

# THE TOILER

Official Organ of the Toronto District Labor Council. Published Weekly in the Interests  
of the Working Masses.

VOL. IV. No. 31

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## INDUSTRIAL EUROPE SEEN THROUGH AMERICAN EYES

The Throbbings of the Very Heart of Industrial England.

By JESSE GREENLL.

Investigated, 100% by Jessie Greenll.

Manchester, Eng.: June 30.—We have seen  
and trim their political sails accordingly,

all heard: "the hum of industry," but some time ago the Westinghouse people, who, as you know, have great works here, did on a municipal contract. The figures were satisfactory, but this firm has imposed restrictions on its employees as to houses, etc., that the average British workman does not consider is right; so the tender was accepted by the municipality with the proviso that the workers' conditions must be changed to conform to British usage. The company hastened, and finally accepted, and this is the beginning of a quiet state that is destined to make the Westinghouse at first an "open" shop, and eventually a unionized and "closed" one."

Mr. Kelley has been to the United Kingdom, and here are to be found, side by side, great wealth and great poverty—a few families living in luxury, a gaudy number of energetic and enterprising manufacturers, with their fingers on the commercial pulse of the world, suppling necessities and luxuries to all nations, and a great multitude of skilled and unskilled men and women living from hand to mouth, and yet satisfied if allowed to work for what is an "American" seem totally inadequate wages.

Manchester is not the largest cloth manufacturing emporium it once was. Its mills have been turned over to other industries, and now in Oldham and Stockport and Hyde and a score of other cities, most of them electrically connected by street cars with what has become the great warehouse or raw material, is carried on the particular industry that has made Manchester famous. One must go to these cities to find the hum of the spindles and to see great mills employing thousands of men and women still, just now, to view the operatives at work, one must hark back on the night before, for since the enormous rise in the price of cotton the mills have shut down part of the time, paralyzing the subordinate industries as well and bringing want and hunger to thousands of homes. Yet the mills and the machinery are there, and the willing workers are there also, and when, under the spur of big profits, the cotton growers again raise crops that will glut the market, depressing prices, then these mills, with the world's stock of cotton cloth much reduced, will sing a merry tune day and night for an indefinite period in the effort to catch up.

British Trade Improving.

Ninety unions report monthly the state of trade to G.D. Kelley, for 23 years the secretary of the Manhattan Trade Council, and one of the next parliamentary candidates of the liberals and trade unionists.

"There are 26,000 organized wage workers in Manchester and Salford," said Mr. Kelley, "and all the other cities hereabouts also have their central labor organization." Salford is contiguous to Manchester, being separated only by the Manchester ship canal.

Mr. Kelley rapidly can aver for me some of the more recent reports received, and the result showed a gradual improvement in business, as compared with last year. This is an important centre for the trades needing machinists, and several thousands are steadily employed. In fact, I find that there factories abound, the trades of mechanics and boilermakers flourish.

In reading over these reports, only one trade recorded all members employed. This was a union of Hebrew clothing workers. The Britons may be idle, but the Hebrews had no time on their hands. Mr. Kelley smiled significantly when noting this fact, but declined to give his opinion of the reason for such prosperity. Most British workers believe it is because the Hebrews are willing to work at such a low wage.

"In Manchester," said Mr. Kelley, "the unions believe in and practice the 'closed shop,' strong unions insist on this, and I think they sometimes succeed. But whether the rule is a good or bad one, it is closely followed, and that without any formal agreement with employers. The trade union movement is now a part of the civic life of this community. To be outside the pale of its protection is generally believed to be suicidal. It is a bulwark in hard times, with its out-of-work benefits, and a protection in industrially stormy times, with its strike relief funds."

"Our municipal legislators know that

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Some Day.

Some day men will stop and wonder  
How we ever made the blunder,  
Living all the time for pleasure,  
Just to leave and then go under.

Toilers.

Don't forget Christ was a toiler; some  
people do.

The other evening we sat upon the stage of Carnegie Hall and listened to a dear friend advocating home rule for Ireland in a two-hour speech. We went home with him, and after leaving him within the portals of his domicile, and within the portals of his domestic, and within the portals of his home.

The observance of these regulations will materially assist the Department in the proper and effective administration of the Building Act, and will also save a deal of inconvenience and possible heavy loss to those whose neglect of such constitutes a contravention of By Law No.

ROBERT J. FLEMING,

Commissioner of  
Assessment and Property.

City Hall, June 29th, 1904.

The hand tool and have allowed the tools propeller by steam and electricity to pass into the hands of a few private individuals.

The toilers wish their children to be taught the things that toilers' children need to know, they must be represented on the Board of Education, and herein once more they need straight labor candidates as well as straight labor rates.

If the toilers wish to be represented on our legislative halls, they will find it necessary to form labor leagues in each ward, so that by this means they can secure a large number of earnest and enthusiastic workers at election times for the candidates of "the labor party."

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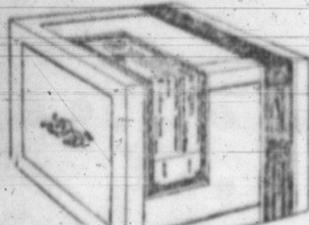
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There is room for sober thought by economists and historical writers everywhere which still, as far as I can see, is due to the women's rights advocates in the conclusions which have been reached by Mrs. Flora Thompson, champion, and which are stated by her with unusual force and clearness in an article in this issue of the North American Review. "The Truth About Women in Industry," says the Philadelphia Ledger. These conclusions, based on the statistics of labor put upon close reasoning from economic principles, are too complex to permit of a complete analysis of the subject, are based on a direct and emphatic denial of the statement of the author that there is "no room for the woman in industry." Mrs. Thompson sets forth these fundamental propositions in support of her opinions. The practice of modified economic independence has achieved for women average earnings of less than \$1.10 a day.

The effect of the practice on a woman's interests is to lessen efficiency and to increase the cost of production.

The effect upon the woman herself is to impair her physical fitness for maternity and to subject her to a false system of education which mentally and morally unfit her for her economic office in the family.

The effect upon society is to promote pauperism among the poorer classes of living, the influence of sentiment, are based on a direct and emphatic denial of the statement of the author that there is "no room for the woman in industry."

In maintaining her premise that the statistics of women's wage earners, instead of indicating the progress of the sex, really show that the woman in industry is an object of charity, an economic pervert and a social menace, Mrs. Thompson points out that, while the law of the business world simply demands the greatest production at the least cost, the official information about women's work deals not with the volume of production, its cost, etc., but chiefly with the question whether it is a profit, pleasant, profitable or otherwise in relation to her sex always in relation to her sex.

She also finds the numerical strength of women workers is a confusing and uncertain factor, because the industrial energy of women is constantly depleted by marriage. Woman's aim in industry is not a livelihood, as a rule, and she works as a makeshift pending marriage; hence she not only enters into competition with men, displacing them and lowering the value of labor, but she withdraws an indispensable force from household production, and thus increases the cost of living.

The wages of women are fixed not by arbitrary and cruel discrimination, but by the economic law of the relation of sex.

"By virtue of the legal provisions of marriage, a husband has the family relation," writes Mrs. Thompson, "and an inheritance option for the work pertaining to the support of life, women are accorded to receive less wages than men, because as a class it costs them less to live."

And while reduction of men's wages is brought about by the competition of women, there is no diminution of the man's responsibility for the support of his family. A further injustice is done in the case of the wife who is a wage earner, because while the wife's earnings may supply what the household lives by her want of application to household pursuits, this is entirely optional with her, and is her duty to business interests and not often fail in conserving the husband's interests.

What Mrs. Thompson terms "the humor of wages earning for woman" is that it has taken her out of the home and reduced her office in the family to a convenience of business. Health, good morals, the beautiful, religion—all the blessings which accrue to the family through the immunity from business which woman enjoys in the domestic sphere—must be sacrificed, and the general tendency is to the overthrow of the family and the destruction of humanity. The foregoing summary of Mrs. Thompson's paper will serve to draw attention to the grave importance of the problems which she presents so boldly, and to the arguments which have an added weight as coming from one who is herself a broadway.

In connection with the masculine boast that men are more consistent than women I always recall Emerson's remark that "Consistency is the jewel of fools."

The attitude of the feminine mind toward the truth is that of a child which feels free to make any sort of statement when its fingers are crossed.

What did old Goriot love his wife like before?

A widow.

Well, she is doubtless grateful for that.

At what age does coquetry in woman begin and end? After diligent inquiry in kindergartens and old folks' homes, we are forced to admit ignorance.

Having recognized and rewarded the man behind the gun, how about the woman behind the washboard?

To-day's worry is the result of yesterday's neglect.

Good actors and good architects draw good houses.

Japan feels that it needs Port Arthur in its business.

When you feel for the poor, put your hand into your purse.

Some men are free thinkers and some others are married.

Don't think because a girl's complexion is a dream that all dreams are hand-painted.

"The Real Issue is the Moral Issue."

Some of the good Bishop's "points" were quite refreshing, and that they should have been uttered in such a Thieves' Kitchen as the House of Commons adds about 400 per cent. to their pugnacity and pertinacity. What he means by the Government in effect said to the Chinese was: "We won't have you as men, but as estimated implements. When using

## THE TOILER

### Der German Cobbler

He Makes an Empty Barrel and a Sign a Source of Profit.

D OT little tailor comes in to see my der cobbler day and vrien days I say I do not have any shoes to repair for three days. He shrugs his shoulders and replies:

"Well, if you don't have brains in your head, how can you?"

"But why don't I have brains?" I say.

"I can't say. I guess you have poor dot vay. I tell you more agi one-hundred times dot you don't understand der peoples of America. If you do not, you shall have plenty of work. Look at my case. I peggin pieces my recent, old I can now draw a check for two thousand dollars. It vays because I understand der peoples. I know how to draw 'em to my place. It vays better if you go and work in a coal yard. If I had my cobbler shop one day I bet I bring in ten pairs of shoes to be fixed op. Poor Hans. Vien do you offer leaf Germany?"

I run into my wife criss, and I am down by der stairs and think ned

"I will vina a joke all der time!"

"All dot time, madam."

"Dear me, and I don't know about him! How many good things I had last! Well, I shall come in now every week, that I like you to have a new joke every time."

In three days we're ash forty peoples comes in my shop and brings me work and looks into dot barrel, and I lay work ahead for two weeks. Sometimes a man gets bad vies he don't say nothing, but most of 'em says it than a good jape and I have brains. Dot little tailor finally comes around to see if I vays in der poorhouse yet, and when I tell him how vays he goes up to dot barrel and strikes her mit his feet and shouts:

"Tell you, Hans, you don't understand der American public. If you do you do you lot of plenty of work."

"But I have plenty of work now, und eafertyoly says dot barrel vays a joke."

"It makes no difference. You vays some pumpkin breads, dot public vays leave you to small of your old was und leather."

I guess dot little tailor vays no joke und he vays jealous of me."

M. QUAD.

A Little Girl's Lives.

Bessie, aged five, was accustomed to come to her mother's room before the family was up. One Sunday morning, while making the customary visit, the odor of breakfast in preparation managed to reach the sleeping quarters. Bessie, with her arms round her mother's neck, gave one or two vigorous sniffs, then, with an air of anticipation, announced, "Mamma, there's two fangs I dess love mos' of enyfink in der world."

"What are they, Bessie?" asked her mamma.

"God and baked beans!" Bessie replied, smacking her lips.—Lippincott Magazine.

In the Jungle.

Mr. Monkey—Mrs. Snake, will you

please bring your family over to my house?

"Mr. Monkey is drinking again.

I want to stop him."—New York Evening Journal.

The Way of Girls.

"I don't see why Ethel obtained employment in the telephone exchange," said Maude.

"Way," explained Mamie, "you know she quarreled with Herbert and told him she was never going to speak to him again."

"But suppose she has to call him number?"

"That's it. She doesn't want to break her word unless she is compelled by accident."—Washington Star.

Lovers' Quarrel.

"Mary's young man has left already, and Mary just goes up to her room in tears," said Mary's mother. "I wonder what the trouble is."

"I know," chimed in Mary's little brother. "They had a scrap. I heard 'em. Sis said she was givin' him more kisses than he was a-givin' her, an' he said it wasn't so. Then they both got mad."—Philadelphia Ledger.

Boos for the Men.

"Did you say he grew rich through a patent of his own?"

"Yes. He invented something that made a woman think she was still monopolizing the conversation long after she had really stopped talking."—Detroit Free Press.

Done That Again.

"Done that again?" she says empty."

"Yes."

"Well, I vays going to look in, but I know you has a bar."

He looks in and finds nothings, und he shakes his head and sits down to think it over. After five minutes he lifts out his hand to me, and drops some tears in his eyes as he says:

"Cobbler, do you know I hat metten fungs in my toe for feefew cents. I was going to run for office next spring mebbe, und it vays a good idea to keep my shoes in repair."

"I begin to fix his shoe right away,

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