

# WEALTH MAKERS

IN THE SWEAT OF THY FACE THOU EAT BREAD IF ANY WILL NOT WORK NEITHER LET HIM EAT

VOL. VI

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## THE FRIENDS OF LABOR

The United States Strike Commissioners Make Report

### GENERAL MANAGERS CONDEMNED

An Unlawful Body Which Usurped Socially Dangerous Power—Labor Organizations Should Be Recognized.

### Recommendations of Commission

The United States Strike Commission, consisting of Carroll D. Wright, of Washington; John D. Kernan, of Utica, N. Y.; and Nicholas E. Worthington, of Peoria, Ill., appointed by President Cleveland to investigate the Chicago strike, has reported to the president.

The report commends the objects of the A. R. U. and its conservative profession, while severely guarding members that it will not entertain intemperate demands or unreasonable propositions, but will with due regard for justice wherever found seek to avoid the necessity of strike and lockout, boycott and blacklist. It condemns its failure to provide in the constitution adopted for the punishment or disqualification of any member instigating violence toward persons or property.

The report condemns the Pullman company for its hostility to the idea of conferring with organized labor in the settlement of differences arising between it and its employees. "In this respect the Pullman company is behind the age," it says. "The company does not recognize that labor organizations have any place or necessity in Pullman, where the company fixes wages and rents, and refuses to treat with labor organizations." On this crucial point the commission was a unit in its criticism of the refusal to allow the organized workers to be heard and in condemning its present policy, since the strike, requiring the withdrawal from the American Railway Union of those seeking work.

The General Managers' Association, it finds, was organized in 1886, its members being the twenty-four railroads centering or terminating in Chicago. It is not an incorporated body and was by the law given no authority to act as it did. "The Association is an illustration of the persistent and shrewdly devised plans of corporations to overreach their limitations, and to usurp indirectly powers and rights not contemplated in their charters and not obtainable from the people or their legislators." And it goes on to say:

"The refusal of the General Managers' Association to recognize and deal with such a combination of labor as the American Railway Union seems arrogant and absurd when we consider its standing before the law, its assumptions, and its past and obviously contemplated future action."

The cut in wages of employees at Pullman from May, 1892, to May, 1894, averaged 25 per cent. During this time the Pullman company was paid its full two cents a mile for its cars without regard to the business depression. Its revenues were reduced only by fall of prices in its repair and contract work. But it pressed the screws on all its employees, "officers, managers and superintendents excepted," and in no case reduced its rents to correspond. It threw the loss of the hard times on those receiving lowest wages and least able to bear it, and while hundreds were starving or kept alive by outside charity, the company divided among its stockholders its regular quarterly two per cent dividend.

The commission says the Pullman Company had legal right to refuse to lower its rents when wages were lowered, but "as between man and man some reduction in the rate was fair and reasonable under the circumstances."

The strikers voluntarily furnished a guard of three hundred men to protect the Pullman property from May 11 until the soldiers came, July 4th, and no damage was done by the property. The Commission speaks in strong praise of these acts of protection and support of law, as follows:

"Such dignified, manly and conservative conduct in the midst of excitement and threatened starvation is worthy of the highest type of American citizenship, and with like prudence in all other directions will result in due time in the lawful and orderly redress of labor wrongs. To deny this is to forsake patriotism and to declare this government and its people a failure."

Concerning the causes of the strike the report in part says:

"It is apparent that the readiness to strike sympathetically was promoted by the disturbed and apprehensive condition of the railroad employes resulting from

wage reductions on different lines, black-listing, etc., and from the recent growth and development of the General Managers' Association, which seemed to them a menace. Hence the railroad employes were ripe to espouse the cause of the Pullman strikers."

No spirit of conciliation or mercy for the starving was shown by the Pullman concern at the first when the workers asked for living wages and the absolute soullessness of corporations was shown by the entire action of the General Managers' Association. The report says:

"The General Managers' Association in advance advertised that it would receive no communication whatever from the American Railway Union, when received returned it unanswered. At this date, July 13, and for some days previous, the strikers had been virtually beaten. The action of the courts deprived the American Railway Union of leadership, enabled the General Managers' Association to disintegrate its forces, and to make inroads into its ranks."

"The policy of both the Pullman company and the Railway Managers' Association in reference to applications to arbitrate closed the door to all attempts at conciliation and settlement of differences. The Commission is impressed with the belief, by the evidence and by the attendant circumstances as disclosed, that a different policy would have prevented the loss of life and great loss of property and wages occasioned by the strike."

The Commission exonerates the leaders of the strike from charges of inciting to violence in these words:

"There is no evidence before the Commission that the officers of the American Railway Union at any time participated in or advised intimidation, violence, or destruction of property. They knew and fully appreciated that as soon as mobs ruled the organized forces of society would crush the mobs and all responsible for them in the remotest degree, and that this meant defeat. The attacks upon corporations and monopolies by the leaders in their speeches are similar to those to be found in the magazines and industrial works of the day."

In its conclusions and recommendations the Commission says that the railroads "were chartered upon the theory that their competition would amply protect shippers as to rates, etc., and employes as to wages and other considerations." But combination has largely destroyed the working of the law of supply and demand. Not only are rates agreed on and arbitrarily fixed by the railroad combine, but it is shown in the testimony that these great corporations no longer bid against one another in the pay of their laborers, switchmen, for instance. "In view of this progressive perversion of the laws of supply and demand by capital and changed conditions, no man can will deny the right nor dispute the wisdom of unity for legislative and protective purposes among those who supply labor," says the Commission. It goes on to say:

"The Commission deems recommendations of specific remedies premature. Such a problem, for instance, as universal government ownership of railroads is too vast, many-sided, and far away, if attempted, to be considered as an immediate, practical remedy. It belongs to the socialistic group of public questions where government ownership is advocated of monopolies, such as telegraphs, telephones, express companies, and municipal ownership of water works, gas, and electric lighting, and street railways. These questions are pressing more urgently as time goes on. They need to be well studied and considered in every aspect by all citizens. Should continued combinations and consolidations result in half a dozen or less ownerships of our railroads within a few years, as is by no means unlikely, the question of government ownership will be forced to the front, and we need to be ready to dispose of it intelligently. As combination goes on there will certainly at least have to be greater government regulation and control of quasi-public corporations than we have now. Whenever a nation or a state finds itself in such relation to a railroad that its investments therein must be either lost or protected by ownership, would it not be wise that the road be taken and the experiment be tried as an object lesson in government ownership?"

Meanwhile the Commission proposes legislation to provide for boards of conciliation and arbitration, legislation that will guard the interests and rights of the public while disputes are being settled before impartial tribunals. And it recommends that congress provide a permanent United States Strike Commission of three members with duties and powers of investigation and recommendation similar to those vested in the Inter State Commerce Commission; that power be given the United States courts to compel railroads to obey the decisions of the Commission after summary hearing unattended by technicalities, and that no delays in obeying the decisions of the Commission pending; that each railroad in controversy, and each national trade union incorporated under United States or state statutes shall be allowed to select a representative who shall be appointed by the president to serve as a temporary member of the Commission in hearing, adjusting and determining that particular controversy; and that while the matter is in controversy is pending the unions shall not aid or abet strikes or boycotts, nor shall the railroads for six months after the decision is reached discharge such employes except for inefficiency, violation of laws, or neglect of duty.

The Commission also recommends "that chapter 567 of the United States Statutes be amended so as to require national trades unions to provide in their articles of incorporation and in their constitutions, rules, and by-laws that a member shall cease to be such and forfeit all rights and privileges conferred on him by law as such by participating in or instigating force or violence against persons or property during strikes or boycotts, or by seeking to prevent others from working through violence, threats, or intimidations; also, that members shall be no more personally liable for corporate acts than are stockholders in corporations."

The question of enlistment of employes and a license system (such as Chancellor Canfield, of our state university proposes), it favors investigating, with a view to adopting the simplest and best plan.

States are recommended to adopt some such system of conciliation and arbitration as Massachusetts has adopted, and "contracts requiring men to agree not to join labor organizations or to leave them, as conditions of employment should be made illegal, as is already done in some states." Finally the Commission urges employes to recognize labor organizations and deal with them through their representatives.

### Choice Breeding Swine.

Never in the history of the swine industry has this sort of domestic animal attained such general excellence as at the present time. Every observer of live stock during the past decade cannot fail to have noticed this wonderful improvement. With all this progress, however, there is yet great occasion for careful selection.

In the best of herds there is a choice, and those who propose to maintain and advance the high standard of their herds cannot be too vigilant in making selection of the sire for this purpose. A few of the very best dams of a herd, too, should always be retained, as it is not safe to trust entirely to young gilts, but their superiority ever so great.

It is practical business management, too, in all herds to add some new blood annually, by purchase of some new gilts. No herd will be strongly attractive to buyers that does not offer a variety of blood. Inbreeding, too, cannot be otherwise so cheaply avoided. Success through a series of years in pork production demands the fullest knowledge of the breeding of one's stock. Careful selection, mating, feeding, sanitary attention and business sagacity, calls for brains every day in the year to keep the hog thrifty and in continuous profitable condition. Choice follows choosing, and those selecting early in the season will, of course, have opportunity to get the best.

All indications point to the year 1895 as a favorable one for fair prices for pork. Improved business will increase the call for the products. Short crops in many parts will decrease the number who will hold or secure brood sows, so supply will be limited. Those who can should be ready for the coming good demand.—M. in Farm, Field and Fireside.

### Handling Corn Fodder.

John Howatt, Iowa, tells in the Homestead how he handles corn fodder. He says: Take an oak pole twelve feet long that will square three or four inches, set it in the rear end of your hayrack, bolt it to the cross-bar of your rack, use two pieces of 2x4, one seven feet, the other nine; bolt these to the same crosspiece as the pole, then bolt to the pole at their upper ends, bracing it in two places, owing to the different lengths; use a 2x4 five feet long to brace on the forward side of the pole to the bottom of rack; nail on; take a 2x4 twelve feet long and fasten with a pivot on the pole, five feet above the floor of the rack, fasten the other end with rope or chain seven or eight feet long to the top of the upright pole. This makes a swinging arm that will swing out over your shocks on either side. Put a pulley on outer end of swinging arm, another at lower end and one at the rack; run a good rope through. Use a horse to pull up the shocks. Put a rope around the shock, tie a hook on end of long rope, hook in rope on shock and hoist. The man on the wagon should have a guy rope attached to the hook to guide the shock as it swings up. Use a piece of rope on every shock, leaving them on until you unload, when you can use the derrick to unload. If your stack gets high, shorten your rope from pole to swinging arm, raising the latter, giving more room for stacking high. By this method all the fodder is saved and all the unpleasant part of handling corn fodder avoided. Two men can tie and load ten shocks in twenty minutes. We did it, and "what man has done man may do." For a pivot I used a large staple driven into the pole, with the bolt taken out of an old neckyoke, with an eye on one end through which the staple was put, and the arm driven on the bolt.—Farm, Field and Fireside.

### A Bank Wrecker Saved.

TOPEKA, Kan., Nov. 2.—The supreme court to-day reversed and remanded the case of the state against C. W. Myers of Kiowa county. Myers was convicted of bank wrecking.

### Professor Jones Proposes Educational Work.

Professor Jones, of Hastings, has, in reply to a letter of Chairman Edmisten's, reviewed the situation and proposed a state educational campaign that is so manifestly wise and practical that we give it to all our people through THE WEALTH MAKERS. The letter in part is as follows:

I rejoice that Judge Holcomb is elected. The people who elected him should seat him.

The will of the people was doubtless defeated when John H. Powers was counted out. The same parties will dispossess Judge Holcomb of his rights, and thereby the people of their rights, if money, intimidation and fraud can do it.

I look upon the recent elections, take the country over, as a blind effort of the people to better their social condition. In '92 they landed the Democratic party in power, completely, for the first time in thirty years. No relief has suddenly overtaken them. In '94 they try to reinstate the Republican party in power. They still look to the two old parties for relief. It cannot come thence.

Our party is in process of formation. It is in a fluid state. One-half of our Populist voters do not really understand the principles on which the Populist movement is based. The consequence is that many retain a loose hold upon our principles and are shaken from their hold by a bold, arrogant, and supercilious foe. The masses of all parties do not distinguish between the demagogue and the honest, clear thinker, when they listen to a speech, or when they read one.

It would seem that nothing but continued social affiliation will drive the people to act unitedly in their own interests and that of the general welfare.

The power of the railroads over small and large communities alike such as to intimidate the "business men" in their respective communities for fear of discriminations in freight rates against all who do not support by vote and by contributions the party which gives political control of all legislation and adjudication affecting the "vested rights" of railroads.

This power of the railroad corporations determines the success or failure of thousands of men in the state.

The thousands of employes—wage-earners—dependent in turn on the business men are plainly told what way it will be for their interest to vote.

All these men and their families are, directly and indirectly, dependent on this great natural monopoly—the railroad—for a living. Not only the men named, but organized communities and their industries are at their mercy.

Then the "banks" in every little hamlet of the state absorb by usury the surplus earnings of the people. The way in which business is now organized the "banker" in a little one-horse town exercises a power nearly equal to the old feudal barons. Here is another natural monopoly in private hands.

I am not surprised at the result of the election, when I reflect that the result is the consequence of the exercise of the legitimate power held by the corporations.

What are we going to do about it? First—Seat Holcomb in the place to which he was elected.

Second—Organize at once a campaign of education, on four points.

(a.) A scientific presentation of the money question by approved books and approved speakers.

(b.) The same kind of presentation of natural monopolies which would include railroads, telegraphs, telephones, etc., in which exposition the absurdity of ever expecting social peace or justice under private ownership shall appear. This by approved books and speakers as before.

(c.) The genesis of artificial monopolies—trusts, etc.—and the necessity and justice of co-operation as the settlement between employer and employe. Conducted same as above.

(d.) The land question. A taxation of land values. Exposition as above by books and lectures. All this matter to be conducted scientifically.

This education will lay the ground for a political platform of large or small proportions, as may seem best at the time of making. It may even make a single demand, if thought best. There may be collateral questions discussed. When these questions are properly understood, it will be seen that the reforms we demand can be fitted into the existing economic and legal system and shock nobody but the legal robber.

One of the strongest objections I have encountered in the last campaign, among the most intelligent classes, not Populist, is that our speakers, or those who assume to expound Populist doctrine, make impracticable demands; demands that if adopted would revolutionize society. Well, that's what we want to do; but we desire to do this by the adoption of principles now existing in the system as governing principles. By above course of education this could be made clear.

Above are suggestions. If your committee shall have any use for them they are welcome. If not, put them in the waste basket. Anyhow, let's organize at once for next campaign. A supreme judge is to be elected next fall and the court houses are to be captured. "On to Richmond!" Let me have your impressions as to above scheme. I am, yours truly, W. M. A. JONES.

### THE OFFICIAL RETURNS.

#### FOR GOVERNOR.

Holcomb, Pop.....	57,515
Major, Rep.....	24,618
Sturdevant, "Straight Dem".....	4,885
Gerrard, Prob.....	4,489
Holcomb's plurality.....	3,202

#### LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR.

Moore, Rep.....	57,298
Galsh, Pop.....	55,598

#### SECRETARY OF STATE.

Piper, Rep.....	56,579
McPadden, Pop.....	65,882

#### STATE AUDITOR.

E. Moore, Rep.....	55,728
Wilson, Pop.....	75,602

#### STATE TREASURER.

Bartley, Rep.....	56,314
Powers, Pop.....	69,402

#### STATE SUPERINTENDENT.

Corbett, Rep.....	58,349
Johnson, Pop.....	86,978

#### ATTORNEY GENERAL.

Chubbill, Pop.....	57,411
Carey, Pop.....	62,923

#### COMMISSIONER PUBLIC LANDS AND BUILDINGS.

Russell, Rep.....	56,312
Kent, Pop.....	85,298

Ken elected in Sixth district by 2,102 plurality.

### A Frightful Tragedy.

MEXICO, Mo., Nov. 21.—Early yesterday morning a horrible tragedy occurred near Wellsville, a little village eighteen miles east of this place. Thomas Portercheck, a Bohemian, presumably in a fit of insanity, killed his mother, a sister and a brother with an axe. Another sister escaped through the window while he was slaying his mother.

After completing the wholesale slaughter the maniac threw a lamp on the floor, lighted the spilled oil with a match and committed suicide.

Sunday afternoon Portercheck was discovered acting strangely and gave indications that his mind was deluged. He labored under the hallucination that his neck was broken and insisted that a physician be summoned. His relatives endeavored to convince him of his error and tried to get him to go to bed. He insisted on sitting up all night.

Late Sunday night the family retired, leaving Thomas in a rocking chair. At 3 o'clock yesterday morning his sister Mary was awakened by an agonizing scream from her mother. When she emerged from her bed room she found her mother lying on the floor, while Thomas was standing over her brandishing an axe. The floor was covered with blood, and from an adjoining room the other brother, James, could be heard moaning in the agony of death. The girl ran through the house, and finding all the doors locked, opened a window and jumped to the ground. She remained at the window and as her brother Thomas made no attempt to follow her, she stood and watched him at his murderous work.

The maniac seized a can of coal oil and after pouring it over the floor and furniture, set it on fire. He then drew a butcher knife across his throat and fell by the side of his mother. The poor girl attempted to extinguish the flames, but they spread so quickly that in less than ten minutes the house was a mass of fire. The screams of the girl awakened the neighbors and they rushed to the scene, but the flames had already finished the work which the maniac had commenced. When the blazing timbers had cooled sufficiently to allow a search of the ruined home four bodies were found blackened and charred. They were those of Mrs. Portercheck, her youngest daughter, and her sons, James and Thomas. Investigation showed that the mother, daughter and son James, had been horribly mutilated by an axe. It is believed that Thomas had first killed his brother, then his sister and mother. It was probably his intention to kill his sister Mary also. The mother had been an invalid for twelve years, and had been confined to her bed during that time.

### HAVOC OF A SMOKESTACK.

A Big Steel Pipe Falls on a Skylight and Causes Many Injuries.

CHICAGO, Nov. 21.—A sixty-foot steel smokestack was torn from the University club building by the wind to-day and, crashing into the skylight of the Handy Abstract building on Washington street, drove a shower of two-inch glass into the office below, dangerously injuring H. W. Nandy of the abstract company and a clerk, cutting and bruising almost everyone of the 125 people in the office, among them ex-United States District Attorney Mitchell.

H. H. Handy, the millionaire president of the company, was cut in a dozen places. A large fragment of glass grazed his head, tearing a large wound in the side of his face, both hands and arms were cut and his right shoulder was cut to the bone.

The noise of the crashing glass and the cries of the alarmed clerks caused a small panic in the building. Several young woman clerks and stenographers fainted and were crushed in the crowd, but none were dangerously hurt.

Berlin is to have an international matrimonial paper, printed in three languages.

## THE WORLD-WIDE EVIL

The Results of Monopoly and Insolent Merciless Greed.

### GOD SAVE THE COMMON PEOPLE

Governments Are Yet in the Grasp of Selfish Politicians and the Laws Oppress the Poor.

### What Is the Voice of God?

From the Labour Leader, edited by J. Keir Hardie, M.P., we clip the following description of the industrial situation in Great Britain, from an editorial addressed to the English premier, Lord Rosebery:

As I write the November winds are howling angrily, and the sky is filled with heavy masses of cold, watery clouds. And tonight, and every night, millions of British subjects will crouch together for warmth in their wretched, fireless hovels, or wander homeless in the streets of our great cities. I have said millions advisedly. There must be considerably over one million bread-winners out of work. These, with their dependents, their wives and helpless innocent children, will suffer all the pangs of hunger and cold. Many of them will die. Many more will grow up physical and moral wrecks. And the responsibility will rest with the government of the day. Lord Rosebery is himself a father. I appeal to him as such. Suppose his daughter to be in the position of the child of the out-of-work artisan—badly clad, hungry, and homeless, what would Lord Rosebery do under such circumstances? I know what I would do, and what I hope Lord Rosebery would do. The parental instinct is strong in most of us. Now, the government alone has power to adequately deal with the case of the unemployed. Many trade unions, some of the oldest, and most skilled trades, to-wit, the engineers, the compositors and the moulders, are having their resources strained to the uttermost in providing out-of-work pay for their members. This pay, however, is only given for a limited number of weeks, and then the number out of benefit has to drop a step in the social scale and become the recipient of public charity. Relief committees are at work in most of the great centres, and are striving heroically to grapple with the question. Last winter the local authorities were unable to cope with the distress; this winter they will be less so. Stone breaking, oakum picking, and road mending have each their limits, as have also the rate-paying powers of the citizens.

Lord Rosebery should say that no feasible proposal has yet been put forward for dealing with the question, let me put this before him for his consideration. There is a congested district (Ireland) board or commission, established by act of parliament, backed by the national exchequer, and invested with almost plenary powers for dealing with distress in certain parts of Ireland. Neither the town party nor the house of lords would dare face the odium of rejecting a bill on similar lines for Great Britain. Such a commission would have power to co-operate with parish, district, county, city and town councils in carrying through schemes of afforestation, reclaiming foreshores and establishing co-operative colonies on what is presently waste land. The editor of the Daily Chronicle stated the other day that there are 26,000,000 acres of waste land waiting to be planted with trees, that ultimately work for 70,000 men would be found in this one source alone, and that most of the £18,000,000 we pay yearly for the timber grown in other lands might be spent at home. Give the commission plenary powers to acquire land, join localities for this and other like purposes, vote them what money is needed for the work from year to year, and in time two things will have happened. Not only will the disgrace of the unemployed be removed, but the money spent will be yielding a rich return. Even if it never did, the conserving of the manhood of the nation would be a gain not to be measured in finance.

I make a direct appeal to Lord Rosebery on this point. I repeat that men are being robbed of manhood, women of purity, and children of life by this one cause, and the government which fails to remove it goes forth to destruction. All that is best in the nation will be arrayed against it. When the nation is seething in the whirlpool of heated political strife, consideration of the claims of these poor victims of our industrial system will be lost sight of; but there is yet time to attend to them ere the strife be entered upon. There is yet a "truce of God" ere the fierce strife begins, and, in the interests of our common humanity, I appeal to Lord Rosebery to turn it to good account.—Labour Leader, Glasgow, Scotland.

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