

LABOR AND WAGES.

Cleanings From the Industrial Field of the World.

The moulders in the Joliet Stove Works in Joliet, Illinois, have gone on strike for the Chicago scale.

A Coastal Seamen's Union has been formed in New Zealand under the auspices of the Knights of Labor.

The best way to help along the general reform movement is to encourage newspapers devoted to its advancement.

The Granite Cutters' National Union has secured the general adoption of the nine-hour day throughout the country.

The Duchess D'Uzes threw away three millions to strangle the French Republic; Webb spent two millions to strangle the K. of L.

The New Zealand Legislature has sent copies of all bills before it to every labor organization in the colony, with a request for criticism.

Two firemen on the Pennsylvania railroad fell asleep at their posts and were run over. How many hours had the poor men been on duty?

"Mose" Jacobs, a Des Moines newsboy, is reported to be worth at least \$100,000. He put the money that he made selling papers into real estate.

The St. Paul city council has passed a resolution that eight hours shall constitute a day's work "for all mechanics, clerks and laborers employed by the city."

Mrs. Khasma, a Jewess of Bagdad, manages a factory which employs 500 Jewish women and girls. They make calico embroideries on covers, curtains, etc.

The Sailors' Union, of Toronto, have decided to advance the rate of wages to a dollar and a half per day until October 15, and after that date to two dollars per day.

Women barbers are quite common in Sweden, both in Stockholm and in the country. In Denmark a lady barber has recently commenced business in the small town of Svenborg.

A floating paragraph tells that a third of the telegraph operators of this country are continually preparing themselves for other professions, while the other two-thirds are continually thinking of doing so.

All boys under sixteen will be discharged from the Edgar Thomson and the Homestead Steel Works, Braddock, Pa. This order is an idea of Andrew Carnegie, who has always opposed youth labor.

The trade unions and Knights of Labor in Toronto are now making a joint agitation on the eight-hour question, and this winter will co-operate in a series of rousing public meetings. This is the proper way to work.

The Dockers' Union of London voted £1,000 for the striking dockers in Australia. The union also sent a cable despatch to the strikers promising further assistance if required, and offering to aid in blocking the Australian trade.

The typesetting machine which has been in use in the Times-Star office, Cincinnati, for the past few months has been abandoned as unprofitable, and employment has been given to additional hands through its removal.

The master tailors of Great Britain and Ireland have organized an association "to pursue a defensive policy in regard to strikes and to prevent deterioration in workmanship by so arranging that the best workmen shall receive the highest wages."

Eighty lace factories at Calais, France, have been closed in consequence of the strike. At a meeting of three thousand lace workers on Sunday it was unanimously resolved to continue the strike until the manufacturers accept the terms of the strikers.

A crisis is impending in the Scotch iron trade. The masters have given notice to the men of a wholesale lockout to take place to-day, 4th October, unless an amicable settlement of the disputes is effected in the meantime, of which there is no prospect at present. The fires in a number of furnaces are already out.

Lady Dilke, at a meeting of the Society for the Promotion of Women's Trades' Unions, in London, Eng., advised girls that "if a young man came sweethearting the first question they should ask was did he belong to a union. She said that at Cradley Heath girls were working seventy-five hours a week for sixty cents."

Twenty thousand miners of Durham, Eng., have declared their intention of reducing the hours of work to seven per day. They have a powerful organization which, since its formation six years ago, has advanced wages 40 per cent., and reduced the hours of labor from twelve to eight.

At a late pay day at Victoria Mills, Newburyport, each operative who had been in the employ of the company for a period longer than five years, some ninety in number, received an extra envelope containing a sum of money equivalent to a fortnight's or to a month's wages, according to his period of service.

Miss Elizabeth Cotesworth is about organizing a co-operative company of working English gentlemen for the raising of choice fruits and vegetables, to be delivered directly to such consumers as will take a small amount of stock in the enterprise. It is believed that in England, where these products are luxuries, unemployed women may find in this undertaking a wide field and a good profit.

A new and useful employment has been suggested for women which promises rapid development. This is that of a professional packer. The need of this kind of service is apparent to those who witness moving and transportation of household goods, now so much more frequent than formerly, or who see the interior of women's trunks or men's valises. The cost of such helpers would be more than covered by the security and the absence of loss, provided the women were trained, competent and faithful.

The widow-glass workers of the United States have the right to claim the most thoroughly organized trade in the country. There is not now a single non-union win-

dow-glass house in the United States, and the demand for workmen is constantly increasing. This fact, and another, that American window-glass blowers are the best paid-artisans of their class in the world, has attracted scores of foreign workmen, principally Belgians, to emigrate to that country.

The Cigarmakers' International Union of America has issued its annual financial report for 1889. At the beginning of the year there was in the treasury \$239,190; received during the year, \$235,208; expenditures, \$246,262; balance on hand January 1, 1890, \$285,136. Of the expenditures, \$59,519 went for sick benefits and \$19,175 for death benefits. Cigarmakers were assisted in the way of travelling expenses to the sum of \$43,540. For law expenses in contesting labor and conspiracy cases the union expended \$3,488. The expenses for the strike account is very small, being \$5,202. In the eleven years, 1879 to 1889, inclusive, this union has paid out in benefits \$4,128,962, of which \$426,493 was for strike benefits, \$328,785 for sick, \$69,738 for death and \$306,744 for travelling cigarmakers who needed help in their hunt for work. The strike expenditure reached its maximum in 1884, when it was \$143,547.

Patrick McBryde, member of the Executive Board of the United Mine Workers, has gone to Springfield, Ill., where he will order the strike of the 40,000 miners employed in the Indiana and Illinois fields. The strike will be for an advance in wages and will begin on November 1. The Ohio and Pennsylvania operators will be asked to close down their mines for a short time, if this can be done without injury to operators. In the northern districts an advance of 7 1/2 cents is asked. In the southern districts the advance asked is 10 cents.

Mrs. Mary E. Beaseley, of Philadelphia, is the happy inventor and patentee of a barrel hooping machine which gives her an income of twenty thousand a year; her machine, it is claimed, being capable of hooping twelve hundred barrels a day. It is not, perhaps, generally known that the invention of the cotton gin, which revolutionized the cotton trade, and established African slavery on so firm a foundation in the United States, was due to a woman, the widow of the famous General Greene, at whose house Eli Whitney was visiting when she explained her idea to him, and showed him how to make the model on which to claim his patent.

The latest development of the labor movement is the formation of a union of "boardmen," or "sandwich men," employed in the British metropolises. Upwards of 300 men have already joined the union, and active steps are being taken to complete the organization. Meetings are to be held in various parts of London and as a final measure it is intended to hold a demonstration in Hyde Park, when several trade union leaders are expected to be present. Among those who have offered active assistance in the endeavor to better the lot of the unfortunate "sandwich men" is Commissioner Frank Smith, of the Social Reform Wing of the Salvation Army. The Union rate of pay is to be 2s per day of eight hours, and the men will be supplied with boards.

The report comes from Spain that the Socialists' Congress, which has been in session at Bilbao, ended with little result, and it is added "that the eight-hour scheme is looked upon with small favor by Spanish workmen." Considering the source from which this report comes it must be taken with several grains of allowance. According to evidence presented at the International Congress of Workingmen held last year in Paris, the average hours of workmen in Spain are from twelve to fourteen a day. To say that the men look upon the eight-hour scheme with little favor is perhaps true, because a ten or eleven-hour scheme will necessarily have to come first, before there can be much hope for the success of an eight-hour movement. But it is significant that even in Spain the workingmen are combining to secure better treatment and shorter hours. This movement seems to be general all over the world, and there is not much doubt that the men of Spain will share in it and profit from the result.

LOCKOUT AT QUEBEC.

Unjustifiable Action of a Labor Employer.

QUEBEC, Sept. 28.—A dispute has broken out between Mr. G. T. Davie, of Levis, and the workmen employed in his ship-building yards. The stories told by the two parties are very contradictory. Mr. Davie states that some time ago he bought the steamship Thornholme, which had been damaged by running on the rocks, and placed her into his own dock, intending to repair her during the winter. Yesterday he was called upon by Mr. Joseph Beaulieu, ship chandler, of Quebec, who, in the name of the Knights of Labor, ordered him to discharge four men he had employed to scrape the vessel's bottom. Mr. Davie replied that he would not do that as he had a contract with them. Mr. Beaulieu insisted, but Mr. Davie replied that he had intended to spend \$60,000 upon the ship and keep his men working all through the winter, but if he could not do the work in the way he wanted to, he would close up his works and sell the vessel for what she would bring. The result was that he closed up the works and notified the men that they need send no Knights of Labor delegates to him, as he would treat with none of them. They must either go to himself if they had anything to say or mediate through their priests, the Rev. Mr. Gauvreau or the Rev. Mr. Faffard. Mr. Beaulieu claims that he did not order the discharge of the men, as stated, but had an interview with Mr. Davie in relation to a few men who were not in good standing in the Levis Assembly, asking him to assist in having them brought to time, nothing else. Mr. Davie instead ordered the men in his employ, excepting those four, to stop work and paid them off. A later despatch states that Mr. Davie threatens to sell his business and leave the place unless his men come to terms.

THE QUESTION OF "SURPLUS" LABOR.

What shall be done with it? This is one of the greatest questions of the future. Men must wear clothes and they must eat, and when their labor will not buy these prime elements of life, what then? Few people take time to consider this important but all absorbing question. However, the time is near at hand when merchants, farmers and monopolists will have to consider it. Repressive laws, armies and navies, presidents, cabinets and courts have ever crumbled in the wake of the poverty-stricken multitude.

This reflection has come to us frequently in the last few years; recently, in a more vigorous presentment. Upon every hand the displacement of labor is taking place, and the question is, what shall be done with the displaced army? It must live and will live, if it has to rip up the established order of things.

While latter-day statesmen are considering only the interest of party and corporations, the distribution of patronage and the disbursement of revenue taxes, the fixed income of bankers and bondholders, the increase of officials and their salaries, the pulsating masses are growing restless under the exactions that pauperize and beggar them. They are fast learning that laws are unjust, that courts are partial, and that money exercises a potent influence in every department, from the city council to the Congress at Washington. This portentous sentiment or fact is growing rapidly, and its votaries are numbered by the hundreds of thousands. In every community numerous men declare the injustice extant, and vainly exclaim: "Is there a remedy?" The pessimist reads history and gathers from it the causes that have wrecked other nations, and declares that like causes produce like effects while the optimist takes the opposite view, and is saturated and confronted with "what is it." The latter never reads history, and hence its teachings are Greek to him. If he is doing frirly well, he is contented that others are doing ill. "Look out for yourself," is his motto. "Make all you can, honestly, if convenient, but dishonestly, if necessary. Make in anyway." The point is success. The world honors the successful man, and does not tarry to enquire how success is attained. The unfortunate have no friends. But these men compose the bulk of society, and the time must eventually come when they will revolt and like the Roman plebeian denounce the Government and seek its overthrow.—Cleveland Workman.

THE NEW COERCIVE UNION.

A meeting of shipowners was held in the Chamber of Shipping, Whittington avenue, London, lately, for the purpose of formally launching the new Shipping Union, of which so much has been heard. The proceedings were private, but it has leaked out that Mr. T. L. Devitt, president of the Chamber of Shipping of the United Kingdom, presided, and resolutions were unanimously passed to form a confederation of the entire trade of the British Empire for the purpose of dealing with labor questions in all parts of the world, and particularly to resist in a united manner the demands or actions of trade unions or their members; the indemnification of members making sacrifices for the common good; and the supervision or promotion of the legislation affecting shipping interests. The scheme includes a thoroughly representative Central Council in London, with powerful district committees in the various shipping centres. Mr. T. A. Laws, of Newcastle-on-Tyne, has been unanimously elected the manager of the federation. A committee is to sit daily for the purpose of perfecting the organization. The federation includes many of the passenger lines, and practically the whole of the carrying cargo trade of Great Britain, and is stated to represent upwards of one hundred millions sterling capital. Before separating the meeting adopted a resolution heartily approving the action of the Australian shipowners in refusing "the unreasonable demands of the labor unions," and undertaking to do all possible to support them in their struggle.

REASONS WHY MEN SHOULD JOIN LABOR ORGANIZATIONS.

Why should everybody belong to a labor organization? Because his own interests demand it, that he may enjoy the just fruits of his labor by receiving fair compensation for it. Because the interests of his wife and children demand it, that they may enjoy some of the pleasures and comforts of life. Because society demands it, that he may be a creditable member thereof. Because the business interests demand it, that he may not be forced to become a violator of the law and a charge upon the community. Because religion demands it, that he may not neglect it and stay away from church because of his inability to wear suitable clothing. Because posterity demands it, that the born and unborn children may not be forced into a worse than negro slavery. All can be accomplished by universal organization. It is, therefore, every man's duty to join an organization and assist with his vote and influence in bringing about the bloodless revolution necessary for the salvation of the government and the working classes.—Paterson Labor Standard.

Youthful Innocence.

Pa, do you ever fight, asked little George. No, my son; why do you ask? Because I heard ma tell Kitty's music teacher that you could give Bluebeard points and then knock him out. A silence so loud that it could be felt settled over the family group.

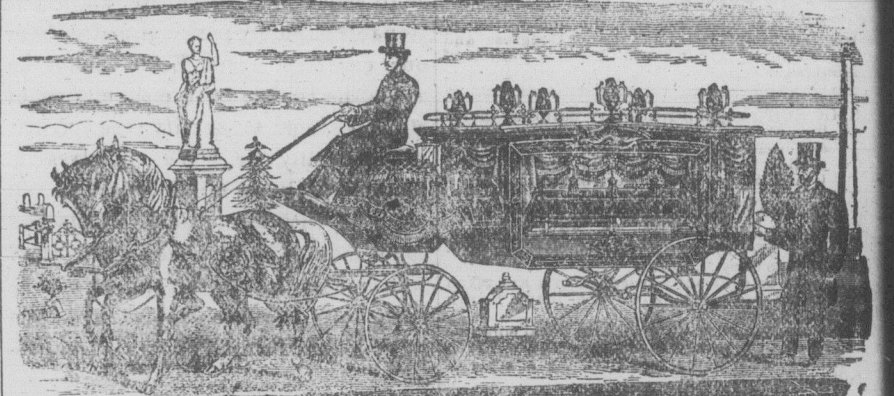
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