## Current Comment

The possibility of Chinese laborers being used on the Panama Canal is unfavorably commented upon in the Panama newspapers. A law prohibiting Chinese immigration is in effect.

✦ ✦

Within the past month the following firms have decided to locate in Hamilton: The Mansfield Glass Company, the Frost Wire Fence Company, the Petrie Machine Company and the Canadian Tinplate Company. They will employ upwards of 300 persons.

✦ ✦

In an address before the Working men's Free Reading Room Association, of Hartford, Conn., President Mellen, of the New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad, dealing with unionism, advised all workingmen to join unions, but to be a force for conservatism.

✦ ✦

The London Daily Chronicle, in an analysis of the Australian Cabinet, shows that every member has worked either with pen or pick.

✦ ✦

The Construction Co., Ltd., of Toronto, is erecting fifty six-roomed houses in Gait, to sell at about $1,300.

✦ ✦

The miners' troubles in Colorado are surely reaching a climax. Yesterday President Chas. Moyer, of the Western Federation of Miners, being taken to Denver to appear before the Supreme Court in a habeas corpus proceeding, was met at the Denver depot by Secretary Haywood. Captain Wells of the military guard, in whose custody President Moyer was, made a brutal attack upon Secretary Haywood, because the two brother unionists attempted to shake hands. Haywood promptly knocked his assailant down and was as promptly set upon by soldiers of the guard, who, after bayonetting and clubbing him, took him into custody and refused to surrender him to the civil authorities when officers of the law responded to the riot call caused by the outrage. Press despatches would indicate that certain sections of Colorado are under martial law without a doubt, and that the civil authorities are apparently helpless while Governor Peabody and General Bell are holding the reins.

✦ ✦

Boycotts do hurt! If you do not believe it just look at the failure of the W. B. Reid Company. The cigarmakers have been fighting this company for some time and they have, as it were, succeeded in putting under the hammer a business man who did not use good business judgment in antagonizing union labor. By this failure it is evident that handling non-union and trust goods is not profitable.

✦ ✦

Labor is the first to face the effects of the great fire. Labor has, up to date, received most of the advice about not taking advantage of other people's necessities and raising the price of their only saleable commodity. The advice is not needed in this quarter at all, but it is evidently needed in others. The brick manufacturer is taking advantage of public need and raises the price of his bricks by $5 per thousand. The lumber lord is raising his rent by over 200 per cent. in many instances, while the business man who has a corner in goods badly needed seeks the public to the limit. The Toronto Casket Company, Mr. Murray's company, by the way, takes advantage of the necessities of other manufacturers and boosts up the rent of their new buildings, which they do not purpose to use for some time. Labor does a criminal act in raising wages at this time, but it is good business for the manufacturer, the landlord and the merchant to put their prices as high as possible. The papers which are so solicitous about labor not making a mistake should investigate the other side and show up their crimes before attacking the under dog.

✦ ✦

Rev. Washington Gladden, writing of the Colorado situation, tells some interesting things of the land of liberty as follows: It is evident that there is a reign of terror in Teller county and that the terrorists are not all miners. The worst practices of the turbulent workingmen are outdone by these friends of "law and order." I talked with one of the exiles. He is, I am told, one of the leading merchants of Telluride, a man worth $50,000, but a strong sympathizer with the miners. He is a socialist, but a non-resident, as he told me. He said he had never before been arrested, and had never given or received a blow in his life. He is a mild-mannered man and there were tears in his eyes when he told me his story. He was seized in his home by a delegation of the "law and order" forces, who broke down his doors. He was about retiring and was in his stocking feet, but he was not allowed to put on his shoes. He was dragged in this condition through snow and frozen puddles of water to the "bull pen," and thence to the railway station. His wife brought him his shoes before he was taken away. On the way to the train he was beaten over the head with the butt of a pistol by his captors, inflicting an ugly scalp wound. Such are some of the methods by which it is proposed to restore order, and to establish peace on earth and good will among men in the mining camps of Colorado.

✦ ✦

Don't forget the competition for subscribers to The Toiler before Labor Day. Some valuable prizes are offered and it is up to you to celebrate the opening of the Labor Temple with every labor man in the city a subscriber to his own paper. You own your own paper and you will soon own your own home. Rally to the support of both.

✦ ✦

Just as the labor men are about to secure a home of their own the Board of Trade let their valuable home go because of lack of support. Let us teach the business man that labor has more stake in the community than the business man who lets his home be sold over his head.

✦ ✦

Nearly six millions paid out in benefits in 24 years, and $375,000 last year, is a pretty fair record for one trades union. This is the record of the Cigarmakers' International Union, and still they call us selfish and uncharitable.

✦ ✦

May Day came and went without a disturbance in the labor world of Toronto. It has not happened this way for years and was a great disappointment to our enemies. Experience is a good teacher, and experience has taught the unionists that judgment is a necessary article for all trade unionists to possess. Let the good work go on and by education we will triumph in the end over our enemies.

✦ ✦

### THE YELLOW PERIL.

Editor of The Toiler:—In writing to you the other day I pointed to the probable opening of China and consequent influx of "yellow" labor into the general market as a warning to us against carrying hostilities here beyond the measure really required by justice. The "Yelow Peril" has since been signally manifested by the introduction of Chinese labor in South Africa under conditions practically amounting to slavery, which, masked by a pretence of propagating British liberties was the real object of the South African war. We are told by defenders of the measure that something of the kind had been done before in Surinam. Whatever it was, it seems to have passed unnoticed, probably because it meant no particular mischief. The present measure does mean particular mischief, supported as it is, in defiance of remonstrance, by the whole Tory party in England. If Japan becomes a great naval and military power, laws excluding yellow labor will not be easily maintained.

I should belie the whole tenor of my life and all my associations, if I could wish labor to have less than justice. But peace with justice, if attainable, will always be the aim of the wise, especially at the present hour. So both Mr. Powderly and Mr. Mitchell seem to hold.

Goldwin Smith.


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Appears on all bottles of Union Beer.

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INTERNATIONAL UNION UNITED BREWERY WORKMEN OF AMERICA TRADE MARK REGISTERED

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The favor of a call and inspection of our stock requested.

**STYLE, FIT AND PRICE**

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TORONTO.

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This Label appears on all Union made brooms, and guarantees that it was not made by convicts in a prison factory. See that the Label is placed under the wire and not pasted on.

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The Liver is the great secreting organ of the body, and when it fails to perform its office, bile accumulates and the blood becomes poisoned, causing many unpleasant symptoms, such as: dull, heavy, languid feeling, indisposition to attend to duties, pain in back or shoulders, sour stomach, constipation, dryness of the skin, restlessness at night, etc.

If these symptoms are not dealt with immediately, they become aggravated so as to induce serious illness. To relieve at once and cure permanently

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**A Purely Vegetable Tonic and Blood Purifier, Price 50 cents per Bottle.**

Usually you can obtain the preparation of your local druggist, but if you are not able to obtain it in your neighborhood, we shall be pleased to send to any address one or more bottles upon receipt of price (50c per bottle) CARRIAGE PREPAID.

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Strengthens and Tones up the Nervous System

25 and 50 Cents

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### TORONTO DISTRICT LABOR COUNCIL.

Last week's meeting of the Toronto District Labor Council transacted a volume of business and adjourned at an earlier hour than has been its wont.

Following the adoption of the minutes, Mr. A. G. Lambert, member of the Amalgamated Engineers, was granted a hearing and a seat in the Council for the evening. Bro. Lambert pointed out the good work done at the A. F. of L. convention at Boston, also told of the good impression the speech of the Dominion's fraternal delegate, James Simpson, made on those present.

Delegate Glockling reported, on behalf of the Labor Temple Committee, to the effect that 3,600 shares had already been applied for, and specially requested the delegates to bring the question of purchasing before their locals at the earliest possible moment. Up to the 5th of June, the time limit for option of purchase, remittances should be forwarded to the secretary.

A delegate representing the Women's Label Leagbe announced a social and dance to take place in Forum Hall on Friday evening, May 13, the object being the procuring of funds to purchase shares in the Labor Temple.

The Woodworking Section, in a part of its report, suggested that the Council adjourn at 10.30 p.m., as the late hours at the Council affects the attendance at the section when the meeting of the section occurs on the following evening. The report was adopted.

The Building Trades Section reported at length. The unfair list contained the following firms: Messrs. McGregor & McIntyre, structural ironworkers; E. J. Lennington, Bathurst street; Mr. Bloomer, Bathurst street. The report was adopted.

The executive's report anent the communication from the Hamilton T. L. C. was adopted, and a motion was carried to the effect that the British House of Commons be congratulated upon the framing of a new alien labor law bill.

The executive, municipal and educational reports were ordered to be printed in full.

Press Committee.

## SWIMMING BATHS AND THE BIBLE

### The Education Committee of the Trades Council Discusses Both.

Public Swimming Baths.

The teaching of the art of swimming to the pupils of our Public Schools is of the greatest importance, especially is a city like Toronto, which is practically water bound. The lake, the Humber and the Don Rivers are claiming their quota of victims yearly, some of whom would have been able to save themselves had they known how to swim. The question of swimming baths for the Public Schools should commend itself to the serious consideration of the parents, school teachers and School Board; and if possible the question should be solved. Sheffield, Huddersfield, Leeds, Birmingham, Northampton, Manchester and other cities of Britain have public swimming baths at which the children learn to swim; as a place of entertainment or for pleasure it has very few equals. Your committee are of the opinion that the time now spent by the pupils in the manual training classes by the boys would be better employed spent in the baths learning to swim.

Compulsory Military Training.

A clause of the amended Militia Act passed at the present session provides for the compulsory training in the militia of all youths not exempt by deformity, defect or other disability, for the space of ten days annually. Your committee view this act with sorrow and regret, and would point out that it is both pernicious and hurtful to the best interests of this country, which must of necessity be in favor of peace. The military training, both in the public schools and high schools, tends to make a class distinction and form caste. The military class has ever been parasites, and sucks on the body politic, and we would point out that the chances of war in any country are in direct pro ratio to the number of military cranks or jingoes therein. The jingoism of the people has time and again forced the hand of Parliament in the matter of war or peace. It is but a step from the Canada Militia Act, 1904, to the conscript laws of Germany, France, Austria, Russia and Italy. These countries are suffering from the burden of immense standing armies, like a swarm of locusts eating up the substance and not producing any, making the taxes higher and harder all the time. This country cannot afford to drift into this condition, either financially or morally, so it behooves us to be moving in this matter, to the end that at the next session the members of Parliament may revoke the action of this one.

The Bible in the Public Schools.

S. H. Blake is making a strong attempt to revive the question of the Bible being introduced as a text book in the Public Schools. He seems to have the courage of his convictions, and is not afraid to champion them. He says we are deteriorating as a people in our reverence for the Creator God because of the absence of the Bible in our Public Schools. Of course your committee differ with him in his conclusions and his argument, but we differ most on the principle involved. The introduction of the Bible should be opposed because of the opportunity to the teacher of propounding dogmatic explanation of the portion studied. The church and state should ever be separate to have a homogeneous people; if the parents of children of school age wish religious instruction given to the child, then let them send it to a school for that purpose or instruct it themselves. This is a question which will allow of much discussion pro and con, and we feel [illegible] gates will think of this question most sincerely.

Chas. Wheat, Sec.


**Carter's Teething Powders**

**Best for Teething Babies**

When Baby is teething the thoughtful mother need have no fear if Carter's Teething Powders are used. For years thousands of mothers have found them a real safeguard at this critical period of baby's life.

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Take no substitute—Every genuine box must bear this signature

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are a safe and effectual remedy for worms in children and adults.

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Cures all Headaches—will cure yours.

**A World of Pleasure For $1.00**

delivered to your home—balance $1 to be paid in small weekly payments. This offer is good for the three finest Sound Reproducing and Talking Machines in the world, the Zonophone, Edison and Victor, ranging in price from $15.00 to $35.00.

They are the grandest home entertainers ever invented. No home should be without one. Just think, you can sit by your own fireside and listen to the grandest operas, comedies, minstrel overtures, in fact, an endless variety of entertainment.

Our store is the only place in the city where you can buy the best at the lowest price.

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Everything in Talking Machines

**9 & 11 QUEEN ST. EAST**

Open Evenings.


## CORRESPONDENCE

### ANTI-CONSUMPTION LEAGUE.

Editor Toiler:

Sir,—Fresh impetus was given to the comprehensive co-operative plan of the Toronto Anti-Consumption League for fighting the white plague in Canada, by the action of the Canadian Association at its annual meeting at Ottawa last week, in arranging an influential deputation which waited upon the Premier, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, urging federal aid in establishing one small sanatorium in each province as an educator and object lesson, leading on to a municipal sanatorium in each county.

In this city an immense impetus was given to the movement when the ratepayers on January 1st voted $50,000 towards a sanatorium exclusively for Toronto, under conditions that necessitate the raising of $25,000 by voluntary contributions before any part of the $50,000 becomes available.

To facilitate this matter, the Imperial Bank has kindly consented to receive contributions at the head office and at all its city branches and issue receipts therefor. Literature on the question may be had on application to the undersigned.

60 Bond street. E. J. Darrick.

### POLITICAL POWER THE CURE.

Editor Toiler:

Sir,—It is some weeks now since I trespassed on your valuable space, so I hope you will indulge me once more. My experience of the last six weeks confirms my conviction that few men can bear the physical and mental strain of a day's work and then give to the complicated labor question the energetic study it demands, also attending union, committee and council meetings. Still, the tide of industrial democracy is flowing strong, and as we love God and humanity, we must stop with our job and keep it moving in the best shape possible. History shows that where a people have a righteous cause, and are brave, determined and united, they can always compel recognition of their rights. The history of such comparatively small nations as the Scotch, Swiss, Dutch, Boers, and Japs abundantly proves this statement. Our cause is righteous; we fight for our homes and our families. Are we brave? A brave man must be kind and tender, with a very "soft spot" for the weak and the struggling. Now, take the case of a toiler in the building trade. Winter time, out of work ten weeks, in debt to the grocer, baker, butcher, and they give him black looks every time he goes for more credit. Rent high, and running behind. Coal being brought by the cwt. or quarter ton. Along comes at us a people when we have the government we shall not have reached our highest boss knows he has this man in a tight place, and offers him 27 1-2 cents an hour, and if he does not take it, there are plenty who will. The toiler thinks of the privations of his family, of his growing debts, and he goes to work on his union and takes the job. What is the union going to do about it? Now, in New Zealand that Shylock of a boss could have no more paid that hard-up toiler 27 1-2 cents per hour than you could give me the diamond ring out of Byrie's window. It would be a criminal action. The Arbitration Court in New Zealand legally fixes the rate of wages in every district, and any employer presumptuous enough to undersell the legal rate of wages would soon find out that Prime Minister Richard Seddon is no wooden figurehead in the New Zealand Government, who lets a coach and four drive through his labor laws. But who put Richard Seddon in power and gave him parliamentary votes enough to carry out his labor policy? Not sleepy, short-sighted trades unionists, who are content to let Ontario drag along at the tail end of imperial trades unionism. Now, mind, I'm not defending the man that went back on his union. My mother taught me to fight a man of my own size, and not to pile in fifty to one on some poor wretch, and make him and all his family feel themselves outcasts from humanity. Last January at the municipal elections the eldermanic labor candidates in the six wards polled a grand total of over 6,000 votes. These were all individual voters, and multiplied by three for the cumulative ballot, would have given us 18,000 votes for each for our labor candidates for the Board of Education, whereas John Tweed, who polled the highest number of votes, failed to reach 3,000, and Geo. Gooderham, who headed the poll, only got 10,000 votes. This thing was well advertised in the unions by the referendum and by visiting delegates in the store windows and by dodgers distributed. Every labor man who wanted to know; every labor man who has any respect for his grandparents, who starved under the Corn Laws, or joined the union under peril of being transported to Botany Bay; every labor man who has any regard for the future of his children in the great struggle between machinery and humanity, the manhood and womanhood of the nation, against the dollar bags of the capitalist, could easily have found out who were carrying the banner of labor for the Board of Education, yet over 4,000 of these labor voters stood there in the polling booth, having twelve votes to dispose of, and preferred to vote for some doctor or lawyer rather than for a labor candidate, or else he did not use all his votes, perhaps none. Our convention held at St. Andrew's Hall by a decisive majority refused to endorse outside candidates. I opposed that policy, but the majority, having decided so, and only four candidates being clean, good, capable men, surely any toiler who wishes to end the present condition of intolerable misgovernment should have stood by the unions. Now, I ask you in all kindly fairness, who is the biggest sinner, the man who, to provide for his suffering family and to pay his honest debts, works under the union rate, or the man through partyism or lazy indifference "scabs" his ballot? Labor did not win many laurels in Toronto last January. Last Saturday there was an election in Ward 5. Where was labor. On Saturday, April 30, there was another election for controller. Where was labor? Suppose municipal ownership in Toronto depended on the way we exert the power of the labor vote, how long shall we have to wait for it? Yet manual labor will derive the greatest benefit from municipal ownership. Do you think a government job is a good thing? I have known some people think so much of it that five members of one family have fed at the public crib. Yet if out of work means poverty, and poverty means privation, debt and shame, is a man to be blamed for looking for a steady job, even if it be a "government job"? Suppose there are 5,000 men in Toronto holding government or civic jobs. If we got public ownership, that number would be doubled, and the government employes would not be laid off as the G.T.R. are doing now, when freight rates are away up, the lines short of rolling stock and engines, and the freight traffic congested. In Queensland, Australia, twelve years ago, the labor party appealed to the labor voters of that province to elect "men of sound judgment, total abstainers, who shall be a credit and strength to the cause of labor." Neither in Australia nor in New Zealand did the labor party confine themselves to the unions in choosing their candidates. If a man outside the union had a better chance of being elected, and was true to the cause of humanity, they endorsed him and helped to elect him. If the executive of our municipal labor party, or even a deputation therefrom, had waited on Mr. Hay or Mr. Stewart, with a good solid platform, talked over every plank, explained our municipal building loan plank, or arbitration plank, our Hare-Spence system of voting, and got a pledge from them for all or some of the planks, and then published the answer, recommending our best friends, and appealing to the labor voters to rally for our man, could not that easily have been done, and work here as well as it did in New Zealand? Afraid to trust your executive, are you? Unless they are checked and guarded by conventions and referendums, taking six weeks to operate and costing $100 to engineer? Which is worst, to trust your executive, or to let the election go by default, and grub along in the ditch that New Zealand got out of twelve years ago? If we lack the courage, unity and determination by which the Boers and the Japs have won the recognition of their union, what causes this deficiency? It seems to me that some words of John Ruskin apply to this question. As an art critic, John Ruskin was an admirer of symmetrical, harmonious beauty, and loving over humanity, the good man wanted everybody to be contented, happy and comfortable. But when he thought of the coal miner in the narrow seams, and many of the miserably, ill-paid, hard labors of the poor, he said in despair, "It is no use, a great deal of work is and always will be servile; the manual toiler must be more or less of a 'serf,' compelled by the conditions of civilization to do the hard, dirty work for the more favored portions of humanity." Ruskin quotes from the law of Moses respecting the national feasts of Israel. The Lord said, "It shall be a holy convocation unto you; ye shall do no servile work therein," showing that the highest development of humanity—the grateful worship of our loving Redeemer—was hindered and marred by servile work. Now, brother toilers, do you take this idea in? We are "serfs," not in the sense of degraded slaves. Our minds are free to rise above all the degrading bondage of a sin-cursed world, and reach right onward to a blissful eternity. Our bodies are free inside the limits of poverty, hunger, privation, sickness and old age. The manual laborer is more exposed to these foes of humanity than are the brain workers, largely because we show less intelligence in dealing with them, a mental condition peculiar to "serfs." We are "serfs" because an Almighty Power has fixed our lot in life, where we have to toil in dust, grease, iron filings, etc., until the sweat and the dirt begrime our faces and clothes, and stamp us plainly as the doers of servile work. Yet hearken, my brothers. The present is not the final position of the conditions affecting humanity. Soon time shall be no longer, and the beggars who lay at the rich man's gate shall be "carried to Abraham's bosom." Even as the Son of Man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister and to give His life a ransom for many, but now "He sitteth at the right hand of God, principalities and powers being made subject unto Him." I have been a "serf" (a doer of servile work) all my life. Yet I affirm, "He is a free man whom the truth makes free, and all are slaves Besides." My mother used to say, "You are too fond of that flannel jacket and those worsted cordiroys," but to be a good mechanic, worthy of that flannel jacket and those worsted cords, was my highest ambition. Yes, I have had some pretty mean jobs. It has been my rule to take every job as it came along and do my best by it—shirk nothing. In the doing of my servile work I have been blessed, have enjoyed my life, and am having a comfortable old age. I am proud to be one of Ruskin's "serfs." I affirm that the future of this world is in the hands of Ruskin's "serfs." The magnificent warehouses with all their modern appliances that shall rise from the ruins of Toronto's late fire will be built by Ruskin's "serfs." Union men all, as free as the wind, could the windbags that disgrace our Parliaments tackle such a job? Let us be united. The trouble is that many of our "serfs" are ashamed of their servile work. To such I would say, "My brother, you may have a good figure, or a fine tenor voice, and by your $20 evening suit and your diamond ring you may be master of some lodge, or take a prominent place in some church choir, but bring your evening friends to the test of your every day overalls, and will they treat you as cordially as they do in our evening suit? Which is your noblest, most valuable possession—your skill as a mechanic or your appearance as a dude? At this crisis, the sons of toil need their best men and strongest intellects to the front. You know the glutted condition of the labor market in England; you know how the immigrants are crowding in here. The action of the Eddy Company at Hull, of the Canada Foundry Co. and of the G.T.R. show how much consideration Canadian labor will get from Canadian capital. What intelligent, united action are we taking to guard ourselves against the poverty and privation that are crushing our fellow serfs in the Old Country? Take a leaf out of the book of the Toronto school teachers. Getting $1,000 a year, working 30 hours a week for nine months in the year, they have been clamoring for old age pensions for years back. Chancellor Burwash is on their old age pension committee. Erudite scholars in Greek and Latin, don't forget that it takes hard cash, no dead languages, to buy spring chicken and roast turkey. Have you ever heard the Toronto teachers advocate old age pensions for those who are doing the hard servile work at one-fourth of $1,000 a year? Has our own District Council ever advocated it? Has your own union ever asked for it? Have you yourself ever got up in your local and talked about it? John Ruskin says we shall have to do "servile work," but he does not say we need be characterized by "servility." Hearken, my brother. The avenger that keeps the city clean is doing a divine work. The drainer who puts the arteries of health, true and healthful, into the foundations of the house, is doing a divine work, but the manual laborer who toils as a drudge, just as he is bid, and drifts onward to old age, with no thought of provision for the feeble and dependent period of life for himself or his fellow serfs, is a servile slave, no matter how many gold watches or diamond rings he may wear in his youth, nor how many degrees he may have taken in the Freemasons.

J. H. R.

## FIRE HALLS AND PHONES

### The Municipal Committee Refutes the Slander of Interference with the Fireman's Duties.

Telephones.

By all means let us have competition in the telephone business. The Bell Telephone Co. is autocratic to price, and ill manner. A new company, seeking patronage in the bells business, would reduce these almost overbearing elements to a minimum in the interests of the citizens. Many cities in the United States with a population scarcely as large as ours give cheaper results with two phones and more expert attendance than Toronto does with one company's phone. Your Municipal Committee advocate the addition of another telephone company, hoping that it will prosper and assist the present company to rise, phoenix-like, from its ashes of incompetency. But no telephone company should be allowed to do business in Toronto except it be subject to municipal ownership in the near future. All the staple necessaries of life, and all public comforts and conveniences, should be owned and controlled by the people, even if they don't pay, the people are benefited nevertheless.

Water Supply.

A bad supply of water was witnessed at the recent conflagration in our city. Engineer Rust says there was a good supply, but some mains burst. Still, your committee maintain there was a bad supply at the fire. There is always something bursting in the water business at our City Hall when there should be no burst, while a destructive fire occurs. The property destroyed is generally the first topic discussed by the wealthy, while the large number of men and women thrown out of work is a secondary consideration. It cannot be expected, when household water services are not properly attended to, that the mains on our streets will be kept in order. The former deficiency is well known to that portion of the public who think over these matters, and if such is likewise known at the City Hall, it is kept exceedingly quiet.

Appointment of Contractors.

The question referred to your Municipal Committee from the Building Trades Section in reference to the appointment of contractors to the positions of inspectors on Public School works and corporation requirements, is open to intelligent discussion from both sides; but from a labor standpoint the greater evil, perhaps, is on the side of the contractor. But those who favor the contractor-inspector are also opposed to the tourney man union inspector, one would imagine. In the opinion of your committee, the whole question lies in the honesty of the individual. Charges of incompetency, if true, cause can be laid on both classes of inspectors.

Union Firm Gets Contract.

Your committee are pleased to note that a union firm in Pittsburg, Pa., has received the contract for the manufacture of cast iron pipe to be used for the extension of our waterworks system, instead of the non-union Canada Foundry Co. It was fortunate, in one sense, that the Pittsburg firm was the lowest tenderer, a strong handle for our aldermanic friends to use, although they know full well that union conditions were in the background that substantially prevailed over the quasi patriotism of Aldermen Loughed and Hubbard in casting their votes. No sentiment should stand in the way of giving a contract to the lowest tenderer, provided the conditions are satisfactory, which they are to this city, particularly to the working classes. Organized labor knows no political or geographical lines.

Repairing Fire Halls.

If our fire halls are not kept in a sanitary condition and, in a proper state of repair, the fault should not be laid at the door of trade unionists. When did the farthest cover there a trade unionist went into a fire hall and objected to the firemen closing up a hole in the floor with a piece of board or tacking up a piece of metal to ceiling? The prodigious fertility of Deputy Chief Noble's imagination must have been most rampant when he made use of these remarks, which are attributed to him in the daily press. Deputy Chief Noble should be the last man on the brigade to mention one iota of fault against trade unionists, as not agree with the doctor when he demanded influence with ex-Ald. Hanlan to vote for him (Mr. Noble), which he did, giving the position of deputy chief to him by a majority of one. This canvassing was done in the presence of Deputy Chief Noble, from whom the trade unions received many thanks and not one profane promises as to what he could do for the welfare of trades unionism. Deputy, does time obliterate promises?

With all due thanks to Prof. Goldwin Smith for kind words said on behalf of organized labor in years gone by, and not forgetting his substantial contributions to the shelves of our library, yet in the face of these unsolicited kindnesses, your Municipal Committee cannot agree with the doctor when he desires that our present Technical School building should be taken away from us and gives into the hands of the stranger for the purpose of an athletic club. Is our old champion of labor's rights the mouthpiece of an embryo company in this matter, or are the doctor's athletic days returning with such a rush that he cannot find sufficient space in the Grange to erect a horizontal bar and poise himself with a Whitely exerciser, dumbbells and clubs? The doctor has devoted the major portion of his life to developing the brain power of the youth in many countries, and now in his declining years why should he create a cracker in his long career of usefulness in the world of letters by attempting to deprive the mechanic and work girl of our city of their brain gymnasium?

John Armstrong, Sec.

### SPARKLING THOUGHTS FROM J. I GORDON'S SERMON.

One of the darkest things in the history of all ages is man's contempt for man.

Jesus had a supreme admiration for all humanity.

Most men feed on half truths.

Jesus followed the whole circle of truth.

Jesus Christ's life testified that what His character is the flesh was only can be.

He gave two sacraments—Baptism for the individual and the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper for the society.

In the whole of Christ's life you will find that he swept the whole keyboard of truth.

The first great surprise to men was when they first beheld death and saw a man laid still and cold.

The second great surprise to men was when Jesus Christ came forth from the tomb on the resurrection morning.

Lady—How you must suffer, my poor man!

Sandy Pikes—Yer are right, mum. It ain't no snap to hold an apple in yer mouth four hours and make believe yer have de worst kind of a swollen jaw.


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