THE TOILER

Official Organ of the Toronto District Labor Council. Published Weekly in the Interests of the Working Masses.

Vol. IV. No. 28 | TORONTO, JUNE 17, 1904 | Price 50 Cents Per Year

GET THAT NEW SUIT

For July First or the Twelfth, Civic Holiday and Labor Day, from

D. G. DOUGLAS & CO.

409 Queen St. West

With the UNION LABEL and secure Price, Style and Fit

RIGHT.

THE

HOME SAVINGS AND LOAN COMPANY

LIMITED

In business as a Savings Bank and Loan Company since 1854.

HEAD OFFICE:

78 Church St., Toronto

BRANCH "A"

522 Queen St. W

Cor. Hackney

Assets $3,000,000

3½% Interest allowed on Deposits from Twenty Cents upwards.

Withdrawable by Cheques.

Office Hours:

9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Saturdays 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

OPEN EVERY SATURDAY NIGHT

7 to 9 O'Clock.

JAMES MASON, Managing Director

PATENTS

Trade Marks and Designs Procured in all Countries

Special Attention Given to Patent Litigation

Pamphlet Sent Free on Application

Ridout & Maybee

103 Bay Street, Toronto.

Hotel Majestic

174 Queen West (Cor. Hackney)

J. J. CLARKE, Proprietor

Strictly Union

NOBBY HATS

For Spring Wear

We have a complete stock of the very latest American and English

UNION MADE HATS

which we are selling at

VERY CLOSE PRICES.

Inspection Invited.

FRED. W. O'CONNOR

632 Queen West

TAYLOR'S HAT STORE

SIGN OF THE BEAR.

PATENTS, CAVEATS, TRADE MARKS, PROCURED EVERYWHERE

EGERTON CASE

Patent Lawyer

Expert in Patent Case

NOTARY PUBLIC

Temple Building, Toronto.

Phone Main 3717 Evening Appointments made.

HANLAN'S POINT

TORONTO'S FAMOUS SUMMER RESORT.

Free Vaudeville Performances

Every afternoon and evening.

Sacred Band Concerts

Every Sunday afternoon and evening.

Boats leave Yonge and Brock Streets every few minutes.

PHONOGRAPHS FOR SUMMER

Entertain your friends this vacation by getting a Phonograph to pass the hot nights away at

S. G. BAKER'S

106½ Queen Street W.

Everything in the line of Supplies on hand.

CREDIT TO ALL.

$100.00 REWARD

To anyone who can prove that Dunlop Covers are not the Regular 1904 Best Grade Stock.

There is Only DUNLOP and but one

BICYCLE MUNSON

305 YONGE ST.

INDUSTRIAL EUROPE SEEN THROUGH AMERICAN EYES

How the House of Lords has Paralyzed the Labor Movement in Great Britain.

By Judson Grenell.

(Copyrighted, 1904, by Judson Grenell.)

London, England, June 6.—One must read Charles Reade's "Put Yourself in His Place" to appreciate the contrast between the English trade unions of the middle of the last century and the trade unions of to-day. Then the members were practically social outcasts; to-day they sit in county councils and parliament. Then the methods were brutal and the funds of the unions were expended in gaining victories by harsh—not to say illegal—methods. To-day in the large unions only a small per cent. of all contributions goes to the support of strikes.

This improvement was very general, and not until 1870 did parliament legalize labor organizations, perfecting the law in 1875. Then a miraculous change occurred. From being secret societies, the unions stood before the public as responsible organizations, intent only on pursuing legitimate methods for the increase of their influence, the shortening of the hours of labor and the absorption of a greater proportion of the wealth the members had created.

"A fair day's pay for a fair day's work" was the universal slogan of the labor movement. To be sure there were disputes between masters and men as to what was a fair day's pay, or what should be the day's length, yet on the whole these disagreements were seldom accompanied by violence. The union prospered, the masters made good profits on their capital and ability, and the accumulation of wealth kept pace with the imports and exports.

Remarkable Strides.

The statistics of the older trade unions show remarkable strides in the way of increasing membership benefits and reducing the cost of wage disputes. The law of 1875 protected the funds of the unions—or was supposed to—and no labor society was responsible for the acts of its individual members or of its officers when not sanctioned by a vote of the membership.

Under these favoring conditions the unions built up their treasuries, until the accumulations now run into the millions of dollars. But with this increase came increased responsibilities and benefits, until to-day there are thousands of members on the superannuation lists receiving from $1.50 to $2.50 or more a week, and the out-of-work benefits swell into hundreds of thousands of dollars annually. One instance must suffice, that of the Friendly Society of Founders, known in the United States as iron moulders. In 1903 the superannuation list cost this labor organization over $87,000; out-of-work benefits were $120,000; the cost per member per week for strikes was less than a cent. In short, the total income in 1903 was $329,000, of which less than $5,500 was spent in disputes.

What the House of Lords Did.

This was the condition of affairs up to 1900, when the House of Lords inaugurated a new rule of conduct for courts to follow. There had been a strike on the Taff Vale Railroad, which was carried on with vigor until the courts were asked by the company to interfere. The House of Lords, like the Supreme Court in the United States, is the highest authority in Great Britain for the interpretation of the law, and the House of Lords decided that when a strike injured the business of an employer the union must pay the damages. This particular union was therefore assessed $125,000, and it had to be paid out of funds collected for out-of-work, superannuation, death and other benefits! There was, I believe, a compromise effected as to the amount to be paid, but the precedent has been established that the funds of the union are liable for the unauthorized acts of its officers!

"By the Taff Vale decision every trade union in the land has been paralyzed," said Secretary Skinner, of the National Society of Compositors, to me. "We now have a small strike on our hands, but if we should carry it on with vigor in the most lawful way, there would be no protection against the opinion and decision of a hostile judge."

Mr. Skinner also told me of another case in point. A certain city government advertised for bids for printing. Among the bids received was one from a firm employing non-union printers. The secretary of the union wrote a letter to the city clerk, stating that this particular firm was a non-union one. Immediately the firm demanded ample apology, or threatened to sue. The apology, for fear of the funds, was forthcoming.

Organized Labor Besieges Parliament.

The unions are now trying to restore the status quo that preceded the Taff Vale decision. For this purpose they have introduced a bill into Parliament, and it was recently brought to a vote. I was an interested listener to the discussion, and in conjunction with delegations from the trade unions of England, Scotland and Wales, heard Mr. Arthur Balfour, the Prime Minister, and other Conservatives say that the labor organizations of the country had been powerful instruments for peace and prosperity, though they were not quite ready to admit the necessity of the proposed law. But though Mr. Balfour spoke so highly of the good work done by labor organizations, it is the general opinion of labor men that if the Conservatives had their way, "The Tower of London," expressed by a Yorkshire weaver from the woollen district, "is the proper place to confine trade union leaders."

The trade union men answered with vigor, and the result was the bill was sent to a second reading by a vote of 238 for to 199 against, a majority of 39. But this does not insure the passage of the bill. It is not possible, with a hostile government, to carry it through the other stages. Only a dissolution of the present house and a Liberal victory at the polls will do this.

One incident of the day was striking. The Irish members the day before were in Ireland attending to a conference, but so interested were they in the success of this measure that they travelled all night and arrived in time to vote in its favor. Another incident was the breakdown of Winston Churchill in his speech supporting the bill. This member has heretofore voted with the unionists, but he has now deserted his old party and will, at the next election, stand for Parliament from one of the Manchester boroughs where workingmen's votes and free trade go hand in hand.

Unions Bound to Succeed.

Until the bill is passed or defeated I feel confident that little progress will be made by the trade unions of Great Britain. These British workmen are a long-suffering people, who will try every constitutional method for gaining their ends before resorting to more drastic methods. But they will succeed in the end. They have the numbers on their side, and numbers, like battalions, count in war.

All. W. C. Bowerman, of the London County Council, and secretary of the London Society of Compositors, with its 11,000 members, voiced the opinion of the trade union element when he remarked to me:

"The workingmen of this country made the trade unions against the fiercest opposition of courts, press and pulpit, and they will find ways, with or without the aid of parliament, to protect their funds and continue the beneficent work of supporting the aged, aiding those out of work, burying their dead members and upholding fair conditions and fair wages."

Old Age Pensions.

While on the subject of parliamentary action on a labor bill, I might mention that the bill calling for old age pensions has gone to a second reading without a division, though some of the Conservatives opposed it. Will Crooks, a labor member, championed the measure, claiming that the industrial veterans of the country were as important as those of the army or navy. "But for him," Mr. Crooks remarked, "there would be no need of army or navy to protect the wealth he has created."

It will take, it is estimated, about $100,000,000 a year to give married couples over 60 $3.75 a week, and single persons $2.50. This bill is still a long way from becoming law.

But I have had my readers in London long enough, though it seemed necessary to lay a good foundation for investigation into social and economic conditions in the "provinces," as everywhere England outside of London is called. So in my next I will let my readers hear the ring of the hammers on the anvils of Cradley Heath, where I have seen women making chains at their own firesides.

JUDSON GRENELL.

TRUE REMEDY FOR THE DRINK EVIL.

In view of the way in which Government ownership of the liquor traffic has been coming to the front lately the following editorial remarks from the Adelaide Herald (South Australia) will be of interest. The writer is contrasting Government ownership with the plan of local option prohibition:

"I do not oppose the rule of the majority if the issues are fairly placed before the people and if the people are sufficiently enlightened upon the subject. But it is possible that a majority vote may be the vote of the majority. This may appear paradoxical but it is true, and I think it is true with reference to the local option polls. Many hundreds of people think as I think that the issue is not fairly put before them; that the questions do not touch the vital principle of the matter, and they therefore allow the vote to go by default. I do not agree with them in refraining from voting, and I have always voted with the temperance party against the issue of new licenses, because it is the best practicable method of restraint so far put before us. I contend, however, that the principle of private owned public houses is wrong, and that no efficient control of the traffic is possible while publicans, either from choice or necessity, may or must offer special allurements to men and women to drink.

"I am not ignorant of the enormous cost to the community of the drink traffic; I am not unaware of the tremendous sacrifice of human life, of the ruined lives, of the desolate homes, of the misery, poverty, suffering and crime which are attributed to drink. But I also am aware that for nearly a century past there have been extensive organizations, embracing every phase of social life, fostered by many churches, aided by some of the most highly educated and philanthropic men and women, and supported by contributions aggregating an enormous total, the object of which has been to overcome the drink evil. These have not only failed in their main object, but they have failed even to lessen the evil, and although I have no statistics at hand as I write, I believe I am right in saying that the drink traffic is greater to-day, its victims are more numerous, its cost more astounding than has ever previously been the case in the history of the world.

"Does not this seem to indicate that the benevolent people who have been trying to stem the tide of drink have been working on wrong lines? Does it not at least suggest that they have overlooked the principal cause of the trouble? Have they not been regarding as a cause what is really only an intermediate effect of a more remote cause?

"The opinion I have formed from observation is that the evils of drink are most manifest among the two extremes of society, the wealthy and the poor. It is at these two ends of the scale that the waste on the one hand and the suffering on the other are most in evidence. The great middle classes do not drink excessively, do not suffer seriously from the traffic, and do not contribute much to the criminal lists as the result of drink. Does not this seem to suggest that it is not in drink itself, but in our social system that the root of the evil is to be found? I am one of those who believe that alcohol in itself is not necessarily an evil, although I am fully aware of its dangers when there are on the one hand licensed houses the principal object of which is to entice men and women to indulge in it without restraint, and on the other a social system which deprives thousands of workers of all home comforts, and drives them to seek respite from their miseries in the stupor of drunkenness.

"I have devoted much space to this subject, because I believe it to be one of vital importance to the moral, physical and intellectual well-being of the community, and because I wish to set men thinking on what I believe to be right and practicable lines. Let me state the case in a few words: Drink is less a cause of poverty than poverty is a cause of drink. The waste among the wealthy, and the misery among the poor are due more to the unjust social system which admits of the existence of rich and poor than to drink. I should like to see these two propositions thought out with an earnest and sincere desire to arrive at the truth, and then I think we should come to the conclusion that with a proper and just social system the drink evil would soon come to an end. There would be no superfluous wealth to waste, there would be no abject poverty to shut out the realization of its miseries under the stupifying effects of inebriation, and there would be no licenses issued to men to induce others to ruin themselves in order that the licence holders might climb over the moral corpses to wealth and power. Will someone please look at the drink traffic impartially and dispassionately from this point of view, and see whether a better and more complete deliverance from the trouble is not presented than by our local option system?"

PAY UP! PAY UP!

Labor Temple Shareholders are Requested to Pay their Shares so that Improvements may be made.

Pay up! Pay up! Every union man who has taken stock in the Labor Temple Company, Limited, should be prepared to pay up immediately. Bricks, mortar, timber and furniture cannot be purchased with promises unfulfilled. Money talks and it's monetary eloquence we want just now. Don't slight your responsibility if you haven't met it before this; the coward runs but the brave man faces the firing line. The secretary-treasurer of the company has been kept busy of late receiving money from those who believe in being punctual in their payments, but there are a few hundred shareholders who yet have had no part in keeping him busy. It's now up to you. The Athenæum Club House has been purchased. The deal has been closed, and we are now facing the sterner realities involved in holding a large building and preparing it for the purpose for which it was purchased. Alterations must now be pushed to a speedy completion and all the available space for the business agents and unions must be occupied at the earliest possible moment. Revenue pays debts, and it's revenue we're after. Don't delay the alterations by neglecting to meet the directors' call. Figures are now being prepared to show prices for new furniture, and soon the busy workmen will be engaged making chairs and tables bearing the woodworkers' label. There is a feeling of pleasure all along the line at the possibility with the near future of organized labor being brought together as never before, and the occupying of the Labor Temple will be the means of stimulating our movement in a way that cannot now be estimated. The committee responsible for the promotion of the Labor Temple Company have done their duty in campaigning the unions of the city to raise the amount necessary to secure the Temple, and now it rests with the rank and file to make the enterprise a big success. We have not yet secured every union man as a shareholder in the company and we have no means of reaching every union man unless we make a house-to-house canvas throughout the city. This we intend to do by getting, if possible, the name of every union man in the city, through the secretaries of unions. This means a big task for some one, but the object is worthy of the effort. We have gone too far now to give up. Nothing but success will satisfy us, and we are working to be satisfied. Every shareholder who has not paid up is a burden to the company. Time must be spent and postcards used to inform him that he is a back number, and with many shareholders of this type, no matter how much a committee is inclined to do, and no matter how enthusiastic they go about their work, they are carrying an unnecessary load. Don't be the millstone around our necks. We have the smile that won't wear off, but it's hard work keeping our faces polished up when stock is not fully paid up. We are now making our offer to those who desire to become shareholders, by paying a stated amount every month. This is a very easy method of paying up shares and hundreds who are not yet shareholders can get in on the ground floor by accepting our offer. We will have more to tell you next week and if in the meantime you wish to increase your stock or become a shareholder just drop a line to the secretary-treasurer, James Simpson, 42 Albany avenue.

Secure Your Savings and have **Interest added** to them half-yearly by opening a **Deposit Account** in the **Bank of Toronto King and Bathurst Street Branch**. It makes a special feature of **Unions'** and private parties' deposits. If you are unfamiliar with banking you may learn all you want, with **every facility and courtesy**, at King and Bathurst Street, where Mr. Cuthbertson is the manager.

The Nasmith Baking Co.

IS **UNFAIR** TO

ORGANIZED LABOR.

"JEWEL" STOVES and Gas RANGES

MOST MODERN FUEL SAVING DESIGNS

Before buying call on us. Inspection of our lines will be to your advantage.

Our goods are **Union Made** meaning fair conditions and **Best Workmanship.**

Repairs, Hot Water Connections and Gas Fitting promptly attended to.

JEWEL STOVE CO., 4 Queen St. E.

UNION MEN Chew the BEST

BRITISH NAVY

STRICTLY UNION MADE

McALPIN CONSUMERS' TOBACCO CO.

LIMITED

MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

To the District Labor Council.

Your Municipal Committee beg leave to present their seventh report as follows:

The locating of an abattoir for the slaughtering of pigs in a residential neighborhood, such as Patton street is, should not be allowed by our City Council. And the fact that Ald. ——— moved the suspension of ordinary routine business for the purpose of railroading through a permit for the erection of such a building is, to say the least, inexcusable. The mover of the motion must have had an ulterior object in view, must have been under the impression that the permit would meet with strong objection, if not finally quashed, had it taken the usual course. The suspension of Council rule should always put citizens on the qui vive of expectancy—that something unusual was about to be pushed through quickly, but instead of pricking up their ears they dozed on under a cloud of perhaps premeditated stupidity. Your Committee believe there should be a plot of land set apart by our corporation for abattoirs, piggeries and slaughter houses, so that when a citizen purchases property in their vicinity for the purpose of erecting a home he knows what he is going up against. When a locality is fairly well converted into a residential neighborhood it is decidedly unfair for our corporation to permit one of these "peculiarly smelling drug shops" to drop in and try to assimilate matters. The suspension of the rules of the Council to put through the above mentioned permit, in the opinion of your Committee, savors strongly as if it were a put-up job.

The Mayor's strong opposition against the city giving grants to purely local societies and organizations holding conventions in Toronto for the purpose of giving their friends a guzzle, meets with the approval of your Committee. The people's taxes have no right to be used for any such purpose. These appeals of genteel charity have been on the increase during the last five or ten years to such an extent that societies so indulging would consider it now a violation of their constitution with their by-laws thrown in, if such appeals were not made. Mayor Urquhart's contention in this matter should receive the fullest endorsation of all classes of citizens who possess the least tittle of independence in their composition.

The summer months are rapidly passing away, and still the police are not enjoying their one day per month off as sanctioned by the Council some time ago. While Chief Grasett does not peremptorily set his foot down on this order of the Council, yet he turns the cold water tap of disapproval upon it. He also emits a mild threat of doing away with the superannuation fund because it has been loosely handled and extravagantly indulged in in the past. This voluntarily acknowledgment of the chief and the few tender-footed officers who constitute the Benevolent Board does not sound well for their management. By all means let the superannuation clause remain till it covers the board.

J. ARMSTRONG,
Secretary.

SPARKLING THOUGHTS FROM J. L. GORDON'S SERMONS.

Egypt means bondage.

❖

The wilderness discipline.

❖

Palestine the true development of the larger life.

❖

"My subject this morning is the turning of water into wine."

❖

We are living in the dispensation of the spirit.

❖

Paul calls it the grace of God.

❖

Jesus said I and my Father are one.

❖

There can be no godship, sonship and brotherhood until you and I can say that.

❖

Becoming as conscious of the spiritual life as we are of the physical.

❖

When God has His hand on the throttle He is in His heaven all is right.

❖

The critical hours are the hours of solitude.

❖

Jesus spent a night of prayer before He gave out the greatest sermon the world had ever heard.

❖

Its the law we are looking for which is the key.

❖

The two strongest elements in the universe is the will of God and the will of men.

❖

Livingstone digs his way into the heart of Africa and he did more for that continent in ten years than had been done in nineteen centuries.

❖

The divinest thing in all the world is a human will in harmony with the will of the divine.

❖

Emmerson once said energy is repose.

❖

John G. Whittier's dying words were "Give my love to the world."

❖

Dr. Johnson said a very small fly could worry a very large horse.

❖

Now I have this thought that God governs this universe and that what is must be right.

❖

Wesley said man is immortal until his work is done.

❖

My friend you are never defeated until you have made up your mind you are defeated.

❖

Philip Brooks said life is a feast and keeps the best wind until the last.

❖

Robin—Your wife has a striking figure.

Dobbs—Well, I should say she has. Just look at that lump on my eye.

❖ ❖

Three million eggs for the eastern market have just been purchased in Kansas City. It is not difficult to love the Missouri hen.

There are more

Canada Metal Co.

Stereotype and Linotype Metals

Used in Canada than any other.

Ontario Trades Disputes

Amendment Act, 1897

BOARDS:

AS TO RAILWAY DISPUTES—
JOHN D. EVANS, Esq., C.E., Trenton, Ont.
EDWARD WILLIAMS, Locomotive Engineer, Hamilton, Ont.

OR OTHER THAN RAILWAY DISPUTES—
ROGER C. CLUTE, K.C., Toronto, Chairman
DAVID W. DUMBLE, Barrister, Peterboro.
FRANK PLANT, Printer, London.

E. GLOCKLING, Registrar.

Munro Park

The one place where you are always able to see a good Show and enjoy yourself thoroughly.

E. W. CHARD

324 College St.

See the HAPPY THOUGHT RANGES

All parts for repairs.