



WM. V. TODD
Representing Ugarinakers Local Union No. 27 at
the Dominion Trades Congress.

Trades and Labor Congress of Canada

The annual report of the solicitor, Mr. O'Donoghue, was presented to the executive session of the Trades Congress.

Mr. O'Donoghue characterized the Alien Labor Bill as useless in its present shape. Amendments had been under consideration by the Dominion Government when Mr. Justice Anglin's judgment upset its plans. Nothing could now be done until the matter was disposed of by the Privy Council in England.

An old age pension scheme for the employees of the Intercolonial Railway would probably be worked out at the next session of the House.

Public Ownership.

A very decided advance towards public ownership could be observed in the discussions of the House. Sir William Mulock was the inspiration of the telephone proceedings.

Mr. O'Donoghue declared that the proceedings of certain immigration agents should be investigated. Certain companies were receiving \$5 per head from men, women and children without giving any particular return.

The solicitor reported that \$99,012 had been given as bonuses to immigration in one way or another.

Mr. O'Donoghue made a spirited attack upon the Dominion Senate in connection with the Union Label Bill. He thought that were an effort made for a Government bill placing the union labor problem on a better basis it would meet with success.

The report noted with satisfaction the amendment passed allowing workmen to go in certain cases to a jury "in spite of the singularly unfair decision of Magistrate Denison."

To the Tariff Commission.

In connection with the Tariff Commission Mr. O'Donoghue suggested that a committee be appointed to "prevent false statements being made before the commissioners and gaining circulation."

Delegate Flett urged that the Congress stand for "equalization of the tariff."

The solicitor favored a reduced tariff.

Delegate Draper stated that the manufacturers were generally protectionists, and had petitions in circulation asking for increases in the rate of customs. He thought the Congress should go slowly, however, and should not go farther than a request for a revision of the tariff.

Delegate Armstrong stated with emphasis that should the Congress force the Liberal party to carry out its provisions the customs houses would be swept away.

Solicitor O'Donoghue remarked that

the question was a large one, which should be discussed with care until a unanimous decision is reached.

Against Chamberlain.

A resolution in opposition to the proposals of Hon. Joseph Chamberlain was carried unanimously. The resolution set out that "the representatives of the Manufacturers' Association on their recent tour through the United Kingdom had represented the people of Canada as unanimously of opinion that the Imperial and tariff policies advocated by the Hon. Joseph Chamberlain are in the best interests of the Empire and Canada in particular. But the voice of the manufacturers' represented but a small minority of the citizens of Canada, as against the great array of wealth-producers on the farm and in the factories and workshop.

"At the Brockville convention of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada a resolution was adopted expressing the loyalty of the Canadian wage-workers to the wage-workers of the United Kingdom and their leaders.

"Therefore the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada should reiterate its loyalty to the British Trades Congress, which at its convention held recently overwhelmingly endorsed the fight against Mr. Chamberlain's policy. Canadian union men believed that an injustice done to the wage-workers of the Mother Land is a blow at the wage-workers of Canada, and would ultimately attach added burdens to an already overburdened Canadian working class."

For the Printers.

A resolution expressing sympathy with the printers in their fight for a close shop and an eight-hour day was carried with much enthusiasm.

Against Child Labor.

A resolution was offered to the effect that the Legislation Committee of the Congress do all in its power to have legislation enacted prohibiting the employment of children under fourteen years of age in offices and stores.

Delegate Kennedy urged that the prohibition also fall on canning factories. "There is no greater child curse in the country than the canning factories," he declared.

The resolution was carried with the added amendment.

A Costly Invitation.

A long and animated discussion took place as the result of a resolution that the Congress invite the American Federation of Labor to hold its next meeting in Canada. The secretary of the Congress, Mr. P. M. Draper, looking at the proposal from a financial point of view, characterized the idea as a cold proposition. If the Federation was to be entertained as it has been by the American cities it has visited it would cost a pretty penny, and he had some experience in the raising of funds through the resources of the Congress. It simply could not be done.

The secretary's outspoken references to the limits of the Canadian labor finances piqued the delegates, and immediately many were on their feet with promises of unlimited funds. A delegate from Hamilton declared that as a representative of "the most progressive city in the Dominion" he was in a position to offer the finest entertainment the Americans ever enjoyed,

and gave an invitation to the Ambitious City. The delegates from Montreal were right on his heels, claiming the right as the "principal city of the Dominion" to the entertainment of the Federation.

Delegate Carmody championed the cause for Toronto.

Will Invite Them.

Then some one pointed out that as delegates to the Congress those present had no right to bind their respective cities.

Resolutions had by this time accumulated till the secretary was bewildered, and the president demanded a vote.

"All in favor?"

The ayes came in a volley.

"All opposed?"

The nays were equally vehement.

By a counted vote it was finally decided to invite the Federation to meet in Canada, and the choice of the place was deferred to a subsequent session.

The American Federation meets in Pittsburg next November, and the Canadian invitation will be for a year after.

A resolution was passed asking the Provincial Government to pass legislation giving electors the same time to register their votes in civic as in Provincial elections.

Joining the Congress.

The question of the affiliation of the Order of Railway Telegraphers was raised at yesterday afternoon's meeting of the Trades Congress. Mr. Richard D. Campbell, third vice-president of the order, told the delegates that for several years his union had been affiliated with the American Federation, but that at its last convention a resolution to join the Congress has been carried.

Mr. Hugh Stevenson, speaking of the success of the eight-hour day movement among the printers, said that 80 per cent. were pledged to adopt it in January.

The Committees.

The following committees were appointed:

Ways and Means—John A. Flett, Hamilton; A. J. Voegel, Berlin; J. J. Gardiner, Montreal; C. L. Wilson, Toronto; William Boland, Toronto; R. Mackell, Ottawa; Thomas Monogue, Hamilton.

Audit—George Coney, Toronto; Wm. Dill, Toronto; James B. O'Reilly, Hamilton; H. Paquin, Montreal; A. E. Starr, Woodstock; J. H. Marnett, Toronto.

Constitution and Law—D. A. Carey, Toronto; Wm. G. Watson, St. Catharines; J. D. McNiven, M.P.P., Victoria; Hugh Robinson, Sarnia; Adam Anderson, Montreal; M. J. Carmody, Toronto; John Chinn, Toronto.

Credentials—Geo. W. Dower, Toronto; Arngrim Johnston, Victoria; Chas. G. Pepper, Ottawa.

Report of the Executive Officers of Congress—J. D. McNiven, M.P.P., Victoria; B. Haberstock, Toronto; Aleric Beauvais, Montreal; E. J. Reynolds, Winnipeg; Gustave Franceq, Montreal; C. S. O. Boudreault, Ottawa; Francis Payette, Montreal; W. T. Thomas, Toronto; S. L. Landers, Hamilton.

Standing Orders and Resolutions—Frank Moses, Toronto; James Smith, Hamilton; E. Empey, Ottawa; J. F. Grassick, Winnipeg; J. W. McCandless, London; James Richards, Toronto; A. Garipey, Montreal; Fred J. Tedd, Stratford; Wm. Heatley, Guelph.

THE TWO POLICIES.

There are before the world two alternative policies.

The first abrogates Christ's law of brotherhood and asks us to bow down to the religion of the Jew and the Samaritan: Have no dealings with thy neighbor. The second asks us to rise to the sublimity of the only true policy for man or for nation: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.

In the kingdom of the politician my neighbor is a foreigner. In the kingdom of God my neighbor is my brother.

The first policy imitates war and dreads freedom. It blockades the ports after the manner of an hostile fleet. It imposes penalties to prevent the people choosing freely the places best suited for the production of their goods. The difference between the blockade of a hostile fleet and the blockade of a tariff is one of degree only, and not of kind. The object of both is to stop freedom in the exchange of goods.

The second policy proclaims the inalienable right of the individual to procure his supplies in whatever place the Creator has made the most suitable. It is no crime for the citizen to prefer fertility to barrenness, abundance to scarcity; but it is a monstrous crime for the government to impose penalties and thus treat as criminal the man who pursues this policy.

The first policy denounces and fights against the greatest economic blessing that the Creator has conferred on humanity, and then it gives its fullest support and approval to the worst economic blunder that the stupidity of man has inflicted on the race.

What is this greatest economic blessing? Suppose we destroy all possibility of exchange of service for service or goods for goods and what becomes of humanity? All the glories and triumphs of science and of civilization would be blotted out. We would be plunged into the depths of Stygian darkness, of the direst starvation and of the grossest barbarism. Without free trade civilization never could have made the first step of progress. But let men have freedom to divide into different occupations and to exchange their products, then civilization has a chance to flourish. God has fitted men with such possibilities of serving each other, by exchanging benefit for benefit, that they can enrich and elevate each other to a degree that cannot be measured. It is against this kind of exchange of benefit for benefit that the first policy proclaims its hostility across national boundaries.

What is a man's greatest economic blunder, that which brings in its train the greatest number of evils? To this question there is but one answer: The relationship of the farmer to the mechanic is enrichment for enrichment. They both use land to produce, and they resort to every device to render their production as abundant as possible. But when a man can charge his fellows a thousand dollars per day for the occupation of an acre of land as he does in the large cities, is that a relationship of enrichment for enrichment? Not by any means. It is the very opposite. It is the relationship of lord and serf. Year after year, generation after generation, without the first productive act, the landowner can keep the toiler close to poverty. The obligation of industry in the