# LABOR TEMPLE

## Report of Committee to the District Council Plan of Purchase Sure to Succeed.

### Get Your Shoulder to the Wheel and Put Up Your Dollar.

With such a promising outlook for the securing of a labor temple in Toronto, the leaders of organized labor are working as they never worked before to make their present effort an assured success. The great central labor body of our city rarely seldom seen such spontaneous enthusiasm as was experienced last Thursday night, when the report of the Labor Temple Committee was presented, and such was the nature of the report, with all its detailed information and incontrovertible facts, that no discordant note or word of disapproval was heard during the evening. Following the adoption of the report, there were unmistakable evidences of the earnestness of the delegates, and seldom has the generosity of workingmen been shown in such a marked manner as when, one by one, they requested their names to be put down as purchasers of one, two, five, ten and even twenty-five shares of stock for the purchase of the Athenaeum Club House on Church street, to be the future Labor Temple of Toronto. The grand result of this carnival of stock buying was the formation of a fund of $575 as the nucleus of the much larger and necessary amount, $10,000, the sum asked for to meet the first payment of $5,000 on the purchase price of $30,000 and carry out the needed improvements.

Such a proposition that is now before the labor men of Toronto was never presented in the past, and we are nothing less than cowards if we shirk the responsibilities of the present. One dollar from every selfish and unselfish union man in the city will give us $15,000, but there will be the fearful, fretful pessimist who never dares to do, and whose vocabulary is freckled all over with that little word "Can't."

To the labor men of Toronto there should be no such word for the next sixty days. Emblazoned upon our banners in large display letters, we have riveted the word "Success," and every union man, prominent or insignificant, will be a promoter of an enterprise destined to give more sunshine to the toiler and more downright wholesome recreation to the organized workers of the city than they have ever had before.

Every union with money in its treasury and no trouble ahead should stretch its appropriating powers and take a large block of stock in the Labor Temple Company, Limited. The stock you buy to-day will double its value in the future, and the benefit can be derived either from declared dividends or the reduction in your hall rent for regular meetings.

Enthusiasm is catching, and there should be a red-hot epidemic of this necessary disease for the next sixty days, if we wish to be comfortably settled in our own quarters soon. If you have a desire to get busy drop a card to James Simpson, "Daily Star" office, or 42 Alberta avenue, provisional secretary-treasurer of the Labor Temple Company, Limited, and he will see that you get some stock blanks for you and other union men to fill out.

For information about the company and the proposed labor temple read carefully the following report adopted at the first meeting of the District Labor Council, and also the list of those who have already signified their intention of being stockholders in the Labor Temple Company:

To the Officers and Members of the District Labor Council of Toronto:

Dear Sirs and Brothers,—The question of purchasing or erecting a suitable building to be known as a Labor Temple, and owned and controlled by organized labor, has been an important topic for discussion among labor men for many years, and the ever-growing strength of our movement has left us without any justifiable excuse why we should not have such a building. With the end in view of ascertaining what could be done to secure such a building, your committee was appointed, and now they wish to report that they have in mind a building they can recommend to be purchased and controlled by organized labor.

#### The Building.

The building we recommend to be purchased is the Athenaeum Club House on Church street between Queen and Shuter streets. It is a solid brick building with a frontage of 50 feet, and running from Church to Dalhousie street. Its style of construction is well suited for a labor temple, and with the alterations hereinafter mentioned will give us sufficient accommodation to provide meeting rooms for the majority of unions in the city.

#### Price.

The price asked by the guarantors is $30,000, and the initial payment to be made is $5,000, leaving a mortgage of $25,000 to be carried by the guarantors as a first mortgage of $15,000 and a second mortgage of $10,000, the second mortgage to be paid off in four years in sums of $2,000 the first year after purchase, $2,500 the second and third years after purchase, and $3,000 the fourth year after purchase, the rate of interest on the mortgage being 5 per cent., and the purchasers being free to pay the second mortgage off at any time within the four years upon giving three months' notice.

#### Purchase Option.

The guarantors have given a written purchase option to your committee of two months, and if at the end of that time the full required amount has not been secured, but that there is a reasonable assurance that the amount will be raised and the purchase made a certainty, the option period will be extended.

#### Valuation.

Your committee has consulted an expert valuator of well-known public repute, who places the present value of the building at $35,000 and the site at $7,000. If the building was erected to-day it would not cost much less than $40,000. In addition to this, there is the value of the interior equipment, which is placed at $10,000 by the guarantors, but which your committee value at about three-fifths of that.

#### Revenue and Expenditure.

After careful consideration, your committee have made a very conservative estimate of revenue of $8,730, which we account for in the following manner:

Billiard room, bowling alley, shooting gallery and baths, $3,000 a year. From this source the lowest revenue received by the Athenaeum Club was $3,583.20, and the constituency they had to draw from was their 300 to 400 members; surely with such a constituency as we have our $3,000 will easily be obtained.

Business agents' room, $180. The unions of the city are now paying that sum for suitable rooms for their business agents, and judging from their frequent decampings, their stay at any one address is a matter of uncertainty.

Large assembly hall, $1,250. The suitability of this room for Council meetings, banquets, concerts, strike meetings, union meetings, dances, conventions, etc., will make it one of the best revenue producing halls in the city, with a seating capacity for between 600 and 700 people. Leaving out Sundays, the $1,250 mark will be reached if $4.00 per night is received for the 313 other nights in the year. This does not allow for city meetings, and it is the opinion of your committee that instead of the room being rented for $4 per night, $10 will be little enough for such a large room.

Ten lodge rooms, $4,000 a year. If these ten rooms only brought in a revenue of $1.50 each per night for 251 nights in the year, leaving out Saturdays and Sundays, we would have a revenue of $3,765, but that is a low rental for and to friends of union man who desire to use it, and $1.50 a year to union men to feel the need of physical exercise.

Another source of revenue not considered in our estimates is the profit from the sale of union-made logs and toilets. With a constituency of between 300 and 400 members, the Athenaeum Club had a profit of over $600 a year, and it is safe to say that there was very little organization work done kept around the premises. With our large constituency it is safe to say that another $600 profit could be added to our revenue, thus increasing our estimate from $8,730 to close on $10,000.

#### Expenditure.

Our estimated expenditure of $4,500 needs no elaboration. The following items speak for themselves:

| | |
|---|---|
| Caretaker (salary per year) | $750 |
| Two games attendants ($500 per year each) | 1,000 |
| Coal | 250 |
| Interest on $25,000 mortgage | 1,250 |
| Light | 600 |
| Taxes | 350 |
| Water rates | 150 |
| Insurance | 150 |
| Total | $4,500 |

Some of the rooms, which are worth twice that amount, and with the possibility of renting some of them on Saturdays and Sundays and during the day time upon the five other days, the estimated revenue of $4,000 is very low.

Gymnasium, $300. It is the view of your committee that the gymnasium should contribute this amount to the revenue or be turned into a lodge room. We propose that a fee of $3 a year be charg-

#### Plan to Raise Money.

Your committee recommend that a limited stock company be formed with a capitalization of $40,000 and no watered stock, with shares of $1, no limit to be placed upon the number of shares to be held by any individual union man or union, and no dividends to be declared until the mortgage of $30,000 is cleared off. We approve of contributions being accepted from friends of organized labor, these contributions to be placed to the credit of the District Labor Council as shares equal in market value to all other shares. We would urge upon unions as a body, as well as individuals, to take as many shares as their means will allow, and where the membership of any union will approve of an assessment of 25 cents per week for a month being made, we would strongly endorse this as a sound and business-like method of going about the work of raising the required amount in two months.

#### Alterations and Furniture.

Alterations will have to be made to the third floor of the building to give us the five lodge rooms previously mentioned, and an estimate of $3,650 has been made by Messrs. Raynor and Wilson to do this work, the details of which have been previously given. In addition to this expenditure, chairs and benches will have to be purchased, and a considerable amount of labor will have to be expended in moving the billiard tables, bowling alleys and shooting gallery into the basement, etc., for which we have allowed $1,350, making a total of $5,000.

#### Location.

Your committee consider the location of the building well suited to our needs, and while the city is rapidly growing westward, it is also extending eastward with the same rapidity, and it will only be a matter of a short time until new areas to the direct north and direct east will be added to our city, thus making the selected site even more desirable than now. With the carrying out of the City Engineer's plan of running all Queen street cars from the extreme west to the extreme east along Queen street, the street car facilities for west end union men will be all that can be desired, because they will be transported to the corner of Church and Queen, or within two minutes' walk to reach the Labor Temple. Union men coming from the north either by way of Belt Line, Carlton and College or Winchester cars, can transfer to Church street cars and be carried to the entrance of the building, and those coming from the south can transfer to Church street cars running north at the corner of Church and King and be carried to the entrance of the building. In addition to this, there is no danger that the other side of the street (where now stands the Metropolitan Church) will be built up, and thus cut off one of the most pleasing views in the spring and summer time. There will also be an entrance to the building, not only from Church street, but also from Dalhousie street.

#### Amusements.

With the introduction of amusements into the Labor Temple, your committee believe a long-felt want will be supplied, and union men generally will welcome such a means of socializing their surroundings, and thus affording them one of the best opportunities of bringing non-union men to a place where the influence will be such as to lead them to believe there is such a thing as solidarity in the labor movement.

#### Committee.

Your committee recomend that in the event of this report being adopted, the number of the committee be enlarged to sixteen, and the very pick of the Council placed upon it, to carry this effort to a successful consummation. We want $40,000 in two months. Can we get it? Why not? An opportunity of a lifetime is before us, and as "we shall not pass this way again, what good therefore we can do, let us do it at once."

Signed on behalf of committee.

Alf. Raynor, Chairman.
Jas. Simpson, Secretary.

#### Stock Subscribers.

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# W. C. GURNEY ON THE STAND

## Continuation of the Evidence in the Suit Against Labor Men.

In the High Court of Justice between The Gurney Foundry Company, Limited, plaintiffs, and Robert H. Emmett and others, defendants.

The cross-examination of W. C. Gurney on his affidavit filed on pending motion herein, taken before me, John Bruce, Special Examiner, at my chambers in the City Hall, Queen street west Toronto, on the 10th day of October 1903.

Mr. DuVernet, counsel for plaintiffs.
Mr. O'Donoghue, counsel for defendants.

The said W. C. Gurney having been duly sworn and examined deposed as follows:

By Mr. O'Donoghue:

1. Q.—You are Mr. W. C. Gurney? A.—I am.

2. Q.—Vice-president of the plaintiff company? A.—Yes.

3. Q.—And you have made an affidavit dated 28th August, 1903? A.—Yes.

4. Q.—This is not the first trouble that you have had with the Iron Moulders' Union? A.—No.

5. Q.—When was the last difficulty? A.—1890, I believe.

6. Q.—What was the difficulty then? A.—I do not know.

7. Q.—You were not in business at that time? A.—No.

8. Q.—And I suppose you do not know anything about the means adopted at that time to frustrate the efforts of the Moulders' Union? A.—No.

9. Q.—When did you first make your appearance in the business? A.—It was in the year 1896; I would not be positive.

10. Q.—In what capacity did you act then? A.—Commercial traveller.

11. Q.—That would, I suppose, necessitate your being away a good deal? A.—Yes.

12. Q.—What is your present office? A.—Second vice-president.

13. Q.—That I suppose entails your being here most of the time? A.—Most of the time.

14. Q.—Do you have much to do with the actual management now? A.—Yes.

15. Q.—What would your duties be? A.—They are quite varied and it would be very hard to outline them.

16. Q.—Give me a general idea. A.—The equipment of plant, the sale of our product and general inspection.

17. Q.—Does that involve your being in and around the works much? A.—Yes.

18. Q.—And intercourse with the workmen? A.—To a certain extent.

19. Q.—In what way? A.—The ordinary course of business.

20. Q.—You have superintendents and managers under you? A.—Yes.

21. Q.—And I suppose they would largely look after the actual management of the hands? A.—Yes.

22. Q.—You leave that entirely to them? A.—To a large extent.

23. Q.—I suppose in general matters of management they would consult with you? A.—Yes.

24. Q.—But further than that you leave it with them? A.—Yes.

25. Q.—Who is the head in the working departments? A.—Different heads.

26. Q.—Dealing with the moulders, polishers and mounters? Give me the moulders—who has charge at the present time? A.—Mr. Mohmes.

27. Q.—What is his office? A.—He is foreman of the moulders' department.

28. Q.—Who is next above him in authority? A.—In the moulding shop?

29. Q.—Yes. A.—The general superintendent, Mr. Hickey; I am now speaking of the King street plant.

30. Q.—How long has Hickey occupied that position? A.—I could not say accurately.

31. Q.—Roughly? A.—Four or five years.

32. Q.—Was he employed by you before that? A.—Yes; by the company.

33. Q.—In what capacity? A.—Foreman moulder.

34. Q.—And prior to being foreman he was just an ordinary workman, was he not, with you? A.—I am told so.

35. Q.—And he had been a member of the Iron Moulders' Union before he became foreman? A.—I am told so.

36. Q.—Did he remain, do you know a member of the union when he became foreman? A.—I do not know.

37. Q.—Have you ever heard? A.—I never heard the matter spoken of.

38. Q.—And you have no idea? A.—Beyond surmise, no.

39. Q.—And what would your surmise be? A.—That he would no longer be a member of the union.

40. Q.—But you do not found that on any knowledge or action at all? A.—Nothing definite in relation to this matter.

41. Q.—No matter whether it has relation to this matter or not—let us have what you and I mean. A.—I do not understand your question.

42. Q.—Do you say you surmised that when he became foreman he left the union—how do you reach that conclusion? A.—Because I do not think he is a member now.

43. Q.—Do you know as a fact whether he is a member now or not? A.—I do not believe him to be; I do not think he is.

44. Q.—Do you know as a matter of fact? A.—No, I do not.

45. Q.—Would his becoming foreman involve severance with the union? A.—From the union point of view?

46. Q.—Yes. A.—I do not know.

47. Q.—From your point of view? A.—I do not know; I never had such an occasion arise.

47. Q.—Do you know if any charges were ever made against Mr. Hickey by the union to you or to any member of your company? A.—With reference to his attitude?

48. Q.—With respect to his action in connection with union funds at any time he became foreman? A.—I heard something about a disagreement to do with reference to the administration of some funds.

49. Q.—From whom did you hear this? A.—I really could not tell you.

50. Q.—How long ago would it be? A.—A long time ago.

51. Q.—Six years? A.—Probably a couple of years.

52. Q.—That would bring it back to about the time when he became foreman? A.—He was superintendent two years ago.

53. Q.—And just prior to being superintendent he was foreman? A.—Yes.

54. Q.—And how long was he foreman? A.—I could not tell you.

55. Q.—Five years? A.—I do not know, it would be a pure guess.

56. Q.—You could not say whether it would be one year? A.—It would be more than one year.

57. Q.—Would it be more than five? A.—I could not say.

58. Q.—Would it be ten? A.—No. I do not think so.

59. Q.—Would it be eight? A.—I hardly think so.

60. Q.—It might be five, six or seven? A.—It would be a pure guess if I said it; I do not know.

61. Q.—That would bring it back to about 1896, when you say you entered into active company with the company? A.—Bring it back?

62. Q.—The time we are speaking about that would place it about 1896 that Gurney became foreman? A.—I do not know; I could not positively state authoritatively at all.

62. Q.—And you say you do not know from whom you heard about Hickey's difficulties with the union over some funds? A.—No, I do not know.

63. Q.—What was it you heard? A.—That the union accused Hickey of mal-administration of funds, of which I believe he was the treasurer; I did not pay much attention to it.

64. Q.—And when did you hear that? A.—I do not know.

65. Q.—Recently? A.—No, some time ago.

66. Q.—A couple of years ago? A.—Yes, possibly.

67. Q.—Did anyone ever discuss the matter with you and you promise that Mr. Hickey would repay the union the funds he had taken? A.—No.

68. Q.—Do you know was that discussed with your father, Mr. Edward Gurney? A.—I do not know.

69. Q.—You have no idea? A.—I have not any idea.

70. Q.—What has been the attitude of the plaintiffs with respect to the employment of union men? A.—Absolutely fairness.

71. Q.—That is, you would not discharge a man simply because he was a member of a union? A.—No.

72. Q.—And you would not interpose any obstacle to young men joining the union? A.—Beyond possibly advising them.

73. Q.—Just how would you put it to them? A.—I never put it to them and I do not say.

74. Q.—Then you say you never advised them? A.—Personally, no.

75. Q.—Do you know of anyone also having advised them not to join? A.—No concrete instance, no.

76. Q.—Do you say that you never advised them? A.—Personally, no.

77. Q.—Do you know of anyone else having advised them not to join? A.—No concrete instance, no.

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96. Q.—Do you say that you never advised them? A.—Personally, no.

97. Q.—Do you know of anyone else having advised them not to join? A.—No concrete instance, no.

98. Q.—You are quite positive about that? A.—Yes.

99. Q.—And if any advice was given it would not be in the nature of a threat, if they did join the union? A.—No, not with the authority of the company.

100. Q.—Still some foremen perhaps might have arrangements the rules established by the general manager of the company in this regard? A.—Very doubtful.

101. Q.—In fact [illegible], I suppose union men just as readily as non-union men to your employment? A.—Just as readily if they are good citizens and workmen.

102. Q.—You encourage into their citizenship? A.—Yes.

103. Q.—In what respect? A.—We do not shut them out.

104. Q.—They would be involved in being good workmen? A.—Good citizens, primarily.

105. Q.—A man a [illegible] is not a good workman? A.—Sometimes a valuable workman.

106. Q.—Is it a pleasure the only feature you consider first? A.—No.

107. Q.—What else? A.—A man's [illegible] whether he be good [illegible] or not.

108. Q.—You consider whether he be [illegible] or not? A.—Yes.

109. Q.—Why? A.—Because we wish to have [illegible].

110. Q.—Why? A.—We wish to have a [illegible] in order to preserve [illegible].

111. Q.—What would that proportion be? A.—[illegible].

112. Q.—Who makes this investigation? A.—[illegible] the man.

113. Q.—And who does the hiring? A.—[illegible] different [illegible].

114. Q.—Do you do any hiring? A.—Occasionally.


# $130.00 GIVEN AWAY

The Circulation Committee of the District Labor Council submitted to the Directors of The Toiler Publishing Co., the following proposition: "That a trophy valued at $50 be presented to the Section of the District Labor Council sending in the most subscriptions by the first of September, 1904. Not less than 300 subscriptions will be necessary to win the trophy."

F. J. Wilson, Chairman. Wm. Boland, Secretary.

The Directors have accepted the proposition and will offer the following prizes to be competed for between the **1st day of May, 1904,** and the **1st day of September, 1904,** inclusive:

To the Section returning most subscriptions

**$50.00 TROPHY**

(300 subscriptions necessary to win.)

To the Union sending in the greatest number

**HANDS ME ROLL-TOP DESK**

**Value, $25.00**

To the Individual who sends in the largest number

**SILVERWARE or RING**

**Value, $15.00**

There will also be a MONTHLY PRIZE.

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