

OUR BOARDING HOUSE

Reflections on Current Events by the Boarders.

"The Wholesale Grocers' Guild," said Brown, "recently placed a boycott upon James Lumbers, a Toronto wholesale grocer, because he refused to become a member of the Guild. Matters at the present time are becoming so serious that he states positively that he can not as much as buy a can of sardines or a box of blacking. The members of the Guild, however, are not quite satisfied with themselves as yet, but have sent a deputation to our friends, the sugar refiners, to stop Mr. Lumbers' supply of sugar. All this, of course, is calculated to injure his trade, yet so far no member of the Guild has been arrested for conspiracy and not one of the capitalistic papers has raised a howl about interference with the liberties of the subject or the danger to the sacred rights of property. Mr. Lumbers, however, is being slowly pulverized for all that, and it is but a question of time when he, too, like others before him, will have to travel to Cannossa. In this city men have been imprisoned and fined for no other reason than that of trying to persuade other men not to accept work in establishments where a strike has been in progress; at the present time several men are actually under bond to answer the charge of conspiracy for doing no more than this, and perhaps not even that much—but they are workmen. There is not a capitalistic paper in Montreal which has not condemned these men and the Unions to which they belong without giving either one or the other a chance to be heard or waiting to see whether facts were produced to substantiate the charges preferred. From the psalm-singing quill driver of the Witness to the demented labor oracle of the Journal of Commerce, all alike howled: crucify them! Why are these saviors of society so quiet now? In this deliberate attempt of a combine to crush an individual they see no danger to the State, no interference with the private affairs of a citizen, no meddling with his business, it is perfectly lawful and to them quite natural—but for two or more workmen to even as much as discuss a strike in the street—that is criminal. This is 'straining at a gnat and swallowing a camel' with a vengeance."

"The free (?) Press would swallow bigger things than that," said Phil, "to our y favor with the capitalistic class, their action is easily explained; but what I can't understand is the attitude of this man Lumbers. He seems to be one of an almost extinct class of traders who believe that 'competition is the life of trade.' He also seems to have some old fashioned notions of independence of the individual. If he had devoted a little less time to his business and a little more to the study of the system under which he and others are compelled to live, he would not now be found on the wrong side of the fence. He would have seen that the great object of all trades and callings is to abolish competition and that the first step towards attaining this end is to organize. In watching the intricate workings of our social system, he would have found that individual independence is an utter impossibility and that in reality it has never existed. No, I can't say that I have any sympathy for this man and his antiquated notions of right and wrong. Had he been prudent he would have done in the beginning what he will be forced to do in the end—join his organization. The only thing that I regret is, that labor organizations do not adopt similar tactics."

"When the Guild gets through with Lumbers," said Gaskill, "he'll know all about the power of organization. It would be a good thing if all workmen outside of labor organizations could be taught a similar lesson. Those who are not with us are virtually against us and should be treated accordingly; there should be no compro-

mise. Organized labor has sacrificed time and money and its members have given their life to advance the interests of labor in general. The benefits of this policy have been shared by all alike whether organized or not. Now, I for one, would like to see the adoption of a more aggressive policy, similar to that of the Grocers' Guild—I would compel a man to join his Trade Union. I might not perhaps make enthusiastic union men out of such recruits, but at any rate I would make them pay their proportionate share in support of the common cause."

"There is no reason why they should not do so," said Brown, "and I don't find fault with the Grocers' Guild for compelling Lumbers to join, but I do find fault with our courts of law which in matters of this kind discriminate against labor. If any Trades Union in Canada had acted in the same determined manner as the Grocers' Guild its members would have been indicted for conspiracy long ago, its charter would have been revoked and its property confiscated. From one end of the Dominion to the other this sycophantic press which now remains silent would have condemned in unmeasured terms the presumptuous and dangerous action of organized labor and loudly called upon the Government to suppress all such organizations with a strong hand. It is this everlasting one-sidedness which I complain of and to which I wanted to draw your attention."

BILL BLADES.

JACQUES CARTIER TYPOGRAPHICAL UNION.

Jacques Cartier Typographical Union, No. 145, has elected the following officers: J. A. Rodier, president; Emile Malo, first vice-president; George Thompson, second vice-president; Henri Cardinal, recording secretary (re-elected); A. P. Pigeon, financial and corresponding secretary; F. Raymond, sergeant-at-arms; J. E. Tardif and Jos. Belair, auditors; J. A. Rodier, C. Morneau and P. C. Chatel, delegates to the Central Trades and Labor Council. The executive committee consists of Messrs. P. C. Chatel, Eugene Thomas, P. C. Daigault, Emery Dupont, H. Dallaire and Geo. Lippe.

RIOTING IN PENNSYLVANIA.

Six Men Killed by U. S. Deputies.

MOUNT PLEASANT, Pa., April 2—At about 2.45 this morning a mob of about five hundred men began rioting at the Standard works. They destroyed some of the company's property and then proceeded to cut the telephone and telegraph lines of the Coke company so no warning could be sent to people at Morewood. About 3 o'clock a party of rioters between 400 and 500 strong marched to Morewood. In the meantime the company's employes at the Standard works hurried to repair the telephone lines and sent word to the Morewood people that the strikers would attack the works in three places and had a well laid plan to destroy the whole plant.

The deputy sheriffs were soon in readiness to receive the attack. The men were divided into three parties, Captain Laurer having charge of the party which was placed behind the big gates of the barn and stable enclosures. As the rioters passed the company's store they made an attack upon it and raided it as far as they could in a brief time, breaking the windows and doing other damage. They then marched to the barn enclosure and attempted to break the gates. They succeeded in doing this, and as they entered Captain Laurer called out to them to halt or he would fire upon them. Their answer was to fire a rattling volley in the direction of the deputies, none of whom were seriously injured.

The attack on the Morewood plant was well planned and headed by men determined evidently to intimidate the men working once for all. At twelve o'clock small bodies of strikers began to gather on the hills as usual. They were armed with revolvers, iron bars and every conceivable weapon obtainable. Headed by drums they marched first to the Standard works, where they deliberately destroyed both telephone and telegraph wires, so that word of their coming could not be sent to Morewood. While at the Standard works they incidentally destroyed everything moveable they could find.

Some time after two o'clock this morning the guards at the Morewood heard from the Standard that a raid was imminent. The few frightened men left at the Standard had plucked up courage enough to repair the wires, and the warning reached the Morewood plant none too soon. As the noisy band of strikers,

now numbering fully 12,000 men, approached that plant their outcries ceased, their drum corps was silenced, and the ugly crowd gathered in a bunch on the black hills overlooking the plant for a moment's parley before attacking a plant they knew was well guarded by determined men. There was hesitancy, but the fact that they were twenty to one strong encouraged the strikers and they quietly separated, one large detachment advancing on the works by the main road, while the others scattered over the brows of the hill, and shortly after three o'clock, at a given signal, all moved down on the works. The night was of inky blackness, but the guards were apprised of the movements of the attacking party by confused mutterings in a foreign tongue. Under the orders of Captain Laurer the sixty-five guards stood quietly in line before the works, their rifles peacefully "at rest."

Suddenly a break was made by the advancing mob toward the fences of the company. A stern order to halt was given, but the only attention it received was the firing of three shots by members of the mob, which whistled warningly close to the heads of the impassive guards, each one of whom was well drilled and was simply there to obey orders. After the shots were fired by the strikers they turned and made a dash toward the stables of the company. Without firing a shot, the guards were ordered to follow, and the command was again given the strikers to halt. They only retreated further down the road and answered the order with yells and threats. Again was the command given and again came the mocking answer, and the order to fire was given by Captain Laurer. The volleys from the rifles were well directed, and but a few rounds were necessary to drive the frightened rioters back to the hills, where hundreds of their fellow-strikers were gathered in anticipation of assisting in the raid, but not in a battle with the guards. The firing on both sides continued hardly three minutes.

The volleys from the guards had terrible effect on the compact mass of strikers, while the latter made an attempt to return the fire with what few weapons they possessed, but without effect. The dead were left lying in the road, while the wounded, estimated at between forty and fifty, were assisted and bodily carried away into the hills by their fellows. All day the entire coke region has presented scenes of the wildest excitement. The foreign element especially has been driven frantic. Always turbulent, sullen and ready for desperate measures, they are not one whit cowed by the death of several of their number, while they have sedulously concealed in their homes those of their number who were wounded, many doubtless unto death.

Samples Of Adulterated Foods.

The state of Massachusetts has given a good deal of attention to the subject of food adulterations, and the report of the chemist in charge has been recently published. During the year 1889, 1,678 samples of articles used as food were examined, of which 1,178 proved to be pure and 498 to be adulterated. Of the impure only a very small portion, and these rarely used in large quantities were found to be adulterated with ingredients deleterious to health. The chief of these were molasses, of which twenty five samples out of eighty-five were found to contain corn glucose or salts of tin, or both; baking powders, of which twenty-one samples out of twenty-nine were found to contain alum and extract of almonds, two samples out of nine being found to contain nitro-benzol. Nearly all the adulterants were found to be harmless ingredients added to cheapen the product, and the purchaser, while being defrauded, was injured only in his pocket. The American people are bargain hunters: they buy things because they appear to be cheap. To accommodate them much of the food is adulterated. Coffee is cheapened with burned rye and chicory; ginger contains rice and cornmeal; allspice has buckwheat; honey has glucose; butter has lard, and lard has tallow; maple sugar has muscovado; olive oil has cottonseed oil, and so on to the end of the chapter. The manifest remedy for this is for people to patronize reliable dealers and pay fair prices for their goods. If they invite fraud by demanding cheap goods they are more than likely to get both.—Chicago News.

Itinerant Quackery in England.

Quackery of this kind, on quite the largest scale yet attempted, is just now proceeding successfully in England. "Sequah" is a limited liability company, regularly registered at Somerset House, with \$50,000 capital, a board of directors and a list of stockholders. The function of Sequah is to sell for 50 cents per bottle a liquid called the Prairie Flower, which, according to the company's prospectus, costs 5 cents per bottle; and to this end the company has established twenty-three gorgeously gilded chariots with four big white horses. Each chariot is occupied with a Sequah with a souchet, long hair and a corps of assistants. These twenty-three chariots are in twenty-three parts of England to-day doing, in most instances, a tremendous business. Indeed, Sequah has been the sensation of the season at Richmond, where each evening the lame, the halt, and the blind are treated in the chariot by torch-light. The original Sequah, who is supposed to be a half-breed medicine man with a strong cockney accent and a receipt obtained from the seventh sequah of a seventh sequah, offers to pull teeth, cure consumption, hydrophobia, corns, or any of the ills that flesh is heir to; set broken legs, restore vigor to paralytics and sight to the blind, with all the ambition and scope of a Christian scientist, all by means of the Prairie Flower, and all for the price of a bottle thereof.

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