

**LABOR AND WAGES.**

**Cleanings From the Industrial Field of the World.**

The London cabmen's strike has been settled by a compromise.

Waiters' Union No. 1 has resolved that ten hours are to be a day's work for its members.

The plasterers' laborers in Dundee, Scotland, are on strike for a minimum of ten cents per hour.

Cigarmakers' Union No. 87 has assessed its members to contribute towards the strike fund of the miners.

Typographical Union No. 205, of Ottawa, Ill., is exerting itself in organizing a central labor union in that city.

The retail clerks of St. Cloud have organized a union and will endeavor to have the stores closed early in that city.

The Street Railway Employees' Union of Grand Rapids, Mich., now has about \$300 in the treasury and 300 members.

The labor organizations of Edinburgh, Scotland, have formed a Labor Federation with a view of taking political action.

An Italian Tailors' Union was organized at Mechanics' Hall, Sixth avenue and Carpenter street, Philadelphia, last Monday.

The Workmen's Cremation Society has amended its by laws to the effect that the admission fee may be paid in instalments.

The Detroit street car troubles have been submitted to arbitration and cars are again running, the strikers having been reinstated.

The San Francisco letter carriers have formed a labor organization which will be affiliated with the National Association of Letter Carriers.

A factory and mill hands union has been formed at Dundee, Scotland. The principal agitator bringing about the formation was a Rev. Henry Williamson.

The nationalists of Rhode Island will again have a ticket in the field next spring. In the meantime they will devote their time to agitation, education, and organization.

The labor organizations of Newark have been requested by the Joint Executive board of the Central Labor Federation to form a central body and join the former organization.

Carpenters' Union No. 698 of Newport, Ky., has forced the bosses to sign an agreement for the year to pay \$2.50 per day of nine hours, and to employ none but union workmen.

The French Government has issued a decree providing that in future engineers and stokers on the French railroads must not be actively employed for more than twelve hours per day.

The Tri-City Labor Congress, of Rock Island, Ill., has assessed the members of its affiliated unions five cents each to assist the organized clerks and salesmen in their early closing movement.

The Brooklyn framers will demand of the Board of Walking Delegates to compel the members of Framers' Unions No. 1 and 2 to demand 45 cents per hour. They are now working for 40 cents.

At a joint meeting held in the Angel hotel, Cardiff, Wales, and attended by representatives of employers and employed in the tailoring trade of Cardiff, it was agreed that five per cent advance should be made in the wages.

Partial strikes have commenced among the masons in Barcelona, Spain, necessitating the stoppage of work at several large buildings now in course of construction. The number of workmen now idle amounts to 20,000.

Labor organizations with an aggregate membership of about 300,000 have affiliated during the last four weeks with the National Central Trades Council, recently created in Germany by members of the Social Democratic party.

The Cincinnati Central Labor Council at the last meeting refused to consider several communications of a purely political nature, declaring that the Central Labor Council is not a political scheme, but "just a labor organization."

Theodore Edelman has been elected Financial Secretary of the House Painters' Union. Two members were fined \$25 each for failing to strike for eight hours. They will be expelled unless their fine is paid within one week.

In 1890 there were in Germany 1131 strikes in each of which more than ten men participated. The total number of strikers was 394,440. In 420 cases they were entirely unsuccessful; in 468 partially successful; in 187 they got all they demanded.

General Secretary John T. Elliott, of the Brotherhood of Painters and Decorators, reports \$1,064.53 received for dues and \$696.68 expended last month. The receipts for the protection fund amounted to \$662.62, and \$910 were expended for sick and death benefits.

The Amalgamated Miners' Union of Australasia has over 24,854 members, and about \$140,000 in its treasury. During the last twelve months \$10,925 were paid for death benefits, \$55,065 for accident benefits, \$10,

535 for charitable purposes, and \$33,070 for strike benefits. Out of 37 strikes and lockouts they won 36.

The Amalgamated Miners' Union of Australasia in its annual report urges its members and all unionists to see that every man has a vote, so that the political position of the working classes can be strengthened and their forces consolidated at future elections. At the close of last year there were 23,854 members, with funds to the extent of \$122,215.

The Childs-Drexel Home Fund of the organized compositors has reached the sum of \$19,938.76. The receipts of the secretary-treasurer of the International Typographical Union during the last four weeks amounted to \$4,581.31, and \$7,231.99 were expended. The balance on hand is \$19,513.04. Charters were issued to three new local unions.

The Democratic Labor Federation of Ardagh, Ireland, has adopted the following resolutions: "That we beg to congratulate the independent electors of North Sligo on the magnificent victory gained on Thursday. That we return our sincere thanks to Mr. M. Davitt for the manner in which he expounded the laborers' grievances to the masses of Sligo.

The Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners has secured advances of wages and reductions of hours for its members in 130 towns of Great Britain last year. For benefits \$138,945 were expended, and the general fund increased \$37,505. Agreements were made with the organized carpenters of Dublin and the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America recognizing each other's cards.

The May-day committee of the workmen of Paris has issued a manifesto calling for the passage of an act making eight hours the legal day's work throughout France. Seventy-five thousand copies of this manifesto are being distributed in circles where it is expected they will do the most good. The municipal authorities have shirked taking any responsibility for the possible results of the proposed demonstration.

The special committee of the metal workers' conference recently held at Odessa, Denmark, has issued a call for an international congress of metal workers, to be held next August at Brussels. The metal workers' unions of all countries are invited to send delegates, for the purpose of organizing an international union. All communications should be addressed to Frank Diedrich, Hammerbrook strasse, 85, H. 5, Hamburg, Germany, before May 15.

The police of Naples have arrested many of the more prominent socialists of that city on the charge of inciting the laboring classes to take part in seditious demonstrations on May day. The movement for shorter hours of labor is increasing throughout Italy. In Messina and Cotani the workmen have resolved upon a general strike unless their demands for a working day of eight hours is granted, while in Turin thirty thousand laboring men have decided to follow the example of their brethren in the cities mentioned.

There has been a general revival of the labor agitation in Austria, and a number of strikes are threatened. The journeymen harness makers and saddlers of Vienna are about to strike, while most of the journeymen bakers have given their employees notice. The authorities are taking measures to secure hands in order that there may be no interruption in providing the capital with bread. The strike of masons at Prague still continues, and the carpenters in the Bohemian capital have joined the strike movement. A meeting of miners held at Ostrau in Silesia was dissolved by the police.

The railway political movement which has taken form in Illinois, Missouri, Kansas, the Dakotas and other western states is attracting a great deal of attention, and is apparently fast gaining strength. Mr. J. Kinde, lan, of Mitchell, S. Dakota, seems to be one of the ablest champions of the movement and is apparently its chief leader. It is not improbable that this movement may attain great power and influence, for it is certainly true that a very large class of the railway employees believe that through independent political action much may be accomplished to better their condition and advance their interests.—Railway Service Gazette.

It is reported that a letter has been received at Fall River, Mass., from Boston men interested in cotton mills asking for the co-operation of Fall River manufacturers in an attempt to curtail production by a general shut down. The depression in the cloth market has increased and the quotation at which spot goods were disposed of last week are the lowest ever known, and under the most favorable conditions there is no money in prints for the great majority of sixty-five mills. Six corporations have passed the quarterly dividends within the past two or three weeks, and many of those paid were taken from the surplus earnings of a year or two ago. Most manufacturers believe the simultaneous and continued suspension until the surplus stock can be wiped out is the only remedy for the present condition of things, and the leaders of labor are quoted as favoring curtailment rather than reduction in wages.

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