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MEETINGS.

CENTRAL TRADES AND LABOR COUNCIL OF MONTREAL.

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Meets in the Ville-Marie Hall, 1623 Notre Dame street, the first and third Thursdays of the month. Communications to be addressed to P. C. CHATEL, Corresponding Secretary 127½ St. Lawrence street.

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TORONTO NOTES.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

TORONTO, July 21, 1892.

A city paper is authority for the announcement that Ald. Shaw, Chairman of the Board of Works, has been in communication with the Street Railway Company in regard to transfer tickets for some time. He received a communication from the company yesterday that transfer tickets would be issued to the conductors and drivers in a few days. This news will be received with pleasure by the public, which has not found the present system so satisfactory as would be the issue of tickets.

After a rest of four weeks (the first of that character since the organization in 1881) the Trades and Labor Council held its first meeting in July on last Friday evening with President T. W. Banton in the chair as usual.

After routine business the secretary read a communication from District Assembly 125, K. of L., asking that the Council appoint three on its behalf to act with a like number from the District Assembly as a joint committee to wait upon and urge the Provincial Government to establish free employment bureaus in the several cities of the province. The request was complied with.

The President, in response to an enquiry by Delegate Watson (having become a member of a stereotyping company) if an employer of labor could not be allowed to take a seat in the Council, declared that no employer of labor was eligible as a member of the Council.

Then came the semi-annual election of officers of the Council. As a mark of confidence the following gentlemen were re-elected to the respective offices by acclamation, viz.:

President—T. W. Banton.
Vice-president—George W. Dower.
Secretary—F. C. Cribben.
Financial Secretary—Edwd. Glockling.
Treasurer—Charles March.
Librarian—H. T. Benson.

When the office of Sergeant-at-Arms was reached, the thirst for office had ceased and no one could be found ambitious enough to allow his name to go into nomination. Holding that any office in the Council is just as honorable and important (if necessary at all) Delegate O'Donoghue sought and was elected Sergeant-at-Arms by acclamation, and on taking his seat as such was warmly greeted.

The difficulty as to electing a sergeant-at-arms being surmounted, it was found, strangely enough, that there were more delegates offering than were required to fill the several committees and other official positions. This necessitated much balloting in the order and with the following result, viz.:

Legislative Committee—W. H. Parr, D. J. O'Donoghue, Geo. Harris, Chas. March, John Tweed.

Municipal Committee—John Armstrong, F. C. Cribben, H. T. Benson, R. Glockling, A. Bruce.

Educational Committee—R. L. Simpson, Harry Nicolls, G. A. Brown, G. W. Dower, E. Glockling.

Organization Committee—F. Horne, G. T. Beals, G. W. Dower, H. T. Benson, R. Lamb.

Auditors—R. Glockling, J. Armstrong, A. Bruce.

Trustees—R. Glockling, J. Armstrong, D. J. O'Donoghue.

It required fifteen separate ballots to secure the election of three delegates to represent the Trades and Labor Council at the next session of the Dominion Trades and Labor Congress in this city next September. Ultimately the following gentlemen were elected, and in the order named: Messrs. D. J. O'Donoghue, Chas. March and Robert Glockling.

It being after 11 o'clock when the elections were over, it was decided to adjourn, after having ordered a special meeting for the evening of Monday, the 19th, when the reports of the several standing committees would be dealt with and other general business transacted.

The Trades and Labor Council, in accordance with the motion of the previous Friday evening, held a special meeting for the transaction of general business on last Monday evening. The first order of business was the consideration of the reports of standing committees.

Chairman Tweed presented the report of

the Legislative Committee. It condemned the anticipated superannuation of certain Dominion immigration agents whose services have been dispensed with, and whose annuities, by the way, have a number of years added to the term of service of each, will be as large as if they had been retained in active service. It also drew attention to the case of retired agent Donaldson, who, it is alleged, did not act very fairly with a certain English immigrant whom he employed at and around his house, and charged the Government with the salary of this man. The report also pointed out that Mr. Gordon's Chinese bill had passed the House of Commons in so mutilated a manner that its author would not recognize it as his—in fact that this bill, which had been taken charge of by the Government, was little, if at all, better than the law stood before its passage. Continued anti-Chinese agitation was recommended. The report also contained the following extract from THE ECHO of a recent date, viz.:

"In return for free passes from the railway companies, a number of our Federal representatives refused the boon of cheap travel to the general public by defeating the amendment to the Railway Act, fixing the maximum rate per mile at two cents."

A communication had been received from the Post Office department, in reply to the committee's application, saying that there was no foundation for the assertion that letter carriers were compelled to swear not to form or join any labor or similar organization.

A communication addressed to the Hon. the Minister of Agriculture and Immigration, enquiring as to the authenticity of a statement appearing in the press to the effect that the Government had dismissed the immigration officers at Toronto, Kingston, Hamilton and London, had elicited the information that all the immigration agencies except those on the seaboard had been abolished.

A warm discussion on a line with the views of the report took place, during which the details respecting the Donaldson case were given, after which the report was concurred in unanimously.

Delegate Armstrong, as its secretary read the report of the Municipal Committee. The report began by censuring the Council for its action regarding the appointment of an engineer, in which the following terse language is used:—

The whole business of the appointment of City Engineer has been most discreditable to all concerned. Aldermen have allowed themselves to be button-holed on the streets in favor of certain applicants while back-capping was brought down to a science. Those who have boasted of their uprightness and independence around the Council board in standing up for the people's rights, if rumor is correct, bartered their votes in the appointment of engineer for civic positions for their friends.

The street railway company was commended on its proposal to issue transfer tickets. It was thought that pedlars should be allowed to dispose of their wares out of waggons, and exception was taken to the by-law interfering with this.

The report went on to find fault with the delay shown by the authorities in the construction of the new court house and other public works. The action of the Jarvis street Baptist church in insisting on paying taxes on its property, was an example for city churches.

The committee advised the erection, by the city, of public baths.

Secretary Cribben said he was opposed to making grave charges against aldermen such as accusing them by voting for Engineer Keating for the purpose of having their friends appointed civic employees. And furthermore he thought that the Mayor and his faction had done perfectly right in putting forth every effort to have the best man appointed.

Those were Delegate O'Donoghue's sentiments also. He objected very strenuously to the unfair attack made upon the Mayor, accusing him of taking advantage of his position as chairman of the Council to carry his point. The Trades and Labor Council, he continued, should be very conservative in expressing an opinion. For his part he recognized in Mayor Fleming one of the best friends of organized labor, one of the truest exponents of democratic principles that has ever graced the Mayor's chair. He therefore moved in amendment that so much of the report as referred to the City Council, the Mayor and the Engineer be referred back for further consideration.

Here Mr. John Armstrong interrupted by asking how long a person was allowed to speak

on one question. "Mr. O'Donoghue," he said, "can talk longer and say less than any other man in the room."

"I stand by the ruling of the chair," said Mr. O'Donoghue.

"But is he allowed to occupy the whole time of the meeting?" asked the burly Mr. Armstrong.

"I won't be controlled by a wind-bag, anyway," retorted the verbose member.

"Such an epithet comes with bad grace from you," added John.

After Mr. O'Donoghue had concluded his remarks.

Mr. Armstrong denied any intention on the part of the Committee to reflect specially upon the Mayor.

Delegate R. Glockling as a member of the committee followed and said "certainly it was intended, as the language used indicated, to reflect unfavourably on the Mayor." He, himself had no such intention, and after hearing the discussion he was prepared to vote for the motion of Mr. O'Donoghue to refer back for further consideration.

Delegates Parr and Howell also strongly supported the contentions of Delegate O'Donoghue and on the amendment to refer back being put it was carried on a vote of 18 to 4, and the report as amended was adopted.

Delegate J. Coulter read the report of the Education Committee which pointed out that, contrary to what the Council had been previously led to believe, Park Supt. Chambers rules that only one of the city parks are free to the children to play ball, etc., in. It urged that steps be taken to secure the free use of many more parks for like purposes. Also that efforts should be made to secure a much better carrying out of the truancy law by the officers appointed for that purpose. This report, after some discussion, was adopted as read.

The Demonstration Committee reported progress in the matter of the big celebration to be held in September. It was noted that the Hon. the Attorney-General had placed the Legislative chamber at the disposal of the Dominion Trades and Labor Congress.

On motion, the Legislative Committee was instructed to take such further action as may be considered advisable in respect to the Donaldson matter.

The same committee was also instructed to correspond with the various trades and labor councils of British Columbia, so that all may work in unison in reference to Chinese immigration, after which the Council adjourned.

The Toronto Street Railway is busily engaged on several streets changing the tracks from the present horse car system to that to be used for the electric system, and a large number of men are employed. But many times more idle men are daily looking on and awaiting a job which does not materialize.

Carnegie, of Homestead infamy, is not the owner of works mentioned in the following paragraph:

The Scotia engineering works at Sunderland, England, is one of the largest firms of its kind on the Wear. For nearly twelve months the firm has been running its works on the eight hours day plan, the workmen having consented to a reduction of five per cent in wages as compensation to the employers for the reduced hours of labor. The firm now announces the permanent adoption of the eight hours system, and has restored to the workmen the five percent taken off the wages when the eight hours was introduced. The firm has been able to get the same work from its employees in eight hours as was previously got in nine. This experiment at the Scotia works, coupled with an equally successful experiment in some of the largest salt mines in Cheshire, has given great satisfaction to the advocates of eight hours as a maximum day's work.

URIM.

Mamma—I don't like that boy. Why do you go with him? Small Son—Us boys always has to give our chum a bite of anything nice we have, an' his mouth ain't any bigger'n a baby's.

What was the most successful funeral you ever saw? Well, I think the best attended one was that of a man who had spent most of his life practicing the cornet with his window open.

Terwilliger—Miss Playne doesn't like you, old fellow. She says you're a conceited popinjay. Jerolomon—The real reason Miss Playne doesn't like me is because I am not a popin' jay.

THE TRADES COUNCIL.

The regular meeting of the Central Trades and Labor Council was held Thursday evening last, the President in the chair.

After reading and confirming the minutes of the last meeting, credentials were read and accepted from A. P. Chabot, J. A. Renaud and J. Godoin, of Montcalm Assembly; and F. Pigeon, of D. A. No. 19.

The Legislative Committee reported having organized with Mr. A. Friedlander as chairman and Mr. R. Keys as secretary. They also intimated that they were now ready for any business pertaining to legislation.

After a short debate the report was adopted.

The Organization Committee then presented the following report:—"The Organization Committee beg leave to report having held a meeting on July 15th, and elected Mr. E. Farrell chairman and Mr. P. J. Ryan secretary. It was resolved that another special meeting be held to complete the organization of the Machine Woodworkers union during next week. A communication was sent to the International Machinists' Association, requesting them to allow a sub-committee of the Organization Committee to attend their meeting, explain its objects and principles, and the necessity of connection with a Central Council. The case of Local Union, No. 311, Carpenters and Joiners, was referred to a sub-committee composed of E. Farrell, W. Holland, P. J. Ryan and President Boudreau, with instruction to attend the Carpenters Council meeting on Monday, July 18. On the 18th the sub-committee had a lengthy interview with the President and two other officers of 311, and made the necessary arrangements to attend the next meeting of the Union when the whole matter, we believe, will be settled to the satisfaction of all parties." The report was adopted.

The Auditing Committee then reported having audited the books of the Treasurer and found the same correct.

The Labor Day committee reported everything progressing satisfactorily.

Delegates Howard, Chatel and Lafontaine were appointed a committee and given full power to act in the Ayotte matter.

A communication from the manager of an employment agency was then read, and after several delegates had strongly denounced these institutions and their peculiar methods of doing business, was placed on file.

A communication was then read from D. A. 19, K. of L., was then read, asking the Council to protest against the proposed abolition of the night schools by the Provincial Government, and on motion of Delegate Rodier, seconded by Delegate DuBreuil, it was resolved to comply with the request of D. A. 19, and that the protest be forwarded to Premier DeBoucherville.

The meeting then adjourned.

The meeting then adjourned.