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MEETINGS.

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Meets in the Ville-Marie Hall, 1623 Notre Dame street, the first and third Thursdays of the month. Communications to be addressed to O. FONTAINE, Corresponding Secretary, 391 Amherst street.

RIVER FRONT ASSEMBLY,

No. 7628.
Rooms K. of L. Hall, Chabollez square. Next meeting Sunday, April 10, at 7.30. Address all correspondence to J. WARREN, Rec. Sec., 29 Basin Street.

DOMINION ASSEMBLY,

No. 2436 K. of L.
Meets every FRIDAY evening at Eight o'clock in the K. of L. Hall, Chabollez square. Address all communications to H. J. BRINDLE, R.S., No. 11 St. Monique street.

PROGRESS ASSEMBLY,

No. 3852, K. of L.
Meets every first and third Tuesday at Lomas' Hall, Point St. Charles.

BLACK DIAMOND ASSEMBLY

1711, K. of L.
Meets next Sunday, in the K. of L. Hall, Chabollez square, at 2 o'clock.
Address all communications to WM. ROBERTSON, 7 Archambault street.

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TORONTO NOTES.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

TORONTO, April 7th, 1892.

There was a good attendance at last Friday's meeting of the T. & L. Council and the reports of the several committees were replete with interest. The report of the Municipal Committee was the first presented. It referred approvingly to Mr. Water's bill in the Local Legislature (which I gave in full last week) compelling places of business outside of factories to provide proper accommodation for female employees; expressed the opinion that, while opposed to bonuses on general principles it approved of the proposal that the City Council should vote ex-Ald. McDougall a sum of money for services rendered the city as Chairman of the Street Railway Committee when he was in the council—services of a professional character and which he was obliged to render as an alderman and which were of material advantage to the city; and that in the event of the reclamation of Ashbridge's Bay being undertaken by a syndicate the committee suggest the insertion of clauses in the agreement requiring the syndicate to observe a nine-hour day, the employment of citizens of Toronto, and the payment of fifteen cents per hour as the minimum wage. The report concluded with severe strictures on the conduct of Ald. Leslie, Gowanlock, Jolliffe and Carlyle, who were among those who opposed Ald. Bailey's motion compelling the contractor for the waterworks coal to pay the union rate of wages. The report was adopted.

The report of the Education Committee, which was adopted, among other things condemned the length and number of holidays granted in the public schools on the ground that children at the end of the long summer holidays often forget what they have learned and the same ground has to be retraced. The committee recommended that more industrial schools like Victoria School at Mimico should be instituted in the different municipalities of Ontario and be supported by the Province. Concerning children charged with truancy the committee were of the opinion that many of them were children of parents too poor to comply with the law. The bill to amend the Free Library Act met with the hearty sympathy of the committee. The action of the school board in acquiring more ground for the recreation of the Sackville Street School children met with the hearty approval of the committee, who hoped that the same course may be taken with regard to Parliament, McCaul and George streets.

The report of the Legislative Committee was presented next. The first clause severely attacked Hon. S. H. Blake, counsel for the city in the street railway legislation, for his alleged action in connection with the clause for the street railway bill regarding Sunday cars. The committee also regretted that the Municipal Committee of the Legislature had refused to give a hearing to Messrs. Benson and O'Donoghue, the delegates of the Trades and Labor Council, on the question of the abolition of the property qualification for aldermen and the extension of the hours of voting at elections to 8 o'clock p.m. The report next referred to the death of Mr. H. E. Clarke, M. P., while discharging his duty in the Legislature, and "following his noble example of duty would recommend that a conference of all labor organizations in the city, together with the single tax and nationalist associations, be held for the purpose of considering the advisability of putting a candidate in the field for the vacant seat in the Legislature for this city; that if the conference be favorable to such a course that a properly delegated conference be held, at which a candidate should be nominated and a platform be drafted." The report concluded with a strong condemnation of Sir John Thompson and the leader of the Opposition for their utter lack of appreciation of the views of organized labor regarding alien labor contracts.

A long discussion followed the presentation of the report, particularly with regard to the proposal of calling a conference of organizations to decide what course they should adopt with regard to the vacant seat in the Legislature. It was finally resolved to amend the report by appointing a committee consisting of Messrs. Armstrong, March, Harris, Parr and Watson to communicate with other labor organizations as to what action they would take in nominating a labor candidate, sending dele-

gates to a convention if they approved of doing so.

Mr. Tait's bill to amend the Free Libraries Act came before the Municipal Committee of the Legislature on last Tuesday morning. Mr. Biggar, city solicitor; Dr. Barrick, Mr. Tait and Mr. D. J. O'Donoghue supported the bill, while Dr. J. Sullivan, Messrs. A. R. Boswell and Judge (members of the present board) opposed the measure. Those favoring the bill were victorious, only one amendment being made to it, and that in the first clause, by placing the maximum amount which the board might expend in additions or alterations without the authority of the Municipal Council at \$2,000 instead of \$500. The second clause was adopted, that the Board of Management shall submit to the Council not later than the first day of March in each year a detailed estimate of the several sums required to pay during the ensuing financial year—(1) Interest on any money borrowed as hereinafter mentioned; (2) the amount of the sinking fund; (3) the expense in detail of maintaining and managing the libraries or news rooms under their control and of making any purchases required therefor. The third clause was adopted, that the rate to be levied by the Municipal Council for the expenses of the board should not exceed one-quarter of a mill instead of one-half a mill, the amendment applying only to cities of 100,000 and over. The fourth clause was unanimously adopted, providing that in case any free library board requires the Council to raise any money involving an assessment exceeding the amount raised by the levy of one-quarter of a mill for the purpose of purchasing or erecting buildings the Council by a two-thirds vote of all the members thereof may refuse to raise such sum, and if the board so requires the question shall be submitted by the Council to a vote of the electors of the municipality entitled to vote on money by-laws in the manner provided by the Municipal Act in respect of by-laws for the creation of debts, and in the event of the assent of the electors being obtained it shall be the duty of the Council to raise the said amount in the manner provided by the said act. The fifth clause was also carried, providing that no free library board shall establish or maintain a museum except by and with the consent of the Council of the municipality.

This bill became necessary because the present board were attempting to divert the funds to establish a museum and create an office for a favorite as curator thereof.

Last week the City Council ordered that contractors for coal for city use must pay the 'longshoremen 15 cents per hour as a minimum rate of wages. At a meeting of the Waterworks Committee held on Tuesday afternoon the Ontario Coal Company wrote declining to sign the contract for the supply of 1,000 tons of coal unless the clause insisting that union wages be paid to the 'longshoremen be withdrawn. It will be remembered that the tender of the company was accepted before the Council passed the resolution about wages.

Ald. W. Carlyle was in favor of the 15 cents per hour clause inserted in the contract. Ald. McMurrich said that if that course was pursued it would mean a reduction of wages for the 'longshoremen.

The Chairman said they must have the coal at once, and if the question was left in abeyance till next Council meeting a water famine would ensue.

On division Ald. W. Carlyle's motion for the 15 cents per hour was defeated, and the committee decided to order the 1,000 tons to be delivered forthwith without any stipulation as to wages. Some more aldermen will be elected to stay at home when they appeal to the people next January.

The London (England) times of the 18th March contains a paragraph telling its readers that "Exeter hall was filled to its utmost capacity on Tuesday night at a farewell to 300 lads trained in Dr. Barnardo's homes, who are about to start for Canada. In the absence of Col. Howard Vincent, M.P., who was prevented from presiding by an attack of influenza, Mr. Norris, M.P., occupied the chair, and announced that the party was the largest contingent which had been despatched from the homes, and brought up the total number of emigrants which had been sent across the seas by Dr. Barnardo to 5,313."

The Toronto Mail of yesterday in a long editorial on "Immigration Schemes" and referring to settlement within the Province says that "the settlement that is required is not that of waifs and of town bred men, but of substantial farmers."

In your issue of last week among the items in an editorial under the heading "Legislation demanded by the Working-men," THE ECHO says:

"The Chinese question is a very serious one, and one also surrounded with much difficulty of solution, as legislation looking towards their entire exclusion is not within the power of the Dominion to pass. The question is an Imperial one, and the British Government, with vast trade interests centered in China, would certainly disallow any such Act, supposing our Federal Parliament assumed the power to pass it."

Your judgment in this instance is at fault. The question is solely a Canadian one, and there is no danger of the British Government disallowing any act which the Canadian Parliament may (although not at all likely) pass totally excluding Chinese from landing in Canada. I make this assertion for the following reason. Some time ago the Parliament of Australia passed a law totally prohibiting the landing of Chinese in that country; litigation followed, and the case was ultimately appealed to the Privy Council in England. After due consideration by that august body a decision was rendered declaring that that country had a perfect right to determine who should and should not be allowed to land upon its shores. As a consequence, Canada being also a colony, a like right inures to this country. So that you will see, under the circumstances, the Chinese question should not, nor need it be a very serious one in Canada in so far as its power to legislate is concerned. Neither need there be any serious difficulty in its solution—a simple act of prohibition to land is all that is necessary.

As Toronto Typo Union always has and continues to take a leading place in labor's cause I offer no apology in noting that at the annual election of officers last Thursday (polling from 12 noon until 8 p.m.) the following members were elected officers for the ensuing year, viz: James Coulter, president; George Devlin, vice-president; E. J. How, treasurer; T. H. Fitzpatrick, recording secretary; Amos Pudsey, corresponding secretary; Allan Lamont, financial secretary; Wm. Sim, sergeant-at arms; Edward Meehan, trustee; Messrs. Ed. Meehan, W. G. Fowler, Geo. W. Dower, John Coulter, and E. J. How, executive board; Messrs. M. J. Meehan, John Cairns, and J. T. Later, investigating committee; W. G. Fowler, auditor; Messrs. W. J. Hart, A. E. Anderson, Albert Hacker, Arthur Lane, and R. Murray, board of relief; Messrs. James Coulter, John Armstrong, W. H. Parr, Geo. W. Dower and Geo. Devlin, delegates to the Trades and Labor Council; Messrs. Sol. Cassidy and J. A. Meyerhoffer, delegates to the T. U. U.

The committee recently appointed by the T. & L. Council to make preparations for the meeting of the next T. & L. Congress held a meeting last evening. It was well attended and much enthusiasm was manifested. I hazard the prediction that Toronto will not be found wanting in this matter, whether it be in having a big demonstration or in entertaining visiting delegates when the time arrives.

URRM.

Look Out for Them.

It is said that a notorious millionaire, when asked why he did not build a palatial mansion, said: "I don't want a house that will be so easily found when the hungry fellows break loose." That is the most fearful sentence we have heard since the outbreak of the civil war. As certain as the earth continues, and things go on as they have for twenty years, the "hungry fellows will break loose." Nothing hastens it like men of vast wealth, who buy up legislators, disregard private rights, live in luxury, and say: "What are you going to do about it?" "The public be—" and about the "hungry fellows breaking loose." He who looks ahead and sees no breakers in either blind or has some glass that those who judge the future by the past can't get access to.—Christian Advocate.

The Rights of Women.

The Knights of Labor, at the recent General Assembly, declared in favor of woman suffrage and reaffirmed the plank in the declaration of principles which asks for women equal pay for equal work. The Knights of Labor are and have been since the first organization of the Order far in advance of the other industrial organizations on the question of the rights of women. No true labor organization can deny to women the right to their individuality and the same freedom of action granted to men.—Michigan Patriot.

QUEBEC NOTES.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

QUEBEC, April 6th, 1892.

The Quebec Provincial Legislature meets on April 26th, and already there is talk of what is going to be done, amongst other things the negotiation of the balance of the ten million loan. This will be justified without a doubt by a repetition of the identical same arguments that were made use of by Mercier when he assumed the reins of power. If your readers do not remember it I can refresh their memories by the few words "rendered necessary through the extravagance of the previous administration," always bearing in mind that the present government is opposed to extravagance and to gain for itself renown as an economical administration. If this report be true and the second act of the new Government be the saddling of a still greater burden of debt upon our already overburdened provinces, then the change of March 8th, 1892 may be very aptly called out of the frying pan and into the fire.

I said in the above paragraph the second act. Now for the first, a graceful one by the way. Some 70 civil service employees have been kicked out, and still we want emigrants.

I see by your Toronto correspondence that there is a prospect of running a Labor candidate in that city and that John Armstrong is likely to be the choice, with a fair prospect of success. I sincerely hope that the workers of Toronto will not imitate the failings of their brothers in Montreal and Quebec. If they could only take in the present situation in this city and see the disappointed look, and tone as well, of those who are here at the result of the last election, then there need be no anxiety as to the success of Mr. John Armstrong or any other who might be deemed worthy of bearing the labor standard, so to speak. I certainly would feel proud to see my old, tried, and much admired and esteemed friend, John Armstrong, a member of the Ontario Provincial Legislature. His past efforts deserve recognition, and gratitude for past endeavors should act as an incentive in urging forward his candidature.

Another item in the Toronto correspondence that likewise interested me, and that I see your paper calls its readers' attention to, is the establishment of Technical schools.

Very good in their way no doubt, but (Ah! there's a "But.") We down here in Quebec have them or rather a kind of them in connection with the School of Arts and Design. Bear in mind I do not want to confound the one with the other. Still in connection with the above mentioned school we have professors of leather cutting, pattern making, plumbing, etc. As far as the experience of some of our tradesmen go who have attended these schools they would not seem to fill the bill, and I have likewise heard that in the class of practical plumbing, ten tons of material were purchased for the use of the pupils experimenting with the soldering iron. There is a riddle in this: What becomes of this material? Some of the master plumbers, I would not say the charitable minded ones, might no doubt say that the plumbing firm to which the professor belongs, is in a position to undertake work at a much cheaper rate than anybody else, probably through the superiority of his theoretical knowledge, or some other reason.

The labor element has at least one boon to be grateful for to Providence. Time brought it around. The question of civil service employees entering into competition with those outside the said service in the trades was a thorn that for a long time annoyed quite a number. Those who gave most annoyance and who persistently followed up this double game have given up—they are among the 70 alluded to in a previous paragraph.

And as a last item: The eight hour day don't seem to be badly wanted here just now by a section of our laborers, the men for whose benefit the public works in this city were started during the winter. They requested the corporation to work 10 hours. This secured them an increase of 20 cents per day and of course prevented a few from obtaining employment. I am becoming confirmed in the opinion that among the first we will have to reform is ourselves.

ATLAS.

The proper for a jury is to be firm, but not fixed.