

Phillips, Paul A.

1967

No Power Greater: A Century of Labour in B.C.
Broadway Printers Ltd., Vancouver, B.C.

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Vancouver 1967, Broadway Printers Ltd.

1. 1851 pop 55,000, mostly Indian, whites worked for Hudson's Bay.
2. 1849 coal at Fort Rupert.. also at Fort-Rupert. Nanaimo. 3. by 1852 coal trade to SF well established.
4. 1858 gold rush destroyed HBC monopoly on interior trade.
5. 1870-1 first long strike 5 months at Nanaimo coal. market for residential SF was very large. 1869 35,000 tons exported.
7. 1877 miners into a union
8. Dunsmuir, N coal owner, allied with Croker, Stanford and Hintington, wrt land ownership and V Island rr contr.
- 1883 strike brought forward the cry of, oriental labour
9. late 1870's sept 1878m Workingman's Protective Assn. in Vict formed, Vic Colonist Sept 3: "the mutual protection of the working class of B.C. against the great influx of Chinese; to use all legitimate means for the suppression of their immigration; to assist each other in obtaining of employment and to devise means for the amelioration of the condition of the working class of this Prov in gen."

December, branch in New West, ineffectual.

12-3 Knights of labour arise in 1880's in B.C. 14 main issue Dunsmuir control of government--which in 1883 was rel complete.

Wm Smithe Premier.

other issue-oriental exclusion.

1887. Knights direct anti C action; boycott, x's painted on stores of or using Cs. Feb. 24, 1887. small riot, legislature declares martial law. cause claimed use of Cs for Port Moody to Vancouver extension of rr.

15. we put up candidates for 1886 prov lelection defeated.

knights diminished in late 80's, craft unions up.

19. issue of Chinese underground 'a safety hazard' actually \$.

22. 1891 pop less than 100,000, 45,000 native or chinese,

23. depression in early 1890's. Dunsmuir coal interests still too strong, lumber too

→ fluctuating. non-rationalized plus preponderance of C in mills.
note. Keith Rolston shows C struck fuel packing plants in 1881-1889.

1888. whites get # fishing licenses limited

[1893. Fraser River Furmen's Protective & Benevolent Soc. anti J. strike, supported by J. Union denies J entry, even if union.

1890's radical unionism from U.S., Britain.

U.S. entry of industrial unionism via Kootenay hard rock mining

1897. CPR buys into feeder lines here. then Fed's subsidize

Crows nest Pass r.r. to mines.

1899. Subsidy for 8 hr day w/ 10 hr pay (\$350)

1895 → prosperity returning.

→ 1898 election: ruling business gets 17 seats, oppos. 19

This got Coal Mines Regulation Act (anti undergrounds) ²

1900 Another election. growing disenchantment w/ AFL + TLC of C.

1898. A. Spence (Hamilton) - org Soc Labor Party Inc.

1899 - attempt at Prov. Labor party.

→ Denison became premier.

1901 - Rossland Miner's Strike. M King investigates. Companies

33. brought in U.S. strikebreakers. strike blacklisted

1900 Sockeye Strike - Frank Rogers (socialist) tried to enlist J's.
Locals opposed. M. Miller F. face a cannon / Prov police in army
boats. MACClain (leader of strike) fired from CPR.

Gov. still needed labor support But July 24 - militia called
in.

1903 Strike - Denison uses (40) 0 rental strikebreakers -
But union refuses to organize C's.

Rogers murdered by CPR.

Royal Commission MacKinnon equates problems to socialism (1)

Lumber Booming because of prairie market (45).

even 1906-10 lumber output doubled.

early 1906 full employment.

1907 - Soc Demo Party.

late (48) in 1907 - metal prices collapse, prairie lumber
market ceases.

Unemployment: 5000 Van, 500 Vic, 1000 Nanaimo, 1200 Koot

48. 1908 - Grand Trunk up econ. from Pz Rupert.
1909. econ. up. Conserv. Prov. landslide.

⇒ 52. railway camps 1912 w v. close to indentured labour

55. Early 1912 - Unemployment again. street conflicts
between Socialists & Sally Ann. M. Bride Premier.

Another coal strike at Cumberland (57) mine. ^{prolet} by China
then militia. "Bowser's 72"

⇒ Depression hitting in Fall 1915. (63)
1916 shortage

May 13, 1918 Winnipeg general strike

House of C (80) vote disfavor power to non
Canadian Born.

⇒ late 1920 - a sharp depression. (86.) Yumbar down
40% in one year.

88. U T L C Anti-Oriental Campaign.

August 1921 ~~anti~~ Asiatic Exclusion League

reformed - incl. "6 unions & the U T L C."

BC Labour news - anti C

BC Federationist → anti capitalist.

91. B.C. federalism becomes VTLC journal because of financial def.

92. 1922-3 lumber prices for open shops.

- 1923 Longshoremen strike, Broken by CPR.

96- 1925 B.C. organized labour U. week.

97. 1925-30 good times But little unionism;
also high unemployment.

101- Depression - 1932 - output of B.C. 1/2.

fact down 70%, const. $\leq 5\%$ [1931 Census 27.5%
unemployed.] NOTE? rel. resource province.
unions 2.0. face unemployment.

103 maritime strike 1935. Gov anti-works.

WUL workers unity league (communist) strong.

106 Gov created relief camp in the interior (237).

108. July 1932 C.F. formed.

1934 federal election. Bennett (PM) = new deal

109. Liberals attack CCF on issue of franchise for women.

"A vote for any CCF candidate is a vote to give the woman
& franchise the same voting rights that you have. A vote for a Liberal
candidate is a vote against eventually franchising."

113. June 1938 Post Office Shutdown Strike.
116. Blubber Bay strike of Chinese workers.
126. Only in 1941 was there full employment.
135. CCF objected to Japanese evacuation, Government played it up.
136. 1945-6 slowdown. Then upswing.
145. 1949. 1st Oriental union. J Camp + Mill workers Fed Union
31 joins VTLC.
40 's (153) Oriental wage differential ended.