

## Toronto District Labor Council

### REGULAR MEETING

LABOR TEMPLE, Oct. 5th

The Toronto District Labor Council met in the Labor Temple Thursday evening, and was very largely attended, President Hungerford presiding.

The Credential Committee reported the following new delegates:

Stereotypers and Electrotypers—H. Osborn, J. H. Huddleston, H. Blance, Commercial Telegraphers—J. C. Thurston, A. L. Bruce.

Maintenance of Ways—W. H. Noyes. Bartenders—Fred Carr, Wm. Button, Frank Walker, J. Coulson.

Machinists—P. Brundrett, B. Aikens, Geo. Thoms, H. H. Harper, Wm. Henry, Wm. Dill, Wm. Boland, D'Arcy Leonard, D. T. Montgomery.

Lithographers—Fred Clements, Fred Baillie, Jas. Edwards.

Silver Workers—Edward Salmon. Tobacco Workers—Thos. Hughes.

Musical Protective Association—D. A. Carey, Thos. Williams, T. H. Bidgood, Geo. Miles, H. Tricker, Jos. Poulton, Lathers—Albert Hill, A. E. Dearlove, Fred Jackson.

Coopers—John W. Harding.

The new delegates were duly obligated, and they took their seats.

Delegates Callow and Shanks were elected to fill vacancies on the Municipal Committee.

Delegate Finnegan was elected a member of the Label Committee.

C. A. Wilson was elected on the Legislation Committee.

D. G. Montgomery was elected on the Education Committee.

The report of the Executive Committee that 500 shares of stock be purchased in the Labor Temple Co. adopted.

A circular was read regarding the action of the McClary Manufacturing Co. in advising their employees not to attend their union picnic, and pointing out various unfair methods of the firm.

A communication regarding the organization of laborers in the city was referred to the Organization Committee.

Several bills were presented and ordered paid.

The Organization Committee presented a report, showing their efforts to organize several classes of workers, and predicting success in the near future.

The Municipal Committee reported that a number of concrete buildings are being erected which are not in accord with the building by-law, and recommended that competent inspectors be employed, as these buildings, if allowed to be constructed, will become fire-traps.

The committee favored securing as much park property as possible, but were opposed to paying double what the property is worth, and favor a report from the Assessment Commissioner. The committee also declared that the Mayor and Aldermen are very dilatory in regard to the Yonge street bridge and the Lansdowne crossing.

A lively discussion took place regarding the proposed Carnegie library, and the following resolution was unanimously adopted: "Inasmuch as this Council has gone on record in the past as being utterly opposed to the acceptance of the Carnegie library grant, we again denounce the said grant or any contemplated addition of the citizens' money to supplement said grant."

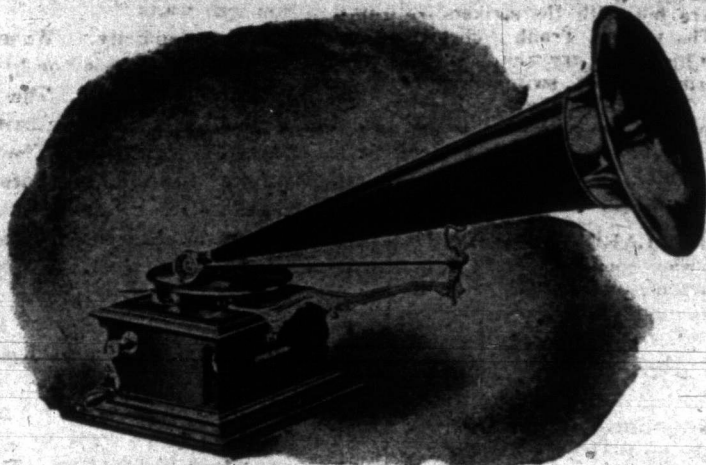
A clause of the Municipal Committee's report regarding the selection of candidates for the approaching municipal elections was referred back to the committee to present a report, providing a method of choosing such candidates.

It was reported that label brooms could be obtained at the corner of Gerard and Seaton streets.

The Legislative Committee drew attention to the law permitting speculators to hold two acres or more of land in the cities and towns, and permitting

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it to be assessed as farm lands, and condemned the law very strongly and urged that the City Council be interviewed in regard to the matter. One case was pointed out of a man who owned one acre of land, upon which was a cottage, the property being assessed at \$1,200. Adjoining this one acre was a plot containing fourteen acres owned by another individual, and on which there were no buildings whatever. This land was assessed at \$700. The person owning the one acre bought the fourteen acres, when the whole assessment was reduced to \$900, the municipality thereby losing the taxes on \$1,000 of assessment. This was only one illustration of the injustice of the present law.

It was reported that the Bakers' strike is still on. One large firm has lost business to the extent of 12,000 loaves per week, and at least two large firms were reported to be about ready to make a settlement. The people were thanked for the unanimity with which they are refraining from patronizing the unfair firms.

It was reported that the Western Printing Co. were using an Allied Printing Trades Union Label without authority from the Council.

### The Tariff Committee of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada.

The committee on the tariff appointed at the last session of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, at Toronto, has had under consideration before the Tariff Commission, upon the question of increase or decrease in tariff rates. Without professing to determine finally upon the matter, the committee, for the present, begs to advise as follows:

1. The Canadian Manufacturers' Association will be clamoring for more protection. That organization has set itself out to oppose every demand made by organized labor. For the time being, therefore, organized labor will sink its individual opinions, and give special heed to the "class" legislation sought by the Canadian Manufacturers' Association in tariff matters.

2. The Canadian Manufacturers' Association will seek an increase in the tariff. We will oppose any increase. It is not thought desirable, at the present

time, to make any pronouncement upon the relative merits of free trade and protection. Our position simply is that the tariff is now high enough.

Case for the Workingman.

3. Our evidence will follow along different lines, e.g.:

(a) Under existing conditions the country is prospering.

(b) Taking individuals and corporations applying for increases, it will be found that many have prospered exceedingly well. In your own neighborhood, if you will observe closely, you will discover that small factories have been enlarged from time to time, while the employers' standard of living has progressed in proportion. Contrast with that your own state of life. Has your earning power increased? Find if the wages in the protected industries have increased proportionately. Have the increases, if any, been voluntary ones, or have they been forced by the workmen? Consider, if higher protection be accorded, whether the protected employer will share his new gain with the workmen, who are his right hand, or whether the men will still have to fight for better wages and better conditions? Judging by the past, workmen will always have to struggle for betterment. Therefore, they need expect nothing from a grant of further protection to their employers.

The Public's Position.

(c) It will likely be found that those who base their applications for increased protection upon the desire to pay better wages, are employers from whom a decent wage cannot now be obtained.

(d) Assuming that an employer and his workmen would be benefited by an increase in the tariff, would that not be making the general public pay for the advantage of the few?

(e) Will the selling price of the protected commodity go up or down, if the tariff be raised? One employer before the commission stated that it would go up. Who will pay the extra price? And who will get the increase—the workmen or the employer?

(f) If you wanted to start a corner grocery in your own city, what would happen if you applied to the council for a bonus or a loan?

Attend the Sitzings.

4. Have your representatives at the sittings of the commission to listen to the statements made. Do not allow yourselves to be used to bolster up any

particular case. Keep steadily before you that your position is that the tariff is high enough now.

5. There is free trade in labor, and protection for the products of labor. If protection were a good thing for the workman, the Canadian Manufacturers' Association would not be in favor of it.

6. The Canadian Manufacturers' Association opposed the change in the law that assured to workmen the right of trial by jury.

Signed by the committee—James Simpson, D. A. Carey, John A. Flett, E. W. A. O'Dell, and J. G. O'Donoghue.

### BE CONSISTENT.

You don't smoke scab cigars or buy scab goods on Labor Day, do you? You insist on every bit of printing used in connection with the celebration bearing the label. You refuse to march behind a non-union band. You make it your business to see that the horses are shod by unionists. You even demand union-made canes. You are fairly aching to find some unlucky individual without labels all over him. You are not ashamed of the fact that you are a union man. You throw back your shoulders and march down the street, confident of your ability to whip every non-unionist in the land.

Then the parade disbands, the celebration ends, you go home and go to bed, tired out from your exertions in demonstrating what a good union man you are.

Next morning you get up, eat some scab breakfast food, put on your old scab coat and hat, and start for work. On the way down you stop and get a cigar, unmindful of the fact that there is no blue label on the box. A little non-union chewing tobacco is probably included in your morning purchases.

And so you continue through the day, and probably through the other three hundred and sixty-four days of the year.

Make every day Labor Day.—Typo. Journal.