Ross, W. Burroughs.

Ways and Means—R. A. Stoney, Ed. J. Perrott, W. W. Sayer, Geo. Beck, Douglas Young.

Agreed to, and Credentials and Rules of Order Committees retired to prepare report.

Mayor Morley, having just entered the hall, was ushered to the platform, and, in concluding, said in part: The people are beginning to rule. There is the problem of education, which must be met. The labor unions have in their hands the power to rule the whole of the world if they are prepared to do it. Mr. Chairman, before closing, I want to say that it does me good to see representatives here from all over the province. I am sure, as mayor of the city, I bid you a most hearty welcome to our city, not because it is a good opportunity to get a relaxation, but because I know you have come here to fight for those you represent. You are not here to enjoy yourselves, you are here for earnest endeavor, and you certainly have my best wishes and my sympathy for the difficulties you have to face, for the trials and tribulations, and I do not want to discourage you in pointing out you have such a hard fight. It is not discouraging at all. I hope you good people will also enjoy yourselves while here in the city. I thank you. (Applause.)

Chairman Watters.—Well, there is no particular individual who could express an opinion to which we should all agree. Now, this holds good with what the mayor said. There are some things that he has said that merit the greatest consideration.

J. A. McKinnon, external delegate from District No. 6, Western Federation of Miners—Mr. Chairman, Sister Workers and Fellow Workers: I am glad that at this time the president of the Federation has stated that I would only say a few words. However, I have been elected to attend your convention with one purpose in view, and that is if I can be of any assistance to you; if I can bring the workers of the whole province and Dominion of Canada more together, then I am here with you. As for the Western Federation of Miners, they have been known as the greatest fighters in the United States or Canada. We are for the uniting of the working class, and we are for uniting them politically as well as industrially. Now, my report from this convention shall be acted upon by the members of the Western Federation of Miners, and it will rest, no doubt, upon my report as to what our future relationship will be. That you will determine questions here, and settle them in such a manner that I can report back that they will unite with you in this great work, is my earnest desire. I am not going to say any more, but later on I will address you regarding the metal miners' union, covering the United States and the Dominion of Canada.

B. C. FEDERATION OF LABOR.

W. Dodd, alderman and delegate from New Westminster, was called to the platform and briefly addressed the convention.

Secretary's report read, as follows:

Vancouver, B.C., March 11, 1911.

To the President, Officers and Delegates.

Fellow Wage-Workers: I assure you that the distinction of submitting the first report of the first organization of this nature in Canada to its first annual convention is much appreciated.

I am not oblivious to the responsibilities assumed by the delegates who assembled on May 2nd of last year at Vancouver to discuss the advisability of bringing into existence the B. C. Federation of Labor.

The most optimistic expectations of any of those who participated in the organization proceedings have been more than realized, if not exceeded.

Up to March 11th, 1911, three central labor bodies, two building trades councils, and forty-one local unions have affiliated.

Besides these, District 6 of the Western Federation of Miners has submitted the question of affiliation to referendum vote of the membership, and we will have with us at this convention a fraternal delegate from that organization, in the person of Bro. J. A. McKinnon.

District 18 of the United Mine Workers of America has also the question of affiliating its membership under consideration. It may be confidently expected that before the second annual convention of this Federation the forces of organized labor throughout this province will have for the first time been united into one strong fighting militant expression of working-class interests, a worthy object; entitled to the most earnest and active co-operation of every unionist in British Columbia.

As Secretary of the Federation it has been my duty to attend to a great deal of letter writing, circularizing and canvassing of unions for affiliation, in person and otherwise. I desire to remember the many who have assisted me in this work, which has materially helped to make the success of this convention possible.

In conclusion, I desire to draw the attention of the delegates to our adopted slogan: "The British Columbia Provincial Federation of Labor is organized to do industrially and legislatively what its affiliated membership gives it the power to do." May the deliberations of this convention be such that will make for a better understanding among wage-workers and assist us in our class struggle against capitalism and our onward march toward industrial freedom. The future belongs to labor; may the day of our triumph be brought nearer as a result of this convention.

R. PARM. PETTIPIECE,
Secretary.

Treasurer's report read, as follows:

Vancouver, B.C., March 11, 1911.

To President, Officers and Delegates:

I herewith submit financial statement from May 2, 1910,

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS, 1911.

date of organization, to March 11, 1911, and request that same be at once turned over to an auditing committee.

RECEIPTS.

1910.			
June	3	Vancouver Trades and Labor Council (loan)	\$ 50.00
"	18	Victoria Trades and Labor Council (loan)	25.00
"	18	Victoria T. & L. C. per capita, July 1st to Jan. 1, 1911.....	3.00
"	20	Victoria Protective Union per capita, July 1st to Jan. 1, 1911.....	3.00
"	20	New Westminster Trades and Labor Council (loan)	25.00
"	20	New Westminster Typo. Union per capita July 1st to Jan. 1.....	1.50
"	29	Lathers' Union, Vancouver, per capita, July 1st to Jan. 1.....	4.80
July	8	Vancouver T. & L. C. per capita July 1st to Jan. 1.....	3.00
"	13	Van. Int. U. Steam Engineers per capita to Jan. 1.....	1.50
"	27	Van. Pattern Makers' Asso. per capita, July 1 to Jan. 1.....	2.60
"	27	Van. Typo. Union 226 per capita, July 1 to Jan. 1	9.90
Aug.	4	New Westminster T. & L. C. per capita to Jan. 1	3.00
"	4	Victoria Boiler Makers per capita to Jan. 1	2.10
"	4	New Westminster I. B. of Teamsters per capita to January.....	2.04
"	4	Victoria I. B. of Bookbinders per capita to Jan. 1	1.02
"	8	New Westminster Cigar Makers No. 486 per capita to Jan. 1.....	2.40
Dec.	28	United Asso. Plumbers, Victoria, per capita to Jan. 1.....	4.50
1911.			
Jan.	6	Victoria Laborers Protective U. per capita to Jan. 1.....	4.20
"	16	Vancouver T. & L. per capita to July 1, 1911	3.00
"	10	Van. Street Ry. Employees per capita to Jan. 1	36.00
"	10	New Westminster Cigarmakers per capita July 1, 1911.....	2.00
"	10	Vancouver Barbers Union per capita July 1910; to July 1911.....	12.00
"	14	Victoria Cooks per capita to July 1, 1911..	2.45
"	14	Int. U. Steam Engineers, Vancouver, per capita to July.....	1.55
"	20	Vancouver Lathers U. per capita to July 1, 1911	4.80
"	20	Vancouver St. Ry. Employees per capita to July 1.....	36.00

B. C. FEDERATION OF LABOR.

"	21	Victoria T. & L. C. per capita to July 1, 1911	3.00
"	26	Van. Amal. Soc. Carpenters and Joiners per capita	30.00
"	27	Van. Typo. Union per capita to July 1...	12.00
"	30	Van. Bid. Trades Council per capita to July 1	3.00
Feb.	1	Victoria Int. Bookbinders per capita to July 1, 1911.....	1.50
"	1	Esquimalt Boilermakers per capita to July 1, 1911.....	2.10
"	3	Vancouver Electrical Workers per capita to July 1, 1911.....	9.00
"	4	New Westminster Typo. Union per capita to July 1, 1911.....	1.80
"	11	Vancouver U. B. Carpenters and Joiners per capita to July 1, 1911.....	42.00
"	11	Victoria U. B. Carpenters and Joiners per capita to July 1, 1911.....	3.00
"	11	Victoria Amal. S. Carpenters and Joiners per capita to July 1, 1911.....	4.20
"	11	Vancouver Int. Bro. Teamsters per capita to July 1, 1911.....	2.70
"	11	Victoria I. A. of Machinists per capita to July 1, 1911.....	2.40
"	14	Victoria Painters per capita to July 1, 1911	6.00
"	16	Vancouver Machinists per capita to July 1, 1911	9.10
"	16	Victoria Electrical Workers per capita to July 1, 1911	3.60
"	17	New Westminster St. Ry. Employees per capita to July 1, 1911.....	21.60
"	17	New Westminster T. & L. C. per capit to July 1, 1911.....	3.00
"	17	Victoria Stage Employees per capita to July 1, 1911.....	1.50
"	20	New Westminster U. B. of Carpenters per capita to July 1, 1911.....	3.00
"	22	Victoria Tailors per capita to July 1, 1911	3.00
Mar.	1	Victoria Letter Carriers per capita to July 1, 1911.....	1.20
"	2	New Westminster Barbers Union per capita to July 1, 1911.....	.75
"	3	Vancouver Moulders Union per capita to July 1, 1911.....	6.00
"	6	Vancouver Shinglers Union per capita to July 1, 1911.....	1.65
"	6	Victoria Typo. Union per capita to July 1, 1911	5.65
"	10	Vancouver Bricklayers and Masons per capita to July 1, 1911.....	22.20
"	10	Victoria Teamsters per capita to July 1, 1911	6.00
"	10	Vancouver Pattern Makers per capita to July 1, 1911	2.60
"	10	Vancouver Bakery Workers per capita to	

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS, 1911.

		July 1, 1911.....	3.90
"	10	Vancouver Sheet Metal Workers per capita to July 1, 1911.....	6.90
"	11	Vancouver Painters Union per capita to July 1, 1911.....	12.00
		Total	\$482.77

DISBURSEMENTS.

1910.			
June	1	Order No. 1 (E. T. Kingsley).....	\$ 60.85
"	1	Order No. 2 (J. C. Watters).....	10.00
"	1	Order No. 3 (R. P. Pettipiece).....	9.85
"	8	Order No. 4 (A. G. Bagley & Sons).....	3.25
"	11	Order No. 5 (Thomson Stationery Co.)...	7.60
July	4	Order No. 6 (E. T. Kingsley).....	5.75
Dec.	28	Order No. 7 (Miss C. MacDonald).....	12.00
"	28	Order No. 8 (P. M. Draper).....	10.00
"	28	Order No. 9 (R. P. Pettipiece).....	20.00
"	28	Order No. 10 (J. C. Watters).....	15.00
1911.			
Jan.	2	Order No. 11 (R. A. Stoney).....	1.00
"	8	Order No. 12 (Secretary for postage)....	4.00
"	7	Order No. 13 (E. T. Kingsley).....	16.00
"	7	Order No. 14 (Mrs. Taillon).....	12.00
"	12	Order No. 15 (World).....	1.05
"	12	Order No. 16 (Vancouver Labor Temple)	1.00
"	20	Order No. 17 (New Westminster Trades and Labor Council)	25.00
"	20	Order No. 18 (Victoria Trades and Labor Council)	25.00
Feb.	1	Order No. 19 (Vancouver Trades and Labor Council)	50.00
"	14	Order No. 20 (Stenographer fees to date)	10.00
Mar.	1	"Cash" (Express on seal).....	1.75
"	10	Order No. 21 (E. T. Kingsley).....	6.50
		Total	\$307.60

Total receipts	\$482.77	
Total expenditures		\$307.60
Cash in hands of J. A. Aicken.....		10.20
Cash on hand.....		164.97
	\$482.77	\$482.77

Since the executive session held December 25th, 1910, I have been acting as treasurer, vice J. A. Aicken, resigned.

In connection with the present system of handling Federation business and finances, I submit that it has been found cumbersome and unbusinesslike.

B. C. FEDERATION OF LABOR.

Recommend that the committee on Officers' Reports take into consideration a division of secretaries' offices and a change in handling Federation funds.

Respectfully submitted,

R. P. PETTIPIECE,
Acting Treasurer.

Premier McBride, having entered the hall at this stage, was greeted with applause, and addressed the convention, in part, as follows:

Premier McBride—Ladies and Gentlemen: I must at once acknowledge the courtesy and consideration of Mr. Sivertz, in conveying some few days back, to me an invitation to be present here this morning in order that an opportunity might be afforded me of meeting such a representative convention. In the past eight years, as first minister of British Columbia, it has been my duty as well as privilege, to meet with many large and influential gatherings in the representative city of British Columbia, but I do not hesitate to say that in point of importance, as well as influence, I would regard your meeting here today as of equally great and far-reaching effect in so far as British Columbia is concerned. This country is one where labor has every right to be recognized by all of the authorities, and that, too, in a most substantial fashion. You have been so kind as to say in your remarks that preceded me, that there are gentlemen here that do not see eye to eye with the government. It is the right and the privilege of the electorate, under the protection of the British flag, to be absolutely and entirely independent, so that it may support or may criticize whatever political parties it may choose. This is a right and a privilege which is enjoyed in British Columbia. I fully believe that if the parliament of the country has been productive of the efficient as well as effective government that a great deal of the credit is due to the energetic and active electorate we have in this country. I speak with reference to the provincial parties of the country. We have there today representatives of three distinct political parties, viz., Conservative, Liberal and Socialist, and I am satisfied in my own mind, and I may be permitted to speak from experience, that these parties are in that house with the determination to do their best towards giving this country fair and representative government.

Now, gentlemen, a few weeks ago it was my good fortune to meet some of your associates when they presented certain matters that have been the subject of your discussion. I had hoped, as is usual, to have submitted to your secretary by the end of last week dealing with each of the subjects. I found, however, that I was unable to do so; that different matters have been referred to different departments and the delays that were encountered, and if it is at all possible to have them sent to you before your convention rises, I shall be very glad, because I can quite understand you would be able to deal with those subjects.

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS, 1911.

I want to compliment this, I believe, the first convention of its kind assembled in British Columbia. We know that the development in these illustrious days fully represents many good and wise results that come from organized effort, and in arranging for such a representative convention as I meet here this morning, we have another instance of the desire, the determination and effort in British Columbia and the intention to advance this province.

I think it is only fair to you as it is to myself that I should repeat this morning from this platform a statement I have made in every section of the Province of British Columbia, and I may say that the government today is not for the workman or for the capitalist—it is for the whole community. So in the same breath I would say when I refer to the different measures that have been rejected by the government, we have always been ready to assume responsibility for our actions. I am not able to go the length of your own spokesman.

With regard to the session that is just closed, I suppose that perhaps the principal measure we dealt with this year, was the act referring to the operation of the coal mines of the country. Because of the development of our coal mining industry we deemed it advisable to revise the Coal Mines' Act. A great deal of attention was given to it, and I must not forget to say I am under an obligation to Mr. Hawthornthwaite. (Applause.) There was also an act brought down this year dealing, from a sanitary standpoint, with regard to mining camps, logging establishments, bunk houses, etc. One more reference, and that would be to the establishment of a Provincial University. Some of the spokesmen have been against the government, whose attempt it was to establish a university. There is no desire to take advantage of any class, but there is the desire of the government that this university shall be a people's university, that will give a technical training to the boys and girls. It is with regard to technical training the boys and girls shall receive their tuition free, but in regard to the professional training, it is proposed to charge a small amount.

Now, Mr. chairman, ladies and gentlemen, let me thank you for the opportunity of meeting you at this your first convention, and while I have not been able to meet many of your views, at the same time I say that I have the greatest respect for your organization.

I would like to say once more that if I can have my answer to your formal memorandum, submitted a few weeks ago, I shall be very glad to do so. I thank you. (Applause.)

Del. Midgley-Del.Martin—That all resolutions be submitted to the secretary by 9:30 a.m., March 14. Carried.

Adjournment 12:25 noon.

B. C. FEDERATION OF LABOR.

FIRST DAY—Afternoon Session

Labor Hall, Victoria, B.C., March 13, 1911.

Convention called to order at 1:30 p.m., President Watters in chair, and other officers present.

Communication received from Edward C. Knight, president Vancouver Local International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, No. 213, conveying greetings and expressions of good-will from British Columbia Electrical Workers, to the members of the first annual convention of the British Columbia Provincial Federation of Labor. Received.

E. G. Litster, chairman of the Credential Committee, submitted the following report:

Victoria, B.C., March 13, 1911.

To the Officers and Members of the B. C. Provincial Federation of Labor:

Fellow Workers: We have carefully examined all the credentials placed before us and find that the under-mentioned delegates are entitled to seats at this convention, their respective organizations having complied with all requirements, and we recommend that they be seated:

Fraternal Delegates.

Washington State Federation of Labor—Charles R. Case and P. W. Dowler.

Western Federation of Miners, District 6—J. A. McKinnon.
International Association of Machinists, District 26—L. F. Lane.

Central Labor Bodies.

Victoria Trades and Labor Council—F. J. Perrott and J. C. Watters.

Vancouver Trades and Labor Council—Victor R. Midgley and R. Parm. Pettipiece.

New Westminster Trades and Labor Council—Walter Dodd.

Building Trades Councils.

Victoria Building Trades Council—F. Webb.

Vancouver Building Trades Council—Geo. W. Williams.

International and National Trade Unions.

Victoria Typographical Union, No. 201—Geo. A. Coldwell and A. C. Chislett.

Victoria Laborers' Protective Union—E. Smith and J. L. Martin.

Victoria Painters and Decorators' Union, No. 5—Wm. Clack and Ed. Gilligan.

Victoria Cooks and Waiters, No. 459—C. H. Chamberlain and F. W. Garland.

Victoria Brotherhood of Bookbinders, No. 147—P. R. Smith and G. S. Carr.

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS, 1911.

- Victoria Machinists Union, No. 456—Aug. Herburger and Jas. Turnbull.
Victoria Letter Carriers' Association—Christian Sivertz.
Victoria Theatrical Stage Employees, No. 168—James Tattersall and H. Marsh.
Victoria Plumbers' Union, No. 324—Geo. Beck and Geo. Litster.
Victoria Teamsters' and Chauffeurs' Union, No. 220—George Hardy and M. Ross.
Esquimalt Boilermakers' Union, No. 191—J. Newdigging.
Victoria Amalgamated Society of Carpenters, Branch No. 812—H. Hills and J. Hammond.
Victoria Electrical Workers' Union, No. 230—Thos. Hill.
Victoria Journeymen Tailors' Union, No. 142—E. Christopher and C. W. Potts.
Vancouver Bakers and Confectioners' Union, No. 46—Alfred Coombs.
Vancouver Typographical Union, No. 226—H. Charles Benson.
Vancouver Pattern Makers' Association—James McEwan.
Vancouver Street Railway Employees, Division No. 101—W. W. Burrough, D. Young and A. J. Dumaresq.
Vancouver Iron Moulders' Union, No. 281—C. Cropley and M. B. Curtis.
Vancouver Barbers' Union, No. 120—Chas. Stowe.
Vancouver Sheet Metal Workers' Union, No. 230—G. Neitzel.
Vancouver Machinists, Beaver Lodge No. 182—J.L. Haddon, J. F. Fisher and Jas. H. McVety.
Vancouver Electrical Workers' Union, No. 213—H. G. Hessel and A. W. Wright.
Vancouver Amalgamated Society of Carpenters, Vancouver District—J. W. Wilkinson.
Vancouver Bricklayers and Masons, No. 1—W. W. Sayer and J. Haslett.
Vancouver Brotherhood of Carpenters Union No. 617—L. H. Burnham and A. McDonald.
New Westminster United Brotherhood of Carpenters, No. 1639—B. D. Grant and H. A. Kerr.
New Westminster Street Railway Employees, Division No. 134—John Barradale.
New Westminster Teamsters and Chauffeurs' Union, No. 159—Frank McBroom.
New Westminster Typographical Union, No. 632—R. E. Monteith and R. A. Stoney.
Prince Rupert Typographical Union No. 413—Frank E. Cullen.

G. LITSTER,
Chairman.

CHAS. STOWE,
B. D. GRANT,
H. C. BENSON,
GEO. HARDY.

On motion, the report of the Credentials Committee was adopted.

B. C. FEDERATION OF LABOR.

Rules and Order Committee submitted following recommendations:

That sessions commence at 9:30 a.m., continue to 12 m., reconvene 1:30 p.m. to 4 p.m., evening session from 7 to 10, Monday evening.

Speakers to be limited to five minutes, except movers and seconders, who shall be allowed ten minutes.

None but movers of motions to be allowed to speak more than once without permission of convention.

Proposed amendments to constitution to be placed in hands of chairman of committee not later than 12 noon Tuesday.

Election of officers to be first order of business at afternoon session Tuesday.

Committee on Law, Delegate McVety, reported as follows:

Recommend that the present preamble be struck out and the following substituted:

The British Columbia Provincial Federation of Labor is organized for the purpose of voicing the needs and aspirations of labor, legislatively and otherwise, and to provide a place for worthy members of its affiliated unions to participate in the discussion of those practical problems, upon the solution of which depends their welfare as workers, individually and collectively.

With the introduction of the modern machinery of production and the harnessing of the forces of nature, it is only fitting that the wealth producers should participate in the benefits derived.

We, therefore, pledge ourselves to unceasingly demand a universal workday of eight hours or less; so long as labor power is sold as a commodity.

We believe there is more efficacy in electing working-class representatives to write the law than by supplicatory methods, and our efforts will be more in that direction in the future.

We are firmly convinced that the future belongs to the only useful people in human society—the working-class.

The delegate members hereof do constitute and adopt the following rules for the government of this Federation:

The Committee moved the adoption of the recommendation and, on motion, the recommendation was agreed to.

Article 7—The Committee recommended the insertion of the word "General" before the word "Secretary" in the fourth line and the word "Secretary" before the word "Treasurer" in the fifth line.

In moving the adoption of the recommendation, Chairman McVety explained that the suggestion of the committee was to separate the offices of Recording and Financial Secretary, creating a General Secretary to look after the correspondence, and adding to the duties of Treasurer the work of Financial Secretary, changing the titles to General Secretary and Secretary-Treasurer respectively. This method would, in the opinion of the committee, enable the various offices to be more equitably distributed among the delegates from widely separated points. The recommendation was agreed to.

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS, 1911.

Article 9—Insert the word "General" before the word "Secretary" in line one and the word "Secretary" before the word "Treasurer" in the same line. Agreed to.

Article 10, Section 2—Recommend that the entire section be struck out, substituting as follows:

General Secretary—The General Secretary shall keep a correct record of the proceedings of the Federation in Convention; conduct all correspondence in connection with the office and at the close of each convention prepare and have printed a report which shall contain a record of the business transacted. He shall be custodian of all documents and other property of the Federation. He shall notify affiliated bodies at least sixty days before date set for annual convention. His remuneration shall be fixed from time to time by the Executive Committee.

Committee moved adoption of resolution, which was agreed to.

Section 3—Committee recommended that the entire section be struck out and the following substituted:

Secretary-Treasurer—The Secretary-Treasurer shall receive all monies payable to the Federation, giving his receipt for the same, depositing it in a reputable bank in the name of the British Columbia Federation of Labor. He shall arrange with the bank in which the funds are deposited to have a certified statement of the account forwarded to the President of the Federation at intervals not exceeding one month.

Payment of accounts shall be made by check, drawn by the Secretary-Treasurer, signed by the General Secretary and countersigned by the President and not otherwise. He shall keep his accounts as directed by the Executive Committee and shall submit a written report to the annual convention.

His remuneration shall be fixed by the Executive Committee. He shall, when directed, give a bond in some approved surety company, the same to be approved by the Executive Committee, providing that it be not less than five hundred dollars (\$500), the premium to be paid by the Federation.

The committee moved the adoption of the recommendation.

Delegate Dodd objected to the words "when directed" in the first line of the last paragraph and maintained that the bonding should be mandatory. He moved that the words be struck out, which was seconded.

Chairman McVety explained the difficulties of bonding officers of unincorporated bodies and maintained that the precautions which had already been adopted with reference to the finance had practically rendered the bonding of any individual officer unnecessary.

Delegate Benson agreed and moved that the entire paragraph dealing with the bonding of the Secretary-Treasurer be struck out, which was seconded. Upon the question being called for, the amendment to the amendment was carried and the recommendation of the committee agreed to, with the exception of the paragraph regarding bonding of the Secretary-Treasurer.

B. C. FEDERATION OF LABOR.

Article 12—Insert after the word "Secretary" in line six, the word "Treasurer."

The committee moved the adoption of the recommendation, which was agreed to.

Article 16—A convention quorum shall consist of representatives from one-fourth of the unions represented.

The committee recommended that the word "represented," in the last line, be struck out, substituting the word "affiliated."

The committee moved the adoption of the recommendation, but after some discussion it was not agreed to and the clause stands as originally drafted.

Article 16—Insert the word "General" before the word "Secretary" in line 27.

Article 19—Insert the word "General" before the word "Secretary" in line 8.

The committee moved the adoption of the recommendations, explaining that they merely covered the joining of the offices of Financial Secretary and Treasurer and the creation of a General Secretary. The recommendations were agreed to.

The report of the committee being completed, on motion it was adopted as a whole.

L. F. Lane, fraternal delegate from District Lodge 26, International Association of Machinists, being introduced, reviewed progress of the Machinists' strike for an eight-hour day along the Pacific Coast. Fight had been forced on men by gigantic employing interests, centered at Los Angeles. Analyzed employers' system of blacklist and espionage. Was not alone the Machinists' fight, but a struggle between organized capitalists and organized wage-workers. Urged renewed activity on the part of organized labor and asked that the Machinists be further aided in their fight for what most other tradesmen were already in possession of, namely, an eight-hour workday. (Applause.)

J. A. McKinnon, fraternal delegate for District 60, Western Federation of Miners, was invited to the platform by President Watters, and said, in part:

Delegate McKinnon—Mr. Chairman, Sister and Brother Workers: I am pleased to be present as a representative of the metal miners, millmen and smelters of District No. 6, and hope that the efforts of this convention will be such that when I return and make a report to the members of District No. 6, and submit the question of affiliation with the Provincial Federation of Labor that they will, by referendum vote of the membership, agree to affiliate with this organization and become a part of it.

Four years ago an effort was made to bring the organizations of this province together in a convention in Vancouver. They met at that time, and accomplished no visible results, but at this time we are meeting on a different understanding.

The Western Federation of Miners at this time are considering the acceptance of a charter from the American Federation of Labor, as granted by the executive council of that body, and by the 30th of April the result of the vote

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS, 1911.

of the entire membership of the Federation as to the acceptance or rejection of this charter will be known.

The United Mine Workers of America and the Western Federation of Miners have persistently fought for jurisdiction from all organizations within their jurisdiction. The coal miners had and have at the present time complete jurisdiction over all men working in and around the coal mines.

The Western Federation of Miners have conducted their organizations in the past and fought for this principle of jurisdiction, and now, as they have been granted a charter from the American Federation of Labor, on certain conditions, that the craft organizations now organized in the jurisdiction of the Western Federation of Miners shall retain their membership in their particular craft organization, which means at the present time, that only two Machinist unions—one in Butte City, Montana, with a membership of 115 members, and one local union in Bingham Canyon, Utah, with a membership of 35 members—are the only two organizations at the present time within the jurisdiction of the Western Federation of Miners that will be allowed to continue membership in a craft organization within our jurisdiction; providing the charter is accepted by the W. F. M.

You delegates present from the different craft organizations, assembled at this convention, probably do not realize what this means to the miners, and that you might better understand it, I might explain to you the reason why the Western Federation of Miners has put up such a stubborn fight for jurisdiction. We have at some mines, we will say, 700 members working in and around the mine. These 700 members are composed of miners, muckers, electricians, carpenters, machinists, engineers, ropemen, blacksmiths and other crafts workmen. That being the case, suppose we divide the 700 members into craft organizations, giving each craft what belongs to them, you can readily understand if this was done our organization would not have the same effect in case of making a demand for better wages, shorter hours, or as the case might happen, but when we are united in one organization, believing that an injury to one is the concern of all, and standing together no matter whether we are machinists, engineers, muckers; or anything else so long as we are united and endeavoring to better our conditions that we can accomplish more than if we are separated into craft organizations. I am sorry to say that a great number of trades labor members do not seem to grasp the injury that it would be to the Western Federation of Miners, providing they were allowed to separate the different workmen into separate organizations.

I am very pleased at this time to have had the opportunity to listen to the address of Mr. Lane, organizer of the Machinists, who, in his speech, has substantiated the W. F. M. claim for complete jurisdiction over our organization. Mr. Lane has told you about the "card" system, which is used by the employers before giving them a job. This "card" system the W. F. of M. have a good many years ago

B. C. FEDERATION OF LABOR.

learned what that meant to the members of their organization. The "card" system, as used by several corporations in the United States, and I may say in Canada, has been for the purpose of disrupting organized labor. The idea of a man, who is a citizen of the country, or whether he be a citizen or not, who is living in the country and complying with the law as enacted in that country, being compelled to give a complete record of his past history regarding what affiliation he has had with the labor organization prior to the time that he is making application for the job! What difference should it make to the man employing labor as to whether a man belongs to a labor organization or not, so long as he gives him his labor as a commodity for a certain amount of money, which is, in most cases, scarcely enough to feed and clothe those who are depending upon him as they should be. This is one system and a very effective system that has been adopted and put into force by the capitalist class. Mr. Lane has told you that it was absolutely necessary to do this in Los Angeles, and other places, that he mentioned, in order to get a chance to earn a living.

Now, I want to say to you, fellow workers, that there is only one remedy and one and only one way that you can remedy these conditions, that is, to own the job yourselves, and take it out of the capitalists' hands.

This may seem to you at this time very strong talk on my part, but if you will note, any of you who are present at this meeting, and listening to me, that it is one of the characteristics of the representatives of the Western Federation of Miners to say what he thinks.

This being the case, I am expressing myself as experience has taught me to do, and I believe the only salvation for the working class is to unite on the industrial field and then unite on the political field. By this means of organization, which I believe is the only effective way, we can in time come into possession of the means of life and own and operate the machinery of production for the benefit of ourselves and those depending upon us, and not for profit to continue the capitalist class in luxury at the expense of the workingmen.

Our district organization, at the present time, is organized for educational purposes and to draft and endeavor to have presented from time to time the need of certain legislation for the improvement and betterment of the miners, millmen and smeltermen of our jurisdiction. That being the case, and if you organize with this object in view, I see no need that we should be two separate organizations, paying per capita tax to the support of two different organizations, which are, comparatively speaking, organized for the same purpose. That being the case, I see no reason why the membership of District No. 6, W. F. of M., should not, by referendum vote, decide to become part of this organization; and, instead of holding separate conventions and electing delegates for the local union to represent them at a similar convention to this, whereby they can unite their ideas and forces and demand legis-

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS, 1911.

lation in the interests of the working class of this province.

I was more than pleased to be present here this morning, and listen to the address of the mayor of your city. He endeavoured to give you some advice re the conducting of your organization, and what should be the future policy of the working class. He did this notwithstanding the fact that he admitted that he himself was in the dark, and was looking for light. That being the case, he himself being honest enough to admit it, I would like to know how is he going to suggest to you some plan that will give the workers that which belongs to them. He proposes, or suggests to you rather, that there is one way as he figures it out, and that is to bring the capitalist class down to a certain medium and raising the workman, who is down low, up to that medium, and there keep him, but he never suggested anything that will get you away from the wage system. He also tells you that going into politics is not going to remedy your condition. There is where I differ with him.

I maintain that if the working class is ever going to better their conditions that the only way for them to do is to get into politics, and to get there as fast as they can. By getting into politics and getting men of your own class to represent you in the legislative halls of this province, and of the Dominion, by this means, and by this means only, can you better your condition.

The Honorable Premier McBride also addressed the meeting this morning, and I must say that his address was not a surprise to me, and I must also admit this much, that Mr. McBride is one of the best politicians this country has had for a number of years. Now, when I apply that term "politician," I do not mean to say that I would like to be called a politician myself, but he admitted that every measure presented to him was given due consideration by him and the Conservative party now in power, but he did not tell you that the reason that every act in the interest of the working class which was introduced to the legislature, was not put into effect, for what reason he never stated. He admits, though, that his party gave them "due consideration," and after due consideration he and his party decided not to put them into effect for the very fact that these laws, as presented by the working class of this province, were not in the interest of the class that he (McBride) and the members of the Conservative party represented—the capitalist class. And for that reason only they were not put on the statute books of this province. He told you about the enactment of a law for the sanitary inspection of railroad camps, logging camps and bunk houses. This law is really the only law that has been enacted at this session of the legislature in the interest of the working class, and let me tell you that this very same law was proposed by John McInnes of Phoenix, two years ago, and turned down by the capitalist representatives in the house of parliament here in Victoria, and since that time every session of the legislature, this law, with others I am not going to mention just now, has been,

B. C. FEDERATION OF LABOR.

resolution of the different local unions of District No. 6, forwarded to the members of parliament in the way of resolutions, and for this reason only that organized labor has persistently continued to bombard them with resolutions that they have decided to put on the statute books of this province this sanitary law regulating the inspection of boarding houses and bunk houses.

We, the members of No. 6, by resolution, adopted by the local unions and the district convention, have requested the legislature to amend the now existing eight-hour smelter law, but so far they have as much as ignored us because it is not in the interest of the class that Mr. McBride and his party represents to put such a law into effect. Still they will continue to tell you that they are the only people representing the working class of this province, and if you are willing to continue to believe such "dope," just so long will the workers be kept in subjection.

I would call the attention of the delegates to a resolution which was introduced regarding the commission that was to be appointed by the provincial government calling for an investigation regarding the price of coal in this province, and I believe that the parties responsible for the introduction of this resolution overlooked the fact that this action on the part of the government was to be used to offset the demands of the coal miners of this province, and other nearby provinces, who are now in session at Calgary, demanding a different scale of wages, and the argument of the operators could be used in this way, that they were going to be forced by the government to reduce the price of coal, and consequently they could not meet the demands of the miners for higher wages. I believe the only solution for this was for the government to own and control these coal mines themselves and take them out of the hands of the present coal operators, who are making so much money at the expense of those who dig and deliver the coal.

Mr. Lane has brought to your attention the strike of the Machinists' Union, which has now been on for nine months, and the absolute necessity of continuing in this fight. The W. F. of M. has also a fight on in South Dakota, which has now been on for fifteen months. It is not a question of wages, nor yet a question of hours, that the miners in South Dakota are at the present time out on strike. The mine owners of South Dakota have asked the union men of that part of the country to sign away every right and principle of a man and surrender himself body and soul to the corporations of the Black Hills, and if the corporations are successful in their attempt to break the unions in that part of the country, it is only a matter of time until they will attempt the same here in British Columbia, and it is up to the workers to give unions—no matter what craft or calling they may be or have, every support that is possible for them to give, because it is a principle that involves every union, no matter whether in Canada, the United States or any other country.

Now, in conclusion, I want to thank you for the courtesy you have extended to me at this convention, and hope

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS, 1911.

that the results of the labors of this convention will be such that instead of me attending your convention as at the present time, a fraternal delegate, that I can, or some other delegate of the W. F. of M. of District No. 6, can attend as a delegate of this, your provincial organization.

I wish you every success in this movement and fully believing that if we agree to unite on the industrial field and also unite our forces politically for what we believe will solve the labor problem, it will be solved once and for all. (Vociferous applause.)

Chas. R. Case and P. W. Dowler, fraternal delegates from Washington State Federation of Labor, entered the hall, being recognized with applause. Called to the platform.

Delegate Case (in part):

Brother Workers:—I feel entirely at a disadvantage, coming among you at this time, and at this hour, and having no opportunity of attending the earlier portions of your meetings, the trend of your organization, the nature of the work you hope to accomplish. I feel impressed here at seeing Brother Pettipiece, who I had the pleasure of hearing at the St. Louis convention of the A. F. of L., and I feel he will expect that I will be able to equal him on that occasion.

I may say that I have been tied up for sixty days with the felons of our State. I take it that your organization, similar to the State organization of labor, is organized for the educational department of its members.

I understand from the remarks of your president that this is your first annual convention. We have been organized for ten years, and I think perhaps it might be of benefit to you to know that ten years ago we formed our membership with perhaps less members than you have here at the present time. Since that time we have struggled earnestly for the betterment of the wage-workers, a great majority of whom are affiliated with the State Federation. We have shortened the work day on all public work to eight hours. We have shortened the work day of all women employed in factories, restaurants, etc., to an eight-hour day. We found that we were working an eight-hour day. We found that we had sisters, sometimes wives and friends, who had to go to work an hour before we did, working for less wages. We have been successful in establishing an eight-hour day with this exception: those engaged in harvesting, and the canning of fruit.

Another class of work which we took up with the legislature was that of compensation, six months previous to our recent legislature at Olympia. We had struggled for years and years, and these efforts had met with little success. During later years we have turned our attention to workmen's compensation, and have been making a study of it, and as a result went to work earnestly. A commission, after six months of earnest work, went before the legislative session and received an endorsement of that convention. I believe it is one of the first commissions in the United States where employers and employes got together.

The legislation which I speak of provides for a larger

B. C. FEDERATION OF LABOR.

payment in case of death or disability than any act in existence in the world that I know of. In other words, it provides that every workman shall receive \$4000 annuity, not payable in a lump sum, but payable in \$20, \$30 or \$35 a month; \$20 if he leaves a widow; \$30 if he leaves one child; \$35 if he leaves two children. The passage of this act, we believe, puts on a par with any other country. We know we are in advance of any other state in the union, and we believe ours (Washington) in principle, is better than any other. We believe, from this fact, oftentimes when employer and employe would have got together and adjusted their injuries, a representative steps in and says, "No, we will fight this case in the courts in order to discourage the bringing of suits of that nature." Employers are asked for a certain per cent. of their pay-rolls. This is paid into the hands of the employers of the state, and, we believe, under these conditions, we will completely eliminate that source of trouble which we have to contend with—the casualty company.

Those are the conditions which have confronted us in the past, and those are the conditions which are facing us, and I want to say that it is one of the fiercest struggles we ever entered into.

We have likewise been fortunate in the past with the farmers, who are working hand in hand with us in extending to the women of our state the right of franchise. I believe this franchise has done more than we ever had. We are satisfied that from the results so far obtained every movement has been for the good of the wage-working class. It has been for the betterment of the wage-earners; one of the principles which organized labor is founded upon.

We have met with rebuff after rebuff in our efforts to educate our people to persuade the legislature that when two-thirds of our members vote favorably we will be able to provide for the recall of all public officials. We see no reason why the same principle should apply not only to cities but to nations. We feel in that respect there is no more occasion to elect an officer for a long period of years than there is for you and I, if we were going to build a building, and tell the architect that it is up to him to complete that building.

I do not feel like taking up too much of your time; I feel that not being acquainted with your local conditions I perhaps can say more in the nature of words of encouragement. I may say that not only is our work among the workers, but we have to reach out to others who are sympathetic to us—the wage-workers, of course, insofar as we are able to organize them.

As a result of such co-operation, during the last session of our legislature we have been able to co-operate with some of the women of the state. We have been fortunate in having one or two of our class in each body of legislation, and we hope to have more and more, as time succeeds, to add to their ranks.

With these few words I am going to thank you for the time being, and later on I may have something to say along your lines. (Applause.)

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS, 1911.

Delegate Dowler.—I feel rather peculiar; I feel a good deal like the cat. I lived in Vancouver a good deal, and feel quite at home over here. We do not agree as to political government or religious belief. As wage-workers we never take up geographical lines; we are united, and as a consequence of this we are here. We live under different flags. We hear of the workers and of the employers—those are questions that are open to very long and lengthy discussion. We do not come here for the purpose of consuming your time; we are here for the purpose of learning. Do not carry away the idea that we have any encyclopedia of knowledge. We are here for the purpose of advising with and consulting with you.

Let me say to you, fellow delegates, that you little believe at this time the possibilities of the British Columbia convention of Labor. After ten years of continuous work in the state of Washington, this last year we met in the capital city of Olympia. It has been our custom to say, "Mister, will you please support this bill?" But now, instead of saying this, the legislators are asking, "What can we do for you?"

Do we particularly care under what flag or banner we get the results, as long as we get the results? (Hear, hear!) We are getting results; we are driving them to it. Now let us not run away with the idea that we must have a certain style of lithograph in order to get political freedom. There never was a labor movement in the country that did not have some good in it. Some day we will grow so large that we will be asked, "What do you want?" not from a provincial, but from a national standpoint.

We will grow and continue to grow. There may be some in our ranks who are not right. The noxious weeds will be taken out, and the results will grow and continue to grow much more than we believe at this time.

I want to say now that I owe no allegiance to any organization. Perhaps I am riding a hobby. Well, I would rather ride a hobby than no horse at all. As our movement grows on let us grow with it. Our hands are not clean; our organizations are not what we want, but they are getting better. Our organizations are reflections of our own characters. What we need to do is in the first place to be square with ourselves. It is not very far in the future when Labor will come to its own, and only by giving it thought and being honest and square with ourselves can we bring Labor to its own.

I came here for the purpose of learning something, and I hope to be able to do so.

President Watters made fitting reply to the visitors, and declared the afternoon session adjourned at 4:30 o'clock, to meet again at 7:30 p. m.

B. C. FEDERATION OF LABOR.

FIRST DAY—Evening Session

Labor Hall, Victoria, B. C., March 13, 1911.

President Watters called the convention to order at 7:20 p. m.

J. W. Wilkinson, chairman of the Committee on Resolutions, reported:

Resolution No. 1.—By Delegate J. H. McVety, Vancouver Local 782, Machinists: Whereas, The Machinists of the Pacific Northwest have been making a noble and strenuous fight since June 1st, 1910, to uphold the principles of organized labor and establish the eight-hour day in this district; and

Whereas, This strike has resolved itself into a test of strength and endurance, the loss of which would be the signal for an attack on all trade organizations in turn, for the purpose of forcing them to surrender all that has been gained in the past, and the power of united action through organization; and

Whereas, It is extremely desirable and almost essential that the other metal trades, including the molders, pattern-makers, boilermakers and blacksmiths, form themselves into a unit, for the purpose of taking aggressive action in support of the machinists; and

Whereas, It often fails within the power of other crafts to deal a blow at firms refusing to concede the eight-hour day, by preventing contracts and other work from falling into their hands, and turning it into fair channels; and

Whereas, It is a well established fact that great struggles, such as the machinists have on hand, involve a great financial burden, they should not be handicapped through lack of funds when possible to avoid such contingency; therefore be it

Resolved, That we, the delegates to the first annual convention of the British Columbia Federation of Labor, do most heartily endorse the splendid fight of the machinists in their effort to establish the eight-hour day, and we pledge them our unqualified support.

Be it further Resolved, That we urge the various trades and labor councils to appoint committees to act with like committees from the machinists, whose duty it shall be to exhaust every effort to form the various metal trades into a unit for the purpose of pressing the demands for an eight-hour day, such committees to take the matter up with the various international organizations concerned, the committees to be continued until success crowns their efforts, or until the eight-hour day is secured.

That we urge organized labor generally to grant no concessions or favors to firms having strikes on with the machinists, and that they do all in their power to swing contracts and other work away from such firms until such time as they see fit to grant the reasonable demands of our brother machinists; and we further endorse appeals from the machinists for financial assistance and local

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS, 1911.

unions to contribute as liberally as possible to this fight.—Concurred in.

Resolution No. 2.—By Delegate James Tattersall, Local No. 168, Theatrical Stage Employees, Victoria, B. C.: Resolved, That this convention endorse the International peace resolution adopted by the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada (See Resolution No. 45, pages 69, report of 1910 convention), and hereby urges the executive council of the Congress to use every effort in its power to further the calling of an international convention of wage-workers to deal with the drafting of a program which shall have the object of preventing war between civilized peoples.—Concurred in.

Resolution No. 3.—By Delegate Frank Perrott, Victoria Trades and Labor Council: Whereas, An irrepressible struggle is being waged between employers and employes, the employes to secure better working and living conditions, the employers to resist; and whereas, the civil and militia adjuncts of governments have repeatedly been brought into requisition by the employers to defeat the employes during a strike; and whereas, the calling out of the militia during a strike on the plea of protection to person and property has the effect of creating and intensifying friction and often leads to bloodshed, where peaceful methods would otherwise prevail in carrying on the strike; therefore be it resolved, by the British Columbia Provincial Federation of Labor, in annual convention assembled, That it does hereby protest against the use of the militia during industrial disputes, and be it further resolved, That a campaign of education along this line be carried out by the executive with the view of consolidating the forces of organized labor to act effectively should any such contingency arise.—Concurred in, as amended.

Evoked considerable discussion.

Resolution No. 4.—By Delegate Phil. R. Smith, Local Union No. 147, Bookbinders, Victoria, B. C.: Resolved, That a statistical bureau be formed in conjunction with the activities of this Federation for the purpose of (a) collection of statistics; (b) organizing and regulating employment agencies throughout the province.—Referred to Executive Committee.

Resolution No. 5.—By Delegate J. L. Martin, Local No. 2, Laborers' Protective Union, Victoria, B. C.: Resolved, That this convention is in favor of the franchise being granted to women on the same terms as to men; and be it further resolved, That the British Columbia Government be urged by this body to grant adult suffrage to both sexes at the next sitting of the legislature.—Concurred in.

Resolution No. 6.—By Delegate W. W. Sayers, Bricklayers' and Masons' Union No. 1, Vancouver, B. C.: Covered by Resolution No. 12.

Resolution No. 7.—By Delegate J. W. Wilkinson, Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners, Vancouver, B. C.: Whereas, Technical education is now recognized as being inevitable and ultimately desirable in the best interests of the working class; therefore be it resolved, That this convention go on record as being in favor of the establish-

B. C. FEDERATION OF LABOR.

ment of an educational institution supported and controlled by organized labor for the instruction of its members in the fundamental principles of our industrial system.—Concurred in.

This resolution precipitated a splendid discussion of the whole system of technical education and industrial training, taken part in by Delegate Wilkinson, Sivertz, Sayers, McVety, Grant, Weyman, Benson, McEwan, Dodd, Martin, Coombs, Watters, Pettipiece.

Amendment—Benson-Grant: That word "supported" be struck out. Non-concurrence.

Resolution No. 8.—By Delegate Geo. Hardy, Local No. 220, International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Victoria, B. C.: Resolved, That in view of the failures of local strikes in the past, and of the weakness of a small body of men attacking the well-organized forces of capital, that this convention recommend the general strike as being more effective than a local.—Withdrawn by mover.

Resolution No. 9.—By Delegate B. D. Grant, Local Union No. 1639, Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, New Westminster: Resolved, That we, the British Columbia Federation of Labor, in annual convention assembled, do hereby endorse the action of the Vancouver Trades and Labor Council in calling for a federal commission to investigate the price of coal and working conditions in the coal mining industry throughout Canada; and that the secretary be instructed to forward a copy of this resolution to the Minister of Labor at Ottawa.—Referred to the Executive Committee.

Resolution No. 10.—By Edward Smith, Federal Labor Union No. 2, Laborers' Protective Union, Victoria, B. C.: Whereas, Assisted immigration has a tendency to intensify competition in the labor market, thereby reducing the standard of living enjoyed by wage-earners, the employers of labor being solely the beneficiaries; and whereas, immigration through agencies being the means used to supply the employers of labor with workers, thereby being similar to the slave traffic engaged in by the slaves of a past generation in providing workers for the masters, thus placing the commercial institution known as the Salvation Army and other immigration agencies in the category of present day slave traffickers; therefore be it resolved, by the British Columbia Provincial Federation of Labor, in first annual convention assembled, That assisted immigration be strongly condemned, and the Executive Committee be directed to use its best efforts with the government to secure its assurance that no aid, financial or otherwise, will be given to any agency engaged in assisting immigration; and be it further resolved, by this convention, That it does hereby express its most unqualified appreciation of the excellent results obtained by the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, through its representatives in Great Britain, in counteracting the pernicious influences at work in misrepresenting working conditions in Canada, and that the Executive Council of the Congress be urged to use its best influence to furnish reliable information relative to the working

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS, 1911.

conditions in Canada to wageearners of Europe.—Concurred in.

Resolution No. 11.—By Delegate Charles Cropley, Iron Molders' Union of N. A., Local 281, Vancouver, B. C.: Resolved, that this convention pronounce itself in favor of a universal working day of not more than eight hours.—Concurred in, as amended.

A lively discussion ensued, in which the following delegates participated. McVety, Midgley, Cropley, Sivertz, Garland, Martin, Wilkinson, Haddon and McEwan.

Resolution No. 12.—By Delegate Victor R. Midgley, Vancouver Trades and Labor Council: Whereas, The government of British Columbia is making preparations to erect a university at Point Grey, Vancouver; and whereas, the organized building trades workmen of Vancouver and vicinity have established certain minimum rates of wages for the purpose of making possible sufficient remuneration for the sale of their labor power to guarantee decent living conditions for the said workmen, and protecting them against the merciless exploitation of contractors and employers of labor; therefore be it resolved, That the Executive Council of the Federation be and hereby is instructed to request the provincial government to have inserted in the contract for said building a clause that the wages paid to the workmen shall not be less than the minimum union rate of wages established in the city of Vancouver for the respective crafts.—Concurred in.

Amendment—Benson-Dodd: That resolution be referred back to committee to re-construct, asking for provision of day labor in lieu of contract work.—Non-concurrence.

During debate on Resolution No. 10, Secretary Pettipleec moved for adjournment, protesting against working two eight-hour shifts in one day. Delegate Martin moved adjournment of debate.

Federation adjourned at 10 p. m., to meet at 9:30 a. m. March 14th.

SECOND DAY—Morning Session

Debate on Resolution No. 10 continued by Delegates Martin, Sayers, Benson and Pettipleec.

Amendment to Resolution No. 10—Benson-McDonald: That we urge the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada to reconsider its Fort William decision to withdraw its representative from Great Britain, and that we urge the Congress to again send an agent to Great Britain to offset misrepresentation of conditions in Canada.—Non-concurrence.

Resolution No. 13.—By Delegate Alfred Coombs, Local No. 46, Vancouver Bakery and Confectionery Workers' International Union: That whereas, There has been on the statute books of the Province of British Columbia for the last ten years a law providing for the sanitary production

B. C. FEDERATION OF LABOR.

of bakery goods; and whereas, during the whole of that time no effort has been made on the part of the government of British Columbia to enforce the same; and whereas, through this neglect the health of the whole people of the province has been endangered by that most insidious disease, tuberculosis, to which the working bakers are by their peculiar working conditions and unhealthy surroundings most liable; and whereas, the government of British Columbia is spending thousands of dollars annually for the cure of tuberculosis; and whereas, by the outlay of a few hundred dollars annually for the inspection of the bakeshops of the province would be a move in the right direction for the prevention of the dissemination of this and other diseases; be it therefore resolved, That the British Columbia Federation of Labor, here in convention assembled, request and demand that the government of British Columbia enforce the aforesaid statute.—Committee recommend concurrence.

Amendment—That the resolution be concurred in with the following addition: "Except in the cities of Vancouver and New Westminster, where municipal enforcement is provided for."—Amendment carried.

Resolution No. 14.—By Delegate George Hardy, Local No. 200, International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Victoria, B. C.: Whereas, Owing to the long distance which often separates affiliated unions from the place of convention makes it too expensive for a small union to be represented; therefore be it resolved, That this convention recommend that the cost of transportation of delegates be borne by the convention.—Non-concurrence.

Amendment—Sayers-Wright: That resolution be referred to Ways and Means Committee.

Amendment to amendment—McVety-Haddon: That resolution be referred to executive to report at next convention.—Concurred in.

Resolution No. 15.—By Delegate R. P. Pettipiece, Vancouver Trades and Labor Council: Whereas, many of the employes of the B. C. Sugar Refinery at Vancouver are compelled to work twelve hours a day, and seven days a week, for miserable wages, under conditions scarcely conceivable; therefore be it resolved, That this convention condemn such conditions and instruct the Executive Committee to use every effort to abolish this monstrous imposition upon the workers employed by the B. C. Sugar Refinery.—Referred to Vancouver Trades and Labor Council.

Amendment—Pettipiece-Haddon: That resolution be endorsed by this convention.—Concurrence.

Amendment spoken to by Delegates Pettipiece, Haddon, Hardy, Sayers, Coombs and Webb.

McVety-Haddon—That the arrangements of the local entertainment committee, providing for a sight-seeing street car ride, be accepted. Carried.

Adjournment at 11:45 a. m., to meet again at 1:30 p. m.

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS, 1911.

SECOND DAY—Afternoon Session

Labor Hall, Victoria, B. C., March 14, 1911.

President Watters called the convention to order at 1:30 p. m. Invited Fraternal Delegate Case to take the chair during election of officers.

Chairman Case, upon assuming office, asked Fraternal Delegate Lane to officiate as sergeant-at-arms, and instructed him to remove the secretary from office, naming Fraternal Delegate Dowler as his successor. "You see," declared the chairman, "the Yankee agitators are now in complete control of the convention," amid tumultuous applause and laughter.

Nomination of Officers.

President, Jas. C. Watters, by Delegate Sayers; Midgley, by Delegate Wright. Midgley withdrew.

Upon motion secretary was instructed to cast unanimous ballot for Jas. C. Watters. Carried.

First Vice-President—J. W. Wilkinson, by Delegate Waters; R. A. Stoney, by Delegate Benson.

Delegates Benson and Sivertz appointed tellers.

Result of vote—Wilkinson, 37; Stoney, 12. Wilkinson elected.

Second Vice-President—R. A. Stoney, by Delegate Midgley. Elected by acclamation.

Third Vice-President—Christian Sivertz, by Delegate McVety. Elected by acclamation.

Fourth Vice-President—Jas. H. McVety, by Delegate Wilkinson; Walter Dodd, by Delegate Stoney.

Result of vote—McVety, 31; Dodd, 20. McVety elected.

General Secretary—R. Parm. Pettipiece, by Delegate Martin. Elected by acclamation.

Secretary-Treasurer—Victor R. Midgley, by Delegate Pettipiece; H. Charles Benson, by Delegate Grant.

Tellers—Sivertz and McVety.

Result of vote—Midgley, 32; Benson, 17; Midgley elected.

Delegate to Calgary convention of Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, September, 1911—Jas. C. Walters, by several delegates. Delegates J. W. Wilkinson, R. P. Pettipiece, Jas. H. McVety, Walter Dodd were placed in nomination, but declined. Delegate Watters elected by acclamation.

Fraternal delegate to Spokane convention of Washington State Federation of Labor, January, 1912—R. Parm. Pettipiece, by several delegates; R. A. Stoney, by Delegate Barradale; Jas. H. McVety, by Delegate Wright.

Result of vote—Pettipiece, 32; Stoney, 13; McVety, 7. Pettipiece elected.

Convention city for 1912—Victoria, by Delegate Pettipiece; Kamloops, by Delegate Stoney.

Result of vote—Victoria, 18; Kamloops, 4. Victoria made unanimous choice.

B. C. FEDERATION OF LABOR.

Installation of Officers.

Chairman Case, in appropriate terms, installed the newly-elected officers, and presented the gavel to President-elect Watters.

President Watters replied in fitting terms and, having "ousted Yankee rule and domination by 'foreign' agitators," assumed the duties of his office.

Unanimous vote of thanks tendered fraternal delegates.

Fraternal De'legate Lane briefly addressed the convention prior to leaving for Bellingham, thanking delegates for hearty good will and courtesies extended. Emphasized necessity of working incessantly for the shorter workday. (Standing applause while the worthy machinist left the hall.)

Report of Audit Committee.

Victoria, B. C., March 14th, 1911.

To the Officers and Delegates of the First Annual Convention of the British Columbia Provincial Federation of Labor:

Gentlemen:—Your Auditing Committee, having examined the books, vouchers and accounts of the Federation, find that, with the exception of an account owing the Federation of \$10.20, by the late treasurer, the said books, vouchers and accounts are correct.

Receipts for the term ending March 13th, 1911.....	\$482.77
Expenditures	307.60
Cash in hands of late treasurer, J. A. Aicken.....	10.20
Balance in favor of receipts	164.97

(Signed)

J. F. FISHER,

Chairman.

J. ROSS,

W. DODD,

W. W. BURROUGHS,

ED. SMITH.

Upon motion report was received, and secretary instructed to collect \$10.20 in possession of ex-Treasurer Aicken.

Adjournment at 3:45 p. m., to waiting photographer and street cars, to convene again at 9:30 a. m. Wednesday, March 15th.

After enjoying the balance of the bright, warm afternoon sight-seeing, most of the delegates accepted an invitation to attend a smoker in the same hall during the evening, where a splendid programme was rendered, and refreshments served, under the auspices of Victoria Trades and Labor Council.

THIRD DAY—Morning Session

Labor Hall, Victoria, B. C., March 15th, 1911.

President Watters called the convention to order at 9:45 a. m.

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS, 1911.

Hon. Premier McBride's Reply.

Secretary read reply, by special messenger, of Premier McBride to the following memorandum of demands, presented to the British Columbia Executive Council on January 23, 1911:

Victoria, B. C., Jan. 23rd, 1911.

To the Hon. Richard McBride, Premier, and Members of the Executive Council:

Gentlemen:—We, the undersigned members of the British Columbia executive of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, and representatives of organized labor of this province, beg to submit, for your earnest consideration and favorable action, the following matters affecting the welfare of the wage-workers of British Columbia:

1. A weekly payment of wages in cash, and where an employe leaves employment or is discharged, wages then due him to be paid within twenty-four hours.
2. Every laundry open to public patronage to be brought under the working of the Factories Act.
3. Abolition of property qualification for holding public office, and of election deposit and revenue tax.
4. Pensioning of all workers permanently disabled in the industries of the province.
5. The careful selection of coroners' jurymen.
6. An eight-hour day on all government construction work.
7. A legal work day of eight hours for all men employed in and around smelters, stamp mills, concentrators, and rock crushers, operating in the province.
8. Extension of free text books principle in all public schools.
9. Rigid enforcement of the Factory Inspection Act by the appointment of more inspectors.
10. Inspectors of mines to be chosen by the miners.
11. No assistance to be given to immigration.
12. Government ownership of Tranquille Sanatorium and operation of same as a free institution.
13. Separate schools for Orientals.
14. The strict enforcement of boiler inspection.
15. Amendment of Municipal Act by making the examination and registration of plumbers compulsory.
16. The appointment of assistant inspectors to rigidly enforce the regulating cross-arm distances, spacing of wires, inspection of poles, etc.; the installation of a telephone system in all underground workings, and the compulsory drilling, at least once a month, of every employe in the method of artificial respiration or resuscitation from electric shock, by companies operating electric lines.
17. Government ownership of coal mines, telephones, and all public utilities.

Premier McBride's answer follows:

Prime Minister's Office,
Victoria, March 14th, 1911.

J. C. Watters, Esq., Chairman B. C. Executive, Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, Victoria, B. C.

Sir:—With reference to the Memorial presented to this

B. C. FEDERATION OF LABOR.

Government by the Provincial Executive of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, on January 23rd, I beg to make the following replies to the various matters submitted therein.

At the same time I regret that, owing to the pressing duties of the session of the Legislature and the large amount of work to be dealt with since then, it has been impossible for me sooner to apprise you of the decisions reached by the Government:

1. The question of a weekly payment has received consideration, but has not been found practicable.

2. Laundries are at present under the inspection called for by the Factories Act.

3. The Government does not see its way clear to abolishing the property qualifications for mayor and aldermen under the Municipalities Act; nor of dispensing with the election deposit in Provincial elections. With respect to the revenue tax, a board of equity will be appointed within a very short time in order to investigate fully the question of Provincial taxation. It is expected that the incidence of the Provincial revenue tax will be closely examined. The Government hopes, on the receipt of the board's report, to be in a position to introduce legislation which will prove both equitable and satisfactory.

4. The Workmen's Compensation Act is designed to cover cases of accidents to workmen. No system of pensions could be introduced that was not of general application.

5. The selection of coroner's juries must of necessity be left to the coroner, and, in so far as the attorney-general's department is advised, proper judgment has always been used in such selection.

6. At present the hours on government road work are limited to nine hours a day, and this has been found to work satisfactorily. On all government buildings the eight-hour day is observed.

8. The Department of Education, after adopting the principle of free text books, has been gradually extending the privilege as regards the number of books used. All schools in the Province receive these free text books, and it is the intention of the department to continue this extension as experience dictates.

9. If it is found that the Factories Inspector needs more assistance, the matter will be taken up by the department.

10. This matter was considered in connection with the Coal Mines Regulation Act at the session of the Legislature just closed. It was considered that in view of the official duties of such inspectors, it is advisable that they be appointed by the Government.

11. The Government has confined its assistance to immigration to endeavor to encourage a supply of white domestic help and white farm help, for both classes of which there has been a large demand and an inadequate supply.

12. The Government has assisted very materially in furthering the work of the Tranquille Sanitorium. An amount of \$100,000 has been granted outright during the past three years, and in addition the sanitorium is receiv-

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS, 1911.

ing a per capita grant averaging between \$5000 and \$6000 a year. The Government has also assisted in the up-keep of the institution, but does not intend to assume ownership.

13. The assistance granted by the Province to the educational system from the consolidated fund is with the idea of providing a non-denominational education to the children of the Province, and the Government does not wish to take any steps toward instituting a separate school system in British Columbia.

14. There have been no serious infractions of the Act, and very few complaints have been received by the department. If representations of any case where the regulations have not been enforced are made to the department, the Ministr of Public Works will be only too pleased to look into the complaint.

15. The Municipal Act at present gives power to city municipalities with regard to the examination and registration of plumbers.

16. The Provincial Electrical Inspector has been working on a set of Ruise and Regulations to be enforced under the Act; and until these new Rules and Regulations are enforced for some time and the results noted, it is considered by the department advisable not to have any other assistant inspector. In the new rules the inspector has dealt with artificial respiration and also with telephone communication in underground workings dealing with the cutting off of the supply of electricity. So far as cross-arm distances and the spacing of wires are concerned, the recommendations of the Trades and Labor Council will be adopted as far as possible.

17. The Government does not contemplate, at the present time, Government ownership of coal mines and telephones.

Yours truly.

RICHARD McBRIDE.

Benson-Dodd—That the communication be received and filed.

Amendment—Pettipiece-Martin—That a special committee be named to deal with it. Carried.

President Watters appointed Delegates Benson, Dodd, McVety, Midgley, Phil. Smith, McKinnon, Grant, Sivertz, Webb and Stoney.

Under question of privilege, Delegate Grant read an Ottawa press dispatch in the Morning Colonist, reporting a speech by Senator Macdonald (Victoria) in the senate the day before in favor of the free admission of Orientals into Canada.

Referred to special committee just named.

Burnham-Dodd—That leading editorial in this morning's Colonist be spread on the minutes. Lost.

Delegate McVety rose, on a question of privilege, to correct a newspaper report which had made him say he was in "favor" of "underground" bakeries, when, of course, the very opposite was the case.

B. C. FEDERATION OF LABOR.

Ways and Means Committee.

Your committee on ways and means desires to report as follows:

1. We recommend that the amount of \$25 be voted to the Victoria Trades and Labor Council to defray the expenses of the janitor, decorations, badges for delegates, and other incidental expenses.

2. Owing to this organization being in its infancy, your committee finds, with regret, that the funds will not permit the usual courtesy extended to fraternal delegates, namely: the defraying of the usual expenses of a fraternal delgat.

3. Your committee also recommends that the amount of \$175 be voted for the expenses of the delegate from this Federation to the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, to be held in Calgary in September, 1911.

(Signed)

R. A. STONEY,
Chairman.
DOUGLAS YOUNG,
Secretary.
FRANK PERROTT.
W. W. SAYER.
G. A. BECK.

Amendment—Pettipiece-Cropley—That vote to Victoria Trades and Labor Council be increased to \$50; the other items to be referred to the Executive Committee, provision already having been made for such expenditures in the by-laws. Carried.

Resolution No. 16.—By Delegate Frank Perrott, Trades and Labor Council, Victoria, B. C.: Whereas, The workers organized in the various unions of the province have, from time to time, asked benefits from the representative governing bodies of Canada, and whereas, such requests have in the majority of cases been treated with indifference, thus ignoring labor as a factor in the community; and whereas, such experience proves the necessity of electing to public office men who are pledged to serve the interests of the working class; therefore be it resolved, That this convention urge on the membership of organized lahor the necessity of supporting only such candidates for public office as are pledged to support the interests of the working class alone.—Concurred in.

Resolution No. 17.—By Delegate C. Cropley, Local No. 281, Iron Moulders' Union, Vancouver, B. C.: Resolved, That it is the sesense of this convention that where metal trades and other councils exist, that no local or locals affiliated with the said councils be permitted to enter into any agreement with their employers, before receiving the sanction of the council with which they are affiliated with.—Concurred in.

Resolution No. 18.—By George Hardy, Local No. 220, Brotherhood of Teamsters, Victoria, B. C.: Whereas, There is a continual marching of prisoners through the public streets of the Province of British Columbia; and whereas,

this practice has a degrading effect on innocent prisoners, and destroys their self-respect; and whereas, "prison labor" is brought into competition with "free labor"; therefore be it resolved, That this British Columbia Federation of Labor is absolutely opposed to the practice of marching prisoners through the public streets.—Committee recommend non-concurrence.

Amendment—Watters-Martin: That this convention go on record as opposed to prison labor being brought into competition with so-called free "labor."—Amendment carried.

Resolution No. 19.—By Delegate W. Dodd, New Westminster Trades and Labor Council: Whereas, The present system of electing men to the different legislative bodies for a term of years without the people having any direct control over them during their term of office; and whereas, the initiative, referendum and right of recall places the people in control of all law-making bodies, with power to initiate or veto any legislation that a majority of the people may desire, and also recall any official who refuses to carry out the will of the majority; therefore be it resolved, That this British Columbia Federation of Labor, in annual convention assembled, endorses the principles of the initiative, referendum and right of recall, and pledges this organization to work unceasingly for direct legislation until it becomes a law of the Province of British Columbia.—Concurred in.

Resolution No. 20.—By R. A. Stoney, New Westminster Typographical Union No. 32.—Whereas, For the purpose of celebrating Labor Day, it is desirable to divide British Columbia into districts; therefore be it resolved, That the British Columbia Federation of Labor, at its annual conventions, select the places in such districts where Labor Day shall be celebrated.—Non-concurred in.

Resolution No. 21.—By Delegate L. H. Burnham, Local No. 617, United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, Vancouver, B. C.: Whereas, Mechanics of all trades employed in the construction of buildings are compelled to leave tools unprotected in many instances; and whereas, a great many tools are stolen from craftsmen, and particularly carpenters; and whereas, recovery of these tools is so expensive as to make it cheaper to re-purchase the tools from the junk dealer than to attempt to recover them by law; therefore be it resolved, That the Executive Committee shall make investigation of the laws relative to stolen tools, and shall prepare, under competent advice, a bill, the effect of which shall be to make it a criminal offence to be in possession of tools proven to have been stolen, and shall compel restitution of same to rightful owner without further payment from him for such restitution.—Concurred in.

Resolution No. 22.—By George W. Williams, Vancouver Building Trades Council: Whereas, Vancouver unionists are now building a Labor Temple, valued at \$250,000.00, to be completed in September, 1911; and whereas, the Vancouver Exhibition Association has set aside Labor Day as one of the festive days of their big Fair-week and

B. C. FEDERATION OF LABOR.

left the day's programme in the hands of Vancouver trade unionists; therefore be it resolved, That this convention endorse Vancouver as the meeting place for an inter-provincial Labor Day celebration on Labor Day, 1911.—Concurred in.

Resolution No. 23.—By Delegate W. Dodd, New Westminster Trades and Labor Council: Whereas, trade unionism is a form of co-operation for the purpose of securing a living wage; and whereas trade unionism endeavors, and in some cases does secure a living wage for its members; and whereas, co-operation secures the best returns for the wages thus secured; therefore be it resolved, that the B. C. Provincial Federation of Labor in convention assembled, heartily endorse the principle of co-operation.—Concurred in. For, 27; against, 14.

Delegate McVety in chair.

Discussion drifted into merits of co-operative stores. Speakers: Delegates Pettipiece, Martin, Wilkinson, Hadson, Dodd, Watters, Cropley, Gariand, Burnham, Benson, Sivertz, Midgley.

Resolution No. 24.—By Delegate Geo. H. Hessel, Local No. 213, Electrical Workers, Vancouver, B. C.: Whereas, the occupation of outside electrical workers is exceedingly dangerous to those employed and also to the general public, the electrical workers are drafting a bill asking for the control of all outside construction; therefore be it resolved, that this convention use its influence and aid to assist the electrical workers in having above mentioned bill passed through parliament as an act of law.—Referred to Executive Committee.

Resolution No. 25.—By G. S. Carr, Local No. 147, Victoria International Brotherhood of Bookbinders: Whereas, one of the most effective means by which organized labor can accomplish its ends is by purchasing goods produced by union labor bearing the union label; and whereas, the present system of separate labels for each organization has resulted in such a multiplicity of labels that it is almost impossible for the worker to know them all; therefore be it resolved, that this convention go on record as being in favor of a universal label, and that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the American Federation of Labor, and the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada.—Concurred in.

Resolution No. 26.—By Delegate C. Stowe, Local No. 120, Barbers' Union, Vancouver, B. C.: Whereas, the Barbers' Unions of this province have been unable to control the conditions existing in barber colleges and non-union barber shops; therefore be it resolved, that this convention protest against the unsanitary conditions in barber shops and colleges, and recommend that all such places be furnished with running hot and cold water.—Concurred in, as amended.

Resolution No. 27.—By Delegate A. W. Wright, Local No. 213, Electrical Workers, Vancouver, B. C.: Whereas, the Factories Act is grossly violated in public laundries; and women laundry-workers are worked beyond endurance without extra pay for extra work; therefore be it re-

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS, 1911.

solved, that this convention go on record as condemning these abuses and advise all affiliated unions to refrain from patronizing all such establishments; and be it further resolved, that this convention demand of the legislature an eight-hour day for all women employees, with penalties of fine and imprisonment for infraction of the same.—Referred to Executive Committee.

Special Committee's Report.

Chairman Benson of the Special Committee reported:

Re Premier McBride's answer to the demands of organized labor in British Columbia: Your committee recommends that the communication be acknowledged, and Premier McBride be advised that copies of all correspondence relative thereto will at once be mailed to all labor organizations throughout British Columbia.

H. C. BENSON, Chairman.

Report of committee unanimously adopted.

Your committee begs leave to report as follows: That the remarks of Senator McDonald, as published in this morning's issue of the "Colonist," cannot, in the opinion of this convention, be taken as representing the views of Victoria, or any other part of the Province of British Columbia; and further, that we, in convention assembled, repudiate the views as expressed by Senator McDonald, they being contrary to the well-known and repeatedly expressed wishes of the majority of the electorate. And further: That this convention recommends that, instead of opening the floodgates to Chinese immigration, we demand total exclusion; or failing that, the head-tax on Chinese immigrants be raised from \$500.00 to \$1,000.00.

H. C. BENSON, Chairman.

Adopted.

A motion that "we do now adjourn t... 1 p. m." was carried, after an amendment "to remain in session till the business is disposed of," was lost by two votes.

THIRD DAY—Afternoon Session

Labor Hall, Victoria, B. C., March 15, 1911.

Resolution No. 28.—By Delegate Victor R. Midgley, Vancouver Trades and Labor Council: Whereas, the sectional weakness of craft unionism, due to jurisdictional claims, are apparent to many who have spent much time and thought, in the labor movement; therefore be it resolved, that this British Columbia Federation of Labor hereby endorses the principle of industrial unionism.—Concurred in.

Speakers: Dodd, McVety, Midgley.

Resolution No. 29.—By Delegate A. W. Wright: Whereas, many unskilled men are employed in handling the electrical equipment in many mills, mines and smelt-

B. C. FEDERATION OF LABOR.

ers, which practice involves great danger for all concerned; therefore be it resolved, that this convention use its influence to have a law placed on the statutes of British Columbia requiring compulsory examination of all electrical workers in mills, mines, and smelters.—Concurred in.

Speakers: Sayers, Wright.

Resolution No. 30.—By Delegate F. C. Webb, Buildings Trades Council, Victoria, B. C.: That this convention of the British Columbia Federation of Labor request the British Columbia legislature to take immediate steps for a thorough inspection of all kitchen apartments in all hotels, restaurants, eating houses, etc., etc., in this province, and that drastic measures be taken to enforce cleanliness, bearing in mind that about half the populace eat in those named places.—Referred to Executive Committee.

Concurrence.

Resolution No. 31.—By Delegate J. W. Wilkinson, Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners, Vancouver, B. C.: Whereas, the present Mechanics' Lien Act is not considered satisfactory or adequate; therefore be it resolved, that the executive committee take up the question of securing satisfactory amendments to the Mechanics' Lien Act; and be it further resolved, that the executive committee be given power to act in such manner as they may consider to be in the best interests of this convention.—Referred to Executive Committee. Concurrence.

Resolution No. 32.—By Delegate J. W. Wilkinson, Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners, Vancouver, B. C.: Resolved that this convention urge all affiliated unions to take steps to put the entire voting strength of their membership on the voters' list for civic, provincial and federal election purposes.—Concurred in.

Speakers: Sayers, McVety, Dodd, Wilkinson, Stoney.

Upon motion, the Report of the Resolutions Committee, as a whole, was unanimously adopted.

Hearty and unanimous vote of thanks was passed to Reception Committee.

Phil R. Smith, chairman of committee, suitably replied.

Burnham-Lattasali.—That the leading editorial, in the Victoria Colonist of March 15, 1911, be filed for reference:

The Labor Convention.

"The meeting of the British Columbia Federation of Labor, now in progress in this city, is an event of more than passing interest. While as is very natural, the members of the organization look upon economic questions from their own point of view, their deliberations and their resolutions are none the less important on that account. We assume it may be assumed that, if a meeting of the employers of labor were held, questions would be discussed at it principally from the employers' standpoint. There is a large element in the community—really the very great majority—which is perhaps not fully

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS, 1911.

"in accord with the position taken either by employers or
"employed. Nevertheless it is highly advantageous to the
"public at large that there should be such gatherings as
"the convention mentioned. The fuller and freer the de-
"bate on all economic, social and industrial questions the
"better. Publicity in discussion is like ventilation in a
"room. It is favorable to the creation of healthy condi-
"tions. At the sessions of the Federation extreme language
"may be employed and extreme views may sometimes be
"expressed; but it is just as well that this should be so,
"for the interests of all parts of the community are so
"closely interwoven that every part of it ought to know
"the views of every other part.

"One of the questions that has been considered at the
"present convention is the supply of labor. This is one
"that may be very advantageously discussed by men who
"make their living by manual labor in one form or an-
"other. It comes very closely home to them. At the same
"time it is not to be expected that they can take a wholly
"unbiased view. Perhaps no one can do so, and there-
"fore it is a very excellent thing that every one should
"speak his mind freely and fully, for 'in a multitude of
"counsellors there is safety.' We think it only right to say
"of the labor organizations in their several phases that
"they are doing very much towards the solution of the
"problems that have arisen out of our complex modern
"civilization, more perhaps than any other section of the
"community is. No men are deeper students of social and
"economic questions than the members of these organiza-
"tions. The time was when the men, who worked with
"their hands, did little thinking; but they do the most of
"it now, and while many of us may not agree wholly with
"the views to which they sometimes give expression, it is
"possible that the reason is that they are further advanced
"in the study of the fundamental problems of society than
"the majority. We think we see in labor movements, es-
"pecially as illustrated in such gatherings as the conven-
"tion referred to, an exceedingly significant sign of the
"times."

Motion carried.

Secretary read telegram from Prince Rupert Typo-
graphical Union, as follows:

Prince Rupert, B. C., March 14, 1911.

Frank E. Cullen,
Victoria, B. C.:

Prince Rupert Typographical Union delegate Frank E.
Cullen representative at B. C. Federation of Labor, pro-
vided same affiliated with A. F. of L.

A. J. McDONALD, President.
W. T. BLACK, Secretary.

Affiliation accepted and Frank E. Cullen seated as a
delegate, with enthusiastic applause.

B. C. FEDERATION OF LABOR.

McVety-Sayers.—That fraternal greetings of this convention be conveyed by Delegate J. A. McKinnon to the members of the Western Federation of Miners; and the United Mine Workers of America; and that we express the hope and desire to have representation from both organizations at next year's convention in Victoria.

Carried by unanimous standing vote.

Fraternal Delegate McKinnon replied, and expressed himself as well satisfied with the convention and its personnel, and felt sure he or other representatives would be seated as regularly constituted delegates at the next convention.

Fraternal Delegate Case called for, and made a splendid, rousing brief closing address.

President Watters, in fitting terms, replied to the preceding speakers, and, there being no further business, declared the first annual convention of the British Columbia Federation of Labor adjourned sine die, to meet again in the City of Victoria, B. C., at a date concurrent with the next session of the British Columbia legislature, to be fixed by the Federation Executive Committee.

Carried with rounds of cheers for the Federation!


(Signed) R. PARM PETTIPIE E,
General Secretary.

2349 St. Catharines Street,
Vancouver, B. C.,
March 20, 1911.

NOTE.—Copies of amended By-Laws and Constitution can be secured upon application to the General Secretary.

HD 6529 B7 887 1911
BRITISH COLUMBIA PROVINCIAL
FEDERATION OF LABOR CONVENTION
1ST VICTORIA 1911
39335029 LAW



*The
a Pe*


CASCADÉ

*The Vancouver
Breweries
Limited*

KINGSLEY PRINTER
VANCOUVER, B. C.

