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CANADA LIFE BUILDING, TORONTO
Vol. III. No. 16

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THE TOLLER

Official Organ of the Toronto District Labor Council. Published Weekly in the Interests of the Working Masses.
TORONTO, MARCH 27, 1903
Price 50 Cents Per Year

"Become Your Own Landlord"
Last year I indicated that there would be a substantial increase in the values of property, and a large number availed themselves of the timely advice then given. They bought on Easy Terms, and are now thoroughly satisfied. Many have made a substantial profit on their purchase.
Why go on Paying Rent when on my Instalment Plan you can secure a home for yourself, improve it, and get the benefit of the increase in value that is sure to take place? Others have done so, and so can you.
Call or write for list, and you will receive a reply by return post.

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LABOR WORLD
News and Views of the Ever Advancing Army of Workers
BY UNIONIST

The stone cutters of Guelph were organized last week.
At Chicago on March 30 there will be a meeting to organize an International Union of Railway Expressmen.
A call has been issued for a convention at Chicago in April to organize an International Union of Railway Clerks.
The Miners' Commission awarded everything asked, and placed the bulk of the blame for the sufferings of this continent upon the operators, where it belonged.

The tollingwood strike is just about settled, if reports speak truly. The men are to get an advance of 25 cents per day. They asked for 50. Pretty good for a start.
A charter has recently been granted by the U. S. Dept. of L. to the Freight Handlers and Interior Warehousemen's International Union, with headquarters at Chicago.

Charles Lavoie, fourth vice-president of the Tobacco Workers' International Union, was fined \$5 at Galt yesterday for violating a town by-law, in taking gum label tobacco cards on poles and fences.
A gentleman named Besley is reported to have said that "The Canadian Pacific Railway is prepared to spend a million dollars to kill the United Brotherhood of Railway Employees, if the organization is the only one that the railroads are afraid of."

The deadlock in the Oshawa strike proposition is woman. There never was anything good, bad or indifferent that woman was not mixed up in. The men have agreed as to terms, but there are some 25 girls whom the firm is not willing to take back—at least they don't want them all. But the girls say, take all or none, and the men must support them.
Mr. Coleman having trouble at the new Exhibition building, and his trouble-caused Controller Richardson to make a very peculiar statement. He said he was not going to crawl to the unions, although they might have their unions if they so desire. Now, friend Richardson, I don't think anybody ever asked you or any other alderman to crawl. We latest crawling things in general, so that you need not worry over the fact that there is anyone going to ask you to crawl. In this connection I might add that when Mr. Coleman is willing to pay fair wages he can get all the men he wants, and if he does not pay the wages according to the men, he should be fired and somebody else finish the job. If Mr. Coleman is not long sighted enough to figure on contingencies of the sort he complains of, he should not be in the contracting business.

There is another strike in the T. Eaton Co. This time it is not the printers, but the salesmen. These workers are only asking for \$9 per week, but the octopus fails to admit by locking out their men that a worker at this industry is worth \$9 per week. This is but another evidence that the workers should pay their money into a changed which returns fair wages to workers. The printers made a neat settlement of their trouble—so neat that it disgusted all the other unions in the printing trade and those outside of it. Let us hope that the harness workers will accomplish the task of making this firm pay wages to its workers in their calling, and not be satisfied as the types were with an almost entirely non-union shop, as now prevalent in the printing department of the T. Eaton Company. Workers will do well to remember that this high and mighty friend of the workingman in that it will not pay fair wages to the workers in its harness shop. The wives of the union workers should be again reminded that the Eaton Company is unfair to organized labor.

The following is the official circular sent by the Leather Workers' Union to their employers on February 16th, 1903:
Sirs,—I, L. W. E. of L. W. on H. G., hereby notify you of resolution passed at our regular meeting of the above date:
1.—The union scale of wages to be not less than \$9.00 per week. That all members receiving \$9.00 and over per week, at this date, shall have an advance of the rate of 25 per hour.
2.—That all members working piecework shall be paid according to the schedule of prices agreed upon at the signing of this agreement.
3.—The hours of labor shall be from 7 a.m. to 12 noon, and from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m., except Saturdays, when the hours shall be from 7 a.m. to 12 noon, and from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., nine months of the year, the months of June, July and August the hours shall be from 7 a.m. to 12 noon, and with no reduction of wages.
4.—That you agree to meet a date authorized committee from the said United Brotherhood at any time, to discuss and adjust such grievances or misunderstandings as may occur from time to time, that are not provided for in this agreement.
5.—This agreement entered into by and between the Messrs. Woodbridge Co., Toronto, and Local No. 93 of United Brotherhood of Leather Workers, on Horse Goods, shall remain in full force and continuance one year from date of agreement.
This was also sent to the T. Eaton Co. and the T. Eaton Co. When necessary refused a minimum rate of \$9 per week it should be the concern of all workers to help them upon every occasion. The scale that will not give a workman this sum every week must have employers that are decidedly unfair. You can help by buying your goods at fair stores.

OUR BOASTED BRITISH LIBERTY.
Mr. D. Stamper, International Vice-President of the Brotherhood of Railroad Freight and Baggage-men of America, on Wednesday noon, March 25th, was speaking to a G. T. R. freight handler, a member of the order he represents, on the sidewalk on Simcoe street close to the G. T. R. freight shed, when a man came out of the local freight office and asked Mr. Stamper to give him a copy of The Toller he was distributing to one of his members. On receiving the copy, the person then asked Mr. Stamper who gave him the authority to speak to his friend, Mr. Stamper replied, asking the freight clerk if he owned the sidewalk of the city and the man Mr. Stamper was speaking to. No reply. Mr. Stamper was proceeding up the street when he met another person he knew and stopped to shake hands and speak to him, when the person again chipped in and asked Mr. Stamper who gave him the right to speak to any person on the street and to be interested in them. Mr. Stamper replied that the person had better mind his own affairs. Just then the Grand Trust detective who is guarding the entrance to the freight shed, as though it were a prison and the men employed doing time, came out from inside the shed and started to use abusive language to Mr. Stamper, threatening him, etc. Mr. Stamper told him to get back to his kennel and to refrain from insulting citizens on the public thoroughfare.
If the police of Ontario was under Russian rule, we could allow for the ignorance and disregard of personal liberty displayed by the G. T. R. detective and freight officials, but in Ontario we boast of our love of fair play and guarantee of liberty to all. It is about time the rights of corporations to employ private detectives was taken away from them. The police and detective force should be simply competent to protect the property and lives of all citizens.

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Open every Saturday night from 7.00 to 9.00 o'clock. OFFICE HOURS:—9.00 a.m. to 4 p.m. SATURDAYS:—9.00 a.m. to 12 p.m.
JAMES MASON, Managing Director.

SERMON BY REV. MR. SPARLING.
On Sunday morning the Rev. Mr. Sparling, of the Metropolitan Church, preached a sermon on the subject of individualism versus socialism. He chose for his text the 39th verse of the 10th chapter of Matthew: He that saveth his life shall lose it, and he that loseth his life shall save it. The text was well chosen, for it points out at once the difference between the two kinds of lives: the egoistic, self-centred life, and the altruistic or self-sacrificing life.
Here the preacher had a fertile field to draw from in the enforcement of that duty of duties in the effort that every man should toll for the elevation of the whole race. In the development of his subject, however, he dealt so exclusively with empty generalizations that we fear his audience was no wiser as to the manner in which they can develop the ideal community.

HALT! Who ganes thier? THE SCOTTS LAUNDRY
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Can't be equalled in style, quality or low price. Union Make Our Specialty.

Two Snap Shots
By S. L. Landers
Labor organizations in Canada should be on the alert, since the continuous support by manufacturers, associations, boards of trade and kindred bodies are constantly appearing before the Provincial and Federal Governments asking that foreign labor be imported into Canada in large numbers. The plea is a simple one. Many trades unionists are suspicious that the motive of these deputations is not to protect, but to think it is a scheme to flood the country with cheap labor with a dual purpose in view, one to create an overplus of workers to bring down the price of labor, and another to use the imported labor as a club with which to meet labor organizations. They point to the time when the same thing was done in the United States years ago, when the labor organization became strong and commanded the attention of the manufacturers and trust owners offered the steamship companies a bonus for each immigrant brought out and in a short season the States were flooded with cheap labor, much to the detriment of American citizens. While the unionists do not desire to retard the progress of the Dominion by opposing immigration, if so large an amount of labor is needed, they fear the truth of the matter is depicted in a despatch from London, England, this week, which said: "The C. P. B. officials here are advertising for Swedish laborers; 2,000 are wanted. The officials say Swedes are willing to work for five or six shillings a day."
Should the Governments of Canada and the United States, in the investigation of the "man behind the millions," legislate to make it compulsory to incorporate trade unions, it will only force the workers to see the necessity of withdrawing their voting powers from the two old parties and voting for workmen's candidates, who will vote against or repeal such laws. Their spirit even were such legislation passed it could be complied with without the great disaster following that the union wreckers would desire. Instead of international unions incorporating the local unions would be incorporated, and this would only leave the individual local trade bodies to attack, and the international could not so easily be harnessed. Where a local union would be used it could simply be harnessed and apply for another charter with another number from the same international, leaving the same events to be repeated. The old union, which has passed to be fought by the bosses who did business under the new charter, against which local the union could not take action for the same offence. There are many ways a little—

REMEMBER That the Gurney Foundry Co. of Toronto
Makers of OXFORD STOVES AND RANGES
ARE STILL UNFAIR TO ORGANIZED LABOR

The Nasmith Company have been fighting the Bakers' Union for years. The Union has determined, with your assistance, to show this Company the error of its way. Tell your grocer that this Company is unfair and get the Union label on your bread every time.

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STYLES—Up to the minute. Price in keeping with the Quality.
'The Big 88,' WARREN T. FEGAN
Phone M 748 88 Queen West

Painters, paper hangers and decorators of Altoona, Pa., are out to enforce the following scale: Nine-hour day, \$2.25 for common painters, \$2.50 for paper hangers, \$2.70 for fresco painters, and \$5 for gilding.
Every manufacturer and company often make, that will have no dealings with a "foreigner" when an international officer comes to the door, to settle a dispute between employer and employee, seems ridiculous when the self-same employer inserts a manager, United States, and places the door on a hundred to a thousand men, who accept the situation without a murmur.