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NEWS OF THE LABOR WORLD

Vienna.—Austria has 2,404 local unions, with a total membership of 223,099.

St. Louis, Mo.—International Machinists' Union convention will be in this city.

Wilkesbarre, Pa.—The United Mine Workers organized 38 new local unions in June.

Ottawa, Canada.—During May 287 employees were injured in Canadian industrial accidents.

Cincinnati, O.—After nine years of litigation, the constitutionality law has been affirmed by the United States circuit court of appeals.

Paris, France.—The bill fixing the maximum time for labor in the mines at eight hours per day was passed by the chamber of deputies.

London, Eng.—The Amalgamated Society of Engineers commended the present year with 105,000 members, and a credit balance in its funds of a 25,000 pounds.

Pittsburg.—Twenty-six hundred and sixty deaths were reported to the coroner in the year 1906, 919 of which was the result of accidents in mills, mines and on railroads.

Brussels.—The government of Belgium having refused to pass a measure reducing the hours of labor in mines, was defeated on a vote taken in the chamber of deputies.

London.—British boiler-makers and iron shipbuilders, according to the annual report, had a total membership at the close of 1906 of 52,056, an increase of 2,426 in the year.

London.—The British Postmen's Federation held its sixteenth annual conference recently in Leeds. The membership was stated to be 15,388, an increase of 446 in the year.

San Francisco.—The Broommakers' Union is making a fight against convict-made brooms. It has asked organized labor not to purchase any broom that does not bear the union stamp.

St. Paul, Minn.—St. Paul Carpenters' Union, which withdrew from the Structural Building Trades Alliance some time ago, will reaffiliate, it is said, in accordance with action taken at the recent general convention.

Belfast, Ireland.—That the Irish labor element is not in favor of socialism as one of the objects of the labor movement was manifested by the vote taken at the labor conference held here. It was 835,000 against, 90,000 for.

Pittsburg.—The Machinists' Union is devoting some time to the betterment of conditions in the city. Recently it appointed a committee to see that a better car service was established. It proposes to interest all other organizations in the matter.

Melbourne, Australia.—Fifty-one years ago the first Eight-Hour League in Australia was established here, and parliament has not yet made eight hours a legal day's work. In this direction the unions have done more than parliament for wage earners.

Washington.—Advanced wages and shorter hours, in the large majority of cases without resort to strikes, is the report that organizers are sending in to the American Federation of Labor. The result of the continued prosperity of the country has been felt among the workmen. There is hardly a trade that has not received an increase. In some places it is the carpenters, in others the bricklayers, and so on down the line.

Racine, Wis.—A fight against the use of convict labor in the state of Wisconsin has been taken up by the Wisconsin State Federation of Labor. A resolution was passed concerning the employment of convict labor, and advising that the federation use every honorable means in fighting them. It also demands that all steps be taken to prevent the manufacture of brooms by convicts.

Minneapolis.—A gigantic movement to establish a nine-hour weekly for union machinists employed by railroads throughout the northwest, which is expected to include blacksmiths and boiler-makers and embrace a total of 30,000 men, has been launched. The plan is being backed principally by the Northwest Consolidated District of the Machinists' Union, although the blacksmiths and boiler-makers, who also have powerful organizations, are looked to for active cooperation on behalf of their respective crafts. The Northwest Consolidated District embraces all railroads north of the Union Pacific lines and west of Chicago. A demand will be made upon them to make the nine-hour day effective September 1.

Hamburg, Germany.—The "Patriotic Association of Labor Unions" has been formed here as a means of opposing socialists in the labor movement of that country.

Minneapolis.—Encouraged by the success of the operations of the loan fund plan which was established six months ago, the local Cigar Makers' union has decided to go a step further in the way of looking after its membership in a pecuniary way. A plan is to be considered to establish a banking system on a small scale, to be operated under the direction of the union.

Philadelphia.—State Factory Inspector Delaney, in his annual report for 1906, transmitted to Gov. Stuart, says that Pennsylvania can show a less percentage of employed children under 16 than any state in the union.

Indianapolis.—Shying at the \$500,000 fund which the Manufacturers' association is alleged to have set aside for the purpose of combating the trades union movement members of the International Typographical union propose that their organization vote a like amount as a defense fund.

Duluth, Minn.—The ore dock laborers at Two Harbors, Minn., went out on strike. Unless a settlement is reached with the striking ore men very soon the iron ore traffic on the great lakes will probably be tied up, half of the mines on the Mesaba range closed down and thousands of train and vessel men and mine workers thrown out of employment. The men ask an increase in wages of 25 cents a day, pleading the increased cost of living.

Pittsburg.—The bottle blowers are well satisfied with the policy that has been pursued since machines were introduced into the industry. According to President D. A. Hayes this policy has reduced the hold which non-unionism had on this method of production and resulted in the employment of union men on the machines at good wages. During last fire there were 186 machines in operation, on which there were 710 men employed, an increase of 80 over the previous fire.

St. Joseph, Mo.—Election of officers was announced at the thirteenth annual convention of the Retail Clerks' International union. The officers include: President, H. J. Conway, Chicago; secretary and treasurer, Max Morris, Denver. The delegates are formulating a minimum wage schedule, which each local union will be required to enforce. Resolutions were adopted declaring that women clerks should be paid the same wages as male clerks where they do the same work. The convention also declared for an eight-hour day.

Louisville, Ky.—J. D. Buckalew of Washington, D. C., ex-vice president of the International Association of Machinists, created a sensation during a meeting of machinists here by declaring that he had been approached by an alleged representative of the Louisville & Nashville railroad who offered him \$10,000 to call off the strike now on in the local shops of the company. J. A. McDowell, business agent of the local union, was concealed when the offer was made, and has sworn to an affidavit containing the charges. B. M. Starks, general manager of the road, denies the charges.

Indianapolis.—The report of Secretary-Treasurer J. W. Bramwood of the International Typographical union shows that there was received during the year ending May 31, 1907, \$1,804,950.67, and that there was expended \$1,642,441.84. The assets of the organization May 31, 1907, are given at \$283,952.53, an increase during the year of \$162,450.72. The report shows that the average paying membership for the last year was 42,357, a decrease of 2,623 members. It is related, however, that "in this connection it is well to remember that for 20 months the organization has been battling for a universal eight hour work day in all branches of the printing trade." The report shows that there were 537 local unions May 31, a decrease of 66.

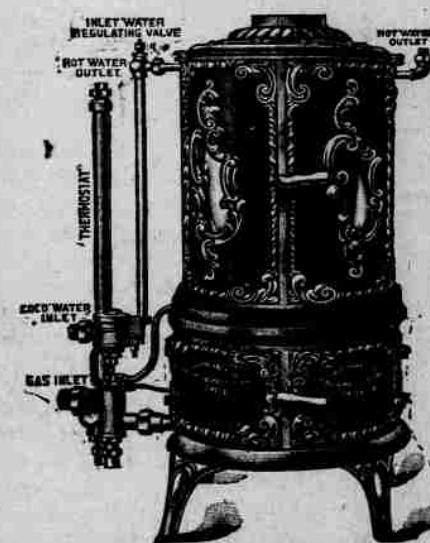
New York.—At the first interstate conference of women workers ever held in America, which were assembled simultaneously in New York, Boston and Chicago, the delegates representing various trade unions were present and voiced their views on the subject of "How May Women's Union Be Best Strengthened?" At the conclusion of the discussion resolutions were introduced and a definite scheme for assisting women workers to obtain better pay and shorter hours was decided upon.

Boston.—Representatives of various lodges of the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks employed on the New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad system voted that the increase of five and ten cents a day which the company has offered its clerks is not a satisfactory reply to the recent complaint of the clerks that the pay had not been advanced proportionately with that of other departments. Some time ago a request for an increase of 15 per cent. in wages was made by the clerks. A committee was elected to wait upon the railroad management and ask that the request be further considered.

Glasgow.—The Scottish miners have decided to renew their demand for 12½ per cent. advance in wages to the conciliation board. The men's representatives declare that the demand must be enforced.

Chicago.—Chicago has seen the last of its Labor day parades, at least for several years to come. The annual long march through the streets by thousands of unionists, wearing the picturesque uniforms of their trades, was abandoned by the federation of labor as being an "antiquated and luxurious" method of displaying labor's strength before the public.

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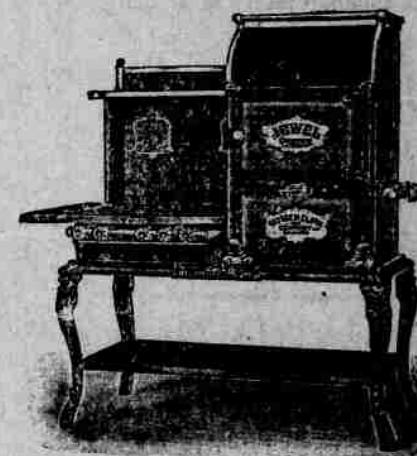
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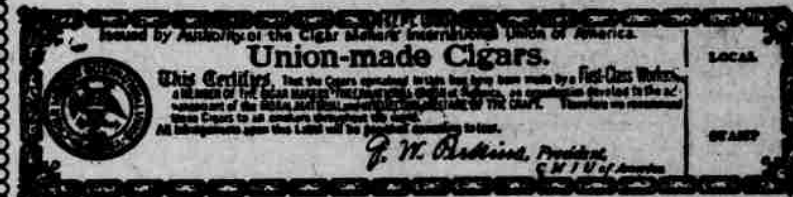
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