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# In the LABOR WORLD

Indianapolis, Ind.—Of the national labor organizations, none, it is believed, is gaining more rapidly in membership than the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America. At the present time the organization has 185,000 members in good standing and more than seventy thousand members who are between three and six months behind in their dues. This does not exclude them from membership in the organization, however, but they are not entitled to international benefits unless their dues are paid up. President William D. Huber says that at the rate the organization is growing at present he expects the paid-up membership to pass the 200,000 mark by June 30, the end of the calendar year. The organization is in good condition financially and otherwise, according to the statements of its officers. By far the largest per cent. of the membership is employed. Demands have been made by the workmen for higher wages in New York, Dallas, Memphis, Cincinnati, Columbus and other places, but no serious difficulty is anticipated at any point, although there may be strikes, April 1, when the new wage scale takes effect. In some of the smaller cities the men are demanding that the number of hours be reduced from ten to nine and in others from nine to eight.

Philadelphia.—The Philadelphia & Reading Railroad Company has issued an order reducing the working hours in some of its departments because of the slowing up of business. The official announcement of the company is as follows: "On account of falling off in volume of traffic and consequent loss of revenue, the Philadelphia & Reading Railroad Company have issued orders reducing the hours of labor in all locomotive and car shops to eight hours a day, beginning on Monday, the 28th of February. This will effect a reduction in shop expenses of about 15 per cent." The Reading employs many thousands of men in these shops who have been working on an average of about ten hours a day. The reduction was not looked for by the men.

Cleveland, O.—"We are not concerned in the cost of coal, freight rates, or other railroad finances; what we want is a fair day's wage for a fair day's labor," said President Lee of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen here, in reference to the statement of representatives of the eastern railroads that the increased cost of operation prevented an increase of wages. "Our men know they should receive higher pay," he continued, "and they mean to get it. They are in dead earnest. The railroads west of Chicago pay higher wages, and there is no reason why the eastern roads cannot. It is probable that within thirty days it will be demonstrated that the roads should pay the increase asked by our men."

London, Eng.—The year 1908 was not a good year for English trade unions, according to a report issued by the Registrar of Friendly Societies. "The report says that the total membership of the 634 unions making returns was 1,971,238, a decrease of 2,822; total income, \$16,479,705, an increase of \$1,799,230; total expenditure, \$18,622,480, an increase of \$6,722,745, as compared with the figures for the previous year. The amount of funds at the end of the year was \$29,980,160, or \$15.10 a member. During the year 40 trade unions were registered, and 49 dissolved or gave notice of termination.

New York.—The first Italian Central Labor union was formed in this city. A call was issued by the delegates of the Rockmen's and Excavators' union, the Italian Stone Masons' union and several other unions of Italians for a meeting for the purpose. Thirty unions were asked to send delegates. Most of the delegates were elected in anticipation of the call. All the unions are affiliated with the American Federation of Labor.

Edinburgh, Scotland.—In connection with the movement for obtaining for boys apprenticeships to trades, and thus preventing their drifting into the casual ranks, the Stirling school board has decided to establish a labor bureau for juveniles. A register will be kept of the boys about to leave school and the trades they wish to follow, for the information of employers, and all children, after leaving the school, up to the age of 16, may also place their names on the register.

Denver, Col.—The Denver City Tramway Company increased the wages of its conductors and motormen five cents an hour, the new scale being from 25 to 30 cents.

San Francisco.—To eliminate the sweat shops and the Chinese factories from the city is the task that the members of the Garment Workers' union have set for themselves. In order that all the union members of their craft may have work, and that conditions may be improved in the shops, they are asking that their friends look for the union label on garments they purchase.

Philadelphia.—The demand of the bituminous miners of the central Pennsylvania field for an increase in wages was refused at a conference between the executive committee of the United Mine Workers, district No. 2, the Clearfield district, and the executive committee of the association of bituminous coal operators. The committee met to discuss a new wage scale agreement to take effect April 1. The miners' representatives were bound by the resolution passed by the Indianapolis convention demanding an increase for all other classes of labor. The operators refused to pay increased wages as long as they are compelled to compete with non-union mines in Pennsylvania and West Virginia. A strike of 17,000 miners may be called in the Pittsburgh district, closing the mines of the Pittsburgh Coal Company, as the miners declare their contract is being violated by the company because more men are in the works than the contract calls for. Seven hundred men have already quit work at Sutersville.

Baltimore, Md.—The two powerful railroad labor organizations, the Order of Railway Conductors and the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen, which have undertaken to secure a general increase of the wage scale for all employees in those branches of the service on the principal lines in the eastern part of the United States and in Canada, have suffered a repulse at the very inauguration of its better-pay campaign. Three weeks of negotiations with the Baltimore & Ohio railroad, among the first to be approached in the matter, ended when the company, through President Daniel Willard, declined to accede to the demands of the organization.

New York.—The latest trade to have a union was announced recently by organizers of the American Federation of Labor as that of the sheepskin workers. It was found that somehow this trade had been overlooked, but organizers here and in Boston got into communication on the subject, the result being the forming of the Sheepskin Workers' union in Boston, which it is said is to be followed by a similar organization in New York. When sufficient enrollments have been made in the two unions scales of wages will be agreed upon, covering every kind of work from preparing parchment for writing to the making of drumheads.

Kansas City, Mo.—On account of the increased cost of living, 1,500 organized carpenters in Kansas City have made a demand on the contractors for an increase of ten cents an hour for their work. There are about 3,000 carpenters in Kansas City, the majority of whom are non-union men. About 150 of these already have enlisted with the union in their demand for an increase. The date set for the increase to take effect is May 1. The unions demand 65 cents an hour for foremen and 55 cents an hour for journeymen carpenters.

Paris, France.—The threat of a general strike of the firemen and engineers on the State railroad is due to the dissatisfaction of the employees of the Western railroad, recently taken over by the state, with the adjustment of premiums accruing under the old management. M. Millerand, minister of public works, posts and telegraphs, offered to make certain changes, but the employees were not appeased. The engineers on the State railroad voted in favor of a strike unless an increase in wages was granted them.

Cleveland.—The replies of the southern railroads to the wage demands of the Brotherhood of Railway Conductors were opened here. The refusal of the railroads to meet the men's terms was unanimous. This places the southern railroad situation in practically the same state as that in the territory north of the Chesapeake and Ohio and east of the Mississippi. It is now certain that any action taken by the men to press their demands will be simultaneous in the east and south.

Washington.—According to the bureau of vital statistics of the United States government, American bakers and confectioners have a death rate due to consumption of 250.1 per 100,000. The death rate from pneumonia amounts to 117.4 per 100,000. From these two causes, both growing out of their occupation, their death rate is 367.5 per 100,000. The average death rate among all people is 110 per 100,000.

Boston.—March 1 the 65 cents an hour rate went into effect for the members of Boston Operative Plasterers' union, according to the terms of the agreement which settled the strike last year.

Manila, P. I.—Following the refusal of the owners to grant a series of demands, the crews of the inter-island steamers struck, tying up the vessels and so holding up the mails. It is claimed the strike was instigated by Dominador Gomez, former president of the Nationalist party. The strike breaks a two years' pact entered into by the owners and crews last fall.

Minneapolis, Minn.—This year's scale will be 45 cents an hour for painters and paperhangers in Minneapolis, which is a raise of 2½ cents from the rate prevailing last year. This will apply to St. Paul also.

### CONVENTIONS OF 1910.

Where the Big Meetings Will Be Held This Year.

- April 4, St. Paul, Minn., International Association of Fur Workers.
- April 18-23, New Orleans, La., Brotherhood of Railway Clerks.
- May 2, Philadelphia, Pa., Chartered Society of Amalgamated Lace Operatives of America.
- May 9, Louisville, Ky., Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen of North America.
- May —, Cincinnati, Ohio, Tin Plate Workers' International Protective Association.
- May 11, Cincinnati, Ohio, American Federation of Musicians.
- May 23, Buffalo, N. Y., National Print Cutters' Association of America.
- June 6, Chicago, Ill., International Association of Marble Workers.
- June 13, St. Louis, Mo., International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Ship Builders and Helpers.
- June 13, place not selected, International Ceramic, Mosaic and Encaustic Tile Layers and Helpers' Union.
- June 13-19, Omaha, Neb., International Stereotypers and Electrotypers' Union of North America.
- June 13, New York, N. Y., International Brotherhood of Tip Printers.
- June 13, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, International Brotherhood of Bookbinders.
- June, third week, Columbus, Ohio, International Printing Pressmen and Assistants' Union of North America.
- June 27, St. Louis, Mo., International Union of Pavers, Rammermen, Flaggers, Bridge and Stone Curb Setters.
- June —, Kansas City, Mo., International Journeymen Horseshoers' Union.
- July 4, not decided as to place, Amalgamated Leather Workers' Union of America.
- July 11, New York, N. Y., International Longshoremen's Association.
- July 11, Pittsburgh, Pa., International Jewelry Workers' Union of America.
- July 11, Atlantic City, N. J., Glass Bottle Blowers' Association of the United States and Canada.
- July 11, Washington, D. C., Theatrical Stage Employees' International Alliance.
- July 12, Dover, N. J., Stove Mounters and Steel Range Workers' International Union.
- July 16, Springfield, Mass., American Wire Weavers' Protective Association.
- July 18, Ottawa, Ont., International Steel and Copper Plate Printers' Union.
- July —, Atlantic City, N. J., National Brotherhood of Operative Potters.
- August 1, Peoria, Ill., International Brotherhood of Teamsters.
- August 8, Minneapolis, Minn., International Typographical Union.
- August 22, Detroit, Mich., United Garment Workers of America.
- September 5-6-7, Chicago, Ill., National Federation of Postoffice Clerks.
- September 5, Chicago, Ill., International Slate and Tile Roofers of America.
- September 5, Boston, Mass., International Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employes.
- September 6-10, Louisville, Ky., International Photo-Engravers, Union of North America.
- September 6, Bangor, Pa., International Union of Slate Workers.
- September 8, Boston, Mass., International Spinners' Union.
- September 12, Kansas City, Kan., Coopers' International Union.
- September 12, Denver, Colo., International Union of Steam Engineers.
- September 12, Chicago, Ill., International Union of United Brewery Workmen of America.
- September 12, Philadelphia, Pa., International Union of Elevator Constructors.
- September 12, Streator, Ill., International Brick, Tile and Terra Cotta Workers' Alliance.
- September 13, New York, N. Y., American Brotherhood of Cement Workers.
- September 19, Des Moines, Iowa, United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America.
- September 19, Rochester, N. Y., International Association of Bridge and Structural Iron Workers.
- September 21, St. Paul, Minn., Brotherhood of Railroad Freight Handlers.
- September 26, Columbus, Ohio, Operative Plasterers' International Association of the United States and Canada.

### JUDGE WRIGHT AGAIN.

Notorious Washington Judge Again in the Lime Light.

Judge Wright of Washington, that interesting judicial product of Cincinnati, who, as an appointive judge at Washington, threw the network of contempt proceedings around Gompers, Mitchell and Morrison last year (Vol. XII, pp. 1, 3, 1188) in order to throttle freedom of the press for labor papers, now reaches up for higher game. In a committee to consider officially something which it had officially decided not to consider (pp. 146, 156), Judge Wright holds that his court has jurisdiction over them. His argument is worthy the lawyer of the anecdote who was a dabbler in many subjects, and of whom a candid friend

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therefore said that he would know a little of everything if he only knew a little law. Graciously conceding that his court could not interfere with the action of congress, this interesting judge nevertheless holds that it can interfere with a congressional committee because congress has no power to delegate its duties to committees. It will be an instructive spectacle, the appearance before Judge Wright of a congressional committee to purge itself of contempt of court. —Chicago Public.

### THE TEMPLE DIRECTORS.

Decide on Date for First Annual Labor Temple Association Ball.

The board of directors of the Labor Temple Association met Monday evening, with a bare quorum present. Secretary Ibringer was prevented from attending by illness in his family. The association bought some personal property when the Temple was opened and it was discovered later that the property was covered by chattel mortgage. Manager Rudy was instructed to file complaint against the fellow who sold it, and the case will be pushed to the limit.

It was decided to hold the first annual Labor Temple Benefit Ball at the Auditorium on the evening of April 20, and the necessary committees were arranged for. Mr. McGovern will attend to the hall and the music and Mr. Maupin to the printing and publicity. A number from each stockholding union will act on the reception committee, and another on the floor committee. The orchestra will be composed of fifteen pieces, and the admission will be \$1, extra lady 50 cents, and ladies without escorts will not be admitted.

It is the intention to make this ball the greatest social affair in the history of Lincoln trades unionism, and every union man and woman will be expected to get into the game and help to make it a success.

### TEXAS AGAINST EIGHT HOUR LAW.

The state law enacted at the last Texas legislative session fixing an eight-hour workday for telegraphers has been declared invalid in a decision by the court of civil appeals, sitting in Galveston. The court contends that the state law conflicts with the national statute, which provides a nine-hour day for dispatchers.

### FAIR BARBER SHOPS.

You Will Find the Union Card in the Following Places.

When you enter a barber shop, see that the union shop card is in plain sight before you get into the chair. If the card is not to be seen, go elsewhere. The union shop card is a guarantee of a cleanly shop, a smooth shave or good hair-cut, and courteous treatment. The following barber shops are entitled to the patronage of union men:

- George Petro, 1010 O.
- J. J. Simpson, 1001 O.
- George Shaffer, Lincoln Hotel.
- C. B. Ellis, Windsor Hotel.
- D. S. Crop, Capital Hotel.
- M. J. Roberts, Royal Hotel.
- A. L. Kimmmer, Lindell Hotel.
- C. A. Green, 120 North Eleventh.
- W. G. Worth, 1132 O St.
- E. A. Wood, 1206 O.
- Chaplin & Ryan, 129 North Twelfth.
- E. C. Evans, 1121 P.
- Bert Sturm, 116 South Thirteenth.
- J. B. Raynor, 1501 O.
- Muck & Barthelman, 122 South Twelfth.
- J. J. Simpson, 922 P.
- Frank Malone, Havelock.
- C. A. Hughart, Havelock.