

## LABOR AND WAGES.

## Cleanings From the Industrial Field of the World.

Knights of Labor are boycotting the foot wear manufactured by Rumsey Bros., of Lynn, Mass.

For every day the Prince of Wales has encumbered this earth he has cost the British workingman \$900 and is in debt \$400 for every day he has lived.

A bill in the Colorado Legislature providing for a semi-monthly pay day by corporations received three votes. The workingmen of that State must still be voting the old party ticket.

They are trying to have enacted in California a law providing that any person traveling through the State on foot and without money shall be considered a tramp and subject to fine and imprisonment.

The puddlers employed in the rolling mill of the E. & G. Brooke Iron Company, Birdsboro, Pa., have resumed work after three weeks' idleness, accepting the reduction of from \$3.75 to \$3.50 per ton.

Acting upon a request from the labor organizations of Minneapolis the clergymen of that city have been preaching for some time past upon "The Causes of Poverty," and most of them came to the conclusion that poverty is caused by the present unjust social system.

The lockout of the plasterers, painters and carpenters in Indianapolis still continues. There is no doubt of its being a concerted effort on the part of the bosses to destroy the unions. Unless the matter is settled soon and favorably the unions will enter upon the work of taking contracts in opposition to the regular contractors.

The labor organizations of Buenos Ayres have presented a petition to Dr. C. Carlos Pelligrini, President of the Argentine Republic, in which they ask him to assist them in improving the condition of labor, telling him that if he would do so all coming generations would reverence him as the George Washington of the Argentine Republic.

At a mass meeting of carpenters in Chicago on Sunday an agreement between the Carpenters' Council and the Builders' Association providing for the settlement of all differences during the coming year by arbitration was unanimously ratified. The terms of the agreement provide for a working day of eight hours at a minimum wage of 35 cents an hour.

Household economy is the science of family housekeeping. Political economy is the science of state housekeeping. Successful housekeepers who understand and apply the principles of domestic economy. Successful statesmen are those statesmen who understand and apply to government the principles of political economy.—True Commonwealth.

At Providence, R. I., lately weavers in the Atlantic Mill No. 1 complained of the new fines system and left their work, about 150 out of 187 quitting their looms. Shortly after 200 weavers left No. 2 mill, and a meeting was held in Olneyville Cadets Armory. One of the Atlantic Company's representatives was approached by the strikers, and said that those who were dissatisfied could leave.

Professor Richard T. Ely of John Hopkins University, one of the leading "Socialists of the Chair," as they are called, has been writing a series of articles on Socialism in the Independent. A Philadelphia paper made a serious attack upon him for the first of his articles, and demanded that he be removed from the professorship. The Independent, however, soothes the paper by saying that before the series is finished Professor Ely will have shown up the weakness as well as the strength of Socialism.

The power to say that men shall or shall not work should not be given into the hands of a few individuals. The wholesale discharge of railway employees emphasizes the fact that it is the dollars and cents that are thought of and not the welfare of the people. Who ever heard of any similar reduction in the number of post office employees? Moral—Put the railroads in the same relation to the people that the post office bears, and the number of employees will have to be largely increased instead of the contrary.—Midland Mechanic.

Quiet but extensive preparations are being made by the Central Pennsylvania coal miners for a general strike on May 1. Their grievances, they say, are beyond further endurance and only a sweeping shut down will avail them anything. The scale provided by the Columbus convention for fifty cents per ton of 2,000 pounds has been ignored by all the operators, who exact 2,240 pounds per ton. The miners will also demand the eight hour day and absolute freedom from the pluck-me stores. The present threatening aspect of the miners is largely due to the resumption of the pluck-me stores throughout the entire region and the nefarious methods of keeping the men continually in debt to the operators. The miners have been working less than half time during the winter. At last Tuesday's conference at Dudley between the Broad Top, Gallitzen and Clearfield region miners,

representing over 12,000 men, a general strike on May 1 was unanimously agreed upon.

Organization is absolutely necessary to the life of the laboring class, and a laborer who refuses to enter the union of his trade when the opportunity presents itself is a traitor to his own interests.

The Master Masons of Philadelphia, at a meeting held last week, took a decided stand against making any concession to their employees in the demand for an increase of wages.

The Cabinetmakers' Union of Chicago, which numbers about two thousand members, is preparing to demand eight hours at 25 cents per hour and weekly payments. If this is refused they say they will strike.

The carpenters and joiners are working eight hours in 34 cities of this country at present. In 240 cities the nine hour work day prevails, while in 16 cities the hours are from 53 to 59 hours a week.

The Washington Shoe Company, now of Lynn, Mass., will locate in Nashua, N. H. The company will employ over 150 persons, and will have a new shop 50x150 feet and three stories high. The location has already been secured, and the work of erecting the building will be begun just as soon as the ground permits.

In France the National Council of Labor is preparing for the 1st of May eight hour demonstrations. Lille is already billed, as if for a circus, with enormous posters describing the purpose of the workers' May Day. The most conspicuous poster reads: "On the first of May all frontiers will be effaced, and in the entire universe will be seen a union of that which should be united and a separation of that which should be separated. On one side are the producers hand in hand, determined on emancipation, and on the other the exploiters trembling vainly before a movement that nothing can stop and that will overwhelm them."

## SERIOUS LABOR RIOTS.

## Women Participate in Deed of Violence.

SCOTTSDALE, Pa., March 30.—The coke troubles have assumed a new phase and now threaten to develop into a war between the operators and labor organizations. Mr. Frick stated to-day that heretofore he had not antagonized labor, but in the future he did not propose to stand idly by and see his property destroyed. He claimed the men are satisfied with the scale of wages he offered but the labor leaders will not permit them to return to work as their positions depend upon the success of the strike. The fight from this time on will be bitter.

Sheriff McCormick, with a number of deputies, left Uniontown to-night on a special train to arrest the leaders in the several raids on the coke works. Probably the ugliest features of the several raids was the number of women participating. The most seriously injured is the pit boss, named Cooper, who was struck again and again by an iron bar in the hands of an infuriated woman. Secret meetings are being held to-night by strikers who will certainly prevent the intended resumption to-morrow. When the bomb was exploded at the Leisenig works to-day the shock was felt for several miles, but the only visible effect was the tearing of a great hole in front of the non-union workers' house and throwing considerable dirt about the vicinity. It is feared such work is not over with, however, as the effect upon the unruly but thoroughly organized Hungarian strikers was ominous.

At the big Morwood plant of the Frick Company the 3,000 strikers swept the armed deputies aside as if they had been chaff. Not a blow was struck, as such a move would have been fatal to both guards and workers in the face of 3,000 determined strikers. After the abandonment of the works by the guard an hour of mad reckoning followed. Tracks, doors, and in fact, everything movable, were wrenched aside by the crowd, which only left after the plant had been mutilated beyond immediate repair. The Central Board of the Federation meets in Pittsburg to-morrow, when the strike will be brought up for endorsement.

## Mirrors and Ill Luck.

The superstition that if one breaks a mirror he will be attended with ill luck for seven years is well known. But it is not universally accepted. Miss Mary Anderson, for instance, does not believe in it, but rather likes to smash a glass. She had a very handsome hand mirror for some time, but one evening during her last tour she broke it. Someone standing near mentioned the superstition, and the actress replied: "Oh, I don't believe in that; I never had so much luck in my life as the season during which I broke seven mirrors. That was my first engagement at the Lyceum Theatre." Yet, in spite of this expression, many people will, no doubt, see an omen of disaster—Miss Anderson's illness and her subsequent forced relinquishing of work—in this very broken mirror.

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