

—it's worth something to you to know

that here's a store where the highest standard of quality is the only standard—where you can buy in the assurance that every article is the best of its kind—where you are sure of getting the best that your money will command.



—it's worth something to us to know

that we satisfy our customers and give them big values for their money. This fact is clearly in evidence in the hats shown by us this spring. Take for instance, the

Mallory Cravenette Hats priced at three dollars

—You can pay more than three dollars and not get the same measure of style and real value.

—Mallory Hats are made of carefully selected fur felt

—the dyes used are permanent—the workmanship so thorough that they will hold shape and color, and retain their good appearance until worn out—then there's that vastly interesting feature of the Priestly cravenetting process that renders them waterproof. Come in and we'll show you the hat that is most becoming to you.



ARMSTRONG CLOTHING COMPANY

"Good Clothes Merchants"

The "EVERWEAR" Guaranteed Hosiery for Men and Women

For Union Workers

Important Happenings in Industrial Circles in This Country and Europe

Buffalo, N. Y.—At the Buffalo plant of the Lackawanna Steel Company, one of the largest of the independent steel concerns, notices were posted of a reduction from top to bottom, affecting several thousand men. The reduction extends from unskilled labor to the highest grade of workmen and to the office force, in the highest grades amounting to a straight cut of ten per cent. Laborers have been working on an hourly scale ranging from 12 1/4 to 17 cents, and under the new schedule all are put on a flat rate of 12 cents. This was the first announcement of wage reduction since the heavy cutting of the price of finished steel the week before. When President Clarke gave out the statement of these reductions from the headquarters at New York, he said they would not affect the policy of maintaining steel rails at \$21 a ton, as he did not see how they could be made at a profit any cheaper. Reductions by other steel companies were expected to follow.

Wilkesbarre, Pa.—It is said that even should the coal operators refuse to grant any of the anthracite mine workers' demands there will be no strike until next fall. Men close to the union leaders say the miners would not risk a strike at the threshold of summer, especially in view of the fact that the operators have 10,000,000 or 12,000,000 tons of coal on hand. At the national convention in January it was generally understood to be the sense of the scale committee, composed of 25 district presidents, that there should be no suspension of mining, such as there was three years ago, whether a new agreement was reached or not.

New York.—All the locals of the Bricklayers' and Masons' International union have been warned by its international officers against ordering any strikes without the sanction of the executive board of the International union and before any action is taken looking toward a strike the board must be notified so that the executive officers may have an opportunity of trying to effect a settlement without a strike. A member of the local executive board of the bricklayers' unions said that any local disobeying this rule will be disciplined.

Houston, Tex.—A final conference looking to an adjustment of the differences of the Southern Pacific railway and the conductors of the Atlantic system of the road was heard by the grievance committee of the Order of Railway Conductors and Vice-President Fay of the road. It is learned, however, that whatever may be the result of the conference no strike will be called, the recent poll of the conductors employed on the road failing to show a majority or two-thirds favoring a strike if necessary.

New York.—The Eastern Pig Iron association, which is made up of the leading iron producers of the east, has practically agreed to reduce the wages of its workmen ten per cent. Similar reductions, it is said, will be made later on the part of all blast furnaces in the country and between 50,000 and 75,000 men will be affected.

Minneapolis.—A movement is under way for the organization of a pipe trades council. A special committee of four has been appointed by the Plumbers' and Steamfitters' unions, and similar committees will be appointed as soon as practicable by the other trades interested.

Brockton, Mass.—The factories of the W. L. Douglas Shoe Company resumed full activity with the return of the 425 stitchers who had been on strike since March 1, causing the enforced idleness of about 1,650 operatives. At a conference between the strikers and their employers an agreement was reached, but the terms were not made public.

Hazleton, Pa.—The union painters presented their demands for the ensuing year to their employers. The principal demand is for an increase in wages from 30 to 33 cents an hour beginning April 1. It is claimed by the master painters that they do not see how they can grant this, because of competition from outside towns, where the scale is lower than here.

Beverly, Mass.—The plant of the United Shoe Machinery Company in this city has started on full time. For about a year the plant has been running nine hours a day and an hour a day will be added. About 2,600 hands are employed.

Roanoke, Va.—J. H. Taylor and W. E. Howery announce that they will at once erect a roller mill here with a capacity of 150 barrels of flour a day.

Milwaukee.—Representatives of the Milwaukee Brewers' association and employes of Milwaukee breweries in conference agreed on a three years' wage scale. Employes will receive an increase from 50 cents to one dollar a week, depending upon the class of work. The increase is about one-half the amount demanded by the workers. The agreement affects about 7,000 workmen.

Cincinnati.—Starting with a membership of more than 100, the Tailors and Cleaners' Protective association of this city and vicinity was launched recently.

Chicago.—Five hundred iron shipbuilders and boiler-makers employed by the Chicago Shipbuilding Company, South Chicago, went out on a strike against a ten per cent. cut in wages. The entire shipyard was tied up by the strike. The average wages paid the men is \$2.50 and \$3 a day for nine hours. Supt. J. E. Timm left hurriedly for Cleveland. It was rumored that he will confer with the management of the company's yard there about sending strike breakers to Chicago to take the places of the men on strike. All of the strikers are members of the Boiler-makers and Iron Shipbuilders' union. The walkout was precipitated when the company posted a notice announcing the wage reduction. No reason was given for the cut.

Boston, Mass.—The Associated Hat Manufacturers, declaring that Lamson & Hubbard, manufacturers of this city who recently reorganized and established a union factory, are operating to the injury of the manufacturers' organization, brought suit in the United States circuit court to restrain the Lamson & Hubbard concern from using the union label. The firm of Lamson & Hubbard, incorporated, a member of the manufacturers' body, was one of the companies affected by the hatters' general strike. Two weeks ago the corporation went out of existence, transferred its business to the Lamson & Hubbard Company of Maine, withdrew from the national association and took back its men on the union basis.

Pittsburg, Pa.—The cancellation of the continuous working agreement by the employers with the Amalgamated workmen, notice of which has already been given, is taken by workmen in the great Pittsburg district to mean a cut in wages, beginning July 1. There was an important meeting of the Amalgamated people at the headquarters, and after it was over President P. J. McArdle of the Amalgamated association said: "I don't think the operators will ask us to accept any reduction of wages before July 1, but it seems that they are determined to do it then."

Berlin, Germany.—In Germany in 1900 only one union had over 5,000 women members, four unions had over 2,000, but less than 5,000, 16 unions had less than 2,000, and 37,000 unions had no women members. In 1907, the unions of factory workers, metal workers, tobacco workers and textile workers included over 10,000 women members each, three other unions had over 5,000, but less than 10,000, six unions had over 2,000, but less than 5,000, and 23 unions had less than 2,000 women members; the remaining 27 unions consisted exclusively of men.

Stockholm, Sweden.—The Printers' Trade union in Sweden has arranged a new tariff agreement, which extends to all towns in the country, and will be in force for five years. It settles for that period the wages and working rules for the compositors, machine managers, printers' assistants, both male and female, and apprentices. As compared with the old general tariff, which ran out on December 31 last, there are increases in wages averaging 10 per cent.

Carson City, Nev.—Gov. Dickinson has called a conference of the labor organizations of the state to ask their advice and suggestions in regard to a number of important bills affecting labor that may be acted upon by the legislature.

Reading, Pa.—F. C. Smink, president of the Reading Iron Company, issued a statement in which he said that there has been a great decline in the price of the various products manufactured by the company. Owing to this condition he announced a reduction in wages in the different departments of from 7 1/2 to 15 per cent. The pudding basis will be at the rate of \$3.75 per ton. The former rate was \$4.50 a ton.

Stockholm, Sweden.—The government has ordered a general census of the unemployed, in which local authorities, labor bureaus and trades-union officials will co-operate. The state of trade is very bad just now in the larger towns like Stockholm, Malmö, Gothenburg, etc. Most unions have more than ten per cent of the members unemployed.

Chicago.—Semi-official announcement is made that the S. & S. Company will shortly construct one of the largest and best equipped packing houses and canneries in the country. It will be located somewhere in the rapidly developing southwest, either Oklahoma or Texas, but the point has not yet been selected.

Philadelphia.—A proposition to establish a death benefit fund of \$50 in the Coopers' International union, recently submitted to the subordinate unions for referendum vote, has been carried by a vote of 1,152 to 1,941. The general executive board is preparing rules to govern the distribution of such benefits.

Washington.—Should the plans of the United Association of Journeymen Plumbers, Gas and Steam Fitters succeed, these industries will all be under one head, thus making the union one of the largest belonging to the American Federation of Labor.

TRYING TO AMALGAMATE.

Woodworkers and Carpenters Confer to That End.

There was a conference between representatives of the Amalgamated Association of Woodworkers and the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners in Chicago on March 15. The meeting was held in response to a special request of the executive council of the American Federation of Labor, and President Samuel Gompers was in attendance. The object of the conference is to devise a method of permanently settling the quarrel that has been on between the two organizations for years. It is thought possible that the outcome of the meeting will be the merging of the two organizations. Unprejudiced labor men who are familiar with the squabbles over questions of jurisdiction between the carpenters and woodworkers are of the opinion that the one organization plan is the only sure cure for the troubles of the past and present. All peace compacts and compromises have failed to establish friendly working relations, and the whole labor movement longs to see the end of the war.

THE BARTENDERS.

Will Be Represented By a Live One at the Minneapolis Convention.

The fifteenth general convention of the Hotel and Restaurant Employees' International Alliance and Bartenders' International League will be held in Minneapolis, beginning May 10. The Lincoln local will be represented by a live worker, Charley Benson. The presence of Benson on the floor of the convention will mean that they'll all know that Lincoln is on the map.

Referring to the Minneapolis convention the Mixer and Server, the official organ, says:

"One of the real handicaps of our conventions is the lack of actual experience of those appointed on committees to which may be referred matters for their review and judgment. Novices can learn, and while we know of no authority, it seems to us, that the proceedings of the American Federation of Labor is not only an excellent substitute for a hand-book on the subject, but is an authority so far as usage generally followed in legislative bodies. Delegates elect to the fifteenth general convention of this international union, to be held at

Minneapolis May 10, 1909, should send 25 cents to Frank Morrison, 423 G St., N. W., Washington, D. C., and obtain a copy of the twenty-eighth annual convention proceedings. Once in possession, they should peruse carefully the reports of the various committees, as well as the subject matter offered in the form of resolutions, and they will be better able to perform good service as committeemen of their own convention. Delegates can best serve their constituents by posting themselves on matters connected with our movement, hence the suggestion. Delegates should bear in mind that our general conventions are not festivals of joy, but are constituted for the purpose of making proper advancement—it means work."

The Wageworker is in receipt of a letter from Jere L. Sullivan relative to the State Federation of Labor meeting, and in it Bro. Sullivan pays this little labor paper a compliment that is greatly appreciated.

LABOR TEMPLE MATTERS.

Directors Hold First Enthusiastic Meeting for Several Months.

It is not dead—it has only been sleeping.

Reference is had to the Labor Temple project.

Last Monday evening at the labor commissioner's office the first real meeting in seven months of the directors was had. Vice-President Chaplin presided and there were eight directors present. It was unanimously decided to begin where work was dropped last fall, and proceed at once to start something.

Secretary Ihringer promised to have a complete statement ready for the board at the meeting next Monday evening, and a committee was appointed to frame up a plan or two for further procedure. A committee was also appointed to arrange for a benefit performance if possible. The matter of engaging in a gift enterprise was also discussed, but no definite action was taken.

Every director present was in favor of going ahead from now on, and using every effort to enthrone the wage-earners of Lincoln in the project.

The board will meet next Monday evening at the labor commissioner's office, and every Monday evening thereafter until further notice. The meetings will begin promptly at 7:45.

LOCOMOTIVE ENGINEERS.

Pushing Their June Meeting With Characteristic Vigor.

Division No. 98, Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, is pushing arrangements for its big June meeting with characteristic vigor. It promises to be one of the biggest events organized labor has ever pulled off in the great and growing west. The date of the meeting is June 29 and 30, and enough attractions are offered to warrant the attendance of every engineer who can possibly get away from the throttle.

Grand Chief Stone and other grand officers are expected, and invitations have been accepted by the following distinguished men in the labor world:

P. H. Morrissey, president A. R. E. & I. A.
W. S. Carter, grand master B. of L. F. & E.

A. B. Garretson, president O. R. C.
W. G. Lee, grand master B. of R. T.
Mrs. W. A. Murdock, grand president of G. I. A. to B. of L. E.

The program of entertainment will be varied enough to please all, and nothing will be left undone that will make for the pleasure of the visiting ladies and gentlemen. Special rates have been secured from the hotels.

The forthcoming issue of the Engineers' Journal will contain a lot about the Lincoln meeting, the city in general, and handsome illustrations of Lincoln.

The following gentlemen constitute the committee on arrangements for the big meeting: H. L. Beatty, J. E. Duffy, J. N. Hyder, W. A. Smith, H. Wiggenjost. Mr. Beatty is chairman and Mr. Wiggenjost is secretary.

ELECTRICAL WORKERS.

Will Make Their District Council Meeting a Stem Winder.

The district council meeting of the Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, comprising Iowa and Nebraska, will meet in Lincoln on April 5. It promises to be the largest meeting since the district was organized. The local members are planning to give the visitors a bully time between sessions. President Betz, who lives in Lincoln, assures The Wageworker the meeting will be large and profitable. The Lincoln local will be represented by W. L. Mayer.

Since last report three or four of the largest locals of the entire Brother-

hood have joined forces with the Reed administration. The McNulty regime seems to be about on its last legs.

Work is opening up in good shape, and the outlook for a splendid season was never better.

Business Agent Clifford is putting in some splendid licks for the organization. Not only is he lining up new members every week, but he is succeeding in securing some concessions all along the line. The local is well pleased with the work he is accomplishing.

THE CARPENTERS.

Another Open Meeting but Speaker Expected Did Not Appear.

The carpenters held another open meeting last Monday evening, and although disappointed in the failure of the advertised speaker to appear, the meeting was a success just the same. Senator King of Osceola had been billed for an address, but owing to the press of legislative duties he was unable to be present. However C. H. Chase and T. J. Kelsey filled in the time very acceptably.

General Kelsey talked along general labor lines and Mr. Chase read a paper written by Frank K. Foster. Both gentlemen were listened to with great interest.

The carpenters have kindly given their hall for two meetings of the central body's committee, and also for the primary election next Monday afternoon.

The fact that No. 1055 has fallen off in membership must not be taken as an indication that the local is losing ground. The fifty members who are still faithful more than make up by their enthusiasm and loyalty for any decrease in numbers.

Work is reported fair and is growing better as the season advances. The indications for a rush of work during the coming season were never better.

MEXICAN MINERS STRIKE.

Miners of Pachuca, Mexico, have gone on strike because the kind-hearted operators wanted them to work 12 hours a day for the same money that they received for 10 hours. Of course the operators immediately called for troops and Diaz will soon give another illustration of strike-smashing.