Current Comment

The Street Railway situation is not just what the union men and the public would like it to be. While negotiations are at present in progress there is always the possibility of their breaking off and causing a strike, which none of us desire to see. The attitude of the men in offering arbitration cannot but be accepted as an evidence of the good faith in attempting to avoid trouble, and if the company, in the face of a disagreement, refuses to accept arbitration on the wage question they will not only be doing themselves a wrong but also the men in their employ as well as the general public.

✦ ✦

Here is something the workers should watch and see that no special class in the community is selected for special favors. Some of the school trustees are flirting on a new scheme for a teachers' superannuation fund, the principal sources of which are as follows:

"1. A grant from the City Council.

"2. All money, pay, compensation or salary, or any income thereof, forfeited, withheld, reserved or withheld from any teacher or teachers under the Board of Education.

"3. All moneys received from donations, legacies, gifts, bequests or otherwise, for, or on account of the said fund.

"4. An Order-in-Council granting 5 per cent. annually of all license fees belonging to the City of Toronto, and demanded of, received by any commissioner or public officer from the granting of licenses or permission to sell strong or spirituous liquors, ale, wine or beer in the said city of Toronto."

✦ ✦

The Photo Engravers have made a basis for settlement with the Toronto Engraving Co. and the Alexander Engraving Co., which permits the men to go back to work in these two places which, together with the Dominion Engraving House, are the only union houses in the city.

THIS LABEL

Appears on all bottles of Union beer.

DEMAND IT

NATIONAL UNION OF UNITED BREWERY WORKMEN OF AMERICA TRADE MARK REGISTERED

J. JOHNSON

Custom Tailor

The favor of a call and inspection of our stock requested.

STYLE, FIT AND PRICE

Will give you satisfaction.

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A great money earning employment with splendid prospects of advancement. We teach it rapidly and thoroughly and aid our students to positions. You can't afford to miss the opportunity.

Our booklet is mailed free. It tells how you can make a good start in life. Get it now.

DOMINION BUSINESS COLLEGE

Cor. Yonge & Richmond Sts.

TORONTO.

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BROOM MAKERS

This Label appears on all Union made brooms, and guarantees that it was not made by convicts in a prison factory. See that the Label is placed under the wire and not pasted on.

"Health and Vigor depend upon the quality and quantity of the blood."—HUMANITARIAN

The Liver is the great secreting organ of the body, and when it fails to perform its office, bile accumulates and the blood becomes poisoned, causing many unpleasant symptoms, such as: dull, heavy, languid feeling, indisposition to attend to duties, pain in back or shoulders, sour stomach, constipation, dryness of the skin, restlessness at night, etc.

If these symptoms are not dealt with immediately, they become aggravated so as to induce severe illness. To relieve at once and cure permanently

Dr. Carson's Tonic

Stomach and Constipation Bitters

have long been recognized as the sovereign treatment. These are made from the formula of an eminent Canadian physician, who has used the prescription in his practice for many years with most satisfactory results.

A Purely Vegetable Tonic and Blood Purifier. Price 50 cents per Bottle.

Usually you can obtain the preparation at your local druggist, but if you are not able to obtain it in your neighborhood, we shall be pleased to send to any address one or more bottles upon receipt of price (50c per bottle) CARRIAGE PREPAID.

Pamphlet sent FREE on application.

The Carson Medicine Co'y

TORONTO

The Stratford garment workers' local union have deviated from the usual "blowout" or picnic, and are having a grand shooting tournament on July 1st and 2nd. Creek shots will compete from different parts of the States and Canada for purses and cups valued at over $500. Shoots for amateurs, ladies and trades unionists will also be in order. A large number of prizes will be given. President Meyers, of '97, is manager of the affair.

✦ ✦

The manner in which the members of the various crafts belonging to the International Typographical Union turned out at their annual election of officers would seem to indicate that they have faith in the referendum system of expressing their choice. The main contest was over the presidency, between James M. Lynch, of Syracuse (who was a candidate for re-election) and Charles Hawkes, of Chicago. The campaign has been a warm one, President Lynch winning by a majority of about 7,000. Secretary-Treasurer J. W. Bramwood was re-elected by an almost unanimous vote, while John W. Hayes, of Minneapolis, had no opponent for vice-president. Max S. Hayes, of Cleveland, Frank Morrison, of Chicago, and William Garrett, of Washington, were elected delegates to the next convention of the American Federation of Labor, with W. Muenzberger as representative of the Allied Crafts. Thomas Crowley and Wm. McCafferty were chosen as trustees of the Home at Colorado Springs. Over 32,000 votes were cast.

✦ ✦

"The unions cannot be destroyed," says Henry White, general secretary of the garment workers and the editor of the Clothing Trades Bulletin. "Unions represent the upward striving of the mass of the people. They have brought the benefits of progress to millions and they can never be broken up. The union is firmly implanted in the soil of our industrial system, and lopping off a branch here and there will not destroy unionism."

✦ ✦

The International Typographical Union has withdrawn the charter from the Typographical Union at Telluride, Col. This action was taken on the complaints filed by the typographical unions at Ouray and Durango. The reason of the withdrawal of the charter from the union at Telluride was owing to the fact that the printers participated in the deportation of miners from their homes.

✦ ✦

A local secretary of a trade union had some letterheads printed. The printer used fairly large type and the secretary had lots set up for his money. The first time he wrote a letter to his general headquarters, the general secretary, who is noted for his wit, wrote back: "Your letterheads are certainly stunning; they remind me of the first page of the New York Journal."

✦ ✦

During the time the United States 8-hour bill was before the House of Representatives at Washington recently, some manufacturers stated that the bill meant "dangerous and destructive interference financially," not only from the adoption of the bill, but even from "a partially favorable consideration of the bill." The identical argument was used in 1850 when the work day was reduced from fourteen to ten hours. Who would go back to a 14-hour workday?

✦ ✦

Third Vice-President Holmes, of the International Machinists' Union, is in Hamilton attempting to settle the strike in the International Harvester works. As yet neither company nor strikers have made any move since the declaration of the strike, but the union, at least, expects that the strike will shortly be ended. The machinists assert that they will not retreat from the position they have taken, but it may be that Mr. Holmes will see matters in a different light. Superintendent Rice is also determined that the company will abide by its decision in the matter of the difficulty which caused the strike. It remains to be seen what the outcome of the International official's visit here will be.

✦ ✦

The Chicago School Trustees claim they will have to raise the salary of teachers in their schools in order to fill its depleted teaching force.

✦ ✦

The only way to persuade the unions not to demand the closed shop is to prove to them that the closed shop is not in their interest. Whoever wants this task may have it.—Wall Street Journal.

✦ ✦

China has had trade unions for 4,000 years.

✦ ✦

There are 17,000 members in 19 negro labor unions in New Orleans.

✦ ✦

One thousand Pittsburg school teachers have effected an organization for the purpose of demanding an increase of wages.

✦ ✦

A new international union is to be formed by the Carpet Workers' Unions in large cities, to be composed of carpet layers, cutters, measurermen and sewers.

✦ ✦

Commercial Telegraphers' International Union Convention will open Sept. 19, the anniversary of the last great strike.

✦ ✦

Molders at Youngstown, O., have averted threatened strike and signed new agreement.—Machinists in the same city have accepted a 4 per cent. reduction.

✦ ✦

An agent who had 100,000 scab cigars for sale in Detroit last week offered to put union labels on boxes for any dealer who wished them. Of course they were counterfeit labels.

✦ ✦

The Garment Workers' label is used in more countries than that of any other craft. In addition to the one in America, the English tailors have adopted one, and a union label has been introduced by the Vienna Tailors' Union to be used for union made clothing. This is the first attempt to introduce a union label in Austria.

✦ ✦

Boston Cigarmakers' Union will advertise the blue label by distributing 50,000 souvenir badges during the G. A. R. national convention.

✦ ✦

An organizer for the Cigarmakers' Union Label Protective Association of Pennsylvania has discovered a number of places were cigars bearing counterfeits of the blue label were on sale. At Pottsville he removed bogus labels from 30,000 cigars held by one dealer.

✦ ✦

United States Government reports are authority for the statement that the wages of men in trade unions average more than 50 cents a day in excess of men in the same employment who are not organized, and that in earning the larger wage the union man works an average of one hour less a day than the non-union man.

IT DOES SEEM RIDICULOUS.

Just as long as workingmen are content to run after the hand wagons of the old political parties, labor will be no more than a political mendicant or beggar craving for the few measly crumbs that fall from the table of the corporation boomers. Any class that lacks the brains to vote in its own interests deserves to get it in the neck, and get it good and hard at every turn and on every occasion. Every time a trade unionist works on an old party committee he demonstrates the fact just as effectually as it is possible to demonstrate it that organized labor is behind the times and does not amount to a bill of beans anyway.

Just imagine how long it will take us to get any concessions from politicians when they know they can depend on us to vote for them every time, whether they turn us down or not. It isn't good thing for men to organize and stand up for union principles, but to be honest, does it not just seem a little bit ridiculous to play at organization and then go out and work and vote for the fellows who always give us the heavy end of the stick.

WHAT LABOR UNIONISM TAUGHT A TEXAS ASSEMBLYMAN.

A member of the Texas Legislature, in making a speech recently on a question of trade unionism, held up his union card and made the following stirring speech in favor of unionism. He said:

"My union teaches me when a fellow member comes to town to see that he has something to eat and a place to sleep. It teaches me to secure him work, so that he can earn an honest living.

"It teaches me to see that he has medical care and a nurse when he is sick. It teaches me to give him a Christian burial if he should die, and if he leaves a family, to care for them until they are able enough to care for themselves. I submit to you, gentlemen, that there is no greater nor grander teaching than this."

THE RIGHT TO LIVE.

It is Involved in the Right to Fix Wages—What Workingmen Need.

The Parryite bosses assume that they have the "natural right" to "run their own business" to the extent of fixing the wages of all the employees. In open discussion they will admit that all wages should be living wages. What are living wages? The Electrical Workers gives this answer:

A living wage ought to be sufficient to secure for every able-bodied, right-minded, sober and industrious workingman—

1. Enough to keep not only himself, but also a family, in a healthful state of mind and body.

2. Enough to permit all his children to take advantage of the public school system.

3. Enough to enable him to acquire a home of his own.

4. Enough to permit him to accumulate a bank account sufficient to furnish some security against sickness and old age.

Is there any one prepared to say that any workingman, no matter how humble his work may be, ought to be content with less? Can we boast of our American freedom if we know that there are not only a few men, but millions of them, whose wage is so meager that it is an absolute impossibility for them to have a home or educate a family?

A BATTLE FOR THE UNION SHOP.

In Detroit, Michigan, the Manufacturers' Association and the Citizens' Alliance are engaged in a desperate endeavor to crush out the trade unions and their battle cry is the open shop. They have refused to renew agreements with a majority of the trades and the consequence is that the members refuse to work unless the agreements are signed.

In one instance the master plumbers and steamfitters acknowledged defeat and entered into amicable arrangements with their men, whereupon the Manufacturers' Association demanded that they go back on their pledges and renew the fight. So far apparently the battle has been in favor of the unions. The building trades organizations have begun to take contracts and have a large number of their men at work. They propose to tender for the biggest buildings to be constructed and they can secure all the financial backing they need.

The Citizens' Industrial Alliance is back of the whole trouble. The union men of Detroit are confident they can repeat the New York victory and they say when the fight is fought out to a finish the open shop won't have a leg to stand on. The Michigan Union Advocate, Detroit's labor paper, is pouring on a splendid campaign and is doing valiant service in exposing the doings of the gang.

So far the contractors have failed to secure outside labor and their losses are growing heavy. Several prominent contractors state that they are tired of dictation from Parry's lieutenants, and it is expected that within a few days there will be a break from the ranks of the Alliance. The unions say that there is no question as to the ultimate outcome and that the union shop will win.

IT SHOULD NOT BE COUNTENANCED.

And now the Salvation Army are going to take a hand in the game of stocking Canada with a crowd of reformed convicts and law breakers from the slums of the great English cities. Representatives of the army are already here, so the press despatches state, to influence the Dominion Government.

The army claims that there are thousands of unemployed in the cities of Great Britain, all of whom can be set at profitable employment in Canada. The statement is made by army authorities that every willing laborer can secure immediate employment upon arrival in the Dominion. It is said that large numbers of women rescued from lives of shame can make a new start in Canada away from their former associations. We are certain that the Canadian people will wish the army godspeed in its endeavor to better humanity, but they draw the line at expatriets and lawbreakers, paupers and reformed women. We believe that every man and woman should be given an opportunity, if possible to reform and lead useful lives, but protest against their exportation to Canada.

Experience proves that thousands of these so-called reformed characters relapse into lives of crime and shame. They are a most undesirable class, and ought not be allowed to land in the United States. If they are not good enough for Uncle Sam they are certainly not good enough for Canada. The carrying out of such a scheme is nothing less than a crime and injury to our Dominion. It should be stopped.

INCOME $3 A WEEK.

A tale of low wages and poverty where such men as D. M. Parry is in control of a factory seldom gets in the newspapers. About all that is published is concerning Parry and his "open shop" policy. The following story, as told by the Indianapolis Star, is an apt illustration of what is occurring every day throughout the country in factories where the "open shop" policy prevails:

"I did the best I could, your honor," said Charles Wright to Judge Whallen in the Police Court. He was charged with deserting his wife and children. There are eleven children, nine of them minors, and all living at home.

The man, gaunt and careworn, stretched out his long arms and looked appealingly at the judge as he told his story.

"I did the best I could," he continued. "I work for the Parry Manufacturing Company. I work hard and do all I can get to do, but I don't make much.

"Sometimes I draw $6 or $7 on pay-day, and after I pay my helper I have $5 or $6 left. But times are better now and I have more work than I had last winter. Then I often had but $3 left after my helper was paid, and there have been pay days when there was only $1.50 in my envelope. I do piece work and sometimes there is little to be had.

"There isn't much left to spend for drink after feeding and clothing thirteen persons on such wages. Last winter I walked all the way from our home to Haughville to the factory. I walked back every day, too. It was cold and I was tired, but I couldn't afford to spend money for car fare."

Judge Whallen told him that little children needed his care and that he must go back. A fine of $100 was suspended.—Rochester, N.Y., Labor Journal.

THE INCENTIVE.

Some people maintain the necessity of a system which gives ease and wealth to a few and hard work and danger and anxiety and poverty to the many, on the ground that want, or the fear of want, inspired by the spectacles of misery that confront us on every hand, furnished the only incentive to industry and advancement.

One can imagine just such an argument urged in times past against every great step in the world's progress.

Suppose some enlightened Apache had proposed to the tribes and clans of his people that they abandon the practice of taking scalps and of making wanton war upon each other for the purpose of adorning their belts with bloody trophies. We can easily picture to ourselves the old fogies rising around the council fire and denouncing the innovator as an enemy of the Apache institutions. "Quit taking scalps!" they would exclaim, in holy horror. "Does this dreamer know that he is striking at the very root of all our tribal greatness, laying irreverent and destructive hands on the mainspring of enterprise and progress? Suppose we should follow the advice of this wild visionary and quit scalp-taking, what would become of us? We should all be reduced to a dead level. Our young men would have no incentive to activity. If men of genius and courage and energy could not hope to accumulate scalps by the exercise of these virtues, we should soon degenerate into a race of weak and inert cowards. No, no, my braves," this orthodox old savage would say, "it will never do to countenance such fantastic schemes. They are contrary to the laws of nature, destructive to religion, and subversive of all social order. We Apaches are too wise and great a people to hearken to the words of this dangerous agitator. The scalping-knife is the sacred palladium of our liberties. Scalp-taking is the natural and inalienable right of every free-born Apache. The belt loaded with scalps is the just reward of enterprise. So it has been in the past, and so it shall ever be. As our holy medicine-men tell us, 'The scalped ye have always with you.' Down with this atheistic rebel who would have every man wear his own hair. He appeals only to the basest passions. In the words of our great chief, Rough Rider, 'The scalpless weakling must go.' Rather let a thousand heads be skinned than one brave Apache be deprived of the incentive to scalp-raising. Sentiment is all very well in its way, but scalping is scalping. Hurrah for the bloody knife and the scalp-lock! All honor to our eminent and public-spirited scalpers! Down with the agitators!" And then we can fancy the assembled savages letting out a whilit whoop of enthusiasm and patriotically lifting the hair from the young revolutionist's head.

No incentive to bravery if scalping should cease! No incentive to industry if the profit grinding should be abolished! What is the difference?

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Cures Baby's cough quickly. It is pleasant to take, and can be given to a baby child with no fear.

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are a safe and effectual remedy for worms in children and adults.

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Cures all headaches—will cure yours.

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The Circulation Committee of the District Labor Council submitted to the Directors of the THE TOILER PUBLISHING CO., the following proposition: "That a trophy valued at $50 be presented to the Section of the District Labor Council sending in the most subscriptions by the first of September, 1904. Not less than 300 Subscriptions will be necessary to win the trophy."

F. J. WILSON, President. WM. BOLAND, Secretary.

The Directors have accepted the proposition and will offer the following prizes to be competed for between the **1st day of May, 1904,** and the **1st day of September, 1904,** inclusive:

To the Section returning most Subscriptions

$50.00 TROPHY

(300 Subscriptions Necessary to win)

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