

# The Tribune

VOL. 1, NO. 24

SATURDAY, FEB. 17, 1906

THREE CENTS

## The Home Bank of Canada

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TRANSACTS A GENERAL BANKING BUSINESS  
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5 CENTS EACH

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## THE ECONOMIC

THE PEOPLE'S STORE

Our stock of Men's Underwear for Fall and Winter is complete. See our Three Specials at 50c., 75c. and \$1. We aim to please everybody. A visit to the Store will settle the point.  
PHONE MAIN 2036

## THE ECONOMIC

436 QUEEN ST. WEST  
S. N. COUGH MANAGER



See the above Label on the side of the wagon that delivers your Coal.  
WE HAVE IT—  
The first and third Tuesdays of each month will be the nights of meeting.  
We understand Delegate D. Henderson, who was elected on this committee, has

W. L. Mackenzie King, Esq., Deputy Minister of Labour, Ottawa.

## OFFICIAL REPORT OF THE Toronto District Labor Council

REGULAR MEETING, THURSDAY, FEB. 15TH

The meeting was called to order by President Hungerford. The roll call showed all officers present. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The report of the executive was read and confirmed without comment.

The report of the educational committee was read and confirmed. It was pointed out that the Louisa and Elizabeth St. schools were old and out of date and not fit for our children; that they should be torn down and one large modern building take the place of the two.

The report of the municipal committee was read and confirmed almost without discussion.

The report of the label committee was read and after hearty discussion was confirmed.

The report of the organization committee was read and confirmed.

The report of the legislative committee was read and confirmed.

Mr. McIntyre, President of the Bridge and Structural Iron Workers, explained that there had been a miscarriage of instructions, and that this union had no intention of separating from the Council.

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Your Executive would recommend that President Gompers be written to, asking that the Canadian Organizer, John A. Flett, be sent to this city for four or five weeks or longer period if possible as we believe that much good could be done by the presence of such an organizer.

Your Executive would also recommend that a circular letter be sent by this Council to each Hotelkeeper in the city pointing out that the Council and organized labor generally had worked against the by-law providing for the reduction of liquor licenses, and we are largely responsible for the defeat of such by-law, we would, therefore, expect in all fairness that the Hotelmen buy only union label cigars, union made beer, employ only union bartenders, buy only union made bread, or other union made articles so that the Cigarmakers, Brewery Workers, Bartenders and Bakers Unions may be strengthened in this city.

### LABEL COMMITTEE'S REPORT

The Label Committee met on Feb. 9th. Members present: Volden, Harding, Moffat, Richardson, Darwin.

Your committee desires to call the attention to two circulars that are being sent out broadcast to the different organizations in this city—one from Mack, of 60 Yonge street, manufacturers of rubber stamps, and the other from Hoberlin's, tailors, also of Yonge street, neither of which bear the union label. In our opinion these firms, who are posing as fair to organized labor, should have it brought to their notice that if they are consistent they will see to it that communications sent to organized labor bodies should have the symbols of labor, and your committee desires that these circulars be sent back to these firms, asking them to have the printers' label placed on them.

Your committee hope to have a full report of label entertainment proposition at next meeting. At present we can only give partial report. Your committee expect to be in a position to arrange for first entertainment about the end of March. The following donations have been pledged up to date: Garment Workers, \$5; Coopers, \$3; Allied Printing-Trades, \$5; Moulders, \$5; Bartenders, \$2; Coal Drivers, \$1. Promises of assistance have been received from the following locals: Cigarmakers, Barbers, Brewery Workers. Mr. Perry of the Tribune has also agreed to furnish the committee with all printed matter necessary to the scheme free of charge.

In accordance with the wishes of Delegate Virtue, the secretary wrote to President Dold of the Pissio and Organ Workers, and received the following communication in reply:

The communication handed to your committee from John S. Speigle Co., manufacturers of shirts, is being acted upon, and the committee will forward desired information to this firm at the earliest date possible.

The first and third Tuesdays of each month will be the nights of meeting. We understand Delegate D. Henderson, who was elected on this committee, has

left the city, and while we have not received any official notification of this fact, your committee thinks that someone else should be put in his place. The meeting then adjourned.

### MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE'S REPORT

The Municipal Committee in this, their second report for February, beg leave to submit the following:

The committee met, those being present being Delegates Moses, Stewart, Virtue, Hungerford, Ralph, Bancroft, and Tweed.

A bill was presented from the Labor Temple Company for three months' rent in advance to March 31st, 1906, \$3, which on motion was ordered to be sent on to the Council, with a recommendation that it be paid.

Mr. J. T. Small appeared before the committee to urge the necessity of keeping the Island entirely for park purposes. For the purpose of explanation he cited the cases of the campers south of the Turner's Baths, who cut off the approaches to the lake front, and kept the general public from enjoying the beach there. They have been ordered to quit and take location to the north of the sand bar, but had neglected to do so. They are now under yearly leases. Your committee carefully considered the question in all its bearings, and came to the conclusion that the Island should be held entirely for park purposes, and recommended that the present leases should not be renewed, and that your Municipal Committee appear before the proper authorities in support of the recommendation.

The following resolution was submitted to the committee by Delegate J. H. Kennedy, and after careful consideration it was recommended that the secretary of the District Labor Council prepare a communication to Dr. Sheard, requesting him to devise some method by which the dust nuisance could be minimized.

Your committee made all arrangements in connection with the two-dollar-a-day increase to civic employes in the way of appointing speakers and working up as large a deputation as possible to appear before the Board of Control on Wednesday morning, Feb. 14th, at 11 o'clock. The speakers appointed were Delegates Moses, Hungerford and Bancroft.

The delegation appeared before the Board of Control as per arrangement, but on account of the unavoidable absence of Delegate Bancroft, Delegate James Simpson was requested to take his place, which he accepted. A large deputation from the manufacturers, Builders' Exchange, and Employers' Association, and others interested, were present to oppose the proposed increase.

Arrangements were suggested by the Mayor and agreed that seven speakers should be heard on each side. The manufacturers led off with a short introduction, followed by a typewritten memorial. Then the Employers' Association followed with another short memorial, introducing Mr. James Merrick with a larger memorial. Then followed Mr. Phillips, with no memorial, but spoke his little piece off the bat, repeating the arguments of the memorials. Mr. Pearson was the last speaker, who said a great deal in favor of the increase unintentionally. We understand that Mr. Merrick is preparing another memorial, beginning with the words, Sacred to the memory of all the beautiful memorials presented to the Board of Control Feb. 14, 1906. Requiem in pace.

Your committee cannot congratulate the different employers' associations on the strength of the arguments placed before the board, in fact they were so weak that it was an insult to the intelligence of the despised labor people to have to combat them, and to the Controllers who were being slowly crucified listening to them. It was a cruel shame the way Hungerford, Douglas, Varley and Simpson pulverized them, and they are at present weeping tears of sorrow for roasting them as they did. We hope it will be a lesson to them in the future to gauge their adversaries a little closer, and not expend good powder on such poor material.

All of which is respectfully submitted.  
Frank Moses, Chairman.  
John Tweed, Secretary.

### EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE'S REPORT

The report of Delegate Doudiet, who had been present at last meeting of the Educational Board, was received and discussed. Delegate Doudiet reported that owing to lack of accommodation, the schools in many sections of the city were greatly overcrowded, not only in the



W. T. THOMPSON  
Vice-Pres. Tor. District Labor Council  
Also Director of the Labor Temple Co. and an officer of the Street Ry. Employees' Union.

Unscrupulous Cigar Dealers place scab cigars in Union Labelled boxes: Keep your eye open.

## Fixing the Price of Labor

To the Editor of The Tribune:

Dear Sir,—Let it not be imagined that I object to paying \$2 a day, or any price that a man's labor is worth, or that I am not very glad that the value of any man's labor should rise and enable him to get higher wages. What I doubt is the policy of fixing, or trying to fix, a general scale, as a municipality does by giving out that nobody in its employment shall be paid less than a certain wage. The effects of this on the general interests of labor seem to me, for the reasons before mentioned, not likely to be good. Labor, it would seem, is a commodity, the general value of which, like that of other commodities, nothing can fix but the market.

Yours faithfully,  
GOLDWIN SMITH.  
Toronto, February 10th, 1906.

Union Men ask for and smoke Union Label Cigars. Scabs ask for and smoke the other kind.

## FEDERATED COUNCIL OF THE BUILDING TRADES

REGULAR MEETING, MONDAY, FEB. 12th

The Federated Council of the Building Trades held a well attended meeting Monday, Feb. 12, with President Frank Moses presiding. Controller Ward's motion for the \$2 per day wage for civic laborers was brought up for discussion, and it was decided to send a committee to the Board of Control meeting to represent this Council as in favor of the motion. A strong deputation of delegates will also be there to back up the committee. We feel that "the laborer is worthy of his hire," and in helping them we are also helping ourselves, as what benefits one has a tendency to benefit all, though we may not all belong to the same craft. Mr. Merrick himself admits that possibility. There was much interesting discussion in favor of the motion, and many points advanced to refute Mr. Merrick's claim that living and home rents are no higher than they were five years ago. It is only necessary to mention a few facts which can be proven by those who have been on the inside, to show that his claim won't hold water. It is something like the old parson's cistern "There's a large hole in the bottom." There is a building not more than two hours' walk from the City Hall which has a store front and three rooms in connection, in which at the present time we are informed there are living five families, comprising fourteen persons of both sexes, and not enough furniture in the place to fit out a decent child's playhouse. For chairs they have boards placed on empty beer kegs, and the beds are not much better than a shake-down.

In another place there was a horse stable opening into an alley and belonging to a certain civic official, and renting for about \$4 or \$5 a month. This stable had a few alterations as to windows and doors and a few partitions in, and lo, and behold, we have two houses, renting for \$10 or \$11 each. There was a case not more than a year since where a family of six were living in a deserted stable in the rear of Jarvis street, and no partitions or floor in except the cold earth. The husband and father died as a result of exposure, and it was only then that the case was brought to light. Another case was where a woman was paying \$8 a month for one small damp room in the basement of a building with in easy reach of the City Hall, and her son was dying of consumption as a result of the dampness and exposure. These are only a few of the many that can be proven by those who are in a position to know. Now, why is this? Need any one ask? How very thoughtful of Mr. Merrick to defend the cause of the employers as he does. He is apparently almost overwhelmed with fear and apprehension that the employers may be called upon to pay their workmen a decent living wage.

Poor, downtrodden and abused employes! How hard it will be on them if Controller Ward's motion comes into force! We are told that it will put an extra burden on the taxpayers. Now, who are the taxpayers? Are we not all taxpayers? Do not the workmen of this city pay their fair share of taxes? Aye, more than fair, because we cannot secure large exemptions from our assess-

ments as some others we could mention. We who do not own our own homes pay a good share in the high rents we have to put up for the privilege of having a roof to cover our heads and keep out the storm. We are also told that the city will become the Mecca for laborers from all directions, and the market will be flooded with labor looking for the \$2 per day. We see no mention, however, of the hundreds, yes thousands, of poor deluded emigrants who have been induced to come here under false representations by these same employers, and who have arrived here penniless and disappointed, and had to be helped financially by societies and others, and either sent to more favored localities, or, as many chose, returned to their former homes poorer but wiser than before they left. Mr. Merrick makes no statement as to the flooding of the labor market and consequent reduction of wages resulting from such action, but that such is the case is admitted by those who get around among the workmen and know.

We also understand that several of the aldermen are opposed to the proposed rate, but how many of them are opposed to the raising of the aldermen's salary from \$300 to \$1,000? We await the result, hoping that right will prevail; but if we are turned down now—Well, there will be another election about the first of next January.

Don't be a clam. If your dealer offers you a scab cigar, tell him about it good and hard.

## Employ Union Labor

When you buy goods and do not call for the label you really denounce your principles. When you call for the label you help unionism every time, and wages, too. You are an employer. You indirectly employ the men who make your shoes, hats and clothing. If you insist on the label you are then employing union men. If you take the product without the label you are employing "scab" labor.

Unless union men call for the label the business men will not go to the trouble of keeping label goods. They will not believe that you have any interest in unionism. The union idea will fall into disrepute with the public.

When you call for the label you have the respect of the merchant. He thinks: "Here is a man who has the courage to stand by his cause." When you do not, he thinks: "Here is a workman who is either a coward and dare not stand up for his principles, or else he is a traitor to his brother workmen."

Always call for the label whether it is possible to get it or not. It advertises unionism.

Cigar dealers have no respect for union members who smoke scab cigars.