

OFFICIAL RECEPTION OF LABOR DELEGATES

Speeches by Hon. R. McBride, Hon. Wm. Templeman, Mayor Morley and Others.
--Important Resolutions.

Monday afternoon's session of the Dominion Trades and Labor Congress was largely devoted to the delivery of addresses of welcome. There was a slight delay in starting the proceedings, owing to the non-arrival of the Mayor, and Delegate A. G. Perry, of the Street Railwaymen's Union, Vancouver, registered a slight kick against the delay. This was stopped at once by the president entering the hall, and stating the cause of the delay. President Gray, of the Victoria Trades and Labor Council, escorted Hon. Wm. Templeman and Hon. Richard McBride to the platform amid applause, and President Verville at once opened the proceedings with a few words of introduction. He pointed out that the convention would be honored by addresses from the most important men in the Dominion and provincial governments, resident in the city, and that it was sure there would be benefit in the advice they would give. Although the name of the Mayor appeared first on the list of speakers, up to the present he had been unable to reach the hall. He would, therefore, take pleasure in introducing Hon. Richard McBride, Premier of British Columbia. He was not a stranger either to the West or East, and his advice would doubtless prove of value.

Premier McBride.
Hon. Richard McBride was received with applause. He spoke, in part as follows:
"Mr. President, members of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, ladies and gentlemen. Let me at once acknowledge the great privilege accorded to me in being asked to participate this afternoon. Many of you have travelled thousands of miles across Canada to be here. Your business is of great importance, and I have no doubt will be of great benefit to organized labor."

"First, let me tender, on behalf of the province of British Columbia, a very hearty welcome to you. Your presence is very much appreciated as your deliberations will occupy a very important place in the political economy of the Dominion. The fact that your august convention meets in this city is a very strong indication of the growing importance of the great West. For years very little was known of this portion of the Dominion. Had any of you, your congress ten or fifteen years ago suggested your assembling out West he would have received very little support. Speaking thus of the West I mean the neighboring provinces of Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba as well as the one in which I reside."

"Western Canada is an all-absorbing topic, not only over the Dominion, but also in the United States and the whole English speaking world. At the provinces British Columbia is really being carried away by enthusiasm, but believe you will leave here with the impression that you are bigger and better Canadians after a visit to British Columbia than you were before."

"With regard to the work which has brought you here I do not propose to submit any observations as to what should be done by this congress. I consider such action would be unequalled. As a public man of some experience I have been brought a number of occasions into situations which affect the interests of labor. So far as the parliament of this province is concerned, you realize that you are dealing with a body which has no statutes, that it has had to deal with labor legislation. Some go so far as to say that it is the most advanced in the Dominion. But whatever we have done in this regard we have been done wisely and well. There are many things confronting one who studies the labor question in British Columbia, and we are always ready and willing to learn. We have invariably had the advice of typical and unbiased working men when considering labor legislation. Though all cannot be legislators or delegates to congress we can all meet on the one common platform of doing what we think best for the province and Dominion."

"On behalf of the people of British Columbia I extend to you a most hearty welcome to this Pacific province of ours."

Introducing Hon. Wm. Templeman, Minister of Inland Revenue, the president said that gentleman was no stranger to him. He had seen him for four months during last session at Ottawa, and was sure that his address would be of great interest."

Hon. Wm. Templeman.
Hon. Mr. Templeman was accorded a very hearty reception when he came to address the assembled delegates. In part he said:

"Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen, I esteem it a privilege and honor to be asked to say a word or two to this Dominion Trades and Labor Congress as the representative of Victoria at Ottawa. Possibly, also, the idea was in the mind of the gentlemen inviting me that as a member of the Dominion government it was my duty to greet you. I can only say to the delegates from all over Canada that they are entirely welcome to the city of Victoria. I must apologise for His Worship the Mayor not being present, and for the fact that it is impossible to greet you later. He had an appointment with the Governor-General this morning that must have detained him."

"I can heartily endorse all that has been said by my friend Mr. McBride. An immense amount of good will result from so many Eastern Canadians visiting this province. They will find out that we have representatives of every kind in British Columbia. I came from On-

tario originally, but have been here for over twenty years—to-day this province is my home. We are all proud of the Pacific province, of its geographical position, its climate and its mining, fishery and lumbering resources. In the near future it will be, though possibly not as regards population, in respect of industry and wealth the richest in the Dominion."

"I don't know that I have any right to be one of one for thirty years. When one becomes an employer he seems to look at matters from a different point of view. (Laughter). But looking back on the old papers a few days ago I found my old travelling card, issued in 1887, and it is in my office yet. Since becoming an employer of labor I do not know that any person not a union man has worked in the Victoria Times printing establishment. Though there have been little controversies now and again we have never failed to adjust them. In 22 years we have never had any strike or friction with the unions. That appears to be the condition all over the Dominion, wherever, with the possible exception of the mining districts, there have never been any serious strikes. We are generally able to adjust difficulties, although I must admit that in some instances at all events, the demands of the workmen were not really reasonable."

"In this city we have had a great advance in the eight-hour day. The Times, an old colonial, some 15 or 16 years ago introduced it in Victoria. "The work of the congress will have my strongest sympathy and, as far as possible, my support. Though, like my friend Mr. McBride, I will not talk of the work of the congress, I have been great advances in labor legislation although, maybe, the government has not gone as far as many desire."

Hon. Mr. Templeman pointed out the parliamentarianism of the right of the government to the right of the president, the opposition to the left, and the cross bench with its independent. Continuing, he said:

"I suppose some proposals will be submitted for a change in the constitution. I was talking to Senator Kley the other day, and he said a rumor was in the air that one would be passed to abolish the senate. As for the proposal regarding the formation of a third party (Laughter). I have no objection to it. I have nothing to say. All I would counsel is that every delegate gives his best attention to every subject brought up for discussion. He should look at the best interests of the working men of Canada as a whole. If there have been great advances in labor legislation, the fact is that the government has not gone as far as many desire."

Hon. Mr. Templeman concluded by saying that in the absence of the Mayor he offered the delegates the freedom of the city. If he could be of assistance personally to any of the delegates he would be only too happy. He was loudly applauded on resuming his seat.

F. A. Pauline.

F. A. Pauline, vice-president of the Board of Trade, was the next speaker. "In the absence of President J. A. Mara, who is attending a luncheon at Government House," he said, "I am here to express, on behalf of the Board of Trade, the pleasure we feel that the Dominion Trades Congress has accepted the invitation extended by the Trades and Labor Council of Victoria nearly a year ago. I hope your stay will be one of pleasure and profit and that when you go away you will have experienced a most successful one."

"On one point I would like to say a word, and that is, we have a shortage of labor in British Columbia. If anything regarding such a state of affairs comes before you, I hope you will take this fact into consideration. In the past the market has been supplied to a great extent by Asiatic labor, now in respect of its principal source cut off by a prohibitive tax. We want workers of the best class, but not those above heaving wood and drawing water. This province is not like the prairie, where you can stick a plough in the land and go ahead. The land here has to be cleared of stumps and stumps; we have to delve into the earth to extract its mineral wealth."

"I hope, if it is within the scope of the Trades and Labor Congress, that he will bring some pressure to bear on the government that he to provide British Columbia with some class of labor, the best possible to obtain, to replace that taken away. I hope your stay in Victoria will be pleasant, and that, while here, you will gather such a good opinion of the province that you will decide to come back and take up your residence among us." (Applause.)

President Verville then called upon Thomas A. Rickert, of New York, general secretary of the United States Workers of America, humorously introducing him as "our infernal delegate."

T. A. Rickert.
Mr. Rickert said: "Mr. president and delegates: It gives me great pleasure to be privileged to be here to-day as representative of the American Federation of Labor and bearer of its fraternal greetings. But as I understand that some time during the week I shall be able to extend these greetings at length, I will only say that I hope the work of this congress will result in much good being done for the working men of Canada."

C. O. Young.

C. O. Young, of Tacoma, general organizer for the American Federation in the state of Washington, was the next speaker. He spoke in part as follows:

"I was delegated to come to this community not to make speeches, but to listen and learn, and to get into closer touch with unionists in this province. What I will say will be about conditions across the imaginary boundary line, not knowing much of how things are here, over in our country I am familiar with the manner in which organizations are formed, but if I undertook to endeavor to advise people here I should probably make a line as far as labor in conclusion. Conditions reflect alike on one side and the other. It does not matter much where the labor comes from so long as it is white."

"The State Federation of Washington sends fraternal greetings, and would be glad to have you fraternize with them. I was especially instructed to ask you to send one or more delegates to the meeting that will be held in Bellingham next January."

"The trade union movement must be fraternal or it will be nothing. Unless we can come together and rub elbows we cannot make much progress. In our country the labor movement has been very prosperous for the past two years. We have had some rough spots and one or two hard struggles. One strike in the shoe industry, lasting five months and including 85,000 men of the employees was the struggle supreme. I am sorry to say it was not successful. Notwithstanding right was on the side of labor; the combination of the employers was too great. It is useless for men under such conditions to engage in such a conflict. As far as I am concerned I believe that strikes should be few. They are generally disastrous to labor, but after all it is not all loss. The masses of the country are educated by them."

"I am glad to-day that we are able to sit in open convention, with the public to hear what we say. The time was when trade unionists across the Atlantic had to meet in secret, to hide their records in the earth. But you might just as well try and sweep back the tide with a broom as to stop the advance of the labor movement. Some people are visionaries, and some are not. I am glad to hear the remarks of the minister of inland revenue and the provincial premier—they extended a helping hand to labor people in respect of proposed legislation. I am glad to hear the remarks of the minister of inland revenue and the provincial premier—they extended a helping hand to labor people in respect of proposed legislation. I am glad to hear the remarks of the minister of inland revenue and the provincial premier—they extended a helping hand to labor people in respect of proposed legislation."

There is a guiding influence in all matters British that no man of any class can lose sight of, that will keep all movements within the bounds of safety. But the best of it is that the spirit of fair play to all, that must permeate every movement and class. "I was serving my time in an old millwright in England when the movement began, and I saw the spirit of fair play to all, that must permeate every movement and class. "I was serving my time in an old millwright in England when the movement began, and I saw the spirit of fair play to all, that must permeate every movement and class. "I was serving my time in an old millwright in England when the movement began, and I saw the spirit of fair play to all, that must permeate every movement and class."

President Verville.
Alphonse Verville, M. P., the president, next delivered a short address. He said: "In the name of the congress I wish to say we are assuredly pleased to have with us representatives of the federal and provincial governments, the mayor of the city and the vice-president of the labor movement. We see nearly all elements of the community centred in this hall on the first day of the convention. If we could keep them all the year it would be the best day for the labor movement. I am glad to hear the remarks of the minister of inland revenue and the provincial premier—they extended a helping hand to labor people in respect of proposed legislation. I am glad to hear the remarks of the minister of inland revenue and the provincial premier—they extended a helping hand to labor people in respect of proposed legislation."

Vote of Thanks.
At the request of the chairman, Vice-President Joseph Simpson, of Toronto, moved a vote of thanks to the visiting speakers. This was passed unanimously, all the delegates rising to their feet.

Resolutions.
Resolutions were then in order, the following being introduced:

Resolution No. 1.—By Delegate Gus Franck Jacques, Cartier, Typographical Union 146, Montreal.—Resolved: That this congress endorse with all its power the movement of the Brotherhood of Carpenters as a labor candidate for Federal election in St. John's, N. B., and in Montreal, N. B., and in the Dominion of Canada."

Resolution No. 2.—By Delegate George F. Gray, Victoria Trades and Labor Council.—Submitted by instruction from the Victoria Trades and Labor Council: That a motion be made and carried that the delegates to the Dominion Trades and Labor Congress be asked to endorse with all their power the movement of the Brotherhood of Carpenters as a labor candidate for Federal election in St. John's, N. B., and in Montreal, N. B., and in the Dominion of Canada."

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Resolution No. 48.—By Delegate George F. Gray, Victoria Trades and Labor Council.—Submitted by instruction from the Victoria Trades and Labor Council: That a motion be made and carried that the delegates to the Dominion Trades and Labor Congress be asked to endorse with all their power the movement of the Brotherhood of Carpenters as a labor candidate for Federal election in St. John's, N. B., and in Montreal, N. B., and in the Dominion of Canada."

Resolution No. 49.—By Delegate George F. Gray, Victoria Trades and Labor Council.—Submitted by instruction from the Victoria Trades and Labor Council: That a motion be made and carried that the delegates to the Dominion Trades and Labor Congress be asked to endorse with all their power the movement of the Brotherhood of Carpenters as a labor candidate for Federal election in St. John's, N. B., and in Montreal, N. B., and in the Dominion of Canada."

Resolution No. 50.—By Delegate George F. Gray, Victoria Trades and Labor Council.—Submitted by instruction from the Victoria Trades and Labor Council: That a motion be made and carried that the delegates to the Dominion Trades and Labor Congress be asked to endorse with all their power the movement of the Brotherhood of Carpenters as a labor candidate for Federal election in St. John's, N. B., and in Montreal, N. B., and in the Dominion of Canada."

LABOR CONGRESS SOUVENIR ISSUED

SPLENDID PAMPHLET
FROM LOCAL PRESSES

Excursion to Chemainus and Crofton
To-Morrow and Smoking Concert
Friday Evening.

The local Trades and Labor Council issued this morning a "made in Victoria" official programme and