

ment, an annuity corresponding to one-half of the loss of the wage earning power caused by the accident. The loss of a leg was generally estimated by the courts to be equivalent to the loss of seventy per cent of wage earning power, so that a workman suffering from this injury was allowed an annuity of thirty-five per cent of his wages. For accident causing temporary disablement from work the workman received one-half his daily wages until his complete recovery. All medical and pharmaceutical expenses, as well as hospital and funeral expenses, were to be borne by the employer. In spite of the completeness and decision of the text of the law, a great deal must, of course, depend upon the views of the courts when called upon to interpret it. Evidence of a tendency to increase the liability of employers is afforded by the act of March 31, 1905, which is supplementary to the act of April 9, 1898, and which stipulates among other liabilities the payment of half wages from the first day after the accident in all cases lasting more than ten days, instead of from the fifth day after, as originally provided."

THE FACT THAT this legislation was limited to certain trades gave rise to controversy, and the courts differed greatly in their interpretation of its limitations. But the Tribune's writer says: "Generally speaking, all trades involving manufacture of transforming materials of any kind, were judged as coming within the scope of its provisions, as well as mining, quarrying, building, and all work requiring the use of machinery

worked otherwise than by hand. But even these definitions did not entirely dispose of all difficulties, and it is still an open question whether bakers, butchers and various other trades can be regarded as being benefited by the law. The evident unfairness to workmen belonging to industries not coming under the provisions of the act and the desire to make the act more far-reaching in its scope resulted in the passage of the law of last April, which definitely deals with the question and finally disposes of the doubts which still existed as to the relative positions of various trades. All commercial enterprises, with the single exception of agriculture are now subject to the employer's liability acts. Some little time must elapse before the new law will become operative, as certain administrative measures must be carried out with regard to the imposition of a small tax on all commerce. The proceeds of this tax will be used by the state for the formation of a fund to guarantee workmen in a certain measure against the bankruptcy of employers or of insurance companies in which employers have covered their liabilities. A clause of the act makes it necessary that this delay shall extend beyond the close of the present year. Many employers have for a long time past taken the precaution of protecting themselves by means of insurance against all possible liability, both in respect to common law and the provisions of this new act."

BY HIS EXAMPLE Washington established a no third term precedent, but in a letter to the New York Herald, Roger A. Pryor says that

Washington's reasons were personal. Mr. Pryor says that Washington never declared that he regarded a third term as a menace to the public, but that his example "has been commonly accepted as a practical demonstration of his opposition to a third term as a danger to democratic institutions." To Thomas Jefferson Mr. Pryor ascribes the first public utterance from an American president against a third term on principle. Mr. Pryor says that the example of Washington was before Jefferson, and he expressed his resolve to follow it, saying: "A few more precedents will oppose the obstacle of habit to any one after a while who shall endeavor to extend his term. Perhaps it may beget a disposition to establish it by an amendment to the constitution." Mr. Pryor says that this subject was earnestly considered by the convention which framed the federal constitution. The body on one occasion declared for a six-year term, on another, for a seven-year term, with ineligibility for a second term. Some of the members favored three years, with ineligibility after a certain number of terms. The convention finally decided that the presidential term should be four years, without further limitation. Jefferson's wish at first was that the executive should be elected for seven years and be ineligible afterward; but he came to the conclusion that eight years' service, "with a liability to be dropped at half-way of the term, making that a period of probation," was the better plan."

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Sarah Vance, 698 1/2 Washington building, Chicago, Ill.—Enclosed please find \$1, in renewal of my subscription to The Commoner for the current year. I have been a continuous reader of your paper since its first publication, and I desire to be considered as a permanent subscriber. The Commoner, more than any other medium I have ever had the pleasure of reading, meets my views on all the various and changing conditions of these rushing and strenuous times. It is the one emphatic and unswerving advocate of the eternal principles of right and justice. The great reforms which it advocates in its columns must come if our liberties and the grand institutions of this greatest of the world's republics are to be preserved. We must stand for principles instead of blindly adhering to party. The elements of fire and water are necessary to human existence, but too much of these elements destroys life and transforms the garden into a desert. The tariff has served its purpose. While under proper control it protected our people against foreign competition and greed. Like the fire on our hearthstones and the water in our millraces, it contributed to the comfort and prosperity of our American citizenship. But getting beyond control of its honest framers and projectors, like the tremendous conflagration and the resistless tidal wave it is sweeping the great majority of our people to destruction. It is making a limited number of multi-millionaires and a countless number of slaves. It is building up corporations and great trusts and monopolies, while it is crushing the life out of the people. It is bringing vast riches to the few and abject poverty to the many. It is enabling the trusts and monopolies to place their tools in the halls of legislation and on the judge's bench to make and administer the laws, always in their own interests, regardless of the rights of the great body of our citizens. Changes must be made if our republic is to live. The president can accomplish but little unless backed by congress. We must elect United States senators and judges by direct vote of the people. We must have the right to regulate and control all public service corporations. If not by proper and lawful regulation of government, it must be by public ownership. And these changes must soon come, else revolution and anarchy. History repeats itself. The handwriting is on the wall.

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