

## Pope Leo and the Labor Question

In view of the struggle now going on in Pennsylvania between capital and labor, the following extracts from the Pope's Encyclical on "The Condition of the Working Classes," should be carefully meditated on by capitalists, lawmakers and workmen.

"Rights must be religiously respected wherever they exist and it is the duty of the public authority to prevent and to punish injury, and to protect every one in the possession of his own. Still, when there is a question of defending the rights of individuals the poor and helpless have a claim to special consideration. The richer class have many ways of shielding themselves, and stand less in need of help from the State, whereas those who are badly off have no resources of their own to fall back upon, and must chiefly depend upon the assistance of the State. And it is for this reason that wage-earners, who are undoubtedly among the weak and necessitous, should be specially cared for and protected by the Government.

### HOW THE STATE SHOULD DEAL WITH LABOR QUESTIONS

"Here, however, it is expedient to bring under special notice certain matters of moment. It should ever be borne in mind that the chief thing to be realized is the safe-guarding of private property by legal enactment and public policy. Most of all is it essential, amid such a fever of excitement, to keep the multitude within the line of duty, for if all may justly strive to better their condition, neither justice nor the common good allows any individual to seize upon that which belongs to another, or, under the futile and shallow pretext of equality, to lay violent hands on other people's possessions. Most true it is that by far the larger part of the workers prefer to better themselves by honest labor rather than by doing any wrong to others. But there are not a few who are imbued with evil principles and eager for revolutionary change, whose main purpose is to stir up tumult and bring about measures of violence. The authority of the State should intervene to put restraint upon such firebrands, to save the working classes from their seditious acts, and protect lawful owners from spoliation.

"When work people have recourse to a strike, it is frequently because the hours of labor are too long, or the work too hard, or because they consider their wages insufficient. They give inconvenience of this not uncommon occurrence should be obviated by public remedial measures, for such paralyzing of labor not only affects the masters and their work peo-

ple alike, but is extremely injurious to trade and to the general interests of the public, moreover, on such occasions, violence and disorder are generally not far distant, and thus it frequently happens that the public peace is imperiled. The law should forestall and prevent such troubles from arising, they should lend their influence and authority to the removal in good time of the causes which lead to conflicts between employers and employed.

### THE STATE AND THE REGULATION OF LABOR

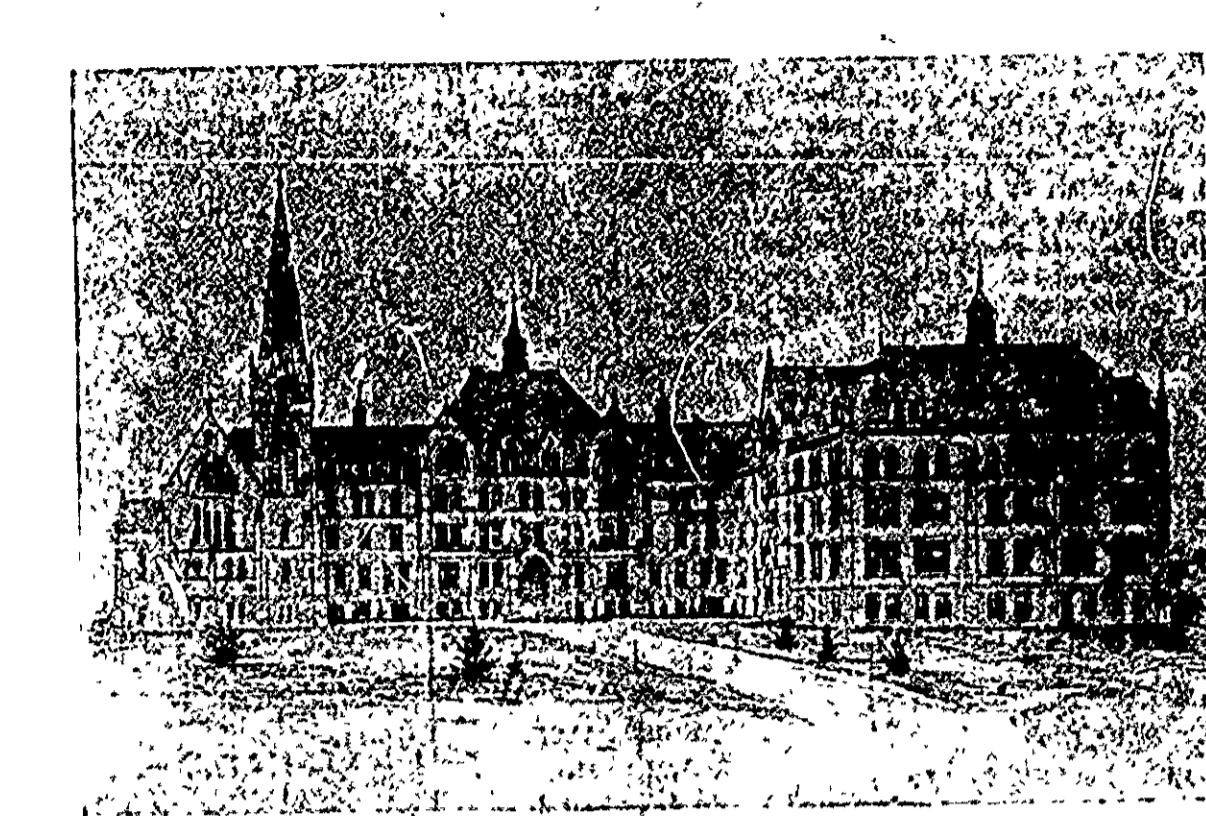
"If we turn now to things external and corporeal, the first concern of all is to save the poor workers from the cruelty of greedy speculators, who use human beings as mere instruments for money-making. It is neither just nor human to grind men down with excessive labor so to stupefy their minds and wear out their bodies. Man's powers, like his general nature, are limited, and beyond these limits he cannot go. His strength is developed and increased by use and exercise, but only on condition of due intermission and proper rest. Daily labor, therefore, should be so regulated as not to be protracted over longer hours than strength admits. How many and how long the intervals of rest should be must depend on the nature of the work, on circumstances of time and place, and on the health and strength of the workman. Those who work in mines and quarries and extract coal, stone, and metals from the bowels of the earth, should have shorter hours in proportion as their labor is more severe and trying to health. Then, again, the season of the year should be taken into account, for not infrequently a kind of labor is easy at one time which at another is intolerable or exceedingly difficult. Finally, work, which is quite suitable for a strong man, cannot reasonably be required from a woman or a child. And, in regard to children, great care should be taken not to place them in workshops and factories until their bodies and minds are sufficiently developed. For just as very rough weather destroys the buds of spring, so does too early an experience of life's hard toil blight the young promise of a child's faculties, and render any true education impossible. Women, again, are not suited for certain occupations; a woman is by nature fitted for home work, and it is that which is best adapted at once to preserve her modesty and to promote the good bringing-up of children and the well-being of the family. As a general principle it may be laid down that a workman ought to have leisure and rest proportionate to the wear and tear of his strength, for waste of strength must be repaired by cessation from hard work.

"In all agreements between masters and work-people, there is always the condition expressed or understood that there should be allowed proper rest for soul and body. To agree, in any other sense, would be against what is right and just, for it can never be just or right to require on the one side, or to promise on the other, the giving up of those duties which a man owes to his God and to himself.

### THE LIVING WAGE.

"We now approach a subject of great and urgent importance, and one in respect of which, if extremes are to be avoided, right notions are absolutely necessary. Wages, as we are told, are regulated by free consent and therefore the employer when he pays what was agreed upon, has done his part and seemingly is not called upon to do anything beyond. The only way, it is said, in which injustice might occur would be if the master refused to pay the whole of the wages, or if the workman should not complete the work undertaken, in such cases the State should intervene, to see that each obtains his due—but not under any other circumstances.

"This mode of reasoning is, to a fair-minded man, by no means convincing, for there are important considerations which it leaves out of account all together. To labor is to exert oneself for the sake of procuring what is necessary for the purposes of life, and chief of all for self-preservation. In the sweat of thy brow thou shalt eat thy bread. Hence a man's labor bears two notes or characters. First of all, it is personal, inasmuch as the exertion of individual strength belongs to the individ-



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ual who puts it forth, employing such strength to procure that personal advantage on account of which it was bestowed. Secondly, man's labor is necessary; for without the result of labor a man cannot live and self-preservation is a law of nature which it is wrong to disobey. Now, were we to consider labor so far as it is personal merely, doubtless it would be within the workman's right to accept any rate of wages (whatsoever); for in the same way as he is free to work or not, so he is free to accept a small remuneration or even none at all. But this is a mere abstract supposition; the labor of the workman is not only his personal attribute, but it is necessary, and this makes all the difference. The preservation of life is the bounden duty of one and all, and to be wanting therein is a crime. It follows that each one has a right to procure what is required in order to live, and the poor can procure it in no other way than through work and wages.

"Let it be then, taken for granted, that workman and employer should, as a rule, make free agreements, and in particular should agree freely as to the wages, nevertheless, there underlies a dictate of nature more imperious and more ancient than any bargain between man and man, namely, that the remuneration must be sufficient to support the wage-earner in reasonable and frugal comfort. If through necessity or fear of a worse evil the workman accept harder conditions because an employer or contractor will afford him no better, he is made the victim of force and injustice. In these and similar questions, however—such as, for example, the hours of labor in different trades, the sanitary precautions to be observed in factories and workshops, etc.—in order to supersede undue interference on the part of the State, specially as circumstances, times and localities differ so widely, it is advisable that recourse be had to societies or boards, such as we shall mention presently, or to some other mode of safeguarding the interests of the wage-earners, the State being appealed to, should circumstances require, for its sanction and protection.

**Archbishop Feehan Has Passed Away**

Chicago, July 14.—Archbishop Patrick A. Feehan, for twenty-two years in charge of the Catholic archdiocese of Chicago, died at 3 p.m. Saturday, after a long illness. For more than a year the Archbishop has been in poor health. Much of his time had been passed in the quiet of his country home at Feehanville, and for some time most all executive business of the church has been out of his hands.

Some time ago for the purpose of relieving him of the onerous duties of his office, Father P. J. Muldoon was appointed auxiliary bishop of Chicago. This position is not in the line of succession, and it does not follow that Bishop Muldoon will take the place of the Archbishop.

Archbishop Feehan was born in the County Tipperary, Ireland, in 1829. He had been Archbishop of the archdiocese of Chicago, since September 10, 1880. He had been in America since 1852, and a leader of the Catholic priesthood of the west for forty-six years.

In 1865 he was made Bishop of Nashville. He succeeded Bishop Foley there.

### THE WORKINGMAN SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED TO ACQUIRE PROPERTY.

"If a workman's wages be sufficient to enable him to maintain himself, his wife and his children in reasonable comfort, he will not find it difficult, if he be a sensible man, to study economy; and he will not fail, by cutting down expenses, to put by some little savings and thus secure a

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small income. Nature and reason alike would urge him to do this. We have seen that this great labor question cannot be solved save by assuming as a principle that private ownership must be held sacred and inviolable. The law, therefore, should favor ownership, and its policy should be to induce as many as possible of the humbler class to become owners."

### Collapse of the Historic Campanile

Venice, Italy, July 14.—The Campanile (detached bell tower) of St. Mark's Church, 98 metres (324 feet) high, collapsed at 10 40 this morning, and fell with a great crash into the piazza. The Campanile, which was entirely detached from the cathedral, collapsed where it stood, and is now a heap of ruins. The cathedral and Palace of the Doges are quite safe, but a corner of the Royal Palace was damaged. Repairs on the Campanile were to have been commenced to-day.

It is feared that there was some loss of life. The ruins are surrounded by a cordon of troops.

The first intimation of danger was the sudden appearance yesterday of a longitudinal crack in the corner of the wall facing the clock tower, and the breaking of two windows. A concert which had been arranged to take place on the piazza yesterday evening was stopped by order of the Prefect, with the object of preventing a concourse of people.

The ruins are piled up to a height of 100 feet, and the Piazza di San Marco and the adjoining squares are covered with debris and dust. Some damage was done to the San Gervasio Loggia, or vestibule on the east side of the campanile.

The campanile stood opposite the Church of Cathedral of St. Mark's. It was founded in 888, restored in 1329, provided with a marble top in 1417, and in 1517 was crowned with the figure of an angel nearly sixteen feet high. The loggia, or vestibule, on the east side of the campanile, was once a rendezvous of the nobility, and afterwards a waiting room for the guards during the sessions of the Great Council. The clock tower stands opposite the campanile.

Venice, Italy, July 15.—The Mayor of Venice has received thousands of telegrams from all parts of the world condoling with him on the collapse yesterday of the campanile of St. Mark's. The Pope has telegraphed to Cardinal Giuseppe Sarto, the Patriarch of Venice, expressing his grief and instructing him to give moral and financial support to any project for rebuilding the bell-tower.

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## SEVERE INDICTMENT OF THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT

Mr. T. W. Russell, a "Unionist" and a Protestant, declares the Government Responsible for De Freyne Evictions.

Below we give a condensed report of the remarkable speech delivered by Mr. T. W. Russell M. P. in the House of Commons London on July 2 during the discussion of the impending De Freyne evictions. Mr. Russell said:

"The sands in the glass were fast running out, without the slightest idea of a compromise, and he was driven to the belief that unless the House intervened, unless the Chief Secretary—who had so much in his power—was able to do something, intolerable hardships would arise.

### HORRIBLE EVICTIONS

would be consummated, and an era of trouble and turmoil would be originated in the West of Ireland, where, heaven knew, there was trouble enough at the present moment without it (Nationalist cheers). He moved the motion under a heavy sense of responsibility because he did not think there was a public man in the House—and there were very few in the country—who had seen more of evictions than he had. He had gone through nearly the whole of these sad times since 1886, and, if he moved the resolution that night, it was because of his experiences in the past and because he desired to avoid trouble in the future of the same kind, if it could be avoided. He, in accordance with what happened earlier, would undertake to prove that the Government, as a government, were directly responsible, not alone for the condition of this whole district, but for everyone of the impending evictions in it (Nationalist cheers). Here the tenants were the poorest of the poor. The

### EFFORTS OF THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CLERGY

In that direction had been without avail (a Tory member—"Hear, Hear!") Someone cheered that. Well, he (Mr. Russell) was sorry for him (Nationalist cheers). He believed that a word from the Chief Secretary would effect a settlement in this case, and he asked what had been done in that direction? Let the House mark this. The tenants were the poorest of the poor, and to recover the miserable five or six acre holdings of bogland, Lord De Freyne's advisers went to the superior courts in Dublin for writs and costs to the extent of £30 or £35 in each case were heaped on the tenants. That made a settlement impossible (great cheer). For those poor people the costs were colossal. The tenants could pay their rents only by means of money they got from America, or from their labor in England, and to put such costs on them was to drive them to despair (Irish cheers) and to prevent a settlement. All being thus ready the Sheriff and forces of the Crown will do the rest in a few days. Those poor people would be on the roadsides, or overcrowding the already overcrowded cabins of their fellow-tenants on the estate. What would be the result? Did anyone believe that any man in his senses, or that any man outside a lunatic asylum would take the land from which these people were evicted, and pay 15s or 17s 6d an acre for it? It would be the old, old story over again. The people would watch the holdings from which they believed they were unjustly driven, and all the chances were that violent crimes would be precipitated (hear, hear), and all in order that this combination of Irish landlords, with Lord De Freyne in their charge, should have their way against those wretched people (Irish cheers). He had now to state his reason for believing that the Government was directly responsible. As was known to the House, the Congested Districts Board, which was a State Department, had been engaged for nine years dealing with those districts. In a considerable number of cases they had purchased estates from the owners, and had dressed the holdings and sold them to the occupiers, and wherever that policy had been carried out it had resulted in peace and contentment. This was

### THE DELIBERATE POLICY OF THE GOVERNMENT

but in an evil moment of excitement in the House, the Government had laid it down as part of that policy, and as a fixed rule to guide the Congested Districts Board, wherever agri-

tation prevailed no purchase should take place, and the estates were to be practically boycotted. Another Minister had said that they would go to the bottom of the list (Nationalist cheers). It had not been so that the De Freyne estate might be tonight in as happy a position as the Dillon estate. This rule had been universally working ever since it was laid down and wherever there was agitation it had laid a fetter and produced discord on the De Freyne estate evictions would take place and the forces of the Crown would be employed to enforce the law, and rightly employed. Two or three English members had visited the land in this quarter, and they would support him when he said that the land was absolutely useless. No one would settle down there and crime was perfectly certain to take place. The people were left no option. At the same time that they put down legitimate agitation there arrived with a blunderbuss the men behind the hedge. If they were going to deal with this part of the country they must know the kind of people they were dealing with. Why were these people crowded upon these wretched holdings? Home members would find, if they went to Ireland, mile upon mile of magnificent land

### WITHOUT A SINGLE HOMESTEAD

upon it. It was occupied solely by sheep and cattle. The laws of the House had permitted the poor people to be driven from these fertile lands. "I have often spoken," said Mr. Russell, "of the landlords' combinations before I remember what was called the derelict land trust, which invested £10,000 in this question and lost it (Irish cheers). That trust was designed to re-settle some estates, and all I can tell the Irish landlords here tonight is that after having taken the fullest part in that organization everyone of these evicted tenants on these estates was back again in his holding, and the landlords' money is all gone. I venture to say it will be the same thing here. I conclude by directing the attention of the House to this difficult situation. I have spoken because my eyes have seen and my ears have heard, and I have not only seen the trouble and misery and wretchedness, but I have seen the light, I have seen the remedy."

### Death of Judge Little of Newfoundland

Montreal, July 14.—A special from St. John's, Nfld., says Sir Joseph Little, Chief Justice of Newfoundland, died this morning of heart failure after a short illness. He was a native of Prince Edward Island, but spent most of his life in this country. The late Judge Little was an honorable man, a conscientious judge, respected by all classes and creeds. He was 66 years old, and unmarried. He came from Irish stock, and was an adherent of the Catholic faith. His successor on the bench will probably be Hon. W. H. Horwood, the present Minister of Justice, who, tho a young man for such a position, has all the qualifications for it. At present there are two vacancies on the bench. The second position will be filled this fall by the appointment of Mr. G. M. Johnson, law partner of Sir William Whiteway. This latter position was created by the resignation of Judge Morrison two months ago.

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