

THE HAMILTON TIMES

SATURDAY, SEPT. 4, 1909.

LABOR DAY.

On Monday the workmen of the country will celebrate Labor Day as the distinctive holiday of the toiler by ceasing from work and indulging in play. The observance of the holiday will be more general in the cities than in the rural districts where the fall work presses. It is fitting that a country like Canada, where the man who works with his hands exercises an equal share in the Government with the brain-worker and capitalist, and where a special department of the Government, with a Minister at its head, cares for the special interests of labor, we should have such a holiday. In probably no other country in the world are the rights of the toilers so well recognized, their interests so well guarded by legislation and administration, their status so well established and their condition so generally satisfactory. This is true democracy. It recognizes that, whatever the conditions, it is the man who is to be legislated for, and whose rights are to be safeguarded. Real equity is founded upon a recognition that every man's rights are bounded by the equal rights of every other; and our labor legislation and the organization of a Ministry of Labor gives effect to this principle. Having in view the significance of labor's holiday, let us celebrate it enthusiastically but sensibly; and let every worker feel that he has a personal interest in the progress and good government of a country in which such happy conditions exist.

THE LEMIEUX ACT.

Newspapers like the Toronto Mail and Empire take delight in saying cutting things about the Lemieux Act, and criticizing the Minister of Labor for not acting under certain circumstances when they well know that it would be wrong for him to interfere. But these attacks are well understood to be mere attempts to depreciate, for political purposes, the working of the act. The newspapers that see the virtues in the act and are honest enough to publicly express their approval of the measure are more numerous. Outside of Canada the act is judged upon its merits. In the September number of McClure's Magazine Dr. Eliot, President Emeritus of Harvard University, expresses the opinion that the act is "the best piece of legislation in the world for the prevention and settlement of lockouts and strikes." This is borne out by what it has accomplished since it came into force. During the two years from March 22, 1907, to the end of March, 1909, there were fifty-five applications for the appointment of Conciliation Boards. Six disputes were settled out of court before investigation. Of the remaining forty-nine cases forty-seven were settled in accordance with the recommendations of the boards, and in only two cases, in which the recommendations were not unanimous, did a strike ensue. Even in these two exceptions there was an ultimate settlement in accordance with the suggestions of the majority of the conciliators. The conspicuous fact is that in 97 per cent. of the disputes arising in transportation and mining industries war was averted, with the attending inconveniences and enormous losses entailed thereby on a long-suffering public. Strikes were prevented in twenty-five coal mines and four other mines; on fifteen railroads and three street railways; in two bodies of longshoremen, one body of teamsters, one of sailors and in two industries not public utilities—the act permitting industries not public utilities to partake of its benefits when both parties make application therefor.

Speaking of this the Philadelphia Record says: "A law that has worked so well, and that interferes so little with the liberties of employers and employees is well worth consideration by legislators with a view to its adaptation to our needs." The Lemieux Act may not be perfect. We know that some labor leaders view it with little favor, and some labor men have openly denounced it. But the good work it has done cannot be gainsaid. Labor conventions could do worse than show how it could be improved. The Government will give every consideration to their representations.

THE BOYS AND GIRLS.

Recent Police Court revelations have led to an awakening of interest in the laxity shown by parents in the matter of the training and control of young boys and girls. Some special cases have called particular attention to the behavior of a regrettably large number of girls of tender age, who spend much time in the streets, and whose manners do not meet with the approval of their elders. The Halifax Recorder discusses at some length the views of an English lady who has been making observations in that city, and who has been not a little astonished at what she regards as the extraordinary lack of supervision on the part of the parents. "Although in England there is more laxity in that respect than prevailed when I was a young girl," said she, "nevertheless the parental laxity which prevails in your city and in other Canadian cities would be regarded as risky and reprehensible in England, Scotland and Ireland. It seems quite the usual thing in Halifax for boys and girls to organize 'private picnics' or long excursions, during which these young people are entirely free from responsible supervision. Sometimes a so-called chaperone is selected to accompany these parties—but in not a few instances the chaperone selected is young enough and giddy enough to appear to need supervision herself. Pro-

miscuous boating and bathing parties take place, and altogether your social life among the young people is for more 'free and easy' than with us in England."

There is no doubt that our Canadian practices in this respect are very lax as compared with those of the motherland and of comparatively recent times in Canada. It used to be the custom for parents to feel a responsibility for their children that led them to take an interest in where they spent their leisure time and in whose company; and the child who did not recognize the parents' right to be informed in these particulars was looked upon as being in danger. Unfortunately, nowadays, a very large number of parents are not in their children's confidence in this respect and do not seem to regard it as their duty to know, or care about where they are or with whom they associate.

And the street peril is a real and ever-present one. It is had enough that young boys should be loafing around street corners and acquiring "smartness" when they should be snugly tucked between the sheets, or devoting themselves to the better equipment of their minds, or spending pleasant evenings under good auspices; it is vastly worse when young girls in short dresses or pinafores waste their evenings in tramping the streets, ogling at passersby and inviting the sneers and insults which reward the forward. Such girls are in great danger—the greater because they so little appreciate it. The street associations of a great city are not good teachers of innocence. The police court records of all great cities are full of sad examples of wrecked girlhood traceable to neglect of parental oversight and street companionships, the formation of which it might have prevented. Unfortunately is the girl who has no mother to advise her, or who does not give her every confidence; doubly unfortunate is she whose mother does not feel her responsibilities in this regard and faithfully discharge them. The pitfalls are many; the danger signals are too few; and the consequences of error are sad to contemplate. Boys and girls, trust your parents. Parents, are you doing your full duty towards your offspring?

A RECORD YEAR.

In 1907 a new record for the international commerce of the world was established. The statement of the United States Department of Commerce and Labor puts the exports at \$14,000,000,000 and the imports at \$16,000,000,000. We are not clear as to the why of the difference in the figures; and there is no explanation coming as to how goods which are an export of one country should not be an import of another. Taking the statement as it stands, however, we find that ten countries contributed more than two-thirds of the total. These figures may prove of interest:

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There is no evidence in the trade figures of the nations to show that Great Britain is losing her supremacy in the commercial or financial world, or that her people are becoming decadent.

"IMMORTALISM."

Bishop Fallows, of St. Paul's Reformed Episcopal Church, Chicago, on a recent Sunday preached a sermon in explanation of "Why I Am an Immortalist and Not a Spiritualist," in which he not only avowed his belief in "spooks," in the return to earth of the spirits of the dead, and the interchange of communication with the living, but alleged that it was the logical belief of the orthodox Christian who accepted the Bible teaching, and quoted eminent churchmen of the past as sharing his views. While holding these views and advocating that "the church ought boldly to affirm them," he is very severe in his denunciation of Spiritualists, to whom he says: "Spiritualism means communication with the spirits of the departed through mediums; and by whom 'it has been erected into a religious system or cult with varying shades of orthodox belief, and of the rankest infidelity, and has been used as a term to cover innumerable forms of fraud and trickery." In short, he says, the Spiritualists have been "stealing the livery of heaven to serve the devil in," and he would, as it were, replevin it.

We confess that we do not—aside from his exclusion of "mediums"—see the striking difference between Spiritualism and the "Immortalism" which he would have the church "reaffirm" and teach, and which very clearly assumes the intercommunication between the spirits of the departed and the pork-and-potatoes-eating man or woman of human flesh, bones, blood and sensations. But we presume that there must be a very radical difference, judging by the verbal stoning which he inflicts on the Spiritualists. That "Immortalism" is scriptural he asserts confidently, asking: "If Moses and Elijah could come and talk with Peter and James and John and with the transfigured Christ, why cannot others come from that world around us?" And, although some may challenge this ministerial style of reasoning as savoring of the "argumentum ad ignorantiam," he seems to feel entitled to the decision of the referee. But it may be well for the acceptability of his theory that he puts forward only the spirits of the good, whose companionship and influence upon us poor humans (for, of course, they exercise "influences" upon us) are likely to be

beneficial. Of the "evil spirits," the "demons," of which we read, and which are less attractive to contemplate, he says nothing.

But Bishop Fallows does not base his belief on a single text and a challenge to our ignorance. He recognizes the powerful effect of authority on an audience or congregation, so he resorts to the "argumentum ad hominem" in this manner:

John Wesley, long before the days of modern spiritualism, answered it: "These invisible agents (the angels) frequently join with their human friends, giving them wisdom, courage and strength. What pretence have I to deny well attested facts because I cannot comprehend them. The giving up of these apparitions is, in effect, giving up the Bible."

And again: Dr. Adam Clarke, the celebrated commentator, answered it for the orthodox church: "I believe there is a supernatural and spiritual world, in which human spirits, both good and evil, live in a state of consciousness. I believe that any of these spirits may, according to the order of God, in the laws of their place of residence, have intercourse with this world and become visible to mortals."

He mentions a number of eloquent men who, he says, "have eagerly sought and have found the truth of the influence of immortal beings upon our mortal life," and arraigns the Christian church for not making use of this belief, instead of leaving it to be exploited by "tricksters." Probably the good bishop may be charged by the Spiritualists with trying to steal their thunder while ridiculing and depreciating its quality. We are not competent to judge between them. Whether from healthfulness of physique or mental deficiency, we have never been favored with the sight of a sure enough spirit. Every time we thought to find a real one, it became metamorphosed into some very ordinary material substance. Perhaps we have not hit on the right hunting ground, or the open season, for spooks; or perhaps they have a special aversion to us; a friend suggests that we treat our liver too gingerly to be a good spook-catcher. But if Bishop Fallows' gospel be accepted, and we should be required to succeed "Immortalism" as he would define it, we cannot but feel that we should in all honesty give some acknowledgment to our friends the Spiritualists.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Do not run traction engines over the asphalt pavements of the city. It should be made widely known that to do so injures the street and subjects those doing so to a severe penalty.

Dr. Cook's challenge to skeptics is to go to the pole, see the flag he hoisted and find a small brass tube buried under it which contains his statement. Now, what are doubters going to do about it?

Of course a big programme of street paving for next year is easily mapped out by this year's aldermen. But next year's aldermen have to find the money. With them the question takes on a practical aspect.

It is not to be feared that there will be a scarcity of candidates for controllerships. Aside from the special pull a controllership gives, there's the consideration of probably 1,500 good dollars of Mr. Ratepayer's coin.

The temperance people purpose to make their influence felt in the next municipal campaign. They know some men better than they did last election. Doubtless if they adopt wise tactics they may command some consideration. Once a year, at least, aldermanic candidates show them respect.

It is certainly matter for congratulation that the city authorities find the Street Railway Company's bill for the city's share of the concrete work on James and Barton streets to be well under the estimate. The city "needs the money." Moreover, it speaks well for the company's execution of the work.

The announcement of the death of the widow of Hon. John Sandfield MacDonald, at Cornwall, in her 90th year, will probably come as a surprise to a great many people who had quite forgotten that this link with the early days of Ontario still existed. Mrs. MacDonald was married in 1840. Although retired from the public gaze, she had enjoyed excellent health until quite recently.

Chairman Pierpont, of the London Mendicity Society, is said to estimate that the skilled beggar in that city can make a larger sum weekly than the average industrious workman. He says more than half a million dollars are given away annually in casual charity to London street beggars, most of it in absolute ignorance of the condition of the recipients. That is a good way to increase mendicancy.

The experiment of oiling the streets to lay the dust is reported by some Toronto officials to have proved to be a "success." That is not the opinion of some Toronto housewives of the oiled locality. They denounce the oiling as an outrage, and say that much of the "laid" dust, plus the filthy oil, is now on their carpets. Some of the ladies have been heard to wish that those responsible for the oiling "had their noses rubbed in it."

The semi-diameter of the earth at the equator is reckoned at 39,226,202 feet; at the poles it is estimated at 39,854,595 feet. If Cook actually stood

on the axial centre at the pole he was nearer by 71,907 feet, or a little more than twelve and a half miles, to the centre of the earth than a person would be at the equator. He would experience no axial motion, while at the equator the rate of axial rotation is about 1,036 miles an hour.

In speaking of Lord Beresford's statement at Toronto that the tendency of British naval policy was "to gain complete naval supremacy in the North Sea," the New York Sun says: "If he had been literal he would have said that the aim was to hold the supremacy, since no continental nation, or any two nations, could now contest the superiority of British armaments in home waters." The Sun is undoubtedly right. British naval supremacy is disputed by no sane observer. Lord Beresford does not doubt it for a moment.

The last Canadian survivor of the Indian Mutiny is dead again, according to reports.

IS IT PURE? (Toronto Star.)

It might easily be demonstrated that Toronto air is as good as any other air for flying purposes.

WHAT IT WOULD LOOK LIKE. (Toronto Telegram.)

Humorous Canadians suggest that the North Pole, with the Stars and Stripes attached, will feel like a barber's sign.

BUY THEM NOW. (Ottawa Journal.)

It may not be too early to commence buying the Christmas presents. Prosperity has come back and the Christmas counters will be crowded this year.

TALK PEACE. (Kingston Standard.)

Despite the maxim that the way to ensure peace is to prepare for war—a maxim disproved by practically every war the world has ever had—we honestly believe that the way to ensure peace is to prepare for and talk peace.

THE NICKEL THEATRE. (Brantford Expositor.)

There are possibilities of evil in the nickel theatre. If the pictures shown are not of a pure and wholesome character, they are a fruitful source of moral contamination. On the other hand, wisely selected, they may be of decided benefit.

THE FLAG. (Montreal Witness.)

Another way not to bring disrespect on one's flag is not to decorate a chariot with it and parade foreign cities. From that to riding down aged pedestrians and then running away there is only a step. Gratuitous insolence is closely allied to sneaking cowardice.

LABOR DAY. (Exchange.)

I took a walk on Labor Day. To see what I could see. I found the "labor man" at play. No thought of work had he. But lo! the man who does not wear the toiler's well-worn, sweat-stained blouse.

I found at labor everywhere, Fixing up the house.

NOT SO BAD. (Puck.)

Nervous Lady—Don't your experiments frighten you terribly, Professor? I heard that your assistant met with a horrible death by falling 4,000 feet from a balloon.

Professor—Oh, that report was greatly exaggerated. Nervous Lady—Exaggerated? How? Professor—I was a much more than 2,500 feet that he fell.

NEVER TOUCHED HIM. (Chicago News.)

"Yes," said the amateur fisherman, "I caught a three-pound trout yesterday, and while at the end of my line in mid-air it was seized by a hawk and carried off."

"You're all right," rejoined the village grocer. "Such a little bit as fixing the weight of a fish before it landed can't impair your standing in the Ananias Club."

NAME ON GATE. (Stratford Beacon.)

Some of the editors of country papers are sighing for the arising of a genius who will place on farm gates throughout the country. It should not require much genius, but it would certainly be a good scheme for every farmer to have his name on his gate, with number of concession and lot, and name of farm which he holds. The desirable practice of naming farms is decreasing.

CHILDREN. (Catholic Standard and Times.)

The talkative young father concluded a tiresome anecdote, purporting to show the cuteness of his baby. It was the last of five such, each of which had been more wearisome than its predecessor.

"Smart, eh?" he chortled. The long-suffering listener grabbed the story by the lapel and held him. "Reminds me," said he, "of one of my children. He remarked to me the other day: 'Pop, you talk a whole lot, but you never say anything.'"

"My! that was bright. How old is he?"

"Only 23 years old."

NO LABOR DAY. (Toronto Globe.)

Labor Day will not be observed in the towns and villages of western Manitoba and in the principal sections of the entire west, as everyone is too busy with the harvest and with business generally to take a holiday. The stores must remain open for the convenience of the farmers. Weather conditions for the harvest have been well-nigh perfect, and remarkable progress has been made with the work generally. If it continues as at present for a few weeks a record will be made in gathering the western crop, and threshing will be completed soon enough to permit the eastern men to return to their homes much earlier than usual.

A FUTURE BATTLE. (Toronto News.)

Considering the development of the automobile and the aeroplanes the

New Dress Goods Claim Your Attention

Paris and London have contributed their best to our showing of the new Dress-Goods and the skilled looms abroad have worked out the problem beautifully, gloriously for only exclusive and correct materials are found here. The season calls for Dress Goods of quality which makes it more necessary to shop at this store where there is long stood for standard quality and value. Besides many special values are here which will be in evidence during the season. We tell you more:

New Broadcloths \$1.00 to \$2.50. Broadcloths, French Sedans, German and French Broad and Clifton Cloths, the season's fashionable fabrics for high class tailored wear; every staple and novelty shade included in a wide range, also black; special values \$1.00, \$1.25 to \$2.50 yard.

Cheviot Suiting \$1.00 to \$2. Cheviot Suitings for winter suits and skirts, in fine and wild special values, in black, navy and novelty shades, 46-inch, special value at \$1.00, \$1.25 to \$2.

NOTE—All our made-to-order departments have opened and are taking orders for the Fall season. You should place your order at once.

MONDAY LABOR DAY Store Closed FINCH BROS.

Opening Display of the New Silks

CHURCHES TO-MORROW. Special Services and Special Music.

At Simcoe Street Methodist Church the pastor, Rev. H. B. Christie, will conduct both services.

Rev. Beverley Ketchen will preach at both services in MacNab Street Presbyterian Church.

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OBITUARY.

Sister Borromeo, Formerly of Hamilton, Died at Toronto.

The death occurred at Loretto Abbey, Toronto, of Sister Borromeo (Annie Doherty), who was very well known in this city, having received part of her education at Sacred Heart School. She was in her 31st year, and was well liked by all who knew her. For the past fourteen years she had been connected with the Loretto Abbey. Mrs. Sala, Locke street, north, was the aunt of the deceased, and her mother, Mrs. Doherty, resides at the same address. The funeral will take place from the abbey on Monday, and interment will be in Toronto.

Mary Steven, youngest daughter of Thomas and Mrs. Steven, 9 Peter street, died last night, after a lingering illness. She was an active worker in the Young Peoples' Societies of Zion Tabernacle until poor health compelled her to give up church duties. She was 24 years of age. A large circle of friends will regret her early death. The funeral will take place on Monday afternoon from her parents' residence to Hamilton Cemetery.

The funeral of Maria Gavey took place yesterday at 2.30 p. m. from the residence of her son, 160 Strachan street east, to St. Luke's Church, where services were held by the Rev. E. N. R. Burns. The pall-bearers were: Wm. Clark, H. Catton, J. Thatcher, A. Thatcher, Robt. Lonsborough. The floral tributes were numerous and beautiful.

Walk Tells Man's Character. (By Searles Patterson.)

The way a man or woman walks means more to a close observer than the walker would admit. A good reader of character will pick the man of purpose from the crowd on the street every time. Some may move slowly and others with a rapid stride, but the way they do it is what counts. The swing and bearing give an impression of just what a man does when at work.

Some day the young man who bears himself well will walk right into the position he desires. He often leaves his country town with an awkward, shuffling gait and returns like the soldier with the manly walk of enterprise. The walk and bearing of success have come with his rise in life. The town is proud of him, and that quick, wide-awake alertness lends a bright example to the community.

There is the man who walks slowly, but with a sureness of step which tells that he locks every door behind him which ought to be locked.

Here are two men who set a swift pace to their places of work. One is the business manager of a big magazine and the other a soda fountain dispenser, but they both excel in their line. And each appreciates the other for a good magazine and a good drink.

Blotches—Benpecke thinks you are the finest fellow in the world. How did you manage to make such an impression? Blotches—Oh, I pretended to be surprised when he told me he was a married man.

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Holder is attached to waist or vest and automatically winds up the chain when glasses are not in use.

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J. B. ROUSE, 111 King East, Opposite Walford.

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