

# THE ECHO.

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## MEETINGS.

### CENTRAL TRADES AND LABOR COUNCIL OF MONTREAL.

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JOS. RENAUD, - - - COR. SECRETARY  
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JOS. PAQUETTE, - - - SERGEANT-AT-ARMS

Meets in the Ville-Marie Hall, 1623 Notre Dame street, the first and third Thursdays of the month. Communications to be addressed to Jos. Renaud, Corresponding Secretary, P. O. Box 414

### RIVER FRONT ASSEMBLY,

No. 7628.  
Rooms K. of L. Hall, Chabouillez square. Next meeting Sunday, July 19, at 7.30. Address all correspondence to J. WARREN, Rec. Sec., P. O. Box 1456.

### DOMINION ASSEMBLY,

No. 2436 K. of L.  
Meets every Friday evening at Eight o'clock in the K. of L. Hall, Chabouillez square. Address all communications to JOHN WILKINS, R.S., No. 222 St. Antoine street.

### PROGRESS ASSEMBLY,

No. 3852, K. of L.  
Meets every First and Third Tuesday at Lomas' Hall, Point St. Charles.

### BUILDERS' LABORERS' UNION.

Meets in Ville Marie Hall, 1623 Notre Dame street, every TUESDAY at 8 P. M. Address all communications to WM. JARVIS, Secretary, 111 St. Dominique street.

### BLACK DIAMOND ASSEMBLY

1711, K. of L.  
Meets next Sunday, in the K. of L. Hall, Chabouillez square, at 2 o'clock.  
Address all communications to J. CARROLL, Rec. Sec., 135 Iberville street.

## LEGAL CARDS.

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## THE WANDERING JEW.

### EUGENE SUE ON THE LAND QUESTION.

Eugene Sue, in his story of 'The Wandering Jew,' seems to have obtained a glimpse of the truth underlying the land question. The gifted author, in describing the privations of Mayeux, a poor sewing girl, says:

'She lived—that is to say, that by working with energy twelve to fifteen hours per day she did manage to stave off immediate death by starvation and cold—but she endured cruel privations. Privations? No, that is not the word. Privation does not express that continual and terrible want of all that is indispensable to keep the body in health, to preserve the life that God has given, namely, fresh air, shelter from the inclemency of the weather, warm clothing, wholesome and sufficient food. Mortification would better express that absence of the most vital necessities which society, once equitably organized, could not, dare not refuse to every industrious and honest workman, since it is civilization which has deprived him of his right to the soil and left him with his two arms for his only patrimony.

'The savage does not enjoy the advantages of civilization, but he has at least for food the beasts of the forest, the birds of the air, the fish of the rivers, all the fruits of the earth, and for warmth and shelter the trees of the great woods.

'The civilized man, disinherited of the gifts of God, and regarding the rights of property as something sacred and inviolable, is then entitled at the end of every hard day's labor which enriches his country to demand sufficient wages to live in health, neither more nor less.

'But is that life, to drag on a miserable being, fixed at the extreme limit which separates existence from death, and there to struggle against cold, hunger and sickness?

'To show the extent of this mortification which society inexorably imposes on thousands of honest and laborious persons by its unmerciful indifference to all those questions which concern the rightful remuneration of labor, we will just examine how a poor girl would have to live on four francs a week. We may then perhaps learn to appreciate the virtue of so many unfortunate creatures who support with resignation this horrible existence which just affords them enough of life to feel all the sufferings of humanity.

'Yes, for to live upon these terms is virtue. Yes, a society so organized as to tolerate or impose such misery loses the right to blame those unhappy creatures who sell themselves, not for the sake of debauchery, but because they are hungry.'

## ASIA'S ABLEST SOLDIER.

Nearly forty years ago in South Hunting-ton township, Westmoreland county, lived John Hinton. He was an orphan boy, rude and uneducated, and had wandered there from the neighborhood of Masontown, Fayette county. With no known relatives, he was kicked from one family to another till manhood, enlisting then in the war. At its close he helped to escort the Cherokees beyond the Mississippi. From Indian territory he went to New Orleans and shipped as a common sailor on a vessel bound for the East Indies. At the Bay of Madras, on the western shores of the Bay of Bengal, he deserted and enlisted in a British regiment. He served many years, and during the memorable Sepoy rebellion was noted for his daring bravery. At his discharge he was presented with a gold medal by the governor-general.

He is next heard of traveling in a caravan from Delhi westward across the Indus river, through Afghanistan and Persia to Turkey and back. In time from trading he became immensely wealthy, and was the owner of five caravans containing 13,000 horses and camels and fifty elephants. In 1873 he visited Cabul, the capital of Afghanistan, for copper, great quantities of which are there mined and smelted. His magnificent retinue attracted the attention of the ameer, and he was invited to an audience, an honor never before received by a Christian. A present of 100 of his best horses and a three-tusked elephant made the ameer his eternal friend. When yearly it was followed by similar presents, besides camels and merchandise, John Hinton gained the monopoly of trade from the summit of the Hindoo Koosh mountains to

the confines of the Belloochistan, and in real power is second only to the ameer himself.

About 1880 he was made military commander of the district of Herat, and in 1886 suppressed a local rebellion to the great satisfaction of his sovereign. Trained in the arts of war among the savages of North America and among the superstitious natives of India, where he became thoroughly familiar with British soldiers and their resources, together with his years of service as the idolized commander of the Moham-medan tribes to tens of thousands half-civilized men, he is to-day the ablest soldier in Asia.—Somerset County, Pa., Democrat.

## The Unpopularity of the Army.

The parents, particularly the mothers, of many youths dread their becoming soldiers. Some look upon the army as the very last resource of the penniless and the vicious. They decline to believe the statements blazoned forth in red and blue print on the posters at railway stations and elsewhere. If a youth does so far harden his heart as to talk to the recruiting sergeant he has to meet that functionary at some out-of-the-way place where his female relations will not be likely to see him. The sergeant himself has to keep out of their sight also. And even when the youth has enlisted he may have to remain for weeks or months at the depot near his native town subject to the reproaches of his relatives and friends. This is greatly objected to by the majority of young soldiers.

A slight increase in the soldier's pay, or rather decrease in his stoppages, would, we believe, go a great way to run up the number and raise the standard of recruits. Other remedies may be quite unnecessary if that were conceded; but until the soldier can be got to look upon dismissal from the service as the greatest punishment that can be inflicted on him for the usual military offences there will be no real progress toward the perfection all must long to see in our army.—Army and Navy Gazette.

## WHY MEN CROSS THEIR LEGS.

### Some Queer Characteristics and Mannerisms of Men of Talent.

Men generally cross their legs when there is least pressure on their minds. You will not very often find a man actually engaged in business with his legs crossed. The limbs at those times are straighter than at any other, because the mind and body work together.

A man engaged in auditing accounts will seldom cross his legs; neither will a man who is writing an article or who is employed in any manner where his brain is actively engaged. When at work in a sitting posture the limbs naturally extend to the floor in a perfectly straight line.

A man may cross his legs if he is sitting in an office chair discussing some proposition with another man, but the instant he becomes really in earnest and perceives something to be gained, his limbs uncross, he bends forward toward his neighbor and begins to use his hands.

But these observations are made of mankind in general. There are particular cases that are otherwise. There are certain men of distinguished talents who, when engaged in literary work twist their legs into intricate coils.

One of the most eminent dramatists in this country never abandons himself to deep thought without contorting his limbs, which are long and slender, into a kind of angular scroll work under the table. Another man, whose poems appear most frequently in the magazines, seems actually to wring his emotions out of his legs as if they were sponges soaked in the divine affluents.

However, these are exceptional cases of mannerisms by which particular men of brains are insensibly affected. Some men twist their heads when they are in deep thought, others scratch their heads abstractedly, while others again chew their finger nails.

To this absent-minded genius belongs now and then a man who cannot ponder severely without making his legs express all the emotions of thought.

The Oxford University boat club has invited the Harvard boat club to a rowing contest on the Thames early in September.

A letter from the trainer of W. H. Quinn, the champion wrestler of the Pacific coast, who is to meet John McMahon at the Lyceum Opera House on Friday, July 24, states that the western man is getting into fine trim and that McMahon will have to wrestle the hardest match of his life to win on this occasion.

## THE POOL OF DEATH.

### A Spring That Exhales a Gas Which None Can Breathe and Live.

'Talk about Death valley,' said Gavin McNab last night. 'I know a spot in this state where no living thing can exist five seconds, and the place is within thirty feet of a traveled country road.'

'Tell us about it,' said the gentlemen clustered around the speaker.

'Well,' said Mr. McNab, 'I will, but if I did not know there was a superabundance of proof concerning the story I am about to relate to you, I would hesitate to tell it. Along the foot of the Mendocine mountains, in the county by that name, runs a much traveled road which leads from the town of Hopland to Ukiah. The road is on a bench or shelf above a valley created by the Russian river, which, like nearly all California streams, is constantly changing its channel, and hence it is sometimes within a hundred yards of the road at the nearest point and again a half mile away. When the annual overflows occur it spreads over the whole valley and is a mile or more wide. I mention this in order that you may understand the nature of the valley. It is a dry river bed, all sand and gravel, with here and there a bunch of scrubby willows.

'In a clump of these stunted trees, at a point about three miles from Hopland and about thirty feet from the road I have mentioned, there bubbles a spring of clearest sparkling water you ever saw. The only thing peculiarly noticeable about the spring from a distance is the loud hissing sound it makes as it gushes up out of the gravelly soil. It sounds more like boiling water with occasional jets of steam escaping than it does like the ordinary purring of a stream. Approach it and you will be startled to see lying around the spring the skeletons of hundreds of birds, scores of small animals such as coons, foxes, and the like, and nearly always there will be a body or two of birds or animals in a more or less advanced stage of decomposition near the edge of the spring. If a man is wise he will be content with an inspection of an unattractive spot from a distance, more especially if there happens to be the carcass of a steer lying beside it with the nose an inch or two from the water. The fact is, gentlemen, that no rises constantly from the spring a gas so noxious and so deadly that one whiff of it is sufficient to extinguish life.

'The terrible character of the spring,' continued Mr. McNab, 'is well known to all who reside in the neighborhood, and they tell some horrible stories concerning it. One day the little six-year-old daughter of a farmer living near the spring wandered away from home. Its absence was not noticed for an hour or two, and then the parents went in search of their child. They found her lying dead beside the spring, with a little dead bird clutched in her hand. She had evidently seen the bird lying beside the spring, and, being attracted by the bright colors of its plumage, had tried to pick it up, and in so doing had inhaled the gas rising from the water and died with the bird.

'Another time,' said the narrator of this strange story, 'a squaw wandered down by the spring. She probably started to the river to get a drink, when she discovered the spring and knelt beside it, dying in that position. The strangest thing about it is that, well known as is the deadly character of the spring, there is absolutely no warning posted, no fence around it, nor protection against it of any kind other than a few limbs of trees and bushes thrown over the place by farmers to keep their stock away from it, and the last time I saw the place even the bush had been scattered until the spring was uncovered. A venturesome man once held his breath and nostrils and leaned over the spring to hear the noise it made, which he described as something terrible.

'The water is thought to be comparatively wholesome, but nothing is known positively about it, and it has never been analyzed. There can be no doubt, however, that the spring is certain and instant death to every living thing that approaches it.'—San Francisco Chronicle.

## What It Costs to Die in Mexico.

Mexico city is, in fact, a very expensive place in which to die. A funeral costs \$500 at the least, if it is at all respectable, and in the case of foreigners the expenses run up into the thousands. This is especially so when it is desired to take the bodies out of the country. If the friends of the dead are not posted all sorts of extravagant charges are imposed upon

them, and the estate of a Kansas millionaire named Smith paid \$2,000 for expenses here. Among the charges was one of \$800 for embalming, and I heard of a case yesterday in which a Mexican embalmer or doctor charged \$5,000 for preparing the body of a Frenchman who died here for shipment. The work was not properly done and the deceased could not be sent away, whereupon one of the American newspapers published an article about the outrageous charge.

The doctor then brought suit against the paper, saying it was true he had brought in the bill for embalming as stated, but as the body had decomposed before he began he was not able to preserve it and had withdrawn the bill. Had the newspaper not published the fact the bill would hardly have been withdrawn. Everything, however, is expensive in Mexico and the undertakers have to make high charges. All of the materials for coffins are imported from abroad, though they are put together here, and the prices are proportionately large.—Frank G. Carpenter in Chicago Herald.

## JOHN WANAMAKER.

### His Religion, Politics and Business Make an Unpalatable Salad.

The statement of Mr. Wanamaker regarding his relations with the Keystone Bank, of Philadelphia, reported under title "Postmaster General Wanamaker's Explanation," were discredited before the investigating committee of the Philadelphia Councils. The fraudulent certificates of stock of the bank, which Mr. Wanamaker said he received as collateral from Mr. Lucas under their agreement for purchasing Reading Railroad stock, were produced. One certificate for 200 shares was issued in 1882 in the name of John C. Lucas, and, therefore, was consistent with Mr. Wanamaker's statement; but a second and a third certificate, for 200 and 225 shares respectively, though dated prior to the death of Mr. Lucas, were issued to Howard Spencer Jones, who proved to have been a confidential clerk to Mr. Wanamaker and a fourth for 100 shares, dated after Mr. Lucas' death, was issued to Edward Irvine, one of Mr. Wanamaker's brokers. When a partner in the firm of brokers that had acted for Mr. Wanamaker was called as a witness, he identified certificates for 2,516 shares as having been given to his firm by Mr. Wanamaker on four different occasions, one occasion being after the death of Mr. Lucas. The broker explained the fact that some of the certificates were issued after Mr. Lucas' death by saying that his firm had sent to the Keystone bank for transfer certificates received from Mr. Wanamaker, and therefore, though the certificates were not the same, the stock was. He testified that last winter Mr. Wanamaker asked him to gather up that stock, it being then out as collateral on loans; and that in February and March last he did gather it up, and returned it to Mr. Wanamaker. While the broker was on the stand, he was unexpectedly called upon to identify one certificate for 625 shares, which was part, he said, of the 2,516 shares his firm had received from Mr. Wanamaker to use as collateral, and which appeared to have been issued in May, 1887, directly to Mr. Wanamaker, who had endorsed it over on the back. The broker was obliged to identify the signature of endorsement as Wanamaker's. This proved that Mr. Wanamaker had been a stockholder in the bank, and contradicted that part of his formal statement in which he asserted that he had never been a stockholder; nor held any other relations with the bank except as a depositor and the holder of stock belonging to Lucas as collateral for an obligation of Lucas to him. Five other certificates for 200 shares each, issued to Wanamaker in February, 1886, were produced. The total number of shares shown to have been held by him was 2,625, or 109 more than in his statement he acknowledged having held as collateral. These stood in the name of clerks in his employment; but the broker testified that, though held by clerks, they in fact belonged to Mr. Wanamaker.

In an interview after the disclosure, Mr. Wanamaker said that some of the certificates deposited with him as security by Lucas might have been in his name; and he mentioned another transaction in which he borrowed money for Lucas from a trust company, Lucas furnishing shares of the bank as collateral.

The United States Census Bureau has issued a bulletin concerning paupers in almshouses in 1890, which shows a total of 73,045, against 66,203 in 1880. New York heads the list with 10,273.