

THE ECHO.

JOURNAL FOR THE PROGRESSIVE WORKMAN, AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

Vol. 2.—No. 20.

MONTREAL, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1892.

SINGLE COPIES—THREE CENTS
ONE DOLLAR PER YEAR

MEETINGS.

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1711, K. of L.

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TORONTO NOTES.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

TORONTO, February 9th, 1892.

President Thos. W. Banton called the Trades and Labor Council to order at 8.15 on last Friday evening. After the introduction of new delegates and the adoption of the minutes of the previous meeting, Delegate Worr raised a question of privilege and presented a petition to the Governor-General, and asked that the Council sanction the same, praying His Excellency to shorten the sentence of eighteen months in the Central Prison accorded Wm. Duplex, a Union moulder, convicted of assaulting a juror, in a case of intimidation arising out of the strike in Gurney's stove works and among the petitioners being the aforesaid juror.

In reply to a question by delegate March, delegated Worr said the Moulders' Union knew not of nor did it authorize the petition, and as a consequence, on motion of the first-named delegate the subject was referred to the Iron-moulders' Union for consideration and subsequent action.

Under the head of "reports of committees" the Municipal Committee's report dealt with many subjects of local interest. It approved of the motion of Ald. Bailey to extend the hours of voting to 9 p.m. at municipal elections, which had passed the Council and was incorporated in the city bill which would be introduced in the Local Legislature at its coming session, which begins on next Thursday. The report also hoped the City Council would yet introduce another clause in the same measure allowing the municipality to pay its aldermen, and concluded by roundly denouncing the motion of Ald. Foster that hereafter all sidewalks of wood be given out to contract. The report was adopted as read. Mr. H. T. Benson and J. W. Dacey are Chairman and Secretary, respectively, of the Municipal Committee.

The report of the Educational Committee was signed by Ed. Glockling, as Chairman, and Jas. Coulter, as Secretary. It approved of the proposal of the Public School Board submitted to the Board of Police Commissioners, "that four officers (truants) be detailed for this purpose," but hazarded the hope that the same would be filled by the appointment of civilians, "as many people would not care to have policemen acting in that capacity." As to free school books the committee were "pleased to note the grand majority of 4,494 votes in favor of this proposal given at the recent municipal election" and hoped "that the Public School Board will immediately take action so that it may take effect at once, notwithstanding the narrow-mindedness and selfish motives of one who appeared on a deputation from the ratepayers' association, as the voice of the people should prevail in this matter." After noting with approval and satisfaction the great success attending the opening of the Technical School, and condemning in positive language the system of granting pensions to retired school teachers, as well as the depreciating the action of the Free Library Board in establishing a museum at a probable cost of \$6,000 while at the same time closing two branch libraries on the plea of want of funds to keep them open, the report concluded as follows:—"As regards the state of affairs in some of our separate schools in the Province, according to the report of Provincial Separate School Inspector White, your committee deplores the unsatisfactory conditions existing at present, whereof he states that the text-books are not up to the mark, and that the teachers are incompetent. We believe the only true remedy for the same is by having one language—English—taught in our common schools, public and separate, and having the same system of inspection." An interesting discussion took place on the subject of each heading except the last one. On a motion to adopt the report as read, a delegate moved that the clause respecting separate schools be referred back for further consideration. He hoped that, for very obvious reasons, his resolution would carry without opposition or debate, and that he would go before the committee and explain why he made the motion. The Education Committee did not approve of this and a warm discussion followed. Delegate John Smith drew attention to the fact, while supporting the motion to refer back, that that day's Mail contained a letter over the signature of Separate School Inspector White, denying the utterances attributed to him; while Delegate O'Donoghue pointed out that while a

majority of the Council could carry the report yet such a course would be injudicious and not in the interest of peace in the ranks of labor. Delegate R. Glockling took like ground; while Delegate Geo. Harris and others were in favor of passing in approval of the report. Ultimately that clause of the report was referred back without resorting to a vote. With this amendment the report was adopted.

The report of the Legislative Committee, which embraced nearly all the resolutions passed at the last session of the T. & L. Congress, was laid over and will be first for consideration after reading of the minutes at the next meeting of the Council.

Delegate O'Donoghue, as representative of the Council on the Technical School Board, reported that the school opened on the 25th ultimo with 128 pupils and that at the present time there were over 200 pupils in attendance. He also reported that one of his colleagues at the Board—Mr. Geo. Bradley—had resigned and had accepted the position of engineer and caretaker under the Technical School Board, and that it would be necessary to nominate and elect another delegate to fill the vacancy. He also reported that he had opposed the acceptance by the Board of Mr. Bradley's resignation and he had also voted against his employment by the Board on account of his having ignored the body which elected him to that body. The report was adopted on a division by a large majority.

On motion of Delegate Parr it was resolved, that the members of this Council, believing that the cutting of ice for any purpose on Toronto Bay, Ashbridge's Marsh and the Don River is dangerous to public health inasmuch as no regulations, however perfect, can prevent some part of the ice from being used for domestic purposes, hereby petition the Local Board of Health to prohibit the cutting of ice from these sources after the close of the present season, thus allowing the ice dealers a year in which to arrange for a purer source of supply; and that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the mayor and chairman of the Board of Health.

Delegate O'Donoghue, in calling the attention of the Municipal Committee to the fact that an evening paper of that date advocated that the city should cease fighting and surrender the Bay front to the C. P. R. was warmly applauded when he declared that no matter who gave up the fight the workmen of Toronto proposed to retain that property for the whole people and keep that railway on its grounds west of York street.

After the transaction of some routine business Delegate O'Donoghue gave the following notice of motion at the next meeting, viz:

Resolved, that this Trades and Labor Council, while recognizing and assenting the right of any Delegate to seek and secure employment of a municipal or other character, places itself upon record as discountenancing and being opposed to any of its members, while acting as representatives of the Council, or as members of committees or sub-committees to which they may be appointed or elected, seeking or accepting employment or office of emolument arising from or incidental to the action of any such representation or committee or sub-committee of which they may be members, inasmuch as such seeking or accepting of employment or office of emolument under these circumstances is detrimental to the good character and usefulness of this Council, as well as injurious to the advancement of the general and best interests of those who work for wages in the city of Toronto.

The Council then adjourned.

Under date of yesterday the Hamilton correspondent of the Toronto News says:

The trouble between the moulders and the foundrymen remains unchanged. Half a dozen apprentices from Massey's works, Toronto, commenced work in Copp's foundry on Saturday, but efforts are being made to induce them to return. The Trades and Labor Council has decided to give the men all the assistance possible. A number have left for Detroit and others expect to leave for various points in the United States shortly.

The journeymen bakers of this city have had a somewhat varied experience in the matter of organization within the past eight or ten years. First a Union, next an Assembly of the K. of L., once more a Union, and now, once more, an Assembly of the K. of L. On last Saturday evening the members of that trade held a large open meeting in Richmond Hall, under the auspices of Wheatheaf Assembly, K. of L., for the purpose of strengthening the ranks of the latter body, with Mr. W. Brown presiding. The chairman reminded the meeting of the very creditable standing of the journeymen bakers of Toronto in the past as Knights of Labor, of the shorter hours and higher wages they then enjoyed and the deplorable relapse into long working hours and lower wages resulting to them since their disintegration. D. M. W., D. A. Carey, as is his custom, delivered a sympathetic, sensible and encouraging address in which he too referred to the very creditable standing of the bakers of this city a few years ago, when Mr. John McMillan (now doing a good business for himself in a progressive Vermont town) was a leading spirit in their behalf and in their ranks. He grieved for their present sad condition, and promised that D. A. 125 would warmly second their efforts in reorganization.

District Recording Secretary Robert Glockling, in following Mr. Carey, emphasized the undeniable fact that their troubles were mainly due to the fact that the men had drifted away from the Knights. Let them unite again and they would find that justice would be done them. In union there was strength, but as it is, the master bakers dictate as to the wages and hours; the one having dropped and the other increased. For eighteen months one man has been working eighteen hours a day and getting \$6 a week; others get \$5 and \$4.

Mr. Lauchlin told of how the shoemakers had benefited by uniting.

All the bakers in the city will be urged to become members of the assembly, and a big effort will be made to bring it up to the old standard.

This evening Mr. P. J. McGuire, general secretary of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, lectured in Richmond Hall on "The Burdens of Labor and how to Relieve them." He came from Philadelphia to deliver the lecture at the request and under the auspices of Local Union No. 27 of this city. The hall was filled to the doors, and there were many ladies in the audience. Professor Ashley, of Toronto University, occupied the chair and among those present were noticed Rev. G. M. Milligan, Prof. Alexander, W. A. Douglass, R. J. Tyson, Prof. Hume, T. W. Banton, President of the T. & L. Council, D. A. Carey and R. Glockling of D. A. 125 K. of L., Rev. Mr. Anderson, Chas. March, F. C. Cribbin, D. J. O'Donoghue and others who take an interest in the labor cause. This has been the third time Mr. McGuire has addressed audiences in Toronto and each time the audience is larger than on the previous occasion. In my next I will embody a fair synopsis of the remarks of Prof. Ashley as well as of the lecture of Mr. McGuire and mainly for the reason that, unfortunately for the people of Montreal and Quebec, Mr. McGuire does not on this occasion go East of this city, being announced to lecture in Erie, Pa., to-morrow evening. At the conclusion short speeches, in supporting votes of thanks, were made by Rev. Mr. Milligan, D. J. O'Donoghue, T. W. Banton and President Ryves, of Local Union 27, and all in accord with the spirit of the lecture.

URIM.

QUEBEC NOTES.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Time rolls on and events crowd each other in this city. Since writing my last letter to you our Trades Council has called a special meeting to reconsider the question of running labor candidates. After a prolonged session it was decided to support Edward Reynolds, a delegate from Stadacona division No. 130, Order of Railway Conductors, as the labor candidate for the electoral division of Quebec West in the Provincial Legislature. Once started they, the Council, deemed it inadvisable to select but one, probably thinking that he might be lonesome in the House, so a proposition was made to run the 1st Vice-President, Delphis Marsan, for St. Sauveur division. It too was carried. And now to give if possible an outline of the past career of both nominees: Delegate Reynolds is but a new hand in the Council, still he stands high in the esteem of the labor body which he represents, the O. R. C., and was the chosen delegate of that body at the last meeting of the Dominion T. & L. Congress held in this city, where he distinguished himself very ably opposing the withdrawing of the word (compulsory) in the resolution calling for gratuitous and compulsory education in the Province of Quebec, nevertheless this change was deemed advisable by the majority and was adopted in the modified form above quoted, as well as several other reforms. He is a thorough Irishman and of course a Land Leaguer (none the worse for that) he certainly will ever consistently oppose the present land system which is a perversion of the scriptural text and is now made to

read by the parasites of humanity "The earth is the landlords in the fullness thereof." His chances of success are good, because he possesses one quality deemed indispensable by politicians, that is popularity. He has many ardent admirers and firm supporters both in as well as out of the labor organizations, and the man who attempts to defeat Ned Reynolds in the West Division with the labor support will have his work cut out for him.

The other candidate is named Delphis Marsan. He is a Delegate in the Council of the Shoe Machine-workers Union and has been identified with labor organizations since his childhood, being one of the present standard-bearers and office-holders (that of Secretary of No. 5 Section) of the finest, best and most advanced labor organization on the American Continent. I mean none other than the Quebec Ship Laborers Benevolent Society, whose motto is: "We protect our infirm, we bury our dead." This is the organization that has stood the shock of battle for over a quarter of a century and which is as solid to-day as ever it has been since its foundation. This is the body that work the 8 hour system and receive a fair day's pay for a fair day's work, and has never yet been known to have allowed capital to encroach upon the rights of its members. Now, as the candidate in question is one of its staunchest members, you can readily imagine with what approval and acclamation his candidature would be accepted. There is but one hitch in the way—the man himself. He is very modest and dislikes the idea of running for the position. If he accepts the candidature and the working population are but true to themselves, then the Province will have two independent members of which it may be justly proud.

Their opponents, so far, are: Against Reynolds as a straight Liberal, John E. Walsh, bookseller and stationer, who has an establishment on John street and who is likewise extremely popular. He is an honorary member of the Ottawa branch International Typographical Union and his past record as a Unionist is irreproachable, still he does not pose as the Labor Candidate but seeks nomination as a Liberal. The fight, for a contest is sure to occur, may yet be a triangular one, as the Conservatives who have usurped power will no doubt run a candidate of their own. For the St. Sauveur division the ex-member, Parent, will be again a candidate. He is a young man and so far has not distinguished himself by anything particularly brilliant, still he is well thought of by a large number for at least one act, that was when the Ship Laborers' Society was attacked he was the first man to reach the table when the House was in committee to fyle objections to Dr. Rinfret's infamous bill. There is still another candidate spoken of as likely to run in the Conservative interest in St. Sauveur division so that too may prove to be a triangular contest, Dr. M. Fiset. He is one of our Civic Aldermen and has won renown as an obstructionist in the City Council. He is an adept in the art and must have studied the tactics of the Parnellite party in the British House of Commons as a guide; his choice of argumentative logic is Nationality.

Quite an item about Provincial politics. I will now pass to municipal matters. In the forthcoming elections for the Quebec City Corporation there will be two candidates representing the whiskey interest, one of whom will be returned to-day, Feb. 8. One may well ask what are the temperance people doing? I can answer that, at least so far as this city is concerned, they have stowed away their temperance principles and are just now upon the party platform. They ought to adopt as their motto "Partisan first Humanity next."

They will of course be duly found at the next session of Parliament, both Federal and Provincial, accompanied by the resolutions asking for the prohibition of the alcoholic liquor in the Dominion with dire threats of a bombastus furiosus if not complied with.

I had almost forgotten another interesting item: The Centre division has two candidates, both straight party men. They are Rinfret, Liberal; Chateauvert, Conservative; the first is the author of the infamous bill before alluded to, and his opponent, the President of the Board of Trade, the body at whose instigation the bill was introduced, not much choice in that lot. If any means could be devised whereby they could be made to annihilate each other it would be a blessing to the community. I will give you in my next the result of the municipal elections and probably some other interesting items.

ATLAS.