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COLLECTIVE BARGAINING.

There is only one worse thing than war measures in settling industrial disputes. It is to settle in the wrong way issues over human rights. The one permanent issue at stake in the Chicago garment workers' strike is the right to bargain collectively for the rate of wages, the conditions of work and the redress of grievances. The employers have and exercise this right. Their claim to it is undisputed by their employees or by any one else. The wage workers demand the same right in dealing with their organized and collectively powerful employers.

They justify this demand by the plea that they have no other way to exercise their right to "the freedom of contract," for singly and alone the individual employee is not and cannot be free to contract on equal terms with the collective, personal and financial resources of strong firms and great corporations. Combination is not more essential to business economy, safety and success than collective bargaining is an economic necessity to labor.—Graham Taylor.

SPOILED THE ACT.

An Incident That Enraged the Actor
and Amused the Audience.

Some years ago a melodrama was being performed in a country theater, the chief actor in which had made himself, from his haughty and overbearing conduct, disliked by all. In the last scene he was supposed to visit the tombs of his ancestors. In the center of the stage upon a marble pedestal stood the statue of his father. A heavy fold of drapery covered the figure. Enter Albert, who thus addressed the statue:

"I am here once again to gaze upon those features which in life so often looked on me with tenderest affection. Father, thy mourning son now comes to pay thee adoration. Let me remove the veil which from the vulgar gaze shields the beloved image of a once dear parent!"

Off went the drapery, and, behold, there was disclosed the statue of the father gracefully standing upon its head.

The effect cannot be described. It was electric. The shouts of laughter which followed the mistake of the super effectually put an end to the scene, which changed to the next as quickly as possible amid the jeers of the audience, the anger of the manager and the uncontrollable rage of the actor.—London Telegraph.

THE PARISIAN CABMAN.

A Deadly Verbal Insult That Will
Render Him Speechless.

A discreet knowledge of slang is a very useful accomplishment for the stranger or the foreign resident in Paris. Thus if a cabman is rude or more than usually extortionate or if he splashes you with mud from head to foot as he passes and then turns around to grin at the damage done, and cochers frequently do these things, an inadequate command of the niceties of the French language leaves all the advantages on his side.

You might call him "idiot" or "sauvage," but this would only tickle him. If, however, you were able to shout "Va dono, Collignon!" the result of the encounter would be at once wholly in your favor.

To say "Collignon" to a cocher is

the supreme insult. It leaves him gasping and further speech on his side useless. It is easy to understand why.

Collignon was a coachman who as long ago as 1855 went to the house of a poor professor and murdered him because he had protested against an overcharge. It is satisfactory to know that Collignon was promptly tried, sentenced to death and guillotined. To this day, then, "Va Collignon!" remains the last word.—Paris Cor. New York Sun.

His Inspiration.

"Isn't inspiration a queer thing?"

"I suppose so. What about it?"

"Why, a few weeks ago I had a red-hot squabble with my wife over a dressmaker's bill, and when I came down to the office I was mad enough to chew spikes. Then I sat down at my desk and wrote a little poem on 'Help the Erring Brother with a Single Kindly Word!' And, say, those verses, born of bitterness and nourished by anger, have been copied in the leading newspapers all over the country! How's that?"

"Fine. Why don't you improve on the idea?"

"How?"

"Why, get mad enough to beat up your wife, set fire to the house, shoot a policeman—and then write an epic that will go thundering down the ages."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Trade Union Briefs.

There are 12,000 union billposters in the United States.

The San Francisco labor council's legislative agent is allowed \$6 a day and mileage.

The number of railroad employees in this country has increased 67 per cent in ten years.

An amicable adjustment of the dispute between the Philadelphia and Reading Railway company and the Order of Telegraphers has been effected.

The American Flint Glass Workers' union decided by referendum vote to raise its present assessment of 1 per cent on the earnings of its members to 2 per cent.

The boilermakers' lockout, affecting 50,000 men in the yards of the Shipbuilding Employers' federation, England, ended with the acceptance by the men of the terms made by the employers.

The silk banner which was won by the Big Six Typographical union at the recent fair of the Women's Trade Union league was presented as a gift to the New York Bookkeepers, Stenographers and Accountants' union by Big Six.

Sixty-one railroads operating southwest and north of Chicago have appealed to the United States commissioner of labor and to the chairman of the interstate commerce commission to mediate in the wage controversy with the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers.

The Logical Result.

"What's the matter with your patient, doctor?" asked a visitor in a hospital as he saw the surgeon bend over the remnants of a man.

"He got in the way of a speeding motorcar," replied the doctor, "and now is suffering from that rundown feeling."—Baltimore American.

A Wrong Impression.

"Pittson always seems to carry himself with great dignity. What has he ever done that he should hold his head so high?"

"Nothing. He is merely trying to live up to his wife's hats."—Chicago Record-Herald.