

"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 5 cents each.

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THE TRIBUNE will endeavor to be in every
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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
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Address all communications and make all remittances
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FRED FERRY,
106-108 Adelaide St. W., Toronto
"In Union there is Strength."

In preference to reduction of licenses
let us have local option as the lesser
evil. Then we should have the advantage
of witnessing the great suffering
caused thereby—thousands of men out
of work in nearly every trade. The tremendous
increase of our Police Force
watching the ever-increasing dives that
are bound to spring up. The tremendous
falling off of revenue to city and
country, driving all visitors away who
are coming year by year, spending hundreds
of thousands of dollars with us.
Toronto would then be shunned as a
plague spot, but it would be far preferable
to a partial closing down. It would
be tried, found disastrous, and settle the
question for ever.

There is far too much so-called religious
and temperance movement by legisla-
tion in this fair country of ours. Be-
cause these so-called reformers have failed
by their social methods, they appeal
to force as the only means left them.

The workingman of the day should
have a more general interest in human-
ity. Our Canadian Trades and
Labor Council should send in a strong
protest to the British Government
against the great preparations for war.
It is the workingman that has to bear
the brunt in both cash and blood.

Temperance, when advocated by our
"Band of Hopes" and our "Sunday
schools," was a great power for good,
in the days that are past. What is the
Temperance party of to-day but a rank
political faction led by a few men who
are ready and willing at all times to
use it for their own ends, or to sell out
to the highest bidder.

The residents of Maitland street are
jubilant. The street cars again stop at
the corner of Maitland and Church
streets.

It is about time they were all restored.
What right has the Street Railway Com-
pany to make stations where they like
to save them a little money in the start-
ing of cars? Are the cars for the con-
venience of the public or not. If they
are intended for such, let them be made
so—and at once.

Since the accident of last week, by
which D. Finn lost his life, an agitation
is on foot to have a scaffold inspector
appointed, whose sole duty it will be to
look after scaffolds and their safety of
construction. Organized labor should
agitate and see that a man with experi-
ence is appointed to the position. As
soon as a job of this kind is mooted the
grafters, lobbyists, politicians, and, we
are sorry to say, sometimes aldermen
get busy in the interests of friends, and
the man with experience and no pull
don't stand much chance against the man
with a pull and no experience.

The City Council would do wisely to let
the unions vitally interested, viz., Brick-
layers, Builders' Laborers, etc., put up
their own candidates. The men might
not be B.A.'s, but they would have more
home sense in scaffold-building than 90
per cent. of wire-pulling aldermen, poli-
ticians or ward heelers. The office might
be made by yearly appointment. This
would keep the incumbent from getting
the brain fog and tired feeling that ap-
pears to attack so many men when they
imagine they have settled down to a
life's position.

Many a hard working man enjoys his
glass of beer, and why should he be
deprived of it. He earns it, and it is no-
body's business if he has it. For some
men, they would rather be dead than to
have their little enjoyments taken from
them.

Why is it that everything we consume
to-day has reached such tremendous
prices? Who is the cause of it? It
certainly is not the small increase of
wages obtained by organized labor. To-
day a man is no better off than he was
formerly. Let the good work of prob-
ing these combines go on; let them be
thoroughly investigated. Combines are
being formed every day in order that
the poor man shall pay enormous prices
for his wants.

Cutting down of licenses in Toronto
means that if we throw that many men
out from earning an honest living, it is
but natural they will do contraband
work for a living—for live they must.

A grand Scotch ball will be held in
the Labor Temple on New Year's night.

It would be a good help for the Label
Committee were a resolution passed in
every union that every office-holder
should have at least four pieces of union
made clothing on him.

Bakers' strike still on. Are you help-
ing to crush this matter out? If not,
why not?

Some time since the Union Label
League issued a circular asking that all
unions that have labels should advertise
them in the Tribune, so that everyone
might become acquainted with the differ-
ent labels, and thus giving a tremen-
dous help to the Label Committee in their
great uphill work. Their response has
certainly not been particularly quick. It
looks as if some of them have not woken
up yet, and never will wake up until
their own label is attacked and the bot-
tom nearly knocked out of their union
without a hard blow. They are doing
themselves incalculable harm by not ad-
vertising their label.

The closing down of hotel licenses in
the City of Toronto simply means an in-
creased monopoly for the fortunate ones
allowed to remain. No recompense in
any way for those cut off, who may have
spent hundreds of dollars in remodeling
their houses as required by the law, in
addition to the cash paid for the house
in the first place. The opening up of
innumerable illicit dives and shebuns of
the lowest order. It is in the nature of
man that if he is not permitted to take
his enjoyment in a respectable manner
he'll have it anyway. Man is a very so-
cial creature. Did he take his beverage
alone he would scarcely ever be over-
come. It is the meeting of friends and
the treating that is the great trouble
with him, and often leads him to take
more than he requires.

How much greater will this tempta-
tion be when twenty-five or thirty houses
are cut off, causing a far greater congre-
gation in the houses remaining, neces-
itating the meeting of more friends in
one place than ever! What is really
wanted is more saloons, and scattered
over a greater area. If a man runs a
loose joint, then cut him off. He knows
the penalty, and takes all chances.

That a Labor paper is not a cam-
paign document to further the election
of certain men, and it will not be used
for that purpose.

If union men would read and heed
the Labor paper as much as do the
business men, we would have many re-
forms accomplished that are badly
needed.

It is just twenty-five years ago this
month that the first trade union label,
that of the Cigarmakers, was introduced.

There are many men who are on the
fence on the liquor question who should
stop to consider the great financial de-
pression it would cause, and perhaps
they would be among the first to suffer.
It would affect every branch of trade.
Men would be idle everywhere from it.

The grocers think by reducing the li-
quor traffic they would get better pay-
ments should reduction be carried. How
many then would they have to carry on
their books because they were out of
work and could not pay anything!

John Tweed will be a labor candidate
for the Board of Education at the next
elections, and should be elected.

Mr. John Galbraith is out for elec-
tion for the Board of Education.

Mr. Stewart, of the Iron Moulders'
Union, will seek aldermanic honors in
Ward 6 as a labor candidate. He is a
good man, and should win the race hands
down.

Mr. Frank Moses will seek election as
alderman in Ward Three. As an ex-
alderman he should be a strong man,
and in all probability will head the poll.
He will be a useful man for the labor
movement.

The Brewery Workers of Seattle, Ore.,
after a six months' fight, have succeed-
ed in getting a closed shop.

Demand the label at all times and in
all places where you purchase.

Be loyal to your brother worker.
Don't imagine your duty done because
you demand the label of your own craft.
Nearly 40 per cent. more women are
working at men's labor than ten years
ago.

When your vote is cast in January
see that it is for the interest of orga-
nized labor. Down all who are opposed
to it. Remember the promises made by
some now in office, and how they kept
them.

An exchange asks why it is that the
wages of bookkeepers are lower to-day
than they were ten years ago. The an-
swer is that the bookkeepers have never
been wise enough to organize, and as a
result there are a dozen men after every
job, and each man underbidding every
other man.

We have still many unions to hear from
in regards to the subscription list of THE
TRIBUNE.

Pay your subscription to our agent at
Temple; receipt will be posted from our
office to each subscriber.

The fact that Mr. Cooney, was honor-
ably discharged is not so very much
satisfaction to him or to his comrades,
who knew it could not be otherwise.
Does this discharge from "nothing" let
the accused off? Is he to be passed over
by the law? Mr. Cooney would hardly
have got this mated out had it not been
for the alertness of his Council Mr.
Forster.

Any one desirous of knowing more of
the manual training and ambidextrous
drawing, apply at THE TRIBUNE office.

The City By-Law says scaffolds shall
be made with poles and ropes and giving
dimensions for each; yet an inspector
pleads the spirit of the law was carried
out with a scaffold made of planks and
nails, and it seems this spirit made way
with poor Finn. Are city laws any good,
or worth the making? They are most
certainly ignored and too much spirit
shown altogether.

Labor's Municipal Issue

Controller Ward has given another
proof of his ability and his friendship
for organized labor by forcing to the
front the \$700 exemption matter, and
bringing it to a vote in Council. This
vote has served the excellent purpose
of testing the faithfulness of those who
voted for the exemption in the City
Council last March, besides showing un-
mistakably the position of those who
on that occasion did not vote.

The question came up last Monday,
after the matter of liquor licenses had
been disposed of. Controller Ward
moved that application be made to the
Legislature for permission to exempt
dwelling houses from taxation to the ex-
tent of seven hundred dollars. Deputa-
tions were present from organized labor
and from the Single Tax Association.
Addresses were heard by the Council,
and some debate took place. The mo-
tion then went to a vote, and was de-
feated by twelve yeas to five nays.

The first point to be noted in this
division is that Alderman Chisholm of
Ward 1 and Alderman Harrison of
Ward 4 came out boldly for the \$700
exemption. We have great pleasure in
adding them to the list of its support-
ers. They deserve to be voted for next
January.

The next point is that Alderman
Vaughan, Ward 4, and Alderman Hay,
Ward 5, reversed their former vote.
They are now enemies of the \$700 ex-
emption, and should be marked for de-
fection.

Two other men should also be defeat-
ed; and they are Alderman Jones, Ward
4, and Alderman Dunn, Ward 5. They
shirked the vote. Alderman Jones did
it twice, and there is no mistake about
his shirking. Let us shirk him. Alder-
man Dunn was in the chair at the vote
last March, and had a reasonable excuse
for not voting then; but we know of
no excuse in regard to last Monday's
vote.

Herewith we give the present position
of the City Council on this all-impor-
tant question of obeying the will of the
people as to the \$700 exemption.

FOR THE PEOPLE.

Controller Ward.

Ward 1—Aldermen Chisholm and
Stewart.

Ward 2—Alderman Noble.

Ward 3—Aldermen Harrison.

Ward 4—Aldermen Graham and Lynd.

AGAINST THE PEOPLE.

Mayor Urquhart.

Controllers Hubbard, Shaw, and
Spence.

Ward 1—Alderman Fleming.

Ward 2—Aldermen Church and Coats-
worth.

Ward 3—Aldermen Geary, McBride,
and Sheppard.

Ward 4—Alderman Vaughan.

Ward 5—Alderman Hay and Keeler.

Ward 6—Alderman McGhie.

SHIRKED THE VOTE.

Ward 4—Alderman Jones.

Ward 5—Alderman Dunn.

BROKE THEIR PLEDGES.

A number of those above named had
given pledges to organized labor that
they would obey any vote of the people
which might be taken. Seven of these
deliberately broke their pledges on both
of the votes, namely:

Mayor Urquhart.

Controller Hubbard.

Alderman Fleming.

Alderman Coatsworth.

Alderman Geary.

Alderman Sheppard.

Alderman McGhie.

Let us defeat as many as possible of
those who refused to obey the will of
the people, but our strongest efforts
should be directed against these seven
pledge-breakers and betrayers of or-
ganized labor.

Amusing the People

So it is finally decided that we are
to have another farce at the polls next
January. The people are to amuse
themselves by marking ballots on the
question of license reduction, and then
the City Council will do just as they
like about it. Probably they will dis-
obey the people's will, just as they did
in regard to the \$700 exemption, which
the people voted for by a majority of
two to one. The Toronto Federation for
Majority Rule was organized to put a
stop to that sort of thing, and they
will do it yet.

The Tribune has had hundreds of
new subscribers since we published par-
ticulars of the work of the Federation
in endeavoring to establish the initia-
tive and referendum in Toronto, and
give real power to the people. For the
benefit of these new subscribers and
others we shall reprint some of the in-
formation already given on this sub-
ject.

Of Interest to Women



I am pleased to see that the bakers
have again adopted the label on the
bread. For some time past it has been
almost impossible to know whether we
have been eating union bread or not.
It is up to union men and women to
aid these men in their struggle against
the unfair firms, who are trying to re-
tain the conditions that existed in 1893-
4-5. I have in my mind two skilled
men, who at that time were working on
an average of sixteen hours a day for
the huge sum of \$9 per week, and this
was by no means an isolated case; the
maximum rate of wages at that time
being about \$10 per week, with unlim-
ited hours of toil. If the firms with
whom the union bakers are having the
trouble are allowed to win out it will
practically mean that these conditions
will again prevail. For the honor of
the union women of this city, I hope
this will not be. There is no excuse
for organized labor allowing this thing
to go.

The use of the label will cost the
employing bakers nothing, and if the
demand for it is made strong enough
we will have no bread on the market
that does not bear the label, outside of
that manufactured by these unfair firms.
It is for the women of Toronto to say
as to whether these men shall win the
fight or not. They are the buyers; and
I appeal to every reader of the Trib-
une—man or woman—not only to see
that the bread they eat themselves bears
the label, but to use their influence to
see that others eat it too.

Speaking to a prominent temperance
worker the other day, who gave it as
her opinion that if a vote was taken
on the reduction of licenses, and the
women of Toronto were given the
chance to vote on this question, that
there would be such an overwhelming
majority that it would mean the aboli-
tion of the traffic as far as Toronto was
concerned. I beg to take issue with this
lady. I would not like to think that
the women of Toronto were so lacking
in common sense. Abolition of the
traffic in Toronto, as far as the li-
censed houses were concerned, or even a re-
duction of licenses, would mean that
less liquor would be drunk. To my mind
it would mean an increase of the drink
habit; it would mean more dives; it
would mean more adulterated liquors, in-
stead of the comparatively pure article
that is now sold under a more or less
properly regulated system, and if men
must have liquor, at least let it be as
pure as possible. An excessive use of
the article is no doubt bad, but an ex-
cessive or even a moderate use of bad-
ly adulterated whisky—God preserve us
from it.

And this is what a local option law
would mean in Toronto or any other
place. As Ald. Stewart very justly said,
you cannot legislate men into being so-
ber, and it is human nature to desire
that which is hard to obtain.

I am glad that our City Fathers have
had the wisdom to submit this question
to the people. They (the people) can
be trusted to decide for themselves what
they want, and I certainly do not think
it will be a reduction of the licensed
houses of this city.

Merit is sometimes rewarded, not al-
ways in a desirable manner. At the
corner of one of the leading dry goods
stores one day this week I overheard
the following conversation:

"Are you going home for Christ-
mas?" said a young girl to the shop
girl who was waiting on her. "I had
intended to go," she said, "but I am
afraid I shall not get away." Her
lips quivered and the tears started in
her eyes. "Why, how is that?" said
the customer. "I thought the manager
promised to let you off for a week at
Christmas?" "So he did," said the
shop girl, "but you see it is this way.
I asked for a holiday at Exhibition
time; the manager told me if I would
wait until Christmas he would let me
off for a week; he said I had not had
a holiday for two years, and he thought
I deserved one. Since Exhibition one
or two of our girls have left, and the
manager thought I was the most trust-
worthy, and he gave me charge of this
department." "Did he raise your pay?"
asked the customer. "Oh, yes. He
gave me 50c more a week, but I would
sooner have been without it, for when
I asked him yesterday when he thought
I could get off, he told me I could not
possibly be spared. I told him he had
promised to let me off at Christmas.
He replied that he thought he had made
it worth my while not to ask for a holi-
day, and if I did not like it there were
plenty to take my place. I am so dis-
appointed. I want to see my mother so
much, but I cannot afford to throw up
my job." Here the feelings of the poor
girl evidently overcame her, and she
turned away with a sob.

So because her girl is more attentive
to the interest of her employers, and
has perhaps a little more ability than
some, this mother must forego the plea-

sure of meeting her daughter at the
time of the year when the mother's heart
turns most longingly to the absent ones.
Beautiful state of affairs, is it not?

CORRESPONDENCE.

Address all communications to We-
men's Department, office of Tribune, 106,
108 Adelaide street.

Write only on one side of paper.

Toronto, Nov. 28, 1905.

Editor Women's Department, Tribune:

Dear Madam,—In answer to an En-
quirer's letter, the following: I do not
remember saying that you stated girls
should not pay to go to places of amuse-
ment. I said it myself, and this only
when she cannot afford it. With refer-
ence to the wages of girls, things may
be harder for girls in Montreal than
they are here. I do not deny it, but I
know of many girls in Toronto who earn
the quite respectable sum of from 12c
to 16c per hour. Regarding the ques-
tion of amusements, recreations, etc.,
which I mentioned, I think it is a most
important thing to consider, hence the
reason for speaking of it.

You state that the American Revolu-
tion was caused by the American patri-
ots seizing upon the (then) new formed
tea tax, and using it as a pretext for
war. Yes, certainly, my friend, but
you forget that the tea tax was an in-
direct cause, and that it was the patri-
ots who made the revolution possible.
And what made the so-called American
patriots but the then existing conditions
of the American colony, with its rela-
tions to England? As to the huge com-
bines, L. S. D. aristocracy and other
institutions you mention, all out on the
hunt for other people's hard-earned cash.
I may say that there never was an un-
mixed good or an unmixed evil. This I
know, that America would have been ex-
actly the same, if not far worse, if the
revolution had not "gone off."

Environment works a mighty influence
on character.

In commenting on the French Revolu-
tion, you conclude with, "In the event
of the revolution being successful." Well,
but it was successful, was it not? It
raised a degenerate race of humanity
to a people who gave us some of the
world's greatest painters, sculptors, arti-
sts and musicians of every kind, gave
us many useful and good things. I can
see with a prophetic eye, however, and
as it may be to contemplate, that France
is on the down hill again!

What you say of Russia I agree to
in its entirety, but without bloodshed
there will be no freedom for that poor
nation. You tell the readers of this
paper that all famous musicians have
great natural ability. I much regret
that I cannot agree with you. Haydn
should have been a statistician; Scar-
latti should have been a court servant;
de Beriot never knew when he was writ-
ing good music. As for Locatelli, I
defy anyone to quote a single bar of
good music that ever came from his pen.
Why do you call me a socialist? I do
not deal in any verbal enigmas, nor
pseudonyms. I believe my arguments
are logically supported, and that my
inferences are fairly deduced from given
premises. I think the term is unjust.

However, we have wandered very far
from the original subject. Ancient Greek
philosophy has nothing to do with this
crying need of the day.

In conclusion of this discussion, I
heartily use your last words.

Yours very sincerely,

Scherzo.

In closing the discussion between En-
quirer and Scherzo, I thank them both
for their interesting letters, and shall
hope to hear from both in the future.

M. D.

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nize our advertisers. Now is the time to
be loyal to your cause.

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