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Machinists After O'Connell.

Local unions subordinate to the International Association of Machinists in Connecticut, especially at New Haven, it is stated, have started a movement looking toward the retirement of International President James O'Connell from the National Civic federation. Fearing that, O'Connell is to be asked to resign the headship of the Machinists' union. The movement against the president is said to have originated among the Socialists in the local unions, of whom there is quite a sprinkling, and the same results are hoped for as in the case of John Mitchell and the United Mine Workers of America. It is not stated, however, that any labor union has yet attempted to prescribe to its officers certain church membership or eleemosynary society affiliation, but maybe it's coming.

BRAVEDAISY MANK

Risks Her Daily Bread to Aid
Fellow Workers.

GIRL TELLS PATHETIC TALE.

Describes Conditions in San Francisco Cracker Factories to Help Along the Eight Hour Bill For Women Toilers of California.

Every age, every country and every avocation among men has its heroes. One has just come to public notice in the cracker industry of San Francisco. This is Daisy Mank, a "cracker grabber" in a big factory located in that city, says the Minnesota Union Advocate. She went before the committee on labor and capital of the California legislature and in the presence of the employers and their representatives, including one from the factory in which she worked, fearlessly told how girls like her were cruelly overworked and oppressed in their efforts to earn a livelihood in the cracker factories.

The committee had before it a bill limiting the working hours for women to eight in every twenty-four. "Big business" was well represented because "big business" didn't want the bill passed. Union labor was represented because it wanted justice for the working women. Labor thought the plain tale of one working girl would offset the powerful lobby of the manufacturers, and for this purpose it took Daisy Mank from the factory in San Francisco to the state capitol building, where the committee was sitting.

When Daisy Mank entered the committee room the first man she saw was an employee of the Standard Biscuit company of San Francisco, the concern for which she worked. The labor representatives told her she need not speak, but Daisy Mank never hesitated.

"I'll speak if I lose my job," she said. And she spoke.

When she arose to speak she was deathly pale, and she trembled as she looked into the faces of the rich men who lined the room, into the faces of the men upon whom she must depend for her daily bread, well knowing that the words she was about to utter might cost her her position.

Simply and without thought of dramatic effect she told her story. She described how she stood for nine hours a day at the bottom of a chute down which crackers swirled in a steady stream, how she kept the crackers going steadily into the boxes and how, had her fingers fumbled for an instant, her job would be the price of the resultant pile of broken crackers. Mercilessly "big business" representatives questioned her.

"Don't you know," demanded one employer of women, "that we have raised the number of employees at the cracker chute from fifteen to eighteen?"

"Yes," she answered. "We raised the number by a strike."

So bitter became the questions hurled at the girl that State Senator Caminetti finally demanded that she be allowed to tell her story without interruption.

Then Daisy Mank went on to tell how, with the exception of the noon hour, the girls were allowed to leave their positions for only ten minutes each day; she told how hundreds of other working girls in the state had the same experience and that she risked her position that the condition of all might be known.

"We have no strength or desire for amusement after the crackers are pack-

ed each day," she said. "All we want is rest."

That was Daisy Mank's story, but it made a greater impression on the legislators than all the flowery arguments or financial reports of "big business" representatives.

"Don't you expect to lose your job?" Daisy Mank was asked after it was all over and the powerful blow had been struck by a working girl in favor of justice for working women.

"I don't expect to lose my position," replied Daisy Mank. "because I said nothing against the firm for which I work, but many girls in the factory were afraid to speak for fear they would lose their jobs."

Representatives of union labor are watching closely to see if Daisy Mank doesn't lose her position, because they well know "big business" never forgets or forgives a blow.

Fate of Gompers' Detractor.

Broughton Brandenburg, erstwhile magazine writer of some note, has at last been run to earth and sentenced to two years' penal servitude in the state prison at Sing Sing, N. Y. This is the man who some few years ago made sensational charges against Samuel Gompers which were proved to be absolutely false.

Industry's Death Toll.

A conservative estimate of the loss in cash to the wealth of the United States through preventable accidents in industrial plants puts the total at about \$125,000,000 a year. Out of 29,000,000 workers in the United States it has been estimated that one person has been killed or injured every minute.

Arizona's Constitution.

Three progressive measures intending to benefit workingmen, especially organized workingmen, have been incorporated in the new state constitution of Arizona. They were eight hour workdays on state work, prohibiting employment of aliens on public work and prohibiting labor blacklists.

Trade Union Briefs.

Chicago labor unions collect and disburse \$5,000,000 to \$6,000,000 annually. The International Metal Workers' federation now embraces more than forty-five different unions, with an aggregate membership of 750,000.

The California legislature is opposed to employing convict labor in the construction of the \$18,000,000 highway system made possible by the votes of the people last November.

The Hotel and Restaurant Employees' International Alliance and Bartenders' International League of America will hold its next annual convention in Boston, beginning May 8.

The income of British unions last year amounted to \$15,212,105, and their expenditures to \$15,793,490. The balance of funds at the end of the year was \$29,431,360. The total membership of 638 unions was 1,957,904.

The railroad telegraphers and station agents of New England receive from \$60 to \$80 a month for daily work hours that are eight, nine and twelve. The best wages now received in the country for telegraph agents ranges from \$120 to \$125 a month and for railroad telegraphers \$100 a month.

The Steamfitters' union has existed in Chicago for twenty-six years, and for twenty years of that period the employers and union representatives have worked under the joint agreement plan. A new four year contract was negotiated between the master steamfitters and the union recently. The men receive \$5.60 per day.

THE PRESSMEN'S HOME.

Main Building Rapidly Nearing Completion.

Although the membership of the International Printing Pressmen and Assistants' union not long ago voted to hold biennial conventions, the board of directors has ordered that a convention be called this year to meet at Rogersville, Tenn., beginning June 19. This action was taken in order to enable the delegates and visitors to learn the progress that has been made in the matter of building the union pressmen's home at Hale Springs, and also to express the wish of the membership regarding the matter of renewing the agreement with the American Newspaper Publishers' association, which expires on May 1, 1912.

Secretary Crowley announces that work is proceeding rapidly on the house buildings of the home and that on account of plenty of lumber, stone, sand, etc., having been found on the land the cost of construction, as estimated by five reputable builders, was reduced almost one-half. The main building and the technical school will be finished by convention time, and the tuberculosis sanitarium will be under way.

A Maine Friend of Labor.

Cyrus W. Davis, proprietor of the Waterville Sentinel, the only paper in all Maine carrying the label of the Typographical union, was recently elected secretary of state. Mr. Davis was twice candidate for governor of the state of Maine and is considered one of the very best friends union labor has in that state.

Favors Union Labor.

Governor Osborne, Michigan's new executive, speaking at a Franklin day celebration, gave his opinion of union labor as follows: "I am for union labor and union organization and shall always hope that union labor will be honestly, intelligently and effectively organized; that it will then take in all the labor of the country, be led and guided by its ablest and best representatives and rule the nation."

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