Current Comment

The Toronto Railway Employes' Union is at present engaged in negotiating a new agreement with the company. Their mass meeting on Saturday night last was well attended and was called for the purpose of drafting changes desired in their present agreement.

◆ ◆

The Cigarmakers of Hamilton have settled down to work once more, and no further trouble is anticipated. Another one of the good effects of having a visit from those "international walking delegates," as our friends the enemy call them.

◆ ◆

The street car men of Hamilton are negotiating a new agreement with the company.

◆ ◆

The Building Trades Council of Hamilton is enforcing the working card rule on all buildings in that city.

◆ ◆

There has been some slight trouble among the tailors in Hamilton, which is now adjusted, according to reports.

◆ ◆

Organized labor is to the working class what armies and navies are to the nations; they are a mighty wall of defence against the enemy. It is really the capital of labor in the form of united power, by which we may protect our united interests.

THIS LABEL

Appears on all bottles of Union Beer.

DEMAND IT

INTERNATIONAL UNION UNITED BREWERY WORKMEN OF AMERICA TRADE MARK REGISTERED

J. JOHNSON

Custom Tailor

The favor of a call and inspection of our stock requested.

STYLE, FIT AND PRICE

Will give you satisfaction.

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Learn Telegraphy

A great money earning employment with splendid prospects of advancement. We teach it rapidly and thoroughly and aid our students to positions. You can afford to miss the opportunity.

Our booklet is mailed free. It tells how you can make a good start in life. Get it now.

DOMINION BUSINESS COLLEGE

Cor. Yonge & Richmond Sts.

TORONTO.

INTERNATIONAL BROOM MAKERS UNION MADE REGISTERED 1893

BROOM MAKERS

This Label appears on all Union made brooms, and guarantees that it was not made by convicts in a prison factory. See that the Label is placed under the wire and not pasted on.

"Health and Vigor depend upon the quality and quantity of the blood."—HUMANITARIAN

The Liver is the great secreting organ of the body, and when it fails to perform its office, bile accumulates and the blood becomes poisoned, causing many unpleasant symptoms, such as dull, heavy, languid feeling, indisposition to attend to duties, pain in back or shoulders, sour stomach, constipation, dryness of the skin, restlessness at night, etc.

If these symptoms are not dealt with immediately, they become aggravated so as to induce severe illness. To relieve at once and cure permanently

Dr. Carson's Tonic

Stomach and Constipation Bitters

have long been recognized as the sovereign treatment. These are made from the formula of an eminent Canadian physician, who has used the prescription in his practice for many years with most satisfactory results.

A Purely Vegetable Tonic and Blood Purifier. Price 50 cents per Bottle

Usually you can obtain the preparation of your local druggist, but if you are not able to obtain it in your neighborhood, we shall be pleased to send to any address one or more bottles upon receipt of price (50c per bottle). CARRIAGE PREPAID.

Pamphlet sent FREE on application

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TORONTO

DR. EASTON'S

Blood and Nerve Builder

Strengthens and Tones up the Nervous System

25 and 50 Cents

PREPARED BY

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Trade unionists throughout Great Britain are holding indignation meetings and passing resolutions denouncing the British Government for its action in permitting the introduction of Chinese slaves into the Transvaal district of South Africa. They realized that political action is the only remedy.

◆ ◆

In Brantford there is a co-operative binding twine factory that is owned and operated by 8,000 farmers. It was started twelve years ago, so that it is no business bubble. Last year it paid 34 per cent. profit, and sold twine lower than any other twine company. The 8,000 farmers are about to start a co-operative factory to manufacture their own farming machinery.

◆ ◆

The following clipping is taken from the Washington Post, and is reproduced here pending the publication of an official report upon the subject:

The consolidation of the Amalgamated Society of Engineers, Machinists, Blacksmiths and Patternmakers, an English organization, with about 2,000 men in the United States, with the International Association of Machinists, has been agreed on, subject to the approval of the superior officers of the former organization. The tentative agreement was reached at a meeting in this city of the general executive board of the International Association of Machinists, whose president, James O'Connell, drew up the agreement with Organizer Cowan, of the smaller organization.

Mr. Cowan left for New York to submit the agreement to the officers of his society for their approval. The agreement, if ratified, will not be effective until June 1, and no change in its provisions by either of the parties can be made without sixty days' notice. It puts all questions of strikes and wage scales under the control of a joint committee.—The Machinists' Journal.

◆ ◆

Billy Maclean is putting up an excellent fight for the nationalization of Canadian railways. Public ownership will be the political war cry of one of the parties in this country before very long, and the only question is which of the parties is to wake up first.

◆ ◆

The initial success of Hugh Robinson's trip to Eastern Canada was made in Montreal this week. Mr. Robinson has revived the Tailors' Union in that city, and he reports that they are now established permanently, and will proceed along toward better things for the tailors of Montreal.

◆ ◆

An act has passed the Rhode Island House of Representatives prescribing a penalty of from three to six months' imprisonment or $300 to $600 fine, or both, upon any employing person or corporation who shall, as a condition of new or continued employment, attempt to prevent working people from belonging to a labor organization.

◆ ◆

The enemies of labor, especially those who sit in editorial chairs, are beginning to change their mind on the old adage that "the love of money is the root of all evil," and have discovered that the labor union is at the bottom of every ill, crime, riot, depression of trade, glut in the market, over production, and in fact all other ills. Some have not yet got through parading the Sam Parks incident before the public. "The Flaneur," of the Mail and Empire, says: "Sam Parks is in Sing Sing, but there are others. It is evident some drastic legislation will have to be enacted, making the trade of the professional agitator, outside of certain limits, a penal one." The Flaneur knows of the Parks incident but through the newspapers, and surely he must have read of the incident of the formation of Citizens' Alliances in the United States, with D. M. Parry, the arch-hater of trade unionism, as president and general organizer. This organization has in its declaration of principles: "We are opposed to riot, violence and intimidation," yet the telegraphic despatches recently told of the following two incidents:

◆ ◆

A hundred members of the Citizens' Alliance, after a meeting, armed with rifles and revolvers, have scoured the town and taken into custody between seventy and eighty union men and sympathizers. In some instances doors of dwelling houses were forced and broken open. The men were herded in a vacant store room until all those desired had been captured, and they were then marched to the depot and loaded into two coaches. As the special train departed, the Citizens' Alliance fired volleys of shots into the air.

◆ ◆

Chris. Evans, financial manager of the United Mine Workers of America, was severely beaten by three masked men with revolvers on board a Colorado & Southern passenger car bound for Pueblo.

◆ ◆

When such things occur, the biased editor and anti-unionist forgets to comment thereon, but let a walking delegate go wrong and great capital is made thereof.

◆ ◆

How often is the sympathetic strike among trade unions condemned by employers, but the sympathetic lock-out is overlooked by them. During the recent lockout in the United States of the lithographers by the American Lithographers' Association, the lithographers in the employ of Clark & Coutts, of Galveston, Texas, were locked out, owing to instructions from the Lithographers' Association. The firm expressed regret that it was obliged to have a lockout, but it was forced to do so. The agreement entered into with the Lithographers' Association compelled it to that course. The firm gave its men the use of the shops to hold their meetings and wished them success.

◆ ◆

Mr. Parry, of Alliance fame, has stirred up the ire of fair employers in the United States with his non-union employers' alliances. F. L. Robbins, who is one of the largest employers of labor in the United States, having more than 75,000 men employed in his various industries, recently gave his opinion upon labor unions. He said: "Labor unions founded upon right principles, under the leadership of honest, conservative officers, are necessary for the protection of the employes, and often an aid to the employer who is willing to pay just wages and establish fair conditions, but is hampered by competition with the employer who is unwilling to do so." Again, John F. Higgins, a well-known Chicago boss printer, is the promoter of an association of master printers who are opposed to the "open shop" idea.

◆ ◆

The Ottawa Citizen Company, Limited, has just completed a new six-storey fireproof building, which is one of the finest newspapers buildings in Canada. The building is very handsome and imposing, and is a credit to the Canadian capital. The Citizen Company has also installed a new three-deck Hoe press with a capacity of 24,000 papers per hour.

◆ ◆

Here's a suggestion from the Commonwealth, a quarterly magazine published in St. Louis, Mo.: "If labor unions will learn to employ first-class legal counsel they will not be enjoined so much; and a reasonable measure of success at the bar of justice will inspire in their minds a greater respect for the law and a wholesome regard for public order."

◆ ◆

W. J. McKeown placed a charter of the Bartenders' International League in Quebec. The significance of this charter is only realized when it is known that a local of the national bartenders already exists in that city. The national bartenders have two locals in Canada—one in Quebec and one in Montreal. The grand president, John Moe, is said to be an ex-member of the Boston local of bartenders. On his last visit to Montreal W. J. McKeown got into a meeting of the national bartenders by request. Messrs. Gareau, Griffiths and others were present, and Mr. McKeown had a hot time for a while, when Mr. Gareau started in French and kept it up for half an hour. All Organizer McKeown could understand from time to time was "Monsieur McKeown," but he couldn't tell whether he was getting roasted or praised, even though the members applauded quite frequently.

◆ ◆

"Strike for recognition of the union." How many thousands of dollars are lost in idle time and loss of manufacture, as well as bitterness and strife engendered by strikes for recognition "on paper." As soon as a firm deals with a committee of its organized employes, or an organization of employes deal with the accredited representatives of the employers, it is "recognizing" the union, and in the estimation of the shrewdest and most conservative labor leaders is sufficient—that is, if the agreement entered into is faithfully kept.

◆ ◆

The Downer Baseball Club has accepted the challenge of the John Inglis Pattern Shop Baseball Club, and the game will be played Saturday next, May 14.

POWER OF THE MILITIA

Arrayed Against Individual Liberty—Report from the Legislative Committee on the Subject.

Your committee met at the Toiler office on Monday evening, May 2nd. We report that we are still co-operating with the Farmers' Alliance in the matter of bonuses and grants to provincial railways, and hope to be able to report definite action at our next meeting. We talked over immigration, also the new Canadian Militia Act, and we desire to impress upon you the importance of this subject to the labor unions of Toronto. Important, because in the long run the burden of any public wrong or calamity falls on the manual toiler. If it is a big fire and insurance rates go up, rents are raised to pay it. If the railway companies lose by the snow blockade, when spring comes the employes are laid off to balance up expenses. If it is a war, the taxes are raised to pay the butchers' bill, and trade staggers under the burden. We desire to point out to you that behind all the powers and forces that to-day are resisting the just and reasonable demands of labor stands the military power of the nation. In South Colorado the state has passed a law legalizing the eight-hour day, and the miners are simply asking for the enforcement of that law. The civil courts of the state have decided that their action is constitutional, yet the military powers in South Colorado, called out by the mine owners and their expenses paid by the same body, has been for months crushing not only the rights of the trades unionist, but the civil rights of the citizens. In the late anthracite coal strike, Governor Gobin called out the whole state guard of Pennsylvania at a cost of one million dollars, to enforce the plutocratic claims of the mine owners. In the Albany street car strike the same thing occurred. At the last street railway men's strike in Toronto the militia were called out, and at the trial of the rioters the judge is reported to have said that a few rounds of ball cartridge should have been fired into the crowd. Make no error about this; back of the forces with which we are contending stand the ball cartridge, the grape shot and the gatling gun. We have nothing to say in defence of riot and disorder. We lay claim to a higher order of intelligence than that which would settle matters of right and wrong by methods common among barbarians 100 years ago. But we do say, with the late W. H. Howland at a street car strike about fifteen years ago, that all men have a legal right to form a union to advance their interests in a constitutional manner, and no employer, corporation or company has a moral or legal right to provoke riot and disorder by refusing to recognize that lawfully organized union. Furthermore, we say that a government elected to rule and control the whole nation in the interest of the commonwealth, who wilfully and systematically allows a small section of the community to provoke and blackmail the vast majority of the nation, by insisting on their greedy and unreasonable methods of doing business, and when, as a result of this provocation, riot and disorder break out, this same Government calls out the militia, we humbly submit to this Council that the Government is prostituting the military power of the nation to perpetuate and continue special privileges, antagonistic to the peace and prosperity of the commonwealth. We are thankful to say that at present there are no signs of any riots in our fair Dominion, therefore while our minds are calm, this is an opportune time to discuss this question. The crushing weight of the military systems with their burden of war falls on the manual laborer. In Europe the three items, cost of standing armies, cost of interest on national debts, loss of citizens' services who are serving in the armies, amount to $700,000,000 every year. Also the character of our military system is out of harmony with our democratic institutions, and is really a relic of the old feudal times when our fathers were serfs. Therefore, that we may lessen the miseries of humanity, that we may lighten the burden of taxation that is crushing the manual toilers of Europe and is getting too heavy on this continent; also that we may check that haughty military pride that is driving hundreds of German soldiers to suicide, and has galled many a brave and loyal British soldier, we ask you to endorse the following recommendation:

That the Canadian Militia Act be so amended that—

1. When a militiaman is charged with any breach of military discipline, he shall be tried by a court-martial of non-commissioned officers.

2. That when on active service, and officers and men have to share the same hardships and dangers, they shall also share the same diet.

3. That when a member of the Canadian militia on foreign service shall be found guilty of any breach of the military law, punishable by death, the offender shall have the right to demand that he be returned to the district where he enlisted and there tried by a jury of his peers as a citizen, whose verdict shall dominate the sentence of the court-martial.

4. That a conscience clause be inserted in the Canadian Militia Act, ordaining that no boy in our public schools shall be compelled to take the course of military training if his parent sends a written objection thereto.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. H. Rooks, Secretary.

Carter's Teething Powders

Best for Teething Babies

When Baby is teething the thoughtful mother need have no fear if Carter's Teething Powders are used. For years thousands of mothers have found them a real safe guard at this critical period of baby's life.

NO CONVULSIONS

No fever, no pain in teething when Carter's Teething Powders are used. They promote the secretions, give tone and vigour to baby.

Take no substitute—Every genuine box must bear this signature

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CARTER'S LUNG BALSAM

Cures baby's cough quickly. It is pleasant to take, and can be given to any child without fear.

CARTER'S WORM POWDERS

are a safe and effectual remedy for worms in children and adults.

CARTER'S HEADACHE POWDERS

Cures all headaches—will cure yours.

A World of Pleasure For $1.00

delivered to your home; balance to be paid in small weekly payments. This offer is good for the three Great Singing and Talking Machines in the world, the Edison phone, Edison and Victor, ranging in price from $10.00 to $65.00.

They are the grandest home entertainers ever invented. No home should be without one. Just think, you can sit by your own firside and listen to the grandest comedies, minstrel overtures, in fact, an endless variety of entertainment.

Our store is the only place in the city where you can buy the best at the lowest prices.

Call and hear our free concerts every evening.

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Everything in Talking Machines

9 & 11 QUEEN ST. EAST

Open Evenings.

SOME FACTS OF HISTORY

Taxation at the Bottom of Most Wars.

Cincinnati, May 8.—In speaking on the subject of taxation, Mr. Herbert S. Bigelow, pastor of the Vine street Congregational Church, said:

At the bottom of most of the wars of history there is to be found the question of taxation. Take the three great events which stand out as the milestones of Anglo-Saxon liberty.

Prominent among the grievances which the people had with King John was oppressive taxation, and the Magna Charta which they wrested from him provided that no tax "shall be imposed for our realm save by the common council of our realm."

The English revolution began with Hampden's refusal to pay the ship money and ended in the famous Declaration of Rights, which was written in the blood of a king, and which declared: "Levying money for the use of the crown, without grant of Parliament, is illegal."

The American revolution is the next scene in the great drama. That began with the Boston tea party, and was fought to vindicate the principle of no taxation without representation.

These civil and international feuds, in which so much of the energy of mankind has been consecrated to hatred and death, were caused more by ignorance as to the right way to raise taxes than by any innate desire in man for war and bloodshed.

A machine will not stand the strain of its work and give satisfaction until it has been constructed on correct principles. It is so with the machinery of government. Much of the friction and friability has been due to incorrect principles of government. The most important power of government is the power to tax. If, therefore, taxes are not raised in accordance with correct principles, if in the performance of its chief function the Government is fundamentally wrong, political corruption and economic distress are to be expected.

Labor and Capital.

The conflicts between organized labor and monopolistic capital amount to a kind of chronic civil war. At the bottom of this industrial war is the question of taxation. Until this question is settled right, the work of the arbitrator will not be blessed. We cannot have industrial peace while the cause of industrial war exists. That cause, more than any other single cause, is a barbarous system of taxation.

Greed a Factor.

True, greed is a factor. The work of improving civil government is blocked by powerful interests seeking special favors. Our real enemy, however, is not the greed of the few, but the ignorance of the many. There is no more important work than to teach people what may be done by a right system of taxation to discourage favoritism and corruption and promote a more equitable distribution of wealth.

Our system of raising public revenue by levying a tax upon all property would not be just even if it were administered by angels. What wonder, then, that human beings have found it a stumbling-block!

SPARKLING THOUGHTS FROM J. L. GORDON'S SERMON ON "WHAT IS TRUTH?"

Pilate was in a strait between three—the Roman Empire, Jews and his own conscience.

◆ ◆

The world asks the question from without this morning, "What is truth?"

◆ ◆

Tennyson said, "If I knew all about the flower, I would know all about man; if I knew all about the flower, I would know all about God."

◆ ◆

We say that goodness is quality.

◆ ◆

We say that holiness is wholeness.

◆ ◆

We say that righteousness is rightness.

◆ ◆

Truth is relationship, the science of universal relationship.

Where you find truth you will find harmony.

The key suits the lock and the lock suits the key.

Truth in society is perfect co-operation.

Three steps in the development of life—First step from bad to good, second from the good to better, third from better to the best.

The supreme illustration of truth is the life of Jesus Christ.

Five grand writers in the New Testament with five great thoughts—Paul's thought, Faith; Peter's thought, Hope; John's thought, Love; James' thought, Good Works; Jude's thought, Warning.

God is ever raising up a Messiah.

Tolstoi, amidst the snow of Russia, is a democrat of democrats.

This makes a leader of a man.

Righteousness is rightness.

You will have to take the anarchist and marry him to the socialist before you have a first-class statesman.

The greatest jewel is love in the heart. It belongs to the avenue of poverty and may be found in the broadway of wealth.

MARY'S LITTLE SHOP.

Mary had a little shop
To help her on life's way.
Honest toil found fit reward,
And it began to pay.

"How's big?" the landlord asked,
And Mary was imprudent;
She never guessed the landlord was
An economic student.

But Mary's landlord's eagle eye
Was watching how things went;
When the 15th day of May came round
He doubled Mary's rent.

The imposition staggered her;
But what could Mary do?
Subsistence bare is the tenant's share,
All above is the landlord's due.

So Mary kept on as before,
Improving as time went;
And step by step with increased trade
The landlord raised the rent.

And thus the merry game went on,
Till Mary's life was spent;
As fast as God could prosper her,
The landlord raised the rent.

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Indicates Superior Workmanship
No Child Labor
Clean and Healthy Workshops

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$130.00 GIVEN AWAY

The Circulation Committee of the District Labor Council submitted to the Directors of the THE TOILER PUBLISHING CO., the following proposition: **"That a trophy valued at $50 be presented to the Section of the District Labor Council sending in the most subscriptions by the first of September, 1904. Not less than 300 Subscriptions will be necessary to win the trophy."**

F. J. WILSON, President. WM. BOLAND, Secretary.

The Directors have accepted the proposition and will offer the following prizes to be competed for between the **1st day of May, 1904,** and the **1st day of September, 1904,** inclusive:

To the Section returning most Subscriptions

$50.00 TROPHY

(300 Subscriptions Necessary to win)

To the Union sending in the greatest number

Handsome Roll-Top Desk

Value $25.00

To the Individual who sends in the largest number

Silverware or Ring

Value $15.00

There will also be a

MONTHLY PRIZE

To the Individual sending in the greatest number each month will be given

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