

# THE ECHO.

A JOURNAL FOR THE PROGRESSIVE WORKMAN, AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

Vol. 1.—No. 1.

MONTREAL, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4, 1890.

SINGLE COPIES—THREE CENT  
ONE DOLLAR PER YEAR.

## LEGAL CARDS:

Hon. J. A. Chapleau, Q.C., M.P.  
Armine D. Nicolls.

John S. Hall, Jr., Q.C., M.P.P.  
Albert J. Brown.

**Chapleau, Hall, Nicolls & Brown,**  
ADVOCATES,  
Barristers, Commissioners, &c.,  
TEMPLE BUILDING,  
No. 185 St. James Street, Montreal.  
Bell Telephone No. 42. P.O. Box 296.

Hon. H. Mercier, M.P.P. C. Beausoleil, M.P.  
F. X. Choquet, B.C.L. P. G. Martineau, B.C.L.

**Mercier, Beausoleil, Choquet & Martineau,**  
ADVOCATES,  
No. 76 St. James Street,  
MONTREAL.

**DOHERTY & DOHERTY,**  
ADVOCATES,  
BARRISTERS, SOLICITORS, &c.,  
Savings Bank Chambers,  
180 St. James St., MONTREAL.  
T. J. DOHERTY. | CHAS. J. DOHERTY, Q.C.

**CARTER & GOLDSTEIN,**  
ADVOCATES,  
Barristers, Commissioners, &c.,  
115 St. Francois Xavier St.,  
MONTREAL.

CHRISTOPHER B. CARTER, MAXWELL GOLDSTEIN,  
Q.C., B.C.L. B.C.L.

**P. E. NORMANDEAU**  
NOTARY PUBLIC.  
Commissioner & Justice of the Peace  
for District of Montreal,  
Conveyancer & Commissioner for Ontario  
& Manitoba.  
LOANS NEGOTIATED.  
90 St. James St. Montreal, Que.

## BUSINESS CARDS.

**B. E. MCGALE,**  
Pharmaceutical and Dispensing  
Chemist.  
2123 NOTRE DAME STREET,  
MONTREAL.  
Sunday Attendance—From 1 to 2 p.m.;  
5 to 6 p.m.; 8.30 to 9.30 p.m.

**LAVIOLETTE & NELSON,**  
DISPENSING CHEMISTS,  
Corner of Notre Dame and St.  
Gabriel Streets,  
MONTREAL.

**LORGE & CO.,**  
Hatters and Furriers  
21 St. Lawrence Main Street,  
MONTREAL.

**DAVID LABONTE,**  
MERCHANT TAILOR,  
2101 Notre Dame Street,  
MONTREAL.  
All Orders Promptly Executed.

ON  
THE

**JOHN KAVANAGH,**  
DEALER IN  
Glass, Paints, Oils and Hardware,  
35 CHABOLLEZ SQUARE,  
MONTREAL.

If you want any kind of CART, BUGGY  
PHRETON or CARRIAGE it will pay you to  
buy from



**DRINK ALWAYS THE BEST!**  
**MILLAR'S**  
Ginger Beer, Ginger Ale,  
Cream Soda, Cider, &c.  
To be had at all First class Hotels and  
Restaurants.  
69 ST. ANTOINE ST.

## CANADA'S LABOR CONGRESS

Synopsis of the Proceedings of the  
Congress held in Ottawa.

The sixth annual session of the Dominion Trades and Labor Congress commenced in Ottawa on Tuesday, September 3rd, and was attended by about ninety delegates. The session was formally opened by Mr. J. W. Patterson, president of the Ottawa branch, who also introduced the Mayor of the city. His Worship, on behalf of the citizens, tendered the delegates a hearty welcome, at the same time expressing the hope that their deliberations would prove both pleasant and profitable.

The President of the Congress, Mr. J. T. Carey, of St. Catharines, responded to the welcome.

Secretary-Treasurer Dower presented his annual report, which showed a satisfactory statement of affairs and a considerable balance in hand.

A resolution of sympathy and support to the miners of Wellington, British Columbia, on strike for the recognition of their organization, was next offered and carried unanimously, though Mr. Darlington (Montreal) insisted that something more substantial than sympathy should be sent.

### THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

The President in his annual address spoke of the unsatisfactory condition of the criminal law as to conspiracy on the part of those belonging to labor organizations, and the increased expenditure for immigration. He also pointed out the advisability of the Congress having an accredited representative at Ottawa during the session of Dominion Parliament to look after legislation affecting the working classes and of urging upon the Government such legislation as might be of pressing importance to them as a class. He also advocated having a committee of six—three from Ontario and three from Quebec—to look after legislation before their respective provincial assemblies.

### A LABOR PLATFORM.

On a resolution being offered for the appointment of a committee to formulate a platform for the coming Dominion elections, considerable discussion took place, and the opinion was freely expressed that the Congress should eschew politics.

Mr. Macleod, of Ottawa, wished to know whether the formation of a distinct labor party was aimed at or if they should accept any party, irrespective of political leanings, who would subscribe to the labor platform. If Congress attempted to go further than that the result would be failure.

Mr. Jobin, of Quebec, protested in favor of an independent labor party as the only solution of the problem. It had been his experience, he said, that either political candidate was willing to swallow the labor platform at election time and equally ready to go back upon it afterwards.

A vote being taken, the amendment of Delegate Jury, that the resolutions of this Congress be the labor platform, was carried by a large majority.

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

The report of the Executive Committee was distributed. It contains the report of Mr. Carey upon the labor legislation enacted by Parliament last year, including Sir John Thompson's amendment to the criminal law, which aims at providing better legal protection for the members of legal organizations, being as follows: "No prosecution shall be maintainable against any member of a trade combination for conspiracy to do any act or cause any act to be done, or to neglect or refuse or omit to do any act, or to cause or procure the neglect, refusal or omission to do any act, unless such act, or such neglect, refusal or omission, as the case may be, is an offence punishable by law." On the request of your committee, the hon. gentleman promoting the bill substituted the word 'statute' instead of the word 'law' as the last word of the section just quoted. Reference is also made to Hon. Mr. Colby's amendment to the Seamen's Act; Hon. Mr. Chapleau's Labor Statistics bill, and to measures introduced by Messrs. Purcell, Cook and Wallace. In concluding his report Mr. Carey says: "At the request and on the suggestion of your Executive Committee, who were accompanied by Bro. George Warren, of the Cigarmakers' Union of Montreal, Hon. Mr. Costigan introduced and passed into law an act providing for the destruction of cigar boxes when empty. This very necessary and just measure protects, to a great extent, both the members of

the Cigarmakers' Unions and the public generally against the packing of inferior cigars in the boxes which had previously contained only first-class cigars."

### PRIVATE DETECTIVE AGENCIES.

A lengthy discussion followed the introduction of a motion looking to the prevention of the establishment in Canada of private detective bureaus, similar to the Pinkerton force, who have created such serious disturbances in the United States during times of strikes. The debate mainly hinged upon the wording of the resolution. The original, moved by F. Beland, seconded by W. Darlington, "demanded that the Dominion Government do as soon as possible make it a criminal offence to establish or retain private detective agencies in this country."

An amendment to substitute the word "Parliament" for "Government" was negatived and the original motion passed.

### THE HERALD "CONSPIRACY" CASE.

The Executive Committee, consisting of President Carey, Secretary Dower, Messrs. Urbain Lafontaine, P. J. Jobin, M. H. Brennan, Louis Z. Boudreau, Chas. March, David R. Gibson and J. T. Crozier, waited upon Sir John Thompson, Minister of Justice, in reference to the proceedings for conspiracy now being taken against four union printers, late of the Montreal Herald staff. The Hon. Minister assured the delegates that if the defendants were prosecuted successfully under the conspiracy amendment to the Combines bill, the spirit of which exempts trades unions from its operations, the Department of Justice would bear the expenses of appealing the case to the highest courts in the land. As it was not clear, however, that the proceedings were being taken under this act, Sir John Thompson requested the delegates to instruct the defendants' counsel to submit a written statement of the case to the department.

### ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

For president—Messrs. Urbain Lafontaine, of Montreal; J. T. Carey, of St. Catharines, and J. Armstrong, of Toronto, were nominated, but the latter declined. On a ballot being taken, Mr. Lafontaine was declared elected, receiving 43 votes to 39 for Mr. Carey.

Messrs. J. Armstrong and A. F. J. J. of Toronto, were nominated for vice-president. Mr. Armstrong was successful, receiving 48 votes to 34 for Mr. J. J.

Messrs. G. W. Dower, of Toronto, and R. R. Elliott, of Niagara Falls, were nominated for secretary. Mr. Elliott was elected by a vote of 43 to 39.

Owing to some error in reference to the credentials of Mr. Elliott, his installation was allowed to stand over and in the meantime Mr. Dower continued to act as secretary-treasurer.

The following were those elected members of the Executive Committee:

Ontario—Messrs. J. T. Carey, St. Catharines; A. Macdonald, Ottawa; R. Glookling, Toronto.

Quebec—P. J. Jobin, Quebec; G. Warren, Montreal; L. Routhier, Quebec.

### IMMIGRATION.

Moved by D. J. O'Donohue, seconded by R. Glookling, "That, whereas the continued, systematic and enormously increased expenditure of large sums of public money in aiding and encouraging to this country mechanics, laborers, paupers, indigents, orphans and children of vicious, tainted and criminal tendencies from abroad, is a gross injustice to the people of Canada, and more especially to the working classes; Be it resolved, that it is the imperative duty of the Federal Government to pre-emptorily abolish the same, and at the same time exercise due care in preventing the introduction into Canada of such paupers, indigents, orphans and children of vicious, tainted or criminal tendencies, whether they be sent under the authority of the Imperial Government or through any other channel."

A very long and somewhat warm discussion took place on this resolution, two amendments being offered against it, the result being the adoption of the motion with the addition of the words "and Provincial" after "Federal" so as to include the local governments as well.

### RESOLUTIONS.

A large number of resolutions were passed, amongst the more important being:—

Moved by J. S. Ward, seconded by J. Armstrong: That Congress condemn the course of Messrs. Gurney & Co., stove manufacturers, Toronto, in trying to disrupt Iron Moulders' Union, No. 98, of that city and call upon all workmen to carefully discriminate between fair, union-made goods and inferior and boy labor in such lines of goods manufactured by E. & C. Gurney & Co.

Moved by Delegate Corriveau, seconded by Delegate Keys: That the Government be requested to make Labor Day a national holiday.

Moved by Urbain Lafontaine, seconded by

Joseph Beland: That this Congress petition the various Legislatures for the abolition of tolls on turnpike roads.

Moved by Delegate Bartley, of Vancouver, seconded by Delegate Salmon: That this Congress demand of the Dominion Government the passage of such legislation as will have the effect of prohibiting the importation into Canada of Chinese labor, and of preventing the further admission of any of this undesirable class of immigrants.

That an Employers' Liability Act be passed by the Dominion, or by each of the provinces.

That the contract system on all public works be abolished.

That a Federal law be passed appointing inspectors of gear and tackle.

Endorsing the use of union labels.

That all improvements on land be assessed at 50 percent of their value.

That the time has arrived for "the Federal Government to assume possession of the railways, telegraphs and telephones of the country."

That all land held for speculative purposes be taxed to its full value, and that improvements made by labor be exempted from taxation.

That the Dominion and Provincial Governments give their printing contracts to offices where the typographical unions are recognized.

That the Quebec Government bonus workmen of that province settling on Crown lands.

That the Government should appoint female inspectors of factories and workshops where females are employed.

Protesting against Government employees being allowed to do outside work while under salary.

That provincial printing bureaus be established to do all Government printing and to produce school books, to be supplied free of charge.

Opposing private bank charters and demanding a national currency.

To adopt free and compulsory education.

Calling for a law compelling employers to pay wages weekly and in Government money.

That this Congress request the Quebec Legislature to give no subsidies to institutions making competition in the different trades.

That the Government be requested to raise the duty on imported cigars.

Approving of the establishment of boards of arbitration to settle disputes between employees and employers.

That the Government be requested to pass a Sunday Observance Act.

To petition the Provincial Governments to pass laws regulating the erection and construction of scaffolds, and the appointment of inspectors to see that such was carried out.

That the Provincial Electorate Act be amended so as to grant the right of franchise to persons receiving a salary of \$300 per annum, as a step towards manhood suffrage.

To petition Parliament to have an act passed making it unlawful for employers to give piece-work to their apprentices.

Calling on the Federal Government to give to the printers, bookbinders and pressmen employed in the Government Printing Bureau the same vacation as is given to proof-readers, translators, etc.

A motion in favor of the total prohibition of the liquor traffic was laid on the table on division.

A motion requesting the passage or an act prohibiting the employment of boys under 16 and girls under 18 at cigar making, it being a trade most dangerous to the health, was referred to the Executive of the Province of Quebec.

With the passing of above resolutions the business of the Congress came to an end with the usual votes of thanks.

The Congress will meet next year in Quebec.

## WORKING HOURS FOR WORKING-MEN.

Dr. B. W. Richardson, the famous London doctor and health scientist, is reckoned a decided faddist by many people, only his fads are usually of a thoroughly wholesome character. In speaking on the subject of "Working Hours for Workingmen," he said the time had come for the public to determinedly urge on the early closing movement. The economy of time and money that would result from the early closing of shops would be immense. Considering from a sanitary standpoint the length of a fair working day, he fixed on eight hours as a reasonable standard, though not absolute, inasmuch as there was a great variety in the quality of work. Three classes of work were of special moment, Dr. Richardson said—those where bodily exertion and intense watchfulness were required, as in the case of the railway engine driver; those where work was one continuous grind and monotony, as in the case of the morning printer; and thirdly, those where the work was excessively hard, as in pile driving, or in the case of bargemen and dockers. There were also occupations in which the body while at work was constantly in a bent position, such as moulders. In every such instance the period of eight hours for work was the maximum, and was often too long. As regards holidays, Dr. Richardson said we in Britain were fortunate in having fifty-two days in the year set apart for rest in our Sundays. Otherwise, in preference to fixed days, as bank holidays, etc., with their hurry-scurry, he would prefer that working people should have their holidays when holidays were required for the health of themselves and their families like other people.

## THE LABOR PARLIAMENT.

Meeting of the British Trades Union Congress at Liverpool.

The twenty-third annual congress of the British Trades Unions was held lately in Liverpool. About 460 delegates were present, including several ladies. Mr. Wm. Matkin, of the Liverpool carpenters, was unanimously elected president of the congress.

After a resolution pledging monetary support to workers now on strike in Australia had been offered by Mr. John Burns and unanimously adopted by the meeting, Mr. Broadhurst, M.P., read the parliamentary report, which referred to the various measures and subjects affecting labor which had received parliamentary attention during the past year. Amongst others the report called attention to the Employers' Liability Act, which the labor representatives were instructed to oppose because, although a great improvement on the previous measure, yet retained the principle of allowing an employer to contract himself out of the act limiting the workman's existing common law rights and other objectionable features. It was considered advisable to await the advent of a new Parliament and a new Government, when a broader measure would be introduced. Commenting on the various agitations for better terms which had arisen in different trades and their successful result the report spoke of the movement among the Metropolitan police and postmen as similar to one which took place about twenty years ago—namely, premature and enthusiastic action, followed by sudden collapse and then a sacrifice of victims. The committee considered it would be difficult to consolidate organization in any body where a system of deferred pay, either in the form of perquisites or pensions, prevails.

In the course of his inaugural address President Matkin said: The developments of labor within the last two years have practically made its previous record a matter of ancient history. We are face to face with new conditions—with an educated, thinking working class, with a more humanitarian political economy chasing the 'doleful' prophets of the old system from civilized society, and with a public alive to our wants and sympathizing with us. Obviously the future is for labor. Everyone admits this—the politician who coquets with the laboring classes, the capitalist who fears them and the philanthropist who patronizes them. We cannot realize the blessings by the stroke of the magician's wand, but we can do much to secure some of them even in our day. The establishment of the eight-hours day is one step, and the solution of the land question is another. Labor should not allow this to become a party question. It is too vast, it touches the vitals of the masses too closely to become the football of the partisans. Little good will be done by multiplying landowners—the only effective and lasting solution is land nationalization—that the sacred right of every individual to a portion of the earth be acknowledged. By it alone can the most perfect and remunerative cultivation be secured, and through it would be struck the most vigorous blow at that system of industrial bondage under which we are struggling. Necessarily, as part and parcel of the land question, is the future of our railways and our mines. The magnitude and the commercial mismanagement of our railway system is a matter of public concern. Not only do we find that their servants are overworked and poorly paid, but the diverse and often extortionate goods rates have a baneful influence on the trade of the country. These railroads could with advantage be worked by the state. Nor is there any valid reason why the nationalization of our mines should not be brought about.

### THE EIGHT HOURS' DAY.

Mr. J. G. Marks (London) brought forward the subject of "the State regulation of the hours of labor. He moved—

That in the opinion of this Congress the time has arrived when steps should be taken to reduce the working hours in all trades to eight per day, or a maximum of 48 hours per week, and, while recognizing the power and influence of the trade organizations, it is of opinion that the speediest and best method to obtain this reduction for the workers generally is by Parliamentary enactment. This Congress therefore instructs the Parliamentary Committee to take immediate steps for the furtherance of this object.

Mr. A. Matthews (London), in seconding the resolution, spoke of the great numbers of unemployed in London owing to excessive hours.

Mr. Patterson (Durham) proposed an amendment to the effect—

That the eight hours' day could best be secured by the action of the Congress and the trades unions independently of Parliament which, by its composition, was antagonistic to the rights of labor.

Mr. Burns supported the motion. After one or two other speeches, the vote was taken. Mr. Patterson's amendment being defeated by 181 votes to 173. A will scene then took place, Mr. Burns and his followers cheering loud and long and waving their hats in the air. The resolution was amid great excitement, next put as a substantive motion, and carried by 193 votes to 15. Again the victors broke out into loud exultant cheers, Mr. Burns and many of his friends standing up on their seats. It was several minutes before the excitement subsided, and the Congress, having passed one or two minor resolutions, adjourned.