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H. O. BARBER & SON

World of Labor

News from All Parts of
the World, of General
Interest to the Worker

New York.—With the hope of carrying out the political program outlined last fall by the American Federation of Labor, an organization known as the Workingman's Political Party has been started in New York. Work is being done in every assembly district and an attempt will be made to concentrate the votes of union men on assembly candidates who will pledge themselves to work in the legislature for a modification of the injunction laws. The movement was started soon after the conviction of President Gompers and his associates for contempt of court, and it was at first hoped to enlist the unions in the plan as unions. But as this has failed missionary work is being done among the labor men individually.

Chicago.—An eight-hour day for women workers in Illinois will be asked of the state legislature and the support of all women will be asked for it. The Women's Trade Union league, of which Mrs. Raymond Robins is president, decided to co-operate with the Waitresses' union to advocate such a measure and a bill will be drawn immediately and presented to the legislature. The active support also of every women's organization in the state will be asked for the measure.

Reading, Pa.—A committee representing the 3,000 employees of the Reading Iron Company appeared before the superintendents of the different plants and laid before them the decision of the employees not to submit to a reduction in wages of from seven to fifteen per cent. The Carpenter Steel Works posted notices of a reduction of ten per cent. in wages. It will affect 700 men. This industry furnished many projectiles during the Spanish-American war.

Chicago.—Work for 7,000 men developed when the Chicago Railways Company and the City Railway Company opened up the spring work on the rehabilitation of their tracks. The Chicago Railways Company took out permits with the bureau of streets for track rehabilitation on 11 streets. They propose to start with 4,000 men at once. The Chicago City Railway will put 1,000 men to work to complete their rehabilitation work.

Winnipeg, Man.—Telegrams received from MacLeod, Alberta, indicate a peaceful termination of the coal miners' conference on the wage-scale agreement. It was announced that the Crow's Nest Pass Coal Company, which controls the Coal Creek, Michell and Charbonde mines, owned by the J. J. Hill interests is ready to sign the agreement and will withdraw from the Western Operators' association.

Chicago.—Electricians are threatening to strike unless the employers grant the demands of the union for an increase from \$5 to \$5.50 a day. Electrical contractors have announced they will fight the demands to a finish. Steamfitters have failed to reach an agreement with the employers relative to their demand for a raise in pay.

New York.—The average earnings for organized workmen in New York state in the third quarter of 1908 was \$207, as compared with \$227 in 1907, or \$225 in 1906.

San Francisco.—Bakers' and Confectioners' union recently decided to organize all the helpers in local bakeries into an auxiliary to the local.

Seattle, Wash.—An effort is being made by Seattle musicians to have the convention of 1910 American Federation of Musicians held in that city.

Boston.—The executive officers of the A. F. of L. have issued a circular letter addressed to state federations of labor bodies, urging such to secure legislation in the matter of enforcing sanitary conditions where wage earners are employed, establishing special hospitals for the treatment of tuberculosis, where such do not already exist, and to promote the union label.

New York.—Officers of the International Photographers all commend the proposed international union compact with the allied printing trades, and recommend that the union proceed along the lines of the same.

Berlin, Germany.—A house-to-house census, which has been taken under the auspices of the trade unions, show a total of unemployed persons in that city of 67,267, in addition to 33,393 unemployed in the suburbs. The municipality will take a similar census, but has called upon the unemployed to report at various centers.

Boston.—Boston Typographical union 13 has decided to postpone action on the book and job scale until the July meeting.

Minneapolis, Minn.—A branch of the American Association for Labor Legislation has been formed.

Reading, Pa.—The coal traffic on the Reading railway is very heavy, as all of the mines of the company have been working full time. The coal dealers all over the country, who fear trouble in the regions, are sending in orders for fuel, and the cars are being unloaded as rapidly as possible at all of the terminal points.

New York.—The Musical Mutual Protective union has adopted an amendment to its constitution which exempts from all dues and assessments members over 60 years of age who have been members of the union 25 consecutive years.

Parsons, Kan.—The Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railroad Company has ordered a reduction of the working time in the shops all over the system of from nine to eight hours a day and five days in the week, not working Saturday. The order includes the shops at Denison, Tex., and Sedalla, Mo., as well as the principal shops here, and the new schedule will be in force until June 30. The shops here have been working nine hours and seven days a week since they reopened July 6, 1908. Several men have been let out of the shops here and all the night operators on the Kansas City division have been taken off except at Moran, while there are only five night operators on the Sedalla division. The company says that the passenger and freight traffic on the "Katy" system is larger than it ever has been before and gives as the reason for the reduction of the working schedule that a cut of \$10,000 has been made in the equipment appropriation.

Boston.—As a demonstration against the sentences of imprisonment imposed upon Samuel Gompers, John Mitchell and Frank Morrison by Judge Wright in the superior court of the District of Columbia more than 5,000 members of labor unions paraded through the streets of this city. Afterward a large meeting was held in Faneuil Hall, and several overflow meetings in the surrounding streets attracted large crowds. Judge Wright was accused of using "intemperate and bitter language to representatives of organized labor," and it was said that "he was not a fit person to handle the case." Copies of the resolution were sent to President Taft, Vice-President Sherman and Speaker Cannon.

Paris, France.—At a mass meeting of 6,000 striking government telegraph and post office employees, it was voted by an overwhelming majority to resume work. Only about 200 of the men voted to continue the strike. The strike committee telegraphed broadcast to its adherents in the provinces the decision of the employees to return to work. After a parade through the streets, the men in Paris went to their posts. Owing to the disorganization caused by the strike it was a week before the telegraph and postal services became normal.

Boston.—The New England printing trades organizations are all sending notifications to their senators and congressmen asking them to sustain President Roosevelt's veto of the bill which would permit of the census work being done outside the government printing office.

Washington.—Members of trades union affiliated with the Central Labor union, do not take kindly to the so-called "mixed union" of bosses and workmen.

San Francisco.—Since the adjournment of the State Federation convention, held here last October, 25 new unions have been organized and 11 have reaffiliated with the federation.

Cleveland, O.—The Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers has let the steel contract for its new 13-story building which will cost \$1,000,000.

Minneapolis, Minn.—In the state of Minnesota there are 330 unions, outside of the railroad organizations, and 185 of these are affiliated with the State Federation.

Lawrence, Mass.—A new lodge of the Brotherhood of Railroad Clerks has been established here.

Portland, Ore.—A bill that has been presented before the Oregon legislature, providing for the protection and safety of persons engaged in work on buildings, bridges, etc., is commented on editorially in the Bridgemen's Magazine, the official organ of the International Association of Bridge and Structural Iron Workers. In speaking of the need of suitable legislation, the editorial says that "owing to the extreme hazard surrounding our employment any protective measure, in the way of legislation or attempted legislation, should receive our hearty and unqualified support."

Washington.—The cost of the labor political committee of the American Federation of Labor during the campaign of 1908 was: For speakers, \$6,361; postage, \$1,024; printing, \$580, and clerk hire, \$504; total, \$8,469. The contributions to the campaign fund amounted to \$8,531.

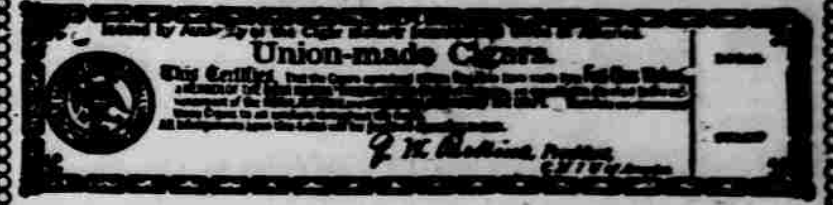
Philadelphia.—A bill has been introduced in the legislature which limits the day of a hoisting engineer in the mines to eight hours.

San Francisco.—Moving picture operators have been organized into a union, as auxiliary to the union of theatrical stage employees.

London, Eng.—With a view of consolidating the labor movement in the boot trade, the English National Union of Boot and Shoe Clickers has recently been taking a ballot of its members on the question of whether they should join the National Union of Boot and Shoe Operators, and the proposition was carried by 123 to 1.

Chicago.—A report from the international office of the Cigar Makers' union, shows that during the year 1908 there were sent to local unions 27,172,156 blue labels. In 1907 the number was 31,586,094. The decrease is attributed to depression.

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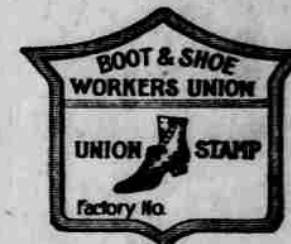
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