

### To Save Children.

More vigorous and thorough enforcement of the truancy law.

Extension of industrial education.

A maximum working day of eight hours for children.

Requirement of a minimum amount of school attendance before children are allowed permits to work.

State agents and officers should be allowed broader discretion in refusing working permits for children.

Employers should be held more strictly responsible for the physical and moral environment of children who are employed by them.

## TYPOS GET MORE WAGES.

New Scale For Book and Job Printers of New York.

A new scale for the book and job printers of Typographical union No. 6, New York city, has just been successfully negotiated with the Printers' league. The former scale was \$21 per week. The new scale provides for a gradual increase up to \$24 and \$26 for day and \$27 for night work. The scale went into effect on Oct. 10 and will run to Oct. 1, 1915. From Oct. 10 to Sept. 30, 1911, hand men will receive \$22 and machine men \$24; from Oct. 1, 1911, to Sept. 30, 1912, \$23 and \$25, respectively, and from Oct. 1, 1912, to Oct. 1, 1915, \$24 and \$26. For night work \$27 will be paid to both hand and machine men from Oct. 10 of this year to Oct. 1, 1915.

The union at a recent meeting took the view that this scale negotiation might not be put through without a struggle, and so a 4 per cent assessment was laid to meet the anticipated resistance. The resistance, however, if such were contemplated, proved to be a flash in the pan, and the assessment was called off. Both parties to the contract are to be congratulated, for it insures to each five years of peace in the book and job printing industry.

## TRADE UNION BRIEFS.

The United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners has funds in bank to the amount of \$325,000.

The United Labor party of Pennsylvania is lined up against the Republican nominees for congress.

The Missouri State Federation of Labor has declared its opposition to state wide prohibition of the liquor traffic.

It has been decided by San Francisco Shoe Clerks' association to issue several thousand circulars notifying all unions of the names of the firms fair to these unions.

A total of twenty-seven members of congress who were the most conspicuous opponents of labor's requests have been defeated in the primaries through our activity. We are going to be active from now on. — Samuel Gompers.

Germany is experiencing the greatest industrial disturbance it has ever known and one of the greatest any country has ever known. The strikers and the objects of lockouts are counted by hundreds of thousands, and they comprise the workers in several of the chief industries of the empire.

### How Leap Year Started.

Hampson, in his "Medii OEVI. Kalendarium," quotes the following quaint tradition from an old Saxon treatise: "Some assert that the bis-

sextus or leap day comes through this, that Joshua prayed to God that the sun might stand still for one day's length that he might sweep the heathen from the land that God had granted him and his followers. It is true that the sun did stand still for one day's length over the city of Gabaon, but the day went forward in the same manner as other days. And the bissextus is not through that, as some do think."

In France and some parts of Spain and Portugal there exists a tradition known as "the ghost of leap year." Believers in this say that a marvelous monster annually appears on leap day and disarranges human affairs for the remainder of the year.

## LABOR IN MISSOURI.

State Federation Demands Important Changes in Laws.

The Missouri Federation of Labor at its convention in Jefferson City last week declared war on convict labor. Among other things, the federation demands that all goods manufactured by convicts shall be so stamped that purchasers may know what they are getting for their money.

Other demands which the convention will present to the next legislature are:

The enactment of a law creating the "Missouri employers' compensation commission" to investigate the subject of compensation of injured workmen.

The enactment of a law that no property shall be exempt from levy and sale on judgments obtained for work in certain cases.

Strengthening the employers' liability, state factory inspection and child labor laws of the state for the better protection of workingmen, women and children.

Providing exhaust fans in foundries to carry off gas and smoke.

A law creating a fifty-four hour work week for women.

A law providing for free textbooks, clothing, food and shelter, etc., for orphan children or children of widowed parents.

### Insurance For Brewery Workers.

Pittsburg United Brewery Workers have sanctioned a plan of insurance in which both workers and employers will co-operate and by which some 600 members of the three local unions will be benefited. Employers will pay \$18 a year for each member of the union employed into a fund into which the union will pay \$6. The fund will be controlled by a commission of seven members, three chosen by the employers, three by the union and the seventh by the six representing employers and employees. A workman injured in the course of his employment shall receive 65 per cent of the amount of wages earned, provided the disability continues for more than ten days. He shall not receive compensation for any one injury for a longer period than fifty-two weeks. In case of death through accidental injury an amount equal to four years' wages shall be paid the dependents of the workman. It is expected that in time there will be sufficient cash reserve to permit of an old age pension fund.

## A GEM OF POESY.

Maybe It Was the Heat That Made It Burst Into Being.

Stewart Edward White, William Kent and myself were hunting mountain sheep in the ranges of Mexican California. Perhaps because the savage heat of the desert which we were crossing had somewhat gone to our brains we fell to making poetry upon various aspects of desert life. White rhapsodized upon the tarantula; Kent

dithyrambed over the pack mule; I sang the dispraises of the jack rabbit. Finally White, who was cook for the day, offered a special prize of duff with raisins (the last remnant of our store) for the premier verse to be turned out before sunset. At noon we met up with a wandering prospector, who introduced himself as J. Noel Benson, native son of California, and observed upon learning of our literary efforts that he was some poet himself. On being invited to enter the list he retired to the top of a mesa, where the thermometer was something like 110 in the absence of shade, and after half an hour of self communion returned with the following gem of poesy:

### THE GNAT.

The gnat he is a noisome mite.  
He loves to buzz. He loves to bite.  
He crawls upon you when you're hot.  
I love the naughty gnat—nit—not!

The duff was awarded to him without protest from the other contestants. —Success Magazine.

## WORKERS' COMPENSATION.

Validity of New York Law Upheld by the Court.

A decision has just been handed down by the New York supreme court in Erie county holding the workmen's compensation act of 1910 (chapter 674) constitutional. The question was raised before Justice Pound. The case is Ives versus South Buffalo Railway company. The plaintiff stated in his complaint that he was employed as a switchman by the South Buffalo Railway company and was injured in the prosecution of his work without negligence on his part and without serious or willful misconduct, but solely by reason of the necessary risk or danger of his employment.

The defendant asserted that the act was unconstitutional. Prior to the enactment of the statute of 1910 the plaintiff would not be entitled to recover anything, so that the sole question before the court was as to whether the statute was constitutional. The act was attacked on the ground that it unduly discriminated against railroads and other employments classified as dangerous employments. The court held that there was no discrimination; that the classification was a sound one and not frivolous. The next point raised was that the act imposed a liability without fault.

Justice Pound cited a number of other instances in which the common law imposed a liability without fault, such as the liability of the husband for the torts of his wife or a master for the acts of his servant, and held that this did not make the act unconstitutional. The court held that the act came within the principle laid down by Holden versus Hardy, 169 U. S. 366, and which was recognized in the case of Lockner versus New York, 189 U. S. 45, which is the case recently criticised by President Roosevelt, and cited this case as an authority for upholding the constitutionality of this act.

The decision of Justice Pound is interesting as being the first in which the constitutionality of the act has been squarely passed upon.

## STRENGTH IN UNION.

What Organization Has Done For the Brotherhood of Carpenters.

At the recent biennial session of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters at Des Moines Secretary Frank Duffy in his report shows that the membership of the order increased from 178,503 on June 30, 1908, to 200,712 on June 30, 1910. It also shows consolidation of small locals in thirty-seven cities, eighty-two locals being involved.

Wages have been increased, working hours reduced, the piece system

practically abolished, better working conditions established, the sick taken care of and the widows and orphans remembered and protected. Those who say labor organizations are no good know not whereof they speak. A study of the labor movement in America will reveal some startling facts and furnish some interesting information. The history of this organization plainly shows great improvements, advancement and achievements physically, morally, mentally and otherwise among its members. It shows over \$2,000,000 spent locally in sick benefits, \$2,514,166.75 in death and disability benefits, \$2,129,947.09 in improving the trade, \$378,500 in support of sister organizations in distress and more than \$500,000 for educational purposes in publishing a monthly journal for the edification, enlightenment and advancement of its members and, besides that, a gain in wages within the last few years of over \$11,000,000 per year more than would have been received had there been no organization at all. This gain in wages went back into the pockets and coffers of the business man and promoted industry, enterprise and prosperity in its circulation.

### The Trade Union.

Fosters education and uproots ignorance.

Shortens hours and lengthens life.

Raises wages and lowers usury.

Increases independence and decreases dependence.

Develops manhood and balks tyranny.

Establishes fraternity and discourages selfishness.

Reduces prejudice and induces liberality.

Enlarges society and eliminates classes.

Creates right and abolishes wrong.

Lightens toil and brightens man.

Cheers the home and fireside and makes the home better.

All wageworkers should be union men. Their progress is limited only by them that hold aloof. Get together! Agitate, educate and do!

Don't wait until tomorrow—tomorrow never comes.

Don't wait for some one else to start; start it yourself.

Don't harken to the indifferent; wake them up.

Don't think it impossible—3,000,000 organized workers prove different.

Don't weaken; persistence wins.

## UNION LABOR NOTES.

The St. Paul union bakers have incorporated a baking company and will run it on the co-operative plan.

Organize! Persist in organizing. Never cease organizing until every wageworker in your community is a union man.

Edgar A. Perkins of Indianapolis, editor of the Indiana Labor Union, has been elected president of the Indiana State Federation of Labor.

At the convention of the American Federation of Labor at St. Louis, beginning Nov. 11, Samuel Gompers will be elected president for the twenty-seventh time.

A campaign to secure a wage increase for all the union blacksmiths and helpers of New England is being conducted by International Organizer W. J. Dougherty.