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MEETINGS.

CENTRAL TRADES AND LABOR COUNCIL OF MONTREAL.

L. Z. BOUDREAU, PRESIDENT
R. KEYS, VICE-PRESIDENT
P. J. RYAN, ENGLISH REC. SECRETARY
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JOS. CORBELL, TREASURER
J. A. RENAUD, SERGEANT-AT-ARMS

Meets in the Ville-Marie Hall, 1623 Notre Dame street, the first and third Thursdays of the month. Communications to be addressed to P. C. CHATEL, Corresponding Secretary 127 1/2 St. Lawrence street.

RIVER FRONT ASSEMBLY,

No. 7628.
Receives K. of L. Hall, 662 1/2 Craig street. Next meeting Sunday, June 26, at 2:30. Address all correspondence to J. WARREN, Rec. Sec., 29 Basin Street.

DOMINION ASSEMBLY,

No. 2436 K. of L.
Meets every Friday evening at eight o'clock in the K. of L. Hall, 662 1/2 Craig street. Address all communications to H. J. BRINDLE, R.S., No. 11 St. Monique street.

PROGRESS ASSEMBLY,

No. 3852, K. of L.
Meets every First and Third Tuesday at Lomas' Hall, Point St. Charles.

BLACK DIAMOND ASSEMBLY

1711, K. of L.
Meets next Sunday, in the K. of L. Hall, 662 1/2 Craig street, at 7 o'clock.
Address all communications to WM. ROBERTSON, 7 Archambault street.

PLUMBERS' & STEAMFITTERS' UNION OF MONTREAL.

Meets 223 McGill street every fourth Friday. Next meeting July 8th.
WM. McCLEAVE, 73 1/2 St. Phillip st., Secretary.

LEGAL CARDS.

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TORONTO NOTES.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

TORONTO, June 23, 1892.

The lines of an impartial correspondent are not pleasant. Some weeks back I drew attention that Royal Labor Commissioner John Armstrong spoke in commendatory terms of the candidature of Mr. W. F. Maclean proprietor of the World newspaper of this city as a candidate for East York in the Parliament of Canada. I also said that Mr. W. H. Parr was at the same meeting and on the platform in support of Mr. McLean, the only man in Canada who ever invoked the courts in securing a perpetual injunction against a trade union not to tell the truth as to the cause of a strike in this office. I quoted the World—McLean's paper—at the time, and for the reason that I believed the report to be true, I believed this, because I thought that if the World's report was not true Mr. Parr would have promptly corrected a statement which did him an injustice and placed him in a false light before those who had reason to believe better of him. He did not do this, and yet it transpires that while he was at the meeting I refer to at the time, yet he positively declined (although repeatedly called) to go on the platform—in fact, he went to the meeting for the sole purpose of hearing a personal friend make a speech, and was not there to support W. F. McLean. When I learned the facts I requested him to explain over his own signature in your columns. This he has not seen fit to do, and yet he feels annoyed at your correspondent. Well, I willingly offer the amende honorable at once, because I unhesitatingly believe what Mr. Parr says—everyone who knows Henry Parr always believes what he says—and rightly. He was not, he says, at that meeting in support of the candidature of W. F. McLean, and that settles it.

A very perceptible gloom hung over the meeting of the Trades and Labor Council at its session last Friday evening, and this was due to the sudden gloom cast upon the family circle of Mr. Geo. T. Beales, so well known and highly respected in labor circles in Toronto, through the untimely drowning of his eldest son, aged about fifteen years, the evening before, and the circumstances of which accident are recited by the Evening News of Friday as follows:

Albert Beales after returning home from his work took a hasty supper and with some other boys hastened to that part of the Don known as Sandy Point at Winchester street. He quickly stripped and dived into the water, but he remained so long under that his companions became alarmed and shouted for help. A gentleman passing went to the rescue, and in ten minutes after young Beales sank his body was brought to shore.

Mr. Beales was immediately told and he rushed to the shore to find the body of his eldest son lying on the bank, but with some little signs of life. With some medical students, the father did all he could to restore life. In about three-quarters of an hour after the accident, Dr. Avison, who had been notified, came on the scene, and the body was removed to the hospital, where for three hours it was endeavored to restore life. All scientific remedies were employed, including the application of electricity, and succeeded in restoring the natural color of the flesh from the blackness it had when taken from the water, and about 11 o'clock it was thought the boy would recover, but shortly after that hour unmistakable signs of death appeared, and further efforts were of no avail.

The lad Beales was the eldest son of George T. Beales, inspector of the Toronto Water Works Department and vice-president of the Trades and Labor Council.

It is supposed that the unfortunate lad took cramps, having entered the water too soon after supper, and it is likely that he struck some obstacle in his dive and was stunned, as his face and nose were cut. The funeral will take place Saturday afternoon.

It is hardly needless to add that a very large number of Mr. Beales' immediate and sympathetic friends attended the funeral, and among who were Mr. T. W. Banton, President, Chas. March, Treasurer, and C. F. Cribben, Secretary of the T. & L. Council, as well as Mr. D. A. Carey, M. W. of D. A. 125, K. of L., of which body M. Beales has been for years an official organizer.

The regular fortnightly meeting of Toronto Trades and Labor Council was held on last Friday evening. There was a fair attendance of delegates, and the business transacted was both interesting and important. President, as usual, was in his place in the chair, and a full quota of fledgling newspaper reporters occupied seats at the table set apart for representatives (God save the mark) of the city press. If the reportorial ability of the reporters was to be

judged by the garbled screeds which appear next day in city papers as the proceedings of the Trades and Labor Council were to be taken as an index either of their ability, impartiality or honesty of the average reporter, the greater number of them should be strung up on the nearest lamp post. But I am degressing.

After the transaction of usual routine business reports of Committees were in order.

The Legislative Committee reported having considered the communication from the Trades Council of New Westminster referred to them, and recommended that the Corresponding Secretary be instructed to open correspondence with the proper officers of that body with a view to keeping labor bodies of the east correctly informed upon the state of trade in British Columbia.

The Legislative Committee praised the Methodist Conference for the stand it had taken toward the early closing of stores on Saturdays, and then branched off to commend the ship-railway scheme, which would benefit Toronto and all the Dominion.

George Watson was not of that opinion, and tried unsuccessfully to have the ship-railway clause struck out.

The report gave credit to W. F. Maclean for his maiden effort at Ottawa in the direction of a two-cent-a-mile railway rate for travellers in the Dominion.

While D. J. O'Donoghue was for the principle, he had little faith in Mr. Maclean's action, which he called "buncombe." He considered that the ambitious young member had already showed the white feather by not pressing the amendment.

"It will be discussed again," rejoined George Watson, "when the Railway Act comes up."

However, Mr. O'Donoghue was confident that no good would come out of East York just now. He prophesied that Maclean would "slip" out of it all.

The report was adopted.

The Municipal Committee condemned the proposed \$5,000 grant for Dominion Day, and was glad of its illegality, for the money could be better spent. Gratification at the passage of the scaffold by-law was expressed; and "jealousy and axe-grinding" charged against the aldermen as the cause of the delay in appointing a City Engineer.

The City Council was also condemned for not considering the inmates of the jail when selecting the isolation hospital site; and the support and sympathy of the Trades Council was promised to Architect Lennox so long as he pursued the impartial course he has been following on the Court house work.

The committee further expressed the opinion that this is the most incompetent City Council witnessed for twenty years.

The poor wages paid thousands of working girls was also touched on once more, and the report adopted.

The educational report deplored the fact that Public school trustees have such a habit of wasting time and breath in useless discussions at board meetings. The board was condemned for not getting its supply of coal at the right time when it was cheap. The committee also thought children should have Dominion Day for themselves without being dragged into a celebration, which was all right in its way, but the children should be free.

More swimming baths were wanted as well as the opening up of the Metropolitan church grounds to the public.

Government grants to denominational schools was protested against.

The School Board was referred to Hamilton's mode of working the truancy law, and the labor champions were glad that the expenses of the trip of Inspector Hughes and Chairman McPherson were not paid.

The secretary of the Ontario Bureau of Industries needs information as to labor organizations, wages, unions, and co-operative societies to compile for future reference, and his request was included in the report, and the Council asked to devise means to secure all the information wanted.

The report was adopted.

The special committee of reception and entertainment reported that, after due consideration, the committee arrived at the unanimous opinion that it would be in the best interest of organized labor to hold a demonstration on that occasion, and recommending that Saturday, September 10, be chosen as Labor Day.

The report was adopted.

Delegate O'Donoghue drew attention of the Council to a grievance of the licensed ex-

pressmen and the same was referred, at his request, to the Municipal Committee for investigation and report.

On motion of Delegate Morde, the Council determined not to meet for one month as the next regular meeting would fall on the evening of Dominion Day, and the Council adjourned. No doubt your readers will be pleased with the consequent rest from the proceedings of this indefatigable, independent and plain-spoken labor organization.

The Council then adjourned.

In speaking of the re-election of Mr. W. B. Prescott to the honorable and coveted position of President of the International Typographical Union, the Toronto Globe of last Tuesday very truthfully says:

Toronto printers are greatly pleased over the re-election of Mr. W. B. Prescott to the presidency of the International Union at the session now in progress in Philadelphia. When Mr. Prescott left Toronto a year ago to take his seat as a delegate at the International few thought that he would receive the honor of the presidency. When he was selected everyone predicted a splendid success for him, as he had shown himself a model presiding officer in the local union. So successful has been his administration that he was re-elected on the first ballot. He was placed in nomination by Delegate Robi-vette of Sacramento, Cal., and seconded by Delegate Campbell of Memphis, Tenn. His opponents were Delegates Wines and McDonald (Lockport.) Prescott received 97 votes. Wines 52, and McDonald 21. The position carries with it a salary of \$1,500 a year, and, to a man of the type of the re-elected president, an enormous power for good.

URIM.

THE FIRST GAS WELL.

An Eye-Witness Tells How and Where It Was Struck.

"Few people have an idea how long it has been since the first gas well was struck in Western Pennsylvania," remarked Aaron Williams, the veteran station master and ticket agent at Crag Dell, on the Allegheny Valley Railway, recently.

"It has been more than 60 years," he continued, "since I first saw natural gas, and a very peculiar coincidence in connection with the striking of that first well so impressed the circumstance on my mind that I shall never forget it.

"I was a mere bit of a boy, running about in my bare feet. We lived near Jeannette; and having heard frequently through my father that a salt well was being drilled in the vicinity of our home, I determined to find out all I could about it, and to that end I worked. My father, hearing of my intentions, forbade me carrying them out, and nothing was left for me to do but to steal away from the house to gain my point. Bare footed as I was, one day I set out in the direction of the place and soon found myself viewing with wonder the interesting spectacle. I found three men at work under the derrick, and although not very close, yet I could hear and understand what they were saying. It was not long after my arrival that a neighbor came along, and going to where the men were working he asked:

"Well, how far are you down and how long will it be till you reach the salt?"

"One of the men made reply in the following language:

"We will reach her to-night, or reach—"

"I thought nothing of the answer at the time, but the next day it was brought to my mind rather forcibly. I wandered back to the house feeling rather important at seeing the first salt water well ever drilled in Pennsylvania. The next morning my father came in to the house greatly excited, and told us that a fearful accident had befallen the men who were at the mouth of the well. He related the story. Shortly after I had left they struck gas and the gas struck them. The men were so seriously injured that they did not recover for at least two weeks. The gas flowed off into the air at regular intervals until the mouth of the well became filled up with rubbish or the supply exhausted."

It is interesting to note that this first well was within two miles of the famous Grapeville field, opened up more than half a century later.

An Underground Trolley System.

A New York city man has been granted a patent on an underground trolley system of electric railway, which the inventor claims is absolutely safe and can be constructed at about one-tenth the cost of cable roads.

In Committee of the Whole of the Legislative Council the Early Closing Bill was killed by a vote of eight to seven.

Women Don't Do All the Gossiping.

When a person speaks of a gossip everyone immediately thinks it means a woman, yet if the species were averaged up according to sex, there would be, like the animals that went into the ark, one male to every female, and for right down professional back-biting, it takes a man to outdo a woman every time. Perhaps their gossip may not be of the same character for the simple reason that their knowledge on subjects usually discussed by women is forehanded, owing to their sex. A man may not discuss the cut of Mrs. So-and-So's gown, but he can talk glibly about the baggy knees and seedy top-coat of Charlie B., who, "poor old chap," is quite on his uppers, lost a lot of money, and they do say that his fiancée has cut him. Isn't that gossip, pure and simple? And who tells his sister that "Dick got into an awful scrape; something positively disreputable—no one knows it of course, strictly confidential, you know, but his governor cut up very rough and the dear boy will have to leave town for a while until it blows over."

It is a very sweeping assertion, but when secrets are entrusted the question of honor is ten times stronger in a woman than in a man. "I give you my word as a gentleman" sounds very high flown, but in how many cases does a man remember the promise when he retails escapades that he has induced some young woman to enter into, trusting to his honor to keep it strictly to himself! A group of men can do more harmful gossip in half an hour than a continued tea drinking from now to the first of January would bring about. To some men nothing is sacred. They discuss everything with a free and easy don't-care-who-hears-them manner, regardless of truth so long as they make a good story in which they figure as the hero and the heroine is some trusting girl or woman who thinks them perfect.

New Systems of Preventing Corroding.

In recent years numerous methods of treatment have been suggested for protecting corrodible metals from the effects of the atmosphere; but, in practical use, few have been able to produce the results claimed for them by the inventors. There are two classes of manufactures which are in special need of some efficient means of protection. The first is represented by large structures of iron and steel, whose corrosion means ruin. The second comprises smaller and more generally domestic articles, whose disfigurement is more to be feared than their actual destruction.

There has lately been patented a process which promises to be practically useful. The method is the invention of Mr. Haskell, of Vienna, a chemist of no small attainments, and the coating he employs consists of peroxide of lead. This metallic oxide being neither acid nor basic in character, is remarkably inert, and in the film so formed is an excellent protective covering because of its chemical indifference.

Concerning the operation of the Haskell process, the London Engineer says that the deposit of peroxide is affected in cold aqueous solution, and is stated to be complete in about 20 minutes. The adhesion is good and the hardness sufficient to stand scratch-brushing or polish. The limit to its protective effect is of course determined, as in all similar instances, by its degree of porosity rather than by the difficulty with which the film itself may be corroded; but it is sufficient, it is said, to resist the rusting effect of a moist atmosphere, although it cannot be relied on to stand immersion in water for any length of time.

This system of browning may be applied to meet iron and steel articles which are not too big to be accommodated in an electrolytic bath, such things as the parts of firearms, machinery, small castings for indoor use, tools and the like being well fitted for treatment. It is said to have a distinctive advantage over similar processes, inasmuch as it is carried out cold: and steel goods, therefore, retain their temper. Having regard to the fact that the usual process of browning rifles and shotguns is a highly empirical and tedious affair, only surpassed in both respects by the bluing of pistol barrels, it seems probable that one of the most useful applications that can be made of the new method will be in the protection of these arms, which are constantly exposed to the vicissitudes of the weather.