

# BIG MAY DAY MASS MEETING

## International Labor Day Celebration

### BALL PARK, AT 2 O'CLOCK

### W. A. PRITCHARD

OF VANCOUVER, B. C.

### CHIEF SPEAKER

### MUSIC BY THE PEARSE-CONNOLLY BAND

AUSPICES OF

## Workers', Soldiers' and Sailors' Council

### JOINT MASS MEETING HELD IN VANCOUVER

Many Soldiers and Laboring Men Meet and Give Their Views on the Problems of the Day. W. A. Pritchard Was the Principal Speaker. Views of Returned Men Are Freely Expressed.

Vancouver, B. C., April 30.—The mass meeting held jointly by the Vancouver Trades and Labor council and the Comrades of the Great War, in the Avenue theater, on Monday evening, was great in more sense than one. Not only was there a large crowd present, but the proceedings were marked with a splendid enthusiasm, both on the platform and in the body of the house. The speakers were full of fire, and the concluding speech of Comrade Pritchard was nothing less than a long, dazzling streak of vivid eloquence.

Sergt. Maj. J. A. Hynes, of the city hall employes, occupied the chair, and explained that the meeting had been called as a kind of family gathering for the purpose of clearing up misunderstandings supposed to exist between organized labor and the various military or semi-military organizations. It was high time for them to get together towards some common end. (Applause.) There were thousands of returned men who had work before the war, and must have it now. Nothing could be done by the present way of going on. A power was at work—and working hard—to split up every organization in the city. The public of Vancouver were watching every movement of the returned men to see what action they would take. His advice was, "Consider well before you jump."

As a long-service man, he had to knuckle down to tyranny for 18 years before coming to "this free country of Canada." (Applause.) He found that the "majaws," etc., always thought they must have the cream; but it was the rank and file that made the regiment. (Applause.) "Don't let us have a rowdy meeting," (Hear, hear.) Let's show the officials of this city that we have as much sense as they have; perhaps a little more—or else they'd be here to see what we're going to do."

Sam Gotheard, president of the Comrades of the Great War, said that men, on coming back, faced a certain amount of revolution; peaceful so far, but he didn't know how long it would continue to be so. The Trades and Labor council had invited them to discuss matters, and they had accepted. As to "Which, Midgley and all that bunch," he had never had a more decent reception than he met with from the hands of these "anarchists and bolsheviks." (Hearty applause.) The G. W. V. A., however, had refused to meet those "criminals." (Laughter.) And he was surprised to find only the Com-

rades of the Great War present. There was a power at Ottawa working to throw the returned soldiers at the throat of organized labor; but the soldier had got to remember he was a working man. The government was bringing home about 400,000 men who had lost the fear of death and had been taught to kill—and no employment for them! He had talked with all kinds of ecclesiastics, etc., but had found no one with any kind of a reconstruction program except Mr. Pritchard. (Loud applause.) His references to "Honest John Oliver," "Over-the-Top Harry," "This dear old Atjawa," and "that brilliant brainy Harris," were received with great merriments. He mentioned 17 appointments recently made—all officers, making the soldiers realize that their own interests were with organized labor.

W. Young, of the Campaigners of the Great War, were very bitter about the difference of treatment handed out to officers and men respectively. There was not a single appointment made at Ottawa or Victoria, of a returned private or non-commissioned officer, reaching \$150 a month; whereas, hardly any officers were appointed at less than that sum. He recounted various instances of illegal punishments inflicted on the boys at the front, and referred scathingly to the "real estate commissioned officers that we had our Canadian army infested with." They saw commissioned officers walking round the street; did they look particularly intelligent? "I want you to understand that I'm no bolshevik, but when I see—" (Loud laughter.)

Chairman Hynes here impromptu to corroborate "practically every statement" of the preceding speaker. Himself a soldier, he felt he was entitled to a commission, too. So he went and saw "a certain major," who made reply: "Your social position isn't high enough to warrant a commission in this regiment!"

W. H. Carroll, vice president of the Comrades of the Great War, amusingly referred to President Sam Gotheard by saying, "He's a bolshevik president and I'm an Irish rebel." (Laughter.) The speaker had objected to meeting the labor delegates at first, but had been overruled by his organization and met them. "I met with gentlemen," he said. "The words that flowed from their mouths were words of reason, and not of sedition." If they had even over-stepped the bounds of their authority, was it good to keep that in mind? (No!) It meant a cleavage. If it had not been

for organized labor, they would have their noses to the grindstone as they did years ago. (Applause.)

The speaker referred to "an outfit on Hastings street, west—all of fellows—who cried out 'bolshevik!' If they were going to take away a man's right of speaking his mind, they had better take the flag away and bury it. (Renewed applause.) "If they did call the 24-hour strike—that's dead, that's gone. We've got to live in the future." They must formulate some plan of reconstruction. "The governments seem to be asleep. It needs something like bolshevism to wake them up." (Long and tremendous applause.) Promises and promises had been made—and they had not been fulfilled.

"There's another organization in the city known as the Khaki Labor union—another sky-pilot." (Laughter.) "I've no use for religion of that kind. Anything that will take the bread out of a man's mouth is not the religion of Jesus, Christ." The speaker declared that the government should give a flat-rate of \$2,000 to every man. He also stated that "Gotheard was offered \$200 a month to go into another province to break up the Fighting Comrades." Referring again to Pritchard, Kavanagh, Midgley, Which, he said, "I'll take those men by the hand any day." (Applause.) "By united effort we shall accomplish something. My division, we are in the hands of the Dominion government."

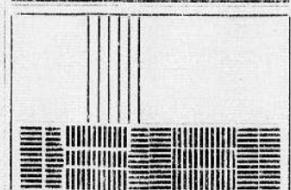
Ed Johnston, of the B. C. Soldiers' and Sailors' council, said he was one of those who "joined the army for the want of bread." (Clear, hear! and applause.) The chairman had said he was one who had tried to get to the front and could not. "There'll be a place for him in the bread-line just the same!" he added; and a long roar of laughter followed the remark. He then stated what was the program of his organization, declaring that there was no solution to social evils and economic distress, except production for use.

As for fighting for "liberty and democracy and all that kind of stuff," the speaker said, "I looked into a dictionary today to see what democracy meant." (Loud laughter.) "I am not a bolshevik, and I wondered why those men should boost me up so damned much." (More laughter.) "I went to fight for liberty over there, and I believe in liberty here." The speaker urged his comrades to get together, try to formulate some idea, and "show this political stuff off the board altogether."

It would be futile to try to give in a few paragraphs any adequate conception of the magnificent speech of W. A. Pritchard or the enthusiasm with which it carried the meeting. As to the statement that Sam Gotheard was the most abused man in Vancouver, Pritchard disputed that. "Jack Kavanagh and myself are fighting for that position and it's not been settled." (Laughter.) Perhaps they could learn something even from "the man that Captain Whittaker will not shake hands with." Accordingly, he proceeded to give his reasons for the faith that was in him, with overwhelming convincing effect. He could not doubt that the men who

went overseas thought they were doing the right thing at the time; nevertheless, "the things they went overseas to fight for have not been established." (Applause.) Amongst the returned men, he said, "for one who was going round seeking my blood last August, there are now ten who will seek my advice." (Loud applause.)

Bulletin Want Ads Get Results. Phone 52.



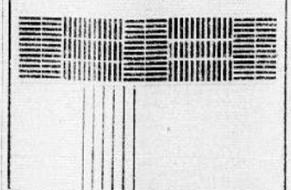
### FREE EXTRACTIONS

for Thursday, May 1st, only  
IN ORDER TO DEMONSTRATE  
CONDUCTIVE  
**Anaesthesia**

We will extract teeth Thursday FREE and without charges, and extract the sorest tooth absolutely WITHOUT PAIN.

### THE UNION DENTISTS

3rd Floor Rialto Bldg.



NEW SPRING STYLES for Ladies and Gentlemen.  
**E. ZAHL**  
504 W. Park St.

### AMERICAN OFFICER BLAMES BRITISH

#### Sergt. Fred H. Herbst Says Mutiny Was in the Air and Only Needed a Spark to Start It.

New York, April 30. Blame for the mutiny of Company I, 339th infantry, was put squarely up to the British by Sergt. Fred H. Herbst of Detroit, who returned from Russia on the transport Harrisburg.

Herbst has been serving in the first battalion of the 310th engineers and operating in conjunction with the 339th ever since that outfit arrived in Russia.

"When I left Archangel seven weeks ago mutiny was in the air. Only a spark was needed to start it, and from what I saw of the British officers while I was in Russia, I venture to assert that they supplied that spark," said Herbst.

After Company K of the 335th had been 48 hours without sleep a British lieutenant ordered Captain Donovan to take his command back to the Kadish sector for two weeks.

"My men are broken down. They need rest," Captain Donovan said.

"What the hell do you care about those men, they're only drafted soldiers," the British colonel is reported to have replied.

Captain Donovan then faintly refused to obey the orders and he was not court-martialed by the American commander of the regiment.

"Have we been sold to the British?" That's what the boys of the 339th want to know and that's what they are asking daily. Ever since the assistance has been signed we felt that we had been abandoned by America and nobody cared what happened to us," said Herbst.

According to Herbst, many of the Yanks have been driven insane by the cold and exposure. One American soldier shot a British officer in the right shoulder because he had been "riding him" continuously. Later the American was declared insane.

Officers' Shirt Jobs.

"Many of our officers are shirking on the job," said Herbst. "They send junior officers to the front while they remain miles in the rear. They eat good food and have warm quarters." "I must say, however, that Captain Donovan and the officers of Company I were not of that type. They were always on the job and their men idolized them."

Ever since Captain Donovan denied the British colonel he has been the idol of the outfit. Why the engineers of my outfit have been kept in the line as infantrymen after working for days at a stretch doing construction work in the snow and ice," added Herbst.

He verified the stories told by 15 men who arrived last week and said that the American public will rise in indignation when the full story of the Russian expedition is revealed.

## MAY DAY DANCE

GIVEN BY THE  
**Finnish Workers' Club**  
318 NORTH WYOMING STREET  
8 P. M.  
**Thursday, May 1**  
Music by Special Orchestra  
Admission 50c Ladies Free

A GLASS OF OUR MILK is a splendid refreshment for the tired or weary woman and a first class tonic and strength maker as well. It is the most wholesome and natural tonic known. If you are run down either by overwork or by illness use plenty of our milk and you'll soon regain your old health and strength.

**The Crystal Creamery**  
459 E. Park St. Phone 181

### FAMOUS WOMEN

Mary Cutter.

Before the era of railroads, automobiles and electric cars it was no mean feat to journey one thousand miles yet this remarkable accomplishment was completed in the still more remarkable time of seven hundred hours by one Mary Cutter, who lived in Lancashire, England. It was early in May, 1759, that the young woman waded with some sports in the neighborhood of her home that she could travel the distance mentioned in a thousand hours. Everybody ridiculed her, for such speed had never been heard of. Just how she accomplished it history does not mention, but it is evident that she did it on horseback or in a coach or both. However, she did it. Mary completed the journey in a little more than two-thirds of the allotted time and when she returned to her native town the people strewed flowers in her path.

### Get Away From the Tax

All of our shoes save you from paying the new tax on shoes. We have the most complete line of shoes for the entire family in the city.

Mr. and Mrs. Workingman and family, this is your store.

### Golden Rule Shoe Store

33 EAST PARK ST.  
(Old Cyrus Noble bar)  
Always the Best Possible Shoes for the Lowest Possible Prices