Incompetence and Bad Faith Are Charged By Workless Last Night

(Continued from Page 1)

if they choose to use it, and insist that we be afforded an adequate means of existence, on an equality with that of the administrators, who, because of their personal affluence, are incapable of vizualizing our present condition, and to that end the attached resolutions, passed at this meeting are forwarded."

Funds Demanded

The following resolution was passed:

"Whereas, the citizens of Prince Rupert, assembled in a mass meeting to consider the unemployment situation in this city, find the status of the unemployed to be one of acute distress, and

"Whereas the original estimate for the relief of unemployment, namely, $100,000 has been cut to $47,500. and has been already expended by the municipal authorities, and

"Whereas it is apparent to the citizens of this city, that it is absolutely necessary that the original program be adhered to, and

"Whereas, it is revealed that the city of Prince Rupert have to date received no money whatever, to enable them to administer relief employment, therefore

"Be it resolved that we, the citizens of Prince Rupert, now assembled in this mass meeting, demand that the provincial government take immediate steps to alleviate the present and ever increasing distress now prevalent in this city, by providing the necessary funds for the same."

Lack of Confidence

Another resolution was as follows:

"Whereas the single workless workers of this city and district at present virtually interned at Cloyah Bay, and

"Whereas the condition of these men at Cloyah Bay is worse than at the time they entered the camp, by reason of their clothing becoming more threadbare daily, and

"Whereas the provincial government has failed to implement its promises to supply needed clothing (given weeks ago) and

"Whereas it is the considered opinion of the residents of this camp, that the provincial government of British Columbia, has deliberately concluded that it is a cheaper policy to provide direct relief in the way of reduced rations and shelter, rather than to adhere to the original system of work at 25c per hour, thus showing no intention of bettering the state of the workers, and

"Whereas it is understood that all provincial governments of Canada have not adopted a like policy, therefore

"Be is resolved that the workless workers of Cloyah Bay Camp, now assembled in this mass meeting of citizens of Prince Rupert, declare a lack of confidence in the existing provincial government of B.C. and call upon them to commence work forthwith, realizing that the failure to do so, will turn would-be law abiding citizens into criminals the ultimate state of which could be no worse than that presently existing, which is directly attributable to the policy adopted by the provincial government of British Columbia."

Demand Resignation

Following was the resolution demanding the resignation of the provincial government:

"Whereas the citizens of Prince Rupert now assembled in a mass meeting, to consider the unemployment situation in this city, have acquired the following information relative to the dispensation of relief, as practiced by the provincial government of B. C. and

"That the provincial government of British Columbia, approved and accepted an original program of $100,000. for the city of Prince Rupert, and

"That the provincial government of B.C. had internal knowledge of this original estimate of $100,000 being cut to $50,000 on October 31, 1931, and

"That the provincial government of British Columbia withheld this knowledge from the municipal authorities of Prince Rupert to whom it was solely applicable, and

"That the provincial government of B.C. have to date delayed either by accident or design any portion of the necessary funds to conduct the administration of the Prince Rupert relief work program.

"That the work ceased on December 22, 1931 owing to the municipal finances being exhausted, and that the workless workers are in immediate need of the necessities of life, owing directly to the defaulting actions of the provincial government of British Columbia

"Therefore, be it resolved that the citizens of this city, now assembled in this mass meeting, declare their lack of confidence in the existing provincial government, and consider that its methods of administration of relief, show a definite incompetence, and lack of faith with our municipal authorities, and be it further resolved, that we, the citizens of Prince Rupert, now assembled in this mass meeting, demand the immediate resignation of the existing provincial government, feeling that its actions in relation to the relief of unemployment warrant the same."

Letter to Bennett

The following is part of a letter ordered sent to Premier R. B. Bennett of Canada:

"We the citizens of Prince Rupert desire to state our strong disapproval of the methods adopted by the authorities in the dispensation of relief.

"We are at present in the position whereby all work has been closed down since December 22, and from information received, we feel at present constrained to place the onus of this position with the provincial government of B.C."

To Federal Government

A resolution ordered sent to the federal government was as follows:

"Whereas the citizens of Prince Rupert now assembled in a mass meeting to consider the unemployment situation in this city find the status of the unemployed to be one of acute distress, and

"Whereas it is the information of this meeting, that the sum of $100,000 was agreed upon by the Dominion and provincial governments with the city of Prince Rupert, and

"Whereas the city authorities have recently been informed that this amount has been cut to $47,500 which is inadequate to meet the situation, and

"Whereas there is no hope of local industries being able to absorb the local unemployed for a considerable period, and

"Whereas the local merchants are unable to afford credit to the citizens, by reason of the continued depression, therefore

"Be it resolved, that we, the citizens of Prince Rupert assembled in this mass meeting demand that the federal government make immediate provision for the alleviation of the distress prevalent in our midst, realizing that unless immediate relief is forthcoming, the present law abiding citizens of this city, will be compelled to adopt a policy at variance with the laws of the country, feeling that to become prisoners in a common gaol, will be preferable to the conditions now existing."

Endorsation Asked

The following letter was ordered sent to the city council:

"At a meeting of the workers of this city held in the Moose Hall this date, the attached resolution, addressed to the mayor and council of Prince Rupert was unanimously passed.

"Recognizing that you are alive to the need for an immediate resume of relief work in this city, and to show you the attitude of the workers attending this meeting, copies of resolutions forwarded to the provincial and federal governments are also attached.

"You are respectfully requested to consider the contents of these resolutions, and if they coincide with your own findings to endorse the same and forward such endorsation to the respective governments."

Council Commended

The following resolution was passed for submission to the provincial government:

"Whereas the condition of the citizens of this city is becoming daily worse, and more acute poverty being observed in our midst, and

"Whereas it is realized that the city of Prince Rupert has been placed in an unfair position, by reason of the defaulting actions of the provincial government of British Columbia, and

"Whereas it is realized that the city of Prince Rupert has borne the entire financing of the relief work already performed in this city, and

"Whereas information has been placed before this meeting, showing that the policies adopted by the municipal authorities have been fair and progressive in the interests of the unemployed residents,

"Therefore, be it resolved, that we, the citizens of Prince Rupert assembled in a mass meeting, to consider the situation relative to the unemployed in this city, desire to declare a vote of confidence in the mayor and council, in all their activities and negotiations, in connection with this problem, and, be it further resolved, that the city council be requested to continue its demands to the provincial government, requesting it to abide by the original program, prepared and accepted on September 29, 1931."

Other Resolutions

A resolution proposed by Mike Anderson that W. K. Gwyer be removed as district engineer was passed by the meeting. Mr. Gwyer came in for considerable criticism at the hands of various speakers.

Another resolution was passed asking the provincial government to give the preference to J. H. Macey, who had already accommodated the men in the relief camp, in running a commissary at Cloyah Bay.

Still another resolution held that 40c was not an adequate allowance with which to obtain food, clothes and shelter and asked that the allowance for direct relief be increased from this figure.

The meeting voted down a resolution proposed by T. Ross Mackay that, in the event of the provincial government failing to go ahead this year with continuation of the construction of the Skeena River highway, the leader of the opposition be requested to put forward a proposal that land along the existing highway be cleared and offered in five acre lots.

A proposal by Bert Morgan that a collection be taken up in the meeting in order to raise funds for the central committee of the Unemployed Association, which now has no money in the treasury, was rejected by the chair as being contrary to the constitution of the association.

A resolution from the floor that the newspapers of the city be requested to publish the resolutions passed by the meeting was carried.

Reports Presented

At the outset of the meeting, Charles Lord, secretary of the association, reported upon an audience which had been had with the city council in connection with negotiations beween the city and provincial government for unemployment relief. Mr. Lord told of developments leading up to the present situation. He also reported on an examination of city payrolls which had revealed that distribution of municipal relief work had apparently been as equitable as it was humanly possible to make it.

Mr. Lord also presented a list of questions and answers between the executive and district engineer with regard to unemployment. These had been previously published.

The feeling was expressed that the district engineer had not been explicit enough in explaining where purchases of supplies for the relief camp had been made.

Mr. Chapman and Mr. Brown spoke of conditions at Cloyah Bay camp. Both criticized the district engineer rather strongly.

Correspondence with Norman A. Watt, government agent, regarding direct relief for families outside the city was reported upon by Mr. Lord. Mr. Watt replied that he had the power to exercise discretion in such cases.

Before the close of the meeting, which lasted for nearly three hours, Ald. S. D. Macdonald, George Murray and Oscar Larsen spoke at some length under the heading of good and welfare.

Ambitious Youth

Phillip Summer, aged 35, of Bellevue, Ohio, is a student at a night school 150 miles away from home. He commutes every night. Here he is commuting.

Lions stalk their game at night almost exclusively.

K. A. Houghton of Prince George was the victim of pickpockets on New Year's Eve in Vancouver, losing $25 on the street.

Sacrament Subject Of Lesson-Sermon In Science Church

The subject of the lesson-sermon in all Christian Science churches and societies on Sunday was "Sacrament."

Among the Bible texts included in the lesson-sermon was the following rfom Matthew 28; 18: 19 "And Jesus came and spake unto unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and the son and the Holy Ghost."

The lesson-sermon also included the reading of citations from the Christian Science textbook, "Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures" by Mary Baker Eddy, one passage being as follows: "It is possible,—yea, it is the duty and privilege of every child, man, and woman,—to follow in some degree the example of the Master by the demonstration of Truth and Life, of health and holiness." (page 37.)

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