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**CHICAGO BARBERS
DECIDE TO ASK
FOR INCREASE**

Will Demand \$27 a Week and 65
Per Cent On All Over
\$37 Taken In

Chicago.—Members of the Journeymen Barbers' Association have decided to ask for an increase in wages, according to A. B. Raymond, secretary.

At a recent meeting representatives of the Master Barbers' Association agreed to boost the price of a haircut from 50 cents to 60 cents with the exception of Saturdays and holidays, when it will be 75 cents.

"The Barbers' Union is against the new increase," said Raymond, "so long as the shop owners insist on taxing the public with the new prices it is about time that they give the barbers a raise and in this way eliminate the tipping system."

On and after July 1, he said, the union will demand that all shops close at 7:30 p.m. on week days and 8 o'clock on Saturdays and that the wage scale be fixed at \$27 a week and 65 per cent on all over \$37 taken in.

MUST LOOK TO OUR ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

"We need to look to our economic, as well as our moral conditions," said Mrs. L. C. McKinney in addressing the Alberta W.M.S. last week. Mrs. McKinney quoted the words of a priest who conducted a party from the world convention of the W.C.T.U. through the slum districts of London. Enquiry as to why slum conditions exist elicited the response from the priest that in his opinion the cause lay in the keen competition in trade. Employers have to house workmen somewhere, and they give them the cheapest kind of housing possible. There was no denying that the influence of drink was downward, he said, but the great blame was laid on the competition of trade.

The above conclusion is that which one might expect a woman of Mrs. McKinney's keen intelligence to come to. Economic conditions have a tremendous effect on the moral conditions. Sordid, unsanitary surroundings; lack of physical care, of education, proper food and housing, have their effect in forming the mental and moral standards of individuals or groups. These conditions have an adverse effect not only upon those who suffer because of them, but also upon those who are responsible for the existence of such conditions. It would appear, therefore, that all efforts put forth on behalf of the uplift of humanity, must take the economic question into consideration if such movements are to be wholly successful. Drunkenness, prostitution and other forms of vice can, in a great many, if not in the majority, of cases, be traced directly to the door of economic conditions, while in an indirect way the same conditions can be blamed for much more. The Free Press is unequivocally opposed to all of the evils that today are undermining and debasing the physical, mental, moral and spiritual natures of mankind. And the greatest force of all in that direction is the economic evil.

STEEL KINGS, "AGITATORS" AND PERSONAL GAIN

Judge Elbert H. Gary, president of the United States Steel Corporation, is also president of the American Iron and Steel Institute, and to that body in convention assembled, Mr. Gary recently made a speech. The corporation head was talking to men of his own stamp, having his own viewpoint, and Mr. Gary's address was exactly the kind of a speech that he would be expected to deliver on such an occasion. It makes good reading for those who believe as Mr. Gary does, and it gives room for serious thought to those who are not of the judge's class in society.

There was, of course, liberal condemnation of "class legislation," for the other fellow's benefit. There was equally emphatic and vitriolic censure of "agitators." Meaning trade union officials who would disturb the peace of mind of the steel industry's contented twelve-hour-day slaves. It is interesting to note that Labor's "agitators" are all "self-appointed, insincere and selfish." Another characteristic of Mr. Gary's agitators, is that while they pretend to have the interests of the workers at heart, they really are only "striving after personal popularity and gain." Of course Mr. Gary and those to whom he was talking have never a thought of anything so debasing as personal gain. Only Labor "agitators" and "a few writers, lecturers and public speakers," and others who may dispute Mr. Gary's despotic rule, are actuated by impure motives. Steel Kings, Oil Magnates and Coal Barons cannot of course, do any wrong or descend so low as to strive after personal gain. But as we said before, the Steel King's address was what could reasonably be expected and we must not think too rashly of him for that.

It is interesting to note that Judge Gary has a very ardent admirer in Canada. The Financial Post liked Mr. Gary's speech so well that it would have the Canadian Manufacturers' Association give him a job. The Toronto paper makes the proposition in the following terms:

And the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, which represents at least three times greater investment (than the Steel Corporation) must get the same type of man to be permanent president or general manager if they ever hope to be properly understood and thus regain public confidence and respect and get the support of the agriculturist, labor and general public in Canada. With such a man it will not be necessary to devise secret and veiled schemes of press control or to raise millions for election purposes.

It would be interesting to watch Mr. Gary at the task of making the C.M.A. "properly understood."

THE WORKERS AND PRODUCTION

The Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America in Convention at Boston recently, established a standard of production up to which the workers in the union are enjoined to reach. Newspapers throughout the continent have been calling attention to the clothing workers' action and quoting the address of President Sidney Hillman, an extract of which appeared in these columns in a recent issue, as if something strange had happened in the Labor world. As a matter of fact trade unionism as a whole favors greater production in no uncertain manner. Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, recently wrote:

"The Trades union movement of America understands fully the necessity for adequate production of the necessities of life. American Labor understands, perhaps more fully than do American statesmen, the needs of the world in this hour, and it is exerting every effort to see that those needs are met with intelligence and with promptness. The question of increased productivity is not a question of putting upon the toilers a more severe strain; it is a question of vast and fundamental changes in the management of industry; a question of the introduction of the very best in machinery and methods and management."

One has only to take up a copy of almost any union journal to find articles urging the membership to strive after greater efficiency. A section of many union publications is set aside for technical instruction while many international unions conduct schools and provide correspondence courses designed to increase their knowledge of the industry in which they are engaged. Industry is not the employer. It is a combination of the efforts of those engaged in the production of things. The welfare of the workers is bound up with and inseparable from the welfare of industry. For the workers of the world to retard production would be as great a folly as refusing to eat sufficient food or wear enough clothing to keep the body healthy.

But what of Capital? Has Capital always bent its energies toward greater production? The world knows that the opposite has in many cases prevailed. Production has been retarded at the expense of the workers and consuming masses; necessities of life have been held in warehouses, and in every conceivable manner Business has regulated commerce and industry for private gain without regard for the workers or the public. The newspapers that are citing the action of the Clothing Workers pretend to be surprised at Labor taking such a stand, and possibly the surprise is genuine. At least the Clothing Workers are taking a different stand from that practised by those who control the means of production. Mr. Hillman made that point very clear when he said: "We cannot evade this question of production. The Amalgamated cannot accept the ordinary rule of commerce, the principle of the business man, which is to give as little as possible and take as much as possible."

YESTERDAY'S IDEALS ARE TODAY'S REALITIES

Hon. John Oliver, Premier of British Columbia, struck a serious note in his address to the Canadian Manufacturers' Association Convention in Vancouver, when he said: "How many of our men who have acquired their millions and have made what the world calls a

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Women's Silk Lisle Hose in the well known Radium make. Extra fine high grade lisle and are seamless throughout with high double heels, double soles and toes. White only.
Special value, per pair **75c**

Kayser Chamousette Gloves, \$1.39 Pair

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Vests with high or low neck strap, short and elbow sleeves, finished with lace binding and ribbon. Drawers tight or umbrella knee, lace trimmed, open or closed. All sizes including out sizes. **98c**
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House and Porch Dresses, \$3.98

Old lines from our regular stock and a special purchase of samples to walk out in our June Sale. In a variety of styles and colors. All sizes including out sizes. Regular \$4.98, \$5.98, \$6.98 and \$7.98. **\$3.98**
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Made of fine gabban, chambray and print. Plain and fancy trimmed. Large variety of styles and colors. Ages 2 to 14. Values \$3.98 and \$4.98. **\$2.98**
SPECIAL JUNE WHITE SALE

Special Lot of Voile Waists, \$1.98

Lovely Voile Waists for our June White Sale, trimmed with fine embroidery and lace. Several styles. All sizes. **\$1.98**
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Sale Price, yard.

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success of life have really attained success? How many of them have devoted their lives to the service of their fellowmen? Gentlemen, I tell you that the standard is wrong. We must manufacture something different. We must adopt a truer standard by which to measure up the lives of men and women. That standard is embraced in the one word "service."

This sentiment has been repeatedly expressed in these columns. With Labor, however, service to humanity is more than a sentiment. It is the fundamental basis upon which a true civilization must be raised. "Gentlemen, I tell you the standard is wrong," said Premier Oliver, and this has for a century been the burden of Labor's protest. A standard of greatness that glorifies individual gain is the very antithesis of service to humanity. The Free Press can heartily agree with the sentiment expressed by Mr. Oliver in his conclusion that, "we must adopt a truer standard by which to measure up the lives of men and women. That standard is embraced in the one word 'service.'" The raising of such a standard means the dethringing of mammon. It means raising a standard by which men will be approved great, not because of their material possessions but in accordance with their contribution to humanity's welfare and progress. An ideal it may be but upon such an ideal the world must depend for light and progress. Many of yesterday's ideals are today's realities.

EDITOR'S NOTES

In any scheme to better the workers' lot, one thing must be predominant. Namely, organization of the workers, for the workers, by the workers.

The banks are tightening up, which may force some of the profiteers to release stocks that have been held up for the purpose of price boosting.

For the year ending April 30th, 1920, the Merchants Bank of Canada realized a net profit of \$1,686,156.15 or \$302,586.75 greater than that of the previous year.

The selfish, narrow-minded outlook of some of the spokesmen of the business interests of eastern Canada is revealed in the following from The Financial Post:

The increase of the basis of workmen's compensation under the Ontario Act from 55 to 66 2/3 per cent, must be regarded as an encouragement to idleness, under certain conditions. Employees who can draw two-thirds of their present high wages and do nothing, are not likely to be in any hurry about getting back to work.

Labor will be interested in the resolution which was unanimously adopted at the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ottawa last week. It was to the effect that the assembly recognized that the prevailing unrest is a sign of the vital effort of the nation to adjust itself to the new and changing conditions. The unrest was realized as a belated protest against injustices that have been tolerated in the social system, the alienation of Canada's natural resources, the tying up of land for the unearned increment in value, profiteering in the necessities of life, the public indifference to the conditions under which many of the people live.

The teachers of Alberta have found that the application of trade union methods is profitable. So far, so good. But the workers have found that their interests are the same whether they live in Edmonton or Kalamazoo, and so we have international unions. The American Federation of Teachers is an international organization affiliated with the A.F. of L. Alberta teachers have made a good start, why not go the full route and become definitely linked up with other organized workers?

ONTARIO STARTS ACTION AGAINST GROCERS' COMBINE

Writs Issued Summoning Wholesale Grocers' Officials To Court

Writs have been issued in Toronto summoning to court officials of the Canadian Wholesale Grocers' Association and several wholesale firms and manufacturers to secure a declaration of the court that this organization is a conspiracy in restraint of trade to the detriment of his majesty's subjects and to have it declared that all arrangements made by the organization should be annulled.

The action is taken by Edward Bayley, K.C., on behalf of the attorney general of Ontario, and it follows the recent hearings of the board of commerce in Hamilton and Toronto.

An injunction is also asked for the imposition of penalties on the defendants. The defendants are ordered to appear on June 22nd at the court at Osgoode Hall this week.

BACK COPIES OF TRADE JOURNALS MAY BE OBTAINED

The Free Press has a number of back copies of trade journals as follows:

Railway Clerk, Bookbinder, Motion Picture Operator, Leather Workers' Journal, Plasterer, Pacific Co-operator, Sign Makers, The School, Blacksmiths, Journeymen Barbers, The Carpenter, Plumbers and Steamfitters' Journal, Electrical Workers' Journal, Painter & Decorator, Railroad Trainmen, Mechanists' Monthly Journal, Canadian R. R. Employees, Motormen & Conductor, International Fire Fighter, American Pressman, Railway Post Office, Motion Review, and others.

Anyone desiring to read these back copies of their trade journals may have same by calling at the office of the Free Press, in the basement of the Adams Building, corner 101st street and 102nd avenue.

The Wisconsin legislature has passed a bill which gives the teachers and other employees of public schools in Milwaukee approximately \$1,000,000 in increased salaries. The minimum salary for school teachers was increased from \$900 to \$1,200 and the maximum from \$1,600 to \$2,500 per year.

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