

THE LABOR BUDGET

We Demand all the Reform that Justice can ask for, and all the Justice that Reform can give.

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WORK AND WAGES.

LABOR NOTES AND NEWS FROM ALL QUARTERS.

Interesting Items, Facts and Figures - A Bird's-Eye View of the World of Industry.
CANADA.
The hope of striking natural gas near Belleville has about been abandoned.
A party of citizens in Whittby Saturday night endorsed a proposition to develop the natural gas fields which are believed to exist in that neighborhood.
A stock company has been formed in England to work the Canadian phosphate mines. We all know that there are plenty of wealth untapped in the bowels of Canada but the only way to bring it to the surface. Owing to our short-sighted financial policy we have to borrow capital abroad to develop it, and retaining control of our own enterprises by leasing an adequate supply of paper currency.

ACTIVITY in the metal industry has lately been steadily increasing and solid progress is being made. A number of British capitalists are investing heavily in nickel lands. A strong company has been formed in Chicago to operate at property some miles west of Sault Ste. Marie, and a company of leading Canadian capitalists is being formed to develop the metal deposits of the Township of Carleton Place. Work on properties in the Townships of Carleton Place and Carleton Place has established the occurrence there of large bodies of ore.
UNIVERSITY.
CLEVELAND, Feb 26th and Doctor unions will build here.
TWENTY-NINE men compose the New York Harbour Water Union.
The number of men working in New York City is estimated at 60,000.
The Fire Department of Seattle (Wash.) has resigned.

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their men. A number of bricklayers have also struck.
In New York we have 900,000 outcasts. Why are they outcasts? Because they get only 40 cents a day for making shirts. Forty cents standing between a woman's chastity and vice. They can pay to find of course, but wages are reduced, and then there are but three ounces left - starvation, disease and death for food and shelter. Change the system which debauches our women. Why should there be infants? Because you make them by the cruel system which forgets the poor and lonely.
P. J. McGuire.

GREAT BRITAIN.
LONDON employ 500,000 factory hands.
POSTMASTER GENERAL RAIES has been forced by strikes and public opinion to pay an amount equal to the £100,000 "hands."
VERY few recruits were obtained by the recruiting parties on their late tour through the Highlands. Nothing but a large bill for the people to pay is the result - Workers' Org.
The municipal framen of London will receive an increase of salary of about 10 per cent, their demands that effect having been favorably reported upon by the various Executive Committees of the County Council.

The recently formed union of London clerks made a brave show in Hyde Park last Saturday. They were there to protest against long hours and other grievances. Many women marched in the procession, which was very respectable in appearance. The rain had a dampening effect, but the speeches were none the less enthusiastic as well as reasonable.
THE ST. JOHN'S GUILD says - Judging from the returns issued by the Board of Trade it looks as though we have already reached the end of good times. The great increase in the exports from Great Britain is undoubtedly due to the operation of the McKinley law in the United States. We have been the beneficiary of the act, but it is a misfortune to the United States, but its object was to hit foreign manufactures, and particularly those of France, and it is plain that this object has been attained.

A FEMALE servant dismissed at short notice for declining to wear a cap which her employers demanded, was the case of a woman in the City of London.
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AN EXPLODED IDEA.
Old fashioned ideas are exploded every day. You can't think that there was made to order for you like a hat. It may have a special value. Will it, may have a special value. Will it, may have a special value. Will it, may have a special value. Will it, may have a special value.

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This railway companies of France seem determined to overthrow labor unionism, the present strike of the employees of several lines working men and women and some companies discriminate against men and women, and the terms of the contract discriminate against men and women.

ADDDLE-HEADED ATKINSON.

Mr. Edward Atkinson, in one of his recent lectures to the Boston Transcript, in defence of the abominable sweating system now being unlearned in this country, has uttered the following extraordinary statement:
"When business is dull employees keep their noses under the rug and the best working women, because those who earn the highest wages for themselves also work at the lowest cost for their employers. They are not only the cheapest, but put some conscience into their work, and who do it well, are substantially sure of their employment at the highest rate of wages which the sale of the product on which their work will permit the employer to pay."
Mr. Atkinson must gauge the intelligence of readers pretty low, to whom he presents such a statement as this. It is notorious that the precise reverse of his assertion. When business is dull, or for any reason capital desired to reduce expenses, it is usually the best workers who have to go. The poorer and cheaper the workman the more secure he is of his job, because he cannot be undersold. Not only by women, because while less efficient, they are proportionately cheaper, in going on at the same earning rate. It is no wonder that the highest rate of wages is paid to a few men in the factories; meanwhile, the women having crowded out the men, the children, being yet cheaper, are now being introduced. Adult workers have difficulty in getting work in our Massachusetts cotton mills, but there is always plenty of work for little children.
Not merely in manufacturing but in commercial business, this vice of the sweating system is everywhere. While less efficient, they are proportionately cheaper, in going on at the same earning rate. It is no wonder that the highest rate of wages is paid to a few men in the factories; meanwhile, the women having crowded out the men, the children, being yet cheaper, are now being introduced. Adult workers have difficulty in getting work in our Massachusetts cotton mills, but there is always plenty of work for little children.
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