

"The Tribune"

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE
TORONTO DISTRICT LABOR COUNCIL

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THE TRIBUNE will endeavor to be in every essential a first-class newspaper, and seriously labor to further the trade union movement and economic progress. Contributions and items of news concerning the labor movement are requested from our readers. Anonymous communications will not be printed. No name will be published when a request is made. THE TRIBUNE will not hold itself responsible for the views of correspondents.

Address all communications and make all remittances by Post Office Order, Express Money Order, or Bank Draft to

FRED PERRY.

106-108 Adelaide St. W., Toronto

"In Union there is Strength."

Send along your subscriptions. They are commencing to move now. Keep the good work going.

It seems impossible that in the year 1906 in the enlightened City of Toronto we find teamsters working for a miserable five, and in some cases, six dollars a week. Men miserable enough to work for it, and employers miserable enough to pay it.

The Carpenters and Joiners have determined that as a skilled body they are greatly underpaid, and will demand an advance in their pay this coming spring, and to this end have given notice to the employing contractors, so that no surprise will be sprung, and no mistakes can be made by contractors in their figuring for the coming season, and no complaint can be made of the action of the Brotherhood. The carpenter has to give more time to learn his trade, more money for his outfit, more expense to keep his outfit in good order, than any other branch of the building trade. He is perhaps the most skillful man on the building. He has to be the first man on the job, and the last man to leave it. He has to be on the job all the time, as the other trades could not work only under his guidance.

Why do bartenders insist on handing up a non-union cigar every time a cigar is called for, and seem to enjoy being turned down all the time. They should know that they certainly drive trades unionists away from the house by persistently handing out these goods. They are cheaper, and more profit goes to the proprietor, perhaps, but a union man wants union goods all the time. The hold man calls the turn; the quiet man does not, but he remits it all the same, and keeps away for the future.

A meeting will be called at an early date by the provisional directors of the New Co-operative Store for unionists only.

Buy from advertisers in the Tribune. Patronize those who cater to your trade through our columns. They show they appreciate your money and have a friendly feeling towards organized labor.

The Carriage and Wagon Makers are a greatly underpaid class of mechanics, considering the skill required to produce genuine articles.

The Teamsters' Union intend holding their annual concert and dance on the 8th of February, in all probability in the Labor Temple assembly hall.

The Council have elected a good, strong label committee, and it is expected that a combined move will be made to push the label as never before in Toronto.

Let manufacturers who make goods and that are catering to the trades unions for support see that when they are ordering their work from outside trades that the union label is on every article. It costs them no more to have the label on than to be without it. Imagine a wagon carrying union-made goods bearing a union drivers' label, and no union label on either harness or vehicle.

The bakers intend to carry on their strike to the very end, and ask every trades unionist to insist on getting their bread from union label shops. Instruct your wives, and show them the necessity of this. It is the bakers now—it may be your turn next.

The Coopers are jubilating over their anticipated victory. Their sun has commenced to shine on them.

Have you sent in your subscription to the Tribune yet? Are you working for your paper in your meetings? If not, why not? It is necessary that you have a paper that will support your cause. Don't let the good work stop for the want of your individual effort.

The Molders' strike is still on with the Canada Foundry and the Gurney Company of Toronto, the McClary Mfg. Co. of London, and the Dougherty Mfg. Co. of Sarnia. The harder the union man works, the sooner efforts will be crowned with success. Just at this time it is necessary for every member to do his full duty. It is about the time dealers are placing their order for stoves for the next season.

The Lithographers of Toronto are still out. They have every hope of ultimate success.

Trade is booming, and everything is prosperous in Canada, and now is the time to pay in more dues and prepare a defence fund; even if it is not necessary now, the time may come, and shortly at that. In the time of peace prepare for war.

No union can exist on a paltry 50c per month paid in as dues. You are mostly getting fair money now, and how did you get it? By organization, was it not? Then don't begrudge a small portion of your earnings to defend your position if necessary.

Subscribe to the Tribune. Support your own organ.

In a tremendous flare heading in one of our evening papers the announcement appears that a wife of ONE OF THE TYPOTHETAE WAS MURDERED. Perhaps there was no inference meant. We don't know.

A few days after the same paper says: (without a flare head this time) "it was not a Union man who murdered the Chicago lady." Should we sympathize with their disappointment?

No report so far from the Label Boosters. Big things are being looked for.

Now is the time to lend a helping hand and show a fellow feeling with Local 30 of the Sheet Metal Workers, who are fighting with an unjust decision given by Judge McMahon, which they are trying with all their might to upset. Let us all get together and deny ourselves of 25c worth of luxury for one week and send it in to these men. 25c from each and every man would be a step in the right direction, and nobody would miss the small amount.

The Bakers could also stand some of the medicine. They have had a long siege of it up to date. While they don't want as large an amount, they would be more than thankful for assistance.

Don't let us be narrow. Nothing can be accomplished by the trades unionist without a little self-denial. Hold out a helping hand to your suffering brothers as you would like it extended to you under the same circumstances.

The "Tribune," the official organ cannot be run on hot air, and it is about time we were alive to the fact. It takes money and plenty of it. Our baby paper should be walking by now. Are you doing your best to send us more paid-up subscribers. The postage alone is a serious item. Think it over, and then get to work. Don't let a meeting pass without making an effort to corral those who are not yet subscribers.

Wanted for the "Tribune," more writers, more news items. Everyone can do his share, no matter how small, and every little helps us along with the good work.

Are you a shareholder in the Labor Temple Company? It is one of the best-paying concerns in Toronto, and the debt should be wiped out in a hurry.

We notice in the Typographical Journal strong appeals made for printers to wear a button. It would be a good thing for Canadian printers. The chaff would be sooner be winnowed out. In fact, all trades unionists should wear the emblem of their union.

Buy only from advertisers in the Tribune. Support those who cater for your trade. Don't pay out your money to those who have no use for you, and imagine you have to deal with them.

The call of Controller Jones has had effect. The Street Railway Company has been forced to make their service a convenience once again. The next time the manager wants to have stations and a regular steam road service he should be sat on before he inflicts his experiments on a long-suffering community.

Another foolish thing the Street Railway Company are trying to manage, against all common sense. They try and bring all their cars to the centre at 6 p.m., and as a consequence one can never tell when he will get home. The traffic is always paralyzed. The cars should be run on the proper periods, as usual, and if the service is not adequate new lines should be built. This should be enforced by the Council without a month's waiting. It is all fudge for Manager Fleming to say the service will not be as quick. They run the cars on exactly the same time. The motorman is the only one to suffer with his brakes, and as soon as the cars are properly equipped with air brakes even this will be remedied.

The Musical Protective Association of Toronto have asked the city for an increase of pay for public concerts for the coming season. They ask \$1.50 instead of \$1.25.

When will that awful hole in the Allan Gardens be filled in. It is a perfect disgrace as it is.

Mr. George Wm. Briggs, general auditor I. B. of T. of Indianapolis, paid a flying visit to the brotherhood of Toronto, and we were pleased to receive a call from George whilst here.

Regarding the overcrowding in the Majestic last Sunday, we suppose if an accident had occurred the manager would have been ordered to make a few slight alterations in the internal arrangements of the house and again be allowed to over-pack the house, no matter how many the house is licensed for. That don't seem to count. What a squeal the authorities make about a little overload on the ferry boats, which are ten times more safe than the Majestic Theatre ever was.

"Hail to Labor! Organize and stand together."—Wendall Phillips.

"Thank God we have a system of labor where there can be a strike. Whatever the pressure, there is a point where the workingman may stop."—President Lincoln.

On Sunday, Jan. 22nd, 1905, thousands of Russian workmen were fired on and killed in the streets of St. Petersburg while they were peacefully marching to lay a peaceful appeal before the Czar.

According to the averages made by the Night Directory Company, Toronto has a population of 305,224, and 49,559 houses, of which 1,307 are vacant, which gives about 6 1-3 persons to each house, but still it is hard for a working man to get a decent house fit to live in for a rent that he can afford to pay, especially now the price of necessities have gone to such large proportions.

The City Engineer's report for 1904 gives us some very interesting figures that are well worth studying:

The area within the city limits, not including the portion of the city land covered by water, is 17.42 square miles.

There are 265.45 miles of street and 84 1/2 miles of lanes, of which 189.65 miles are paved and 75.80 miles unpaved.

There are 240.31 miles of sewers and 272.835 miles of water mains, with 3,205 hydrants. The average quantity of water pumped in 24 hours during 1904 was 24,799,758 gallons.

The electric street cars run over 90,836 miles of tracks, and more than 305 cars are in use. They carried 60,127,490 passengers in 1904.

The business of the Toronto Post Office shows a tremendous growth for 1905, showing an increase of \$105,003.79 over 1904, being \$375,232.61 more business than the City of Montreal for the same period. Montreal only showed \$36,739.47 increase in 1905 over the year 1904. Increase during the last five years: Montreal, 50.15 per cent.; Toronto, 72.79 per cent.

A petition is being freely circulated and largely signed by persons who have done business with William Smith, the treasurer of the Majestic Theatre, praying that he be released from duress vile, as his character has always been beyond reproach in the past, and that the sentence was much too severe.

MR. MERRICK AND THE EMPLOYERS' ASSOCIATION.

It has been several times stated in these columns and in other labor papers that the Employers' Association was formed not for the legitimate protection of its members, nor with any aims to promote good citizenship, but for the express purpose of dragging down and crushing the working people.

Surely the action of Mr. Merrick, the secretary of the Employers' Association, in reference to the increase in the wages of the civic scavengers will bear us out in our contention.

Mr. Merrick expressed his great displeasure and characteristic repugnance to the men having any advance in their wages, and said there are 1,000 common-sense business men in the town that think the same as he does.

This assumption we doubt very much, and would remind gentlemen that he is the hired man of an association whose members would be ashamed to do the work assigned to its secretary, and that it would be an utter impossibility to find 1,000 men in any community who would be mean and narrow enough to accept an office, the duties of which are to prevent hard-working, honest men from procuring for themselves a fair day's wages for a fair day's work.

We highly commend the action of Dr. Sheard, and hope that his consideration will be sufficiently appreciated by the men as to make the move a profitable one to the department.

Editor Tribune:

In answer to Mr. Storey's letter about the finances of the Labor Temple Company, I think if the Tribune would give more prominence to the status of the company more money would be received. I have looked for such news all the time, but have found none up to date. What is the matter with our official paper? If it is to be such, let it report on matters of such importance to the labor men of Toronto. If the facts were laid before us from time to time there would be no need of applying to capitalists for help for our Temple, dedicated to the cause of labor. Why should we be placed in the pauper class?

W. D. G.

Editor Tribune:

The disgraceful scene which took place at the doors of the Majestic Theatre last Sunday evening should be enough to convince everyone that the constant opening of this house on Sundays is intended to create a demand for Sunday amusements which will soon become a recognized fact and will be the means of introducing the open play house on Sundays, and should be stopped forthwith, no matter under what guise it is opened. If people want to hear the Word of God preached there are abundance of churches and eloquent preachers for all classes in this city and no need of the open play house.

Geo. Gough

It is quite evident that Dr. Sheard is not a member of the Employers' Association.

It will be in order at the next municipal elections for each candidate to tip the daily papers to say nothing.

Mr. Merrick thinks two dollars per day too much for a scavenger. We wonder how he would like to exchange jobs with one of them? The scavenger would likely object to deteriorating.

Some people object to the Labor Temple Company accepting money from persons outside the ranks of labor, or from any other source, for they have failed to pay their own.

It is alleged that the "Grip" Publishing Co. has a solid "Grip" on their employees by an agreement which is likely to cause considerable "Howling" before the time expires.

The Orangemen may elect the members of the Board of Education, but when it comes to the selection of a chairman they are compelled to stand to one side for the man in green.

Dr. Lynd seems to have had some really considerate friends.

If the bankers would organize a union and procure fair conditions and wages it would be a great relief to jails.

If you think there is anything wrong with the management of your union attend the meetings and assist in making them right.

Mr. Merrick was compelled to go away back and sit down.

Have you paid your subscription to the "Tribune"?

Don't be a "Knocker."

NOTES AND NOTELETS.

"You are in this world as strangers. Go north or south, to the east or to the west—in whatever place you will find a man who will chase you away, saying, 'This field is mine.' And, after having wandered through the earth, you will return, knowing that in no place is there a small corner where your wife in labor can bring forth her first born; where you can repose after your work; where, arrived at the end of your career, your children can bury your bones, as in a spot belonging to you."—Lamen-nah, "Paroles d'un Croyant."

"Apart from the hardships which result from the cruelty and injustice of men, all the others proceed from those to which the greater part of humanity fall a prey—to hunger, privations and an excess of toil; while a puffed up minority forgets itself in the midst of wealth and indolence, which carries in its train every manner of vice."—Tolstoy.

The Bank of Commerce has published its annual statement. The profits amount to \$1,376,167, equal to upwards of 13 per cent. on a paid-up capital of \$10,000,000. The notes issued amount to \$8,738,670. To be able to print piece of paper to the extent of upwards of \$8,000,000 and sell them to the public for that sum is a very easy way of getting hold of other people's wealth. The farmer must raise crops, the toilers must build, weave, forge and otherwise produce goods before they can get goods, but with the bankers it is wholly different. They can start a printing press, stamping each piece five or ten dollars, and lo, the transformation, the dream of alchemy realized, the paper is turned into gold. By this process the bankers may double their capital.

Where is the politician to be found who will utter the slightest whisper of protest against this iniquity.

Adding \$19,500,000 of free deposits and \$8,700,000 of currency, the bank has the use of \$28,200,000 for nothing. After making full allowance for any reserve and guarantee, the profits on this cannot easily be less than four per cent., equal to \$1,128,000—a very comfortable windfall.

The active capital amounts to about \$80,000,000, out of a total of nearly \$100,000,000—the actual amount being \$98,375,597.

Allowing an average profit of four per cent., there should have been a gross profit of about \$4,000,000. As the net profit was \$1,376,167, this would leave for expenses about \$2,623,733.

The manager, in his address, makes some curious admissions. He began the year by anticipating a curtailment of the prosperity, but he further states "there has been no moment of national doubt, and nature seems to have further-ed every effort we have made." It is true that nature furthers the growth of crops, the production and transportation of goods; but is it "Nature" that places the whole burden of taxation on

one class of the people and allows another class to take fortunes yearly for doing nothing? Is it nature that puts up a tariff that taxes one man three-fold and gives another man a monopoly? Is it nature that shields one man with a protective tariff and crushes another man with the high pressure of an immigration policy? Is it nature that helps one man to sell pieces of paper to another man for five dollars each?

He anticipates that the close of the Russo-Japanese war, and the expected tranquillity in Russia, will have the effect of reducing rates of interest, and thus diminish one of the fixed charges on industry.

Here we have a specimen of the half reasoning that is so common in financial circles. Fifty years ago 10 to 15 per cent. was a common rate for interest in this city. It has since declined to 5 or 6. But the ground rents have multiplied more than twenty fold. When farmers had to pay 10 per cent. on mortgages their burden was less than it is now at 6 per cent. The reason is simple. The mortgages are larger. It is marvellous how so many business men, in discussing these problems, never mention ground rents.

The manager also calls attention to the increased supply of gold and silver, the increase of gold yearly being \$350,000,000, and silver \$100,000,000. This, he thinks, will have a tendency to restore the money markets to their normal condition. What the normal condition is he intimates not. The normal condition, as we see it, is one man produces the wealth, but he does not get the money, whether it be gold or paper. If he would spare a few minutes to the thought of the just condition, so that every man would receive his rightful share, then there would be good hope for financial stability. But the ease with which a man can go round the world with a few pieces of paper in his pocket, either letters of credit or express company's cheques, shows how little effect the gold production has on the welfare of humanity. If crops fail we cannot eat paper, but if gold production declined we could use more cheques or notes.

The fact that we are importing more than we are exporting he seems to regard as a calamity. With a vast immigration coming to the country, bringing large quantities of implements, etc., with them, how can there be anything but an excess of imports. He regrets that the \$40,000,000 worth of iron and steel imported were not made in this country. If they had been there would have been another steal of \$7 per ton.

While he notices the goods that move horizontally from country to country, he heeds not the movement of goods to their right destination. That they should be appropriated by the men who never earned them, is not the subject discussed at bankers' meetings.

Mr. George Herring, of England, has presented to General Booth \$500,000 to be used to place poor people "on the land." This is much more to the credit of this man's kindly feelings than to his good judgment. Charity can never be a substitute for justice. It does nothing to relieve the people from the everlasting tribute which they have to pay for access to the land. General Booth has accomplished wonders in the organization of his army; but, so far as we can learn, he is silent as to the right of the people to the land, which "the Lord thy God giveth thee." If General Booth would make even a small effort to establish social justice, we would have more respect for his teachings. He does the same as the rest; he preaches a half-way-house religion, a mark time in the wilderness, instead of possessing the promised land.

Wonderful accounts have appeared of the "City Sceptre." It has been described as the "pearl sceptre," as "a magnificent work of art," and so on. It is nothing of the sort. It has indeed far higher value in its extraordinary antiquity. Its gold is supposed to be of a date before the Conquest, its gems are almost barbaric in the rudeness of their shape and setting. Perhaps the two most ancient "properties" of the City Corporation are this "sceptre" and the charter of William the Conqueror, which latter, it is understood, gave to London freedom from the law of primogeniture.



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