

NOTICE.

We shall be pleased to receive terms of interested persons to Trade Societies from all parts of the Dominion for publication. Officers of Trades Unions, Secretaries, Lecturers, &c. are invited to send us news relating to their organizations, condition of trade, etc.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

INVARIABLY IN ADVANCE.)

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ADVERTISEMENTS.

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With it to be distinctly understood that we do not
take any responsibility for the opinions of correspondents.

Our columns are open for the discussion of all questions affecting the working classes. All communications must be accompanied by the names of the writers, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

WILLIAMS, SLEETH & MACMILLAN,
134 BAY STREET.

Meetings of Unions.

TORONTO.

Meetings are held in the Trades' Assembly Hall, King street west, in the following order:—

Machinists and Blacksmiths, 1st and 3rd Mondays.
Painters, 1st and 3rd Monday.
Tailors, 2nd and 4th Monday.
Crispins, (159), every Tuesday.
Amalgamated Carpenters, alternate Wednesdays.
Laborers, 2nd and 4th Wednesday.
Iron Moulders, every Thursday.
Trades' Assembly, 1st and 3rd Friday.
Becklayers and Masons, 1st and 3rd Friday.
Coopers, 2nd and 4th Friday.
Printers, 1st Saturday.
Bakers, every 2nd Saturday.

The Amalgamated Society of Engineers, &c., meets in Foy's Hall, corner of York and Richmond sts., on the 2nd and 4th Friday.
The Friendly Society of Carpenters and Joiners meets in the Temperance Hall, Temperance street, on the 1st Friday.
K. O. S. C., No. 315, meets in the Temperance Hall every alternate Tuesday.

OTTAWA.

Meetings are held in the Mechanics' Hall, (Rowe's Block,) Rideau street, in the following order:—

Free-stone Cutters, 1st and 3rd Tuesday.
Lime-stone Cutters, 1st and 3rd Wednesday.
Masons and Bricklayers, 1st and 3rd Thursday.
Trades' Council, 1st Friday.
Printers, 1st Saturday.
Tailors, 2nd and 4th Wednesday.
Harnessmakers, 4th Monday.

ST. CATHARINES.

Meetings are held in the Temperance Hall, in the following order:—

K. O. S. C., 1st Monday.
Tailors, 2nd Monday.
Coopers, 4th Tuesday.

Messrs. LANCEFIELD BROTHERS, Newdealers, No. 6 Market square, Hamilton, are agents for the WORKMAN in that vicinity.

Mr. D. W. TERNENT, Niagara Street, St. Catharines, will receive subscriptions and give receipts for the WORKMAN. Parties calling on Mr. Ternent will please state if they wish the paper continued.

To The Electors of West Toronto.

We would request Workingmen in West Toronto to abstain from pledging themselves to any party seeking their suffrages for the Dominion Parliament, as it is expected a bona fide Workingman will contest the riding.

The Ontario Workman.

TORONTO, THURSDAY, NOV. 27, 1873.

ENGLISH AND CANADIAN POLITICAL PARTIES.

"A Conservative Workman," whose communication we published last week, has taken exception to our view of the two great English political parties, the Conservatives and the Liberals. Although—as the organ of the industrial classes—we do not profess to be the representative of either of these parties, we think it due to ourselves, as well as just to the history of the great Liberal party in England, that the statements of a "Conservative Workman" should be examined, and where they are clearly opposed to the facts of history, refuted.

In the article to which our correspondent takes so many exceptions, we

asserted a general truth, that the Conservative party of England has ever been the advocate and defender of an exclusive system of political and church government, and that the Liberal party, as a party, has ever been the representative of Progress. We really thought that this truth was patent to the whole world, and required no explanation or argument for its proof. The Conservative party embraces the aristocracy, and the hierarchy of the Established Church, and all who believe that the stability and the success of government, and the prosperity of the country depend on the supremacy of these bodies in the state. We are quite ready to admit that there are liberal Conservatives who would abolish a State Church, destroy all game laws, throw open the highest offices in the state and the army to merit, and not limit them to birth and rank and wealth; but they are recreant to their class and its principles. We are quite willing to admit that a "liberal" landlord is just as likely to inflict the severest penalties of the game laws upon poachers as a Conservative. But surely our correspondent cannot deny the general facts of our statement: that the great land owners of England are conservative; that they are pledged to support to the last extremity the law of primogeniture; to accumulate landed property in the hands of a few, and to monopolize for the benefit of the younger members of influential families, the high offices and emoluments of the State, the Church and the Army; that they originated and have perpetuated the game laws, and all the other selfish privileges derived from and peculiar to feudal institutions, and cherished and defended at this very moment by the great body of the English aristocracy and their adherents, as essential to the greatness of the country. The strength of this party has always been in the country; in the agricultural districts—just because by its monopoly and possession of great landed estates, and the utter dependence of farmers and the peasantry upon landlords, there has been no political freedom amongst them, and the tenantry, from interest and habit, have sustained the political principles and power of their masters.

Now, on the other hand, all the great reforms that have been accomplished during the last half century in Great Britain have been moved and carried by the Liberals. It is true that the extension of the franchise, which took place a few years since, was carried by a Conservative Administration. But that was but a slight modification of the great Liberal principle embodied in the first Reform Bill. Is our correspondent ignorant of the history of that great measure—from its first struggles, when brave men were hunted to death by the powerful Tory governments of George III. because they agitated in behalf of liberal doctrines; when spies were employed by Tory ministers to tempt, to betray, to bear false witness against the friends of reform that they might consign them to transportation or the gallows; when Manchester beheld its peaceful citizens shot down like dogs, because they met to assert their rights—up to that time when, with solemn act and words, the great reformer of his day, Henry Brougham, on his bended knees implored the Conservative Lords for their own safety, as well as the happiness of the empire, to yield to the demands of the Liberals? From that day to this, all the great measures which have benefitted the country, which have given power to the people—the greater liberty of speech, the freedom of the press, the removal of a heavy tax, the municipal government reforms, which have secured to the people all the liberty and power of democracy with none of its licenses; above all, the abolition of the Corn Laws and the recognition of the great principle of Free Trade, which has led to such unparalleled prosperity—all these changes have been the work of the great Liberal party, won by incessant struggle against the strongest combinations and efforts of the Conservative party.

Our correspondent asks, did all the Liberals vote for the disestablishment

of the Irish Church? Really, this is not the question. Such unanimity rarely occurs with any party. The general fact is, that the agitation against the Irish Church establishment originated with the Liberal party. It was the Liberal press and Liberal speakers that for years, in the face of obloquy and every assault made by the Conservative party, carried on the war against that unjust establishment; and it was a Liberal government that finally achieved this great work of justice to the Irish people.

We assert again, that the terms Conservative and Liberal, as used in England, do not apply, in any fashion, to this country. We have no great interests, surrounded by the traditions of history, fortified by the possession of great property and enjoying exclusive privilege, to contend with here. As a people, we are very free and very powerful. We have full control over our government, and where abuses or corruptions exist, it is our own fault. It is in our power, if we be just to our privileges, to correct the evils of bad government. Our danger lies on the side of liberty. We have so much good that we ought jealously to receive all proposals for change, whether those proposals be to alter old or to introduce new laws, or to change our political creeds. Our progress lies in the wise development of our present power; and our political representatives in the parliament and the government should not claim our confidence by the liberality of their promises and professions so much as by their experience, their wisdom, their skill, and their integrity as statesmen. If the party name suggests the preservation and development of what is good in sound legislation and a just regard to the interests of the industrial classes, let that be our party. But if the party name be only suggestive of change without necessity, and of opposition and animadversion where there has been no just cause of offence, let us refuse to recognize that party, whether it be Grit or Conservative.

THE COOPERS' INTERNATIONAL UNION.

We have received a copy of the proceedings of the Fourth Convention of the Coopers' International Union, held in St. Louis, last month. The session lasted six days, during which time much business of importance to the craft was transacted. One hundred and one delegates, representing a constituency of 12,000 members, from twenty-six States and the Canadian provinces of Quebec and Ontario, were present. The subject of strikes, and the most efficient mode of settling them amicably, by arbitration, to the best interests of both employers and employes, occupied considerable time of the convention. The former gratuitous publication of the *Coopers' Monthly Journal* was discontinued, and in its stead they issue monthly to each subordinate Union, a trade sheet containing matter strictly pertinent to the craft, such as officers' reports, &c. They will also issue, by subscription, a monthly journal in newspaper form, devoted to the interests of the trade, price \$1 per annum. The last day of the session was taken up in paying the delegates their per diem and mileage, which amounted to \$8,579.50. The convention meets again in Philadelphia, Pa., on the third Tuesday of October, 1875. The officers elect are, President, M. A. Foran; Treasurer, Thomas Hennebery; Secretary, Byron Pope; 1st Vice-President, Robert Schilling, O.; 2nd do., James Quigley, N.Y.; 3rd do., W. J. Barnes, Ill.; 4th do., James Oliver, Pa.; 5th do., A. McClinchy, Toronto, Ont.; Sergeant-at-Arms, Geo. W. Toombes, Ind. The President, Treasurer, Secretary and 1st Vice-President, constitute the salaried officers, who attend to the workings of the organization during recess; the remaining officers constitute an Executive Board. The Beneficial Department of the organization remains as heretofore, Byron Pope, the former incumbent, having been re-elected Treasurer and Secretary.

TRADES' UNION CONGRESS.

The programme for the sixth annual Trades' Union Congress, to be held in Sheffield in January, 1874, has been published, and no doubt the importance of the questions to be discussed, and the urgency of legislative action, will ensure a very full attendance of delegates from the numerous Trades' Councils and Societies in the United Kingdom. The programme, which may prove of interest to our readers, is as follows:—

1. Appointment of the Credential Committee, examination of the Credentials, and the report thereon to the Congress.
2. Election of officers to the Congress, and the President's opening address.
3. Legislative Action.—Report of the Parliamentary Committee.
4. Future Legislation.—Criminal Law Amendment Act, Conspiracy, Master and Servants' Act, Factory Nine Hours' Bill, Truck Bill, Compensation to Workmen's Bill, and the Trades' Union Act.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION.

5. Representation of Labor in Parliament—the best means to secure it.
6. The urgent necessity for providing a sufficient staff of efficient and practical inspectors to enforce the Factory and Workshops Regulation Acts, and the Mines Regulation Acts; and the advisability of securing a number of qualified workmen to act as inspectors.
7. Trades Unions—the Federative principle as applicable to them.
8. Overtime; apprenticeships; and piecework. Co-operation and industrial partnerships.
9. Emigration and unemployed labor; the employment of women and children in agriculture, factories, and workshops; and the employment of soldiers in industrial trades, and in agriculture; convict labor.
10. Trades Halls, their adaptability and advisability for the purpose of Trades Societies.
11. The application of the Arbitration Act.

CANADIAN LABOR UNION.

We are pleased to know of the activity that actuates the executive of the Canadian Labor Union. The reports have generally been distributed, and the results following their circulation are satisfactory. During the last week two new Charters were issued. Should this activity continue to prevail, the Canadian Labor Union will speedily be in a position to wield the power for which it was established.

CO-OPERATION.

A portion of the letter from our St. Catharines correspondent, last week, touched upon a matter that it would be well for the operatives to ponder carefully. We allude to that paragraph referring to the formation of a Coal and Wood Society. The desirability for some such society is demonstrated every day, and especially at the present time is the matter forcibly brought home to all. Wood and coal now bring very high prices; a month or two ago they could be purchased for two dollars a ton or cord less than at the present time, and earlier in the season at even still lower rates. Where is the remedy to be found? Simply and solely in some such means as that referred to by our correspondent. It is, perhaps, too late to accomplish anything this winter, but there is one thing that can be done, and that is, to make preparations for the coming season. It is a matter that will require careful consideration, so as to have the right men in the right place, and of course some time will be necessary for the accumulation of funds, &c. We would suggest, therefore, that during this winter the workmen should keep the subject in constant agitation, to the end that when the proper time comes decided and definite action may be taken.

CARPENTERS AND JOINERS.

We learn that it is the intention of the Carpenters and Joiners of St. Catharines, to establish a branch in connection with the Amalgamated Carpenters and Joiners' Union. A meeting was held on Wednesday, which was address-

sed by Mr. F. Ingledew, of Hamilton, Mr. Bickle and others, and ultimately the work of organization was completed.

NEW LODGE OF K. O. S. C.

Mr. [Silves, S. K., K. O. S. C., last week organized a new Lodge at Brantford. The new lodge starts under very favorable auspices, and will likely prove a large and flourishing organization.

TAILORS' STRIKE.

We regret to say that the Tailors' Strike, in this city, continues unsettled, and workmen in that business are requested to govern themselves accordingly.

LIBEL SUIT.

Mr. C. J. Whellams has brought an action for libel against Mr. T. C. Patteson, Manager, and Charles Belford, Editor of the *Mail*. This action has arisen out of an article published in the *Mail*, in April last, under the caption of "Astounding Developments," in which a very damaging record was written against the complainant. The case has excited considerable attention, and the preliminary proceedings occupied a large portion of Saturday last. On the examination the complainant denied most of the charges made against him, and gave explanations of others, and at the conclusion, the defendant, Mr. Patteson, who had assumed the entire responsibility, was committed to take his trial at the next Assizes, bail being given to the amount of \$1,000.

"TRADE UNIONS."

It is not often that so fair an opinion is given on the above subject by an "outsider," as the following by Mr. John Makinson, B.A., who recently discussed "Trades' Unions," in an essay before the Young Men's Christian Association, at Ottawa. He contended that we must all take an interest in following up the development of Unions, because it was necessary on the one hand, to place without illusion, the dangers which might arise from a state of things heretofore inevitable; and on the other hand, because we are convinced that in spite of the dangers their development may be useful, not only to those who may expect a legitimate bettering of their condition, but to society at large. He thought that this new application of the prolific principle of association will not only cause material profit and an increase of general wealth, but would also yield to society, through its moral influence, still more important services. It would help to remove the specious and fatal notion that the interests of capital and labor are opposed. He went on to show that those two elements of public prosperity, in every country, at one time engaged in an unnatural struggle, was, at another time, on the contrary, regaining all their influence by a happy alliance. The example he produced went to show how completely those two elements are bound together. Strikes, even under many circumstances, were as inevitable and as justifiable as battles between regular armies, and he thought he saw as clearly as any man, that councils of conciliation, and boards of arbitration, while they decrease the number of strikes, can never solve the labor question. They imply two camps, and what we wanted was only one. But he looked forward to the time as rapidly approaching when "Unions will become new elements of productive power" and "an earnest pledge of peace." They will prove, he thought, the future centre of co-operative associations.

TRADES' ASSEMBLY.

A special meeting of the Trades' Assembly, will be held on Friday night, and it is expected all delegates will attend, as matters of the utmost importance will be transacted.

Ball Cards and Programmes, Posters, in plain and colored inks, Business Cards, Bill Heads, Circulars, and every description of Plain and Ornamental Job Printing executed in first-class style at the WORKMAN OFFICE.