

LABOR AND WAGES.

AMERICAN.

The freight brakemen on the Lake Erie and Western road are on strike for payment for overtime.

Organized labor of San Francisco is boycotting the baseball grounds of that city because scab cigars are being sold there.

The number of surface railroad men of Boston who joined the American Federation of Labor during the last two weeks was over 1,400.

The boycott of Typographical Union No. 98 against the Brooklyn Eagle has been endorsed by the Central Labor Unions of New York and Brooklyn.

At a pottery in Trenton a number of boys struck last week because they had been compelled to carry more earthenware than they were accustomed to heretofore.

Sam Gompers and P. J. McGuire will take part in an eight hour discussion before the Economist Branch of the Social Science Association in Saratoga on September 2.

Non-union waiters are employed at Dennett's new restaurant on Fulton street, Brooklyn. District Assemblies 49 and 220 K. of L. have been requested to take action.

The Brotherhood of Machinists, comprising branches in Pittsburg and Beaver Falls, Pa., and Youngstown, O., have amalgamated with the International Association of Machinists.

The proprietors of the Bavarian Brewery at Greenville, N. J., have signed the contract of Journeymen Brewers' Union No. 1 and Beerdrivers' Union No. 1, and the concern is now a union brewery.

Twenty-five thousand ladies of Boston have banded themselves together to close all stores and business houses employing female help after 5 p. m. They have entered into a compact to do no shopping or trading after that hour.

The Stevedores' Union of San Francisco has ordered its members on strike for an increase in wages from 30 to 40 cents per hour for regular time and an increase of 20 cents per hour for overtime. There are 500 members in the union.

H. Henryot, organizer of the International Furniture Workers' Union has returned from Boston, where he conducted the nine hour strike of Union No. 6. All the bosses have been compelled to grant the demand and now employ none but union men.

The machine stone workers and rubbers of New York won two strikes last week, one for non-payment of wages and another against the employment of non-union men. Walking Delegate O'Hare compelled the bosses to grant the demands of their men.

Jas. McDermott, a member of the Philadelphia Ramblers and Pavers' Union, was arrested in Camden for trying to induce the pavers of that city to strike for nine hours. He was released upon the condition to leave the city at once. The Mayor of Camden sent him to the ferry accompanied by a policeman.

Cigarpackers' Union No. 251, New York, reports that the demand for the blue Union label is increasing. The majority of the members have voted against the amendment to the International Constitution proposed by Utica No. 7 and intended to change the present distribution of fines from the international fund to the local funds.

Typographical Union No. 6 is about to elect a walking delegate in order to organize the job offices in that city. Last week 27 cards were deposited with Secretary Ferguson and 21 cards have been withdrawn. Members F. A. Albaugh and W. J. Fogarty have died. The treasurer reports that last year over \$10,000 were paid for funeral benefits.

The National Executive Board of the Iron Moulders' Union of North America has decided that a member drawing an honorary card and desiring to retain his standing for benefits must deposit said card at the general office within thirty days from the date of the drawing. Vice-President J. F. Valentine is organizing unions in the Western States.

The negotiations of the International Typographical Union with the International Printing Pressmen's Union, in regard to joint action of both organizations, have not led to an agreement, but Vice-President Von Buettner, who has just rendered his report for the Typographical Union, says that the efforts of agitating among the pressmen for harmony and co-operation will eventually result in unification.

Thomas P. Quinn, president of Bricklayers' Union No. 4, and Walking Delegate James Hanley, have been sent before the grand jury at the Harlem police court for alleged conspiracy in ordering a strike against scabs on the jobs of one Daniel J. Sullivan, who also charges them with having attempted to extort \$277.28 from him. They are out on \$1,000 bail each.

At the last regular meeting of the United Tin and Sheet Iron Workers' Association held in New York August 17, the proposition of the three firms that are holding out against the eight hour demand to grant the demand on condition that the men accept a reduction of 25 cents per day in their pay,

was unanimously rejected and the fight will continue until the demand of eight hours for a day's work at full pay is conceded.

EUROPEAN.

The surface railroad conductors and drivers at Toulouse, France, struck for and obtained higher wages.

At Saint Denis, France, all the men employed at digging a trench have struck for higher wages. The works are suspended.

The ebony workers of Bucharest, Roumania, are on strike to resist the re-introduction of the eleven hour day, after they had succeeded in lowering the hours to ten.

The pressure of the labor organizations upon the Holland government for universal suffrage has had the effect of wringing from the municipal council of the Hague a resolution in favor of a law to that effect.

The riots in Cardiganshire, Wales, are disturbing the whole country. The farmers are bitterly opposed to the payment of tithes, and a great deal of excitement was caused recently when the collector for the clergy was attacked by 300 men.

The miners in the Aberdare district of South Wales, where extensive collieries and iron and tin works are situated, have gone on strike. About ten thousand men are out.

The barmaids of Berlin now publish a journal of their own. It is named the Herzblatt. It is to expose cases of ill treatment or of exploiting practiced by the employment bureaus. Needy members are helped to secure places without fees, and cover legal expenses when an appeal is made to the courts.

Where any incivility is offered to members of the league, the offender will have his name and address published, and if he is a student a copy will be posted to the university authorities.

Selling Their Daughters for Food.

The stories of misery received from Russia are almost incredible. In Bessarabia parents are actually offering their children for sale in order to buy food, and dealers at Constantinople, hearing of this, have purchased through agents in the Russian villages a considerable number of female children. Many deaths have been caused through famine, and families may be found actually perishing from hunger and huddling together in their common misery. The stewards of crown lands and forests have been instructed to allow the peasantry to enjoy free pasture, and freely to gather mushrooms and wild fruits.

The collection of State and local taxes in at least twenty provinces will fall considerably behind the usual amount. Besides, large sums are required to prevent whole populations from perishing of starvation. The Government authorities, being now aroused, are exerting themselves with energy, and the distribution of relief is going on as rapidly as possible.

When a quantity of grain reached Maripol, in the province of Yekatarineslay, on Tuesday last, the people were so weak with want, they were barely able to come and get their portions. They gathered near the place of distribution, presenting a pitiful spectacle, with their wan faces and wasted forms. A force of police were present to preserve order, but instead, the police had, in several instances, to keep the applicants from falling through sheer hunger and weakness.

How Indians Eat Grasshoppers.

When California was first settled by the whites immediately after the discovery of gold, there was estimated at that time to be over sixty thousand Indians.

There were several large campodios on the Consumnes river, and an invasion of grasshoppers, which we look upon as a calamity, to them was a veritable blessing. I remember very well the great "grasshopper year," it was called. It was in 1855. During the last of May and the first of June the entire counties of Sacramento and San Joaquin were covered with locusts or "hoppers" and nothing to equal it has been witnessed in the state since.

With the Digger Indians the grasshoppers are a great luxury, and are used as meat and eaten in various ways. That year Indians swarmed into the valleys from the mountains and had a royal feast for several weeks. Some would catch the grasshoppers, thread them on a string, hang them over the fire until done brown, then eat them from the string as children do popcorn.

Others would set the grass on fire, which both disabled the "hoppers" and cooked them, when they were picked up and eaten or stowed away for future use. The most popular way, however, when the "hoppers" were thickest, was to dig a hole so deep that they could not jump out, and driving them to the centre and into the receptacle prepared for them.

In this circle, which sometimes covered many acres, were all the women and children in the camp. They carried a brush in each hand and would drive the "hoppers" without difficulty. When the drive was over the "hoppers" were put in bags and baskets, saturated with salt water and laid to one side for use in winter. They they are eaten then as white people do shrimps. They are also mixed with acorn or seed meal, after being ground into paste.—Sacramento News.

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