

LABOR AND WAGES.

Cleanings From the Industrial Field of the World.

About five hundred weavers have struck at Dobson's mills, in Schuylkill Falls, Pa., because cheap "hands," imported from Bradford, England, had been employed in place of union men. The strikers have resolved not to resume work until the imported people have been discharged. Dobson says that in order to compete with other manufacturers he must introduce certain kinds of plush which no one can make except the weavers coming from Bradford, whence his competitors import their goods. The strikers declare that Dobson is guilty of a violation of the law against importing labor under contract, and they will take steps to have him prosecuted by the United States authorities.

Four thousand children are said to be employed in the mines of Pennsylvania alone, and there are probably one million children at work in the mines and factories throughout the United States.

Six hundred miners are on strike in the East Range at Negaunee, Mich., because their wages have not been paid for two months.

The striking framers received a communication last week from a labor organization which does not wish to have its name mentioned, offering them \$1,000 for their strike fund. The offer was accepted with applause.

On June 1 the trial of James Hughes, master workman of the Clothing Cutters' U. T. D. will commence before Judge Ramsey, in Rochester, N.Y. The scab clothing manufacturers predict a conviction, saying that the conviction of Barondess was a precedent which exactly fits the case against Hughes.

Three hundred union men, consisting of carpenters, plumbers, rooflayers, plasterers and framers employed in a building on 57th street in South Brooklyn dropped their work on the 20th upon a refusal of the building contractor to dismiss the non-union carpenters employed at the works.

The Machine Woodworkers' Union No. 26 of Brooklyn is steadily extending its organization and awakening sense of solidarity among the members of the craft. New members are constantly acquired, and a recent strike in the Scotts' show-case factory for a reduction of the hours of work from 10 to 9 was brought to a successful termination, thanks to the firmness of the men and the activity of the walking delegate.

The workmen employed at the melting furnaces of the Singer Machine Works, in Elizabethport, N.Y., have demanded and got an increase amounting to \$2 per week.

The Iron-Moulders' Union of North America is constantly increasing in membership. Charters were granted to six new local unions last month and eight funeral benefits were paid.

The Brotherhood of Painters and Decorators gained nineteen new local unions last month. The receipts at General Secretary Elliot's office were \$1,206.07 and the expenses amounted to \$1,088.13.

The Fur Operators' Union gained forty-five new members last week; it has 320 members at present. The seal operators of Harris & Russak, who were on strike for higher wages, have been successful. The strike only lasted two days.

During the last six months the receipts of Secretary-Treasurer McClevey, of the International Typographical Union, were \$32,112.86 and \$36,586.98 has been expended, leaving a balance of \$17,830.36 in the treasury. The receipts for the Child-Drexel fund amount to \$48,625.09, of which \$3,317.13 has been expended.

Cigarmakers' Union No. 8, Hoboken; No. 131, Jersey City; No. 147, Union Hill, and No. 231, Guttenburg, have formed a joint Label and Executive Committee for Hudson County, whose meetings will take place every second and fourth Wednesday of the month at Scholtezer's Hall, Paterson avenue, West Hoboken.

A new Brassworkers' organization has been formed in Meriden, Conn., by national organizer John M. O'Leary.

In consequence of the eight-hour strike of the miners in Iowa, coal has become very scarce in that region.

The striking silk weavers of Levy Bros., Paterson, N.Y., have been successful in their strike for an advance of twenty and thirty per cent. They also gained the Saturday half-holiday.

The efforts of the salesmen of Indianapolis to secure a uniform pay day in the various shops and factories are meeting with encouragement.

The Stonemasons' Union of Philadelphia has gained nine hours at \$3.60 per day. The union is 1,100 strong, and the strike cost them about \$4,000.

The Missouri Federation of Labor has endorsed the labels of all National and International Labor unions in this country; it will also support the carpenters' strike in St. Louis; places a boycott upon the Kansas City Journal for employing rats, and recommended political action to the work-

ingmen of the State. The boycotts against Lemp's beer and Fleishmann's yeast were endorsed.

The National organization of clothing cutters, affiliated with Central Labor Federation, has gained eleven new local unions during the last six weeks.

The strike of the miners in Norway is extending. The bosses will arbitrate if the men resume work but the latter declared that arbitration must precede a resumption of work. The number of strikers is about 9,000.

Typographical Union of Great Britain has issued its half-yearly report showing marked improvements in the craft. The total membership is 9,016, an increase of 522 during six months.

The drivers of the public stages throughout Paris struck on Monday for twelve hours' work per day and the reinstatement of drivers belonging to the union who have been dismissed by the stage company. The stage company during the day attempted to run a few stages, but the strikers attacked them, cut the traces, pulled the drivers from their seats and left the stages in the streets. The police made several arrests. The omnibus company has consented to negotiate with the union committee on the basis of the abolition of premiums, an increase of wages of one franc per day and the granting of one day's leave of absence per month with pay.

A lockout of the London carpenters began on Monday. Fifteen thousand men are idle. The employees threaten to lock out the masons, plasterers and the men employed in the other branches of the building trades.

The river miners of the Pittsburg district met on Tuesday and after censuring their local officers formally withdrew from the United Mine Workers' association of the Federation of Labor. The resolution adopted stated they would rather have struck for eight hours on May day than be parties to the backdown of the Federation of Labor on that issue. This district will at once enter the Knights of Labor.

Minister Constans, on Tuesday evening, gave an audience to delegates of the Paris stage drivers and the company's directors. As a result of this audience and the mediation of the municipal authorities the directors of the company met the union leaders and drafted an agreement which virtually ends the strike on the men's terms. The persons arrested will be liberated. The agreement between the strikers and the company has been signed. The company recognizes the union reinstates the dismissed unionists and adopts the 12 hour system.

An Argument for Eight Hours.

There are in the United States in this year, 1891, 500,000 seekers for work—a half million people of both sexes and all ages looking for employment in gainful occupations—and only 460,000 places to be filled. The figures are based upon actual returns from the census and other sources of the total number of persons employed at different periods and the increase of the population, showing an average percentage added yearly to the number of persons engaged in all occupations. That is, to keep up the integrity of the work of the country—to keep it up to its full average standard of progression and fill up the places naturally made vacant—460,000 new places will have to be filled, while the increase of the population shows that there will in natural order be 500,000 inhabitants for these places, without counting in either case "the great army of unemployed which through all ages has hung upon the outskirts of civilization." These figures are arrived at, not only by the ordinary process of division over a decade of years, but by separate calculations based on the death rate and other elements. It is evident from the bare statement of the case that the problem will be, as it ever has been, a most serious one for a large proportion of the seekers for work.—Scientific American.

Women in the Bank of France.

The Bank of France employs a very large number of women as accountants in the classification of bills, in the classification of coupons and in the department of printing and binding. The ladies employed in this category are called dames titulaires. They are paid three francs (sixty cents) a day, and are required to pass a preliminary examination in writing, spelling and arithmetic. They must be from eighteen to thirty-five. In the printing office an apprenticeship of two years is required as pamphlet sewers. These women work in the same shop as the men, and are paid at exactly the same rates. After twenty years' service they are retired with a pension of 400 francs (\$80.) Recommendations from influential persons are requisite for obtaining places in the Bank of France.—New York Sun.

George Littlewood's challenge to run any man in the world 20 miles for £200 a side has been accepted by Morton, the hitherto amateur champion of England.

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