

be alleged that the report was adopted after the banquet. (Laughter.) After the manner had been thoroughly discussed pro and con:—

The President put the amendment and on a vote being taken it was found that there were 15 for and 17 against. The original motion was then put and carried.

THIRD DAY.

MORNING SESSION.

The chair was taken by Mr. J. W. Carter, President, at 8 o'clock and the vice chair by Mr. O'Donoghue.

COMMUNICATIONS.

A number of very important communications were read. The President of the Industrial Congress of the United States addressed the following letter to the Congress:

CLEVELAND, O., Sept. 17, 1873.

To the Trades' Congress of the Dominion of Canada.

Gentlemen,—Having been informed of your meeting, I take the liberty of addressing you for the purpose of correcting several false impressions which seem to prevail in the Dominion of Canada, concerning the Industrial Congress of the United States.

Resolved,—That we request all trades unions to discontinue their connection with foreign trades unions, and join organizations whose jurisdiction extends over the continent of North America, and that all trades unions be urged to adopt the reciprocity plan, now in force between the Iron Molders International Union and Friendly Society of Iron Founders of the United Kingdom.

The plan adopted by the Iron Molders' International Union, and the Friendly Society is substantially as follows: No molder emigrating from the jurisdiction of one Society to that of the other is permitted to contract his services for a certain time.

Some feeling has also been manifested in the Dominion, because the workmen of Canada were not invited to participate in the deliberations of the Industrial Congress; but I can assure you that this feeling is entirely unfounded.

Hoping that you will succeed in inaugurating a movement that will unite all the workmen of the Dominion under one head, that the most friendly relations may exist between the body formed by you and the Industrial Congress of the United States, and assuring you of our deep sympathy, I remain,

Yours, in the cause of labor's redemption, ROBERT SCHILLING, Pres. Ind. Congress, U. S.

Communications were also received.—From W. H. Little, Chronicle office, Quebec, relative to the convention of the Congress, and regretting that Typographical Union, No. 160, Quebec, was unable to send a delegate, owing to a lack of pecuniary resources.

From Chas. M. King, K. O. S. C. Barrie, to a similar effect.

From the Secretary of Typographical Union, 145, Montreal, expressing approval of the Convention and willingness to send a delegate.

A number of other communications from different unions in the Dominion were read, all expressing approval of the objects sought to be gained by the Congress.

From John Hague, Romain Buildings, Toronto, suggesting the establishment of workmen's clubs.

Mr. Wm. Joyce, seconded by J. W. Levesley, moved that it is essential to the recognition and establishment of the just and equitable rights of the workmen of this country that they should have their own representatives in the Dominion Parliament, and with this idea in

view, it is the opinion of this Congress that a workman's platform should be put before the industrial classes of the country, and that the President do appoint a committee to draw up such platform.

In moving the foregoing resolution, Mr. Joyce said that the one great question in his mind was, how shall the social and moral elevation of the working classes be best accomplished? True, a ready answer may be given by securing the united action of all branches of industry, skilled and unskilled, on this great issue. But that was the great sticking point. Were the working masses as united as either of the great political Parties of the day, then success would be certain.

Mr. O'Donoghue, who supported the resolution, dwelt at some length upon the importance of having a workman's platform independent of Party politics.

After further discussion, the resolution was referred to the committee on Legislation.

PRISON LABOR.

The Committee on Prison Labor brought up a partial report on the question as follows:

"In undertaking to prepare a report on a question of such vast magnitude as that of Prison Labor, your Committee found that the time at their disposal would not admit of their entering as fully into the question as they would desire. We would therefore beg leave to present to your Honorable Body, a few of the most glaring evils arising out of this most iniquitous system, namely the contract system.

The report was received, and time granted the Committee to complete it.

CHEAP AND IMPORTED LABOR.

The Committee appointed to consider this question reported as follows:

"Whereas the agricultural and national prosperity of a country depends upon the following conditions—the freedom of its citizens, a proper appreciation of the comforts of life, and a disposition to secure a portion of the same; and whereas any attempt made by monopoly or capital to lower the condition of man in the social scale by depriving him of a fair proportion and equitable share of the product of his labor; engenders in the mind of the workman a natural spirit of enmity to those who by first diminishing and then destroying his limited means of support, compel him to relinquish those simple but necessary enjoyments which are always found co-existent with intelligence and refinement, your Committee would recommend that this Congress condemn the practice of importing labor into this country, that is to say, making a contract in a foreign country for less wages than are actually paid here; and your Committee also condemn the practice of the Government in paying a premium to persons so engaged; therefore, be it resolved, that the workmen in Congress assembled call on their representatives to use their utmost endeavors to remedy these evils, of which we complain."

The report was received.

THE CONSTITUTION.

The Congress went into Committee of the Whole on the continuation of the report of the Committee on the Constitution and Rules, and adopted the following articles, in addition to those published above.

ARTICLE V.—REVENUE.

SEC. 1. The Revenue of the Union shall be derived as follows:—For issuing charters to subordinate unions, \$5 each. Each subordinate union shall pay a quarterly assessment of five cents for each member on their books at the end of the term, such assessment to be paid to the Treasurer of the Union upon the presentation of the quarterly account.

SEC. 2. Other Unions represented at the annual Congress shall pay three cents per member per annum.

SEC. 3. All moneys sent as revenue, or for special purposes to the Union shall be sent by draft, express or post office order, in the legal currency of the country.

ART. VI.—STRIKES AND LOCK-OUTS.

SEC. 1.—Whenever the President of the Union has been officially notified of the existence of a difficulty between labor and capital, which has resulted in a strike or lockout, and has evidence that the labor interest has endeavored, by arbitration, to settle such difficulty, it shall be his duty, if assistance be required, to lay the facts by circular before the subordinate unions and various trades unions of the Dominion, calling upon them for pecuniary assistance sufficient to sustain the labor so striking or on lock-out.

The Convention adjourned till two o'clock.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

On the Congress re-assembling at two o'clock, the matter of discussing the articles of Constitution was again taken up, and the following adopted:—

ART. VII.—SUBORDINATE UNIONS.

SEC. 1. Any union composed of at least thirteen workmen, who are not under expulsion, rejection, or suspension in any existing labor organization, and have no existing chartered organization in their respective trades or calling, who may organize for mutual protection and benefit, and acknowledging the jurisdiction of this Union, shall be entitled to a charter for the same upon application being made through their respective District Committee, upon payment of the usual charter fee.

All members of this Union shall take this obligation:—"I, —, of my own free will and accord, upon my honor and truthfulness as a man, do solemnly assert that it is of my own free choice and desire to become a member of this Labor Union of Canada, and I further declare upon my honor that I am not rejected, expelled from, or suspended by any existing trades' organization, and that I will do all in my power to advance the aims and objects of this Union, in advancing the interests and elevating the condition of labor, and that I will use every means in my power, consistent with honor and integrity, to spread this Union and make its influence felt, throughout the Dominion of Canada."

SEC. 2. Any subordinate unions failing to pay their assessments or to send delegates for two annual sessions, shall have their charters declared null and void by the President of the Labor Union.

SEC. 3. A subordinate union having a grievance in any branch of labor represented in such Union shall try every honorable means to settle the difficulty between the employed and employer peacefully, and if that cannot be effected to forthwith report the case with evidence connected therewith to the President of the Canadian Labor Union, who shall take immediate steps to render pecuniary aid where aid is called for, in compliance with the constitution.

SEC. 4. The subordinate unions of the League shall be designated by numbers to take precedence by majority.

SEC. 5. All revenue derived from whatever source shall be held subject, first, to the payment of all dues to the Dominion Union; second, to the payment of the current expenses of the subordinate union; third, to the payment of relief and benefits.

SEC. 6. Strict adherence to Constitution, laws and usages prescribed by the Canadian Labor League shall be exacted by the President throughout the entire organization.

SEC. 7. Subordinate Unions shall have the power to adopt further rules and regulations so long as they do not conflict with this constitution.

SEC. 8. All subordinate Leagues may adopt or reject the benefit features, except that they shall guarantee to each and every member a respectable funeral in case of death.

ART. VIII.—AMENDMENT.

SEC. 1. No alteration or amendments shall be made to the constitution except at a regular annual session of the Canadian Labor Union, and then only by a two-thirds vote of the members present.

The eight articles of the Constitution were then adopted as a whole.

ASSISTED EMIGRATION.

Mr. Hewitt, in referring to the report of the Committee on "Imported and Cheap Labor," presented in the morning, moved that it be referred back to the Committee, with instructions to amend it by adding a strong condemnation of the system pursued by the Local and Dominion Governments of voting large sums of money for the purpose of bringing out emigrants to this country.

Mr. McDuff thought that the views of the previous speakers were most selfish. There were many worthy persons in the old country who could not pay their own passage out.

Mr. McCormick said that more of the money voted for emigration purposes went into the pockets of the emigration agents and shippers, and hence the great amount of wrong information given to the workmen of the old country. One emigration agent stated in a public speech that railway laborers received in Canada fourteen shillings a day. (Laughter.)

Mr. McCormick said that pamphlets were also published in England at the present time quoting prices of wood, and provisions that obtained here ten years ago.

Mr. Hewitt thought that every emigrant should work out his own salvation without Government assistance. He objected strongly to paying a tax of forty cents to bring out labor to compete with him.

Mr. McDuff said he still contended that Mr. Hewitt's views were selfish. He begged to move in amendment that the report be adopted.

The question was then put to the vote, and Mr. McDuff's amendment declared carried. The report was accordingly adopted unamended.

PRISON LABOR.

The Committee on Prison Labor brought up the conclusion of their report. In referring to the agreement between the Ontario Government and the Canada Car Company relative to the enjoyment of convict labor, they considered it to be unjust to give any Company or Corporation power to employ prison labor as injurious to small manufacturers, traders, and mechanics.

The Committee on Legislation and Labor Bureaus presented their report, which was as follows:—

"Your Committee beg leave to report that they have considered the subject matter submitted to them, and would report as follows: That they would recommend that this Congress call for the repeal of that obnoxious appendage to a measure in itself good (the Trades' Union Bill), and known as the Criminal Law Amendment Act.

"Your Committee would also recommend that the influence of this Congress be brought to bear on the Dominion and Local Legislatures of this country for the purpose of bringing about the enactment of a more stringent Apprenticeship law, so as to secure to the master the services of the youths whom he undertakes to instruct for a reasonable length of time, so that such apprentice may be turned upon the world a finished workman, and therefore a credit and benefit to the country at large.

"Your Committee would also urge that the whole united power and influence of the labor of this country be brought to bear on our lawmakers to bring about the abrogation of the contract system in connection with the management of our Dominion and Provincial prisons.

"Your Committee, also, would strongly urge that measures be taken to secure a measure for the prevention of the employment of children under ten years of age in factories, mills, and other manufacturing establishments where machinery is used. Also, that efforts be used to bring about the enactments of a just and equitable lien law.

"In conclusion, your Committee would recommend that the Dominion Legislature be petitioned to create a Bureau of Labor and Statistics, as your Committee believe it would be of incalculable value to the labor of the Dominion."

The report was adopted.

WAYS AND MEANS.

We, your Committee on Ways, Means and Finance, beg leave to report as follows:—

We find that the expenses of the present Congress will amount to about \$60, or nearly \$1.50 per delegate from each subordinate union or branch. We would, therefore, recommend that a tax of \$1.50 per delegate to this Congress be levied to meet the current expenses of the same.

With regard to the payment of officers of the present session of the Labor Union, we, your committee, would respectfully recommend that no sum of money be paid to or set apart for such officers—not that we do it because we think they are undeserving of it, but seeing this is, as we hope, the inauguration of a great labor benefit in Canada, and to make the same a success, we respectfully suggest that this Congress economize in every way possible."

OFFICIAL ORGAN.

Moved by Wm. Magness, seconded by Mr. J. Hewitt and resolved:— "That the ONTARIO WORKMAN be recognized as the official organ of the Canadian Labor Union."

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PRESS.

A vote of thanks was passed to the representatives of the press. The Leader was specially mentioned for the full and correct report it gave of the proceedings.

THANKS TO MR. TRIGANNE.

A vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Z. R. Triganne, of the Academy of Music, for a kind invitation to visit his establishment on the evening of the close of their labors.

THE NEXT CONGRESS.

It was decided to call a second meeting of the Congress at Ottawa, on the 2nd Tuesday in August next.

THANKS TO THE MANAGING COMMITTEE.

The following was handed in by the visiting Delegates:—

"Toronto, Sept. 25, 1873.

"To the Managing Committee Toronto Trades Assembly.

"GENTLEMEN,—We, the undersigned, delegates to the First Canadian Labor Congress, cannot allow the opportunity to pass without in a special manner testifying their very great pleasure and appreciation of the great pains taken by you to make our stay in Toronto as agreeable as possible, and hereby beg to return our sincere thanks, on behalf both of ourselves and our respective unions, to the members of the Toronto Trades Assembly, as well as the citizens of Toronto at large, with whom we have come in contact during this, our very agreeable sojourn in the Queen City of the West, for their very successful efforts in making our stay happy and agreeable.

Wishing them, individually and collectively, every prosperity,

"We remain,

"In fraternity yours,

"D. J. O'Donoghue, David Coleman, Donald Robertson, John Dodd, Samuel Gregson, Ottawa; Jno. Carroll, St. Catharines; George W. York, St. Catharines; Isaac Hodgins, Hamilton; Thos. McGregor, Hamilton; Wm. Hunter, Cobourg; Wm. O. Edwards, Seaford; John Calvert, Hamilton; John Dunsheath, Bowmanville; Wm. Magness, St. Catharines; Thomas Brady, London; D. Craig, Hamilton; Wm. McDougall, Hamilton."

The Congress then adjourned.

THE GENERAL UNION OF CARPENTERS.

We take the following from last month's report.

An arrangement has been made with the builders of Darwin, and the carpenters and joiners, that 49 hours shall be considered a week's working time, payment to be at the rate of 7½d. an hour, to commence the first week in October, 1873.

The strike at Belfast has been settled by arrangement, that the carpenters and joiners shall be paid at the rate of 7½d. an hour, any further alterations can be made at the end of six months, by either side giving three months' notice. An umpire to act in any future difficulty.

The carpenters and joiners of Blackburn have obtained an advance of 2s. a week, making the average wages £1 10s. 7d. for a week of 49 hours, in other words the advance now makes the wages 7½d. an hour.

In future the average wages of the carpenters and joiners of Lancaster, will be £1 7s. for a week of 54 hours, being an advance of 1s. a week in wages and 1½ hours less time.

At Stockport the carpenters and joiners have succeeded in obtaining an advance of half an hour in the rate of wages which will be £1 12s. 11d. for a week of 54½ hours.

THE AMALGAMATED CARPENTERS.

The following appears in the last monthly report, which will be read with interest by all friends of the society:—

FELLOW MEMBERS.—It is highly gratifying to find from the branch returns that the state of trade continues very satisfactory throughout the society. There is but little alteration in the number of members in receipt of sick benefit.

During the past month we have opened a new branch in Canada, and the number of our members has increased considerably. In September, 1871, we had 9,673 members; in September, 1872, our number was 10,788. We have now 12,514 members, and we may therefore regard the steady progress the society is making as highly satisfactory.

We trust that in the present season of prosperity our members will not forget the time of depression which we have experienced in the past. We then practically tested the value of our organization; let us now do our best to spread the principles of unity, by practising them in our daily intercourse with our fellow-workmen. Let us teach non-society men that our society possesses an inherent strength, not merely in accumulated funds, but also in the unity of purpose, the intelligence, and good feeling which characterize its members.

By order of the Council, JOHN THOMPSON, Chairman. JOHN D. PRION, General Secretary. General Office: 53 Grosvenor-st., Charlton-on-Medlock, Manchester, Sept. 4th, 1873.

In reply to a letter complaining of the provision of the Trade Unions Act, by which proceedings can only be taken out in the district where the registered office of the union is situated, Mr. Lowe undertakes that the question shall be considered.