

# THE TOILER

Official Organ of the Toronto District Labor Council. Published Weekly in the Interests of the Working Masses.

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## INDUSTRIAL EUROPE SEEN THROUGH AMERICAN EYES

### A Day with a French Artisan—His Work, His Food, His Amusements, His Home and His Wages.

By HENRY STREIBER.  
Copyright, 1904, by John G. Street.

Paris, France, July 26. French art, as well as the English ones, are a man in the hands of labor. The French worker, though his day's toil is shorter, and his pay is less, is not less satisfied with his work. This, however, is not the case with factory employees, where from 40 to 60 hours a week is the rule. The exception is a 42-hour day—22 hours a week. It is evident that no worker can do his best work with an 8-hour time given to him. A French working class, with all its civility, its educational display, its gaiety and seeming abundance of ease, has a tired look. When the wine flows—and there it flows in great quantities in Paris, where anywhere from 150,000 to 200,000 gallons of more a day are consumed—there is little, song and—women, yet I have seen a drunken person in France, an individual display of affection between two men. The only thing that I have seen that is in the United States would be called indecent are the pictures of nude men and women in almost every respectable attitude, but save the windows of stores on the boulevards as well as those of the more humble establishments on the back streets.

**A Day with a French Wage Earner.**  
I'm not all you know the average French citizen lives, and you can then see for yourself that he is not the ideal of a man's position. In England, I followed John May from daybreak until sundown, though I have yet to receive my impressions in writing. In France, John had a family of seven children—three boys and four girls. He was a factory worker, and he had a wife and five children. He was a factory worker, and he had a wife and five children. He was a factory worker, and he had a wife and five children.

And now, having worked and sipped, Jean is ready to be amused. He is not usually a home body. In fact, his home has not of the "trappings" of the world is allowable, that makes the home a source of pleasure, or even a resting spot. There are a bed or two, to be sure, a table—perhaps two, and a few chairs. The floors are bare, the walls are white, and the furniture is simple. The only artificial illumination is that of gas or kerosene lamps. The only pictures or musical instruments are those of little value, and the only books are those of little value.

**The Holiday Feast.**  
From 9 to 11:30 Jean goes steadily to his job, that is, steadily for a Frenchman. He is not at all a workaholic. His movements are leisurely, and he is not at all a workaholic. He is not at all a workaholic. He is not at all a workaholic. He is not at all a workaholic. He is not at all a workaholic.

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ful, cuts off a few thousand heads—usually the wrong ones. So long as France insists on raising the major part of its needed revenue for the support of government from taxes on consumption, it cannot be a serious competitor against either the United States or England for the trade of the world. There are some things in which the French excel; this is in their "artistic" taste. There are other things which France does well, but her economic stability prevents her doing them economically. And should the socialist succeed in their aim for a cooperative commonwealth, I doubt very much if there is sufficient economic knowledge among them to make matters better; the chances are they would be made very much worse.

**INDUSTRIAL REFORM**  
(By a Workman.)  
Our slogan is: "The products of the labor of the toilers for the toilers"—Christian economy.  
ANOTHER SLOGAN.  
The products of the labor of the toilers for the toilers and as small a wage as possible for the toilers.—Political economy.  
A CHRISTIAN COUNTRY.  
It is only natural that the toilers in a Christian country should expect our industrial institutions to be run on Christian principles.  
TO-DAY.  
To-day we are seeing the seeds of industrial reform broadcast, and some-day humanity will reap the harvest in an industrial reformation.  
LABOR DAY.  
It is to be regretted that the toilers of Canada are unable to get to have an industrial exhibition on Labor Day. It is to be regretted that the toilers of Canada are unable to get to have an industrial exhibition on Labor Day.

**Halt! Women not the Exception.**  
In the theatre, as well as on the streets, halting women are in the majority. I asked a friend who has for half a decade lived in Paris if this was a new fact. "No," he answered, "I doubt if most of these women ever owned a hat. They were first habited from necessity, and it has now become a custom. With them, the expenses of living do not include the cost of Parisian trimmed bonnets. They would hardly know what to do with hats if they had them. If these women had no hats, they generally had something more beautiful, magnificent heads of hair, such as Fanny's, which she sold that Casse might have medicine to carry her through her supposed sickness—the fairy story of the Theodorians to a distracted mother. But that all is told in Victor Hugo's 'Les Miserables'."

**As to Wages.**  
Jean has an average workman, he may finally receive as high as 5 francs—41-a day. There are men who are getting less to exceed 50 cents; others are paid 80 cents, \$1.45, \$1.40, and even \$1.80 a day—the last a top notch price, leading great skill. A short time ago Paris omnibus drivers were working 14 to 16 hours a day for as low a wage as 60 cents—3 francs. They are now, thanks to a successful strike, receiving 4 to 5 francs for 12 to 14 hours' work.

**ENGLAND.**  
In England we have another splendid example of what the toilers can do by co-operating in the store, the workshop, factory and farm.  
**IN CANADA.**  
We have another example of what the toilers can do by co-operation by the way they are securing the coal supply.

**THE TOILER.**  
If more arrangements could be made to persuade the toilers to celebrate Labor Day in Canada by sending 50 cents for one year's subscription to this paper, 97 1/2 subscribers, it would help them.  
**A GREAT HELP.**  
The co-operatives in England have found their 2 1/2 per cent. educational fund a great help in teaching the people about the principles of co-operation.

**THE Nasmith Baking Co.**  
IS UNFAIR TO ORGANIZED LABOR.

**THE TOILER**  
If a few men that are deeply interested in the toilers would get together and start a building, it would help them.

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agency, we believe a grand work could be accomplished in teaching the toilers what they need to know.

**A TEBENCY.**  
We are pleased to see that there is a tendency among the toilers to formulate a straight labor party in Sydney, Ont.

**IT WILL COME.**  
No matter how much we as toilers cling to the old parties of the past, it will come to a straight labor party for Canada.

**A DIFFERENT QUESTION.**  
When the toilers are told by the private owners of industrial institutions that they will run their own business as they please, it certainly puts the toilers up against a serious problem as long as they treat the principles of co-operation among themselves with indifference.

**OSK MAN.**  
To-day one man rises from the ranks of the toilers and makes some other toilers his slaves. How long will we be before we decide that all toilers shall rise and all become free?

**IF WE WOULD.**  
If we would sit down and think about our much boasted industrial liberty, we would see that what the toilers need to-day is industrial freedom. But this we can never obtain until the toilers of our day cease trying to become an employee of wage slaves to morrow.

**SHRIMP KINGDOM.**  
It looks like the church records as if the day for extending Christ's kingdom on earth by reforming the individual is a thing of the past, and unless we agree to have Christian principles govern our industrial institutions, it is useless to ask men to become Christians.

**LOVE THY NEIGHBOR.**  
Christ told us to love our neighbors as ourselves. He told us to love our neighbors as ourselves. He told us to love our neighbors as ourselves.

**A FEW MEN.**  
If a few men that are deeply interested in the toilers would get together and start a building, it would help them.

**A GREAT HELP.**  
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