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GENERAL MENTION.

Brief Bits of News Picked Up From
Here and There.

Secretary-Treasurer W. D. Ryan of the United Mine Workers of America is trying to capture the republican nomination for congress in the Twenty-first Illinois district.

Severe depression affects the iron trades in northeast Derbyshire, England. Since March about 1,500 employees have been discharged at various works, owing to scarcity of orders.

Painters and decorators at Sherman, Texas, who went on strike for an eight-hour day at \$3.60, which was refused, have started a co-operative shop with excellent prospects of making it a success.

The Montana State Federation of Labor is initiating a petition for submission at the next general election for the employers' liability act, and an act exempting labor unions from injunctions.

Recent advices from Christiana are to the effect that strikes, lockouts and labor conflicts are numerous in Norway at the present time. The lumber, building, woolen and leather industries are particularly affected.

The Bakers' Union of San Francisco has appointed a committee to prepare a recommendation to the international convention that is to meet in October to erect a home for aged and disabled members of the organization.

The mayor of Knoxville, Tenn., recently appointed three representatives of organized labor to assist in drafting the new city charter, and through their efforts it is expected that the initiative and referendum clause will be inserted.

Trade unionists at St. Joseph Mo., are working hard to send members from their own ranks as representatives to the legislature and other offices.

The total amount invested in Canadian railways is \$1,171,000,000. One-sixth of the Canadian population owes its livelihood to these undertakings.

The unionists of St. Joseph, Mo., have organized a legislative league for the purpose of examining into the records of candidates for legislative offices.

The differences between the Nashville, Chattanooga & St. Louis Railroad and its switchmen in Atlanta, Ga., will be arbitrated, and the men have returned to work.

In Harrisburg, Pa., a city ordinance has been passed which prohibits the employment of foreign labor on any municipal work undertaken in the future.

The Altoona Iron Co. announces that its rolling mill, which has been idle since last winter, will resume next week, giving employment to several hundred men.

Sheet Metal Workers report that

not a single journeyman is out of employment at present in Cleveland. They expect to come to an agreement with another firm in a few days.

The Leigh Valley Railroad has placed an order for two small bridges with the Pennsylvania Steel company, and the New York, New Haven and Hartford has ordered another 1,000 tons of heavy rails.

The principal address at the Labor Day celebration of the Green Bottle Blowers' association at Bridgeton, N. J., was made by Mrs. Ella McDonald Valesch, one of the editors of the American Federationist.

Billy Sunday, the baseball evangelist, refused to have his sermons published by a "scab" printing firm in Hammond, Ind., and on Wednesday of last week went to the establishment and broke the plates of the book with a hammer.

The only industries employing children in large numbers are the glass, shirts, tobacco, cigars and cigarettes and the textile industries throughout the country.

Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Edgerton have returned from their wedding tour. They visited in Idaho and Montana while away.

Secretaries of local unions are requested to send to The Wageworker a corrected roster of their respective locals.

People who are waiting to see the moving pictures of the Bryan notification meeting will be disappointed. The pictures were spoiled in the making.

Mr. Taft's voice was absent while he was in Lincoln. But what of it? He is depending upon his master's voice, anyhow.

Twelve years ago they had to march, but they didn't have to last Wednesday night—and they didn't.

The new Wonderland now has a front that would do credit to any city in America. The enterprising management of this amusement resort is reaping the reward of enterprise and good service.

THE RAILWAY TRAINMEN.

Brotherhood Has Just Celebrated Its
Twenty-Fifth Anniversary.

On Wednesday, September 24, the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen celebrated its silver anniversary. The event was celebrated in 760 lodges. Not many were present at most of these lodges, for a majority of the membership is on duty most of the time. But practically everywhere a few gathered and celebrated the anniversary.

Twenty-five years ago, on September 23, 1883, the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen was born. Its birthplace was a little red caboose on the Delaware & Hudson River Railroad, and nine men were present when the

babe was born. It was christened with a high sounding name that did not last long—"Brotherhood of Railroad Brakemen of the Western Hemisphere. And the name came awfully near smothering the babe. But the babe survived the name for six long years, and in the meanwhile grew lustily. Then it was given its present name.

The nine men who founded the order met with many discouragements, but they never lost faith. And that their faith was well founded is evidenced by the fact that today the Brotherhood has 110,000 members, 760 lodges, \$300,000 in its protective fund, \$1,500,000 in available assets and a record of having paid every death and disability claim—a total of \$17,000,000. If that isn't a record to be proud of, then there is no such thing as a proud record in the world of organized labor.

Within the ranks of the Brotherhood are included freight and passenger conductors, yard masters, yard foremen, switchmen and their helpers, freight and passenger brakemen and train baggagemen. It maintains a close working affiliation with the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, the Order of Railway Conductors, the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen and the Order of Railroad Telegraphers.

It is a legend of the Brotherhood that the ritual was written by a Mason, an Odd Fellow and a Knight of Pythias. Whether this be true or not, it is agreed by the membership that the ritual is dignified and uplifting. The headquarters are at Cleveland, Ohio, the offices occupying one entire floor of the American Trust company building. One hundred clerks are employed. The grand master draws a salary of \$6,000 a year and devotes his entire time to the work of the order. The secretary receives \$5,000 and the assistant grand masters, five in number, receive \$3,500 each. They travel about the country and keep in constant touch with the membership. Since August, 1895, Patrick H. Morrissey has been grand master of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen.

He is a splendid example of what intelligence, force of character and the right sort of conservatism can do in the upbuilding of a great labor movement. When he makes up his mind to act he acts swiftly and hits hard. Some time ago the local union at Hartford, Conn., violated an agreement it had entered into with a railroad. The road appealed to Morrissey. His answer was to fire the local out of the Brotherhood instantly. And he did not stop there. He sent men to take the places of the strikers and he protected them with the whole strength of his organization. That's the reason that Morrissey is grand master. He plays the game fairly. He believes that agreements should

be carried out honestly and he has the courage of his convictions.

JOHN MITCHELL IN LINE.

Famous Labor Leader Unequivocally
Endorses Bryan's Candidacy.

On September 15 the Buffalo, N. Y., Republic, in order to set at rest all doubts about John Mitchell's stand in the present political contest, wired the ex-president of the Miners' Union, Mr. Mitchell replied as follows.

"Spring Valley, Ills., September 15.—To the Buffalo Republic: Answering your telegram of today, I have this to say:

"I sincerely believe that all honest interests in this country, including those of the workingman, would be greatly benefited by the election of Bryan. Legitimate business and honest wealth would have nothing to fear in such event.

"The platform on which Mr. Bryan stands, fully recognizes the rights of organized labor and gives specific assurances of legislation that will protect the rights and liberty of organized labor. The platform on which Mr. Taft stands, gives no such recognition and no such assurances. The issue, therefore, is clearly drawn and that is the reason Mr. Gompers and the executive council of the American Federation of Labor advised trades unionists to vote for Bryan.

"The predatory rich who are so zealous in their advocacy of Mr. Taft, clearly indicate where the rest of the people should stand in the fight.

"JOHN MITCHELL,

"Second Vice-Pres. A. F. of L.

THE BARTENDERS.

Little Doing Outside of the Ordinary
Routine of Business.

"Nothing doing—except work," said one of the bartenders when The Wage-worker man went out in quest of news. "And work isn't so all-fired plenty. Practically half of our membership is idle on account of the reduction in the number of bars and hours. Several have engaged in other lines of business, several have left town, and the rest are taking a day now and then when some regular man wants to lay off."

Herman Sundean went hunting the first of the week. This newspaper has reason to believe that he didn't get a feather. Sundean said he would bring us a couple of ducks if he killed any, and as he hasn't brought them in the indications are that there was nothing doing.

CAPITAL AUXILIARY.

Capital Auxiliary No. 11 will meet Wednesday, October 14, with Mrs. I. G. Sayer, 1635 Vine street.

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