

THE BRITISH STRIKE.

Railroad Worker's Version of the Underlying Cause.

The following, written not long ago by an employee of a British railway, throws considerable light on the strike situation in England and recites in part the grievances behind the industrial upheaval in the kingdom:

A few thousand railway shareholders divide among themselves each year in our railways the enormous sum of \$215,000,000. There are fifty-one highly paid managers, who receive salaries of \$1,155 per week. One general manager who directs a small Scottish line gets \$25,000 a year.

Now, as an offset to those high priced people there are 150,000 of us employees whose average wage is less than \$5 per week, while another 350,000 average \$5.60 per week. Altogether there are about 534,000 employees in these low earning positions.

When our last strike was threatened evidence was given before the labor commission that many employees work seventy hours per week for \$3.36. The railway workers get less wages per man than any other trade in England.

My wages are now 22 shillings (\$5.28) per week, out of which the company each week takes 18 cents for what it calls "provident and pension." That is to give us a pension after we get to sixty-five years. But, let me tell you, mighty few of us live that long. If you leave the company after paying into this fund for ten years you don't get a cent back. It is all velvet to them. Every single man—married ones, too—must pay into this fund. The company must get a snug little sum, considering that so few reach the pension age.

As a mere porter and without fogging (extra hours) I work ten full hours a day and often have extra work at night. For the night work all the extra pay I get is 44 cents. I have often worked from 6 a. m. to 6 p. m. and then right on to 3 a. m. next morning, just getting this 44 cents and no more.

The company allows us no time for food, so we have to snatch it when we get a chance. This means doing heavy work often on insufficient food and sometimes without any at all. Some of this work is very dangerous, as we often have to get down on the tracks and shift parcels from one platform to another. Men are often killed by passing "specials." The parcels often weigh 150 to 200 pounds.

I am married and support as best I can a wife and one child on \$5.28 per week. Less 18 cents for "provident and pension;" less \$1.80 per week for two rooms for rent in a slum quarter; less, say, 32 cents for coal, leaves \$2.98 for self, wife and baby.

And they ask why we strike.

Must Reimburse the Union.

A member of a society of iron founders in England met with an accident in June, 1908, which seriously injured him. At the time of the accident he was working as a molder and earning \$10 a week. He was supposed to be injured for life, and the society paid him the sum of \$500, he signing an agreement in August, 1907, by which he undertook to repay the money in full if he ever returned to the trade of an iron founder. In March, 1910, he was well enough to resume work in a foundry, not as a molder, but as a coremaker, at \$6.50 a week. The society demanded the return by him of the \$500 and on refusal brought an action against him for that amount. The king's bench division decided the case in favor of the union.

SPEAR GOOD ENOUGH FOR HIM

One Experience With White Man's Weapon Was Enough for African Native.

When Mr. Montague, the English traveler, was in Africa, he gave to a native an old single-barreled gun, and the fellow was delighted. He put in a small handful of powder, and about a quarter of a newspaper on top of it, and finally a ball, and then rammed the whole charge down. Then he departed. In the evening he returned, with his face battered and swollen almost beyond recognition. "What have you been doing?" asked the Englishman, in amazement. The native sat down on the ground and said, sorrowfully: "A little after noon I found the track of elands, and I followed it until I found them feeding. I crept up to one of them. He was twenty yards away. I rested the barrel of the gun on a stone, placed the butt against my nose, directed the muzzle toward the eland, and pulled the trigger. I do not know what happened, for I was blind and deaf for some time, but when I came to I found myself lying at the bottom of the gully. The gun was beside me, my face was as you now see it, and the elands had gone away. Son of a white man, it was very kind of you to give me a gun, but it is too good a gun for me—too strong, too powerful. It needs the wisdom of a white man to rule it. Take it back. Farewell!"

Steam-Kissed Oranges.

The final ripening process in the preparation of California oranges for the market is the exposure of the fruit to steam vapor, which imparts the golden yellow color described on the labels by "sun kissed" and other appetizing terms. Electric heat is employed to a large extent in producing this steam vapor, electric immersion coils in open tanks of water in the ripening rooms producing the warm humidity required to give the final tint to the orange of commerce.—Dietetic and Hygienic Gazette.

ORIGIN OF THE THREE BALLS

Familiar Sign of the Pawnbroker Really Is the Arms of the Medici Family.

Few persons seeing the signs of the vast wealth of our avuncular relatives in most thoroughfares in London pause to consider their origin. Of course it is the balls of gold to which we refer. Not only may they be taken as indications of wealth, but as a sign that pledges are received. But the balls do not indicate what they really are. They are the arms of the Medici family. Whoever has visited Florence will recall the three balls alternated with the red lilies. But how comes it that the decorations of the Tuscan palace have found their way to London?

The explanation is not difficult if we give the subject a moment's thought. The first gold changers to settle in London, as in Paris, were the Florentines or Lombards. They chose Lombard street as the place where they could carry on their business. These early settlers are perpetuated today by the bankers. In the early days the inhabitants counted among their number some of the Medici family and to inspire confidence they exhibited their family arms, to which they had a perfect right. The family of Medici is extinct today, but their arms survive them, the present users thinking the respectability of the origin too great to be dispensed with.—London Globe.

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No Cigarmakers' Convention.

The cigarmakers' unions of the country have voted against holding an international convention of their craft this year. The vote, which was recently tabulated in the headquarters in Chicago, was taken in the unions on a proposition submitted to them by the Cigarmakers' International union. This organization has not held a convention for fifteen years, its business, so far as the unions have had a voice in it, having been transacted wholly by the initiative and referendum. By their vote on the question the unions throughout the country have shown that the great majority of their members are well satisfied with the present method of legislation.

TRADE UNION NOTES.

Beginning May 1, 1912, Cleveland lathers will receive \$5 per day.

A Scandinavian lodge of machinists has been found in Boston.

The United States government printing office employs 4,000 persons.

All Denver daily papers are now employing union men in every department.

Organized labor is opposed to increasing postage rates on second class matter.

The Boston Barbers' union reports a complete victory in its effort to secure a dollar a week increase.

John C. Harding, organizer for the Chicago Typographical union, has been appointed by Mayor Harrison a member of the school board.

By an order of Secretary Nagel of the department of commerce and labor assignments of salaries of employees to loan companies is prohibited.

The United States legal authorities have interpreted the law passed by the last session of congress to mean that every employee in a shipyard where government vessels are building must be given the eight hour workday.

Power.

"Water power is coming to play a great part in the industries of this country."

"Yes," replied Mr. Ara Grett, "especially in Wall street."

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NOTICE OF INCORPORATION.

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned have associated themselves together for the purpose of forming a corporation under the laws of the state of Nebraska.

The name of the corporation shall be the Maupin-Schoop Publishing Company.

Its principal place of business is Lincoln, Lancaster County, Nebraska. The business of said corporation is to do a general publishing and printing business and any and all things necessary and consistent therewith, including the right to buy and sell real estate.

The authorized capital stock is five thousand dollars, divided into shares of fifty dollars each.

Said corporation shall commence business on August 7th, 1911, and continue for twenty years, unless sooner dissolved by a majority vote of its stock, or by process of law.

The highest amount of indebtedness to which it shall at any time subject itself shall not exceed two-thirds of its authorized capital stock.

The affairs of the corporation shall be governed by a board of four directors, who shall have power to elect from among their own number a president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer.

Dated this 5th day of August, 1911.

WILL M. MAUPIN,
FRANK L. SHOOP.

25-5

LEGAL NOTICE.

Seth W. Lowell, will hereby take notice that William Foote has filed his petition and commenced an action in the District Court of Lancaster County, State of Nebraska, entitled "William Foote, Plaintiff, vs. Seth W. Lowell, Defendant," and plaintiff has filed affidavit therein that the defendant is a non-resident of the State of Nebraska.

The object and prayer of said action is to recover the sum of \$176.45, with interest at the rate of six per cent per annum from the seventh day of March, 1890, upon a promissory note that plaintiff has caused to be attached in said action, the undivided one-third interest in Lot Four (4), Block Two (2), Trester's Addition to the City of Lincoln, Lancaster County, Nebraska, and the undivided one-third interest in Lot Eight (8), Block Forty-three (43) in University Place, Nebraska; that the defendant is required to answer the petition of the plaintiff on the ninth day of October, 1911.

24-4

SETH W. LOWELL,
By TIBBETS & ANDERSON,
Attorneys.