

THE NATIONAL LABOR BUREAU.

When Liars Figure the Result is "Government Statistics."

It is impossible for the mind of man to conceive the dire things that would happen to those of us who work for a living if our paternal government had not invented the labor bureau. An-

nually this establishment pulls off its grand stunt of showing the working-man how prosperous he is and demonstrating it beyond peradventure by a process of general average.

In 1904 the labor bureau discovered that that superfluous luxury, butchers' meat, had advanced in price 10 per cent, but that prime necessary nut-

megs, had fallen in price 30 per cent. Taking the two together and surrounding them with a wilderness of figures, it was made absolutely plain to the workingman's eye that the cost of living was greatly reduced. This was a feat of ratiocination bordering on the miraculous, and recalls the famous classification of a great British states-

man that mendacity is composed of three things, "lies and lies and statistics, mostly statistics." It is said that Ben Franklin demonstrated that animal vitality could be sustained on a pudding the chief ingredient of which is sawdust. We can easily believe the story when we come to contemplate the table of statistics perpetrated by our national doctors of figures.

Last Saturday the labor bureau gave us its annual gibberish of statistics touching wages and prices, and as this is an off year in a political way, we discover that both wage and living have advanced, but that wage is way ahead in the race. Three years ago we learned of the same authority that while the man in Iowa who produced leg and hominy never before got so high prices for what he had to sell, the man in the District of Columbia who bought that same hog and hominy was getting it at a price so low that it was ridiculously cheap.

We lay down this broad and expansive proposition—that anything and everything between earth and sky, whether on sea or land, in the fathomless depths of old ocean's deepest cavern, or on the burning sands of earth's hottest desert, can be proved by statistics.

And when it comes to "figgers" the labor bureau is first and the rest nowhere.—Editorial in Washington Daily Post.

BOOT AND SHOE WORKERS.

Tobin and Lovely Seem to Have Won Out in the Contest.

It appears that in the fight for control of the Boot and Shoe Workers' International President Tobin and Vice President Lovely have won out. It will be remembered that they were defeated on the face of the returns at the regular election, but charged fraud in the ballot and count. They offered any reasonable concession to have the facts fully investigated. The opposition tried court proceedings but were defeated, and another election was called. The result seems favorable to Tobin and Lovely.

The Cincinnati Chronicle has the following to say of the convention of Boot and Shoe Workers:

"The Shoe Workers' convention was in session just three weeks. Two hundred and fifty delegates were in attendance. It was the largest convention in the history of our organization, which means a great deal. The work of the convention was for the good of the organization and, judging from the work done, the writer is of the opinion that it will give results that will improve and strengthen the International union on stronger and better lines. Our union stamp policy will be better and stronger than ever. This, combined with our modern trades union policy, is destined to make our organization a power second to none. Past events have proven that organized labor is forging ahead rapidly, and is just beginning to get its proper stride. The movement is for the good of all, and all fair-minded people realize this fact, and this fact will grow stronger and stronger as the years pass by which, in the end, means a solidified organization that will benefit all the people of this universe."

SPOKANE BARBERS SUCCESSFUL.

Journeyman barbers connected with Spokane union No. 66 of the Journeymen Barbers' International Union of America have signed up every master barber in the city. By the terms of the new contract, every Sunday, Labor Day, Fourth of July, Christmas and Thanksgiving are full holidays. Jan. 1 and May 30 will be half holidays. A day's work shall consist of a 12 hour shift with one and one half hours for meals. In case Fourth of July, Christmas or Thanksgiving day comes on Saturday or Monday the barbers will work from the usual time in the morning until noon. The wages will be \$18 guaranteed and 30 per cent above \$30 taken in a week.

AFTER THE "PINKIES."

Chicago unionists have started a war upon the Pinkerton detective agency and similar institutions. A state conference has been called to meet in that city early in October to prepare plans to smash Pinkertonism. The Actors' Union has taken the initiative by having a bill prepared to be presented to the legislature providing that any individual who exercises police powers, other than the duly constituted public authorities shall be punished by a fine of \$5,000 and not less than one year in prison. —Buffalo Progress.

SOCIALIST LITERATURE.

H. B. Follett informs The Wage-worker that he has a lot of socialist literature which he would be glad to send to anyone who would care to read it. If you want to study up on this question, Mr. Follett's offer should be accepted.

JUST IT.

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The Clean Way
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LINCOLN, NEBRASKA

UNION LABELS AND CARDS

There are now 56 labels and 10 cards issued by the following organizations, which have been indorsed by the American Federation of Labor:

Organizations Using Labels.*

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| American Federation of Labor. | Machine Printers and Color Mixers. |
| Bakers and Confectioners. | Machinists. |
| Boilermakers. | Metal Polishers. |
| Blacksmiths. | Metal Workers, Sheet. |
| Boot and Shoe Workers. | Molders. |
| Brewery Workers. | Painters. |
| Brickmakers. | Paper Box Makers. |
| Broommakers. | Paper Makers. |
| Brushmakers. | Piano and Organ Workers. |
| Carriage and Wagon Workers. | Plate Printers. |
| Carvers, Wood. | Powder Workers. |
| Cigarmakers. | Pressmen, Printing. |
| Cloth Hat and Cap Makers. | Print Cutters. |
| Coopers. | Rubber Workers. |
| Engravers, Watch Case. | Sawsmiths. |
| Flour and Cereal Mill Employees. | Shirt, Waist and Laundry Workers. |
| Fur Workers. | Stove Mounters. |
| Garment Workers, United. | Tailors. |
| Garment Workers, Lady. | Textile Workers. |
| Glass Bottle Blowers. | Tip Printers. |
| Glass Workers. | Tobacco Workers. |
| Glove Workers. | Travelers' Goods and Leather Novelty Workers. |
| Gold Beaters. | Typographical. |
| Hatters. | Upholsters. |
| Horseshoers. | Weavers, Goring. |
| Jewelry Workers. | Weavers, Wire. |
| Lathers. | Wood Workers. |
| Leather Workers on Horse Goods. | Leather Workers. |

ORGANIZATIONS USING CARDS.

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| Actors. | Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen. |
| Barbers. | Musicians. |
| Clerks. | Musicians. |
| Engineers, Steam. | Stage Employes, Theatrical. |
| Firemen, Stationary. | Teamsters. |
| Hotel and Restaurant Employees. | |

The following crafts and callings are using the American Federation of Labor label: Artificial Limb Makers, Costumers, Badge and Lodge Paraphernalia Workers, Bottlers (Soda, Mineral Water and Liquor), Coffee, Spice and Baking Powder Workers, Cloth Spongers and Refinishers, Carbonic Gas Workers, Cigar Makers' Tools, Nail (Horse Shoe) Workers, Neckwear Cutters and Makers, Oyster Workers, Paint Workers, Photographic Supply Workers, Soap Workers, Soda and Mineral Water Workers, Starch Workers, Suspender Makers, Steel Case Makers.