

THE ECHO.

A JOURNAL FOR THE PROGRESSIVE WORKMAN, AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

Vol. 2.—No. 6.

MONTREAL, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1891.

{ SINGLE COPIES—THREE CENTS
{ ONE DOLLAR PER YEAR

MEETINGS.

CENTRAL TRADES AND LABOR COUNCIL OF MONTREAL.

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J. B. DUBOIS, - - - VICE-PRESIDENT
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JOS. RENAUD, - - - COR. SECRETARY
JOS. CORBELL, - - - TREASURER
JOS. PAQUETTE, - - - 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 Jos. Renaud, Corresponding Secretary, P. O. Box 414.

RIVER FRONT ASSEMBLY,
No. 7628.
Rooms K. of L. Hall, Chabouillez square. Next meeting Sunday, Nov. 8, at 7.30. Address all correspondence to J. WARREN, Rec. Sec., P. O. Box 1458.

DOMINION ASSEMBLY,
No. 2436 K. of L.
Meets every Friday evening at eight o'clock in the K. of L. Hall, Chabouillez square. 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.

BUILDERS' LABORERS' UNION.
Meets in Ville Marie Hall, 1623 Notre Dame street, every TUESDAY at 8 P. M.
Address all communications to WM. JARVIS, Secretary, 111 St. Dominique street.

BLACK DIAMOND ASSEMBLY
1711, K. of L.
Meets next Sunday, in the K. of L. Hall, Chabouillez square, at 2 o'clock.
Address all communications to WM. ROBERTSON, 7 Archambault street.

LEGAL CARDS.

Hon. J. A. Chapleau, John S. Hall, Jr.,
Q.C., M.P. Q.C., M.P.P.
Armand D. Nicolls, Albert J. Brown.
Chapleau, Hall, Nicolls & Brown,
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No. 185 St. James Street, Montreal.
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& MARTINEAU,**
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Pharmaceutical and Dispensing
Chemist.
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Sunday Attendance—From 1 to 2 p.m.
in 8.30 to 9.30 p.m.

LAVIOLETTE & NELSON,
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Corner of Notre Dame and St.
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MONTREAL.

UNION GIVES STRENGTH

It is becoming generally recognized that Tom Mann was quite right when he declared "the Land question is the Labor question; settle the one and the other will settle itself," and that the plank in the platform of the Progressive Political League which demands taxation of land values is the one, the realization of which will confer the greatest and most lasting benefits on Labor of all kind, whether of hand or head. But the fear is entertained that the Labor vote itself is not strong enough to carry a reform which would so largely curtail the power of Monopoly. While I share this belief, I am yet of opinion that it is this very reform which will bring into the ranks of the Labor Party such numerous outside supporters as the farmers, suburban homeowners and others, that their united vote will carry the day.

The mere beginning of taxing land value must already largely benefit these as well as other workers. It is, perhaps, not generally known how heavy the burden is which our present system of rating inflicts on farmers especially, and how largely it benefits boomers and land speculators. It fines every man who employs Labor to build a house or improve a farm. If a farmer converts a howling wilderness into a smiling orchard or cornfield, down comes the rate collector and fines him. Not only is he rated on all improvements, but the value of his land is assessed much higher than that of adjoining land which is either not used at all or only inadequately used. But when land values alone are taxed and all improvements exempted, then the squatter and speculator will have to pay acre by acre as much as the adjoining farmer, and the latter will be largely relieved.

Take, for instance, a case known to me, that of a farm of 400 acres, 150 of which are so largely improved that they are valued at £10 an acre, and 250 acres which are valued at £5 per acre. They are rated at 2s. and 1s. and acre respectively, so that the farmer has to pay £27 10s. a year in rates. This farm adjoins a squatter's run of 12,000 acres of equally good land, only slightly improved and worth £3 an acre, or without improvements £2 an acre. This land is rated at 5d. an acre, or £250 in all. If, now, assessments were based on the value of the land alone, without improvements, the same revenue of £277 10s. would result from a rate of 5d. an acre all round. Even if the rate were increased to 1s. an acre, and the additional revenue handed over to Government, the farmer would still save £7 10s. a year, but the squatter would have to pay £600 a year instead of the present £250. And here comes the beauty of such a tax. The squatter could not afford to pay such heavy taxation so long as the land is used as a sheeprun. He would have to cut it up into farms, and as any amount of similar land would be under the same necessity, farmers would get land at a very low rental of purchase price. Farmer's sons would get farms of their own for a mere trifle, the influx of country-born labor into Melbourne would cease and instead a reflux would set in, largely relieving the competition between laborers in the city.

The case is still stronger where, as in our suburbs and all around the metropolis, so much land is held idle for speculative purposes. Suburban cottages, generally worth much more than the land they stand upon, would pay much smaller rates, while the taxation on unused land would be so largely increased that the speculators would be compelled to get Labor to build on it. The consequent demand for Labor would be enormous, and coming at the very time when the demand for Labor in the country had depleted the Labor market, wages would rise to an extent which would rival that which took place when the goldfields were first discovered. And as the wages rose in all occupations, not only the wages of manual labor, but those of the professions and head labor generally as well, so it would be the case now.

I am therefore convinced that workers generally, but farmers more especially, are so deeply interested in the abolition of rates on improvements and the taxation of land values only, that if they once see its bearing they will join the Labor Party almost to a man. I therefore hope that the Committee of the Progressive Political League will start a campaign amongst farmers and will bring about a union of town and country labor of such irresistible strength that the power of Monopoly will disappear before its onslaught.—Max Hirsch in Australian Commonwealth.

WOMEN IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

A Member of Parliament Pays a Tribute to Woman's Refining Influence.

Writing about women and the House of Commons, Justin McCarthy stands up boldly for the tender sex. He says:

I read in various papers that there is a projected rising of elderly members of parliament against the ever increasing incursion of ladies into the House of Commons. They push us from our stools, it is said. They crowd the lobby, they swarm upon the terrace, they have to be conciliated with tea—we have opened a new dining room off the terrace for their accommodation—and that is not enough for them, and nothing will content them, and so there is a reaction springing up. I have noticed that the reactionary movement is represented everywhere as coming from members "on the wrong side of fifty." But the members on the wrong side of fifty are the very men who are seen most often escorting some bevy of women across the lobby and up and down the terrace. Why, the young men are not in it when compared with these elders. I never remember a time when women did not frequent the House of Commons. The habit of tea on the terrace has, of course, grown much of late years. What we have greatly improved in is the accommodation for the giving of dinner to ladies. At one time the terrace was the only part of the house where men and women could have food together. The only place where ladies could dine was a small room just opposite the door of the ladies' gallery. There a lady could have had, and can still have, a very slight and modest dinner—a chop or a steak and a glass of claret. But a man was not allowed in the little room where the ladies dined just as a lady was not allowed in the members' dining room. Of late years an innovation was made.

Below stairs there was a dining room actually, but not technically, within the precincts of the house—accessible to the general public through one of the court yards—and this was principally used by solicitors looking after bills, and other outsiders, who, though habitually attending the house were not officially recognized as having any connection with it. Some years ago this "was converted into a dining room for ladies, and its conversion was kept for awhile a kind of secret. Only members who well knew their way out were aware of its existence, but these began to make good use of it, and soon became the regular thing—one of the performances of the season—for ladies to dine there. Before long every one got to know of it, and every woman demanded to be taken to dine there. The room was soon quite small for its purpose, and more lately a new dining room for ladies was made just off the terrace; and there are also some smaller rooms, which can be had on application, for private dinners. But I need not say that ladies in general prefer the public rooms, where they can now and then see distinguished statesmen dining with their friends. Then ladies find it very amusing and interesting when the division bell rings, and every member starts up from the dinner table, like a madman, and makes a bolt for the stairs and the division lobby.

TUG OF WAR.

With cleats and rope and belts well plaited The men of the Central now feel elated, They think they can with their iron grip Take from the Sullivans the Championship.

Chief Kehoe is rejoiced, I heard it said, At how the cleats and belts are made, And the bran new rope, five inches thick, Is the very best their men could pick.

Having new equipment and men of muscle, He appears most anxious to have a tussle With the Champions, who will always strive To defend the flag of Number Five.

As a friend I wish to make him sensible At tug-of-war Number Five is invincible, If he thinks otherwise let him make the match, Put up the tin and come to the scratch.

CAPTAIN.

Painters' Union, No. 74 will hold its annual ball on the 10th instant in the Gaiety Hall, Parot street. From the success which has attended these annual events in the past we may predict that the forthcoming one will be in every way worthy of its predecessors. A full orchestra has been engaged and no end of enjoyment is promised to those who may patronize it. The proceeds go towards the sick benefit fund, and that object alone should secure a good attendance.

SCRAPS FOR CIGARMAKERS

The resolution introduced by representative of Union No. 58 at the Convention of Dominion Trades and Labor Congress asking the Dominion Government to increase the duty on imported cigars, in order to protect the Cigarmakers of Canada, is simply absurd. Whether he was carrying out the instructions of his union or not, I do not question, but I cannot refrain from expressing my dissent in the manner in which this question has been treated at different times by this Union. It will be remembered that at the New York convention, the delegate representing Union No. 58, presented a resolution similar to the one which Delegate O'Dowd, of Hamilton, introduced, and with the approval of No. 58, which, if adopted, would be more of a benefit to the Cigarmakers in Canada than one hundred per cent increased duty on imported cigars. I would like those members who favor a high protective tariff on imported cigars to show to what extent the Cigarmakers have benefited by it? If it is a benefit how do they account for the fact, that out of 2,117 Cigarmakers in the province of Quebec, not more than one third are members of our Union? What are the reasons assigned for the fifty-nine millions and a half of cigars manufactured in the Province of Quebec, of which nearly nine tenths are made by child, rat and machine labor. Is it the low tariff? It may be claimed that the high protective tariff has given employment to a large number of people; that it has built up an industry, which is a great source of revenue to the country; that by encouraging home industry we will be a prosperous people. But it cannot be disputed that a law or laws that will assist in creating monopolies, that will encourage capitalists to pay starvation wages, that assist in degrading and ruining our people, (as was clearly shown by the evidence taken at the Royal Labor Commission which sat in this city) is one which every intelligent person should raise their voice against, and not encourage by seeking to increase the power that produces such evil effects.

The portion of Third Vice President Todd's report regarding the high tariff which was submitted to the Convention he states that "about twenty years ago the country changed from a revenue tariff to an highly protective one, known to Canadians as the National Policy. Previous to its adoption the demand for cheap grades of cigars (and there is very little demand for anything else) was supplied by importations from Europe. The adoption of the protective tariff cut off this supply, and to meet the demand existing for cheap goods, the cheap labor abounding in the Eastern provinces was brought into requisition, with the result of forcing into competition the cheap labor districts of Western Canada, thus placing the membership of the International Union in Canada in a position best described as that of one between the devil and deep sea." If after twenty years experience we find such a state of affairs as is seen to-day among our trades, where child, female, rat and machinery is brought into competition with fathers of families who are dependent upon their day labor to support and educate their children to become respectable citizens, is it not time that the laws which were instrumental in bringing about such a state of affairs should be abolished? Is it not sufficient proof that this high protective tariff is the cause in no small degree, of the existing state of affairs and are we in the face of all this abuse, tyranny and starvation wages, which through circumstances we are compelled to submit to, still continue and request the Government to assist these capitalists in their unprincipled acts, I claim that such would be suicidal on our part, and nothing more or less than playing into the hands of our enemies. Let this question of increased taxation severally alone; there are other requests that could be made to the Government that would be better for all concerned and do more to improve the condition of the Cigarmakers than an increase on imported goods. The enacting of a law whereby cigars could be manufactured and sold on the same premises, similar to the buckeyes system in the United States, is one which should receive the consideration of every cigarmaker and if adopted would do more to elevate the condition of our members than all the increased taxation that could be placed on imported goods.

Has the Advertising Committee disbanded? and if not when do they propose to carry out the work that was assigned to

them. Should they not desire to carry out their obligation, as I am led to believe, let them resign at once and give place to more energetic members.

The Reports of the Delegates to the Convention were received and placed on file at their respective meetings held on Friday, Oct. 30.

It is to be hoped that the resolution introduced by Representative Dodd at the last convention whereby two or more label advertisers will be appointed to deliver free lectures agitating the use of the Union label in such towns and cities as the Executive Board may direct will be adopted and that the Unions in this city will make application (through our third Vice President, Mr. Todd,) to the Executive Board for the services of such lecturers through Canada.

Would it not be advisable for the unions in this city to take into consideration the Report of third Vice President Todd which was presented at the Indianapolis Convention, and endeavor to secure the cooperation of their sister unions in Canada whereby some united action would be decided on and put into practical operation, the result of which could be made known through the columns of our journal every month. Such action as this would also be instructive to our cofreres across the line, who seem to know comparatively nothing about the situation in Canada, and by their actions at the last Convention, showed they cared less.

"SCRAPS."

THE DOG AS A MOTOR.

Two Well-Trained Ones Run a Sausage Machine and Enjoy It.

In the rear of 1208 Pacific street, San Francisco, may be seen almost any day a plain, prosaic sausage mill that is run half an hour each day by dogs. Attracted by the noise a reporter went in to see about it.

As soon as the presiding genius of the sausage department opened the door to the room where the mill stands there was an uproarious baying and barking somewhere in the rear, and in a moment two powerful dogs sprang up a flight of steps from the basement and plunged against a low gate opening into a room. While the grist of meat was being prepared they scratched and barked and whined as though eager to be at work.

Pretty soon the door was opened. The dogs rushed in, and without a word or sign from their master dashed into a sixteen-foot wheel and started it spinning. As one would forge a little ahead the other would redouble his efforts until the big wheel was at top speed, and the curved knives clattered in the iron bowl of the machine with the noise of a quartz mill in full blast.

When their work was done, the dogs were only under good headway, and not until the wheel was checked by a rude brake did they desert. Their zeal and eagerness appear the more remarkable when it was observed that they received no choice morsel of meat or anything else in the way of inducement or reward. As they were let out of the wheel they tumbled each other about a bit and rushed back to their quarters.

The course of training for this work, as the originator of the scheme described it, is simple in the extreme. Years ago an intelligent Newfoundland was induced, by the exercise of patience and gentleness, to go into the wheel and run it. This done, the rest was easy. Another dog was put in with him, and the one appearing the more ambitious was praised and petted. Since then there has not been the slightest difficulty in teaching dogs to turn the wheel. The two in use at present are called Jack and Bismarck. The former is a thick-bodied, short-legged, powerful animal, coal black of coat and with a vicious-looking jaw and eye. He weighs about eighty pounds. The other is a large, full-bred English setter, as well-looking as he is intelligent.

Why are landlords to be placed on a different footing from other traders? What is the use of a landlord? I am a landlord myself, and I have never found out what use I am in that capacity. I have no animosity to landlords; but the people who are of material use are those who produce wealth, and not those who put it into their pockets.—Sir Wilfrid Lawson in House of Commons, November 27, 1879.

A decree permitting the importation of American and British cattle for breeding purposes has been issued by the Bremen Senate.