

LABOR and INDUSTRY

The Calloused Hands.

"Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might."—Ecclesiastes, ix. 10.

Now, some write books of empty words,
And some weave fancies into song—
But he who toils among the sherds,
Barehanded, brown of face, and strong,
And clears the place where shall arise
The structure that shall long endure,
Though he be counted far from wise
His portion of reward is sure.

Some, with the brush and many hues,
Make pictures that men rush to see—
Yet there are no more worthy views
Than those where many workmen be,
Where chisel rings against the stone,
And hammer clangs upon the steel,
For peasant's hut or monarch's throne
The fingermarks of toil reveal.

Words writ in ink grow dim and fade,
The canvas turns to dust in time,
But structures which bare hands have made

Last through the centuries sublime;
The bridge, the temple, and the street,
The castle wall and city gate
Tell of men braving cold and heat,
Of hands that bulged high and great.

Clear in the harmony of life
There is one chord that rings alone
And which with surging strength is rife—
The hum of toil is in its tone,
The sounds of tools that blend and blur
In harmony from all the lands,
The hymn of the artificer,
The world owes much to calloused hands.
W. D. N. in Chicago Tribune.

NEWS OF THE LABOR WORLD.

Items of Interest Gathered from Many Sources.

The high dues system has become permanent and the organization has been successful.

The Chicago Federation of Labor decided to call off its proposed convention at Victor, Colo.

Under the caption "Organization Is Progress," the Boot and Shoe Workers' Union Journal says:

Just 635 credentials have already been received for the Journeymen Barbers' convention, which will be held at Louisville, Ky., beginning October 4.

Twelve men visited the home of G. N. Hooten of Anaconda, Colo., and deported him over the hills toward Canon City. He is charged with complicity in the Victor rioting of June 6.

Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers is agitating the abolition of or a change in the present system of mail cranes. A number of engineers have been struck and killed recently by the device.

In Washington the old war between the Federation of Musicians and the Marine Band has broken out afresh. Union bands refused to march with government bands in a parade of volunteer firemen.

In the daily consular reports issued by the Department of Commerce and Labor, James A. Le Roy, United States consul at Durango, Mexico, has this to say concerning the immigration of Mexican laborers to the United States:

Word comes from England that Peter Curran, the well known English labor leader, who represented the British Trade Union Congress in the A. F. of L., as a fraternal delegate, some years ago, will be present at the international peace conference which will convene in Boston in October.

When the high dues system was adopted the officers realized that the membership might attempt to force the old plan of paying ten cents a week, and they had a clause inserted in the constitution that reads: "It shall forever be unconstitutional to seek to reduce the amount of dues as provided in this section."

International President Larger of the United Garment Workers, in his recommendations to the annual convention of that union at Buffalo, declared for a big defense fund. One proposition is to increase the per capita tax to 15 cents, with special assessments until the reserve fund is built up to, say, \$200,000.

William J. Merrick, a Beverly man, was re-elected international president

of the United Association of Plumbers, Gas and Steam Fitters and Helpers at their recent convention. The re-election was by acclamation. John R. Alpine of Boston Gas Fitters, Fixture Fitters, and Hangers' union was elected sixth vice president.

Judge Adams of Chicago has declared that the "closed" shop is illegal and criminal; but, as the monthly review of the National Civic Federation puts it, the judge's declaration was not a decision, but a dictum, and the consensus of opinion of able members of the bar is that it stands the test neither of law nor of logic.

The Boot and Shoe Workers' International union was formed in 1889 out of a number of local unions, mostly confined to the New England states. For years it made little progress, and in 1895 an amalgamation was brought about between it and the Lasters' Protective union, which was formed at Lynn, Mass., in 1879.

The labor movement must be kept pure or it will prove a curse instead of a blessing to the workers. If a limb of the human body becomes diseased it must either be cured or amputated. If a labor union falls under the influence of bad men it must be liberated or it will to some extent cause great damage to the whole movement.

International Association of Machinists and the International Association of Allied Metal Trades Machinists have amalgamated. The amalgamation will become effective Oct. 31. The new organization will be known as the National Association of Machinists, and it will have a membership of 100,000, making it the second largest body of union men of a single craft in the United States.

The membership of the combined organizations at the time of the amalgamation was about 12,000, but in the next few years it dropped, until, in 1899, there were fewer than 9,000 members in the international organization. At the convention held that year the officers practically forced the high dues system on the membership, and since that time the rise has been rapid. At the present time the membership is over 30,000.

The Church Association for Advancement of Interests of Labor rejoices over the progress made by the Boston chapter in its early closing crusade. According to Hammer and Pen, official organ of C. A. I. L., "Dorchester and Roxbury grocery stores begin this month to close at 10 o'clock on Saturday nights. It is a good beginning and we hope for a future reduction of hours. Surely no class needs help more than the grocery clerks." We should say so, when the right to quit work at 10 o'clock at night is cause for congratulations.

"Doubtless there has been at least some exaggeration in all this talk about a great exodus of Mexican laborers, as well as in the talk about their returning to the border starving and relating stories of abuse and failure to keep contracts. There has been, however, a considerable movement of Mexican laborers to the United States this year; and it seems to have been related to the shortage of laborers in some Southern cotton fields, owing to the emigration northward of negro laborers. If such a movement should spread seriously throughout Mexico it would create a great embarrassment in some districts."

"A little feature of the Typographical Union's international convention at St. Louis deserves more notice than it has yet had. It was proposed to adopt a resolution warning the members of the union not to enlist in the militia. Any man with good, red blood in his veins would have been delighted to see the way the labor men treated

the resolution. They did not simply vote it down. They jumped on it, metaphorically, with hobnailed boots. They said that membership in a labor union was no reason why any labor man should be unwilling to be ready to defend his state, his country or his flag from enemies at home or abroad. The Typographical unions of this country are made up largely of men who think for themselves; and in this matter they thought like true Americans," says the St. Louis Star.

"The press of Mexico has been considerably occupied for some weeks past with reports and comments upon what they consider a very extensive and a very deplorable tendency among Mexican laborers to emigrate to the United States. According to reports, Mexican laborers have been crowding the border cities en route to the cotton fields of Texas, Oklahoma, and even Louisiana and Mississippi. It is also reported that many, disgusted with their treatment, are returning, disillusioned by failure to receive the high pay promised to them. Some of the periodicals severely criticize the ranch owners and mine owners of the country, the former of whom, they state, keep their laborers in the old condition of peonage as far as possible, holding debts over them and paying the smallest possible wages, without taking into account the new conditions which have arisen in Mexico, while the mine owners are taxed with not taking adequate measures for the safety of their workmen and with absorbing the major portion of the wages paid to them in profits of the company stores, which are generally operated at every camp of any size, tickets on them being given the workmen as pay.

The call for the twenty-second annual convention of the Illinois State Federation of Labor has just been issued by President Barney Cohen and Secretary James F. Morris. The convention will be held in Aurora, beginning Tuesday, October 11, at 10 o'clock. The call is, in part, as follows:

"The Illinois State Federation of Labor is a deliberate body, calculated to benefit the trades unionists and the working class of the state in the way of legislation, agitating for union labels, pushing boycotts, and the general advancement of trade unions in our state. In view of the work performed by the Illinois State Federation of Labor, through its legislative committee in forcing the enactment of various laws for the benefit of the wageworkers and the people in general, and while a great deal was accomplished at the last session of the legislature, there still remains a great deal to do. Realizing further that the work can be more thoroughly done and with greater ease when backed up both morally and financially by every organized body in the state, therefore I wish to call your attention to the necessity of your union affiliating with the State Federation of Labor and be represented at our next state convention to be held at Aurora, if possible, and in that way help to bring about the changes and reforms most needed. It is not necessary for me to tell you how essential it is for your union to be affiliated, for as you all know, better organization means better conditions, and we cannot be too thoroughly organized. Therefore, I hope that your organization will at your earliest convenience become a part of the Illinois State Federation of Labor and be a power to battle for the rights of working men and women.

"Every trade union in the state that is desirous of complete organization of labor in every city in the state should be represented with a full quota of delegates. It is as essential for a trade union to affiliate with the state federation as it is to affiliate with a central body. The federation is endeavoring to do in the state what your central body is doing in the city. Therefore, the importance of this convention should not be lost sight of. As it is expected that this convention will be the largest ever held, let every live and energetic union be represented."

Every housekeeper should know that if they will buy Defiance Cold Water Starch for laundry use they will save not only time, because it never sticks to the iron, but because each package contains 16 oz.—one full pound—while all other Cold Water Starches are put up in ½-pound packages, and the price is the same, 10 cents. Then again because Defiance Starch is free from all injurious chemicals. If your grocer tries to sell you a 12-oz. package it is because he has a stock on hand which he wishes to dispose of before he puts in Defiance. He knows that Defiance Starch has printed on every package in large letters and figures "16 ozs." Demand Defiance and save much time and money and the annoyance of the iron sticking. Defiance never sticks.

Football Games Aid Detectives.

The Australian detectives find football useful. Criminals will hide six days in the week; but they have to come out on Saturday to see the football game, and the police are on hand.

More Flexible and Lasting.

won't shake out or blow out; by using Defiance Starch you obtain better results than possible with any other brand and one-third more for same money.

Real Leaders of Men.

Men of genuine excellence in every station of life—men of industry, of integrity, of high principle, of sterling honesty of purpose—command the spontaneous homage of mankind. It is natural to believe in such men, to have confidence in them and to imitate them. All that is good in the world is upheld by them, and without their presence in it the world would not be worth living in.—Samuel Smiles.

Catch Words or Phrases.

If you desire to get rich quickly, invent catch-words or phrases that will grip the attention of the public. Big sums are paid for the right article. The inventor of a word now used for a brand of crackers is said to have received \$5,000 for it. Manufacturers of various things from soap to nuts have paid nearly as high. A railroad company gave \$100 to a girl who suggested a name for one of its fast trains.

Tribute to a Dutch Smoker.

To pay due reverence to the memory of an ardent smoker named Ondersmans, who had died in Rotterdam, all his old cronies came to the funeral smoking long clay pipes. Ondersmans left a sum of money to pay the expenses of a yearly smoking concert to keep his memory green.

Some men go through life pretty much as a dog with a chain to his collar and a woman yanking at the business end.

Men who expect to die like dogs are likely to live like dogs.

WHAT'S THE USE

To Keep a "Coffee Complexion."

A lady says: "Postum has helped my complexion so much that my friends say I am growing young again. My complexion used to be coffee colored, muddy and yellow but it is now clear and rosy as when I was a girl. I was induced to try Postum by a friend who had suffered just as I had suffered from terrible indigestion, palpitation of the heart and sinking spells.

"After I had used Postum a week I was so much better that I was afraid it would not last. But now two years have passed and I am a well woman. I owe it all to leaving off coffee and drinking Postum in its place.

"I had drank coffee all my life. I suspected that it was the cause of my trouble, but it was not until I actually quit coffee and started to try Postum that I became certain; then all my troubles ceased and I am now well and strong again." Name furnished by Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich.

There's a reason. Look in each package for a copy of the famous little book, "The Road to Wellville."