

The Echo

PUBLISHED BY
The Echo Printing and Publishing Co.

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MONTREAL, April 2, 1892.

Subscription: - One Dollar per year.

PAYABLE IN ADVANCE.

Single Copies - - - 3 Cents.

THE ECHO has received the endorsement of the Dominion Trades and Labor Congress and the Central Trades and Labor Council of Montreal.
Post Office Box 554 Drawer 1982.

THE ECHO is published every Saturday morning at the office, 769 Craig street, and delivered in any part of the city or mailed to any address in Canada or the United States at \$1.00 per annum.

ADVERTISING RATES:

For 12 lines (one inch) or less, first insertion, 6 cents per line; subsequent insertions, without change of type, 5 cents.
Display or contract advertisements are taken at special rates, which will be made known upon application.

Business notices published in local columns charged at the rate of 10 cents per line.
All advertisements measured by a scale of solid nonpareil.

Advertisers entitled to change of matter should send in their copy not later than Wednesday morning to ensure insertion same week.

AN OUTRAGEOUS ATTACK ON UNIONISM.

One of the most outrageous and unprovoked attacks upon organized labor that has ever been witnessed in Canada took place the beginning of this week in Ottawa, when the new proprietor of the Citizen discharged the whole of his compositors without any previous warning or intimation that he was dissatisfied with the manner their duties were being performed. That the outrage was premeditated is clearly shown by the fact that the proprietor had several hands, picked up in Montreal and elsewhere, in readiness to step into the places of the discharged men; indeed, all the circumstances in connection with the discreditable business goes to show that the most underhand work was going on while an appearance of fair-dealing was kept on the surface. Mr. Shannon, for that is the name of the new proprietor, evidently desires to pose as an opponent of unionism and therefore a champion of cheap labor. The same role has been assumed by other newspaper proprietors before now, but never with any degree of success, the latest instance of this assumption turning out a most disastrous failure. When the late proprietor of the Montreal Herald undertook to exterminate Typographical Union No. 176 he found to his sorrow that he had a larger sized contract on hand than he could accomplish in the short time he laid out to do it in. The Montreal Herald, as represented by Peter Mitchell, is dead to the world; but No. 176 still lives, and a pretty lively corpse at that. It was like kicking against a stone wall, and the kicker got the worst of it. Public feeling was alienated from the paper, advertising patronage withdrawn, sales fell off, and, last but not least, serious injury to the plant was caused through having to put up with incompetent workmen. This was clearly shown the other day when, on being brought to the hammer, an otherwise valuable property had to be let go at an immense sacrifice. If the proprietor of the Citizen is anxious to wreck his paper before getting well started he is taking about the surest road to that end. Nothing whatever can be gained by Mr. Shannon in pursuing the course he has evidently mapped out with some degree of care; on the contrary, he has everything to lose. The day has long gone past when men can be persecuted and punished in the summary way Mr. Shannon has chosen simply because they prefer to belong to a labor organization. It is an inherent right of workingmen to unite for self-protection, and the sooner Mr. Shannon recognizes and respects that right so much the better will it be for

his own pocket. Meanwhile the citizens of Ottawa will not allow such flagrant injustice to go without protest, and we much mistake the feeling if they do not give expression to their disapproval in some tangible way.

A word or two concerning those renegades who, like vultures hovering over a decaying carcass, are always at hand in time of trouble. We can have respect for a man who conscientiously objects to joining a labor organization, although we think he is mistaken and not altogether unselfish, as his acceptance of the benefits flowing from the mere fact of a union existing in his trade is not disturbed by any qualms of conscience. But those servile tools who adopt "ratting" as a profession are the most contemptible specimens of the human race. There are a class who make it their business in time of trouble to jump from one place to another in consideration of the extra inducement for a time offered by unscrupulous employers to get assistance at a critical time, and who are just as ready to betray and desert their new found patrons when opportunity arises. To these modern Judases we have special reference; no work is too dirty for them to undertake, yet we find, to their eternal shame, be it said, men who can be heard at street corners and in saloons boasting of their unionism and their "squareness" actually associating with and making confidants of these morally depraved characters and assassins of their fellow-workmen. Again, in the printing business, we find certain employees, or at all events their representatives, in the light of personal experience and with a full knowledge of the unsavory character of such reptiles, harboring and assisting them in preference to trustworthy and competent men. Of course foremen are to be held primarily responsible, because knowing they are liable to be left in a hole at any time they yet insist on giving these time-servers another chance to abuse their sympathy, which is too often stimulated by judicious and well-timed flattery, accompanied with frequent invitations to stand before the bar. The experience which some foremen have had quite recently ought to be a lesson for the future.

The locked-out men have started a little four-page paper called Fair Play, which gives a very temperate, and what appears to be, a truthful account of the trouble. It is exceedingly well written, and contains a lot of matter interesting to trade unionists. We hope its projectors will see their way to keep it permanently in the ranks of journalism.

LEGISLATION DEMANDED BY WORKINGMEN.

On Saturday afternoon last a labor deputation waited upon the Federal Government to urge the adoption of various reforms in legislation affecting Canadian workingmen. These included repeal of the clause in the Seamen's Act preventing the right of appeal for conviction of any offence under the Act; against granting assisted passages to intending immigrants; withdrawal of Government subsidy to steamship companies whose agents could be proved guilty of circulating misleading statements to induce emigration to this country; that all specifications of public works contain a clause binding the successful tenderer to pay scale of wages in force in municipality where such construction is in progress; that Government gradually reduce the number of working hours until the minimum of eight is reached; that a Dominion board of arbitration be formed for the settlement of all trade disputes, and that the importation of skilled labor be prevented. Mr. A. T. Lepine, M. P., introduced the deputation, which comprised the President, Secretary and Executive Committee of the Dominion Trades and Labor Congress. The Secretary, Mr. George W.

Dower, and Mr. A. W. Wright forcibly urged the different matters upon the attention of the Government. Replying to the deputation the Premier was very non-committal.

Of course the Alien Labor bill and Chinese immigration claimed most attention from the delegates, as these are the most vital question affecting Canadian workmen. While in the United States there is a stringent law against alien labor, which is more particularly enforced against Canadians, workmen in this country have no protection whatever. The greatest sufferers are those living in towns and villages along the boundary line, many of whom formerly found employment on the other side, but the strictness with which the law is operated has put an end to this. On the other hand Americans can be and are imported here by Canadian manufacturers and employers to defeat native workmen standing out against a reduction of wages. This has frequently occurred, notably in the case of Gurney's moulders and the lock-out on the Herald about two years ago, when foreign scab labor was extensively used against native-born workmen, and to-day this country is the sufferer through her own children, who as a rule are superior mechanics, being forced to emigrate in order to find employment. We are by no means in sympathy with the protective craze, but it does appear manifestly unfair that there should be in this matter, as well as in other things, discrimination against the working classes. The goods of the manufacturer are amply protected against foreign competition but the man who works for wages is brought into active competition not only against labor brought in under contract but also against a baneful system of State-aided immigration. Canadian workmen have nothing to fear from the competition in the labor market of those who voluntarily find their way to our shores; their own skill and intelligence is sufficient protection against any increase of population in this way, but they have just reason to complain of the horde of paupers who are yearly dumped on our wharves and of the scum of American cities who are imported by avaricious capitalists to lower the wages of the workers of this country and degrade its industries.

The Chinese question is a very serious one, and one also surrounded with much difficulty of solution, as legislation looking towards their entire exclusion is not within the power of the Dominion to pass. The question is an Imperial one, and the British Government, with vast trade interests centered in China, would certainly disallow any such Act, supposing our Federal Parliament assumed the power to pass it. But that is no reason why on the score of danger to the public health and to public morality, the authorities of the Pacific province themselves should not place very severe restrictions upon the landing of this undesirable class of immigrants. And no one will be found to blame them, if one half of what is reported in the Vancouver press is correct. The recent discovery of several cases of leprosy amongst the celestials of Vancouver has stirred the authorities of that city into action and the horrifying exposures made concerning Mongolian girls held as slaves for the purposes of prostitution have roused public feeling to such an extent that nothing less than a prohibitive poll tax upon their admission to the province will satisfy the people. It is strongly suspected that one at least of these girls held for this nefarious trade is tainted with leprosy and that the disease has been contracted for some time. Speaking of her case the Vancouver Weekly World says: "There are a number of female slaves in British Columbia, one of the colonies of Great Britain. They are not white people but

they have souls, and thousands of dollars are sent out of Canada every year to reclaim their kind. Mongolians they are, but they are, too, helpless girls, bought and sold in the shambles of China like so many cattle. Those who cross the Pacific are owned by heartless masters of the most debased type, who live in luxury upon their shame. These poor shackled creatures afford their proprietors the means of livelihood. . . . It has been effectively brought out in these columns within the past few days in connection with the incident relating to the alleged case of leprosy discovered in Chinatown that the girl is a slave, that those who claim her as their property have the documents, legal in far Cathay, to prove it. Slavery then, it may logically be concluded, is permissible in the Dominion. We put it fairly and squarely to the people of this Christian land who are possessed of humanitarianism if they, knowing the facts, are not shirking their duty in allowing the traffic to continue. We lay aside altogether the nefarious character of the business in which these orphan children are compelled by their taskmasters to engage, and upon the broader ground of the liberty of the subject, ask if the besotted Chinamen are to be allowed any longer to carry on their system of subordinating their females to their greed for gain. . . .

We are distinctly of the opinion from the researches of our reporters that the girl in question is afflicted with a loathsome disease, if not leprosy, that she plies her trade notwithstanding that fact by command of those who paid their money for her; and that she will continue to do so unless the strong arm of the law steps in and protects her.

Now that the excitement attending the general election has died a natural death we may expect, now and then, to have from the Star an honest expression of its views in regard to political events. Here is one which it gave out the other day, and which reads strangely in the light of its strong bias in favor of the Conservative nominee for the Centre Division: "It would be an outrage to compel a man to vote when he is driven to choose between the men set up by the two parties." Amen to that. Second thoughts are always best, and the Star is to be congratulated on having, although somewhat tardy to do any good, arrived at such a sensible conclusion.

Old Chum
(CUT PLUG)

OLD CHUM
(PLUG)

No other brand of Tobacco has ever enjoyed such an immense sale and popularity in the same period as this brand of Cut Plug and Plug Tobacco.

D. Ritchie & Co.

Oldest Cut Tobacco Manufacturers in Canada.

Montreal.

Cut Plug, 10c. $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. Plug, 10c.
 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. Plug, 20c.

CARSLEY'S COLUMN.

FLANNELETTES!

Never before have we had such an enormous stock of Flannelettes as at present. The value is the best ever offered. The variety of Patterns and Colors is the largest ever shown.

Plain Colored Flannelettes
Striped Flannelettes
Plaid Flannelettes
Flannelettes for Pyjama Suits
Flannelettes for Men's Suits
Flannelettes for every purpose
Flannelettes are the cheapest and best materials to purchase.

S. CARSLEY.

Mrs. Secondtime (peevishly)—"My first husband used to let me have my own way in everything."
Mr. S.—"And what were the consequences? He died."—Extract.

FLANNELS!

MANUFACTURERS' ENDS.

A very large purchase has been made of Manufacturers' Ends of Plain and Fancy Flannels. This lot has been bought at such a low price that we shall be able to sell these goods much under their usual value.

Ends of Grey Flannels
Ends of White Flannels
Ends of Scarlet Flannels
Ends of Colored Flannels
Ends of Printed Flannels

The whole lot placed out on centre tables for the benefit of customers.

S. CARSLEY.

CHEAP FLANNELS!

Plain Grey Flannels, 10c
Colored Saxony Flannels, 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ c
White Saxony Flannels, 22c
Colored Opera Flannels, 36c

In all New Shades. In all New Shades.

Fancy Shirting Flannels, 26c
Fancy Shirting Flannels, 32c
Light Llama Wool
Shirting Flannels, 40c
All-Wool Shirting Flannels
Fancy Stripes, 45c

Printed Cashmere Flannels in numerous patterns and colors, 45c a yard. Really worth 65c

S. CARSLEY.

Two elderly married people in a railway train. "Now, Mr. Jacobs, don't be so selfish; let me have a squint at the newspaper." "Yes, dear, as soon as we reach the next tunnel."—Extract.

COTTON SHEETINGS!

All Widths in Grey Cotton Sheetings
All Widths in White Cotton Sheetings

8-4 Grey Sheet, 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ c
9-4 Grey Sheet, 22 $\frac{1}{2}$ c
8-4 White Sheet, 27c
9-4 White Sheet, 30c
White Pillow Cotton
Tubular Pillow Casing
Plain Grey Sheetings
Twilled Grey Sheetings
Plain White Sheetings
Twilled White Sheetings
Wide Grey Cotton, 4c yard
Wide White Cotton, 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ c yard

S. CARSLEY.

A NEW YEAR'S RESOLVE.—Clerk (to his employer leaving the office)—"Oh, sir, have you forgotten your umbrella? It's snowing."
Mr. System—"Can't help it. I've made a resolution to have one here and one at home, to provide for all emergencies. Now, if I take this, they'll both be at home."—Extract.

UMBRELLAS!

SEASON'S NOTICE.

We beg to announce that our spring stock of Ladies' and Gentlemen's Umbrellas has just been received. The delivery comprises:

Useful Umbrellas for ladies.
Useful Umbrellas for gentlemen.
NOVELTIES FOR LADIES
NOVELTIES FOR GENTLEMEN
Lines for business men
Lines for business women
Ladies' Titania Umbrellas
Gentlemen's Titania Umbrellas

S. CARSLEY.

UMBRELLAS!

Ladies' Umbrellas for 25c
SPECIAL LINES FOR LADIES
Ladies' Gloria Silk Umbrellas, with cherry-wood and English nickel plated handles, \$1.55
Ladies' Desideratum Umbrella
Ladies' Pure Silk Umbrellas, with all the latest novelties in handles.
Gentlemen's Umbrellas from 50c
SPECIAL LINE FOR GENTLEMEN.
Gentlemen's Strong Umbrellas, with natural sticks, suitable for business, only \$1.25
Gentlemen's Desideratum Umbrellas
Gentlemen's Pure Silk Umbrellas

S. CARSLEY.

Blow—"But I asked you, my girl, to keep our little affair secret for the present."
His Intended—"I couldn't help it. That hateful Miss Oldun said the reason I wasn't married was because no fool had asked me, so I up and told her you had."—Extract.

S. CARSLEY,

1765, 1767, 1769, 1771, 1773, 1775, 1777, 1779
NOTRE DAME STREET, MONTREAL.

CARSLEY'S COLUMN.