THE LABOR ADVOCATE.

We Demand all the Reform that Justice can ask for, and all the Justice that Reform can give.

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WORK AND WAGES.

LABOR NOTES AND NEWS FROM ALL QUARTERS

Interesting Items, Facts and Figures—A Bird's Eye View of the World of Industry

CANADA.

THE G T R have just dismissed forty men from the Brantford car shops.

ONE thousand workmen are now employed in the construction of the Toronto Belt Line Railway.

SINCE the present company took the management of the Kingston foundry, the weekly pay roll has been increased from $170 to $700.

THE employees of the London Street Car Company have been granted from one to three hours' reduction per day in working time, in response to a petition from the men. Many have heretofore worked sixteen hours per day.

A DEPUTATION of members of parliament, comprising Messrs. Denison, Cockburn, McKay, Ryckman, Coatsworth, Skinner, Lepine, Roome, Prior, Wallace and Carpenter, waited upon the Postmaster-General, and strongly urged upon him that the letter-carriers throughout the Dominion be given an increase of pay. At the present the schedule of wages runs from $360 to $600. It was urged that the men were a hard working lot of officers, and that after a man had served as carrier for several years, it was very slight encouragement for him to know that he could not get beyond $600, and it was suggested that $800 be made the maximum salary. The Postmaster-General said he would submit the matter to the Government.

THE Ontario Bureau of Industries reports a sufficient number of farm labourers in most quarters, but in some localities—in Bruce, Grey, Wellington, Oxford and Lennox—a shortage is spoken of. There would be little difficulty in getting steady farm help if the conditions of the average farmer were such that he could pay sufficient wages to keep the laborer from going off to the lumber shanties or to jobs in the States. The principal trouble lies in the fact that the large majority of farm hands are only required during the busy season. In the other five months he has to seek work elsewhere. Very often he is compelled to crowd into the cities and towns. Until the average farmer is able and willing to hire his hands for the entire twelve months, and to make their conditions of service as attractive as other employment, it will be difficult to make much improvement.—*London Advocate.*

UNITED STATES.

THE quarrymen's strike at Concord, N. H., has been adjusted.

HOD-CARRIERS' wages throughout the country average $2.44.

MOST of Cleveland's tinners are getting ten hours pay for nine hours.

SEATTLE compositors work eight hours, and $4 is the minimum wage.

BRASS-WORKERS will form a national union in August at Pittsburgh.

FOUR thousand cigar makers are out of employment at Key West, Fla.

THE average pay of New York's 150,000 working girls is sixty cents a day.

DULUTH plumbers struck for eight hours, seven on Saturday, and $3.50 to $4 a day.

THE Nashville stone cutters' co-operative yard has $3,500 worth of work on hand already.

THE painters in Bay City, Mich., have gone on strike for nine hours' work and ten hours' pay.

THE boycott of the labor unions against certain lumber dealers in New York has been declared off.

THE marble-setters in St. Louis have been granted their demand for $3 for eight hours' work.

THE Longshoremen's Assemblies, collapsed after the big strike in 1887, are being reorganized by D. A 220, Brooklyn, N. Y.

THE street railway strike at Grand Rapids, Mich., which was inaugurated May 10, assumed a new phase, and some violence is reported.

THE 500 employees of the Hegewisch shops of the United States Rolling Stock Company, Chicago, who struck for six weeks' back pay, got it.

IT is estimated that the wealth of the United States now exceeds the wealth of the whole world at any period prior to the middle of the eighteenth century.

THE master builders in Harrisburg, Pa., have agreed to pay twenty two and a half cents an hour after June 1st. This is a compromise on the nine hours-a day proposition.

THE members of the Bohemian Bakers' Union of New York won the ten hours, equalization of wages, abolition of the boarding system, and the payment of forty cents per hour to substitutes.

THE strike at the Franklin coal mines, near Seattle, Wash., has assumed dangerous proportions and bloodshed is hourly expected. Every effort is being made to keep the whites and negroes from coming together.

Two Japanese mining engineers, Josuhito Kawai and Of Majima are travelling among the coal mines in the State of Pennsylvania and the West, studying American mining methods, which they desire to apply to the development of the coal deposits of Japan.

CHARLES ROGERS, the well known leader of the K of L marble Workers in New York City, says that all of the organized branches of the marble trade are steadily gaining in membership and there is not a man belonging to them working more than eight hours per day.

THE strike of the potters at Trenton, N.J., ended on Friday of last week. The men have won a big victory after a fight of twenty-one weeks. They compelled the Pottery Trust to meet them in conference and adjust their wages. The men returned to work last week.

MASTER Workman Scott, of the Iowa Division of the United Mine-workers of America has issued an appeal to the farmers, laborers and business men of Iowa for sympathy with and support of the strike of the miners of that State to secure an eight-hour day, and the re-instatement of miners discharged because they joined a labor organization.

THE officers elected by the Convention of the United Bookbinders of America, N.T A. 230, have selected the following officers:—Adolph Blume, Master Workman; George Hodges, Worthy Foreman; B. F. Mastenson, Trade Equipe; Peter Grimm, Secretary-Treasurer; John M. Long, Statistician; M. Lepey, Delegate to the General Assembly.

THE strike of the Manchester, N.H, Cigarmakers' Union, which included workmen all over the State, was settled, on Saturday, and the men have returned to work. They struck for an advance of $1 50 per thousand on best grade cigars. They manufacturers offered seventy-five cents, and a compromise was effected at $1 advance per thousand.

GREAT BRITAIN.

SIX thousand tailors in London have struck work.

GREAT BRITAIN'S coal output in 1890 was 181,614,288 tons.

QUARRYMEN in conference on Saturday at Festiniogs, Wales, decided to support the movement for a working day of eight hours.

BETWEEN 1850 and 1888, a period of thirty years, the wages of the toilers in England and Scotland had advanced about 50 per cent. This is credited to the ten-hour day.

A REPORT from Glasgow (Scotland) states that the Clyde ship-builders announce that they will be compelled to reduce the wages of their employees 7½ per cent., to commence on June 1st.

AT a conference held in Glasgow, yesterday, of representatives of the Scotch miners, it was decided to recommend all the mining districts in Scotland to contribute to the support of the striking miners on the continent, and also to take steps to restrict the export of coal to the continent.

EUROPEAN AND GENERAL.

MINERS of Hungary get from 34 to 62½ cents a day.

The Australian miners' union has 24,000 members and $135,000.

THE American and European harness makers talk of international union.

BARCELONA, Spain, masons struck for an advance, making the unemployed number 20,000.

THE Belgian strikers have decided, as there is a prospect of a revision in the constitution which will secure universal suffrage, that the strikes shall cease.

THE eight-hour day was inaugurated April 1st, in the works of the Danish marine. The workmen who formerly commenced work at 4.30 a.m., now start work at 6 a.m. Other Government works will soon follow this example.

THE National Labor Federation of the Argentine Republic, whose headquarters is at 650 Caila Reconquista, Buenos Ayres, warns all workmen against immigrating to that country, as there are thousands of unemployed in all cities, and wages are very low at present.

AN accident, by which nineteen workingmen lost their lives, occurred on the Dnieper River, Russia, on the 16th inst. A flat boat containing a number of workingmen proceeding down the river, came into collision with a steamer bound up the stream. The flat boat sank almost immediately, drowning nineteen of its occupants. The captain of the steamer is blamed for the accident.

THE manufacturers of Germany, who have formed a National Association for the purpose of fighting labor organizations, have closely violated the law against national organizations who publish blacklists and otherwise antagonize citizens of the German Empire. But neither the police nor the courts have interfered, while members of labor organizations similarly violating the law were prosecuted relentlessly.

THE Alliance membership in Kansas is placed at 140,000.

LOCAL NEWS.

AN explanation by Mr. S M Jones in connection with his open letter to the Ministerial Association recently published in the LABOR AND STATE, will appear next week.

THE Board of Works has decided to recommend the granting of the telephone franchise to the Bell Company, provided they reduce cost of service and give 5 per cent. of gross receipts.

AT the last meeting of L. A., 2622. K of L., the following resolution was unanimously adopted:—That this Assembly is of the opinion that it would be to the interest of all organized labor bodies in this city to educate themselves on the principles of co operation with a view to give an impetus to starting some co-operative business in the near future.

A DIFFICULTY exists in the plastering trade over the apprentice question, some employers having more apprentices than permitted by the rules of the Plasterers Union, in consequence of which the men employed by the Hynes Terra Cotta Co. and Watson & Co., are on strike. An attempt is being made to settle the trouble and all the employers with the exception of these two firms are willing to meet the views of the men. A number of the strikers have left for Detroit.

ON Monday afternoon the employees of the different departments of the *Empire* assembled in the mailing room for the purpose of making a presentation to Mr. Ed. Till, a member of the company's staff. Mr. Till was engaged in the typesetting contest at Robinson's Museo, in which representatives from the morning papers took part. He won easily and to show their appreciation of his efforts, every employee of the office heartily contributed towards the purchase of a present for Mr. Till, consisting of a handsome silver water pitcher. The presentation was made by the manager after reading an address to the champion. Mr. Till replied in suitable terms.

THE regular weekly meeting of the Single Tax Association was held on Friday evening at Richmond Hall, Mr. G. G. Pursey occupying the chair. An able address was delivered by Mr. E. F. Titus on the Swiss Referendum, entering fully into the details of the system and pointing out its beneficial effects in preventing corruption and mitigating the evil results of partyism. He urged the application of the principle to the legislation of this country where, at present, the so-called representatives of the people elected for five years have too much power and are governed in their course mainly by party considerations or self-interest. A lively discussion resulted in which Messrs. Armstrong, Lyon, Jury and other members took part, and the speaker received a unanimous vote of thanks.

"VIVE PRUSSIA."

THE laboring men of Fourmies, France, are so incensed against the military who massacred a score or more of people there last Sunday, that when the troops show themselves the people shout "Vive Prussia." This fact has been widely commented upon by the press of this country, but no American papers seem to realize the true significence of the famous cry. That cry marks an epoch in the history of modern Europe. It tells us that the people of France realize that the standing army, which their government maintains ostensibly to protect them against Prussia, is really kept for the purpose of putting down the people of France when they rebel against the tyranny of the money kings. This cry of "Vive Prussia" that comes echoing from the Frenchmen across five thousand miles of land and sea, tells us that some Frenchmen at least have learned that it is the standing army of France and not the people of Prussia who are the real enemies of the French people. *Northwestern Labor Union.*

GERMANY'S Officers' Association has raised a fund to help the 20,000 starving weavers in Silesia. Cotton and wool will be bought and placed in their hands for manufacture into cloth. To discourage the over-crowding of the industry only professional weavers of more than twenty one years will be assisted.

He CAUGHT ON

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WHY DO THE HEATHEN RAGE?

For a people who claim and are pretty universally admitted to be the most intelligent in the world, taking them all in all, it must be admitted that our fellow citizens of these United States are, in some respects, sailing under false colors or, at least, if they are the most intelligent, it is by reason of comparison that is anything but flattering to other people's. For instance, the red flag of Socialism develops in them a feeling very much such as the bull of the arena exhibits when the bull-fighter flaunts a fabric of similar color in its face. Why do our fellow citizens thus reduce their intelligence to the par of the bovine? Simply because they have no more sense than the bull in this regard. They are not, as a mass, the perfection of human wisdom, and the press, which is supposed to have the first chop quality of intelligence, is ever with the masses in this particular, else the newspapers would not rage upon the bare intimation of the exhibit of the Socialistic flag. If they do this sensationally, they do not endeavor to pursue knowledge of Socialism sufficiently to understand that instead of that doctrine having a bloody significance it has, in truth, the intent to teach the practical application of the humanity explained in the Gospel of Christ, and this seven days in the week instead of only one day of hours confined to church service.

We do not affect Socialism, for we do not assume the hypocritical role of being so perfect as to be in practical accord with the doctrines thereof. Nor do we fancy all the Socialists of the day are keeping step to the rhythm of Socialism, though many of them have the adamantine check to claim they do. But this is no reason why the theory should be blackguarded from A to Izzard, just as was the religion we now all affect to claim was in the early days of the Christian era. The Socialism of to-day is bad only as men make it bad. It is not unlovely in theory, and, of course, would therefore be repulsive in honest practice. The worst that can fairly be said of the doctrine is that in this age of "every man for himself, and the devil take the hindmost," it is impracticable. But truthfully taught, its tendency is toward good, possibly more good than the average citizen, though he wear broadcloth and feed on gout-producing grub daily, has power of comprehension to understand to the full.—*Pittsburg Labor Tribune.*

WORSE THAN IN IRELAND.

THERE were in the United States, in 1880, 322,357 tenant farmers paying rent, and 702,244 tenant farmers, villeins or metayers, farming on shares, a total of 1,024,701 tenant farmers. The total number of tenant farmers in England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales is 1,069,127.

If the 574,222 Irish tenant farmers should be compelled to share their crops equally with their landlords, as 702,244 American farmers must, such an outcry would go up to heaven as was never before heard in the world.

If the 411,801 English tenant farmers were required to do it they would take only from thirty-six to forty-eight hours in which to wipe out the whole system of land tenures. The greatest share ever asked of them was one-fourth.—*T. E. Willson.*

"GUNCHEWERS" cramp is a new addition to the type of disease produced by the frequent use of a single group of muscles. It is a muscular incoordination similar to writers', telegraphers', milkmaids' and cigarmakers' cramp.