

LABOR and INDUSTRY

My Three Callers.

Wealth's shadow once fell on my door,
Foretelling bliss and gifts galore;
But I with dreams and rhymes that day
Was busy. So he went away.

Then Fame, with an electric shock,
Gave to my door a seeming knock;
But I still wedded was to art,
And let my lofty guest depart.

At last, grown wise as years went by,
I saw one other hovering nigh;
'Twas Love, who caught me in his net,
Where I am held, and happy yet.
—Joel Benton in the September Woman's
Home Companion.

NEWS OF THE LABOR WORLD.

Items of Interest Gathered from Many Sources.

Workers in sugar plantations in southern California will shortly be organized.

Journeymen Tailors' International Union will hold a convention in Bloomington, Ill., during the month of January.

The third annual convention of the International Hod Carriers and Building Laborers' Union of America will meet in Minneapolis, beginning Jan. 1, 1905.

Over fifty of the sixty-five national and international unions connected with the American Federation have as their chief officials American-born men.

The International Brotherhood of Book Binders will hereafter publish an official organ direct, and the office of publication may be in Chicago.

An appeal has been made to the striking mill girls of Fall River, Mass., by the Woman's trade Union league of Boston to enter household work in that city.

The labor unions of Los Angeles, Cal., have purchased several building lots in the heart of that city, and are about to begin the erection of a \$50,000 labor temple.

The Cigarmakers' union was the first labor organization to advocate an eight hour day. This union succeeded in establishing it on May 1, 1886, and it has been in force constantly ever since.

Labor unions are slowly making their way into Mexico. The larger railroad brotherhoods have lodges in that country, and the machinists and others are now following in their wake.

The Order of Railway Conductors each year sets aside a day that is observed as memorial day, on which its dead members are remembered. The graves of such are visited, flowers placed upon them and addresses are delivered.

There is a movement on foot to have the cigar-makers, garment workers, hatters, shirt waist and laundry workers and boot and shoe workers join hands and each subscribe an equal amount and keep several label agitators on the road, visiting trade unions and other organizations advocating these labels.

D. F. Kennedy, general organizer of the American Federation of Labor for the State of Indiana, discussing the labor situation the other day, said the trade unionists of the Hoosier State were enjoying peace and harmony. The fact that crops this year were plentiful was cited as an indication that employment would be good in the coming winter.

John Mitchell, president of the United Mine Workers of America, will be the principal speaker at the convention of the Minnesota Educational association, to be held in St. Paul during the Christmas holidays. Arrangements are still incomplete, but Mr. Mitchell has been assigned the question, "How May the Schools of the State Simplify the Problems of Labor and Capital."

The labor secretaries at Fall River,

Mass., acting under the instructions of the Textile council issued a signed appeal to the cotton mill strikers bearing on the proposed attempt of the manufacturers to reopen the mills. The appeal advises the operatives to remain away from the mills and show by their conduct that they are determined not to return to work until an honorable settlement is effected.

Hannah Monroe, president of the Washwomen's union of Richmond, Va., has issued an address to her sisters of the tub and washboard throughout the South. She urges washwomen to organize against their "oppressors," the "heathen Chinese." She says the male Chinamen, instead of "doing men's work," are driving the honest and poorly paid colored women from their natural calling of laundry work. Hannah Monroe, it is said, was born a slave. She threatens to become the Carrie Nation of the washwomen's movement and begin a series of raids against the offending Chinamen.

Formal notice that the charter of the Chicago Federation of Labor had been revoked and that the organization was expelled from the American Federation of Labor was given to Secretary E. N. Nockels by telegraph. To comply with the instructions of the executive council the federation will be obliged to expel from membership the Chicago locals of steamfitters' and Franklin union, No. 4, of pressfeeders. The pressmen claim jurisdiction over the pressfeeders and the plumbers over the steamfitters. It was at the instance of these two organizations that the Chicago Federation of Labor was expelled from membership in the national body.

A contest is expected in Congress next winter, waged by the labor men of the Pacific coast, for legislation to protect seamen from the importation of Chinese crews on American vessels. Recently the Pacific Mail steamship *Siberia* brought in a crew of 270 coolies, destined for the new steamship *Manchuria*, which recently arrived at San Francisco from Norfolk, Va., where it was built. The coolies escape arrest and deportation on the technicality that there is no actual landing of the Chinese in the United States, and therefore the contract labor law is not violated. It follows, of course, that the decks of these American steamships are no longer regarded as American soil.

The Central Labor Union of Indianapolis is receiving no end of praise on its recent change of the constitution, in which it embodied a proposition to do away with an old method of raising funds for the tributary organizations by publishing souvenir pamphlets, advertising for which is solicited from business men. The argument advanced that such solicitation is an imposition on merchants is undoubtedly correct. If the demand for this advertising were confined to the labor union souvenirs little objection could be raised, for these pamphlets are, after all, not burdensome. They form but a small fraction of the booklets and other transient publications in which business men are urged to take advertising space.—Chicago Record-Herald.

For years the farmer has been counted upon as being on the side opposed to trade unions, and until within the last few years he undoubtedly was. Understanding little of the conditions, and knowing nothing of the aims, objects and purposes of labor organizations, the farmer was easily misled by the unfair attacks upon labor organizations into bitterly opposing them. Now the farmer is beginning to realize that his interests and the interests of other laboring men are identical. He is no longer misled by the statement that he is a "capitalist" and in the same class with the

so-called "captains of industry." So far has his education progressed along this line that throughout the south-west and in Illinois there are to-day a large number of farmers' unions.

The immigration authorities have taken steps to block the landing of 300 Belgian glassworkers, who are coming to this country to take the places of American workmen who are on strike against a 25 per cent reduction in wages. W. S. Phillips of Cleveland, Ohio, president of the Amalgamated Association of Window Glassworkers, is responsible for the reception these men will receive. A few days ago he received a letter to the effect that the men were coming, and he at once notified immigration inspectors in Baltimore, New York and Philadelphia, where vessels land, bringing Europeans to this country. When these glassworkers try to land they will have to answer a severe cross-examination. If it can be proven that they are coming here under contract they will be sent back.

Lake seamen anticipate trouble when navigation opens next season. Rumors that have been spread along the chain of lakes that vessel owners next season will adopt some method of ascertaining as much as possible of the antecedents of their employes. It is said a list of questions will be presented to every man applying for a position on a vessel, and only after he has given satisfactory replies over his signature will the applicant stand a chance of getting a position on a boat. Seamen profess to see in this a move to disrupt their organization, and say that a similar system had been put in operation two or three years ago, but was abandoned at the time, after a violent protest by the lake seamen. A similar protest will be made at this time as soon as it is known along what lines the project is to be carried out.

A well-known writer on trade union subjects has been doing some figuring which he used in the following manner: A conservative estimate of the number of organized wage-earners and the amount they earn—and of necessity spend—shows in a truly startling manner the tremendous power they could wield if their wages were always spent after they had given due thought to their best interests. Taking the 2,250,000 members of trade unions, and basing their wages at \$1.50 per day for 300 days in the year, we find that this gives them a purchasing strength of \$1,012,500,000 per year. This sum—so great that it is difficult and well-nigh impossible to appreciate its influence—if used to pay rent for homes built by union labor and in purchasing the necessities of life, that were manufactured or procured by organized workmen, would soon work a revolution in every industry in the land.

An automatic packing machine has been invented in Paris. "By means of this apparatus, which is almost human in its action," says the Scientific American, "it is possible to fashion the package, charge it and then seal it, ready for transit. The appliance is a combination of a weighing machine and a packer. First the machine cuts off the requisite length of lead, paper, or whatever is utilized for the envelopes, from a continuous traveling band, pastes and folds into shape, leaving the mouth of the bag open. The package then passes along, stopping in its passage for a moment to receive its contents of tea, sugar or cereals through a funnel. It makes another forward movement, and an electric pressure piston comes into action and rams down the contents to the minimum volume. By a further series of operations the bag is shaken into shape, pressed, and the ends are folded down, pasted, and then labeled. Not once during the operation is the bag or its contents touched by hands. The inventor has been engaged for three years upon the device. When perfected it will perform the work of seventy people and complete the whole cycle of operations at a speed of forty packages per minute, thus effecting remarkable saving in time and expense."

OVER GRAVE OF STANLEY.

Immense Monolith Marks Resting Place of Great Explorer.

There is something rough, magnificent and elemental about the monolith which has been placed over Stanley's grave in Pirbright churchyard, Wales. It was Lady Stanley's idea that it should be a great unhewn stone, and as to the inscription she wrote: "I desire simply his name, Henry Morton Stanley; beneath it his great African name, Bula Matari—the Rock Breaker. For epitaph, the single word 'Africa,' and, above all, the emblem and assurance of life ever-



Grave of Stanley.

lasting—the Cross of Christ." After many days had been spent in a fruitless search on Dartmoor, a large granite monolith was discovered on Frenchbeer farm. It formed part of a fence on the road side. Three faces had been fully exposed for many years and the owner, Mr. Robert Stark, and the tenant, Mr. George Mortimer, only stipulated that a brass plate should be fixed to a smaller stone stating that from the spot was removed the stone which now stands at the head of Stanley's grave.

Two Towns Claim Taxes.

A novel tax case has arisen between the adjoining towns of Winthrop and Readfield, in Maine. A. T. Knowlton lives on the line between the two towns. The main part of his house is in Winthrop, the line running through the dining room and kitchen in the ell. The barn is in Readfield. It is claimed by Winthrop that for twenty-eight years up to two years ago the owner of the farm was taxed in that town, paying his taxes there. Readfield has brought an action to determine to which town he shall pay his taxes.

Punk Punishment.



In Japanese schools a mischievous boy is made to stand and hold a slender stick of lighted punk till it burns out. If he is caught breaking off the lower end of the stick a second punishment is added.

Pigeon Chums with Cat.

The story comes from Newcastle, England, that a pigeon became a great friend of a cat, and since the cat has had a kitten has transferred its affections to the kitten and spends most of its time sitting on it and playing with it.