

that if the majority of the members of that court who signed the opinion had visited modern bakeries in this State and had seen the conditions that prevail, even under the ten hour law they would have believed that it was within the police power of this State to regulate the hours, and would have declared for the ten hour law. What are the bakers going to do? Will they submit? I tell you what I would do. I'd strike and strike hard until I got the ten hour day.

When it becomes necessary in the manufacture of the staff of life to make the

baker work longer than ten hours a day, then it is time to pause and ask, Whither are we drifting?"

The newspapers that endorse the decision, on the other hand, view it as a reaffirmation of the freedom of contract, and "that is a result for gratification," remarks the Brooklyn Eagle, because "the area and vitality of personal liberty are increased." "A nation whose citizens could not have the utmost freedom to sell their labor or employ their time in industry would not be a free nation," says the New York Press.

France and the Loans to Russia.

A STRONG, earnest protest against any more Russian loans from France appears in *La Revue*, under the title "How to Save our Nine Milliarden" (9,000,000,000 francs, or \$1,800,000,000.). The writer, who signs himself "A Friend of the Alliance," declares that France is in the position of one who permits her fiancée, before the solemn act of marriage to take possession of her dowry. Before receiving satisfactory proof of the real sentiments of her august ally, France has imprudently loaned her all her money. How much does the loan amount to? It would be difficult to say precisely, for in her capacity of generous lover unable to reckon the amount, France has given whatever Russia has asked. Here France seems to have lost all notion of foresight. From the financial point of view she is still in the honeymoon, and there has been no restraint put on the emigration of the French public fortune. France, however, in addition to making large advances to Russia, has saved and maintained the credit of her ally.

For Russia! For Russia! Always for Russia! There is a war of madness—France furnishes the money. Russia loses her fleet, and then is defeated in a number of great battles; the stupidity of her generals and the shameful corruption of her administration is known to the whole world—France furnishes the money. The world begins to lose all hope in the final result of the terrible disaster—still France furnishes the money. An internal revolution breaks out; the Russian government finds itself at war with its own laboring classes, with its intellectuals, with its noblesse; political assassinations portend the overturn of the empire and the triumph of revolution; bombs bursting on all sides make known in dark, sinister tones the break up of the Russian Empire—and France still furnishes the money.

In October, 1904, Russia's debt to France was said to amount to 12,000,000,000 francs but in 1897 it was estimated to have reached 11,000,000,000, and certain economists have gone so far as to put the amount at 14 or 15,000,000,000 francs. The writer,