

CHURCHES CONDEMN 12-HOUR STEEL DAY; SCORE GARY REPORT

Organizations Representing 50,000,000 Declare Regime Must End

Quote Stockholders—Argument of Steel Institute in Favor of Long Hours is Called "Unworthy."

(New York Times.)

Asserting that the twelve-hour day in the steel mills is "morally indefensible," a statement of organizations said to represent 50,000,000 Protestants, Catholics and Jews, made public yesterday, attacks the recent report of Judge Elbert H. Gary's committee to the recent meeting of the Iron and Steel Institute.

The statement was issued in the name of the Commission on the Church and Social Service of the Federal Council of Churches, the Social Action Department of the National Catholic Welfare Council and the Social Justice Commission of the Central Conference of American Rabbis. Here is the statement:

"The report of the Committee on Proposed Total Elimination of the Twelve-Hour Day appointed by the American Iron and Steel Institute shatters the public confidence that was inspired by the creation of the committee a year ago at the request of the President of the United States. It is a definite rejection of the proposal for the abolition of the long day. The public demand in response to which the committee was appointed is set aside as a 'sentiment' which was not created or endorsed by the workmen themselves. The testimony of competent investigators, including eminent engineering societies, is ignored, and the conclusion is put forth without supporting data that the twelve-hour day 'has not of itself been an injury to the employes, physically, mentally or morally.' This statement is made in the face of the fact that the Committee of Stockholders of the United States Steel Corporation, appointed in 1912 to investigate this matter, expressed the opinion that a twelve-hour day of labor, followed continuously by any group of men for any considerable number of years, means a decreasing efficiency and lessening of the vigor and virility of such men."

"Objection to the long day of the twelve-hour workers is disposed of in the report with the complacent comment that it is insupportable when men who work shorter hours actually spend their leisure time at home. This is an unworthy and untenable argument which will be bitterly resented by the millions of home-loving workmen in America.

"The Steel Institute's Committee contends that the workmen themselves prefer the long hours. Undoubtedly there are those who will voluntarily work long hours to their own hurt, but the committee's contention is chiefly significant as showing that workmen whose only choice is between abnormally long hours of labor and earnings that are insufficient to maintain a family on a level of health and decency, naturally adopt the more arduous alternative.

"The plea that a shortage of labor makes impracticable the change from two to three shifts of workmen affords but a meagre defence. The shortage of labor was not the reason for the failure to abolish the long day two years ago when the public waited expectantly for such a salutary step on the part of the United States Steel Corporation. At that time there was appalling unemployment which could have been relieved in large measure by the introduction of the three-shift system in the steel industry. The task may be more difficult now than it would have been then, but a past delinquency affords no release from a present moral obligation.

"The Steel Institute's Committee finds that the entire cost of a change to the eight-hour day would have to be paid by the consumers of steel, disregarding the possibility of a proportionate contribution out of the earnings of the industry. Thus the safeguarding of profits becomes a consideration superior to that of the health and welfare of the workers, and the willingness of the public to pay higher prices is made a condition of the accomplishment of a fundamental reform.



in, if on the whole physically and mentally injurious to the men who work it." Writing in the June issue of "The American Legislation Review, Mr. Walker who is the author of "Steel: The Diary of a Furnace Worker," says: "While temporarily resulting in greater production, the twelve-hour shift is in long run unsound from the standpoint of engineer efficiency. It makes difficult, if not impossible an adequate family and community life. It creates a condition unfavorable to the making of good citizenship."

Mr. Walker says that the men in the steel mills are strongly opposed to the twelve-hour shift. "I found the men on the open-hearth, with one or two exceptions," he says, "holding a deep seated hatred of the twelve-hour shift and anxious for a reduction in hours. Some had worked in mills where the three-shift system was in operation. Many were familiar with the practices in foreign countries. This opinion was not only current among the foreign workers but was held largely by Americans, leading hands, old, company men and foremen. One German told me, 'Good job, work all time, save money, no spend.' But the majority were anxious for a reduction in hours, even at the sacrifice of some part of their hourly rate in wages. This attitude has proved to be general when the change from two shifts to three has actually been tried.

"The economists have done very notable work in gathering dispassionately and exhaustively the facts upon the twelve-hour shift in American industry, and upon the alternative three-shift plan. Such a question as the twelve-hour shift, affecting as it does, some 300,000 men in American industry, is a national one and action upon it requires a national opinion. The work of education must go on with all the energy possible."

ORPHANS' HOMES ARE CROWDED Many Await Admission — Funds Insufficient to Meet Bills.

At a meeting of the directors of the New Brunswick Protestant Orphanage yesterday afternoon in the Wright street home, it was announced that three homes were filled and that there were twenty-two worthy cases waiting to be admitted. It was reported that less than \$4,000 had been received from the four Protestant denominations last year, and that as a consequence there was a shortage of funds. It was planned to have a big fair in aid of the orphanage early in the fall. D. C. Clark, the president, was in the chair and seventeen members were present.

FINE ITALIAN MS. BIBLE RECOVERED

Milanese Merchant Buys the Precious Codex and Presents it to State.

Milan, May 11.—(By Mail).—A Milanese gentleman, Signor Giovanni Treccani, a successful cotton trader, has bought for four and a half million lire one of the most precious codices of the fifteenth century, and has generously given it to the Italian State.

The story of the manuscript is very interesting. It is of the famous Bible of Borsio d'Este, a magnificent manuscript painted in miniature and made between 1450 and 1460 in two volumes of about seven hundred pages each in parchment. The work, which is due to a group of artists of the Renaissance, among whom were Crivelli, Rossi and Marco d'Avogadro, is splendidly painted, and is of the highest interest also for the costumes. It is very well preserved. The manuscript, then the property of the Duke of Modena, left Italy in 1859 and passed to the Kaiser Francis Joseph, and after his death to his successor, Kaiser Karl, who about two years ago sold it to a Paris antiquary. The Italian Government tried to secure the precious codex, demanding it on account of reparations, but all its efforts were in vain.

TOWARDS THE END OF APRIL IT came to the knowledge of a Florentine bookseller that the Paris antiquary was negotiating for the sale of the manuscript to a noted American banker. He immediately hastened to Paris and obtained an option on it until April 30, at the same time advising the Government, but the latter declined to pay the four million francs demanded by the Paris antiquary. However, Signor Treccani became interested in the affair, hastened to Paris, and entered into negotiations with the antiquary. Signor Treccani, who is a very fine connoisseur of works of art, admired the manuscript so much that he bought it for 3,800,000 francs, the equivalent of 4,500,000 lire at today's exchange. As soon as the American banker heard of the sale he offered Signor Treccani one million more than the latter had paid, but Signor Treccani refused the offer.

TELLS OF WORK AMONG LEPERS

Rev. W. Konkle Gives Interesting Account of Efforts Among Afflicted.

Rev. W. Konkle, general secretary of the Mission to the Lepers, gave an interesting account of the work last evening in St. John's Stone Church hall. He showed slides depicting the work and said that it was conservatively estimated that there were 2,000,000 lepers in the world, the great majority of whom were in India. The mission is international and undenominational and has ninety-five stations in thirteen countries. In Canada there are known to be seventeen cases, six of which are on the Pacific coast and eleven at Tracadie, New Brunswick. It cost \$25 to keep a leper in a station for one year. Rev. A. L. Fleming presided at the meeting and Rev. A. L. Tedford offered prayer.

Members of the office staff of the New Brunswick Telephone Company last evening tendered a novelty shower to Miss Florence Brown, one of their number. They called at Miss Brown's home and presented a splendid array of gifts. The evening was pleasantly spent in games and refreshments were served.

TO HONOR MEN WHO FELL IN WAR

"Cross of Sacrifice" Unveiled at Rothersey.

The "Cross of Sacrifice" erected by the people of the parish of Rothersey in honor of the men who fell in the war, will be unveiled on the grounds of the Rothersey Consolidated School this afternoon at 3:15 o'clock. The C. N. R. express which left here at two o'clock, daylight time, made a stop at Rothersey. The names on the cross are: Frank C. Beyer, John L. Brock, Heber H. Daniel, Frank Harris, Melvin C. Harrison, Joseph R. Johnston, John A. Gallagher, Reay Mackay, Alexander McKinnon, J. Adolod Peters, George A. Pierce, Ernest W. Saunders, Percy Saunders, Joseph T. Gallagher. A suitable programme was arranged for the occasion.

B. U. PROFESSOR SCORES PARENTS

Think More of Raising Poultry Than Children, He Says.

Prof. Ernest R. Groves, head of the department of sociology in the Boston University school of liberal arts, gave the principal address Tuesday afternoon at the conference of Massachusetts Parents-Teachers Associations, in the new high school building at Wakefield. His topic was "Efficient Parents."

"The unsuccessful home is our greatest menace," he said. "The home is the least efficient of our social institutions. It has fallen behind the school and the church because it has not made use of science. There are parents who prepare themselves more seriously for the raising of poultry than for the raising of children. Parenthood is the most difficult and important of all home responsibilities and demands specific training."

DUMBELLS' MUSIC IS BROADCASTED

The Dumbells repeated their show "Carry On" at the Imperial yesterday afternoon and evening. The matinee performance was played before a large audience, among whom were the patients from the Lancaster Military Hospital, who occupied box-seats as the guests of the management. The evening's house was not so large, but the audience showed its appreciation of talented applause. The performance was broadcasted by means of a microphone placed just above the piano. This was the first time the Dumbells' programme had been broadcasted. The orchestral music from the Imperial had been sent out for several days, however, and a communication was received at the theatre yesterday from St. Louis that the music had been heard in that city.

Another Budget of Bargain Startlers

When we threw our doors open last Thursday morning we never realized that the public would respond so greatly and heartily to this great—the biggest selling event of the season. Neither did we realize in its full measure the public's confidence in this store's daily efforts. It seemed as every one in St. John was determined to reap real benefit from this important event.

WHY WE ARE GETTING THE CROWDS—We don't just tell you we're giving you values that can't be duplicated elsewhere. We prove it by actual comparison with what the retail market outside of this store is doing. If another store sells a certain style, and make of footwear at a certain price, it is our policy to beat that price enough to convince you that when you are buying here you are getting a real bargain.

That's the way we're revolutionizing things at this store, and that why Fine's Gigantic Sale is drawing the crowds.

Men's \$5.50 Calf Boots and Oxfords

Men's Mahogany Calf Bal Cut Boots. Made on neat fitting last with new French toes. Goodyear welt, oak tanned soles and rubber heel. A stylish, dependable boot at a remarkably low price that will give the wearer every satisfaction. Sizes 6 to 10.

Men's Brown and Black Calf Oxfords. Made on stylish last with medium recede toes. Goodyear welt soles and rubber heels. Sizes 6 to 9.

Men's Brown Scotch Grain Oxfords. Made on new French last. Goodyear welt soles and flange heels. These shoes will appeal to the well dressed man. All sizes. Your choice at \$3.95

Women's Strap Shoes and Oxfords

Women's Mahogany Calf One Strap Shoes. Made on neat fitting last with medium toes. Goodyear welt soles and Cuban and low heels. These stylish straps are unusual values. They sold in the regular way at \$6.00. Sizes 2 1-2 to 7.

Women's Mahogany Calf Blucher Cut Oxfords with medium toes and low heels. Regular \$6.00 value. Sizes 2 1-2 to 7.

Women's Mahogany Calf Sport Oxfords with dark brown calf apron. Made on comfortable fitting last with perforated toes and rubbers. Sizes 2 1-2 to 7. Regular \$5.50 value.

HOSIERY At Never-To-Be Forgotten Prices

Women's Fibre Silk Hose, in black, cordovan and white colors. 48c

All sizes. Regular \$1.00 value.

High-grade Fibre Silk Hose in black and Pidgeon colors. 69c

All sizes. Regular \$1.35

Women's Pure Silk full fashioned hose, in black and gray colors. Regular \$2.00

Men's \$1.95 Grain Bluchers

They are made of pliable black and brown oil tanned leather. Securely sewn with extra heavy soles and bellows tongues. Guaranteed solid leather. Regular \$5.50. Sizes 6 to 11.

Women's \$3.95 Boys' Bluchers

Of good quality, black box kip uppers. Made on full fitting round toe last, with strong leather soles. Well constructed and made to stand lots of hard wear. Regular \$4.00 value. Sizes 1 to 5.

Women's \$3.25 You Can't Afford to Miss These Savings

60 pairs high-grade "samples" in the season's newest designs, in straps and Colonials, with Spanish and Louis heels. These come in gray and fawn suede, patent with fawn and gray trimming, also black broad-cast Satin and Gold Evening Slippers. Sizes 2 1-2 to 5 1-2. Regular value \$7.50.

Women's High-Cut Lace Boots

In black kid and patent leather, with Cuban and Louis heels; Goodyear welt soles. These boots were made by one of Canada's best makers and were originally priced at \$7.50. Sizes 2 1-2 to 6.

50c.



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