

MAP OF THE WORLD'S LITERACY



Above 50 p. c. can read, 30 to 50 p. c. 10 to 50 p. c. Less than 10 p. c.

It Will Be Noted That the Areas of Literacy Bear a Striking Resemblance in Their Distribution to the Map of the English-Speaking World.

English now leads all other languages in the number of its readers, and its geographical distribution corresponds to a remarkable extent with the area of the world's greatest literacy, and according to Mr. E. H. Babbitt, who writes in the World's Work, within the century "English will be the vernacular of a quarter instead of a tenth of the people of the world, and be read by a half instead of a quarter of the people who can read."

# NEWS OF THE LABOR WORLD

New York.—The exodus of foreign-born laborers continues. Including the departures yesterday the record for the year so far is 111,334 greater than it was in a similar period last year. The Barbarossa of the North German Lloyd fleet will take out about 2,000 on Thursday, and the Princess Irene, which sailed yesterday for the Mediterranean, carried away 900. Gustav H. Schwab of the North German Lloyd line said that many foreign laborers now temporarily employed would take advantage of the low rates to the Mediterranean, which will enable them to spend the time at sea as cheaply as they could at home. Only 67,193 immigrants arrived in the last three months. In the first three months of last year there were 251,561 arrivals.—New York Sun.

Denver.—Announcement was made in the issue of the Miners' Magazine, the official organ of the Western Federation of Miners, over the signature of C. E. Mahoney, first vice president and acting president of the organization, that the executive board has terminated the services of William D. Haywood as a representative of the federation in the field. Last December, after Haywood's acquittal at Boise, Idaho, on the charge of complicity in the murder of former Gov. Steunenburg, he was superseded as secretary-treasurer of the federation. Since that time he has been employed as a lecturer and organizer. It is intimated that the executive board disapproved of his activity in the advocacy of socialistic theories.

Boston.—All danger of a strike at the shops of the N. Y. N. H. & H. railroad system regarding piece work and the bonus system has been averted. The matter was satisfactorily adjusted at conferences held at New Haven between Superintendent Higgins of the road and the committee of the federal council of the shop mechanics organizations. The order to introduce the piece work system will not be enforced. All men who have been working piece work are to have day work on application. The men laid off are to be reinstated as rapidly as work improves.

Boston.—The situation on the B. & M. road is rather one of guessing on the part of the men. Since the men's notification that they refused to agree to the suggested "five per cent. reduction until July 1" plan of President Tuttle's, a general feeling has existed that the road would issue a five per cent. cut order and take the chance of the men striking against it. A meeting of the superintendents and department heads discussed the general subject. To date no order has been issued.

Washington.—The convention of labor unions in Porto Rico affiliated with the American Federation of Labor has declared its intention to nominate a labor ticket to be voted at the coming elections, and to organize a co-operative company, to be capitalized at \$10,000, to enter into competition with the building contractors. It is proposed to raise the capital by an assessment of one cent a day upon the membership of the 4,000 members in the unions for a period of ten months.

Norfolk, Va.—The convention of the American Federation of Labor designated the second Sunday in May of each year as labor's memorial day. In setting apart this day labor recognizes the great services of the men and women who have gone to the "great beyond," and in their lives rendered valuable aid in the great uplifting work of the toilers, the masses of our country.

London, England.—The first time in history that the British public ever asked parliament for laws to protect women and children was in the year 1800, after an epidemic of fever among the underground workers. The protection which parliament accorded was to restrict the hours of labor for children to 12 and to set the age at nine years when the child might be employed. This action was the real beginning of organized protests on the part of the English unions against established customs.

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Charleston, W. Va.—West Virginia unionists have been fighting to secure the passage in the legislature of "a bill making the employer liable for the unlawful acts of guards, detectives," etc. The claim is made that the hired detectives are largely responsible for the deplorable conditions that exist in and around the mines.

London, England.—The Powell Duffryn Company has taken a significant lead in promoting a school of mining in Wales. At its last annual meeting the shareholders unanimously voted \$5,000 per annum for five years to the miners' fund to found a mining school fund for the University college of South Wales and Monmouthshire.

Washington.—The enforcement of the nine-hour law for railroad operators will practically give every one of the unemployed members of the Commercial Telegraphers a position. If their strength and the industrial conditions justify such action they expect to ask the telegraph companies for an advance this summer.

Chicago.—The brewery workers are negotiating for a three-year agreement with their employers. The strikes in St. Louis and Chicago have been settled, although the agreement has not yet been made. The employers are trying to get the unions to agree to the open shop, but that cannot be acceded to.

Worcester, Mass.—In order to give work to the unemployed, the directors of the Swedish Cemetery corporation have decided to remove the remains of about 500 persons from their original resting places to a new cemetery. The work will be given only to Swedish-speaking heads of families.

Chicago.—Representatives of seventy labor unions met and discussed plans for the extension of the Chicago Equity exchange, which will sell produce direct from the producer. Application was made to the national headquarters in St. Louis for stock certificates to be issued here.

Ottawa, Can.—Civic authorities throughout Canada have been compelled to provide work for the unusual number of unemployed. The Ottawa government requires immigrants to be possessed of sufficient money for their support until the opening of summer, and claims to discourage all but farm and railway construction laborers and domestics.

Chicago.—Organized labor throughout Illinois is much interested in the recent passage by the legislature of the direct primary law, as it will give labor an opportunity of putting loyal candidates in the field—men who will truly represent them.

Pensacola, Fla.—The street car strike situation here took a serious turn when a number of strikers attacked a car five miles outside of the city limits and fired a fusillade from rifles. The conductor was wounded.

Wilkes-Barre, Pa.—Organizers of the United Mine Workers are now making a vigorous effort to increase the membership of the union in the anthracite districts, and are meeting with considerable success. The mine workers realize that their agreement with the operators expires next April, and are trying to make the union as strong as possible when the time for making their demands arrives.

Brockton, Mass.—Miss Ellen F. Donovan, of the Stitches' Union, has been elected a delegate to the Brockton Shoe Workers' Council. She is the first woman delegate ever chosen to it.

Washington.—A recent conference between President Gompers of the American Federation of Labor and representatives of the International Stage Employers' union, and the Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, amicably settled the contentions heretofore arising over the jurisdiction over stage employes operating electrical contrivances, such as moving picture shows.

Boston.—The strike of the members of the Boston branch of the Granite Cutters' National union has been adjusted to the satisfaction of the members. None is now on strike.

Philadelphia.—The Pennsylvania Cigarmakers' Blue Label league has started a printing office for the purpose of turning out blue label advertising matter. All kinds of label advertising matter will be handled and the profits, if there are any, will go for an organization fund to be used among the Pennsylvania cigarmakers.

Toronto, Can.—The electrical apparatus industry in Canada gives employment to 4,806 people, with a yearly pay-roll of \$2,482,905.

London, Eng.—The referee to whom the question of a minimum wage in the boot and shoe trades in England was referred has given his award in favor of \$7.25 a week to the lasters and finishers; the operatives demanded \$7.50 a week. This award covers the whole of the Northampton districts.

Boston.—The Saturday half holiday from May 1 until November 1 has been decided upon by Boston Journey-men Horseshoers' Union No. 5. Many of the employers are agreeable. It is not expected a strike will be necessary.

Marshalltown, Iowa.—Machinists employed in the shops of the Iowa Central railway here struck because of a reduction of four cents per hour in the new wage schedule. Machinists at Oskaloosa, Iowa and Monmouth, Ill. are also out.

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