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The sporting element in the labor movement will welcome the opening of the Labor Temple, and we expect to see in the course of another year a regular athletic club attached to that excellent institution.

Current Comment

The result of the vote on the proposition to inaugurate the eight-hour day by the printers was overwhelmingly in favor of it. The vote stood: For the eight-hour proposition, 19,483; against, 5,498, or a majority for the proposition of 14,985. This means that where agreements are not against it, the eight-hour day will be inaugurated all over the jurisdiction in January, 1906.

The Typos are holding a grand popular concert on Saturday, Nov. 26th. The proceeds will go to assist in entertaining the International convention, which meets in Toronto next year. The talent is of the best, and includes Rennie Boswell, Bert Harvey, Miss Frances M Strong, Miss Mabel Paton, Hamilton Macaulay, Frank Bemrose, Miss Grace Lillian Carter, John A. Kelly and others and the tickets to all parts of Massey Hall are only twenty-five cents.

Eddie O'Dell is fast taking away the membership of the National Congress. The Independent Boot and Shoe Workers' Unions of Quebec are transferring their allegiance to the international movement, and Eddie has been in that city for some time overseeing the transfer.

"Peabodyism has gone." Although the State of Colorado went for Roosevelt, the entire Democratic state ticket was elected with a substantial majority. The miners are naturally very jubilant over the defeat of Peabody and his methods. He will now have four years of leisure to repent of the sins of his regime.

Roosevelt is the President for four years more, and Parker and his trust friends must "go way back and sit down" until they get their wind, which was completely knocked out of them.

The Ladies' Auxiliary of the Machinists opened their quarters in the new Labor Temple on Friday night last. The entertainment was of a social nature. The earlier part of the evening was given over to speeches, songs, etc. The speakers of the evening were Messrs. A. W. Holmes, James Simpson and James Wilson, while between these there was song and music. Upon the completion of this part of the programme a nice supper was furnished by the ladies, after which dancing was in order. The ladies deserve all credit for the success of their organization, which has been very gratifying to themselves as well as their brothers the machinists. They have just about doubled their membership during the present year, and are still going ahead. It is unnecessary to say that all who attended the entertainment came away with a feeling that the evening had been a most enjoyable one.

The A.F. of L. convention opened in San Francisco last Monday morning. So far as we know the only Canadians attending are Messrs. John A. Flett and D. A. Carey.

The Brotherhood of Teamsters hold a social and dance in Occident Hall tonight.

The Trades Council, at the last regular meeting, decided to adjourn for two weeks. The principal item of business transacted was the consideration of a letter from Secretary Mitchell, of the British Trades Congress, dealing with a published statement purporting to have been made by Mr. Verveille, president of the Trades Congress. Upon a thorough investigation it was found that the despatch was a manufactured one and a deliberate falsehood, published by the enemies of organized labor in an effort to separate the brothers on the other side of the pond from those over here. It will fail, however, as the explanation sent to Secretary Mitchell for publication over there will show the British trades unionists just where their Canadian brothers stand.

The Toronto District Labor Council decided at its last meeting to abolish the Miscellaneous and Label Sections, and in future label matters will be looked after by a Label Committee.

The labor movement is growing in spite of its enemies. Last year added more than half a million members to the A. F. of L.

Have you a share in the Labor Temple? If not, why not?

A Labor Temple share costs you one dollar. Two shares apiece will pay for the whole thing, and the monument will stand to your memory for all time.

SHAM BATTLE OF CAPITALISM.

The quadrennial sham battle between the forces of capitalism in the United States known as the Republican and Democratic parties occurred on Tuesday of last week amid all the cloud of vapourings about principle and glorious records, and resulted in the strenuous President being re-elected by the enormous plurality of over a million. This means there will be no change and consequently no improvement for the great masses who, by voting for one or other of the parties, have fastened the shackles of capitalism on themselves still more firmly. If the Democrats had been elected, the capitalists would still have been on top, just as they are here as a result of our election. It pays the corporations to assist a scrap in having the appearance of being genuine, for these contests are but red herrings drawn across the track of the workers to keep them from seeing their own interests. When the elections are over they simply put up a little more stuff and get things all their own way, while the fool workers and farmers wonder why it is they can never secure their rights.

A PADDED MEMBERSHIP

The National Congress has only about 2,500 Members, while Claiming Ten Thousand.

We would recommend trade unionists to read carefully the report of the so-called National Trades and Labor Congress, which recently held its second annual convention in Ottawa. It will be found commencing on page 361 of the Labor Gazette for the month of October, which is published by the Government Department of Labor. All that is needed to thoroughly expose this bogus concern is to carefully study that report. T. J. Griffiths, the secretary-treasurer, claims a total membership of 10,435 in 47 local unions. This membership, at a capitation tax of 12 cents a member per year, should net a total revenue from that source of $1,252.20, but on reference to the official report of the auditors it is found that the capitation tax received only amounted (all told) to $296.95, which would show a paying membership of less than 2,500. The report states that two out of the forty-seven local unions are in London, Ontario, and they are credited with 200 members.

Now, we know what we are talking about when we state that this is a deliberate fabrication. Secretary Griffiths knows only too well that the two national unions formed in London to act as strike-breakers were still-born and died at the time of their birth; in fact, inside of a month they were ridiculed out of existence, and that occurred over twelve months ago, and we doubt if they ever paid a cent of capitation tax. If the other figures in the report of the secretary-treasurer are equally reliable with those that refer to London, we don't wonder that the capitation tax only totals $296.95.

We don't presume to speak for other places. We prefer to let the auditors' report speak for itself; but we do know that the national movement does not exist in London, and that Secretary Griffiths knew of that fact when he prepared his padded report. Just get the October Labor Gazette and figure the problem out for yourself; don't take our word for it, but go by the official report of the National Congress itself. You will find it the richest thing you ever read, and we only wonder that Griffiths was so short-sighted as to let the official auditors' report get into print. Just read up the proceedings of the convention as given in the Government publication and you will not be long in arriving at the conclusion that the whole aggregation is a row of mighty small potatoes that has been struck by a frost.—Industrial Banner.

AID TO EDUCATION

Labor Movement a Great Force in Americanization — Must Admit All on Equal Terms.

In an article on "The Effect of Trade Unionism" in the Labor Clarion, Prof. John R. Commons of the University of Wisconsin declares that the trade union is the greatest of existing forces in what is called Americanization. He points out that it breaks down the barriers of race, nationality, language and religion, and teaches self-government and obedience to elected leaders.

"A union cannot choose its members like a corporation or a social club," says Prof. Commons, "nor let in the 'trusties' on the ground floor, like the Amalgamated Copper or United States Steel, but it must admit on equal terms every man who works at the trade. The anthracite coal strike commission found some 19 nationalities at work in the mines, and it is reported by the sociological department of the Colorado Fuel and Iron Company that their employees come from 22 nationalities and speak 27 different languages.

No other nation in the world has set up a hard task like this for unionism. The American nation has come to the aid of the employers with a protective tariff against the products of foreign cheap labor, but it has left to the unions the harder task of protecting the laborer himself, and this must be done, not by keeping the foreigner out, but by taking him into the union. No wonder the unions are forced to stand for the union shop. The union shop is the workman's protective tariff. If compelled to give it up, he will be compelled to go into politics and stop immigration."

In regard to acts of violence attributed to the unions Prof. Commons says:

"Notwithstanding the many reports of violence on the part of unions, my observation of particular unions shows that they have reduced the total amount of violence. Factional fights, race conflicts, brutal deeds of organized workmen are reported in the local papers, but the deeds of the same people after they are organized are reported by the Associated Press.

"The union took them in, not because they were brutal, but because the employer had hired them. Nevertheless, the duty of the union is to make them peaceable, for an organization must be held responsible for the acts of its members in furtherance of its aims. Only should it be borne in mind that no other institution has done so much as the trades unions to educate our mixed population, just emerging from centuries of despotism, to the ideals and peaceable methods of American citizenship."

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(By a Workingman).

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THE POPULAR SLOGAN TO-DAY.

"The products of the labor of the toilers for the capitalists and as small a wage as possible for the toilers."—Political economy.

THANKSGIVING DAY.

One more year has rolled away, and Thanksgiving Day is here with us once more. This year it is being celebrated later than usual, and I am inclined to think that it was a good suggestion that appeared in our daily papers that we should have a fixed date, say the second Monday in October, as Monday would give the people a far better opportunity to travel, as they could get away on the Saturday afternoon or evening and return on Monday evening or Tuesday morning. This would give those who are away from home the chance to gather once more round the family table. There is a splendid opportunity here for the District Labor Council to make a request to this effect to those who have the fixing of the date of this very popular holiday.

MONEY.

To-day the god of money, which we are pleased to name "The Almighty Dollar," appears to have a much larger grip on our hearts than does the thought of "Our Father." The farmer to-day sows the seed and waits for the harvest for the money there is in it. The railways carry it to the distributing centres for the money there is in it, and those who control the distributing centres perform the task for the money there is in it, without a thought, as it were, of there being a medium of "Our Father" in distributing the food that His children need so that their hunger may be satisfied for another year.

"ALMIGHTY DOLLAR."

"The Almighty Dollar", practically rules us to-day. Our preachers are classed according to their dollar value, so that in a sense we have distributed to us a dollar gospel. Our lawyers are also graded by the dollar standard, so that we are practically controlled by a "dollar law." Our politicians also are graded by the dollar standard, so that as a people we are governed by the dollar standard—so that our gospel, our law and our government is practically governed by this "dollar god," and our wise and kind Heavenly Father is put in the background in spite of the fact that if we planted a dollar, either in paper or gold, it would not produce for us a single grain of wheat, or an apple tree loaded with fruit, or a single flower full of perfume, to sweeten the path of life for tired humanity. If we are to make progress we must get back to the great Creator and giver of all, our Heavenly Father.

CLASS DISTINCTIONS.

This money god has graded humanity into so many classes that one might easily conceive, when they perceive the lines drawn so closely, that each class was made of a different kind of flesh and blood instead of us recognising that we are all children of our Heavenly Father. We send men and women out to India to teach them that caste in religion is wrong, and yet this worm class is eating out the very heart of tired and weary humanity to-day. We must get back to Christ's teaching, "that One is your Master, even Christ, and all ye are brethren, but this worship of our "dollar god" is enmity against the brotherhood of man.

FOR HUMANITY'S USE.

When our Heavenly Father rolled this old earth of ours out into space, He made it for humanity to use, but history teaches us of the rivers of blood that have flown so often over its surface by men fighting with each other for the ownership of this old globe. In the past humanity has been so absorbed with the thought of ownership of this earth that it never seems to have dawned on us that it was intended for us to use.

WE MIGHT MEDITATE.

On Thanksgiving Day we might give a little time to meditating on "The Fatherhood of God, the brotherhood of man, and that this earth was intended for our use. Christ was so busy teaching us that God was our Father and that all men were our brothers that He did not have time to own a place even large enough for Him to lay His head.

THE DOLLAR STANDARD SUPREME.

We have got this "dollar god" worship down so fine that the man who digs the sewer of a house has one price, the man who does the woodwork a higher price, the man who builds it a higher one still, and the man who draws the plan the highest price. In every realm of human life we have the "dollar god's" price placed on humanity, but we never think that all humanity has the same red blood in their veins and are created by their Heavenly Father, and that not one of our dollar kings has any more aspirations, feelings or needs than is common to all humanity.

STAND THE TEST.

There are two ideas to-day that govern humanity that will have to pass through the fiery test of public opinion. One is profit, the other wage or salary. If they are based on truth they will stand, but if they are false principles they will have to pass away and make room for the manhood standard of Christ to be applied to our industrial affairs, the same as we have applied it as the principle by which the church, state and school are governed. We give a man a voice in the control of these three because he is a man.

A Union Store with Union-Made Clothing

Gough Bros.' sympathies are with Trade Unions, hence we carry the best Union-Made Clothing, and employ none but courteous and gentlemanly Union Salesmen, who are heart and soul with their Union brothers. To those who want a good Union-made Suit or Overcoat this Fall be sure you buy at Gough Bros. We are showing:

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