

## The London Strike.

The vastness of the trade interests of the world's greatest metropolis has been demonstrated by the late strike. The influence of this strike of London dock laborers has been felt all over the commercial world. There is scarcely a branch of business that has not been affected in some way by the strike, either directly or indirectly. The effect of the strike upon the trade of the great city itself will probably be felt for years. The direct loss to the trade is estimated at not less than \$10,000,000. It has been asserted that some branches of London's trade will never fully recover the prestige held before the strike. This, however, remains to be demonstrated. At any rate, the loss to the city cannot be fairly estimated in figures. The dock securities, which were valued at about £17,000,000, fell away from four to eight per cent.

In addition to the vastness of the interests affected thereby, the London strike has been peculiar in other respects. One remarkable peculiarity of this strike was the great order which prevailed throughout the trouble. The strike was conducted throughout with perfect order, and if there were any unruly elements connected with it, they were kept in complete subjection. No disturbances were connected with the strike, and the whole thing was managed in what might be termed a gentlemanly manner. This speaks volumes for the sagacity and condition of the British laborer, especially when we consider that dock-men are usually considered to form a rather rough element in a community. The vast number engaged in the strike makes it a wonder that everything went off so orderly. Rioting has heretofore been almost the inseparable companion with strikes in European countries, and even in America, where workmen are supposed to be above the average in intelligence and general advancement, the great strikes have been usually accompanied with disturbances, often leading to bloodshed. The late Belgian glass-workers' strike, with its terrible rioting and wanton destruction of property, will be an interesting comparison as showing the difference in the state of British and European labor. It must be considered from these comparisons that the British working man is in an advanced condition as compared with working men elsewhere, though it may be that a thorough organization, which prevented the strikers from drifting into a leaderless mob, had a good deal to do with the strict order maintained and gentlemanly conduct shown by the strikers. Another peculiarity of the recent London strike is, that it was successful. Strikes, as a rule, are so frequently a disastrous failure that the success of the London strike must be considered peculiar. That the strike has been successful is, no doubt, largely due to the orderly manner in which it was conducted. By pursuing this policy the strikers were enabled to hold firmly together, and at the same time secure a great amount of public sympathy. Resort to violence would have led to the early disorganization of the forces of the strikers and would have made them a mere mob, without the influence of public sympathy. Future strikers will do well to follow the example of

the London dock-men in the direction of maintaining gentlemanly behavior during times of labor disturbances.

## Two Good Papers.

The best paper for your family or your friend's family is the *Montreal Witness*, which, while it is abreast with the news, is notable for its unexceptionable family reading and for its adherence to the great principles which it has consistently advocated for a generation. It has been during all that time the uncompromising foe of ecclesiasticism, of the drink traffic, and all forms of oppression, among which its counts protection. It has devoted itself much of late years to the promotion of reciprocity with the United States and has recently been filled with the contest against Jesuit aggression, on which battle-field it is, as might be expected, the foremost and most fearless champion. The question and answer departments of the *Witness* have grown into an institution in the country, and the paper is well known as an old friend and instructor of the farmer, "Lindenbank" and "Rusticus" being still constant contributors. The children look for their special stories and for the puzzle department. The yearly subscription to the *Daily Witness* is \$3.00 and to the *Weekly Witness* \$1.00, which should be addressed to the publishers, John Dougall & Son.

The *Northern Messenger*, issued by the same publishers, is still the cheapest illustrated paper published, and is full of the best family reading as well as reading for the young. The subscription price is only 30 cents a year.

## Railway Items.

Trade is brisk at Regina, owing to the railway work going on in the vicinity.

The demand for labor is good, owing to the large amount of railway work going on throughout the country.

The Northern Pacific & Manitoba company has commenced to operate the completed portion of its Morris-Bradon branch. The track has been laid and the line surfaced from Morris to Alta, a distance of sixty miles. A mixed train will be run. It starts from Alta at 7 in the morning, and will reach Morris at 10 40, connecting with the train going south to Saint Paul and the train coming to Winnipeg from the south. The train will start back to Alta about 13.30, and will reach there about 7 o'clock. Manitoba's railway mileage is fast increasing.

Mr. Holt contractor for the Regina and Long Lake railway, has received from the east the plans of the stations to be built on the road. Each building will be a combination station and section house, containing freight shed, telegraph and ticket office, and accommodation for station agent and section men. They will be erected every eighteen miles. There are now at work on the road from 800 to 1,000 men, and between 400 and 500 teams. Mr. Holt says he expects to have one hundred miles of grading completed this season. One train is now on the road and is continually running between Regina and the end of track.

## Lumber Cuttings.

A. C. Fraser has a contract for Sutton & Co. of the Cowichan, B.C., sawmills, to deliver 6,000,000 feet of logs within six months.

R. Sutherland & Co., of Winnipeg, have purchased the entire stock of lumber of Curtis & Lawrence, of Motley, Minn., amounting to 2,000,000 feet.

The Royal City planing mills, of New Westminster, B.C., is doing considerable eastern trade. 14,000 feet of flooring has been sent to J. G. Simpson, of Moosejaw.

T. S. Higginson, crown timber agent, has seized a large number of logs on Scott creek, Pitt lake, B.C., for an infringement of the Dominion timber laws. They will be sold by public auction.

The Elkhorn Lumber Company, Elkhorn, Man., has sold out to I. Broadley. Mr. Broadley has the masonry foundation laid for his new warehouse which will be sixty feet by thirty, two stories. The upper will be for a public hall.

Some of the Rat Portage mills have been short of logs lately. The Western Lumber Co, closed down recently for want of logs, and Ross, Hall & Brown's mill was closed down for two weeks for the same reason, but has since got in a supply.

Thompson & Armstrong, of Rapid City, Man., purpose getting out enough logs this winter to make a million feet of lumber. They also have a contract to get out two hundred thousand ties for the Great Northwest Central Railway.

The Ontario Department of Crown Lands is calling for tenders for the right to cut a quantity of pine timber in the vicinity of Whitefish Lake, in the district of Thunder Bay, which was damaged by fire. The timber must be cut this fall or winter.

The claim of the St. Catharines Milling & Lumber Company against the Dominion Government for damages on account of the Government's failure to maintain them in possession of certain timber limits in the Ontario disputed territory, will be tried before Judge Burbridge in the exchequer court Ottawa on November 5.

The new owners of the Hastings saw mill at Vancouver, B.C., says the *World*, are preparing to put in new machinery of the latest and most approved pattern, which will largely increase the capacity of the mill, while enabling it to be operated very economically. It will probably be the end of the year before these alterations are completed.

The *Mississippi Valley Lumberman*, published at Minneapolis, Minnesota, says: In certain portions of Northern Dakota where the crop failure has been akin to total, the local lumber dealers are practically going out of business. There is no prospect of trade, at least until there is a new crop, and under the most favorable conditions trade must be very light for some time to come, unless there is a large influx of population. But there has been little in the prosperity of the people to encourage immigration into Dakota during the past three years, though the country is naturally fruitful, and ultimately it is bound to be prosperous.