

THE WASTING POWER.

The ignorance of economic matters frequently displayed by the editors of great newspapers would hardly be pardonable in a grocery boy.

In the first place it is not true that the imports of every civilized nation exceed her exports, for the very contrary is true of the United States, Russia, Austria, Hungary, Brazil and some other countries.

In the second place, our "esteemed contemporary" does not seem to be aware of the fact that the interest and dividends on the foreign investment of British capitalists, added to the earnings of British vessels, insurance companies, commission merchants and bankers in the international trade, surpass greatly the excess of British imports over exports.

In the same manner, for instance, the British lords who own the soil of Ireland and live in England get their rents in money through English bankers; but the potatoes and flax and other products of Irish agriculture have first to be shipped to England to be converted there into money for the British lords, and receiving nothing in return.

Likewise, an American plutocrat—say an Astor—who resides in England and spends there one-tenth of the income of six million dollars derived from his real estate in New York city, gets this tenth in money through the agency of banks; but the amount thus paid out in London to Mr. Astor must be covered by shipments of wheat or cotton, or other American products to England, America receiving nothing in return from Mr. Astor or from England.

What is true of international accounts and financial balances under capitalism is equally true of domestic accounts. An American bondholder, stockholder, or real estate owner who lives upon his income imports goods into his house and exports nothing from it.

OUR CORRUPT PLUTOCRACY.

The succession of scandals in American "high life" which have attracted so much attention lately indicates that the profusion of wealth and luxury among our idle and privileged classes is rapidly sapping the foundations of morality.

can "society," in the restricted sense of the word, boasted its purity and comparative freedom from the corruption and foulness of the aristocratic life of Europe. But that was before the days of millionaires, when large fortunes were few.

THE TRADES COUNCIL.

A Lively Meeting—End of the Deloge Affair—The Water Tax, Etc.

The regular semi-monthly meeting of the Trades and Labor Council was held in the Ville Marie Hall Thursday evening last, the President, L. Z. Boadreau, in the chair.

Credentials were read and accepted from Ville Marie Assembly, 3484, K. of L., Messrs L. Guyon and P. C. Chatel; and from the Carriage Makers' Union, Mr. V. Bachant.

The minutes of preceding meeting were read and approved. After routine Delegate John Brennan was elected a member of the Legislative Committee.

The President then left the chair, it being taken by Delegate Corbeil. Under the heading "Reports of Special Committees" the committee on the Deloge affair reported the following:—"Your committee appointed to investigate the charges against Delegate O. Deloge, would report that after careful consideration, they find him guilty of conduct unbecoming a member of a labor organization, and would recommend that he be expelled from this Council."

It was moved by Delegate Keys, seconded by Delegate Garrigan, that the recommendation of the committee be received and acted upon. Carried.

It was then moved by Delegate Garrigan, seconded by Delegate Z. Brien, that the report of the committee be adopted and Delegate Deloge be expelled from the Council.

This provoked a long wrangle, the same ground being gone over again and again by the different delegates, the motion being finally adopted by 15 for to 11 against.

It was then moved by Delegate Darlington, seconded by Delegate Keys, that this Council heartily endorse the action of Mr. Geo. W. Stephens, M.P.P., in introducing a bill in the Local Legislature to abolish the seizure of workmen's or wage-earners' wages, and we hope the same will become law; also, that we heartily endorse the action of Mr. A. W. Morris, M.P.P., in introducing an act in the Local Legislature, the object of which is to have inspectors of gear and tackle on the wharves at Montreal, knowing as we do that it will be the means of saving many valuable lives annually, we hope there will be no trouble in getting it passed as soon as possible. Carried unanimously.

It was decided, on motion, to hold a special meeting shortly to consider the amendments to the constitution; said meeting to be called at the discretion of the chairman of the committee and the president of the Council.

It was moved by Delegate Darlington, se

conded by Delegate Keys that we request the City Council to retain clause 2 of the alterations suggested, whereby vacant lands be taxed 7½ per cent of its value for water. This was carried by 9 to 8.

The Corresponding Secretary was instructed to write to the Quebec Government asking them to continue the night schools next winter. Also to write to the chairman of the employment bureau committee requesting him to give a complete report at next meeting.

A communication from the Vancouver, B.C., Trades and Labor Council, warning the workmen of this Province against the misrepresentations of advertising agents and land speculators as to the state of the labor market in the far west, and further stating that over 45 per cent of the men both in Vancouver and Victoria were out of employment, was then read, and on motion, it was decided to have an item put in the different papers of the city warning workmen to that effect.

It was also decided to make the report of the St. Mary's division election committee the first order of the day for the next meeting.

Several bills were then ordered paid and the meeting adjourned.

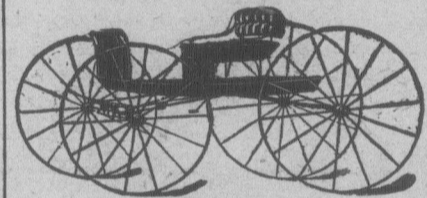
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