

"The Tribune"

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE
TORONTO DISTRICT LABOR COUNCIL

Published Weekly at
106-108 Adelaide Street West
TORONTO CANADA

Subscription \$1.00 per Year, paid in advance
Single copies 3 cents each.

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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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106-108 Adelaide St. W., Toronto

"In Union there is Strength."

TORONTO DISTRICT LABOR COUNCIL

98 LOCALS AFFILIATED.

Membership, 14,000.

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REPEAL ASSESSMENT ACT.

Wage Earners vs. Corporations—Where Are Hon. Messrs. Foy and Pyne? Ald. Church's motion for the repeal of the new Assessment Act should be strongly supported.

The new Ontario Assessment Act exempts wealth and taxes comparative poverty. The following just completed assessment returns for next year show it:—

	1905.	1906.
	New Act.	Old Act.
Christie, Brown & Co.	\$140,000	\$84,315
Gendron Co.	38,000	19,950
Dominion Brewery	175,000	74,756
Reinhardt Brewery	100,000	26,397
Warwick Bros. & Co.	32,500	31,000
Gordon, Mackay & Co.	175,000	82,387
W. R. Brock & Co.	130,000	30,338
H. S. Howland & Co.	75,000	50,992
P. W. Ellis & Co.	30,000	27,375
Gooderham & Worts	600,000	534,896

While the Act exempts wealth as aforesaid, the reductions aforesaid are added to the wage earner, great and small. There is no escape. The girl who gets over \$8 a week even is taxed. The child, the widow, the frugal folks with a small income, the wage earner, the factory hand, the aged man with a little means to live on, the young man receiving a small sum, all have their income taxed, no matter how small, even though they are not making enough to make ends meet. Householders are exempt to \$1,000, but those who through no fault of their own can't find a place to rent, pay income tax over \$400. The small storekeeper is taxed on the value of the premises he occupies, and not on the business he does, and lots of poor storekeepers thus get the worst of it.

The new Government cannot allow such an unjust raid on the wage earners

to remain. The income provisions must be repealed outright. The cry of, "Oh, wait and see how the Act works a few years," should not be listened to a minute. The income provisions must go. Better go back to the old law, which was more just, and exempted everybody up to \$700.

It is hoped the Civic Legislation Committee will get busy and aid in having the Act repealed. Controller Hubbard's Ontario Municipal Association, principally bossed by assessors and municipal officers, decided it would be better to wait and give the new Act a chance; but, then, the assessors present at that meeting helped draw the Act and received from the Government fat sums in fees. This accounts for their conduct and action.

The Evening Telegram says: "The first duty of the Ontario Legislature at its next session should be to mend or end the new Assessment Act."

"There never was the slightest excuse for such a monstrosity as the legislation jammed through by a Government that spent 98 per cent. of its time trying to hold office, and the other two per cent. in the transaction of public business."

"The Ontario Legislature was warned that the Gibson Bill would create more evils than it would cure."

"The bill went through all its stages and has proved to be utterly unjust in its tendency to exempt wealth and to tax comparative poverty."

The World and Mail and Empire and other papers are equally condemnatory. The labor organizations must unite and see the Government and get the Act repealed.

What does Mayor Urquhart think of the Act?

Hon. Messrs. Foy and Pyne represent factory ridings. Will they back up the wage earners or not?

Bakers' strike still on.

HOLIDAYS FOR CIVIC EMPLOYEES.

On 10th July the City Council, on motion of Ald. Jones, passed the following resolution:

"That the heads of the various civic departments be instructed to forthwith report to the Board of Control their views, together with a recommendation as to the advisability of giving each regular civic employee in the respective departments one half-holiday during each week in the year, and two weeks' holidays during the summer months."

This was a step in the right direction. At the present time the higher officials in the City Hall receive their Saturday half-holiday throughout the year, and two weeks' holidays in summer. There is no reason why all the employees should not be treated alike in this respect. It is to be sincerely hoped that the Board of Control will not delay in putting the matter into effect.

The wage earners of Toronto are not, as a rule, blessed with any too many holidays, and if Ald. Jones' proposal were adopted generally by employers of labor it would be a great blessing to the toilers of this city.

Some of the so-called improvements of the streets department under Dr. Sheard are nothing less than retrograde movements. The flushing of the streets was instituted by Street Commissioner Jones for cleanliness. Dr. Sheard has gone back to the old-fashioned sprinkling, which makes mud of the dust and leaves it on the pavement to dry and become dust again. But, then, "Bob" Fleming must be given a job by his successor in bossism, so the street railway sprinklers are called into action, and the wretched old system is re-introduced. Dr. Orr, manager of the Exhibition, stated that the dust nuisance had been more obnoxious this year than ever before.

There seems to be a craze at present for buying parks. Why don't the al-

dermen spend a little money and improve the lake front park at the Island, near the Sick Children's Hospital, before they spend thousands of dollars in buying new parks?

Since the Board of Control voted themselves more salary there seems to be an amusing jealousy among the Controllers lest the aldermen should get any more prominence than is necessary in civic matters. It is certainly remarkable that this year the custom of the aldermen acting in turn as Mayor in His Worship's absence has been abolished by the Board. None but Controllers have this year been asked to act as Mayor.

Why doesn't the Board of Control push on the construction of the ear line through Garrison Park to the Exhibition? At their present rate of moving there will be little chance of this very much needed extension being completed in time for next year's Exhibition.

Speaking of the Exhibition, why so much delay in getting the new buildings started? The fall is the time to commence the work, not the spring. Will somebody please poke up the Controllers?

The Labor Temple Company will give one of the best concerts ever offered to the public on Oct. 28th in the Massey Hall. Tickets may be secured from any of the committee. Rally all together and make the effort a bumper success.

The proposal that the members of the Board of Education shall receive a salary is again to the front. It is to be hoped that those who will seek re-election are not among those who seek pay. It is quite in line with general prevailing order of raising the school tax for no general benefit.

At the request of the local Street Railway Men's Union the Board of Control to-day telegraphed an invitation to the Aemigamated Street and Electric Railway Employees' Association, now in convention at Chicago, to meet here for their biennial convention in 1907.

A well attended meeting of the Executive Board of the Temple Company was held on Tuesday night in the Temple, the coming concert being the principal business carried on.

Secure tickets early for the concert, as the rush will be great.

Mr. I. H. Sanderson left on a tour of inspection through the Eastern and Southern States.

Bakers' strike still on.

Be sure that the firm you order your coal from has the union label on their delivery wagons.

DON'T KNOW YOUR WEAKNESS.

When a trade union thinks it has grown so strong that it can get along without the central body, it is mighty near the verge of a backset. Study the history of organized labor.

If the 75,000 mouths controlled by organized labor, with their sympathizers, ate union-made bread, there would be no bakers' strike on. Lend a hand. Now is the time.

The trades union movement does not need apologists. The time will come when it will not need defenders.

The shorter workday is the most important question before the labor movement, and will continue to be such, because it is the simplest and most direct way of adjusting the problem of distribution.

Be sure that the label is on the wagon when ordering your coal.

PATRONIZE OUR OWN FRIENDS.

Be very careful of the patronage you bestow upon merchants who advertise liberally in the daily papers, but who refuse to advertise in your labor paper. This is also true of the merchant who will tell you that he believes in union labor and wants the union man's trade, yet persistently refuses to advertise in a labor paper. There is a common understanding among many of the larger merchants that they will not patronize the labor papers, and hope by thus withholding their business from such papers to force their suspension, or at least weaken their influence.

Without advertising, the paper could not exist at the price it is now being sold to the unions, but if each union man and his wife and daughter do their part, there will be no danger of the paper suspending.

Subscribe to the Tribune.

The success of any civilization is to be measured by the comfort of its workers, not by the affluence of its drones.

THE COST OF LIVING.

According to Dun, the cost of living has risen 37 per cent. in the last seven years. With the exception of a few workers in some of the highly organized trades, this increase is much greater than the increase in wages for the same period.

IRON MOULDERS, ATTENTION!

We unfortunately lost the copy of subscribers' names on list given last week, and would like it repeated at once. This is the reason you did not get your paper last issue.

Mr. Jno. A. Flett has organized the warehousemen of Toronto.

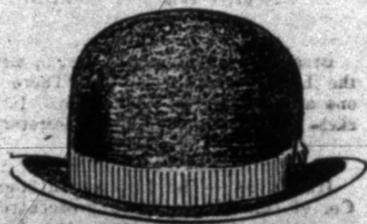
Bakers' strike still on.

PERPETUAL MOTION.

Rags make paper.
Paper makes title deeds.
Title deeds make landlords.
Landlords collect rents.
Rents make poverty.
Poverty makes rags.
N.B.—Ground rents are values produced by the community growth, therefore should be used for community expenses, not pocketed by land companies and speculators.

In other words, take the taxation off labor products and tax land values only. This will cheapen land, reduce rents, raise wages and cheapen necessities of life. The \$700 exemption off dwellings (labor products) is a first step.

January 1st, 1906, is drawing near. Tribune readers will in due time be reminded of the names of our autocratic municipal rulers, who temporarily shelved this proposition. A word to the wise will be sufficient. G. C.



DINEEN'S UNION HATS

It is not worth while to go past a good union hatter to save a dime on the price of a hat.

DINEEN'S \$2.00
SWELL \$2.50
DERBY \$3.00

You can never tell how cheap a hat you have bought until you are through wearing it.

DINEEN'S IS A UNION LABEL STORE
Cor. Yonge & Temperance Sts.