

Ontario Workman

THE EQUALIZATION OF ALL ELEMENTS OF SOCIETY IN THE SOCIAL SCALE SHOULD BE THE TRUE AIM OF CIVILIZATION.

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Labor Notes.

The master painters of Middlebrough have conceded to their men an advance of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per hour in their wages.

The colliers of Wigan and St. Helens district have agreed to withdraw for the present their application for 10 per cent. advance in wages.

DUSEBURN ENGINE WORKS.—At the Co-operative establishment, some men, says the *Beaver*, are paid at the rate of as much as 2s. an hour for their labor.

The Amalgamated Association of Operative Cotton Spinners, Self-actor Minders, Twiners, and Rovers of Lancashire and adjoining counties, have been registered under the Trade Union Act of 1871.

The amount collected in London for the support of the Scotch lock-out, and transmitted to Edinburgh during the last two weeks by the central committee amounts to £33 6s.

The laborers in the Banbury district are everywhere demanding more wages, which the farmers refuse, and strikes and lock-outs are the results. The efforts on behalf of emigration are increasing, and many of the villages are almost depopulated. Affairs have a very serious aspect.

The great centre of match fabrication was Marseilles, where more than thirty lithographic machines were wholly employed in printing the labels covering the boxes. The present Government monopoly has stopped all these operations, and great distress reigns among the workmen formerly employed.

The clickers, or cutters-out in the boot and shoe trade of Leicester, Eng., have requested an advance of about two-pence per dozen pairs, which request has been refused. After in vain trying to have the matter settled by arbitration, they have determined to take prompt measures to obtain the advance.

The threatened strike on the part of the Glasgow bakers in connection with their demand for an advance in their rate of pay has been found unnecessary. The terms asked by the men, and addition of 3s. per week to the old rate, have been generally conceded, though in some quarters the advance has been limited to 2s. In these cases the men have accepted this compromise, and consequently no rupture has resulted.

The Liverpool shop assistants have a strong organization registered under the Trades Union Act, they are also affiliated with the local unions, and although, little more than twelve months established, their organization has already produced a marked change in the slavish and unnecessary hours of business.

A meeting of the Liverpool operative ship painters was held on Wednesday night, 28th ult., when it was reported that the employers had declined to accede to the terms of the memorial presented a week or two ago, to the effect that the wages should be raised to 34s., with certain allowances for overtime, &c. It was resolved to appoint a deputation to wait upon the masters.

The stonemasons forcing the operation of a "local code of rules," involving an advance in the price of labor which they some time ago submitted to the masters. What they ask for is that the wages be from the 1st of March to the 31st of October $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per hour, and from the 1st of November to the last day of February $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per hour; fixers of hewn stone to receive $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per hour extra. The advance asked for is equivalent to about 2s. per week.

At a special meeting of the National Laborers' Union held at Leamington—Mr. Arch in the chair—a great lock-out was reported in Norfolk and Suffolk, and £200 was voted for the immediate relief of the servants. The national conference of the Laborers' Unions was fixed to be held at Leamington on May 28th and 29th. Messrs. Gardner and O'Leary were deputed to proceed to Ireland on Tuesday to inaugurate a National Union in that country.

There is a very strong expression of dis-

satisfaction amongst the colliers employed at the ironworks where the recent strike took place in Monmouthshire and South Wales. The men are aggrieved by the masters not having given them the advance which they promised their colliers should receive within a few days after resuming work. Private meetings amongst the men have been held, and the matter has been referred to the Executive Council of the Miners' Association by whom it has been taken into consideration. The council passed a resolution authorizing the colliers employed at the Dowlais and Plymouth Ironworks, to intimate to the proprietors that unless the 10 per cent. was given by the 1st of May, they would on that date give notice to strike.

A large meeting of ship joiners, representing all grades in New York and vicinity, was held on the 7th inst., for the purpose of deciding whether they should strike for an increase of fifty cents per day. Up to the latter part of the winter they were receiving \$4 per day, but the employers cut them down to \$3.50. The meeting adjourned without having reached any decision. Most of the men say that the employers will accede to their demands when made, while others aver that the bosses have anticipated a strike and are prepared to defeat them.

The thirty-sixth quarterly meeting of the Central Co-operative Society, Blyth, has been held, Mr. Edward Fenwick in the chair. The report showed the value of goods bought during the quarter to be £3,024 0s. 1d. The amount received for goods sold was £3,614 17s. 11d. After paying working expenses and 5 per cent on paid up shares, the society is able to declare a dividend of 2s. 2d. in the pound on members' purchases, leaving a balance of £2 12s. 3d. to go to the reserve fund, and £6 for depreciation of stock, and £6 for depreciation of property. The total profits realized, £410 7s. 6d.

Some time ago we alluded to a project propounded by the President of the garçons or waiters of Paris tending to unite this body with the corporation of Parisian cooks, as both were engaged to a great extent by the same employers. This proposition has now, we are informed, been fully realized. Both waiters and cooks, it appears, were in deadly antagonism with each other, but they have now united chiefly for the purpose of resisting a common foe. This new enemy is the servants' registry offices which abound in great numbers in Paris. The commissions charged by these agencies, are, they maintain, most exorbitant; and it is urged that a Syndical Chamber well organized might find employment for all its members free of any charge beyond expenses. To secure these ends, some 250 to 300 waiters and upwards of 200 cooks have united together, each body electing 16 delegates, so as to constitute a mixed committee of thirty-two Syndics. They will organize a system of registration for all persons wanting employment or wanting servants. The manager of the cooks association, M. Anable Gaze, in his address convokeing the meeting for the purpose of effecting the above union, asserts that the ultimate object of the corporation is that of starting a co-operative restaurant and thus gradually emancipating all cooks and waiters of Paris! Leaving aside this latter proposal, the association now created is of special interest, as so many English servants are employed in France by either French masters, English residents, or at Anglo-French hotels; and, as on the other hand, there is so great a demand for French cooks in England. If the Paris Syndical Chamber of the united waiters and cooks are really determined to find employment for all their members, some of our English cosmopolitan servants ought to join so useful an institution.—*Paris Cor. Labor News.*

The Master masons of Berlin have convokeed a general congress to be held in the capital of Germany on the 8th of June next. Not only are Germans invited but employers whose native language is German, and thus the congress will include representatives

from the German provinces of Austria and Switzerland. This movement has caused considerable commotion among the workmen engaged in this trade as they force on the part of the masters an International combination to resist any demand for an increase of wages. In the meanwhile the number of strikes are ever increasing in Germany. This week we are informed that the workmen employed on the Eastern Prussian railway line have struck work and demand that their salary shall be increased from 26 silver-groschen to 22 $\frac{1}{2}$. The company have offered to take the men back again; but, on the other hand, have made no definite promise with regard to an increase of wages. Thus the strike continues, and the company is now compelled to abandon for the moment the transport of goods. The workmen have also struck at Insterbourg and Eydtkuhm. Among the printers who are now more or less on strike throughout the North of Germany, a new movement has been started. It is argued that the cost of resisting the masters would exceed any advantage that might ensue from a successful issue of the strife. The employers enjoy the moral support of the government, and are firmly united together to resist their workmen. It is true that, on the other hand, the workingmen's corporations have throughout Germany displayed a strong spirit of solidarity, and that help has been readily forthcoming from many different quarters; but even if all the trades were to unite in supporting the printers against their employers, the money thus expended might be used in a manner which would ultimately tend in a much greater degree to their advantage. It is suggested, therefore, that as the master printers have shown themselves so illiberal towards their men, these latter should hasten by means of co-operation to dispense with them altogether. The printers are of course aware of the difficulties that must be overcome before so ambitious a scheme can be realized; but such an enterprise is not without precedent—as there actually exists at Leipzig, a successful co-operative printing establishment.

THE DURHAM FRANCHISE ASSOCIATION AND MANHOOD SUFFRAGE.

The Durham Franchise Association has issued the following circular addressed to non-electors:—

Gentlemen,—The enthusiastic reception the franchise question has met with during the last three months encourage us to make an appeal to you, by circular, in order (if possible) to secure your assistance in obtaining the reduction of the franchise to manhood. This broad, but just and equitable extension of the franchise is the only one that can give permanent satisfaction to the working classes of this country. Therefore, we hope and trust that this appeal to you will be eminently successful. The doctrine we preach and teach is, that every man who has attained the age of 21 years, and who is sound in mind and not tainted with crime, ought to exercise the right of voting in the election of Parliamentary representatives. Up to the present moment of time, the middle and upper classes have systematically excluded millions of workmen from the enjoyment of the franchise; whilst they, the wealthy non-producers, have arrogated to themselves the voting power, which every Englishman ought to enjoy and exercise as his birthright. They allege that such right does not belong to us, because we have no stake in the country's welfare, and, therefore, ought not to have the franchise; if so, why not give us some stake in our country by giving us the franchise? for if they give us the right, we shall also receive a corresponding amount of responsibility, for right and responsibility invariably accompany each other. Others allege that we are too ignorant to exercise the franchise. If the statement were as true as it is false, even then the objection would have no force, because an educational standard has not yet been set up for any other class

in the community. But supposing we are too ignorant, to whom must we attach the blame? To our forefathers, who were compelled to force their children at an early age into dark and dangerous mine or factory, in order to gain an honest living, thus excluding them from even the rudiments of a good education? or must the blame be attached to our rulers, who allowed capitalists to keep our children at work thirteen, fourteen, and even fifteen hours per day, and who still refuse to make satisfactory provision for their educational requirements? Further, if we are too ignorant to vote, we ought to be too ignorant to work, too ignorant to pay taxes, to obey the laws which others make and enforce. They also allege that if workmen had the franchise, "all the safeguards to life and property would be swept away," "that the working classes would become more discontented and dangerous," "that we should soon have civil discord and anarchy." Such are the wild dreams and fancies of those who are opposed to the enfranchisement of the laboring classes, whilst history irrefragably demonstrates the contrary. The immortal Cromwell was brought to the fore by an attempt to contract the people's liberty. America was induced to declare her independence because England attempted to enforce taxation without representation. Other instances might be quoted, showing most lucidly and forcibly that the broader the basis of our constitution, the safer it must necessarily become. Prior to the Reform Act of 1867, there were scarcely one million electors in the United Kingdom. That Act more than doubled the number of electors, and yet we have not witnessed civil discord and anarchy. "Taxation without representation is tyranny," said the great Earl of Chatham, and Lord John Russell endorsed his opinion when introducing the Reform Bill in 1831 he remarked:—"That the ancient constitution of our country declares that no man shall be taxed for the support of the State who has not by himself or his representative consented to the imposition of the tax," and yet, strange as it may seem, it is a fact that the great majority of the English people are not represented, yet they are compelled to pay taxes. Until the last Reform Bill became law, there were less than one million electors in the United Kingdom, and even now there are only 2,449,234 electors out of a population of 31,638,789, or one voter to every thirteen persons. These figures include both women and children. But after deducting 24,000,000 from the aggregate as ineligible voters, we have still 7,000,000 eligible voters, if the franchise were reduced to manhood suffrage. Therefore the importance of the present agitation for an extension of the franchise to manhood suffrage is intensified when we remember that the whole of this extra power will be placed in the hands of the working classes. The following are the interests at present represented in the House of Commons:—The fighting interest, the aristocratic interest, the official interest, the land interest, the money interest, the railway interest, the legal interest, the literary and scientific interest, manufacturers, &c., shipbuilders, &c., shipowners, &c., coalowners, &c., iron masters, &c., in fact every interest but the labor interest. Then under the present system of representation, how can you expect anything else but shameful class legislation? No wonder that workmen are sent to gaol for leaving work without notice, while, at the same time employers who discharge men without notice escape scot free. No wonder that Criminal Law Amendment and Conspiracy Acts (specially directed against workmen), disgrace our statute books. No wonder that dock laborers are turned adrift by hundreds, and that many men who never did anything to improve their country are pensioned off at the age of 40 years, and even under 40, to the sum of some thousands of pounds per annum. At the present time, the great bulk of wealth producers—the hardy sons of toil, are a political nonentity, while those who consume and squander the produce of labor,

enjoy and exercise every political right whatever. In conclusion, we would urge you to take an increased interest in the present agitation for Manhood Suffrage, discuss the question in your local lodges, by your fire-sides, and at your work, seek all the information your can, and never rest satisfied until the glorious day shall dawn, when the masses of the people shall experience a full and complete political emancipation, by being put in possession of Manhood Suffrage.

JOHN PRITCHARD, President.

A DIET OF LEATHER, IRON, FFLT, ETC.

Some physiologist has been giving a contemporary the result of some investigations and calculations in this field of diet. His statements are curious enough:—

When we pour milk into a cup of tea, the albumen of the milk, and the tannin of the tea instantly unite and form leather, or minute flakes of the very same compound which is produced in the texture of the tanned hide, and which makes it leather, as distinguished from the original skin. In the course of a year a tea-drinker of average habits will have imbibed leather enough to make a pair of shoes, if it could be put into proper shape for the purpose.

A great many things go into the mouth. That is not an original remark. We have seen it somewhere. But it is an alarming fact. We drink, every one of us, a pair of boots a year. We carry enough iron in our blood constantly to make a horse-shoe. We have clay enough in our frames to make, if properly separated and baked, a dozen good-sized bricks. We eat at least a peck of dirt a month—no, that is not too large an estimate. The man who carelessly tips a glass of lager into his stomach little reflects that he has begun the manufacture of hats, yet such is the case. The malt of the beer assimilates with the chyle and forms a sort of felt, the very same seen so often in hat factories; but not being instantly utilized, it is lost. Still further, it is estimated that the bones in every adult person require to be fed with lime enough to make a marble mantel every eight months.

To sum up, we have the following astounding aggregate of articles charged to account of physiology, to keep every poor shack on his feet for three-score years and ten:—

Men's shoes, 70 years, 1 pr. per year, 70 prs.
Horse-shoes, 70 years, at 1 a month, as our arterial system renews its blood every new moon, 840 shoes.
Bricks, at 12 per seven years, 120 bricks.
Hats, not less than 14 a year, 980 hats.
Mantels, $\frac{1}{2}$ a year, 105 mantels.

Here we are surprised to observe that we eat as many shoes as we wear, and a sufficient number of hats to supply a large family of boys; that we float in our blood vessels horse-shoes enough to keep a span of grays shod all the while; that we carry in our animated clay bricks enough to build a modern fire-place, and in our bones marble enough to supply our neighbors with mantels. We have not figured on the soil, at the rate of a peck a month, but it is safe to say that the real estate that a hearty eater masticates and swallows in the course of a long and eventful career would amount to something worth having, if sold, like the corner lots on State street, at \$2,000 per front foot.—*Phrenological Journal.*

The WHITE HART, cor. of Yonge & Elm sts., is conducted on the good old English style, by Bell Belmont, late of London, Eng., who has made the above the most popular resort of the city. The bar is most elegantly decorated, displaying both judgment and taste, and is pronounced to be the "Prince of Bars." It is under the sole control of Mrs. Emma Belmont, who is quite capable of discharging the duties entrusted to her. The spacious billiard room is managed by H. Vosper; and the utmost courtesy is displayed by every one connected with this establishment. Adv.

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