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Official Organ of the Toronto District
Labor Council

THE TOILER

Published Weekly in the Interests of
the Workers.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE
50 CENTS A YEAR

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vertisements should be at this office no later
than Wednesday noon.

TORONTO, APRIL 24, 1903

If the City Council cannot get along
without Assessment Commissioners, then
let them have them. In regard to the
question of taxation, the same discussion itself
is succeeded by a group of school
boys the better it might be for the city.
It was to be expected that Mr. Fleming
would oppose anything in the way of tax
reform.

During the past few months the
railways of Great Britain have not killed
a single person, notwithstanding that
they are the most popular in the world.
This is due to stringent government regu-
lations. It is not in order to say what our
parliamentary "representatives" are
doing to prevent the wholesale slaughter
which broke the record on Canadian rail-
ways last winter. It is safe to say of a
large percentage that they are more in-
terested in their pockets than in the
welfare of the public. Few can get a
share of the subsidies to be handed out
by voting for them and against the in-
terests of the country.

It is undoubtedly a fine thing to be a
Britisher, but when Britain pays \$350,
000,000 for her army and navy, as she
does, it is time for us to take a stand.
President J. W. Sahl, of the Hamilton
Sheet Metal Men's Union, was elected
delegates to the International Convention,
which will open in Pittsburgh the first
week in May.

The American Federation of Labor has
issued charters to about thirty unions of
expressmen and messengers in different
parts of the country, and will soon issue
a call for a convention.

By referendum vote the International
Union of Boot and Shoe Workers has
decided not to hold a convention this
year. Things are running smoothly with
the makers of the shoe.

The Carpenter, official organ of the
U. B. C. and J. C. is out in new form,
and presents a highly creditable appear-
ance, and, what is of more importance,
plenty of food for thought well and attrac-
tively written.

Hamilton Trade and Labor Council's
Legislative Committee advocates the es-
tablishment of four or \$100,000 for the
purpose of fighting all laws, bills or mea-
sures prejudicial to organized labor. By
all means start the fund, even if the sum
hoped for is not obtained.

The first annual convention of the Na-
tional Association of Tube Workers will
be held in Pittsburgh on May 1. The new
organization has about 10,000 members,
and is growing rapidly. A national wage
scale will be arranged at the coming
convention.

Thirty bricklayers at work on the new
School of Science building struck last
week in protest against the discharge of
Frank Raynor without sufficient cause.
After investigating the matter, Inspector
Sullivan reinstated Mr. Raynor, and the
union bricklayers resumed work on Mon-
day.

In the Amalgamated Sheet Metal
Workers' Journal of April 15, Hugh
McLennan, general vice-president,
gave a full statement of the facts con-
cerning the plot to kill union leaders in
Chicago, and the chief of police has or-
dered a searching investigation into the
matter.

This is an injustice to the public that
could easily be removed by the Postoffice
Department assuming entire control of
the express companies, but we just low enough
to be under those of the postal system
where the latter competes against them,
while there is scarcely any limit to the
power of the express and money order
business throughout the Dominion.

At the present time the rates charged
by the express companies both for par-
cels and money orders, are just low enough
to be under those of the postal system
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matter.

Sheet metal workers are warned to stay
away from the following places where
trouble is on the horizon—St. Louis, Salt
Lake City, Rochester, N. Y., Indianapolis,
Ind., Greenwich, Conn., Elmira, N. Y., Saginaw,
Mich., Lafayette, Ind., Atchison, Kan., Austin, Tex., Peoria, Ill., and
Canton, O.

At last Sunday's meeting of the Chi-
cago Federation of Labor, the older lead-
ers attempted to stop off the new wave
of strikes by refusing strike aid to the
unions that had not been organized for
a year or more. This was bitterly opposed
by the new men, who finally defeated
the motion.

While representatives of the railway
expressmen and messengers were confer-
ring with President Gompers, of the
American Federation of Labor, relative
to the feasibility of uniting, they agreed
for the formation of a national union
of that calling the expressmen of Texas
were holding a convention at San Antonio,
where a national organization was formed.

By this system all would be treated
equally, and places now requiring
several would be obtainable to obtain it when
desired. If the municipalities ever should
carry out the idea, they can only do so at
an unnecessary expenditure of time
and money, with almost a certainty of
great delay and a strong likelihood of
failure.

The woodworkers employed by the
Mill Men's Association have been grant-
ed a minimum wage increase, but in
return have given up the right to go on
a sympathetic strike. The new agreement
raises the minimum wage for bush and
wood men to 28 cents an hour and that
of the wood carvers to 30 cents an hour.
It affects between 1,800 and 2,000 men
and means an aggregate yearly increase
of \$156,000.

The National Building Trades Council
and the Amalgamated Lodging House
Employees in St. Louis have joined
in a circular letter to the building trades
of the country to "pay no attention to
advertisements calling for artisans and
laborers in the building lines to come to
St. Louis." The letter states that the
city is overpopulated with workmen who
can get no work to do, and that "St.
Louis is being flooded with non-union
and unskilled labor to work on world's
fair buildings. Two-thirds of the mem-
bers of several unions are now idle."

The shipowners interested in Montreal
thought to dictate to the longshoremen
by importing stevedores and guaranteeing
them first choice from stevedores whom
men were in demand. The longshoremen
have arrived at an understanding with
the stevedores, who will co-operate with
them. The combination should be able to
hold the vessel owners pretty well down
to giving fair conditions.

The police patrol boat of Buffalo has
been put into commission to protect
non-union sailors, stevedores and engineers.

Only one of the striking teamsters of
the Canada Atlantic Railway has returned
to work, and the rest are determined to
hold out till they win. The company is
sending out Italians in small gangs to
look after different sections of the road.
The dry weather has favored the company
so far, and the chief engineer says it is
suffering no inconvenience.

Deputy Minister of Labor King will
act as secretary to the British Columbia
Labour Commission.

All but the machinists employed by the
Walkerville Bridge Company have return-
ed to work. The machinists refuse to
quit the strike till the union is recog-
nized, and the president of the company
refuses to make the factors a union com-
mittee.

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LABOR NOTES

The convention of the International
Sheet Metal Workers will open in Mil-
waukee, Wis., April 27th.

The receipts of the United Brotherhood
of Carpenters and Joiners' head office
for the month of March were \$32,577.

Forty union carpenters are employed
by Tuckett & Co. in their London factory
recently purchased from Mr. Dooley, who
is manager.

The Homestead mills produce, with
about 4,000 men, three times as much
steel as the Krupp works produce with
15,000 men.

During the past two months seventeen
charters have been issued for boats by
the International Association of Sheet
Metal Workers.

Hamilton trade unions are consider-
ing the question of building a hall for
themselves or purchasing the building
part of which they now occupy.

The United Brotherhood of Railway
Employees—the western organization—
are endeavoring to have the C. P. R.
freight sheds at Winnipeg put on the un-
fair list.

The "paid-up" button for unionists is
becoming popular in the United States.
The color of the button is changed every
month, and members do not like to wear
one out of date.

The United Brotherhood of Carpenters
and Joiners organized 78 local unions
from March 2nd to 29th inclusive. This
is a record-breaker. Two of the unions
were in Ontario.

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