THE LABOR ADVOCATE

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Persons having business with any of the Inspectors will address as above.

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WORK AND WAGES.

LABOR NOTES AND NEWS FROM ALL QUARTERS.

Interesting Items, Facts and Figures—A Bird's-Eye View of the World of Industry.

CANADA

ENGINEER Westlead, of the McClary Manufacturing Company, London, was seriously injured by the machinery under his charge on Saturday.

THE seven minor tailors of Windsor who were charged with assault upon and conspiracy against a non-union tailor were acquitted before Judge MacMahon at Sandwich, last week.

THE Michigan Central Railway have decided to equip the passenger service with the ten wheel 200,000 pound Mogul engines now used on the fast express trains. Two of the engines are being built at the company's shops, St. Thomas, being the first new engines ever built there, though many old and twisted engines have been rebuilt.

SOME time ago the wages of G. T. R. employes, amounting to $500 and over per annum, were reduced five per cent, and those amounting to $750 and over were reduced ten per cent. This reduction in wages was due to the falling off in the earnings of the road. Recently, however, the traffic has considerably increased and notices have been sent out that all wages so effected would be restored, the change to take effect from Sept. 1st.

THE Chaudiere strikers are leaving the locality by hundreds to find work elsewhere. The Executive Committee of the strike are in receipt of letters every day from the lumbering districts of Wisconsin and Michigan, asking them to send the men up there for this winter. Letters have also been received from Potsdam, N.Y., Sault Ste Marie, Brookville, and other places, offering the strikers employment. The lumber mill of Masson & Son, in Mechanicsville, is in operation. This firm has conceded the strikers' demand for only ten hours' work per day. The strikers Executive Committee sanctioned the acceptance of this offer. At the Chaudiere the situation remains unchanged. The mill owners have made no approach to a settlement with the employers' demand. It seems out of the question that the mills will resume work this season. The constantly increasing mass of logs in the boom above Chaudiere Falls is beginning to cause alarm. If these logs are not out this season when the ice shove comes in spring they will be all swept over the Chaudiere Falls.

A COMMITTEE from the Hamilton Trades and Labor Council met Factory Inspector Robert Barber at the Royal Hotel, Hamilton, on Monday evening, by appointment, to discuss with him various causes of complaint. Mr. Barber was accompanied by J. R. Brown, inspector for the central district. The inspectors' attention was directed to a considerable list of infractions of the Factory Act in Hamilton, to which immediate attention was promised. Chief among the causes of complaint was the lack of proper sanitary arrangements in factories where both sexes are employed. The inspectors intimated that they had instructions to insist on a more strict enforcement of the provisions of the Act than heretofore. An arrangement was affected whereby the Trades and Labor Council will be the medium of communication between the workingmen and the inspector. All complaints will be brought to the notice of the Trades Council, and through them to the inspector, who promises to act promptly in every case. Instead of going through the factories or workshops in company with foremen or proprietors, the inspector will make his trips of inspection alone in the future.

UNITED STATES.

A NEW YORK dispatch says there is a great great influx of worsted weavers from abroad.

A DEMAND for an advance in wages will shortly be made by 9000 railroad coal miners in the Pittsburg, Pa., district.

TEN thousand voters in Chicago have signed their names pledging themselves to vote for the candidates of the People's Party.

DETROIT City Glass-works men are out 100 strong, as against a ten per cent. reduction. The strike has turned into a lock out.

THE Knights of Labor at Colgate, Ind. Ter., have completed their hall, which is claimed to be the finest building in the Territory.

THE use of electric light has been found to materially reduce the amount of illness in factories which had previously used gas or petroleum.

A TWENTY-TON fly wheel at a Cincinnati electric power house burst on Friday and tore down half the roof, doing great damage. One employe was hurt.

THE striking weavers of the Barnaby gingham mill, at East River, Mass., have voted to return to work on Monday, pending an investigation of their grievance.

CIRCULARS have been sent throughout New England by the United Hebrew Charities of New York City, offering cheap labor to mill agents and manufacturers.

AT a conference in Pittsburg, between the window-glass manufacturers and a committee representing the workers, all differences were amicably settled. The wages paid will be the same as last year.

A STRIKE occurred at Monea Colliery, near Pottsville, Pa. lately. The company wanted the men to sign an agreement on the prices of supplies. Men and boys to the number of 400 quit work.

IMMIGRANT Inspector Furness at Ogdensburg, N.Y., has reported to the treasury department that last week he sent back into Canada ten men who had tried to enter this country in violation of the Alien Contract Labor Law.

A RIOT has taken place among the negro cotton pickers near Montanna, Ark., owing to non-unionists taking the place of strikers. Several of the rioters were killed before the sheriff got the row stopped. The leading spirit was arrested.

ABOUT 100 Polanders went on strike recently at the mines and furnace of the Rock Hill Iron and Coal Company at Olbionia, Pa. The Company refuses to rescind the order for a 10 per cent. reduction in wages. The furnace has been banked, and over 500 men are thrown out of work.

TWO mine bosses have been discharged from the Nanticoke (Pa.) collieries for making newly-immigrated Poles and Hungarians pay them bribes from $25 to $40 to get them employment. The names of these fellows are John Burkheiser and George Young. They had been practicing this game for a number of years.

REDUCTION of wages in the entire cotton industry is feared by the workmen at Providence, Pawtucket and other cities of Rhode Island, but they will resort to a general strike rather than submit to a reduction in their miserable pittance, which is already bordering on the starvation level.

Two gangs of Chicago dock laborers, one of which was colored, got into a row on the Western Transit dock, Monday. James Kelly (white) was stabbed and killed by Joseph Boles (colored). Kelly's friends fired a number of shots at Boles, one of which struck him in the arm. Two other persons were wounded by stray bullets. Boles was finally arrested.

THE American Watch Company announced a reduction in the wage of nine hundred of its employes employed on it eighteen size movements. The cut ranges from fifteen to twenty per cent. The reduction is the outcome of the recent cut in the price of this size movement, and in part of the dullness which has for a long time prevailed in the watch trade.

THE Italian Consul at Boston is investigating the condition of Italians working on the sewers in Boston, Newton and Watertown. It is said they are miserably housed and crowded in one story shanties, live in squalor, and are forced to buy all their provisions at an enhanced price from an alleged syndicate of Italians, whose business is the furnishing of laborers for contractors.

ALVIN DINGS, electrician of the Allis works at Milwaukee, has perfected a method by which iron can be smelted by electricity at half the cost, it is said, and in half the time required by the present process. By the new method, the smelted iron is obtained in a condition much more nearly pure than in the old way. Electrical connections are made to the cupola in which the iron to be smelted is placed. Then a strong current of electricity is sent through the iron, forming arcs at each electrode. This produces an intense heat, which smelts the iron rapidly. The Dings method does away with the use of coke, lime and sand.

EUROPEAN AND GENERAL.

THE eight-hour system is to be extended to all manual workers throughout the government service in South Australia, and all overtime, wherever possible, is to be discontinued.

THE miners organizations of France are considering a plan to resume work in a number of mines abandoned by their operators, who, after leaving them from the government, could not make the pay. The miners will work these mines cooperatively.

THE London *Chronicle's* Odessa correspondent says the United States has appointed a gentleman to visit Central Asia to report on the rapidly increasing cotton industry of transcaspian Russia and Turkestan which renders Russia independent of American textiles.

THE *Arbeiter Wochenschrift*, the organ of the Sydney Trades and Labor Council, is involved in a libel action, which has arisen out of an article which attempted to prove that the well known Ardill, who was connected with a home for women and other charitable institutions, had been misconducting himself, and was for the agent for good that he professed to be. Damages are laid at $10,000.

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POETRY

THE "SONG OF THE SHOP!"

[illegible] in fifteen working one hundred and seven hours a week.]

With eyelids weary and worn,
With limbs as heavy as lead,
[illegible] sat in her cliill, half
[illegible] her aching head,
Her over her pale, thin face
The tears were beginning to drop,
As, checking a sob that became a sob,
She sang the "Song of the Shop!"

"Oh! it's work—work—work!
Till the brain begins to swim;
And work—work—work!
Till I ache in every limb;
Compelled through the live long day,
Behind the counter to stand,
Till the heart grows sick and the brain benumbed
As well as the weary hand

"Work—work—work!
In the hurry and rush and glare;
Work—work—work!
In the foul, gas-poisoned air.
Week after the seasons fly,
No change in my lot they bring;
And it's only because the fashions change
That I know it once moved in spring.

"Oh! but to breathe once more
The breath of the cowslip sweet;
To see blue sky above my head
And green grass beneath my feet.
Oh! but for one short hour
To feel as I used to feel,
Before to the counter I was bound
Like a slave, with chains of steel

With eyelids weary and worn,
With limbs as heavy as lead,
A shop girl sat in her cliill, bare room
Holding her aching head,
Essaying, in vain to check
The tears that perforce would drop
As still, in a voice of dolorous tone,
That was half a sob and half a moan,
She sang its "Song of the Shop."

—London Truth.

A CHRISTIAN AND DEVIL MEETING.

THE struggles of childhood with long words are often as pathetic as they are droll, but it is the funny side which is apt to impress children.

A lady went in to long ones to call upon a neighbor in the country, and found the two year old munch use playing up in the parlor.

"How do you do, George?" she said.

"Is your mamma at home?"

"No," Miss Grace, he answered with the most approved of polite notes.

"I am sorry for that," the caller said.

"Will she be gone long?"

"I don't know," the little fellow answered doubtfully. "She has gone to a Christian and devil meeting."

"Gone to what?" the lady exclaimed in astonishment.

"To a Christian and devil meeting in the vestry," was the reply.

And it suddenly dashed across the caller's remembrance that for that afternoon had been appointed at the vestry of the church a meeting of the Society of Christian Endeavor.—*Boston Recorder.*