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Labor Unions and Strikes.

The German Reichstag has practically kicked the Kaiser's anti-strike bill out of doors. The measure aims to prevent strikes by making strikers criminals in the sight of the law. It is another of the Kaiser's reactionary lunacies which his subjects have tolerated so meekly in the past that Anglo-Saxons wondered whether their Teutonic blood-relations had lost the old spirit of German liberty which left its impress on the world. Late, however, there are signs of growing aversion to this monarchy. Not long ago the Reichstag forced the government to compromise on a bill for the increase of the army, upon which the Kaiser had set his whole heart. In the present case the overwhelming opposition comes from all parties except one, showing that it is not merely a faction fight, but that the sentiment of the country revolts against the principle of the anti-strike bill, and that the Emperor's wish is a long way short of being divine command. The result is a stinging rebuke to the royal busy-body and a triumph for organized labor in Germany. It is a recognition by the highest authority in the land of the right of labor to combine for legitimate purposes, strikes included.

The Kaiser's bill would put trades unions and other labor organizations in Germany almost in the same position as they occupied in England before the repeal of the combination laws in 1824. Prior to that date a legitimate trade society could not lawfully be established, and any combined attempt of workmen to advance their material interests or undo oppressive legislation was construed as sedition. The modern trade union movement did not begin until 1824, when the right of free association was granted, but it was not until 1871 that trade unions were recognized as lawful corporate bodies, capable of holding property in land, and entitled to legal protection for their funds.

Anyone who has impartially studied the industrial history of England must be convinced that labor unions are a logical development of social and industrial conditions. For centuries the whole tenor of the law was hostile to labor, as might be expected from the character of Parliament before Demos had a voice there. The statute books from the time of Edward III. to George IV., are loaded with legislation in the exclusive interests of the employing classes. When it is remembered that for the first quarter of this nineteenth century, workmen were not even permitted to combine for friendly purposes, it will be seen that labor unions grew naturally out of persecution and oppression, when the liberal ideas, which triumphed in the Reform Bill, began to ferment in the popular mind. It would have been contrary to human nature if the working classes, with their awakening sense of power, had not striven by combined effort to throw off their medieval fetters. Unionism accordingly grew in proportion to the enlarging conception of the rights of labor and its ever-widening political influence.

These combinations, in their infancy, incurred a great deal of obloquy, and were sincerely regarded as dangerous and revolutionary by the upper and middle classes. Public opinion now accepts organized labor as an established fact, a normal product of the times, a legitimate factor in the social problem, which is being worked out to some good end.

Trades unionism, like other human institutions, is by no means perfect. Its early career too often justified the fear that liberty might degenerate into license. The strike in many cases was a weapon handled recklessly, without counting the cost. Many societies disintegrated through weakness or impolicy. But labor profited in the long run by these adventures, which served to discover the defects of trades unionism in its original forms. The imperfections were gradually thrown off, and the elements of permanency acquired by experience. Today trades unionism in England covers nearly every branch of labor, skilled or unskilled, and some of the most powerful organizations can show from 50 to 75 years of steady progress and achievement. It is true that trades unionism, even in England, at this late date occasionally earns public censure by its arbitrary conduct. The late strike of amalgamated engineers, for example, seems to have been extremely ill-advised, and undoubtedly worked a national injury; but such cases are the exception. Those who hold that labor has not ameliorated its condition by organization are blind to the facts. Trades unionism has reached its highest development in England, and the period of its most vigorous growth has been coincident with a marvelous advance in the well-being of the working classes, and an unparalleled extension of British commerce and British power. Trades unionism, however deficient in its present stage, will expand with freedom and civilization, and will take its place in the evolution of society.

It is remarkable that labor organizations, which were formerly stigmatized as revolutionary, have, in many cases, become very conservative, and are one of the strongest bulwarks against socialism and other innovating doctrines. In this respect labor has become allied with capital. The future may see this ideal relationship extending over the whole field of industry. Many large employers of labor, notably the great railway corporations, find a positive advantage in dealing with

their employees collectively, as the union has a steady effect and the corporation can fix responsibility on the men's executive for the conduct of the whole body of employees. There is a great advantage, too, in having a definite scale of wages, without which employers, who might be inclined to liberality, would be under the uneasy apprehension that competitors were cutting under them by cheap labor.

The whole tendency of the times goes to show that the principle of the living wage is transcending the mere law of supply and demand, and that organized labor is an efficient instrument in bringing it about. The recent Grand Trunk truckmen's strike is a good illustration of this. If it be true, as everything seems to point out, that the destinies of labor are passing more and more under the control of unionism, it behooves capital to recognize the inevitable, just as it behooves labor to learn the limits of its own power, and wield it with an enlightened understanding.

Light and Shade.

A retired linen draper went into an English school one day and began putting the scholars through an examination in geography.

"What is the capital of Holland?" he asked.

"Amsterdam," was the crushing rejoinder from the smart boy of the class.

Monsieur Caline took his son to see the animals at the Zoo. The young man asked:

"Is it true, papa, that orang-utans cannot endure our climate?"

"They endure it perfectly, my son," was the reply, "but they have to be stuffed first."

"He told me once the saddest thing that can befall a soul is when it loses faith in God and woman."

For he had lost them both.—Lost those gems—

Though the world's throne stood empty in my path, I would go wandering back into my childhood, Searching for them with tears."

Elevating Mankind.—"And by the way," asked the old schoolmate, "what has become of Moseley, who used to talk so much about devoting his life to uplifting mankind?" Did he go into the ministry?" "No," answered the other old schoolmate, "he is in the elevator business."—Indianapolis Journal.

Poet—I hope you have received the little volume of poems I ventured to send you?

Baroness—Oh, yes, I have—it is charming. I wonder where I have put it.

Little Karl—Under the leg of the table, mamma, to make it steady.

PROTECT WIDOWS AND ORPHANS

The Soundness of the New Insurance Legislation.

Principles of the New Redistribution Bill—One Objection Removed.

Ottawa, June 24.—The debate on the motion for the second reading of the Redistribution Bill which was commenced on Friday last, gave the Postmaster-General, who has made the question of representation in the House of Commons a study, an opportunity of presenting for the consideration of the house and the country some interesting data which he has spent much time and care in gathering respecting the various constituencies in Western Ontario, which were affected by the various redistribution bills of 1882 and 1892 and amendments. He pointed out that the dominating and permeating principle of the measure which the government has introduced was that there should be no breaking of county lines and no carving of seats out of fragments of different counties. This was in contrast to the bill of 1882, which introduced for four new seats to which Ontario was entitled as a result of census, and to fill the vacancies caused by the merging of two ridings into adjoining constituencies, changed the boundaries of 50 constituencies. The only reason or argument which would justify the general breaking of county boundaries which took place would be to make ridings symmetrical boundaries and equality of population. The census of 1881 gave an average population for the Ontario constituencies of 20,904. The Postmaster-General showed that of the 92 seats which were at that time in the Province of Ontario only 23 were by the provisions of that bill given population between 19,000 and 22,000, while no less than 30 had a population less than 19,000, and 34 had a population upwards of 22,000, and the population of these constituencies ranged from 12,000, the lowest in Leeds and Grenville, represented by the Conservative whip, to 35,000 in West Toronto. These figures effectually disposed of the cry that the opposition are now raising of "rep. by pop." in so far as it was illustrated by them in practice, when they have the opportunity of giving force to the principle, as he profess to desire to apply it now. But, as Mr. Mulock pointed out, this principle had never been contended for even by the most cherished idols of the opposition in the sense that Sir Charles Tupper had demanded. The only sense in which it had ever been sought to be applied was in reference to the comparative representation of the two provinces in the old Province of Upper Canada. However the records indicated plainly that equalization of population in the respective constituencies was not a factor in the determination of boundaries when the Conservative party had the opportunity of giving to that principle the force of law.

Since the bill was introduced the government has made a change in the proposed distribution of seats. The member that was formerly given to the constituency of Bothwell, the integral parts of which now revert to the counties to which they properly belong, has been given to the city of Toronto, and by this course the main objection to the bill, namely, that it gave an undue representation to Liberal counties, while depriving Toronto of that representation to which, in virtue of its large population and Conservative tendencies, it was entitled, has been removed. In

the bill as originally drafted this member was given to Kent county, which it was proposed to divide into three constituencies. By the amendment, Kent will be placed on the list of counties sending two members, and surely no injustice in this, as it is a member of the same category with Lambton, which has a population of 800 in excess of it.

The government in response to the request of the millers and dealers in Eastern Canada have withdrawn the bill dealing with the inspection of wheat and substituted a modified measure. Sir Henri Joly voiced the sentiments of the community when he declared that the maintenance of the reputation of Canadian wheat in the markets of the world was of greater value to the material interests of Canada than all the gold of the Yukon ten times over. In the amended bill the high standard set in the measure as at first introduced for export wheat is maintained. Provision is made, however, by which the exigencies of the home trade, as presented by the millers and dealers of Eastern Canada, has been met by a provision which enables them to secure supplementary inspection in the east of wheat for home consumption.

THE INSURANCE BILL.

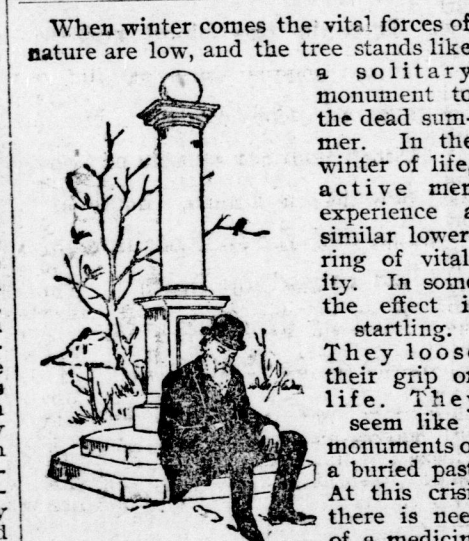
There is perhaps no economic measure which the government has introduced in this parliament that has greater importance than the Insurance Bill, and although there was some opposition to the measure on the part of the interested companies, or some of them, the compromise which was arrived at in the end was an eminently fair one. The finance minister struck a responsive chord when he asserted as the cardinal principle of the bill, which the government was determined to preserve, that the principal amount of the insurance, the amount which the companies had contracted to pay to the families of policy-holders, should be kept intact. The objection came from those who had taken out sharing or participating policies under which, every year received or expected to receive a share of the profits of the company, and who saw a danger that if the companies were compelled to put a larger proportion of the premiums to rest account than formerly they would get as large a dividend annually as they have been getting in the past. Mr. Fielding pointed out, however, that the whole question was one of figures, that under the changed circumstances the rate of interest having decreased very materially in recent years, the same amount laid aside each year would not produce as much as was the case formerly, and therefore it was necessary in order to be on the safe side that the amount should be increased if the widows and families of policy-holders were to be assured of getting the full amount of their policies in the future, and he was emphatic that, as between the sharing of the profits for the present, and the payment of the full amount contracted for by the company, the government would protect the interests of the widows and orphans. His declaration that the policy-holders had after all no definite contract under which they shared the profits was at first questioned, but a little discussion developed the fact that the finance minister was absolutely correct, and that the only definite and absolute contract contained in the policy is to pay a stated amount on the maturity of the policy. The discussion brought out the fact very clearly that none of the companies can rely upon being able to realize 4½ per cent upon their investments, many of them only being able to make 4 per cent, and even less, and the fact was generally admitted that the contentions of the finance minister that insurance business must be done on 4½ per cent basis were correct, and that the government had acted wisely in the matter. By the compromise all new business will be done after the first of January next upon the basis of 4½ per cent, and the time of applying the new rates to the business now in force has been extended for three years beyond the time at first proposed. The companies by accepting the compromise confirms the soundness of the government's policy in insisting upon the insurance business being placed on a sound basis.

STEAMERS COLLIDE.

New York, June 26.—A collision is reported to have taken place this morning between the Anchor Line steamer City of Rome, which arrived this morning from Glasgow, and the New Jersey Central Railroad steamer Monmouth. The Monmouth passed quarantine without stopping. Her upper deck forward had been carried away. It would appear that the collision had occurred in the lower bay, though the City of Rome did not report it as a quarantine.

A MAD LEAP.

St. Louis, Mo., June 27.—Miles McDonald, aged 20, as the result of a wager, dived from the center span of the Eads bridge, badly injuring himself and narrowly escaping death. The distance from the bridge to the water is 115 feet.



When winter comes the vital forces of nature are low, and the tree stands like a solitary monument to the dead summer. In the winter of life, active men experience a similar lowering of vitality. In some the effect is startling. They lose their grip on life. They become monuments of a buried past. At this crisis there is need of a medicine which will nourish and build up the body, and increase its vital power. Such a medicine is Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. It enriches the blood, purifies it, carries off the clogging waste of the system, increases the nutrition of the body, and produces a sound, healthy condition with abundant vital power and physical energy.

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50c Each.

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HAMILTON AT THE TOP

(Continued from page 3.)

Sadle Levy 2, Nandelle 3. Time, 1:43½.	
Fourth race, handicap, 6 furlongs—	
Placidie 1, Barrisoth 2, Our Gertie 3. Time, 1:15½.	
Fifth race, selling, 1 mile—Forbush 1, Ben Frost 2, Silver Set 3. Time, 1:43½.	
Sixth race, selling—Banish 1, Midian 2, Annie Oldfields 3. Time, 1:42½.	
TRIGGER.	
MELROSE RIFLEMAN ON DECK.	
Melrose, June 26.—The Melrose Rifle Club met Wednesday, June 21. Following are the scores:	
200 Yards, off Hand—	
*J. A. Clare 8 7 4 6 8-33	
J. H. Challoner 9 5 3 5-31	
Jas. Harrison 4 7 10 3-29	
C. Harrison 4 7 4 5-29	
F. Harrison 4 4 7 4-23	
W. Robinson 2 3 2 7-22	
E. J. Shaw 2 3 6 8-22	
F. Morden 5 1 4 3-22	
F. Robinson 4 3 1 7-19	
A. Thompson 4 3 6 2-15	
R. Robinson 3 3 2 4-14	
J. James 1 3 1 2-8	
J. K. Morris 2 0 1 2-7	
*Globe and peep sights.	
200 Yards, on Rest—	
E. J. Shaw 8 7 8 7 8-39	
J. K. Morris 7 9 3 8-33	
James Harrison 4 7 10 5-34	
F. Robinson 7 9 4 6-34	
J. H. Challoner 6 8 5 8-33	
W. Robinson 6 4 9 5-33	
*J. A. Clare 6 7 7 6-32	
F. Harrison 6 9 5 4-32	
C. Harrison 7 6 3 5-28	
E. Morden 3 7 3 5-26	
R. Robinson 5 7 4 4-25	
J. James 2 5 4 3-22	
A. Thompson 3 5 3 5-21	
Totals—J. H. Challoner, 64; James Harrison, 63; E. J. Shaw, 61; F. Robinson, 55; *J. A. Clare, 55; W. Robinson, 52; E. Morden, 48; J. K. Morris, 45; R. Robinson, 39; A. Thompson, 36; J. James, 30.	
CRICKET.	
AUSTRALIA AND DERBY.	
In the cricket match at Derby, between the Derbyshire eleven and the Australian visiting cricketers, the home	

team was all out in its first inning for 123 runs.

YOUNG COLLINS, 558, NOT OUT. London, June 27.—E. J. Collins, the 14-year-old Clifton College school boy cricket player, concluded his remarkable inning yesterday, scoring 558 runs and not out.

SARNIA AND STRATHROY. Sarnia Observer: The Sarnia cricket club went to Strathroy yesterday and achieved a most creditable victory over the celebrated team of that town. The outing was an ideal one for play, and the outing was thoroughly enjoyed by the local players. The hospitable treatment accorded them by the Strathroy cricketers added greatly to the day's pleasure. The game was a good exhibition of cricket, some splendid batting, bowling and fielding being done. For Sarnia, J. J. Madden, Dr. Hayes and T. Pardee distinguished themselves by the masterly manner in which they wielded the bat for Sarnia, while Rawlingson was Strathroy's star. F. F. Pardee for Sarnia and H. Pope for Strathroy, proved most effective bowlers. The score was 8 wickets and 13 runs in Sarnia's favor.

FISTIC.

THE QUIGLEY-ZEBBERG INCIDENT. It was in the 31st round of the amateur ring contest, near Fresno, Cal., that Zebberg slipped and fell to the floor. As he was falling Quigley landed on his head. Zebberg was removed to his home, and since that time has remained unconscious. The attending physicians say he cannot recover.

LAWN TENNIS.

THE SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIP. London, June 27.—At Wimbledon yesterday in the open lawn tennis singles championship, R. L. Doherty, holder of the championship, defeated A. Goer, 3 sets to 2.

YACHTING.

DROWNED DURING A REGATTA. Two lives were lost Saturday at the 29th annual regatta of the Seawanhaka Corinthian yacht club at Oyster Bay. The men were lost off C. T. Pierce's catboat. Dot, during a squall which came out of the northeast, causing all the flyers to take down their sails. One of the men was a Mr. Lockwood, of Englewood, N. J., a friend of Mr. Pierce's, the other a sailor named Mitchell. As the squall struck, Lockwood and Mitchell attempted to lower the sail, when the boom swung over to starboard, striking T. M. Benedict's steam yacht Verang, and also another yacht. The men went overboard, and although

searched for half an hour could not be found. W. Gould's Amorita lost her foremast in the storm, and all the boats were considerably delayed with the exception of Percy Chubb's Vigilant.

FOOTBALL.

SEAFORTH WON. Seaforth, June 27.—In a western football match, played here last night between Wingham and Seaforth, the latter won by 5 goals to 1.

AUSTRALIANS WON.

At Sydney, N. S. W., the Australians beat the English at football Saturday, by a score of 13 to 5.

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