

# THE ECHO.

JOURNAL FOR THE PROGRESSIVE WORKMAN, AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

Vol. 2.—No. 24.

MONTREAL, SATURDAY, MARCH 12, 1892.

SINGLE COPIES—THREE CENTS  
ONE DOLLAR PER YEAR

## 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,**  
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Meets every FRIDAY evening at eight o'clock in the K. of L. Hall, Chaboulez square. Address all communications to  
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No. 3852, K. of L.  
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## TORONTO NOTES.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

TORONTO, March 10th, 1892.

No less than on three different occasions has organized labor in Toronto essayed to elect representatives of labor to seats in Parliament. On each occasion defeat at the polls was the result. Did disorganization and demoralization follow? Not a bit of it. Those who led in these efforts well knew and were fully alive to the variety and might of the forces pitted against organized labor in such a contest, and while striving manfully to carry their banner to victory they were nevertheless reasonably prepared for defeat. They met it philosophically, and continued on the even tenor of their way, strong in the resolve to make the attempt again and again as circumstances would warrant. The masses are slow of education in sound political principles, but still they do learn; and every such contest on their part serves to emphasize a lesson not previously given sufficient attention. The abolition of negro slavery in the United States required five years of civil war, the expenditure of millions of dollars and the sacrifice of over a million of human lives. The army of Freedom suffered many a severe defeat during these five years, but the abolition government never thought of giving up the task imposed upon it until the surrender of Lee at Fredericksburg and final victory had crowned the Union banners. When organized labor in Canada will reach its Fredericksburg no prophet has yet indicated, but no one with an eye to the past history of the labor movement either in Continental Europe, in Great Britain, in the United States or in Canada, will dare say that it will not be reached ultimately. But the object I have in view forces me back to Toronto. The candidates of the Labor Party in the contests already referred to—those of them who were bona fide workmen, for some of them were not—did not become disgruntled with their organizations because of failure of election. On the contrary to-day, for instance, Alfred F. Jury and Charles March are as active, as honest, and as determined workers in the ranks—aye, even more so than before they had been chosen as candidates by a labor convention and had suffered defeat in such capacity. They realized, and correctly, that they suffered defeat only to the extent that their supporters and friends had been defeated. No doubt if duty required it these very same men would step into the breach again tomorrow. And so it should be everywhere.

In my last I promised some items of interest respecting the hospitals receiving Government aid in Ontario. According to the annual report of the Government Inspector, the number of hospitals receiving Government aid in 1891 was 27, as compared with 27 in the previous year. The number treated in these hospitals during the last ten years has increased from 6,032 to 10,528—the increase in 1891 alone being 1836. The sum voted by the Legislature in 1891 towards the maintenance of the 21 hospitals was \$75,480.53 for that year, and the sum being asked for by the government at the present session for a like purpose in respect of 21 hospitals is \$89,002.50—an increase of \$13,521.97. The cost per inmate in 1891 was 75.14 cents per day. Besides the \$75,480.53 contributed by the government in 1891, the people gave to these 21 hospitals towards maintenance no less than \$212,152.85—a total of \$287,633.38. The orphanages and houses of refuge will receive some attention in a future letter.

The fortnightly meeting of the Trades and Labor Council was well attended on last Friday evening, with President Banton in the Chair. As at the previous meeting, the Legislative Committee had no report to make. Delegate Davey presented the report of the Municipal Committee. It was well prepared and valuable. It approved the action of the Markets and License Committee of the City Council in recommending that vegetable and fruit pedlers' license fees be reduced from \$30 to \$20, and as strongly condemned the Council in refusing the reduction. The Executive Committee of the City Council was scathingly handled for withdrawing from the city's bill the clause making it optional for the municipality to exempt all buildings and other improvements from taxation. On this subject the report said: "Had the Ratepayers' Association been unsuccessful in its effort (so secure the striking out of the clause) it would have been

amply rewarded for its trouble by the humiliating spectacle of Ald. Crawford abjectly eating crow and publicly acknowledging his ignorance of the import of a measure for which he had voted. Go ahead, gentlemen of the City Council, you are doing more than you suppose to promote the measure advocated by this body, viz: paid efficiency instead of the acknowledged incompetency that rules at the City Hall under the present system." The "snobbishness" of the Council in refusing to listen to the deputation in support of the exemption of improvements was very strongly condemned. Referring to the proposed conversion of the street railway system to an electrical one, the Committee were of the opinion that "The trolley system, which is anything but an ideal one, is the best available and the most practicable for rapid transit." On a motion to adopt the report, a warm and interesting debate took place on the trolley electrical system for street cars. Delegate Francis moved to strike the clause out on the ground that the members of the committee were not experts, and there was a good deal of difference of opinion as to the relative merits of the trolley and storage systems. In reply, Mr. Davey showed extensive knowledge of electrical affairs, giving figures to prove that the trolley is the best system now in operation.

Mr. R. Glockling, while of opinion that the trolley would be improved upon, held that it would be unfair to the company to delay the change. The horse cars, he believed, did not pay the company at present and the citizens should not stand in the way of a change, provided conditions were made that would allow improvements at a future time. Mr. D. J. O'Donoghue supported a change vigorously, pointing out that rapid transit was greatly needed. Mr. Baldwin of the Brassworkers, from a wide experience travelling on trolley roads, endorsed the trolley. Mr. Robert Emmett considered that a system far better than the trolley might be adopted. He spoke of the cable, but it was pointed out that this was out of the question as the agreement with the company was for an "electric" system. Mr. W. J. Watson said he opposed the report on the ground that the council should not endorse anything that would help the company out of a difficulty. Delegate O'Donoghue—There is nothing to prevent us from doing them justice. Mr. S. Jones advocated the cable, giving some facts regarding successful cable routes. Ultimately the amendment was negated and the report concurred in by a vote of 26 to 23.

The report of the Education Committee was an exhaustive one and was received with applause. Among other interesting paragraphs were the following: "We are glad to note a bill brought forward at the present session of the Legislature by Hon. Attorney-General Mowat to prohibit cigarette smoking in public by, as well as the sale of tobacco to persons under 18 years of age, and that hotels are to be included under this head, as in the past the law in this respect was only applicable to cigar stores. It is to be hoped that the same will soon become law as it has been advanced that it injures the youth of our country to indulge in the practice of cigarette smoking." Also that "notice of motion has been introduced in the Public School Board by trustee Brown, that retailers in school books be notified that it is likely that the Free School books will be introduced after the mid-summer vacation. We would say they cannot come to soon to some of our overburdened and poorly paid mechanics and laboring people." Since the last meeting of your body we have much pleasure in announcing the formal opening of the Electrical Branch of the School of Practical Science on the 24th ult. It is our proud boast that we have a school of science that is second to none in America. The occasion will long be remembered by those who had the privilege of attending, and we were pleased to observe among the invited visitors many representatives of this Council. The address of Professor Galbraith was on Mechanical Education and was ably delivered. He said that the departments of instruction are civil, mining, sanitary, mechanical and electrical engineering, architecture analytical and applied chemistry, and mineralogy and geology." (As I anticipate being able to secure a full copy of the text of Prof. Galbraith's able and instructive address on this occasion, I will send it to the Echo for publication as soon as I receive it. The report was adopted as read.

Delegate O'Donoghue from the Technical School Board had pleasure in reporting that over 280 pupils had been enrolled at the school, which, at first, was expected to have at most 150 pupils. The school would require to be greatly extended by next year. Every room in the old Wyoliffe College was already fully occupied and permanent quarters would be required.

Fault being found with the Legislative Committee for neglect of its duties, on motion the Municipal Committee was instructed to represent the Council in looking after measures coming before the Private Bills and other committees of the Provincial Legislature now in session and the Council adjourned.

Some seven hundred night school pupils attended a meeting a few nights ago to witness the presentation of prizes to the successful scholars in the various classes. Trustee W. D. McPherson presided. He made a pleasing address, during which he reviewed the past session. They had fifteen schools, 37 classes and 1,480 pupils. The work done had been very gratifying. These schools had been first started in 1885, discontinued in 1861 and re-commenced in 1879. On behalf of the City Council Ald. Hallam said that that body would never grumble in supporting such a worthy institution. He said he was an ex-pupil of the night school and wanted to see them do well. The prizes, which numbered 211 and had cost \$97, were distributed among the happy scholars by Inspector Hughes. Some of the recipients were young men and women ranging in years from 25 to 30 and not a few of them had families.

The report of the Principal submitted at the regular monthly meeting of the Technical School Board on last Monday evening indicated that the average attendance at the various classes up to March 1st was as follows: Drawing and descriptive geometry, 75; chemistry, 55; physics, 65; algebra, 54; Euclid, 36; trigonometry, 36; arithmetic and mensuration, 88; statics, 26; dynamics and kinematics, 23. It was decided to return the guarantee deposit of \$2 to each pupil on the first of May who has attended 50 per cent of the regular class nights. For those who have attended 25 per cent \$1 will be returned. The request of the principal to make an age limit was not granted. After some discussion it was deemed inadvisable at the present time to award prizes and diplomas, but it was decided to have an examination at the close of the present session. The board will wait on the Minister of Education and endeavor to secure the permanent use of a portion of the old Upper Canada College buildings for the school or receive a grant. Messrs. Burke, Curry, Armstrong, Willis and O'Donoghue were appointed a committee to draw up rules of procedure for board meetings.

Yesterday morning Messrs. D. A. Carey, M.W., and A. F. Jury and D. J. O'Donoghue, representing D. A. 125 K. of L., John Armstrong, H. T. Benson and G. W. Dower, representing the T. & L. Council, and S. T. Wood, on behalf of the Single Tax Association, were in attendance at the meeting of the Private Bills Committee of the Local Legislature, in expectation that the bill respecting the City of Toronto would be "on the carpet" for consideration. They dispersed themselves on finding that its consideration had been postponed until Wednesday of next week, when they will be "on deck" again. It will not be the fault of these gentlemen mentioned if the desires of their constituents are not covered by provisions of said bill before it reaches the House from the hands of the Private Bills Committee.

Organized labor, in Canada especially, owes a debt of lasting gratitude to W. J. Ashley, M.A., Professor of Political Economy in the University of Toronto, for his many able and unbiased lectures and public utterances on subjects pertaining to the "Evangelical Churchman," of Feb. 25, ultimo, contains an article from his pen on "The Improvement of the Condition of the People." Over the communication of Prof. Ashley, the "Evangelical Churchman" feels called upon to say (although not necessary, as may readily be understood), "The contributed article contains the views of the writer alone, and the editor does not necessarily endorse the opinions herein set forth." I send you the "Churchman" containing the "contributed article" referred to, trusting that the said contributed article may be published in full in THE ECHO as space permits. In that

event, I am sure it will be clearly felt by yours readers that Prof. Ashley echoed the views of thousands of others as well.

URIM.

## QUEBEC NOTES.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

QUEBEC, March 9th, 1892.

The elections are over and now we may expect the next session of the Provincial Legislature to be given over absolutely to Constitutional quibbles. We will no doubt have as matter for discussion the Constitution as it was, the Constitution as it is, and the Constitution as it ought to be. This will about cover the whole ground. Now a word as to the result, the Conservatives in this part of the Province seem to be as much surprised at the result of the appeal to the electorate as their opponents.

In the city of Quebec we have four representatives two of whom, Parent and Shihyn, are Liberals and the two other, Carbray and Chateauvert, are Conservatives. The first, Parent, is a man who has never yet distinguished himself and is not likely to in the future; he secured his re-election by a deal with the Conservative party. The second, Shihyn, the ex-Provincial Treasurer, represents the celebrated Liberal constituency of St. Rochs, which constituency returned him this time with a majority of some 300 votes. This constituency is by the way Laurier's stronghold. The next one is Carbray, the Conservative organs tell us that he will stick to the party through thick and thin. He is a very good man and one of the prominent shining lights in one of our churches. Such being the case, he will stand watching. The last, Chateauvert, the President of the Quebec Board of Trade. Well of him I can only say that if he ever gives expression to his opinions in the House he will surprise his friends, his party and himself.

In Levis the candidate elect is Angus D. Baker, he was the representative of L. A. 10128 at the session of the Dominion Trades and Labor Congress held in Ottawa in 1890.

The general public are no doubt awaiting the arrest, conviction and punishment of the ex-members of the government, and as the province has declared itself so well disposed towards honesty, the expectations are that the men who have been making use of their talents and opportunity to rob the people will meet with their just deserts, viz: a cell in the provincial penitentiary. The poor, half-starved laborer who would steal a loaf to keep his wife and children from starvation, or who would steal a stick of wood to keep them from freezing, would soon find that having violated the right of property, he would be deprived of that of liberty. Now, I don't want your readers to imagine for an instant that I would throw water upon a drowned rat, but what I want to make clear is this: The Conservative party having attained power by posing before the electorate as the upholders of honesty and morality, the duty devolves upon them of convicting those whom they have accused; if they do not do this, then they will appear as slanderers, calumniators and detractors. They are virtually forced into this position, and having an immense majority in the House, are of course in a position to see that the guilty be punished, providing always that the offences of which they have been accused are punishable in our courts of law. Justice and equity demand that examples be made, so that in future fear of the majesty of the law will prove a safeguard for the public moneys. There is but little hope that these prosecutions will take place, and still less that justice be done. The lawyers made the laws, and convictions under these laws may reasonably be looked for some time during the course of the next century.

The labor element in Quebec heartily sympathizes with L. Z. Boudreau in his defeat by a party candidate, as well as with Jos. Beland. Still if it be any consolation to them they should know that they have not been the first, nor will they be the last, to suffer defeat in the labor cause.

One more item. The St. Lawrence is bridged at Quebec. Not with the Royal Albert Bridge, built on the cantilever principle. Mother Nature stepped into the breach and in a couple of days succeeded in doing the work, the materials being snow and ice and the power, north-east wind; and in our noble harbor, where a whole fleet could ride at anchor safely, you could not find a padding room just now for a bark canoe.

ATLAS.