

OUR MUNICIPAL MENAGERIE.

THE HABITANTS OF POWELL STREET.

Don't Poke the Injura's With a Pole Unless You Want to Get Hurt They All Have Some Kind of Peculiarity.

THE civic hall is a grand affair. It is all there, on Powell street and you can't fall to discover it: "you can read 'paint'." The "high-you" tyhee of the paces is John C'erb, and he is the best single-handed talker in the institution. But his subject is apt to get not only monotonous but mono-manufactural after you hear it for a little while, though "he can hold a man" with any of 'em.

The next chief officer is "the Grady," and he runs the challenge to the discrimination of Her Majesty.

The next and most prominent feature of the crowd is the boy West. He has been adopted by John Clough, and the result is that you break your shins over him all around the shop.

Then comes the Mayor. He is white all through. The web that he was cut of was "all wool and a yard wide."

Next comes Alderman—(?) We hate to give any particular percentage in the civic corporation prominence, so we will shake them up in our grab-bag, and, when we have done so, out pops Franklin. He always gets to the surface on every possible question, and he is a level-headed right-hander, even if he does not par. his hair in the middle. He is a good man to have around the city—or anywhere else for that matter. The Trades and Labor Council folk ought to give him another term. If he should re-ite, there would be a nice hole in the satesmanship (?) that prevail in the council chamber.

Next comes Ald. Scoullar. But he gets in an objection by the hitch and-kick. He is a true bit of steel, a was ever brought from a hardware shop. Keep a good edge on, Scoullar.

Next? Ald Collins is unfortunately for himself, a sound one man. He was born so, consequently his beauty is congenital and follows him around. Henry prides himself a good deal more on his "snout" than he does on his "shape," and we think he comes pretty near the mark, though he insists occasionally.

Next comes Ald. McCraney, who he sets the board of works. He's a good man, but he and his board are a little "lower than the proverbial tortoise," which beats the record.

Ald. Cannon crops up next. He is a very nice man, with a nation of his own eloquence. His ideas are well-founded, and if the alderman did not talk quite so deliriously, and as if he had not only to masticate but digest his thoughts, would be good. The C. P. R. doesn't run slow, unless it is behind time. Of course Ald. Cannon never is in the fix.

Ald Gavin does no harm, although he "strikes" home. He is an all round man, but it would

do him no harm if he cultivated that whisper of his until it grew big enough to be heard.

Alderman Mills has a "sole" that makes itself "felt" and you could not "shoes" any better man for his ward.

Then comes McGuigan. He's the coroner and sets on corpses. What is the matter with him taking a session on Huntly?

Then comes Anderson. There is not a bratler or a brighter man on the council. But everybody wonders if that belly-band of his would not be better worn as a skull-cap.

Plek out the next man, and Alderman Odium crops out. We size him up as a canny man all round, and equate at the same time. He comes from an inland ward, but is always in the swim, and never gets stranded on a bathing beach. He is the sort whom it does a constituency good to know.

Now which one of the aspirants: aldermen aforementioned will want to sit in the "mayor's nest" (if he can find it) next civic election, nobody can tell. But we think, from a dispassionate point of view that, in respect of efficiency, dignity and all the rest of the concomitant attachments of the seat, there are not a great many that can "op" with our present Mayor. What about Dr. Carroll, eh?

Grady's Graders.

One thing connected with the civic administration of the affairs of Vancouver, which does not please the generality of tollers in the city, is the continuance of the city improvement company, alias the chinking, on work which ought to be apportioned to men who are more deserving of support than are some of the scum of humanity commonly seen under Grady's watchful eye. It may be urged that he am an out of work so compelled by this "little band and low" is insignificant, even though it does save an "honest penny" for the powers that be; but we must not forget that honest men do more to uphold a bad cause—the interests of Vancouver than those who might be termed, if not dishonest, at least dishonorable. This labor of every kind is being tabooed and decreed all over the civilized world. People all know that everything has a standard— that a radical is raised by an insignificant little insect and that a wedge has a very one edge; therefore it behooves the laboring class to look well after this thing, and if possible nip it in the bud, thereby saving a "peck o' troubles" in the future.

Fascinating Fools.

Some men are never happy or contented unless they are tinkering on the fess all the time, especially around machinery. They refer to it as a chance to use the monkey wrench or hammer, waste valuable time, and spoil more machinery than constant years of wear and tear will do. If a machine is out of order, the tinker takes his monkey wrench and screw-driver and goes at it, regardless of where or what the trouble is. After turning and twisting nuts and bolts till he is tired of this amusement he starts up the machine, only to find it has not been improved a bit. Then he goes at it again. Such men are not profitable. They are a nuisance around a shop. A competent man never tinkers. If the machine needs fixing he looks it over carefully until he locates the trouble and does just what is needed and no more.

THE RIGHTS OF MECHANICS.

SOME ARGUMENTS IN FAVOR OF UNIONISM.

What J. E. Thorold Rogers, Professor of Economic Science, Has to Say, on a Subject that Deeply Concerns the Worker.

THE possessors of property may unite together in order to make their property more useful to themselves, and so turn, in the language of economists, their wealth into capital. . . . Now the laborer, when his economical position has been analysed, will be found to stand in the same place that the capitalist does. His education and maintenance are, to all intents and purposes, an investment of capital for productive purposes. The duration of his powers is a matter of risk. He is engaged in an industry which will assuredly sooner or later wear him out, and therefore he does in his wages receive something which, over and above the risk he incurs, will compensate for the inevitable exhaustion of the powers which make him an industrial agent. But as a remuneration of his labor in the shape of wages, and of his employer in the form of profit, are really identical forms of economical distribution, there is a question which is constantly raised as to the relations between the employer and the laborer, and which is characteristic of them. I refer to the question as to whether the master gets too much and the workman too little in the distribution of that which remains over and above the market price of the article after all necessary charges are liquidated. A combination of laborers has for its object the appropriation to the laborer of a greater share in the surplus from which both wages and profits are derived. . . . A laborer has something to sell: this is his labor. It is just as sellable an article as a pound of sugar or a yard of cloth, and its advantageous sale is just as much a matter of interest to the laborer as the sale of sugar and cloth is to the grocer and draper. Now it can be admitted that capitalists can unite their capital in order to get advantage by mutual association, there can be no reason in the nature of things why laborers should not have and use the same liberty. . . . A trade union is virtually a labor partnership and it is based upon precisely the same principle as that which induces men to put their money together to found a bank or construct a railway. . . . A working man, who in concert with others declines to work for wages which he thinks insufficient, is only doing that which is an admitted right in the conduct of a private merchant who withholds his goods from the market in order that he may get a better price than the market offers him at present. No one would probably dispute his right to do so in his own terms if he acted as an individual; and there is no reason in the nature of things why he should not act with others to

obtain for all what he thinks will be for the good of all. On grounds of principle then the combinations of working men have a clear economical defence. —[Extracts from Capital and Labor, by J. E. Thorold Rogers, M. A., Tooke Professor of Economic Science.

Direct Legislation.

To establish equity—to help every individual to obtain justice before the law—of our country—it is necessary for the people to have a voice in the framing of the laws. We advocate that all laws shall originate with the people and be voted on and approved by them, before being finally passed upon by our respective legislatures. The initiative and referendum is a measure upon which all reformers can unite, from the most conservative to the most radical. In no better way is it possible to counteract the tremendous legislative opposition confronting labor reform. We appeal to all labor unions to take up this subject, and push it to a successful issue.

The Single Tax

Means absolute freedom of without tariff or excise. No taxes whatever on buildings, machinery, tools, or anything, in fact which labor has been utilized to produce. A tax on land, to be levied on the rental value of land. The single tax cannot be shifted on to labor, cannot add to prices or check production. It is the only system that will destroy monopoly, cheapen land, raise wages naturally, increase profits, give employment to all and result in universal peace and prosperity.

Supply and Demand.

A protective tariff—or for that matter a trade-does not and cannot fix the rate of wages. Labor, under the present system of supply and demand, like other commodities, will command its own price in the market when it is for sale. Canada, the United States and Mexico each have protective tariffs, but wages are not uniform in this continent. They differ in every Province of the Dominion, in almost every State of the Union, and in all the other parts of America. Legislation cannot interfere with the natural operation of the law of supply and demand. It is useless then that the only way to get better wages is for every workman to be a unionist, and for all to move in a well planned, step by step, until each shaft of his fulcrum of the wealth he produces.

Cancelled.

Yesterday afternoon the following despatch was received from Rev. Joseph Waldrop, dated at Tacoma:

"Have just arrived and heard of quarantine. What shall I do?"

Secretary Garen replied: "Must come; all arrangements made. Will pay all necessary expenses."

Mr. Waldrop then wired as follows:

"Quarantine turned me back. You can get another steamer."

This means that the engagement of the Waldrop family has been cancelled. A concert, however, by local talent may be arranged. Look out for dodgers.

Kurtz's Own and Esqueto cigars are manufactured in Vancouver. Don't forget this when you smoke.