

Cleansing Artificial Flowers.
The best way of cleansing artificial flowers is to wipe them as carefully as possible with a soft flannel and then dip in gasoline. Ribbons and dress goods should be sponged with the same.

Unfortunate Forgetfulness.
Most men would be willing to grant equal rights to women if the desire for equal rights didn't make so many women forget the importance of personal attractions.—Chicago Record-Herald.

Expensive Municipality.
It costs nearly as much to pay the salaries of the municipal servants in New York city as it does to support the entire army of the United States. The salaries amount close to \$70,000,000 annually.

Women Teachers.
There are in the United States 34,579 women who are teachers of music and 10,000 who are teachers of art and artists. Altogether there are a quarter of a million of women teachers. There are 11,000 telegraph operators who are women.

Property.
The last thing we need to be anxious about is property. It always has friends or the means of making them. If riches have wings to fly away from their owners, they have wings also to escape danger.—Tom Lowell's Address on "Democracy."

Joy in Doing Good.
Never did any soul do good, but it became readier to do the same again, with more enjoyment. Never was love, or gratitude, or bounty practiced, but with increasing joy which made the practice still more in love with the fair act.—Shaftesbury.

"Clear Shining After Rain."
Sunshine is never so beautiful, never so welcome as when it breaks through the heavy clouds, and the trees scatter diamond showers on the earth. And no sunlight of the soul is so beautiful as that which turns sorrow into joy.

Not Sure About It.
"You have myopia, haven't you," asked the eye doctor, who had called at the public library to look at a reference book. "I don't know, sir," said the near-sighted attendant, blinking at him; "but if we have you'll find it in the catalogue."

Vermont Man Edits Korean Sheet.
Henry Hurlburt, editor of the Korean Review, published in Seoul, the capital of Korea, and the only paper in that country printed in English, is a former resident of Bennington, Vt., and was at one time a student in the high school at that place.

Quite True.
A class of Norwich, Conn., primary scholars were given a language lesson in which the word "organic" was to govern the sense of the sentence. One little fellow wrote better than he knew when he indited: "The Italian is the most organic man on the face of the earth!"

Hoss and Hoss.
After being married 24 hours an eastern young woman quit her husband and went back to her \$25-a-week job. It may be pointed out that very few wives get \$25 a week to spend on themselves. Yet there are mighty few husbands who have that much to spend on themselves, either.

To Mend Hot Water Bags.
A hot water bag will oftentimes suddenly spring a leak when most needed. Adhesive plaster placed over the break will stop the leak immediately and will stay in place for quite awhile. It can easily be renewed, and proves a most satisfactory first aid to an injured rubber article.—The Circle.

Horse Flesh as Food.
Horse flesh has been prized as food in China for six centuries, but in Europe was first eaten 100 years ago by the Danes. At Liege, Belgium, 2,000 horses were slaughtered in 1905, and the rapidly increasing demand promises to open a new market for American horses. Only young animals are sent to the slaughter houses.

Plants That Are Poisonous.
Many harmless plants contain poison. Daffodil and narcissus pickers are troubled with a skin disease known as "daffodil poisoning." Gatherings form under the fingernails. They are caused by minute crystals in the juice of the stems. The bulbs of the white Roman hyacinth have similar unpleasant properties.

For Children's Amusement.
Children, as a rule, tire much sooner of their toys than they do of their playthings which they make themselves out of any oddments which may be at hand at the moment. If a child possesses sufficient imagination, a lump of modeling clay, a piece of punched cardboard, and a wool-threaded needle will take a number of new forms which will satisfactorily occupy lengthy afternoons.

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NEWS OF THE LABOR WORLD

Indianapolis, Ind.—Six amendments have been made to the constitution of the International Typographical union by a referendum vote of that organization. The first amendment provides for relinquishing jurisdiction over newspaper writers; the second to increase the board of the secretary-treasurer from \$20,000 to \$50,000; the third to increase the salary of the international president from \$1,800 to \$2,000; the fourth to increase the salary of the international secretary-treasurer from \$1,800 to \$2,000; the fifth to increase the burial benefit from \$70 to \$75, and the sixth to provide a pension of four dollars a week to aged and superannuated members.

Chicago.—Directors of the Crane company voted the usual Christmas present, amounting to ten per cent. of the yearly salary of each employed. The custom of giving each employee of one year's standing a Christmas present of one-tenth of his year's salary has been followed by the company for eight years. This year the employees number about 5,000, and the total amount they will receive will approximate \$350,000, exceeding by \$20,000 the total of last year's Christmas present. In the eight years during which the custom has been observed the company has given to its employees \$1,850,000.

Boston.—A general curtailment of production in New England cotton mills during January and February is regarded as a certainty in mill circles here. The product probably will be reduced 25 per cent. in practically all of the mills, and will affect at least 150,000 operatives. The movement to curtail production originated in New York commission houses, and was indorsed by certain New Bedford manufacturers of fine goods. It was said that all but two of the New Bedford corporations had agreed to the curtailment plan, and that mills in Manchester, N. H., had acquiesced in the arrangement.

Washington.—The International Association of Machinists has authorized the levying of an assessment equivalent to one day's pay each year for three years upon each member, the money to be used expressly for the propagation of the association's principles. This fund will reach the \$1,000,000 mark within the time specified and an amount of that magnitude will have a mighty effect within and without the organization.

Boston.—Married women whose husbands are not invalids may not hereafter be employed at the cigar-making industry in this city, according to a vote taken by Boston Cigar-Makers' Union No. 97. The decision will require the indorsement of a majority of the international unions of the craft before it becomes operative. The other cigar-makers' unions throughout the country will be asked to take similar action.

New York.—Plans have been completed for the formation of a temporary organization which will embrace all the building trades unions in the country, in accordance with the proposal made at the last annual meeting of the American Federation of Labor. A charter will be asked for at the next meeting of the executive council. It is said the new federation will include 1,000,000 members.

Elgin, Ill.—President Hulburt of the Elgin National Watch company notified the 3,500 employes that there would be a readjustment of the wage scale when the plant is reopened January 2.

Chippewa Falls, Wis.—That labor conditions in the woods of northern Wisconsin have been depleted darker than they really were is the belief of William Wolf, who is in charge of the logging operations on the Yellow River for the Yellow River Logging company. Mr. Wolf states that while the lumber companies are not employing as many men as heretofore, and that the hour shifts are shorter, still there was nothing in the general cry that lumbering in northern Wisconsin was at a standstill. Mr. Wolf believes that it will not be long until the usual number of men will receive employment again.

Cincinnati.—Arguments on the question of making permanent an injunction against officers of the International Pressmen's union forbidding action inciting strikes against the United Typothetae of America, have begun in the United States court.

Milwaukee.—At the Bay View mills of the Illinois Steel company, part of the United States Steel corporation's system, operations will be resumed in the 21-inch, 12-inch and nine-inch mills. These give employment to 500 people.

Millville, Mass.—Whitall-Tatum company's glass works and the large plants of the T. C. Wheaton company blocked fires and 3,000 hands are idle. Managers of both plants stated that there are plenty of orders, and indications are that every factory will again go in blast in less than ten days.

Denver, Col.—James R. Kirwan, who has been acting secretary-treasurer of the Western Federation of Miners, tendered his resignation, to take effect at once, on account of ill health. Ernest Mills, a member of the executive board, assumed the duties of the office.

Racine, Wis.—The Racine factories whose operation has been impeded by the financial unrest, are preparing to return to normal conditions. It is announced that the Case Plow works, which have been closed since November for inventory and repairs, will open. The Case Thrashing Machine company will also resume operations in a short time, it is expected. Comparatively few men have been laid off altogether, but in many cases the hours of labor have been reduced.

Washington.—It has been decided by the labor organizations whose members are employed at the Washington navy yard, to concentrate their efforts the coming winter in an effort to obtain legislation that will provide the appropriation necessary for the erection of the big steel casting foundry in connection with the naval gun factory work. Such a foundry would make the Washington plant factory one of the most complete plants of its kind in the world.

Paris, France.—The number of persons in receipt of a pension paid by the French railway companies exceeds 60,000, which number includes widows and orphans, who are always very liberally dealt with. In 1895 the number of pensions amounted to about 14 per cent. of the whole staff; it now exceeds 23 per cent. The establishment of pensions was due solely to the free initiative of the companies, without any intervention on the part of the state.

Washington.—In his annual report to the A. F. of L. convention, Secretary Frank Morrison says that there was at the close of the fiscal year \$127,910.02 in the treasury, the high water mark in the history of the federation. Of the amount on hand \$103,078.89 is in the defense fund. The total receipts from all sources were \$174,320.26 and total expenses were \$159,960.34, leaving a balance of receipts over expenses of \$14,359.92.

Jersey City, N. J.—The Erie railroad, from January 1, will cut down expenses by reducing the salaries of its employes. Every employe who receives from \$60 to \$90 a month will be cut two per cent.; those who get anything over \$100 per month, five per cent. Employes receiving under \$60 a month will not come under the new order. The aggregate loss to railroads will reach hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Sheboygan, Wis.—The works of the King Piano company in this city are to be abandoned, the Sheboygan and Chicago plants being combined into one large factory at Bluffton, Ind. Only 50 of the 125 men employed at the Sheboygan factory will be taken to Bluffton, where 300 men will be employed at the new plant. For the year the company has shipped from 12 to 15 pianos a day from the plant here.

Neillsville, Wis.—George W. Troger has shut down his saw and planing mill, which will be converted into a table factory in the spring, and to that end will be cleaned out and the machinery reset during the winter. This is the last sawmill of any importance to quit. Clark county, once famous for its forests, is rapidly assuming the appearance of a prairie country.

Seattle, Wash.—The Master Builders' association and the recently organized Seattle Builders' exchange, by almost unanimous votes passed resolutions declaring for an open shop on all contracting work done in Seattle.

Philadelphia.—Announcement was made here by the Baldwin Locomotive works that, beginning January 1, the output of the company will be reduced 25 per cent., which will be equivalent to the discharge of 5,000 men. None of the workmen will be discharged, however, the entire force of 20,000 men being retained, although the working hours will be reduced.

Athens, O.—Charles Hank, of Chicago, president of the International Brick, Tile and Terra Cotta Workers' alliance, was arrested on a warrant charging him with trespassing and inciting to riot in connection with a strike at a local factory.

Ottawa, Canada.—The loss of time to employes through trades disputes in the Dominion of Canada during September of this year amounted to 61,900 working days. In 1906 the loss from the same cause was 99,860, and the year before, 97,140.

Pittsburg, Pa.—Announcement is made that the S. W. Dewees rod mill near McKeesport, which has been closed several weeks, will resume operations in full January 6. About 1,100 men will be affected by the resumption.

Phillipsburg, N. J.—Between 400 and 500 loom fixers and weavers employed in the Standard silk mills at this place are on strike, claiming that every day or two for several weeks men have been discharged because they belonged to the union or have loanings toward the organization.

Northampton, Mass.—The Northampton Cutlery company's factory was shut down for two weeks. When work is resumed the factory will be run as an "open shop." The Belding silk mills, employing 500 hands, shut down until January 6. A dull market is accepted as the cause.

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