

Trades and Labor Council Denounces William Gray

Describes Him As an Enemy of Organized Labor.

Vote Carried Nearly Two to One—Mr. Marks' Statement Confirmed by St. Thomas Man.

The Trades and Labor Council of London, which is composed of representatives of all the trades unions in the city, met last night, and put through by a vote of nearly two to one, a resolution denouncing Mr. William Gray, the present Conservative candidate, as the enemy of organized labor. Of the 31 members present, only 12 voted against the resolution. The matter came up through an article which was published in the Industrial Banner, which is the spokesman of organized labor in this district, a few days after the Hyman-Gray election in November last. In the plainest possible manner the Banner stated that Mr. Gray had knifed the street railway strikers at the time of the big strike in this city. As Mr. Gray had seen fit to pose as the candidate of the workmen in this election, as he did in November last, The Advertiser reproduced the article from the Banner, and the workmen of the city at once began an investigation. At the trades council last night, Editor Marks, of the Banner, told the whole story to the council, and he backed up his statements with an affidavit bearing on the case. A document signed by prominent union men of St. Thomas, as well as by members of the London Old Boys' Association, of that city, was also produced, certifying that Mr. Gray had advised the London Old Boys of St. Thomas to ride the Springbank cars when they came to London; that he had referred to Mr. Marks, who was the delegate of the union men of London, as a curse to the city, and that he had stated that the people of London were not in sympathy with the strikers. As Dr. Guest, a Conservative worker of St. Thomas, had seen fit to come to London and deliver a garbled version of the affair in order to square Mr. Gray with the union men, Mr. W. K. Sanderson, a prominent member of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, of St. Thomas, and a man in whom all labor men in that city have confidence, appeared before the trades council here and backed up the statements of Mr. Marks, the editor of the Banner. The result was that the resolution, which is given in full on this page, was carried by a very large vote, and the labor men of London put themselves on record as declaring Mr. Gray to be the enemy of organized labor. After the resolution had been carried certain members of the council, who are strong political friends of the Conservative candidate, persisted in discussing the matter at such length that Mr. C. J. Meaden, the president, resigned his position. In his report of the meeting Mr. Gray's organ grossly misrepresented the facts, and a full denial by Mr. Meaden of the Free Press report will be found in another column.

LABOR EDITOR CALLS THE "F. P."

Mr. Marks was seen by a reporter today in regard to the statements concerning him which appeared in the Free Press today. "I did not receive \$10 a day for the work I performed on the Pere Marquette investigation," he said. "I was paid the regular rate of \$5 per day and actual traveling expenses, and I think the report shows that I earned the money. I absolutely deny the statement that I was around with Ralph Smith. Though he has been a personal friend of mine for many years, I have not had fifteen minutes' conversation with him altogether. I might add that the Free Press was only too glad to quote the resolution passed against Mr. Rumball by the Trades Council last winter. The paper did not attack me then."

MR. HYMAN THE CHAMPION OF THE RAILWAY MEN

Government Fighting Their Battles Through the Courts.

Protecting Canadian Railway Employees Against Alien Labor.

Mr. Gray's organ is trying hard to break the force of the blow which organized labor has struck at its candidate. It repeats the old cry that Mr. Hyman took sides with the railway companies against the members of the Grand Trunk Provident Society. The Grand Trunk men know that in sending the bill to the supreme court of Canada the Liberal Government was working in their interests. And now the measure is to be sent to the Privy Council at the expense of the Government, so that when the workman sues the company for damages the company will not be able to beat the workman out of his dues by falling back on the plea that the bill is ultra vires—that is, that the Parliament of Canada had not the power to pass the bill. In brief, the case is this: Parliament might have gone ahead and passed the measure offhand and placed it on the statute books of Canada. Then, in the course of time, a workman might have been injured. He would instruct his lawyer to bring suit against the company, but the latter would fall back on the plea that Parliament had exceeded its functions, and that it had no power to pass the bill. Then it would have devolved upon the workman who had brought the suit to prove that the bill was perfectly legal. This would have meant the carrying of the case to the supreme court, which would mean the expenditure of a small fortune. Then if the supreme court declared the bill to be legal, the company, in all probability, as the matter is such an important one to them, would have appealed to the Privy Council in England. This would mean that the workman would either have to expend another large sum of money or else cry quits with the com-

pany. And the entire litigation would take up well on to two years. What workman would be able to stand this tremendous strain? How would he live, how would his wife and family live, while the case was going through the courts? Where would he get the thousands of dollars from to fight the company and pay lawyers in England to look after his interests? But Mr. Hyman stepped in and said that such a bill would not be of any use to the poor man. While on the surface it would appear that the poor man had full powers to sue the company under its provisions, his hands were practically tied. He could do nothing. The result was that the Government, feeling sure that it had full powers to pass the bill, sent it at once to the supreme court for a ruling, with the result that that judicial body decided that the bill was intra vires, or perfectly legal. But one court yet remains to which the company might appeal in order to defeat the workman—the Privy Council of England. And the Grand Trunk men of London have the word of Mr. Hyman, and the word of Mr. Mulock, Minister of Labor, that the bill will be carried at the expense of the Government to the Privy Council, so that when once that body gives its ruling the workman who is injured, or his widow, may bring suit against the company, and the case will be decided on the evidence as to the accident alone. There will be no hiding behind the plea that the workman has no ground for action against the company because of the alleged fact that the law under which he sues is ultra vires. There will be no chance to wear out the plaintiff by appeals from one court to another, so as to make him settle at the company's terms. There will be no necessity for the workman, or the widow of the workman, mortgaging the little home to get money to fight the company through half a dozen courts. Mr. Hyman has seen to it that the workman shall have a chance to secure his rights, and that the law proceedings shall be within his means. This is what Mr. Hyman has done. The Free Press knows that this is what he has done, and now that it has no better ammunition to fire it is filling its pages with the slanders of the past. Mr. Hyman has given another proof (Continued on page 6.)

LABOR DENOUNCES GRAY

That while this Trades and Labor Council does not desire to make any pronouncement as regards the political policy of either party in the present contest it desires to place it on record that during the Street Railway Strike in 1899, Mr. William Gray, the present Conservative candidate, proved by his action in St. Thomas that he was an enemy of Organized Labor.

Resolution adopted last night by the Trades and Labor Council of London.

RALPH SMITH, M.P., WAS SURPRISED

Labor Member Nails Another Untruth in Gray's Organ.

Mr. Gray's organ has thrown truth to the winds in the desperation of a forlorn hope. Today's issue teems with falsehoods. The Gray organ has deliberately put words into the mouth of the president of the Trades and Labor Council which he never used. This shameful conduct is exposed elsewhere on this page. Another untruth is the organ's statement that Mr. Ralph Smith, the labor member for Nanaimo, B. C., influenced the decision of the trades and labor council meeting, which condemned Mr. William Gray last night. "I know nothing about local labor matters," said Mr. Smith today, "and was amazed when I read the statement in the Free Press. I had absolutely nothing to do with last night's meeting. I am here to speak at the Jubilee Rink tomorrow night. Yesterday I was in the East End talking to a great many workmen and describing the labor legislation of the Dominion Government."

Mr. Smith, who has had charge of several bills in the interests of railwaymen, will discuss railway matters at tomorrow night's meeting. He is a leading Methodist and will take up the challenge of Mr. Gray's organ by dealing with the action of the British Columbia Methodist Conference, of which he is a member.

BORDEN'S TRIBUTE TO FRANK OLIVER

"A Gentleman of Absolute and Perfect Independence," He Says.

Tomorrow night Frank Oliver, the Minister of the Interior, will be one of the speakers at the meeting in the Jubilee rink. Frank Oliver is a typical westerner. He went to Winnipeg in his teens, worked as a reporter on a Winnipeg paper, and a few years later established the first paper at Edmonton, printed on a small hand-press, which was carted over the prairies. He entered the Northwest Council in 1883, and has been a prominent public figure ever since. He is a man of sturdy independence and great energy of character. On March 2 last Mr. Borden, leader of the Opposition, paid him this handsome tribute in the House of Commons: "I think that Mr. Oliver would make a very good minister of the interior, and I am inclined to press his claims. He is a good friend of mine personally, though we differ somewhat politically, and I stand here to urge the claims of my honorable friend from Edmonton to this position. He is a gentleman of ripe experience, and of great ability, and as we all know, a gentleman of absolute and perfect independence upon all questions." Col. Sam Hughes at the same time urged the Government to appoint Mr. Oliver and "test the feeling of the country in that way." "Give us," cried Mr. Foster, "one single solitary instance of allowing one portion at least of the people of the Northwest to pronounce upon the policy of this autonomy bill, which is so all-important to that country." The Government took the advice of Mr. Borden, made Mr. Oliver, Minister of the Interior, and opened the riding (Continued on page 6.)

MARKS OR GRAY?

Mr. William Gray has given what he calls an "emphatical" denial to the statements in the Industrial Banner, the labor organ. These statements were published last November; they were repeated nearly two weeks ago in these columns, but not until Tuesday last did Mr. Gray attempt to meet them. The moment he entered a denial he was confronted by the affidavit of Mr. Joseph T. Marks, publisher of the Banner, who took oath that the charges in the Banner were true. This is a very important question for the citizens of London, whether they are members of trade unions or not. It comes home to every elector, because it concerns the veracity of a man who aspires to represent the citizens of London in Parliament. The people should weigh the evidence and form their own conclusions. Mr. Gray's statement, so far, stands unsupported. Dr. Guest, of St. Thomas, who was brought to London to make a statement on the matter, did not specifically deny the accusations in the labor organ. Against Mr. Gray there is the sworn testimony of Mr. Marks, backed by the affirmation of St. Thomas men who attended the eventful meeting. The Trades and Labor Council of the city stands by Mr. Marks.

THE LABOR PRESIDENT REBUKES GRAY'S ORGAN

It Put Words Into His Mouth He Never Used—He Favored the Resolution Declaring Gray To Be an Enemy of Labor.

"It is incorrect from the start. There is not a word of truth in it. I do not know or care where they got it from, but I wish to contradict it absolutely." This is the statement made to The Advertiser today by Mr. Charles J. Meaden, late president of the Trades and Labor Council, which appeared in the Free Press this morning. Mr. Gray's organ, following its usual course of misrepresentation, in flaring headlines announced that Mr. Meaden resigned last night as a protest against the passing of a resolution which declared Mr. Gray to be the enemy of organized labor. The Free Press also savagely attacked Editor Marks, of the Industrial Banner, hurling insinuations at him which will be resented by every labor man in London. After reading the article Mr. Meaden said: "I am not a politician, and I have never been one. I do not believe in introducing political matters into trades unions or trades councils, but I believe that as the Trades Council had seen fit to put itself on record as opposed to Mr. Rumball in the last election in this city it was only right and just that if the charges made against Mr. Gray could be brought home, the council should also pass a resolution against him."

"I never mentioned Mr. Marks as the Free Press says I did. I did not say that if he persisted in putting through the resolution against Mr. Gray I would resign."

"I did not resign because of the fact that the resolution against Mr. Gray was put through, but because after the resolution had been voted on and carried by nearly two to one—19 to 12—certain members of the Council persisted in wrangling over the matter in an attempt, as I thought, to have the resolution reconsidered."

"I wish to say as emphatically as I can say it that I consider MR. MARKS THE SQUAREST AND TRUEST ORGANIZED LABOR MAN I HAVE EVER KNOWN. I HAVE THE FULLEST CONFIDENCE IN HIM AS A LABOR UNIONIST AND A MAN."

"I BELIEVE EVERY WORD MR. MARKS SAID WHEN HE TOLD THE TRADES COUNCIL WHAT MR. GRAY DID AT ST. THOMAS. I BELIEVE EVERY WORD MR. W. K. SANDERSON SAID ON THE SAME SUBJECT, AND AS THE VOTE SHOWED, THE MAJORITY OF THE REPRESENTATIVES OF ORGANIZED LABOR BELIEVED THE STATEMENTS TO BE TRUE."

"The Free Press has no ground for printing the article which appears in this morning's paper. It is false from start to finish. What the paper alleges never took place at the meeting of the Trades Council last night."

THE WEATHER.

Tomorrow—Southwesterly Winds; Becoming Showery Again. Toronto, June 7-8 p.m. Rain has fallen today over Eastern and Central Ontario, with very cool weather, while over all other portions of the Dominion it has been fair and moderately warm. Minimum and maximum temperatures: Dawson, 42-72; Victoria, 48-64; Kamloops, 50-76; Calgary, 44-74; Edmonton, 48-74; Prince Albert, 48-76; Qu'Appelle, 50-74; Winnipeg, 48-76; Fort Arthur, 48-76; Parry Sound, 46-58; Toronto, 48-58; Ottawa, 44-58; Montreal, 44-66; Quebec, 38-70; St. John, 46-62; Halifax, 52-64.

FORECASTS. Thursday, June 8-8 a.m. Today—Moderate, variable winds; fine. Friday—Southeasterly winds, and becoming showery again. TEMPERATURES. Stations. 8 a.m. Min. Weather. Calgary, 48, 52, Clear. Winnipeg, 48, 52, Clear. Parry Sound, 46, 50, Fair. Toronto, 48, 52, Cloudy. Ottawa, 44, 50, Fair. Montreal, 44, 50, Fair. Quebec, 38, 44, Cloudy. Father Point, 54, 44, Cloudy.

WEATHER NOTES. Very unsettled conditions are prevalent throughout the Dominion. The disturbance which caused rain in Eastern Ontario and Western Quebec yesterday has passed off the Atlantic coast, but another, apparently of the same type, is over the great lakes from the west. LOCAL TEMPERATURES. The highest and lowest readings of the thermometer at the local observatory for the 24 hours ended at 8 p.m. Wednesday were: Highest, 58.5°; lowest, 47.5°.

FRIDAY NIGHT'S LIBERAL MEETING

Two Cabinet Ministers and Labor Representative to Address Electors.

Every Liberal in London is reminded of the big Liberal rally in the Jubilee Rink tomorrow night. Two cabinet ministers and a labor representative from the west will address the meeting. They are: Hon. C. S. Hyman, M. P., Minister of Public Works; Hon. Frank Oliver, M. P., Minister of the Interior; Mr. Ralph Smith, M. P., of Nanaimo, B. C., one of the best-known labor men in Canada. Every voter in London is invited to be present. It is the earnest desire of the Liberal party that the voters of the city, regardless of politics, should be on hand to hear the issues of the day discussed. The Liberals have all to gain and nothing to lose by having the people know the truth in regard to any and all issues. There will be seats for everybody.

Billy Gray and His Friends

Politics makes queer bedfellows, as Billy Gray is prepared to admit. When he looks back ten days and thinks of the strange and variegated company he has been in, it's enough to make his head swim. When he looks forward to a continued association with double-dealers, Janus faces and tergiversators it is enough to fill him with blank dismay.

But Billy is not easily frightened. Where ignorance is bliss, 'tis folly to be wise. He shuts his eyes and swallows anything his political friends say is good for him. In the course of the campaign, Billy has successfully swallowed half a dozen men who had previously swallowed themselves. This is a feat of acrobatic cannibalism which should strain Billy's capacity. He will only realize what he has done when the pangs of digestion set in. Of all the tramp patriots Billy Gray's organization has brought in from outside parts to tell London what to do, there is not one that can look himself in the eye and say: "Here's a man that doesn't change with the wind. I stand where I did nine years ago."

Consistency, some cynical person has said, is the virtue of fools. There is no consistency, say others, except consistency with the present. And yet the great true-hearted people like to think of consistency of the old-fashioned sort. They like to feel that a man sticks to his principles, through thick and thin, and doesn't lay them aside for a temporary advantage. Billy's platform helpers are about as consistent as Billy himself. Everybody knows where Billy stood in regard to the workmen last November and where, it now transpires, he stood in August, 1899, when he acted as a strike-breaker. Billy has had some practice in doubling back. Perhaps, that is what makes it comparatively easy for him to keep a straight face when he listens to Mr. Foster and others crossing their hearts and hoping to die if they don't speak the truth.

Mr. George Eulas Foster was the first man Billy Gray had to bolt. Mr. Foster was easy bolting, for he had bolted before. He was one of the seven cabinet ministers who deserted Sir Mackenzie Bowell when that amiable old gentleman showed an inclination to keep Sir Charles Tupper out of the shoes that had been promised him. Sir Mackenzie took the matter quite hard. He spoke of Mr. Foster and his associates as a nest of traitors, and to this day he has not forgiven him. Only a month or two ago this veteran statesman had it out with Mr. Foster again, and the austere walls of the Senate Chamber re-echoed to the language of recrimination as Sir Mackenzie told what he thought of his former colleague. In 1896 Sir Mackenzie Bowell, having been displaced, Mr. Foster entered into a conspiracy with Sir Charles Tupper and others to force separate schools of the aggravated sort on the Province of Manitoba. They disguised their purpose by calling it a Remedial Bill. It was a remedy that aimed to kill rather than cure. Mr. Foster was foremost among those who put up the medicine. The country refused to take it. The Liberal party came into power and provincial rights were saved.

Mr. Foster is now engaged in looking at the back of his own neck. He tells Billy Gray and London that he is no longer a coercionist. When he said the same thing in the House of Commons, the statement was received with incredulous laughter, and Dr. Sproule and Col. Sam Hughes had to leave suddenly. They simply couldn't see how Mr. Foster had the nerve to say it. Remembering his speeches in 1896, they hurried away so as to miss the humiliating spectacle of their former Finance Minister eating crow by the ton. It was indeed a pitiable sight. It was only Foster's sublime assurance and glib tongue that took him around that sharp corner. Mr. Foster is used to taking sharp curves. His political birthright was prohibition. He floated into fame and fortune on the cold water wave. He promised great things as a moral reformer. When he became a cabinet minister he did not try to introduce prohibitory measures. In fact, he turned the prohibitionists down. He said his zeal for the good cause was as great as ever, but that Governments had to be practical, and that prohibition was impractical. When he was taunted in the House with the heroics of his salad days when, being willing to say anything that would help George Foster's career he had protested that principles were things to stand by though the heavens fall, he shrugged his shoulders, smiled wanly, and stated that he had said what he did "in a moment of weakness." From which it follows that Mr. Foster regards consistency as a weakness.

Still Mr. Foster would like to have a reputation for consistency, and we can give it to him. In 1896 he was in favor of separate schools for the west. In 1905 he may still be in favor of them for all we know. Mr. Foster is not fighting separate schools today. He is fighting national schools, the separate schools in the new provinces being so like public schools that it would take a Philadelphia lawyer to discover the difference. This ought to square Mr. Foster with his record. Although it would be inconsistent to favor separate schools and then to fight them—which would be both sides of the question—it is not inconsistent to favor separate schools and fight national schools as he does now. It is a distinction that a metaphysician will easily grasp. Still Billy Gray would be well advised to keep an eye on Foster, who is a great hand at playing both ends against the middle.

Mr. Borden has taken part in the campaign. His past is not as deadly as Mr. Foster's because he has not been in the business as long. He was made leader of his party because he wore the white flower of a blameless political life. It must be remembered that he helped his kinsman, Sir Charles Tupper, in 1896, and spoke on Nova Scotia platforms in favor of coercing Manitoba. Mr. Borden clothed the idea in high-sounding language, but the naked truth is that he was a coercionist when he thought it would assist his party nine years ago. It takes away from his offense to know that he was not a political candidate at the time, and that what he did toward squeezing Manitoba was done out of sheer goodness of heart and family affection for an old man nearing the end of his career.

Since Mr. Borden went into Parliament he has not been so successful in keeping his garment of consistency unsmirched. When the Grand Trunk Pacific problem came up, he refused to stick to any one policy for any length of time. There were three policies suggested by him in as many months, and their only point of consistency was that they all proposed to relieve the C. P. R. of its unprofitable North Shore section by having the Government buy it. When the Autonomy Bill was introduced, Mr. Borden took the ground that it was not a question of separate schools. Dr. Sproule says it is, and Mr. Borden does not contradict him. Mr. Borden is willing to reap the benefit of any misunderstanding. His amendment is a masterpiece of political buncombe. He says he stands for provincial rights absolutely and unreservedly. His amendment says that he stands for provincial rights, as defined by the British North America Act, that is to say, that he doesn't know what those rights are and that he would like a postponement. If Mr. Borden had wished to hand over the control of education to the provinces without restriction or limitation there was a simply way of doing it. He could have moved an amendment that such be done, "notwithstanding anything in the constitution." As matters stand, Mr. Borden is open to the charge of disingenuousness. Billy Gray, good, guileless soul, will feel bad to hear that even his leader is not above the reproach of looking both ways for Sunday.

Dr. Sproule is a man of sincere convictions. He is consistent on the separate school question. Since he shuts his eyes to the fact that the cases of Manitoba and the Northwest are not analogous, but he acts according to his lights. And yet, see what fellowship with dissemblers does for the doctor! When Dr. Sproule appears on the same platform with Mr. Borden, the doctor says nothing that could imperil Mr. Borden's designs on the minority, whom he does not wish to offend. But when Dr. Sproule finds himself in congenial company, like Mr. Cockshutt, and the restraint of the leader's presence removed, Dr. Sproule makes the welkin ring with statistics to prove that the Orange Lodges are the only places that are free from crime and, from the depths of his inner consciousness, Mr. Cockshutt calls all that differ from him bigots. When the cat's away the mice will play. This is how Dr. Sproule and Mr. Cockshutt behave when Mr. Borden is not on the job to see that the feelings of the minority are not hurt. Billy Gray will have to keep a sharp lookout on Dr. Sproule and Mr. Cockshutt. Where there is so much of this not letting the right hand know what the left hand is doing, it is just as well to keep one's eye skinned.

Mr. R. B. Bennett, of Calgary, blew into London. He was supposed to have a message straight from the great indignant heart of the west. It seems however, that Mr. Bennett came in reply to a telegram from Mr. Borden, and that the party organization in Oxford (Continued on page 6.)