

# Ontario Workman.

THE EQUALIZATION OF ALL ELEMENTS OF SOCIETY IN THE SOCIAL SCALE SHOULD BE THE TRUE AIM OF CIVILIZATION.

VOL. I.

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## Labor Notes.

Inducements are being held out to skilled mechanics in the shipbuilding trade in Great Britain to emigrate to Russian ports.

The Ottawa harness and saddle makers are still on the strike. About fifty men are out, and will not return to their benches until their demands are acceded to.

A Birmingham button manufacturer has been fined £30 for having employed three female children, contrary to the requirements of the English Factory Act.

The coal workers of South Wales and the Forest of Dean are about to establish an association with a minimum capital of \$200,000, for their protection against the repeated claims of their workmen.

At the Lancashire and District Quarterly Co-operative Conference, a resolution was adopted in favor of forming a national co-operative union. It is stated that there are in England and Scotland about 400,000 registered members of co-operative societies, with a capital of £3,000,000, and a "turn over" of four times that amount.

The lock-out in the Staffordshire Potteries, which threw 35,000 men out of work, has come to an end, and work has been resumed. A conference of masters was held. Mr. Davenport, the referee of the Board of Arbitration, decided that the disputed point could not be arbitrated upon, and it was then withdrawn by the men. It was then agreed to refer all questions as to wages to the Board of Arbitration.

LONDON TYPOGRAPHICAL UNION.—The regular monthly meeting of London Typos was held in their hall last week, and the following members were elected to fill the offices of the Association for the next term: Delegate to the International Union, Mr. Thomas Coffey; President, Mr. Benj. Oates; Vice-President, Mr. Thos. Bland; Recording Secretary Mr. T. F. Howell; Cor. Secretary, Mr. D. Elder; Fin. Secretary, Mr. Thomas Orr; Treasurer, Mr. Jas. Briery; Board of Directors, Messrs. Warren, Parker and Drennan.

Between 12,000 and 14,000 men employed in the ironworks of the district of Glasgow, have held a mass meeting on Glasgow-green, called to consider the strike brought about by the masters' resolution that the half-hour to be dropped under the fifty-one hours system should be given up in the morning and not at the end of the day, as demanded by the men. Resolutions condemning the proposal of the employers were adopted; but at the same time, the Executive of the Iron Trade League were instructed to meet the masters, if possible, in a conference to settle the points at issue.

TORONTO TYPOGRAPHICAL UNION, No. 91.—At the regular meeting of the above union on Saturday night the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:—President, James Gillespie; Vice-President, John Thompson; Corresponding Secretary, K. Forbes; Recording Secretary, H. Lovelock; Financial Secretary, Robt. J. Milligan; Treasurer, De Vere Hunt; Standing Committee, Eugene Donovan, Joseph Moore; Investigating Committee, Ed. F. Clarke, James Smith, William Meredith; Delegates to Trades' Assembly, J. S. Williams, J. C. MacMillan, G. A. Gowanlock, John Wrigley; Auditors, Edward Grubbe and James McDonald; Sergeant-at-arms, James Godd.

CO-OPERATION IN LYNN.—Two new co-operative shoe manufacturing associations have recently been organized in Lynn. One the Essex Boot and Shoe Co., is actually under way in manufacturing ladies' fine boots and shoes for the retail trade. E. Phelps is Agent, G. P. Sanderson, President, and F. H. Lander, Secretary. Their place of business is at No. 8 Washington Street, second floor. The work they make is thoroughly first-class, and commands a high price. There are seven members, and all of them are practically at work. Besides the names already mentioned we notice those of H. B. Lovering, formerly in the Massachusetts Legislature, S. W. Wallace, C. E. Tarbox, and J. Russ. This company is made up of picked men and is bound to succeed.

The Birmingham News is desired to announce that a number of influential gentlemen, friends of the agricultural laborers, despairing of a satisfactory and speedy settlement of the land question, are making preparations where by will be offered an immediate, practical, and attractive scheme of emigration for at least half a million of the cream of the agricultural population of this country. The Laborers'

Union Chronicle for November 2nd makes this important announcement, and we may add that the National Agricultural Union will support the movement. A band of emigrants left Leamington this week for New Zealand, another batch are waiting orders for Queensland, and the "Mississippi Valley" list of a thousand farmers and laborers is being rapidly completed.

The first half-yearly meeting of the National Agricultural Laborers' Union was held on Monday at offices, Leamington—President Arch in the chair. The report presented and adopted showed that since May branches of the union had been formed in fourteen counties, and districts formed in five; that the number of members, so far as the returns went, were over 300,000; and that the subscriptions allowed of the continuance of six paid delegates to organize branches in those counties which had not yet been affiliated. The Committee is now chiefly engaged in the scheme of sending out to Queensland, Brazil, and the United States half a million of farm laborers as the only effectual way, as it is thought, of raising the wages permanently and satisfactorily until the union is universally adopted by the men. Several hundred pounds have been received towards the emigration scheme. The Committee is also preparing rules for a benefit society in connection with the union.

THE LABOR QUESTION.—At a meeting of the Labor Reformers, held last week, Mr. E. M. Chamberlin made a speech in which he said that the present fire had suggested new questions for the labor party. It was the object of the meeting to reorganize the wards, and to consider the question whether the city should largely increase its debt to lend money to wealthy capitalists who have a sufficiency, while no efforts are made for the laboring classes. Other questions of the day were, whether a municipal or State insurance system would follow the broken down companies of to-day. He thought this time, when the city is to be built up, was the one for cutting down the hours of labor. A statement from the finance committee was read, showing that they had purchased \$60,000 worth of land, sixty acres, located six miles from Boston, and would offer very liberal terms to those who gained a living by manual labor. A paper was also read, which was in the form of a petition to the Legislature, asking for a charter inaugurating a Trades-Union Mutual Fire and Marine Insurance Company in Boston. —Trades Journal.

## CANADIAN.

Mr. Brydges has given orders for the immediate construction of 220 new cars in Brantford.

Ottawa papers announce that the grand tower of the Parliament buildings is to be ornamented with an illuminated clock.

James Carruthers, residing near Ivy, in the township of Essa, killed his wife, on Friday, by knocking her brains out. They have led an unhappy life for some years.

On Friday evening the employees of Mr. E. B. Eddy, Hull, Q., presented the manager with a handsome watch, chain and jewel, as a mark of their respect and esteem.

A young man named Foster had his right hand badly crushed while oiling some machinery in the G. W. R. machine shops. It is feared that he may lose part of his hand.

The body of a woman was found dead on Friday morning in a well, in the North-ward, Brantford. The well being open, it is supposed she fell into it last night and was killed.

A fire occurred in Welland, destroying the planing mills of Mr. Vanrick. The loss is estimated at about \$2,000, and we regret to learn that there was no insurance on the property.

A full-grown bear was shot in Garafraxa the other day, and it is said that the tracks of wolves are numerous around there, and several sheep are missing. The people no doubt have a high time with these prowlers.

A melancholy shooting case has occurred in the Township of Adelaide. Mr. Robert Freeler rose before daylight, and his son, hearing his footsteps, thought him a prowling robber, and fired a gun at him. The charge lodged in a vital place, and the unfortunate man is pronounced hopeless.

Messrs. Preston & Son, of Ottawa, perpetrated a cruel hoax on somebody last Tuesday night. They filled a box with snow, well packed, and having nailed it up, placed it on

the sidewalk in front of their store on Sparks street. Next morning the box was missing, and Messrs. Preston & Son discovered no trace of it since.

Last evening a complimentary supper was tendered to the Engineers' Department by Mr. Geo. Lowe Reid, late Chief Engineer of the G. W. Railway, Hamilton, prior to his departure for Europe. Several prominent persons were present. An address was presented to Mr. Reid, which was replied to by him in an appropriate manner.

A very disastrous fire occurred in Oshawa on Sunday night. The flames first broke out in Hodder's clothing and hat store, and swept through several valuable buildings with great fury. The losses are computed to exceed \$40,000; and had it not been for the timely arrival of the fire brigade from the neighboring town of Whitby, it is thought the whole town would have been destroyed by the fire fiend.

On Friday night a laborer, named Darbyson, residing on Darling street, was arrested for an assault of a brutal nature. It seems that Darbyson, on going home, found his wife, a young woman, lying intoxicated on the floor, he proceeded to kick her about, but not satisfied he heated a poker to redness, and burned her about the body with it in a shocking manner. She was taken to the Hotel Dieu, where she lies in a precarious manner.

A young woman in Ottawa is playing a smart game. She looks for employment as a servant, and when she obtains it, she asks for a small advance of wages, to purchase food and medicine for her sick mother. Among the kind hearted residents of the west end, she finds little difficulty in getting any advance of a few dollars, but she never returns to work for it. One lady has been victimized twice by the same girl. A third attempt was made, but the impostor was detected and narrowly escaped arrest.

THE SERVANT GIRL QUESTION.—There has been quite a discussion in Montreal on the most important question of the day for anxious house-keepers—the scant supply of domestics, and two conferences have been already held, in which some of the leading clergy of the city took part. Mr. Dickson, of Port Dalhousie, has published a letter in one of the leading journals of Montreal, in which he points out to the clergy there that "their amiable platitudes and vague sentimentalism won't go far towards cooking dinner." A Dr. Belcher was lucky enough to hold up the intercourse of Abraham and his "hired servants" as models for the masters of Montreal.

As the eastern bound train was coming up the other day about a mile south of Brantford, the driver observed that a bull belonging to a neighboring farmer had taken possession of the road a short distance ahead. His bovine-ship seemed to think he was monarch of all he surveyed, and was not at all disposed to allow his right to be disputed. The shrill notes of the whistle had no effect upon him, he maintained his ground, and presented a bold front to the snorting fire-horse. The driver was obliged to stop the train and try another tack. A detachment of foot sallied forth, and the vigorous application of a shovel to the south end of Mr. Bull compelled him to beat a hasty retreat.

## MALLEABLE GLASS.

LOST LINKS IN THE CHAIN OF EARLY INVENTIONS—A NEW DISCOVERY.

(From the London Times.)

One of the lost arts, which skill and science have for years been making efforts to re-discover is the production of malleable glass. It was mentioned by many ancient writers, especially by Pliny, who speaks of its being indented when thrown on a hard substance, and then hammered into shape again like brass. The world uses a vastly greater amount of glass now than during the early ages, but has never been able to overcome its brittleness. That accomplished it would enter into uses not even suspected now, and probably dispute with iron itself for supremacy as an agent of civilization. A glass spinner in Vienna has recently made a discovery that may lead to the recovery of the lost link in the chain of early invention. He is manufacturing a thread of this material, finer than the fibre of the silk worm, which is entering largely into the manufacture of a variety of new fabrics, such as cushions, carpets, table cloths, shawls, neckties, figures in broadcloth, velvet and silk, embroidery, tapestry, laces,

and a multitude of other things. It is as soft as the finest wool, stronger than silk thread, and is not changed by heat, light, moisture or acids, nor liable to fade. So important is the matter deemed, that while the process is kept a profound secret, the Austrian Minister of Commerce has already organized schools for glass spinning in various places in Bohemia, and a variety of manufactured articles are now for sale, and will no doubt soon reach America. If it shall end in the final re-discovery of malleable glass, so that it can be wrought or rolled into sheets, it will revolutionize much of the world's industry. Indeed, no one could safely predict to what use it might not be applied, as the material is plentiful in all lands. Mankind have long waited for it. Let us hope the time is near when so great a boon will be vouchsafed to them.

## EXCITING MARRIAGE INCIDENTS.

There was great excitement in Albany upon the marriage of the daughter of a wealthy farmer in Bethlehem, to a colored man as black as the ace of spades. It appears that the colored man went to work for the farmer in the harvest time, and won the heart of the farmer's daughter, and the fair Desdemona left her father's home and walked to Kenwood, where she took the cars for Albany. Reaching there she met her swarthy lover, who conducted her to her future home in Broad street. The marriage service was performed in presence of six colored people. In the meantime the father, suspecting something wrong, arrived just as the party was seated at the supper table. A fearful scene followed, the father attempting to drag his daughter from the house, and shouting for "help" at the top of his voice. The entire neighborhood was aroused, but all to no avail. The father was gently but firmly put out, the police having no authority to interfere, as the girl insisted she was of age and had a right to do just as she pleased. The father had not left from the vicinity of the door up to a late hour in the night, cursing his blindness in not having seen the intimacy which had been going on between the now married pair, and saying he dared not tell his wife, as it would break her heart the girl being an only child. He said he would make his will at once, cutting her off without a penny.

They get married sometimes under difficulties in California. Two young persons of Santa Rosa, finding it impossible to procure a license, hired a schooner, inveigled a justice of the peace on board, under the pretence of a pleasure excursion, and put to sea. The party sailed off into the Pacific Ocean until a distance of three marine leagues intervened the shore and the schooner. Sail was then shortened, and the little craft tacked about, while an interesting ceremony was being performed on board. The Justice, having been well moistened with wine, was only too willing to marry the adventurous youth and maiden, and declared them man and wife according to the laws of California. The mother of the girl was furious, and applied to the courts for relief. The Judge thereupon issued a writ of *habeas corpus*, directing the girl to be produced in his court. After listening to an extended argument of counsel on both sides, he took the papers and reserved his decision, but finally relieved the anxious lovers by deciding them lawfully man and wife. Upon what grounds the Judge based his decision, we are not informed. The law of nations commences three marine leagues from shore, but that makes no reference, certainly, to such a contingency as the marriage ceremony.

A Louisville man who had only been acquainted with a girl two nights, attempted to kiss her at the gate. In his dying deposition he told the doctors that just as he "kissed her, the earth slid out from under his feet and his soul went out of his mouth, while his head touched the stars." Later despatches show that what ailed him was the old man's boot propelled gently from the rear.

The WHITE HART, corner of Yonge and Elm Street, is conducted by Bell Belmont, on the good old English principle, which gives the greatest satisfaction to its numerous patrons. The bar is most tastefully decorated, and pronounced, by the press to be the Prince of Bars. Under the entire management of Mrs. E. Belmont, who is always proud to attend to the customer's wants. A spacious billiard room, and a tentative waiters, render the WHITE HART a popular place of resort.

## EDUCATION, LABOR AND CAPITAL.

Recently the Hon. Nathan Potter, of California, delivered an oration at Sacramento, of which the following extract is a part:

THE VIRTUE OF THE PEOPLE.—And how is this virtue to be preserved? The leading element which must in the future, more even than in the past, sustain us, must be intelligence and industry. Labor and education are the two blessings which lead the rest.

As an acquisition of knowledge leads to a desire for greater advancement, so the realization of any human blessing puts the mind upon inquiry and research for other and further enjoyments. The condition of equality on which all upright men stand under our political system, whether they work with head or hands, has tended, in fact as well as in theory, to make manual labor honorable. The labor of the world must be done, and to oppress a portion of the people with all the burdens of toil, while another portion is idle and useless, is false in theory and tends to depress the one and make tyrants of the other. It is a blessed government which yields to industry its just reward; and under our system, when the industrious classes shall become, as they may, the intelligent classes, they must perforce be the ruling power; for, although mind must necessarily direct and control mere muscle, when mind and muscle are combined there is no human force that can resist them. This is the power which will solve the labor problem, regulate the condition of the laborer, and fix the amount of his reward. And this is right. Why should mere capital in the hands of any one person, or any combination of persons, who, with only a single exertion, employs a multitude, be so regarded and treated that the toil of this multitude should increase the capital in plethoric proportions, while the individuals who perform the labor add nothing to their store?

Why should not the man who toils most, suffers most, produces most, be best rewarded? The human frame which has endured the burden of a quarter of a century of physical toil, should be privileged to retire with such a competency that future exertions should rather be the result of choice than of necessity. The time will come—the signs are in the very air—when the intelligence of the laboring man will show him the just relation between labor and capital, and when the principles of "the greatest good to the greatest number" will teach him that his is the power to regulate the hours of daily toil, and the just proportion of his earnings which shall reward his labors. In the correct solutions of the questions which now agitate the minds of the laboring men, depends not only their individual happiness and comfort, but that of the great numbers who depend upon them, and the state of prosperity and happiness of these numbers, in its general bearing, affect the whole.

## BUSINESS LAW.

The following brief capitulation of business law is worth a careful preservation, as it contains the essence of a large amount of legal verbiage:

- It is not legally necessary to say on a note "for value received."
- A note on Sunday is void.
- Contracts made on Sunday cannot be enforced.
- A note by a minor is void.
- A contract made with a minor is void.
- A contract made with a lunatic is void.
- A note obtained by fraud, or from a person in a state of intoxication, cannot be collected.
- If a note is lost or stolen, it does not release the maker; he must pay it, if the consideration for which it was given and the amount can be proven.
- An endorser of a note is exempt from liability if not served with notice of dishonor within twenty-four hours of its non-payment.
- Notes bear interest only when so stated.
- Principals are responsible for the acts of their agents.
- Each individual in a partnership is responsible for the whole amount of the debts of the firm.
- Ignorance of the law excuses no one.
- It is a fraud to conceal a fraud.
- The law compels no one to do impossibilities.
- An agreement without consideration is void.
- Signatures made with a lead pencil are good in law.
- A receipt for money is not always conclusive.
- The acts of one partner bind all the rest.