

## OUR BOARDING HOUSE

Reflections on Current Events by the Boarders.

"It may please Chapleau and his friends to see Langevin kicked out," said Brown, "but when an investigation of the workings of his own department is demanded this jumping-jack statesman stands upon his dignity. His record as a public man has not been such as to warrant anybody in believing that his department has been run any better than that of Railways and Canals. True, his opportunity of boodling was not as good as his rival's, but I'll bet dollars to matches that if an investigation could be had you would find that in point of corruption the department of the Secretary of State can discount the Department of Public Works, unless, indeed, that Chapleau has changed greatly for the better since he left Quebec for Ottawa; it is a notorious fact that he was the very worst premier this province ever had, not even excepting the present one, and that is saying a great deal. For such a man to oppose investigation of the working of his department simply means that it won't bear investigating, and is but one more reason why a most searching inquiry should be held. I wouldn't trust one of them from J. J. C. Abbott down any further than I could see them that far; they're no good."

"They're just as good as they possibly can be," said Phil, "or rather, they're as good as you make them and no better. Everybody knows J. J. C. Abbott's record in connection with the Canadian Pacific Scandal; that man acts on the principle that every man has his price—yet he is your prime minister—the head of your Government. He looks upon politics as a business; he and his party will never object to pay you all your support is worth, why should you object to him or his party selling their vote or influence in the House? He paid for it; it is his, and he is under no obligations to you. The same with Chapleau; you knew what he was; he made no secret about his record. He stated publicly that he had received a large amount of money while Premier of this Province for his kind offices in advancing a Bill which would promote the interest of a few capitalists, yet in spite of that you elected him to power. By what right do you find fault with him now; he is no worse now than ever he was. You knew he was a corruptionist, why did you elect him? Why did you send men like Lepine and Curran and Smith and Desjardins to represent you at Ottawa? You knew that these men were bound to support the Government of which he was a member. You knew what that Government was, you knew the record of its members; well, then, what are you growling about? They robbed the country before, they're robbing it yet, and they'll continue to rob it to the end of the chapter, and they're doing so with your full endorsement—and you can't get over it."

"Whatever else may be charged against me hereafter," said Brown, "I have never committed the sin of supporting any of the gang you mention; my vote has invariably gone to the other side, except when some of these gentry were endorsed by the Trades and Labor Council. It was under such circumstances that I worked and voted for Lepine, but I trust a merciful God will pardon my sin; it will never be committed by me again—no, not even if all the Trades and Labor Councils between Quebec and Vancouver were to endorse him. For that man to pose as a labor candidate is like the devil parading himself as a saint."

"Do you suppose," said Gaskill, "that in voting for the Liberals you voted in favor of honest government? Do you really imagine that if the Liberal party were in power there would be less bribery and corruption, less boodling and thieving going on than at present? Surely you know, or ought

to know, that they are just as bad as the crowd that's in power now. To gain power at present the Liberals would have to dicker with those corporations and contractors who are out in 'the cold' now, and if they secured the control of the public treasury this crowd would squeeze them just as the Nick's and Mick's are squeezing the Conservatives at present. No, the only way to secure honest government is to wean the people from partyism, to elevate its moral character and to inculcate sound principles of political economy. To turn one set of rascals out for the mere purpose of installing another set is labor and time wasted and can do no good. What you must do is to organize an independent party which would not only educate the people in the higher duties of citizenship, but which at the same time would wean the people from party rule by giving them a chance to vote on principle. I am glad that the investigation at Ottawa is making men disgusted with party politics. I am glad that the corruption and bribery of our public men is being exposed in a manner that will make Canada a by-word among the nations, because it will drive all really honest men out of the old political parties and strengthen the hands of those who have long lost confidence in them and are resolved to regenerate politics by forming a new party."

BILL BLADES.

## DON'T MISS IT!

What? The Printers' Picnic at Otterburn Park.

The printers' picnic at Otterburn Park today has every prospect of being the most successful of the number yet held under the auspices of the genial typos. They have furnished an excellent programme of events for which a large number of valuable and beautiful prizes will be awarded. Besides those published the committee have added a boat race (single scull) for which two very handsome prizes has been set apart. Both brass and string bands will be on the grounds, the former to delight the lovers of music by its rendition of popular selections and the latter to assist the flying feet of merry dancers. The parade will start from the hall, McGill street at noon, proceed by way of St. James street to Place d'Armes Hill, to Craig, to Victoria Square, to Notre Dame to the depot, in time for the train which leaves at 12.30. For those who prefer a whole day's outing at this delightful resort there is a train in the morning at 8.30, and for those who cannot go by either of those trains there is yet another at 1.40 p.m.

## MONTREAL NEWS.

We are requested to state that there will be a meeting of Montreal delegates elect to Dominion Trades and Labor Congress in Ville Marie Hall, on Sunday afternoon first, at 2 o'clock sharp.

The tug of war team composed of members of the city force which went up to Toronto to compete in the police games there have returned home victorious. They beat the Toronto team by two pulls, though the latter were nearly 300 lbs heavier on the aggregate.

Mr. W. Sandilands has been delegated by the committee of workmen in charge of the Widow Flynn case to collect subscriptions to assist in defraying the expense of an appeal to the Privy Council. He will visit the G. T. R. workshops shortly, and the committee hope that he will meet with a favorable reception.

The following have been elected to the Dominion Trades and Labor Congress, to be held in Quebec, August 31:—U. Lafontaine, D. A. 19, K. of L.; O. Fontaine, Ville Marie Assembly; Sister Duffy, Dominion Assembly; A. T. Lepine, M. P., Montcalm Assembly; J. Dallaire, Jacques Cartier Typographical Union; L. Z. Boudreau and J. B. Dubois, the Central Trades and Labor Council; M. H. Brennan, River Front Assembly.

The regular meeting of the Central Trades and Labor Council was held on Thursday evening, Vice-President J. B. Dubois in the chair. There was little business of public interest transacted. Messrs. J. H. Royal, L. G. Brosseau and Thos. Hamel took seats as delegates from the Carriagemakers' Union. The Organization Committee submitted their report, which contained a clause to the effect that the plasterers had agreed to recognize the Builders' Laborers' Union and to assist them by all means in their power, which was considered satisfactory, and the report was adopted. The committee in charge of the Ayotte matter were instructed to lay the whole circumstances of

the case before the Attorney-General that criminal proceedings might be taken against him. The report of the committee on Labor Day was accepted, and the suggestion to get badges printed for the sons of organized labor was approved of. Delegate T. Fisher was elected on the Organization Committee, replacing Mr. Jos. Goodfellow. The report of committee on the Widow Flynn case was adopted and instructions given to have subscription lists and appeals to workmen printed and circulated. The meeting then adjourned.

Chas. Leo, a former brakeman on the line of the Canadian Pacific Railway, has, through Messrs Greenshields & Co., taken an action for \$5,000 damages against the Company for injuries received by a collision between two of the Company's cars some three months ago. The plaintiff alleges negligence on the part of the Company, and as he is still unable to leave the hospital, and will be incapacitated for work for some time to come, places the damages at the above amount.

4<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL Picnic

## AND Games

OTTERBURN PARK,  
(ST. HILAIRE.)  
SATURDAY,  
Aug. 22,

Montreal Typo. Union  
No. 176.

BOATING, FISHING,  
GOOD GAMES,  
Grand Lacrosse Match,  
BEAVERS vs. VICTORIAS,  
Blasi's Orchestra for Dancing,

THE PARADE  
will leave Union Hall, 223 McGill street, at 12.00 sharp.

Trains leave Bonaventure Depot at 8.30 a.m. and 12.30 p.m., stopping at St. Cune gonde, St. Henri and the Point.

Tickets, Adults, 60c.  
CHILDREN HALF-PRICE.

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