

LABOR AND WAGES.

Cleanings From the Industrial Field of the World.

A result of the Miners' Congress at Paris has been a declaration by the Belgian miners in favor of a general strike if the government refuses to assent to the revision of the constitution. The temper of the speakers at the Workmen's Congress in Brussels points to wholesale Belgian strikes whether there is a revision of the constitution or not. The miners, relying upon the pledges of the English delegates to grant the strikers' funds and to stop the exportation of coal to Belgium, have become eager for the battle. Everything indicates that the first great fight for eight hours a day will begin on May 1, the English, French and German unions selecting Belgium as the field upon which to decide the conflict against the capitalists.

At a recent meeting in Boston, Mass., of delegates from each of the building trades in that city and vicinity a committee was appointed to request Governor Russell to use his influence for the abolishment of the convict trade schools in the State prison.

A movement has been started to create a gigantic trust to control the output of the collieries in Yorkshire, Lancashire, Derbyshire and Staffordshire. The avowed objects of the new trust are to bring the consumer in direct contact with the producer, and to place the profits on a less fluctuating basis.

Ten Minneapolis mills, with a daily output of nearly 20,000 barrels, have formed a combination against the great Pillsbury-Washburn English syndicate. The owners of the mills claim they were compelled either to go into a combine of their own or go under the wing of the great institution managed by C. A. Pillsbury. It is understood the opposition mills will, in a few months, be placed under one management.

There is trouble between the cigar manufacturers and union men of London, Ont., which has resulted in a general discharge of all union men on Saturday night last. The manufacturers say that dull times was the cause of the men's dismissal, but the union men claim otherwise, and the fact that none but union men have been discharged looks as if the manufacturers had decided on a vigorous campaign against the union. The trade gives employment to 125 men and 300 girls in this city.

The Manufacturers' Association of Fall River, Mass., which comprises the treasurers of all the mills, at a meeting issued an address setting forth the effect in Fall River, if successful, of the proposition now before the Labor Committee of the Legislature to further restrict the hours of labor in manufacturing establishments. The address says: "Should the 54 hour proposition become a law, the productive capacity of our factories would be reduced one fourth, thus wiping out of existence more than \$2,000,000 now engaged in furnishing employment to labor. It will cut down the wages of operatives ten per cent the day it becomes operative, and the so called friends of labor will have succeeded in voting a loss to the Fall River operatives amounting to \$13,000 a week, or say \$650,000 a year."

The locked out glassblowers of Corning, New York, are still firm. Many of the men have secured employment in other places. The firm is endeavoring to run its plant with green hands, but with poor success.

National President Rae was in conference with the Executive Board of Miners in Pittsburg last week. They decided to remain out till August if necessary. The Board discussed a sliding scale, which meets the approval of the operators but is disliked by the men. They think a sliding scale generally slides down instead of up.

Since the Mammoth Mine disaster, in which 109 lives were lost, the various Mine Inspectors in Western Pennsylvania have issued circulars to the operators and Mine Superintendents to be exceedingly careful that they live up to the requirements of the law in every detail, and to endeavor to adopt measures to avoid accidents. The Frick Company has decided to abolish the use of naked lamps in its mines entirely. Other companies will do the same.

The lock out of the Knights of Labor clothing cutters, of Rochester, N. Y., has assumed a serious phase which may involve a long and bitter struggle. The Clothiers' Exchange recently issued a manifesto giving notice that hereafter Knights of Labor would not be employed. The Knights issued a counter manifesto calling for a general meeting to adopt measures for an aggressive movement against the manufacturers.

A statistical report on the "Sweating System" has been prepared by the Massachusetts Bureau of Labor. It shows by a number of statistics the profits made by clothing manufacturers under the system. In some instances the profits are as high as 88-97 per cent. The report sets forth that the principal competition to the workers on clothing in Boston comes from New York. Considerable work that had been contracted for in Boston has been withdrawn and sent to New York, while on the other hand New York wholesale dealers have through agents

directly supplied the retailers in Boston. This has tended to very much mix matters, and the report concludes that this system is more pernicious to the interests of laborers than open competition.

A boy drawing a wagon, with all his playmates behind pushing, will find it to run easy and smooth, but with the whole gang on top riding, it's no go. So it is with organized labor. With a few men in the lead pulling and everybody behind pushing, trades unionism is invincible, but with too many trying to ride, it don't accomplish what it should. The first duty of every wage worker is to join the union of his calling, the second is to be punctual at his meetings, and the third is to be prompt in the discharge of its duties and obligations.—Birmingham Labor Advocate.

More than 23,000 families were evicted by Boston landlords last year for non-payment of rent, which is vastly more than the number of evictions that have taken place in the whole of Ireland in any one year since British tyranny placed its foot upon her soil.

A man who will not join the labor movement is an enemy to his class, a foe to his own interests and is deserving the worst conditions of slavery.

Helena, Montana, with a population of only 25,000, contains 82 millionaires.

A Ladies' Federal Labor Union has been organized in Jackson, Mich., by organizer John Holton; its charter bears the number 5354.

The building trades of Washington and British Columbia will demand eight hours on and after January 1, 1892, and that a general working card be required on and after May 1, 1892.

The carpenters of London have decided to move for 47 hours per week and an advance to ten pence per hour, to go into effect May 1st, next.

The building trades of St. Louis have adopted a combined working card, without which no man can work. The union men of one trade will not work with the non-union men of another.

The organized carpenters are hunting for Louis Pabadeon, who stole the funds of carpenters' union No. 10, Detroit. He is probably now in Chicago, and is 5 feet 7 inches, 145 pounds, sandy complexion, heavy moustache, hazel blue eyes, shows a guilty countenance and always complains of sickness. His right hand is crippled.

Here is an evidence of what a lack of organization and want of an apprentice system will do: In Olmutz, Austria, in the baker trade they have three journeymen for every seventeen apprentices, and in Reichenberg there are 151 apprentices and 73 journeymen. The men work 12 to 18 hours per day for \$2.20 per week.

San Francisco building trades have their own labor bureau and reading room at 108 Taylor street, San Francisco, Cal. In connection therewith is a cigar stand and laundry office, which will pay a large part of the expense.

The Bender Bros., a firm in Hamilton, Ont., have vowed to break up the Carpenters' and Painters' Unions in that city, and they will spend \$1,000 to do it; but the unions with their international Brotherhood to back them are laughing at the brutal and brainless bosses who think that they can swim against the tide forever.

Cigarmakers—Don't go to Philadelphia, where unions No. 100, 165 and 293 are having several strikes on hand and plenty of members are out of employment.

Don't buy Clarks' O. N. T. thread; for, if you do you assist scabs and slave drivers in depriving the striking spinners of Keerney, N. J., of the right of living like human beings. Drive it from every store your wife, sister or daughter can reach!

Learned a Language in 24 Hours.

Of Cardinal Mezzofanti, who could speak fifty-six dialects and languages, it is related that while he was at the Vatican a traveler arrived in Rome from Asia to be confessed whose language no one who met him could understand. Cardinal Mezzofanti was sent for, and found that even he had never heard it spoken. By means of signs he learned the stranger's errand, and that he had with him a dictionary of his native tongue.

This the cardinal took, and informing the Pope that he would be prepared in 24 hours to confess the man, retired to his room. When at the end of the time named he appeared and announced that he was ready to proceed, it was found that he had mastered the language sufficiently to converse quite freely with the traveler.—San Francisco Argonaut.

A Locomotive Steamboat.

A locomotive steamboat is being built at Kristanstad, Sweden, for the navigation of a small chain of lakes separated by falls. The boat is to be fitted with wheels fitting a track, and power can be applied to either the propeller or the driving wheels of the locomotive part of the craft. The track is three feet six inches gauge, with grades of one in thirty-five, and curves of a radius of 100 meters.—Boston Transcript.

Spring comes, and with a joyous voice bids man with nature to rejoice.

Spring Overcoats!

A specialty is made in this garment, of which we have a large assortment. At a fashionable tailor's they would cost from \$20 to \$30.

THE EMPIRE

Sells them at from

\$8 to \$15

ONLY

THE NOBBIEST MATERIALS!

West of England, Venetian, French Algolia and light Meltons—is used in the manufacture of these Coats.

Boys' Suits

SPRING STYLES!

Each Garment Tailor-Made

— AT —

THE EMPIRE.

"EVER IN ADVANCE"

The motto which has made "THE EMPIRE" so popular.

The Empire CLOTHIERS.

Business Suits

In the newest and most fashionable BRITISH AND AMERICAN styles.

Please note the following prices: \$5.50, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 10.00 to \$18.00.

SAVE 25 PER CENT

By purchasing direct from

THE EMPIRE ONE PRICE CLOTHIERS.

The Children's Clothing Parlor!

One thing pleases us beyond all others, the overflowing success of our Boys' and Children's department. We worked hard for it and "indulge the hope" that we have deserved it. No failure possible where superiority is evident and so generally acknowledged.

NOTE THE FOLLOWING PRICES:

Suits for Boys, 8 to 16 years - \$3 00 to \$12 00
Suits for Children, 4 to 12 years, - 2 00 to 8 00
Knee Pants for Children, 4 to 12 years 0 75 to 1 50
School Pants for Boys, 12 to 16 years 1 00 to 3 50

ETON SUITS A SPECIALTY

— AT —

THE EMPIRE CLOTHIERS

BOYS! A harmless Pistol with Vacuum-tipped Arrow FREE with EACH SUIT.

2261 St. Catherine Street West.

GEO. S. ROONEY, - Manager.

Open Evenings to 6 p.m.

Saturdays to 10 p.m.

A. F. Holland,
MANUFACTURING FURRIER,
2254 NOTRE DAME ST.

All kinds of Fur in stock, and made to order at moderate prices.

N.B.—FURS CLEANED, DYED AND RE-PAIRED A SPECIALTY.

DR. NELSON'S
PRESCRIPTION
Is undoubtedly the BEST of

Cough Remedies. **25c** A Bottle.

DR. CHEVALLIER'S
Red Spruce Gum Paste.
The Best of Spruce Gum Preparations.
25c a Box.

LAVIOLLETTE & NELSON, Chemists
1005 NOTRE DAME STREET.

WORKING MEN

When on your way home call in and examine my stock of

BOOTS, SHOES,

— AND —
RUBBERS,

I can fit you in any tyle and at prices to suit your pockets. Custom work a specialty.

J. CHURCH,
30 Chabouillez Sq.

JUBILEE DRUG HALL
1341 ST. CATHERINE ST.
Branch: Corner Fullum and St. Catherine streets.

ROD. CARRIERE,
TELEPHONES—6041, 6270.

SPRUCINE
FOR
COUGHS & C.

Sprucine

FOR
Coughs,
Colds
Croup.

Sprucine

FOR
Whooping Cough

Asthmatical,
AND
Bronchial
Affections.

Sprucine

FOR SALE
EVERYWHERE.

"Reading Makes a Full Man!"

Mechanics, Artizans, &c., who wish to excel and rise above the ordinary run, should keep posted. Mr. Drysdale, who has had twenty-five years' experience, will be glad to advise such of the best books to help them in acquiring a fuller knowledge of their profession.

Technical Books, of all description. Latest editions. Call and see us. Goods shown with pleasure to all.

W. DRYSDALE & CO.,
Publishers & Booksellers & Importers
232 ST. JAMES STREET,
MONTREAL.

M. BACHMAN
Artistic Merchant Tailor.

FURS and TRIMMINGS,
GENTLEMEN'S GARMENTS
MADE UP IN THE LATEST STYLE.

DRESS SUITS & UNIFORMS.
Cut and Make Guaranteed.
Repairing and Cleaning.
409 ST. JAMES ST.

IF YOU WANT GOOD

PRINTING

— TRY —

THE ECHO
ESTABLISHMENT

769 CRAIG STREET,
MONTREAL.