

to ten, and the wages increased from \$8 per week to \$10 per week. The sick benefits are \$4 per week, and \$50 in case of funeral; \$4 per week is paid to members victimized or on strike; \$30,000 strike benefits have been paid out since formation of the society, and \$40,000 in funeral and sick benefits. The society now has \$7000 of a reserve fund.

THE IRON MOLDERS' UNION OF AMERICA was organized by a few unions on July 5, 1859, and now covers over 250 local unions and 28,000 members, of whom fully 20,000 are in benefits. The reserve fund at headquarters is never allowed to fall below \$30,000, and the local treasuries have hundreds of thousands at their command. The dues to the general office are 25 cents per month. The burial and strike benefits are paid from this fund. This society pays \$100 funeral benefit. When the society first organized, \$12 per week was considered good wages; at present the invariable rule is \$2.75 per day. They also formerly worked twelve to thirteen hours per day; now the custom is ten hours, and in April, 1889, a general movement for the nine-hour work-day is projected. Piece-work is general, and to restrict the greedy piece-workers, they are limited to do an amount of work not to exceed \$3.50 per day. The great strike of March, 1887, against the combined Manufacturers' Defense Association, resulted in a sweeping victory for the union.

THE BROTHERHOOD OF LOCOMOTIVE ENGINEERS was instituted August 17, 1863, and at this writing, has 392 subdivisions and over 25,000 members. Since 1868 this union has paid out to the widows and orphans of its members \$2,438,000. The insurance feature is \$3000 in case of death, and \$1500 in case of permanent disability by accident. Wages have been advanced fully 50 per cent., and the hours of labor have been curtailed considerably.

THE CIGAR-MAKERS INTERNATIONAL UNION OF AMERICA was founded June 21, 1864, with 21 unions and 984 members. At present it numbers 260 local unions and over 28,000 members, of whom 21,000 are in benefits. The initiation fee ranges from \$3 to \$10, according to locality, and the dues are 20 cents per week, and an annual assessment of one dollar. At first the hours of labor were ten hours and longer, now the rule is eight hours a day, while since September, 1879, wages have advanced from twenty to one hundred per cent.; the system of piece-work prevails. A sick benefit of \$5 per week is paid, and the union has a funeral benefit ranging from \$50 to \$500. A system of loans to traveling members is one of the institutions, while \$4 per week is paid in case of a strike

or lockout. In the past ten years the sum of \$883,181.82 has been paid out in various benefits, while the society now has in its funds the sum of over a quarter of a million dollars. This union has broken down the truck system of paying wages in cigars, and has battled against the tenement-house cigar factories, with considerable success.

THE BRICKLAYERS' AND MASONS' INTERNATIONAL UNION OF AMERICA was established February 1, 1865, with 3 unions, and now it embraces over 160 local unions. The initiation fee is from \$10 to \$25, and the dues from 25 to 50 cents per month. The hours of labor have been reduced from ten down to nine hours per day. Wages are paid by the day, and vary according to location, from \$2.50 to \$5 per day. In strikes, \$200,000 have been spent, and \$350,000 more have been expended in other benefits. Strike benefits are at the rate of \$7 per week for married men, and \$5 per week for single men. Many of the local unions have sick and funeral benefits.

THE ORDER OF RAILWAY CONDUCTORS was organized in 1868, at Mendota, Ill., and now has 8,000 members. It has insurance features and various benefits.

THE UNITED STATES WOOL HAT FINISHERS' ASSOCIATION was formed April 7, 1869, and now embraces 12 locals. All apprentices, on becoming journeymen, are members of the union. The system of work is piece-work, and averages nine months' work in the year, at from \$3 to \$6 per day, according to a workman's expertness. Over \$4000 have been spent in strike benefits. The history of some local unions in this body dates back to 1745.

THE GERMAN-AMERICAN TYPOGRAPHIA was organized in 1873, with 7 locals and 400 members, now it has 9 locals and 1,400 beneficial members. The initiation fee is \$3, and the dues 25 cents per week, and more in some cases. Since May 1, 1886, the eight-hour system is the universal rule in all union offices among German printers, where the men formerly worked ten hours and more per day. Wages range from \$12 to \$20 per week, as the work is principally piece-work. In the past five years wages have advanced 15 to 25 per cent. This society pays \$6 per week sick benefit, \$6 per week out of work benefit, \$7 per week strike benefit, \$200 death benefit, and \$25 wife funeral benefit, also traveling loans to the extent of \$20. This society has a reserve of over \$12,000.

THE INTERNATIONAL UNION OF FURNITURE WORKERS OF AMERICA was instituted July 7, 1873, with 9 local unions and 1,156 members. At present it numbers 26 locals and over 5,000 members