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# In Labor's Realm

Matters of Especial Interest To and Concerning Those Who Do the Work of the World

New York.—"Not only have the wages of the workmen been raised by the strikes in this country, but the whole moral tone of the labor element has been appreciably elevated," said John Mitchell to the members of the League for Political Education who gathered to hear him talk on "The Moral Uplift of the Strike."

Altoona, Pa.—Twenty-eight operators in the Central Pennsylvania bituminous field, it was announced at the United Mine Workers' convention, have signed the wage scale for the ensuing year. This leaves, it is said, a few independent operators who will sign and the Berwind-White company which always pays the scale. Mr. Lewis, national president of the mine workers, sent this message to the convention: "If there was ever a time when the United Mine Workers of Central Pennsylvania should be united it is now."

Washington.—Declaring that the district court of appeals erred in modifying the injunction of Justice Gould restraining the American Federation of Labor and President Gompers, Secretary Morrison, and Vice-President John Mitchell from publishing the name of the Buck Stove and Range Company of St. Louis in the "We Don't Patronize" list, the St. Louis concern made a motion for an appeal to the United States supreme court. The company claims its annual loss during the continuance of the boycott amounts to \$25,000, which, it is claimed, will give the highest tribunal in the land jurisdiction. No decision has been reached by the labor leaders as to the filing of a cross bill.

Boston.—An effort to organize the teachers in the United States and Canada, numbering nearly half a million, will be made under the auspices of the North American Teachers' league, according to an announcement made here by Frederick A. Tupper, head master of the Brighton school. The league has the patronage of leading educators in this country and Canada, and an energetic campaign is planned. The object is to extend the scope of the league, obtain higher salaries, pensions for teachers and national and state aid to education.

Berlin, Germany.—The number of women employed in industrial undertakings and otherwise earning their living has increased enormously in Prussia. In 1882 the total number of women and girls over 16 years of age returned as being "employed in gainful occupations" was close on 3,000,000; in 1907 the number was 4,335,792, of which 689,829 worked in factories or undertakings coming under the factory act. Trade unionism is making rapid progress, though not yet as strongly as among the male workers.

Bethlehem, Pa.—The Bethlehem Steel Company announced a ten per cent. cut in the wages of furnacemen, to go into effect April 1. About 100 men are affected.

Manila, P. I.—The leaders of the strike and boycott against the Manila street railways and one of the commercial houses of this city have called them off. Both strikes have failed from their inception, but the boycott against the street car system has been partially effective. The union in control of the strike has announced plans to reorganize along lines which will lead to greater sympathy between labor and capital. The general labor situation has improved and it is doubtful if any more strikes will occur.

Peoria, Ill.—The resolution brought in by a special committee on political action, denying official assistance of the United Mine Workers of Illinois to members who should become political candidates for state offices, was almost unanimously adopted. The result is considered by Socialistic members a victory for their cause. Retiring President John Walker, the new president, Frank Duane McDonald, and Secretary Frank Hayes, urged the delegates to continue political and financial assistance, after announcing their pride in being members of the Socialistic party.

Mahanoy City, Pa.—There is a growing belief here that out of consideration for the large number of men not in the union the anthracite coal operators will not close the collieries in the event no agreement is reached with the union mine workers. Extra train crews have been put to work to rush coal from the mines to the storage plants.

Pittsburg, Pa.—It was announced here to-day that the wages of employees of the Republic Iron and Steel company would be reduced at once. It is said the reduction will affect 4,000 men.

London, England.—In London women are employed in the tramway and omnibus service, in what capacity, by the way, the census return does not state; but, at any rate, 80 women earn their living in this trade.

Dover, N. J.—The Wharton Steel Company announced a ten per cent. reduction in the wages of its blast furnace employees and miners. The cut affects 500 men. Similar cuts by other furnace owners are expected.

Boston.—James H. Haton and the organizing committee of the Boston Upholsterers' union have formed a big union of the Hebrew mattress makers.

Washington.—The metal trades department of the American Federation of Labor has been rejuvenated. The department has elected the following officers: President, James O'Connell, International Association of Machinists; first vice-president, Joseph Valentine, iron molders; second vice-president, A. B. Grout, Metal Polishers' union; third vice-president, J. W. Kline, Blacksmiths' union; fourth vice-president, Joseph A. Franklin, Boilermakers' union; secretary-treasurer, A. J. Berres, Patternmakers' league. The forming of the department is the first step toward solidifying the crafts in the metal trades. Plans were mapped out at the meeting for an aggressive organization campaign throughout the entire jurisdiction.

Reading.—The executive board of the eastern division of the Amalgamated Iron, Steel and Tin Workers' association decided not to accept a reduction of wages as made by iron companies of the division. The action will affect nearly 10,000 iron workers, comprising the puddlers and helpers. The employees of the Reading Iron Company, to the number of 1,000, in session followed the board meeting, sustained the action of the board and decided to reject the wage reduction of the company. The cut is from \$4.50 to \$3.75 per ton for puddling, and proportionately for all others. The eastern division comprises all of the eastern half of Pennsylvania.

Lancashire, England.—From a meager capital of a few dollars, accumulated from small weekly payments by 28 weavers in a small manufacturing town in the north of England, who in 1844 formed themselves into a society to support their families with the necessities of life, to 2,262 co-operative retail organizations, with 9,000,000 customers, with an annual turnover of \$750,000,000, such is the development of co-operative trading in the British isles.

Washington.—A somewhat unique situation confronted the members of the executive committee of the carpenters in this city the other day, according to the Trades Unionist. A communication was received from one of the members who stated in pat language that he had consulted his conscience and found that he could no longer remain a member of the Carpenters' union. "The Lord told me to get out of the union," he added, "and as a Christian I had to obey."

Pittsburg.—A general reduction in wages in the steel industry is expected to follow another cut in steel products. The fight between the United States Steel Corporation and the independent interests is acute and general demoralization prevails throughout the industry. It was reported in Wall street that the United States Steel Corporation will announce a general cut in wages on April 15.—Many of the independents have already reduced their scale.

Albany, N. Y.—The National Free Labor association, with principal offices in New York city, organized to limit competition of prison-made goods with the products of free labor, was incorporated.

Hazleton, Pa.—The laborers at the Hazleton Sheet Steel Mill have accepted the ten per cent. and the other employees the 20 per cent. reduction made recently in their wages and work at the plant was resumed.

Berlin, Germany.—Berlin has the largest industrial school for women that there is in all the world. In this school, the Lette Verein, in a great building containing more than 200 rooms and the most admirable equipment, many hundreds of young girls are learning everything, from photography to fine sewing, from French and stenography to cooking—everything that will fit girls to make their way in the world.

San Francisco, Cal.—The organizing committee of the Labor Council is making an effort to form the glove makers into a union.

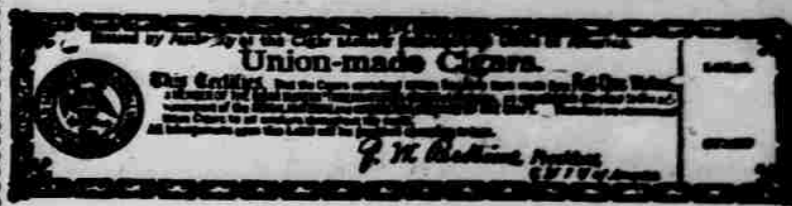
Paris, France.—The resumption of the strike of the postal employees, which was threatened, has been averted as a result of a conference between M. Barthou, minister of public works, posts and telegraphs, and the strike committee, at which the committee explained that an offensive manifesto which had been placarded had not been drawn up.

Boston.—Dennis D. Driscoll, J. J. Lyons, of the American Federation of Labor; the Boston Central Labor union and barbers from different parts of Massachusetts favor a bill making a ten-hour day law for barbers.

Washington.—It looks as if the Baltimore union will join forces with those of this city in the matter of conducting a label campaign. F. C. Roberts, a member of the label committee of the Central Labor union, visited the monumental city the other day and conferred with the label committee of the Baltimore Federation of Labor. He came back much encouraged, it is said.

Hazleton, Pa.—The wages of the laborers at the mill of the Hazleton Sheet Steel Company were cut ten per cent., and of the rollers, 20 per cent.

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