

BRICKLAYERS UNITE.

Recent Strike in New York Results in Consolidation.

Union bricklayers in New York city have won a splendid victory.

The Master Builders' association granted all the demands of the bricklayers' unions, and the strike which was called on Sept. 26 in retaliation for a lockout called by the bosses was called off.

What was intended by the master builders as a blow to the Bricklayers' union was turned by the general walk-out of the men and their perfect loyalty and solidarity into a complete victory for the union. Incidentally this fight has resulted in an upheaval in the bricklayers' organization which will result in greater solidarity among the unions in New York city.

The successful conclusion of the bricklayers' fight was hailed with delight by the workers in the other building trades.

The strike has resulted in crushing a group of union officials who have for years been binding the rank and file of the New York unions with trade agreements with the master builders which were in defiance of the laws of the international union. These officials were deposed and preparations made to reorganize the bricklayers in that city.

The finances and other business affairs of unions Nos. 1 and 7 are to be turned over to the international officers until the thirteen New York unions can be reorganized.

A FRIEND OF LABOR.

Governor C. E. Hughes, the New Supreme Court Justice.

Now that Governor Hughes has retired from politics and ascended to a place on the highest judicial tribunal in the world the fact can be acknowledged, without hurting anybody's political corns, that he was the greatest friend of labor laws that ever occupied the governor's chair at Albany, says the Legislative Labor News of Albany. During his two terms he has signed fifty-six labor laws, including among them the best labor laws ever enacted in this or any other state. He also urged the enactment of labor laws in his messages to the legislature, even going so far as to place the demand for a labor law in one of his messages to an extra session of the legislature.

Only 162 labor laws have been enacted in the state since its erection in 1777—133 years ago. One-third of these, exceeding in quality all of the others, have been enacted and signed during Governor Hughes' terms of three years and nine months. With such a record of approval and suggestion of progressive legislation in the interest of humanity to his credit, it is easy to believe that human rights will have a steadfast and sympathetic upholder in the new associate justice of the supreme court of the United States.

Maple in the Days of Old.

Scarcely any wood was considered more valuable in the "days of old" than maple wood, tables constructed from a mottled variety being particularly favored. Such a table, according to Evelyn, was Cicero's, costing 10,000 sesterces—about £62. Another was estimated at £875, and yet another, belonging to one of the Ptolemies, is said to have been sold for its weight in gold. There was, in fact, such a craze for tables of the rarest maple among the male sex in Rome and so wildly extravagant were they in this respect that when they reproached their wives for lavishness in pearls and other valuables the ladies would remind them of their costly maple hobby, thus "turning the tables on them," hence

the phrase. Virgil represents Evander, who was a provincial king, as receiving Aeneas seated on a maple throne. Chaucer speaks of the maple as forming a bower for the fair Rosamond. In Evelyn's time the wood of the maple was much esteemed for all kinds of turnery.—Westminster Gazette.

Galilei's Caustic Humor.

In a biography of Galilei some stories are told of the caustic humor of that bold investigator. Lotario Sarsi, a writer on science, having said that the Babylonians used to cook eggs by whirling them in a sling, Galilei replied: "The cause of such an effect is very remote from that to which it is attributed, and to find the true cause I shall reason thus: If an effect does not follow with us which followed with others at another time it is because in our experiments something is wanting which was the cause of the former success, and if only one thing is wanting to us that one thing is the true cause. Now we have eggs and slings and strong men to whirl them, and yet they will not become cooked; nay, if they were hot at first they more quickly become cold, and since nothing is wanting to us but to be Babylonians it follows that being Babylonians is the true cause why the eggs became cooked and not to the friction of the air, which is what I wish to prove."

THE NONUNIONISTS ARE RESPONSIBLE.

The nonunion men of this and all other countries are responsible for the employment of child labor, for the spread of consumption, for low wages and for long hours in any branch of labor, for the employment of convicts in competition with free labor—responsible for all ugly things from which labor suffers. Terrible indictment this, isn't it? But true—true in every sense, for if there were no nonunion men the unions would be able to bring about all needed reforms and make life for all what it should be.

Bank Clerks Form Union.

The organizers of the United Hebrew Trades reported that a union of bank clerks on the east side of New York has been formed, being the first union of bank clerks. The union is preparing to make demands for higher wages and a shorter workday, to be enforced by a strike. There are many women clerks in the east side banks, and it was stated that they have to work long after the nominal hours for closing the banks.

Union Labor Briefs.

Chandelier makers of New York demand a forty-nine and one-half hour week and an increase of pay of about 15 per cent.

The settlement of the machinists' strike of the Missouri-Pacific railroad, which has been on since last April, seems as far off as ever.

Labor bodies of Greater New York have united to push the plan of Dr. Lederle for the establishment of municipal milk departments throughout the city.

John Snyder of the Ironworkers, the new seventh vice president of the New York State Federation of Labor, is said to be the youngest man ever selected as state or national officer of a labor body.

James F. McHugh, recently re-elected general secretary-treasurer of the International Journeymen Stonecutters' association, was first elected to his present office in 1889 and has been re-elected each year.

The Bookkeepers, Stenographers and Accountants' union of New York has elected Miss Alice Morris, private secretary to John Mitchell of the American Federation of Labor and the National Civic Federation, delegate from the union to the convention of the American Federation of Labor.

Too Talkative.

The following story is told of the famous painter Makart: The artist was a very passionate chess player, but he did not like his adversary to utter a single word during the progress of a game. A stranger who was very anxious to get on intimate terms with the famous artist thought to be able to achieve his object by means of the royal game. After many tries he succeeded at last in getting an introduction to Makart, and one day the latter consented to play a game with him. Being well aware of the fact that his adversary was very much averse to any talk during the game, not a word was spoken, and even the word "check" was never spoken. All the stranger dared to do was to touch his adversary's king when he put that piece in check. The game ended in Makart being mated, when the stranger quietly said "checkmate." Makart rose very excitedly, threw the pieces off the board and, giving his opponent a fierce look, got off his chair, turned his back to the stranger and exclaimed "Prattler!"

Curious Way of Cooling Water.

The average native woman in the interior of Nicaragua may appear enervated and listless, but her method of cooling water is strenuous indeed. She fills a half gallon earthenware jar about two-thirds full. The jar is made of baked clay and, not being glazed, is partially porous, so that it soon becomes moist on the outside. By means of two leathern straps firmly attached to the neck of the jar the woman causes the same to rotate swiftly in the air. The mouth is wide open, but the centrifugal motion keeps the water from flying out. The endurance shown by the Nicaraguan women of the poorer class in this form of calisthenics is said to be marvelous. When, in the opinion of the operator, the water is sufficiently cooled she stops the movement by a dexterous twist of her wrist and hands the jar to the person that has been waiting to quench his thirst. By this process tepid water can be reduced to the temperature of a very cool mountain spring.—New York Press.

An Unmanned Lightship.

There is stationed off the island of Islay, on the west coast of Scotland, at the Otter rock an interesting lightship. It is unmanned, yet it can be relied on to display the warning light to guide the mariner on this dangerous coast. It is a very ingeniously constructed vessel and the only one of its kind. In its two steel tanks sufficient gas can be stored to supply the vessel for several months. Experiments have shown that the light may be depended upon to burn continuously for months at a time. The approximate duration of the light can always be predetermined, and there is no danger whatever of the light being extinguished by wind or spray. The light is visible at a distance of from eight to twelve miles. The lightship also has a bell, which is made to ring automatically by means of an ingenious device that utilizes the gas as it passes from the tanks to the lantern to work the bell clapper.—Harper's Weekly.

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.

Always a Harvest Somewhere.

There is a harvest every month during the year, as follows: January—Australia, New Zealand, Argentine, Chile; February—India; March—India, upper Egypt; April—Mexico, Cuba, lower Egypt, Syria, Persia, Asia Minor; May—North Africa, China, Japan and the southern United States of America; June—Mediterranean and southern France, central and east United States of America south of 40 degrees; July—France, Austria, Hungary, southern Russia, northern United States of America, Ontario and Quebec; August—England, Belgium, Netherlands, Germany, east Canada; September—Scotland, Sweden, Norway, Russia; October—Finland and northern Russia; November—Peru, South Africa; December—Burma, South Australia. It is a complete table and shows how the wheat supply pours into England during every month of the year.—English Agricultural Journal.

AN APPEAL TO WORKERS.

Here is a brief statement of the demands which organized labor in the interest of workers—aye, of all the people of the country—makes upon modern society:

Higher wages, shorter workday, better labor conditions, better homes, better and safer workshops, factories, mills and mines—in a word, a better, higher and noble life.

Conscious of the justice, wisdom and nobility of our cause, the American Federation of Labor appeals to all men and women of labor to join with us in the great movement for its achievement.

More than 2,000,000 wage earners who have reaped the advantages of organization and federation appeal to their brothers and sisters of toil to unite with them and participate in the glorious movement, with its attendant benefits.—Samuel Gompers.