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## H. O. BARBER & SON

### THE CONSUMERS' LEAGUE.

It shall be the special object of the National Consumers' league to secure adequate investigation of the conditions under which goods are made in order to enable purchasers to distinguish in favor of goods made in the well ordered factory. The majority of employers are virtually helpless to maintain a high standard as to hours, wages and working conditions under the stress of competition unless sustained by the co-operation of consumers. Therefore the National Consumers' league also purposes to educate public opinion and to endeavor so to direct its force as to promote better conditions among the workers, while securing to the consumer exemption from the dangers attending unwholesome conditions. The National Consumers' league further recognizes and declares the following:

That the interests of the community demand that all workers shall receive fair living wages and that goods shall be produced under sanitary conditions.

That the responsibility for some of the worst evils from which producers suffer rests with the consumers who seek the cheapest markets regardless how cheapness is brought about.

That it is therefore the duty of consumers to find out under what conditions the articles they purchase are produced and distributed and insist that these conditions shall be wholesome and consistent with a respectable existence on the part of the workers.

#### Tobacco Workers' Officers.

The referendum election for officers of the International Tobacco Workers' union resulted as follows: President, Anthony McAndrews, Cincinnati, O.; first vice president, W. R. Walden, Richmond, Va.; second vice president, John Ruckert, New Orleans; third vice president, Charles Alder, Detroit; fourth vice president, Frank Wessels, Covington, Ky.; fifth vice president, Robert Fox, Richmond, Va.; sixth vice president, Thomas Finnegan, Hamilton, Ontario; secretary-treasurer, E. Lewis Evans, Louisville, Ky.

#### Unions Indorse Trade Schools.

The industrial or trade school as a department of Chicago's public schools received the indorsement of a majority of trade unions there, according to a report of the school committee of the Chicago Federation of Labor.

### TRIED AND TRUE.

Samuel Gompers was elected the first president of the American Federation of Labor in 1881 and has been re-elected each year since, with the exception of 1894, when John McBride of the Mine Workers supplanted him for one term.

#### Before and After.

Pendleton—What are the two greatest wishes of a medical student? Kefer—Give it up. What are they? Pendleton—To put "Dr." before his own name and "Dr." after the names of other people.

Trouble teaches men how much there is in manhood.—Beecher.

## CHEAPENS LABOR.

Immigration Is Lowering Standard of Living.

EXCLUDE THE ORIENTALS.

**Professor Jenks Declares That Society Is Menaced by the Admission of Ignorant Foreigners—Workers the Chief Sufferers.**

Immigration to the United States is in urgent need of legislative restriction, according to Professor Jeremiah W. Jenks, the Cornell university economist and member of the United States immigration commission, which has been studying the question since 1907 and which has submitted its report to congress. Professor Jenks recently spoke before the members of the University of Pennsylvania Christian association.

He declared that foreigners are coming in such large numbers that it is impossible to assimilate them and that the rate of immigration will continue to increase unless laws are passed to keep it down. He said that it had been proved beyond question that the coming of these foreigners, most of them from the countries of southeastern Europe, and their presence in the labor market resulted in the lowering of the standard of living among the laboring classes.

He urged that the Chinese, Japanese and Hindus be excluded absolutely. Immigration of a slow gradual character, he said, was to be desired, as it supplied the country with needed labor and a store of artistic and intellectual ability latent, but possible of development.

The conditions affecting immigration have changed completely in the last twenty-five years. Of the 1,250,000 immigrants who came to this country in 1907 more than 80 per cent came from the countries of southeastern Europe, whereas twenty-five years ago only 13 per cent came from these countries and the remaining 87 per cent came from the most enlightened countries of northern Europe. These early immigrants came as settlers, seeking homes and escape from religious and economic bondage.

Thirty-five per cent of those who come over now are illiterate, whereas only 3 per cent of those who formerly came could not read and write. Seventy-five per cent of the ones who come annually to our shores are men seeking fortunes, not homes, and 40 per cent of the entire number return to their native countries. This return of the immigrants to their native countries is encouraged by their respective governments, who are loath to lose the strong, hardy class of citizens.

In considering the effect of immigration on conditions in this country we may practically disregard all except the one on the standard of living. Most of the crimes of immigrants are in the form of violations of municipal ordinances. Crowding is undoubtedly an evil incident to immigration, but the generally accepted idea that this overcrowding takes place in the large cities is misconceived. The crowding of immigrants is literally twice as bad in the boarding houses in the mining districts, where the congestion is frightful.

The great evil resulting from the presence of the immigrant is the lowering of the standard of living. It is the deliberate judgment of the nine men composing the commission, after three and one-half years' investigation, that the immigrants are beyond all question lowering the standard of living among the working classes.