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DAILY EDITION

Tuesday, April 29, 1913

SUFFRAGE STRIKE OF BELGIUM MEN.

The greatest industrial strike to settle a merely political question was practically at an end yesterday. Also, it was the very first of such strikes that has resulted in victory. The only other national strike that had politics mixed up with it and was an attack on the governing body was that in France last year, starting with the tying up of all the railways. That was a failure.

One cannot help in making a reference to this national strike of the Belgians for manhood suffrage but make some comparison with the campaign so long continued in Great Britain for woman suffrage. The militant suffragettes have not struck for the reason most of them have no jobs to quit. But compare their plan of campaign with that so successfully carried out by the men of Belgium. In their strike there was not a single act of violence that can be laid at the door of the strike leaders, and the few incidents of this character were trivial.

What do we hear every day of the campaign of the suffragettes? Violence openly preached; violence openly committed; windows smashed; historic buildings, of which the British nation is so proud, damaged by dynamite; a bomb was exploded in the historic Free Trade Hall of Manchester, from which John Burns, the labor member of the cabinet, was to speak; and the whole of this woman's political campaign has been a continuous succession of acts of violence. By it all they have not only gained nothing, but are every day weakening their cause and destroying public sympathy.

The Belgium men won without violence. Under the present Belgium electoral laws there are approximately 800,000 men in a total population of about 8,000,000 who may vote because the electoral qualifications of an election are based

upon property and education. No one may vote until he has reached the age of 25 years. If he owns property appraised at 2,000 francs he has two votes. Some hold three votes. A notable feature of the law is that voting is compulsory upon those who are eligible.

Very naturally, the men of Belgium grew restive under this system, and they undertook to compel the government to give them a "one man, one vote" law by sending mechanics and workmen out on strike and tying up the industries of the country. It would be useless for them to refer their demand for ballot reform to the two and three vote men, and therefore their leaders resorted to the coercive strike.

This strike has proved more effective than the destructive campaign of the women of England. So long as the men of Belgium behaved and did not endanger life and property they had with them the strong sympathy of all who believe that good government rests upon universal suffrage.

PREMIER BORDEN AND HIS GAG LAW.

"If Parliament does not adopt my proposal after reasonable discussion I will dissolve it and go to the country," said Mr. Borden. Instead he introduces the gag. He has given his party a new name. It is now the Conservative-Closure party.

The Borden-Rogers or Rogers-Borden emergency is a delusion, but the surrender of control over our money is a serious matter.

Premier Borden evidently thinks the Liberals will submit to Rogers domination as complacently as he does.

The lookout men of the Borden navy signal that a strange destroyer called "The Senate" is rapidly approaching and showing signs of hostility.

CONDITIONS AT PRINCE RUPERT STATED IN SCOTCH NEWSPAPER

AYRSHIRE LAD SAYS CLIMATE IS SIMILAR TO THAT OF THE CLYDE, OR BETTER—CAN SAVE MONEY HERE

Under the heading of "Living in Canada," a young man who signs himself "Ayrshire" and gives his address as Skeena River, writes in the following interesting way to the Glasgow Herald:

Sir,—I have read with much interest the letters appearing in "The Glasgow Weekly Herald" re prospects in Canada. With your permission I would like to make a few personal observations that may be of some assistance to anyone thinking of trying Western Canada, but fearful of taking the step. It is now almost three years since I made up my mind to give up a "bare living" in a Clyde town and try my luck in Northern B.C., then in the embryo state, but now a strapping youth. I came prepared to follow any employment for which I was suited. So after a few days of idleness I got a start

at \$50 per month, but finding this a small wage soon acquired a better position.

Spending almost a year in Prince Rupert, I moved to another position up country which I continue to hold. In all those situations I had no previous experience. This is one of the many advantages Canada offers over the "Old Country" to all who are steady and willing. At home in nearly all cases it is "Once a baker, always a baker," as you will rarely get a chance to change your livelihood, should you find you want to, through necessity. The man coming here must be prepared to take any work for which he may be suited as a start and very likely he will get a job in his own special line if he desires later on; but I know of several successful men who have built their success through tak-

ing up a "trade" they had no experience of in the "Old Country."

Above all men who want to get on here must be steady in their habits, and ready to suit themselves to conditions, which at first are inclined to be trying. Bank and government clerkships are not well paid in comparison with private positions. To me this northern B. C. country appears the best at present for the young man. There are many miles of new railroads being constructed, opening up vast new districts, and offering many opportunities, for those who are steady and pushing. Our climate is very similar to that of the Clyde—if anything, better. From the wages paid here in nearly all classes of employment more can be "saved" in comparison with rates at home, but in some instances the hours are longer. Just today I heard of a young Scotchman and his wife who left this part for Australia about a year ago. They are returning to Prince Rupert, as they find it holds the best prospects for them.

Around here, however, we have plenty of "kickers" who are always running this country down. As a rule these people have their own unsteady habits to blame for their disappointment, or else they are of the type known as "born grumblers." My only regret is that I did not come here several years sooner instead of waiting at home for "trade picking up."—I am, etc.



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