

OUR GREATEST SALE

We have had some big ones, but our 1908 January Sale is the biggest we have ever had—biggest in the matter of bargains offered—biggest in the matter of opportunities for careful buyers—biggest in point of sales. It is "BIG" in big letters. We simply took advantage of a big opportunity to buy the big stock of a big eastern dealer who stood to lose a big bit of money in the big panic that hit the big ones down east. We made a big effort, raised the big amount of cash required to secure the big discount. You make the big saving by buying big of our big bargains.

For the purposes of this big January Sale we have divided the stock into

FIVE BIG DIVISIONS

DIVISION No. 1—Men's Suits and Overcoats that we sold at \$40, \$37.50, \$35.00 and \$32.50, all go at

\$22

DIVISION No. 2—Men's Suits and Overcoats that we sold at \$30.00, \$27.50 and \$25.00, all go at

\$17

DIVISION No. 3—Men's Suits and Overcoats that we sold at \$22.50, \$20.00 and \$18.00, all go at

\$13

DIVISION No. 4—Men's Suits and Overcoats that we sold at \$16.50, \$15.00 and \$12.50, all go at

\$9

DIVISION No. 5—Men's Suits and Overcoats that we sold at \$10.00, \$8.50 and \$7.50, all go at

\$5

ARMSTRONG CLOTHING CO.
GOOD CLOTHES MERCHANTS

NEWS OF THE LABOR WORLD

Omaha, Neb.—Probably the largest temperance movement any one business concern has ever known culminated on the Northwestern railroad when a temperance pledge signed by 25,000 employes became effective. Three months ago, when the Northwestern began cutting its force to a winter basis, every man discharged was a drinking man, the teetotalers being retained in their positions. It was announced that the road had inaugurated a policy of always retaining the non-drinking men. As a result the drinking men who remained with the road have decided to abstain, and during the last month pledges have circulated all over the 7,000 miles of the system.

Braddock, Pa.—The McClintock-Marshall Construction company's plant here, operating with 3,000 employes, making steel girders, has put into effect a bonus distribution plan, regarded as an improvement over profit-sharing schemes of other concerns. When the shops increase their output beyond a certain limit the bonus is raised for every hundred tons' increase. Two shops, employing 400 men, received the bonus, which ranged from \$14.85 to \$20 for every workman beyond the stated wages.

New Haven, Conn.—General Manager Higgins of the New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad company has been invited to meet a joint committee of railroad conductors and trainmen asking for an increase in wages. The committee alleges violation of the agreement in regard to making the runs of the men convenient to their places of residence.

Uniontown, Pa.—Announcement is made by the H. C. Frick Coke company of a decrease in wages affecting all its coke plants in this region. The decrease is about seven and one-half per cent, and places wages slightly above what they were prior to the voluntary increase made in March, 1906. Independent companies may make similar reductions.

Dayton, O.—The Platt Iron works, employing hundreds of men; the steel mills of the Barney & Smith Car company, the Brownell boiler shops, and a few other establishments resumed operations after a shutdown due to a lack of orders. The Davis Sewing Machine company also increased its force and will be running full in a short time.

Hamburg, Germany.—The suit of the harbor authorities against the Port Workers' union, growing out of the recent dock strike, has resulted in a decision whereby the union is forbidden, in the future, to interfere with the introduction of strike-breakers. A penalty of \$375 is provided for each instance. The union has entered an appeal.

Boise, Idaho.—George A. Pettibone was acquitted of the charge of conspiring to bring about the murder of former Gov. Steunenberg. The defendant, his health shattered beyond hope of recovery by the two years of his imprisonment while awaiting trial, will go at once to Denver, where he can die a free man, honored by his fellows.

New York.—There is little chance of strikes this year among building unions. The employers have signed agreements with the larger number of the men, and in cases where agreements have not been concluded arrangements are under way. The employers have decided not to reduce wages.

Seattle, Wash.—There is a strong movement in the state of Washington along the line of establishing co-operative stores. One has been opened here and since it has been in operation it has done so well that it has purchased a coal mine with a view to selling the products to union people.

London, Eng.—The war department laid off thousands of skilled workmen recently at the Woolwich arsenal. A large number of these left for America and found work in Bethlehem, Pa., and other American steel centers. The government is now missing the men and wishes it could call them back.

Chicago.—According to official figures issued by the Commercial Telegraphers' Union of America the strike, which lasted from August 8 until November 9, and crippled business interests throughout the country, cost the union \$250,000.

Salt Lake.—The mines of the Silver King Coalition and the Daly-West company at Park City closed on January 1. This action is taken by the directors because of the unremunerative price of lead and silver. A thousand men are directly affected.

Pittsburg, Pa.—The plants of the Republic Iron and Steel company and the Youngstown Steel and Tube company at Youngstown, O., resumed operations, giving employment to 8,000 men.

Bristol, R. I.—Operations were resumed at the plant of the National Rubber company after a shutdown of nearly one month. More than 1,500 operatives were given work.

Kansas City, Mo.—Apprentices on the Santa Fe road have been given a voluntary increase of two cents an hour in wages for ten hours' work a day.

Manchester, Eng.—Cotton spinners to the number of 150,000 will be thrown out of work if they persist in their demands on the manufacturers. Unless the spinners recede the cotton mills throughout the country, owned by 500 members of the Federation of Master Spinners, will be closed. Already firms owning 96 per cent. of the spindles have announced their willingness to close their mills.

Helena, Mont.—Jail sentences of three months were imposed on five Butte union labor leaders by Federal Judge Hunt. They failed to purge themselves of contempt, in which they had involved themselves by disregarding an injunction forbidding interference with non-union workmen employed by the Rocky Mountain Bell Telephone company on its new building.

New York.—The wigmakers of New York celebrated a double event, the recognition of their union and the winning of the first strike of the year. The organization is known as the Human Hair Workers' union and is composed of the makers of wigs, toupees and all other like products composed of human hair.

Cumberland, Md.—The Cherry River Boom and Lumber company, with plants at Richwood, Camden-on-Gauley and Holcomb, W. Va., employing 1,200 men, resumed operations. The Curtain Lumber company also ordered its men, numbering about 5,000, to report for duty.

Cleveland, O.—It is variously estimated that fully 10,000 employes returned to work in Cleveland as the result of a general resumption of commercial activity. Probably 30,000 to 40,000 men were put to work in northern Ohio.

Sandusky, O.—Operations have been resumed in the stone quarries at Kelley's Island by the Kelley's Island Lime and Transport company. About 600 men are affected. Suspension was due to the financial stringency.

Northampton, Mass.—More than 800 mill operatives who have been out of work since Christmas returned to their work when the Belding Bros.' silk mill and the Northampton Cotton company resumed operations.

Helena, Mont.—Manager A. M. Smith, of the Helena plant of the American Smelting and Refining company, denied the story attributed to him that the company was to close several more of its plants.

Dayton, O.—The Platt Iron works, the steel mills of the Barney & Smith Car company, the Brownell boiler shops and several other establishments resumed operations, giving work to 1,000 idle men.

Pittsburg, Pa.—The plants of the Republic Iron and Steel company and the Youngstown Steel and Tube company at Youngstown, O., resumed operations, giving employment to 8,000 men.

Ford City, Pa.—After being shut down for repairs No. 4 works of the Pittsburg Plate Glass company has resumed operations. The department employs from 1,200 to 1,500 men.

Evansville, Ind.—The working time at the Evansville & Terre Haute railroad shops in this city has been reduced from eight to five hours. About 250 men are affected.

Altoona, Pa.—All Pennsylvania railroad shop employes engaged on repair work have resumed the eight-hour a day system. Several thousand men are affected.

New York.—There is rejoicing among the workmen at the Brooklyn navy yard over the announcement that the recommendations of the board of wages that the pay of the workers in certain trades be increased had been indorsed by the department. The increases average about 24 cents a day and apply to most of the trades covered by navy yard work.

Albany, N. Y.—It was announced that the New York Central & Hudson River Railroad company had laid off 300 additional men in the West Albany shops. This is the second "lay-off" within a few weeks, the total number now involved being 700.

Woonsocket, R. I.—The Millville boot mill of the Woonsocket Rubber company resumed operations, giving employment to 1,000 bootmakers. The American Wringer company's plant also resumed, 400 operatives again getting employment.

Brookton, Mass.—Because the hay, grain, ice and coal dealers of this city refused to advance wages from \$2.37 to \$2.50 a day 125 teamsters struck. The drivers say that they will not submit their demands to arbitration.

Denver, Col.—William D. Haywood of the Western Federation of Labor. Ernest Mills has been appointed to that position by the executive board.

Philadelphia.—The Baldwin locomotive works are being operated on an eight instead of a ten-hour basis. The reduction affects 15,800 men.

Holyoke, Mass.—Two divisions of the American Thread company's plant opened after a shut-down of several days.

Denver, Col.—The bartenders are taking steps to organize a union to procure the eight-hour day.

STRANGE ENGLISH WRITTEN BY JAPS

The Japanese certainly do try to learn the English language. They find the English language a pretty hard nut to crack, but that doesn't deter them. They keep right at it and crack it.

An American gentleman, agent at Yokohama for a trans-Pacific steamship company, now on leave in New York, brings a quaint package of material illustrating the efforts of the English schooled Japanese to gain a half-Nelson on the language of Shakespeare.

A few months ago a young Japanese applied to the steamship agent for a job as clerk in the Yokohama steamship office. There being no vacancies, says the New York Sun, the agent civilly got rid of the applicant, and on the following day he received this explanatory letter from him:

Dear Sir: Many thanks for your sparing precious time during business hour on my visit yesterday.

I failed on that occasion, owing rather to my sly nature to speak out my principal motive for a clerk life, and should be much obliged if you will take it into consideration. The cause for my being clerk is that I am a lover of Charles Lamb, with whom I have many points in common. I have an affectionate sister for whose sake I will sacrifice my life and lead a single life, like the English humorist. Was he not a clerk in the Indian company till his retirement through the approaching age? I said my sister, but to tell the truth, she was my cousin, and the past three years was a tragic comedy to us, and from pure love, and by mutual consent, we will lead a brother and sister life.

My second motive is that I may become a gentleman through your favor, with whom I had no means to know each other but such insolent way on my part.

How glad my parents and dear sister be if they hear some day that I get a position in your office.

I intend to enter some school within two or three days and train myself in bookkeeping and in the practice of typewriting.

Hoping you would not kindly forget me through an artless fronties (front?). Yours faithfully,

KATSUTARO.

Here is a letter from a Japanese shipping firm to the steamship company respecting—well, respecting whatever it means:

Dear Sir: According to your favor of November 28, 12-10th, with reference to a discrepancy of 275 sacks of flour, we send you the invoice No. 81, which you have not. We beg you to return the invoice when you will not be short of it—and to inform us what it will be intended by you in reference to this discrepancy's explanation.

One of the Japanese employes of the steamship office in Yokohama was summoned up-country by the illness of a brother. Here is the letter which he wrote to the agent upon his arrival home:

"My Honorable Mr. J.—I will never forget your kindness. When I was hastening to return to my home I felt that train was exceedingly slow. Certainly train was quick, but my thought rather sooner than its running! All things which caught my eye on the way were very beautiful and attractive in the past time, but now they seemed disagreeable, gloomy, clumsy and sorrowful.

Then in the future what appearance they will have to show me! All time on the way home I could not avoid to think fragments of the following phrases: What is life? What is human being? What is ambition? Life is earnest or life is an empty dream. From dust to dust. What is the immortality of the soul?

Such uncontrollable thoughts came to occupy their places in my mind. Phantom after phantom. Imagination after imagination, all time. I found such an irregular conception of thinking and could not get a categorical thought. But for a moment I changed from business man to philosopher.

When arrived at my home I saw three doctors and many relations gathering around my brother's bed. At a sight of such a deplorable scene I thought that my brother has at last gone, so I hastened to see him, but happily he was breathing but could not perceive me well, and only heard my voice. In that moment I thought all was gone, my tear dried, mind confused, only I felt as if I became a neutral being.

But fortunately he came to correct his mind, and to perceive objects well, after two hours by taking care of doctors. Then how great was our glad that he was beyond description. But after that he is staying in a very perilous point, whether he will die or live, sink or swim in so slight a change of condition his fate is to be destined. Doctor said his destination can be known in the course of a few days, then I want to know probable tendency of condition of his sickness.

Will you please allow me to stay home more a week? I have wished to write you as soon as I came here but could not. Please excuse my unpolite word and crowded sentence. I remain yours, obedient fellow. K. M.

The Major's Condition
"The major hopes to be out soon."
"That's good."
"Yes; the rheumatism has changed to his left leg, an' half that leg is wood—one-half havin' been shot off in the war."