NOTICE.

WE shall be pleased to receive items of interest per aining to Trade Societies from all parts of the Dominion or publication. Officers of Trades Unions, Secretaries of Leagues, etc., are invited to send us news relating to Sheir organizations, condition of trade, etc.

Our columns are open for the discussion of all ques tions affecting the working classes. All communications must be accompanied by the names of the writers, no ecessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good

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Assembly Hall Trades

WILLIAMS, SLEETH & MACMILLAN

Meetings are held in the following order :-Machinists and Blacksmiths, every Monday. Painters, 1st and 3rd Monday. Coachmakers, 2nd and 4th Monday. Crispins, (159), 1st and 3rd Tuesday. K.O.S.C. Lodge 356, 2nd and 4th Tuesday. Tinsmiths, 2nd and 4th Tuesday. Cigar Makers, 2nd and 4th Wednesday. Varnishers and Polishers, 1st and 3rd Wed nesday.

Iron Moulders, every Thursday. Plasterers, 1st and 3rd Thursday. Trades' Assembly, 1st and 3rd Friday. Bricklayers, 1st and 3rd Friday. Ceopers, 2nd and 4th Friday. Printers, 1st Saturday. Bakers, every 2nd Saturday.

Application for renting the halls for special meetings and other purposes to be made to Mr. Andrew Scott, 211 King Street East.

OUR PATRONS.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS THIS WEEK.

"A Merchant is known by his wares. The attention of our readers is drawn to the following list of advertisements in our columns, and are requested o have them in remembrance when "out shopping."

Great Silk Sale—Petley & Dineen.
Proclamation—M. O'Donnell.
Music Rooms—Madame Von Beethoven. NewandSecond-HandFurniture—Jas. Weeke Pnotography—S. C. Jory. Dominion Clothing House—Bawden & Co.

The Outario Workman.

TORONTO, THURSDAY, NOV.

THE NATIONAL LABOR PARTY.

The occurrences of the past month or so, in connection with the National Labor Party of the United States teach us another lesson of the want of unity and adhesion amongst those who are working in the cause of labor reform. For the last six or seven years, repeated attempts have been made to organize the workingmen of the United States politically, but these attempts have signally failed-sometimes through the lack of interest manifested by the workingmen themselves, but more frequently through the prominent men in the movement becoming trading politicians, and bartering it away to the highest bidder, by this means destroying the confidence of the workingmen in one another-a state of things devoutly wished for by the pro. fessional politicians who understand full well that if once the working people-who constitute nine-tenths of the voting population-become thoroughly organized and have confidence in each other, they would have the power in their own own hands, and there is no party that could withstand them.

The failures of the past do not seem to have taught wisdom to labor reformers -for the National Labor Union of the United States has split upon the rock that has brought so many previous similar organizations to grief. The delegates from the Eastern States and New York to the National Convention of labor reformers, held in Columbus, Ohio, in February last, we are told, did not expect to nominate candidates for the man harboring for a moment the illusive presidential election that would be ides of a separate political labor party for

elected, but to inaugurate a movement that would build up an organization and present an opportunity for the discussion of the principles of the Labor Party; but those who were at the head of the movement had for months been interviewing the politicians, and went to Columbus with the idea fully engrafted on their minds that the National Convention of Labor Reformers could not only indicate the platform, but the successful candidates for the two highest offices within the gift of the people. Before Judge Davis was nominated pledges were given that he would accept, and furthermore that he endorsed the platform of principles. This is where the mistake was made, and from that time up to to the formal declination of Davis, the whole matter appears to have been manipulated by the politicians. Many of the prominent and earnest men in the movement became disgusted with this exhibition of what they regarded as double-dealing, and, seeing no hope of an independent organization, endeavored to have the Philadelphia Convention, subsequently held, recognize the labor principles, and gave in their allegiance to Grant, whilst those who, at the Columbus Convention, introduced the name of Davis, refusing to co-operate, declared that labor reformers were free to act as they chose, asserting it to be "inexpedient to place candidates in the field at the present campaign." Thus the life of this political Labor Reform Party was fleeting and transient, and its ending a complete and lamentable failure.

There is now, however, an effort being made to inaugurate a movement to be denominated the Industrial Congress of North America.

At the eighth annual session of the American National Labor Congress, recently held in Cleveland, Ohio, Mr. Cameron, of Illinois, presented the following resolution which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed (of which Mr. M. A. Foran, of the Coopers' International Union, shall be one) to open a correspondence with the Presidents of the various State, National, and International Trade and Labor Unions, requesting them to meet in conference with the officers of the National Labor Union at such time and place as may hereafter be designated, to take into consideration the expediency of calling a National Industrial Congress, whose primary object shall be to discuss questions of a non-political character, of which we would suggest the following:

1st. How to secure the adoption and enforcement of the Eight Hour system.

2nd. Co-operation-what it means and how to secure its successful application to manufacturing enterprises.

3rd-Coolie Labor-the duty of the American workingmen in the crisis. 4th. Is it practicable to organize a

National Board of Arbitration? 5th. Homes-and the best means to

The subject was discussed at length by Messrs. Trevellick, Foran, Sylvis, Sheldon. Fay, Manly, and Cameron, when on motion the resolution was adopted, and Messrs. Cameron, Trevellick and Foran were appointed as such com-

Mr. Foran, in the October number of the Cooper's Journal advocates the movement in the following able and vigorous

"The labor question enters into, o'ertops, underlies and overshadows every question claiming the attention of enlightened mankind; it cannot be discussed too often or too much, and as it concerns all trades and all branches of industry, all men and women interested should partake in the discussion. The same argument which clearly establishes the immeasurable advantages of combination when applied to a single trade or branch of industry, is equally cogent and conclusive in proving that a combination of all trades would enhance these advantages incomprehensibly. We do not propose that the proposed Congress should ignore all measures looking towards political action. We are ready to admit that political action can accomplish a great deal if judiciously applied. What we want to avoid is separate, independent political action. The elements of the labor movement are too diverse, the interests too clashing and varied, self too predominant, and above all, knowledge and general intelligence far too limited to permit the possibility of any thinking

many years to come. Means must be devised to make the working men a thinking people, and we firmly believe the proposed movement a step in that direction. A National Labor Bureau and an eight hour system are unquestionably within the reach of an Industrial Congress, and these measures will do more towards disseminating useful information, and making the people more learned, self-reliant, and free from partizan bigotry and prejudice, than any agencies of which we have any conception. Then we call upon all associations of labor to take active and immediate steps looking toward the formation of an Industrial Congress and let us see to it that no wire-pulling scheming demagogues, no empirical charlatans, no visionary fire brands or other humbugs, shall be permitted within its folds that no one shall partake in its deliberations but bona fide representatives of bona fide organizations, whose direct object is the elevation and protection of physical and intellectual labor."

BOSTON IN RUINS.

Boston has been visited by a fearful conflagration, and in a few brief hours the "pride of American cities" has been shorn of its many objects of architectural beauty, and where palaces of granite once reared their stately heads, nothing now remains but charred and unsightly ruins. The destruction of, at least, the business portions of the city has been complete.

This sad occurence cannot but bring to mind the calamity which befel Chicago a little over a year ago; and as upon that occasion the sympathies of the world were enlisted in behalf of the sufferers, so in the case of Boston, already "tributes of generosity" are being received by the authorities of that city, who are organizing means of relief for the destitute and suffering. Chicago, remembering the assistance extended to it in its "hour of need" by the people of Boston, is the first to give practical expression of sympathy, and have despatched one hundred thousand dollars to their suffering countrymen. Undoubtedly this act of charity will be followed from all parts of the civilized world. Steps should at once be taken to enable Canada to offer her tribute. Thursday has been appointed as a day of thanksgiving to Almighty God for the blessings that we, as a people, have received from His hands,-a fitting occasion, it seems to us, when an expression of that gratitude may be given to our sufiering and destitute fellow-creatures in Boston.

TRADES' ASSEMBLY.

We have been requested to remind the delegates to the Trades' Assembly that an adjourned meeting will be held in the hall, next Friday [to-morrow] evening. Mr. C. J. Whellams, who has been so prominently connected with the formation of Unions among the agricultural laborers in the old country will be present, and afford information respecting that movement. It is to be hoped, therefore, that a full attendance of the delegates should be present. "A word to the wise," etc.

NEWSPAPER POSTAGE.

The subject of newspaper postage is again receiving considerable attention through the press, and the demand for its abolition is pretty general. In view of the small revenue derived from this source - in view of the very great trouble it gives postmasters to keep quarterly accounts with subscribers, in view of the petty annoyances to publishers, who are doing more for the general weal of the country than any other class of men for the same monetary return, we trust the Dominion Government will see the propriety and utility of removing this obnoxious tax on knowledge. Newspaper postage is, perhaps, one of the most annoying of all our indirect taxation, curtailing, as it does, the spread of education and information. By all means let the tax be wiped from our statute book.

EATON'S CHEAP GOODS are attracting attention. Reader, go and examine for yourselves.

Delegates from the several O. Y. B. Lodges left this city on Tuesday morning for St. Catharines, to attend the first Grand Confer ence of that body.

THE ENCROACHMENT OF CAPI-TAL.

To touch a man's pocket is the most direct mode of reaching his common sense, if he possesses any, and in the absence of that scarce commodity, his attention. At this crisis in national affairs, when labor everywhere is seeking its equivalent, and capital is endeavoring to establish itself upon higher ground, where it would seem that a liberal distribution of common sense might avail greatly in harmonizing elements now antagonistic, yet nevertheless, which are and must be identical in their operations and results, viz.: the constant employment of the other, just at this gap in the hedge of political excitement, we address ourselves, of course briefly, to the encroachment of capital.

The two great interests of every civilized community are labor and capital, represented by persons and property. The laborer seeks employment and the capitalist furnishes it. The one is the hirer and the other the hired. The interest of the laborer is to get the highest wages he can for his labor, while, on the other hand, it is the interest of the capitalist to get the largest amount of service for his money.

It is obvious, therefore, that between these two interests there is a natural antagonism. One has labor to sell for money; the other has money to sell for labor. Each wishes to get the best price for his commodity, and their interests are as opposite as the poles. This antagonism is not necessarily one of hostility, though by injudicious regulation it may be made to assume that character. Properly understood the relation is one of mutual benefit and of harmony. These great interests naturally impress themselves on the institutions and policy of every country. Labor is the interest which is most widely diffused, for, by the fiat of Heaven iiself, every man is required to eat his bread in the sweat of his face. Capital is the accumulated product of labor, and is in the hands of the fortunate few. The normal tendency of labor is to democracy or the dominion of numbers -of capital, to the concentration of power in the hands of the few. The reason is obvious. Labor is the interest of the many-capital of the few. Where labor predominates numbers will govern, and the institutions will be free. Where capital is the controlling interest, power will be in the hands of a small minority.

It is one of the highest offices of statesmanship to harmonize and preserve the proper balance between these great interests. By wise regulation the antagonism may be made like that of the opposing sides of an arch, an element of strength rather than of weak- in view. The principle of labor representaness. But if either be allowed to gain undue preponderance, mischief and danger must ensue.—Exchange.

TRADE UNION CONGRESS IN ENGLAND.

At the conclusion of the Trade Union Congress, at Nottingham, held in January last, it was resolved that the next Congress should be held in Leeds. Preparations are now being made to that end, and an address has been issued to the various trades societies embodying the programme of the approaching Congress, which is as follows:-

Report of Parliamentary Committee on Mines Regulation Bill, Arbitration Bill. Compensation Bill, Truck Bill Factory Nine Hours Bill, and the Criminal Law Amendment Act, and the Standing Orders for future Congresses. The subjects of debate will be-

Criminal Law Amendment Act, Truck Bill, Factory Hours Bill, Compensation

The subjects for papers and essays will

Trades Societies-their necessity, objects, and usefulness; Trades Councils their necessity and utility.

Reduction of the hours of labor; limitation of overtime; apprenticeships; piece-work, as it effects workmen, em-

ployers and the public. Foreign competition, and the intro-

on British industry; emigration and unemployed labor; convict labor, as is effects certain trades in this country.

Co-operation and industrial partner

Representation of Labor in Parliament—the best means to secure it.

How can the surplus funds of Trades Societies be best utilised for their general benefit; Trades Halls-their adaptability and advisability for the purposes of Trades Societies.

The application of arbitration and conciliation in trades disputes.

The necessity of providing a sufficient staff of efficient and practical inspectors to enforce the Factory and Workshops Regulation Acts.

Friendly Societies and probable legislation thereon, as a result of the Friendly Societies Commission.

The employment of women and children in agriculture, factories, and workshops; and the employment of soldiers in industrial trades and agricultural labor.

WORKING-CLASS REPRESENTA. TION.

The collapse of the political movement set on foot by Mr. Samuel Morley some time ago, has by no means dissipated the hopes of those who yearn for the direct representation of labor in Parliament, and those of the representative working men who refused to have anything to do with Mr. Morley's scheme are now busily working up a plan of their own by which they hope to accomplish at least a part of their design. Mr. George Howell has been selected by these persons as the "labor candidate" for Bradford at the next election. A committee has been formed to secure his return, and the trades are said to be unanimously in his favor.

As a part of this plan a circular has been issued, signed by many of the best known representative working men. from which we make the following ex-

"The state of the borough franchise, with all its defects, induces party political tacticians to seek the aid of the working men. But upon what grounds are our working men to give this? An aristocratic House of Commons has been tried—a House chiefly composed of those who hold the land, as well as a House composed largely of commercial and trading men. In both cases they have failed to do justice to the great industrial part of the community. It is still the rich man's house; it still manufactures class laws, and exhibits scant sympathy with and defective knowledge of the other nation' living by its side.

"This 'House,' as those which have preceded it, has been 'weighed in the balances and found wanting.

"The next electoral campaign must be prepared for with other and higher objects tion in the British House of Commons should be the chief end aimed at by all workingmen's associations.

"Other classes either fail to understand, or, understanding, fail to truly represent working men or labor questions.

"Such a representation as that proposed would not unduly displace the representation of any other party or section in the State, but it would make the House of Commons national and complete as a reflex of the whole nation, and therefore of all parties in the commonwealth.

"Mere party cries will not avail us. This game has been played again and again, and still the workers of the country are an excluded class in the law-making councils of the nation.

"We have been deluded with promised reforms, but those we most desire are neglected and unduly deferred, whilst measures affecting the welfare of the wealthy classes are constantly studied and actively

"Working men must insist that industry shall be placed on a footing of equality with other interests, and no fear need then be entertained of the result; and until this be done, the workers of England must neither 'rest nor be thankful.'

"To accomplish this, we must be united. To be united we have common principles, common grounds, upon which all can unite, definite objects, few but pressing and important.

"Upon the question of the direct representation of the industrial classes in Parliament, all are agreed. On this one point we invite all sections of working men to combine, irrespective of minor differences in duction of foreign labor; their effects principle and policy; and thus prepare the