

"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 zealously 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 so made. THE TRIBUNE will not hold itself responsible for the views of correspondents.

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FRED PERRY.

106-108 Adelaide St. W., Toronto

"In Union there is Strength."

It is foolish for our friends to claim the Tribune as a political leaf when it simply expresses the voice of our representatives that compose the District Council. We know it is hard to please all and therefore we are not going to try. If you want to use the columns of the Tribune with brevity and decorum you are cordially invited.

Mayor Coatsworth in his inaugural speech reiterated his promise made before his election regarding consulting with organized labor where their interests are affected. We hope to see this carried along and much good may be looked for as a result.

Again we repeat, let organized labor through its council select its man or men for municipal honors. When the council can deliberate and bring out a man unanimously then will organized labor respect the decision of its council and "Plump" every time. As long as men select themselves and afterwards appeal to the council for endorsement, just so long will organized labor go unrepresented in the affairs of our city and country. This method is looked at as a favor asked, and not as an imperative duty.

THE RATE OF TAXATION.

In his address at the nomination, Controller Spence stated that he objected strongly to any increase in the rate of taxation. Mr. Coatsworth did the same. At the time he fought against the \$700 exemption he raised the same objection, stating that if this exemption would increase the rate to 24 mills it would strike terror in the heart of any manufacturer who contemplated settling in this city.

At one time a man wanted to load a horse. Someone advised him to place the pack right behind the shoulders, where the load would have the least burden on the horse. But that would be a pressure of a hundred pounds right in one spot, a rate of a hundred per cent. would never do—that would frighten the horse out of his wits and break him down completely. Thus the man objected to place the load in the only suitable place. He divided the load into a hundred parts, tied one on each fetlock, others at the knees, some on the tail and the mane. He had the load distributed like leaves on a tree. Now, he said, I have the rate reduced to one per cent. That is a master stroke of finance. Now, he continued, I can place the taxation just as well as Mr. Spence or Mayor Coatsworth.

The Street Railway Company seem to have a mighty trouble to keep the cars from jumping the tracks at the corner of Queen and McCaul streets, and it looks as if it will take a more awful accident than any that has occurred at this same corner before it will be solved.

With all of Russia's cruelties she will not allow children under 12 years of age to work in a mill or factory.

There never was a time in the history of labor when there was so great a demand for first-class men as right now.

The member who stays away from the meetings of his union waives all his rights of protest against any legislation enacted at the meetings.

But if the Parryties saw this press despatch they must have wept bitter tears: "A British Columbia miner has been fined \$250 by a judge for working more than eight hours a day. Because he worked half an hour longer than the law allows, P. Zanani, a miner employed in the collieries of James Dumas, at Cumberland, B.C., has been found guilty by Judge Abrams of violating the eight-hour law and fined \$250."

The most despicable scamp in the world is the fellow who, too cowardly to come out in the open like a man, sneaks around trying to work little schemes to defeat some man or measure. One little cuss like that in an organization can keep a dozen real men busy watching him; but like all mean things, he comes to an end sooner or later.

To the Editor of The Tribune:

Dear Sir,—In last week's issue of The Tribune there was an article headed "Lessons at the Elections," to which I feel it my bounden duty as a trade unionist to reply. In the first place, you, not intentionally, take away any credit that trades unionists might lay claim to by declaring Controller Ward "is not a trades unionist in the strict sense of the word, but an employer." Are you aware that that sentence will be used against Controller Ward next year if politics enters the conflict to the same extent it did this year, should we ever be foolish enough to go outside of the ranks of labor for candidates. To endorse Controller Ward's nomination was consistent, as he not only belongs to an organization now, but has always been a trade unionist in the past.

Practical politics, why, sir, had you said that that was where we failed, inasmuch as we were too practical, would be more correct. Would it be practical politics for the Conservative Association to nominate a Grit, or a Liberal convention to stand for a Tory nomination; or would the Grits or Tories back up the nomination of any trades unionist who belongs to any but their own individual party?

If we go in for practical politics we must stand alone—Liberals nominate none but a Liberal, Conservatives none but a Conservative, Socialists none but a Socialist—then the only practical alternative left for the trades unionists is, if they move at all, to nominate none but trades unionists.

Why, sir, what you suggest is what we have always been doing till up to a few years ago, but closing our eyes to the fact whenever it was possible to do so, we have nominated Labor-Tories, Labor-Grits and Labor-Socialists, and we never succeeded when we nominated. Why? Because there was no obligation nor moral reason why a trades unionist should vote for any other than a trades unionist.

Some party heeler might think it possible to nominate "a man of means as our choice, one who is not a politician in the strict sense of the word." It's all moonshine. The man to do the trick would be chosen months before nomination and the emissaries of both parties vying with each other to get a nomination for their own particular man at the trades unionists' convention, bringing about likely enough a compromise, viz., us here, you there, trades unionists nowhere; object, to keep a third party out of the field.

If we are to deviate from our present modus operandi, adopting political action, we must be a responsible narrative party and not the toadstool to any other. These, sir, are some of my views, which have been inspired from facts that have come under my notice during my experience in the labor movement, and are in conformity with the recent actions of the District Labor Council.

JOHN GARDNER.

Toronto, Jan. 6, 1906.

Editor Tribune:

Dear Sir,—Do I understand you to say that we should wait until the Manufacturers' Association makes their nomination, and then follow their choice, or do you want us to follow the dictates of the Grit or Tory papers?

Do you think that we can build up a Labor party in this or any other city without a sound principle to build on, or do you think that we should adopt a grafter's policy? The policy you have outlined is, from my point of view, not well advised. I think such a policy would only encourage political grafters.

I have as much use for the ordinary politician in the Labor party as I have for a scab in the moulding shop. Our Labor party has been wrecked in the past by political manipulators. Take my advice and shun them. I would like to point out to you that the prime motive in the campaign just ended of our paper and the Labor party was not to elect Labor men, but to defeat the by-law to reduce licenses, and if you have any sense you must recognize the fact that our position on that question, although straightforward, turned aside many votes.

My advice to you is to take the same bold, straightforward stand in regard to a Labor party—Labor first, last and all the time. Do not tell us that because we have to work for a living that we are less honest than the millionaire.

I want to say this to you, that the Canada Foundry has not money enough to bribe me, nor any other greedy corporation. I am sorry that you should make any such insinuation. I thank you for your loyal support, and will do all I can to make your paper and party a success.

J. E. STEWART.

Editor of Tribune:

Dear Sir,—As a subscriber of your valued paper, I have taken interest in the argument going on in your columns regarding the right of the directors of the Labor Temple Company accepting a donation from Lord Strathcona. Now I have just this to say, that if the union men of Toronto would do what they should in regard to the Labor Temple the directors would not have to accept contributions from anyone outside of the ranks of union men; but no, the majority that gave their promises to take stock have failed to pay \$1 towards the home of organized labor, and they perhaps are the ones that are making a holler. Now it is up to every man that calls himself a union man to put his shoulder to the wheel, and not only help the directors of the Labor Temple to secure a reduction of the mortgage by taking a few dollars' worth of stock, but also to try and secure his brothers in his local to do the same. Then, and only then, will the chain be bridged, and we will have

no cause to ask anyone outside of the ranks for one dollar. But the fact remains that we cannot pay for the building with hot air, so let every union man subscribe for stock in the Labor Temple, and I am sure there will be no cause of complaint about receiving subscriptions from outsiders. Hoping you will publish these few remarks.

W. J. STOREY.

PRINTERSHOUT ON MONTREAL PAPER

Strike in News and Job Departments of Gazette.

Objections to Apprentices on the Machines in Job Office—No Personal Complaints by the Men.

The printers employed in the job department of the Gazette went on strike a few days ago, and to-night the printers in the news department went out in sympathy. The Gazette, however, will be issued as usual in the morning, and in explanation of the strike, will say editorially:

"The Gazette will for some days be published under disadvantageous circumstances. Some time ago there was put into the job printing department a monotype plant. Men qualified to operate the machines are few in number. There were only three among the employees of the Gazette. They were not rendering what, in the opinion of the management, was satisfactory service, in that the work done on one of the machines was not as great as was being turned out in other establishments. The men especially concerned were spoken to on the matter, and seemed to recognize the justice of the complaint. In turn they were assured that if they showed better results their request for an increase of pay would be considered. On Saturday last one of the men in question was absent. Another early in the forenoon asked to be put on different work. When this desire was not acceded to he left. The third followed his example.

"Two apprentices who had some experience with the machines were then put at work on them. To this the union men objected, and when the foreman declined to take the apprentices off, left the establishment.

No Personal Complaint.

"All were being paid the Typographical Union scale of wages and were working union hours, and admit that, personally, they had no complaint to make. The object of their going out was to prevent apprentices from learning to operate machines, which it is their desire that only members of the union shall be permitted to work on.

"Last evening at 7:30 the men working on the newspaper, which is a separate department, having no connection with the job printing plant, also left their work. They did this, it is understood, in obedience to an order of Mr. Lynch, the president of the International Typographical Union, whose headquarters are at Indianapolis, United States, conveyed through the president of the local union, who is an employee of another office. The men in the news room, like those in the jobbing department, had no complaint. They also were receiving the union conditions. Their action was a coercive strike, designed to force the management of the establishment into accepting conditions unfair and tyrannical."

"There will be no reduction of wages of the coal miners of the United States so long as I am president of the United Mine Workers of America; there will be no lengthening of hours or the enforcement of more onerous conditions. The eight-hour day has come to stay. Where it has been adopted it will remain, and where it has not been accepted there will be no lasting peace until the coal operators grant it." This is the declaration of John Mitchell, of the United Mine Workers of America.

If King Alfred of England, who reigned from 871 to 900 A.D., was on the job now he would be with the I. T. U. He was an eight-hour devotee. His routine was: "Eight hours to the care of the kingdom, eight hours to study and works of piety or charity, and eight hours' sleep and necessary recreation." Honesty and purity filled all England during his reign.

OBSERVATIONS OF THE WISE.

The most precious possession of a State is the labor of the people.—Colbert.

The best economic condition is not that in which the greatest amount of produce is obtained at the cheapest rate; the greatest number of capitalists pick up the greatest amounts of profits, but one in which the greatest number of workmen can live in the greatest possible comfort and security.—Thorold Rogers.

One hour in the execution of justice is worth seventy years of prayer.—Mahomet.

Society is founded on cloth.—Carlyle.

The entire object of true education is to make people not merely do the right things, but enjoy the right things; not merely industrious, but to love industry; not merely learned, but to love knowledge; not merely pure, but to love purity; not merely just, but to love justice; not merely pure, but to love purity.

What, speaking in quite unofficial language, is the net purport and upshot of war? To my own knowledge, for example, there dwell and toil in the British village of Dumdrudge usually some five hundred souls. From these, by certain "natural enemies" of the French, there are successfully selected during the French war, say thirty able-bodied men. Dumdrudge at her own expense has suckled and nursed them; she has, not without difficulty and sorrow, fed them up to manhood, and even trained them to crafts, so that one can weave, another build, another hammer, and the weakest can stand under thirty stone avoirdupois. Nevertheless, amid much weeping and swearing they are selected, all dressed in red, and shipped away at the public charges some two thousand miles, or say only to the south of Spain, and fed there till wanted. And now to that same spot in the south of Spain are thirty similar French artisans, from a French Dumdrudge, in like manner wending, till at length, after infinite effort, the two parties come into actual juxtaposition, and thirty stands fronting thirty, each with a gun in his hand. Straightaway the word "Fire!" is given, and they blow the souls out of one another, and in place of sixty brist, useful craftsmen the world has sixty dead carcasses which it must bury and anew shed tears for. Had these men any quarrel? Busy as the devil is, not the smallest. They lived far enough apart; were the closest strangers; nay, in so wide a universe there was even, unconsciously, by commerce, some mutual helpfulness between them. How then? Simpleton! Their Governors had fallen out; and instead of shooting one another, had the cunning to make these poor blockheads shoot.—Carlyle.

We wish to call our readers' attention to Keystone Greases and Oils as advertised in our columns. These lubricants deserve the attention of all engineers owing to their economical properties. It does not cost anything for a sample, and any person who will give them a trial will find them, as we have, the cheapest lubricant on the market.

INFORMATION.

Halfpence and farthings were introduced in 1665.

No less than 225,000 persons live in furnished lodgings in Paris.

Roger Bacon is said to have invented the magic lantern about the year 1260.

The cost of a first-rate locomotive steam engine is between £2,000 and £3,000.

"How to Read the Newspaper Intelligently" is one of the lessons at a "Norwood girls' school."

A singular provision of the law in Kansas is that a man cannot sell his land without his wife's consent.

Thomas Maynard was the last person executed for forgery, December 31st, 1820. For sheep stealing, hanging was abolished in the reign of George IV.

Among the names of settlements in Arizona are these, which certainly possess the merit of originality: Tombstone, Good Enough, Tough Nut, Contention, Family Fuss, Discipline.

It is said that the stork retains its affection for its parents to the close of life. After the relations of the nest are broken up they will feed and protect them in old age, as they were protected and fed by them in their youth.

Fuller, the eminent historian and divine, is said to have had so good a memory as to have been able to tell in their exact order the names of the signs (Golden Pledge, etc.) over every tradesman's door between Temple Bar and the Royal Exchange.

In India a native visitor never takes his departure of his own accord. Etiquette requires the host to dismiss him, which he does in the politest way possible, not by saying "Go," but by saying, hospitably, "Pray come again; the sooner we see your face, the pleasanter it will be."

Of all the peerages created by the Norman Kings of England not one has escaped extinction, and the earliest date attributed even by tradition to any existing temporal peerage is the reign of Henry II., the first of our Plantagenet sovereigns.

It was enacted by Oliver Cromwell, in 1654, that "not above two hundred hackney coaches" should thenceforth be allowed to ply in London, the ever-increasing number of them blocking up the thoroughfares and threatening to become insupportable.

William III. died Saturday, March 18, 1702; Queen Anne, Saturday, March 14, 1714; George I., Saturday, June 10, 1727; George II., Saturday, October 15, 1760; George III., Saturday, January 29, 1820; George IV., Saturday, June 26, 1830; the Duchess of Kent, Saturday, March 16, 1861; Prince Consort, Saturday, December 14, 1861; Princess Alice, Saturday, December 14, 1878.

It has just been ascertained that the Dutch consume coffee at the rate of 15 to 20 pounds per capita per annum. Although the Hollanders beat the record for individual consumption, America drinks two-fifths of the world's production. Great Britain only uses two-thirds of a pound per head.

There would be no strikes if the union label was strongly demanded by union men. The business men want our trade, and would lose no time in "getting wise" if union men would only do their part. Think it over, and but one duty will appear—demand the label.—Ex.

FOE OF TRADES UNIONS.

In his annual report, President Gompers of the American Federation of Labor reviewed the convention of the Industrialists held in Chicago last June. He said in part:

"The natural organization of the wage earners, the historic development of associate effort of the toiling masses, the work of years and years, the only concentrated movement of the working people of our time that has brought the toiling masses out of the slough of misery and despondency, the organization that forms the only barrier for their protection against modern greed and avarice and that has placed us in the splendid position of vantage we now enjoy—the trades unions—these have been derided and denounced by men who, hiding their villainy and hypocrisy under the cloak of friendship for labor, bombastically declared and now boast that our unions must be disrupted, divided and destroyed.

"And what the reason? Because the American trades union movement declines to permit itself to become committed to a speculative, theoretical doctrine, declines the domination of our movement by fantastical doctrines, declines to be made a tail to the kite of a political party, the head and front of which are out of touch and out of real sympathy with the struggles, the hopes, the real aspirations of the toiling masses in their effort to attain practical, tangible results in a rational and natural movement.

"And what the purpose? That in the destruction of the only genuinely protective organization of the working people they may become abjectly powerless either to protect or promote their economic interests. The fool hope is entertained that in their desperation the impoverished workmen will inaugurate a physical force revolution and confiscate all property. In another way it is a repetition of the appeal and advice to the workers to 'be content with their lot' here and now and postpone their effort for material improvement to the sweet by and by of the hereafter. Quite apart from the consideration of either the unsoundness or impracticability of their philosophy and doctrine, the whole history of man testifies to this one fact—that the more impoverished a people are or become, the less capable and the less inclined are they to defend their interests and their rights, the less qualified are they to conceive them, defend them, or, if necessary, contend and fight for them.

"There are but two hypotheses upon which can be explained the conduct of those who endeavor to engineer the scheme of trades union disruption—one, that they are incompetent derelicts on the industrial sea, a constant menace to the trades union crafts, or, second, that they are in league with the worst elements of antagonistic capitalism to render as effective service as they can to try to confuse, diffuse, pervert and make trades union activity the least possibly effective."

LABOR IN CANADA.

Statistics Show a Slight Increase in Earnings of Skilled Labor.

According to figures obtained by the Labor Gazette of Canada, changes in wages and hours of labor in Canada during April, May and June affected an approximate total of 13,750 men, and the final result of the changes involved a total increase of \$13,415.31 and a total decrease of \$2,525, leaving a net increase of \$4,590.41 in weekly earnings.

The only class that showed a net decrease in earnings was unskilled labor, whose weekly wage, owing to the lower rate paid this year in connection with railway construction operations in Western Canada, showed a decline of more than \$8,000, some 6,000 men being affected by the decrease referred to.

On the other hand, 700 laborers in the employ of the Dominion Iron and Steel Company, and in the neighborhood of 600 in the employ of different city corporations, had their wages materially increased.

BECAUSE THEY WERE RIGHT.

The unions of sixty years ago had no money, no friends, no papers, no magazines. The laws gave everything to the employers and nothing to the men. Strike leaders were thrown into prison. Labor organizers were driven out of town—and yet the labor unions won.



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