

The Nonpareil

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About Ourselves.

We present to our readers this first issue of what we hope will be an ever-increasing and popular medium for the weekly distribution of authentic information in connection with all labor matters of importance in Toronto and throughout the Dominion.

We believe there is a saying somewhere that there is nothing like an earthquake for opening up new fields. The field that this paper proposes to cover is not a new one, but we are uncertain how far in the future is the earthquake which is to open the new field for it, and we think it good policy to have our harness on and be ready for work when that time arrives.

We will make no flaming promises of great deeds to be done or reformations to be accomplished. We don't propose to give much paper for the money, but what we give in reading matter we hope to keep up-to-date and interesting.

"With these few remarks," we make a bow to our readers and hope they will appreciate our efforts to such an extent that our subscription list will grow at an alarming rate.

Buffalo Union's Great Fight.

In things printorial there is nothing that is watched with more interest than the fight at present being carried on between our Buffalo brethren and *The Buffalo Express*.

The Buffalo Union is now placed in such a predicament that the freedom of speech is denied them, and they are one and all enjoined by an outrageous proceeding known as an injunction to restrain them from saying anything about *The Buffalo Express*, a paper which has denied the workmen what the other newspaper publishers graciously acquiesced in.

The printers of Buffalo went into the newspaper business on their own account and issued weekly an interesting paper called *The Labor Journal*. For a time this paper had many things to say about the *Express* and its proprietors, and appealed to the organized element in the commun-

ity to bring the *Express* people to a realization of their unfair position. Organized labor responded, and is responding, to such an extent that, about a month or two ago, matters were brought to a climax and an injunction was asked of a Republican judge (the *Express* is a Republican newspaper) and granted, restraining the organized from further "injuring the *Express*."

This bottles up the *Buffalo Labor Journal* until the matter is threshed out in the courts, which is expected to occur this or next week. There are other labor journals, however, and this paper can both aid the local cause of organized labor and help the Buffalo printers win their fight.

The men on *The Buffalo Express* were not asking for an increase of pay—only for an adjustment of the scale as it applied to "hand men" and "machine men." Hand men were getting only \$3.00 a night; machine men as much as \$4.00 a night or over. The union wanted to have the scale so adjusted that all would receive \$3.50 a night, which, in dollars and cents, would have been a saving to the firm, as there were more machine men to be reduced than hand men to be raised.

THE Chairman of the Executive hit the mark when he suggested at our last meeting the separation of the time and piece scale.

While the Buffalo paper prosper,
With the unions standing pat;
The *Express* is badly rattled,
With the accent on the "rat."

WE would suggest to the Committee which the President is to appoint to not make the piece scale too cumbersome, so that it can be quickly grasped by the ordinary individual.

WHAT'S the matter with the Chairmen of Chapels and the Business Committee? Has it done anything to them? Better get up a free smoker, see if that will draw them to meetings.

IN Buffalo the printers and carpenters both have women's guilds, wives, sisters, mothers, and any female member of an organized workman's home being eligible for membership. The women are helping the *Express* strikers and booming the label. Good-bye for Toronto to try.

Sociology Unrecognized.

You cannot go into a single theological college in Toronto and find a chair devoted to the study of sociology and political economy.—*Rev. Morgan Wood.*

Can't Down the Printers.

THEY PROSPER ON MALEDICTIONS AS WELL AS BENEDICTIONS.

You can't down the printers. No matter how you beat or castigate them, they won't down. Listen to these instances:

A few years ago, on the advent of the typesetting machines in Lockport, N.Y., the employees of the different offices whose positions were taken by the machines got together and organized a co-operative newspaper—*The Review*—and the paper has been a success from its inception. It is still in a flourishing condition, and recently received the city printing contract.

A few years ago *The Toronto News* and the printers on that paper had a falling out. The composing staff organized a co-operative paper—*The Star*—and, shortly after, the trouble with the *News* was amicably adjusted. The *Star*, however, continued to be published, but later was sold to private parties, and still lives.

The printers on the *Rochester Post-Express* were placed in the same predicament by the publishers of that paper and are issuing a weekly paper to voice their sentiments.

The Halifax, N.S., unionists have a grievance with a firm of publishers and are going into the publishing business on their own hook, with remarkable success, if advertising patronage is any criterion.

The last, but not least, in these few instances occurs right here in our own town. *The Buffalo Express*, by its unwillingness to grant its workmen a fair compensation for their work, has supplied another newspaper to the field of opposition and is receiving a little of its own medicine. The *Journal* is occupying a field exclusively its own, and is becoming indispensable to trade unionism in Erie county.—*Buffalo Labor Journal.*

Think it Over.

Do men strike because they like it? Do they subject themselves and their families to all manner of privation and want simply because they want to injure their employers? Do you, who are opposed to strikes and strikers of every degree, stop to think that it must be a powerful reason which would compel men to face all sorts of dangers and deprive themselves of the means of livelihood? If men were to quietly submit to every oppression of unscrupulous employers, how long would it be before they were reduced to the actual starvation point? Yes, you will always find a good and sufficient reason for every strike if you will look for it.—*Ontario Critic.*