

## Notes of T. &amp; L. Congress

It was moved by Jas. Simpson and Hugh Stevenson to place the Congress on record as being in sympathy with the International Typographical Union in its eight-hour day fight, and pledged its moral support in obtaining for the I.T.U. a decisive and glorious victory.

Moved by Jas. Simpson and James McDonald that the Executive Committee do everything possible to have legislation enacted in Ontario following similar clauses in the Factories Act, prohibiting the employment of children under fourteen years of age in offices, stores, canning factories and such other places not covered by the Factories Act.

A resolution adopted called on the Government to arrange to have time afforded for workmen to record their votes for bonus and money by-laws, as in the case of elections.

The union label received attention. The solicitor explained his difficulties in securing support from the Senators. He suggested that an effort be made to have desired labor legislation brought forward as Government bills, when they would certainly carry.

The delegates and visitors were entertained by the Reception Committee to a street car ride around the city in the afternoon, and the party was tendered a supper at the cafe of Mrs. Meyers, at Sunnyside. In the evening the members were free to view the sights of the city or to go to the opera.

## PAYING UNION WAGES.

Jas. H. Milnes and Co. Deny Statements Made at City Hall.

Editor of the Star: We notice in your paper last evening that a man named Barton appeared before the Board of Control and stated that we were not paying our coal drivers the prevailing rate of wages and that Controller Ward stated we were giving our men all the trouble we could.

We most emphatically deny these statements. We are paying our drivers the same rate of wages as paid by the Rogers Co., Standard Fuel Co., the Conger Coal Co., and others, viz., \$10 per week, not deducting for Saturday afternoon holidays during the summer months, and we have not a coal driver in our employ who is not getting \$10 per week. This man Barton is not a coal driver, as would imply by the report in your paper, but is a stable man employed by a Yonge street furniture store.

Our men have not made any complaint to us as to the wages they are getting, and we fail to see why this man Barton should try and cause trouble between ourselves and the Board of Control, especially as we are paying the rate of wages prevailing with the other large coal dealers in the city.

JAS. H. MILNES & CO.

A true statement re the letter that appeared in the daily papers on Aug. 21st: Mr. H. R. Barton appeared before the Board of Control to lodge a complaint against the Jas. H. Milnes

Coal Co., as they were breaking By-law No. 3206, which states that the union or prevailing rate of wages must be paid on all civic contracts. This firm was not doing that; they are not paying union wages, the same as the P. Burns Co. or the Connell Anthracite & Mining Co., who pay 18c per hour for drivers of one-horse wagons and 20c per hour for two-horse wagon drivers, and when they quote the Rogers Coal Co. Now they do not pay the same rate as that firm does, as the pay for all holidays, which the Milnes firm do not. I think you will see by this that Local No. 457 of the I. B. of T. has a kick coming, as it is not right to let any firm break our By-laws, hence the contention. Now, when the Milnes firm tore the labels or had them torn off their wagons they promised to pay their drivers \$10 per week and all holidays, not saying what a week's work consisted of; that is, whether it was 60 or 70 hours, so that if a man worked 61 to 65 hours they were not paying that man the rate of \$10 per week, as we think it is an understood fact that 60 hours constitutes a working week, and not anything over that. Another thing is he did not live up to his promise to pay for all holidays, as he did not pay for the 24th of May, the 1st of July, Civic Holiday, or Saturday. Then in his letter he stated that this man Barton was not even a coal driver. Now, although he is not a driver at the present time, he used to work for this firm, but had to quit them. The same man, Barton, has represented Local 457, Coal Drivers of Toronto, I. B. of T., since its inception, and it was this man that signed the agreement between the local and the firm, and he also has a credential to that effect. Controller Ward stated that this Milnes firm was giving the men all the trouble they could. He was perfectly right, as the Longshoremen had been there before because he would not pay the union wages for unloading the vessels.

## NELSON'S SOCIOLOGICAL STUDY IN ST. LOUIS.

The Post-Dispatch was right in describing Mr. N. O. Nelson's recent experiments in St. Louis as "one of the most remarkable personal sociological studies ever undertaken in a big city"; and Mr. Nelson's comments and recommendations, given in the Post-Dispatch of August 13, are worthy of earnest attention, not only in St. Louis, but in all cities. He writes with great clearness and directness. "The best way," he said, "for anyone to study a subject is by experiment. Merely investigating or reading or studying reports gives a very inadequate understanding. . . . By living among the people on equal terms you learn how they live, learn that they are sound at heart, that they have as much sense, as much good will, as much affection as any other class. You learn that mankind is very much alike, that, after all, the political declaration of equality or the church declaration of brotherhood is not necessarily Pickwickian." He has demonstrated also that the destruction of the poor is their poverty. Speaking of the district which he has studied, and of which he has made a "poverty map," Mr. Nelson says: "Most of the livers in this district are industrious, independent, and

some of them quite comfortable, but there are also many on the ragged edge of poverty. These are the casual laborers, the lowest paid factory workers, scrubwomen, washerwomen, peddlers, widows with children. The small income of these people is wasted by the high prices they pay for everything." And this includes rent the largest item of family expenses; for Mr. Nelson has found that rents in the poor quarters are abnormally high.—Public, Chicago.

When violence reigns, there is nothing firm, nothing stable, and nothing permanent. There is something instead that is, beyond expression, odious and tyrannical and repulsive. Repress movements of passion, and never reprimand angrily. Be affable, cordial, and serene with persons who approach you. When someone has displeased you, pass it over, and never let it be seen. When you are seized with passion, refrain from actions, from words and from resolution.—St. Vincent De Paul.

## TO INTERVENE IN NANAIMO STRIKE.

At the request of the coal miners of Nanaimo, the Minister of Labor has sent Mr. W. L. Mackenzie King, Deputy Minister, to British Columbia to endeavor to remove the difficulties between the company and their men, arising out of the legislation passed by the British Columbia Legislature at the last session, limiting the time of miners underground to eight hours a day. Mr. Ralph Smith, M.P., on behalf of the men, recently visited Ottawa, and he is now on his way home in company with Mr. King. They will doubtless be in Nanaimo about the 24th inst., and will at once take up the subject.

## UNITED WE STAND, DIVIDED WE FALL.

A husbandman who had a quarrelsome family, after having tried in vain to reconcile them by words, thought he might more readily prevail by an example, so he called his sons and bade them lay a number of sticks before him. Then, having tied them into a fagot, he told the lads one after the other to take it up and break it. They all tried, but tried in vain. Then, untying the fagot, he gave them the sticks to break one by one. This they did with the greatest ease. Then said the father, "Thus you, my sons, as long as you remain united, are a match for all your enemies, but differ and separate, and you are undone." Union is strength.—Aesop's Fables.

The consumer being the ultimate employer of labor, it follows without question that every man, woman and child may employ fair labor by spending their money for union-made products. Who are you assisting?

The consumer is the actual employer of labor. Therefore every unionist should see that his or her wages are not spent to employ unfair labor.

The women of the household spend at least four-fifths of the wages earned by union men. Where are the union wages being spent? Do they see that every dollar goes back into union channels, or are they indifferently spending union wages on products made by unfair labor?

## TAKE HEED.

The earth was not made for its people; that cry  
Has been hounded down as a social crime;  
The meaning of life is to barter and buy,  
And the strongest and shrewdest are masters of time.

God made the millions to serve the few.  
And their questions of right are vain conceits;

To have one sweet home that is safe and true  
Ten garrets must reek in the darkened streets.

'Tis "Civilization," so they say,  
And cannot be changed for the weakness of men.

On your pyramids built of quivering way

To goad the wolf to the end of his den.

Take care of your civilization, ye  
On your pyramids built of quivering hearts;

There are stages, like Paris in '93,  
Where the commonest men play most terrible parts.

Your statutes may crush but they cannot kill

The patient sense of a natural right;  
It may slowly move, but the people's will

Like the ocean o'er Holland, is always in sight.

—John Boyle O'Reilly.

## TRADE UNIONS

Foster education and uproot ignorance.  
Shorten hours and lengthen life.  
Raise wages and lower usury.  
Increase independence and decrease dependence.

Develop manhood and balk tyranny.  
Establish fraternity and discourage selfishness.

Reduce prejudice and induce liberality.  
Enlarge society and eliminate classes.  
Create rights and abolish wrongs.  
Lighten toil and brighten man.  
Cheer the home and fireside, and

When in need of furnishings look over the fine stock carried by The Economic, which is choice, and at prices that are right.

## MAKE THE WORLD BETTER.

All wage-workers should be union men.  
Their progress is limited only by them who hold aloof. Get together, agitate, educate, and do.

Do't wait until to-morrow; to-morrow never comes.

Don't wait for someone else to start; start it yourself.

Don't hearken to the indifferent; wake them up.

Don't think it impossible; two million organized workers prove different.

Don't weaken; persistence wins.

## MUST JOIN THE UNION.

The Sydney (New South Wales) Labor Council recently passed the following resolution: "That the principle of trades unionism is outraged if a union member accepts employment at any other trade unless he becomes a member of the union of that calling."

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