

LABOR and INDUSTRY

The Old River.

When night drops down over field and town,
At the end of the weary day,
I sit and dream of a rippling stream—
Ah, many a mile away.
I sit and dream of a rippling stream,
Of the ebb and the quiet flow;
Of the reeds in ranks by the wave-washed banks
And lilies that bud and blow.
From her mud-built nest in a cranny pressed
The swallow swoops to the tide;
A swerve—a dart—and with joyous heart
She shakes the spray from her side.
The red sun shines through the needled pines,
And lol on the watery floor,
A path of red for a fairy's tread
Lies stretched to the farther shore.
The swimmers cry as they climb on high
To the rock of the silver sands,
Till, one by one, in the setting sun,
They poise with their outstretched hands.
They poise—they leap from the rocky steep
Where the evening air blows cool,
And the bodies flash as the brown arms splash
In the depths of the quiet pool.
Though, now, mayhap, in the river's lap
There grow but the waving reeds,
And the water's flow through the hills,
I know,
Is lost in the tangled weeds;
Yet, when night drops down over field and town,
At the end of the weary day,
I dream and dream of the rippling stream—
Ah, years upon years away.
—Horatio Winslow, in Leslie's Weekly.

NEWS OF THE LABOR WORLD.

Items of Interest Gathered from Many Sources.

Labor unions of Kansas City are again discussing plans for a labor temple.

The Journeymen Tailors' union of America, will hold a convention in Bloomington, Ill., the first Monday in February, 1905.

The next convention of the Bricklayers and Stone Masons' International union will meet in San Francisco Jan. 8, 1905.

The third annual convention of the International Hod Carriers and Building Laborers' Union of America will meet in Minneapolis, beginning Jan. 1, 1905.

Phillip Weinseimer, former president of the New York Building Trades Alliance, was found guilty on the charge of extorting \$2,700 from George J. Essig for calling off a strike.

The International Bricklayers' union, through a referendum vote, decided not to affiliate with the Structural Building Trades Alliance. Of nearly 13,000 votes cast hardly 4,000 were in favor of the proposition.

The new mill being installed in Youngstown, Ohio, by the Republic Iron and Steel Company, will be equipped to roll rails as well as sheets and tin bars. This is the first departure of that concern to make rails.

It is announced that the immense The Texas State Federation of Labor has resolved to co-operate with the Farmers' Union and other organizations favorable to the majority or all of the demands of labor in order "to advance the interests of those who toil for their daily bread."

plant of the Acme Harvester company at South Bartonville, Ill., will resume immediately, giving employment to 900 men. The plant has been practically closed for a year, owing to financial difficulties.

The tonnage scale in the merchant mill of the Illinois Steel company at Joliet expired Oct. 21 and a scale reducing wages 10 to 15 per cent was put into effect. The men accepted the reduction, though there is bitter feeling, some of the men charging an effort for political effect.

Girl cutters are now employed at the factory of the Millet-Woodbury Shoe Company, Beverly, Mass. The firm is teaching them to cut shoes with the hope of breaking the strike declared by the Knights of Labor at the shop. Girl cutters are employed to a number of places in the West

The governing board of the Structural Trades Alliance proposes compulsory arbitration for disputes between the building trades unions and contractors. A board to consist of an equal number of contractors and union agents is proposed. The idea has not been ratified by the unions, but has been submitted to the contractors. The Alliance does not represent all the building trades. The proposed arbitration board would be organized on lines similar to that of the Associated Teaming Interests.

Among the propositions sent to a vote of the members of the Bridge and Structural Iron Workers' International Union is one to change the location of the parent body from New York to some other city. Among the candidates for the place are Chicago and Cleveland, but New York wants to retain the headquarters.

The headquarters of the International union, which have been located in the De Soto block in Indianapolis since 1894, will be moved to the Newton Claypool building, corner Pennsylvania and Ohio streets, opposite the new federal building, to-morrow, where a suite of eleven rooms has been secured on the sixth floor.

The arbitration board of the executive council of the Hod Carriers and Building Laborers' union of Chicago has succeeded in reducing the hours of labor from ten to eight a day since its formation, and in securing an increase in wages from \$1.50 for ten hours to \$2.70 for eight hours. The increase affected a thousand hod carriers and building laborers.

The Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers has adopted a novel method to regain some of the nonunion steel plants in Pittsburg by declaring them to be "open shops" and permitting men to work there if they wish and still be recognized as union men. The move is expected to result in a great advantage to the steel workers' union.

The United States Steel Corporation has declared that \$1,000,000 will be spent, if necessary, to beat the Amalgamated Association in its battle against the Carnegie Steel Company at Youngstown, O., and Girard, O. The victory of the company in this fight would mean the annihilation of the great Amalgamated Association of iron and steel workers of America.

The Department of Health of New York is preparing to make a more rigid inspection of food products sold in the city. Two extra chemists have been added to investigate the extent of adulteration, and the department this year will spend more money along this line than heretofore. The new chemists are now engaged in examining syrups for adulterations or deleterious combinations.

James G. Woodward, who was elected mayor of Atlanta, Ga., on Oct. 5, is a member of Typographical Union No. 48 of that city, and is one of the union's trustees. Mr. Woodward has been a member of Typographical Union for thirty-five years. He has always taken an active interest in the affairs of organized labor and is proud to be known as a mayor who will carry a union card in his pocket.

The strike of the sheet metal workers in Philadelphia and other cities was settled through an agreement with the employers by which strikes and lockouts are forever barred. The men have obtained an increase from 37½ to 49 cents an hour in wages and a guarantee that only union men shall be employed, while the employers have gained the advantage of immunity from all labor troubles in the future.

Recently published census figures show that every fifth child between the ages of ten and fifteen in the

United States is a bread-winner. One out of three of these child workers is a girl. There are said to be 1,750,178 children regularly employed, an increase of 33½ per cent in ten years. Alabama has the highest percentage of child labor, finding work for 27.2 per cent of her children, while Massachusetts has the lowest, having only 0.5 per cent of her juvenile population at work.

Steps are being taken to establish at Denver, Colo., a home for aged and indigent carpenters. A committee was appointed at the recent convention of the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners to investigate the proposition and make a report thereon. The carpenters generally are said to be favorable to the proposition. Leaders of the movement point out the success which has attended the institution of the printers' home at Colorado Springs and the good work they say it has accomplished.

The Cigar-Makers' Journal says: "The membership of the International Union is greater now than it has ever been before, having reached about 42,000 regular 30-cent contributing members. This argues well for the future and is a sure indication that we are on a solid foundation and that nothing can destroy us except our own folly. No power from without can accomplish our defeat or disrupt the International Union. The best way to convert the nonunionist to our way of thinking and making him a member is by the use of argument and facts. Violence and abuse make enemies and drive the nonunionist further away from us. There is a difference between the willful scab and the ordinary nonunionist. The first is viciously mean and should be treated accordingly, while the latter is, in most cases, such owing to environments. He should be shown the error of his ways and urged by kindly argument to become one of us. It is the duty of the International Union to lift up the whole craft, and all members should apply themselves to this task in a rational and business-like way."

One of the weak spots in the American labor movement is the lack of preparation in times of peace for war; the small war chest in the shape of a permanent reserve fund, says the Cigarmakers' Journal. What ammunition and provisions are to a regular army a strong reserve fund is to a trade union; ample to support members on strike for an indefinite time. The weapon of the Employers' Association is the lockout, the attempt to starve the employes into submission by a long struggle, with the ultimate aim to crush the organization, and reduce wages to a mere point of existence. A general at the head of an army, ignoring the commissary department in providing ample provisions in times of peace, is incompetent and should be relegated to the rear.

The London Board of Trade, through its Bureau of Labor, has just issued its eleventh annual report showing changes in the rates of wages and hours of labor throughout the United Kingdom in 1903 and the first six months of 1904. The report shows a net decrease in wages. Coal mining, iron and steel working, engineering, shipbuilding and glass manufacturing are the trades most affected by the fall in wages. The report shows that about 897,000 work people had their wages changed during 1903. Of these 21,000 obtained increases amounting to about £1,500 (\$7,280) a week, while 875,000 were reduced in amount about £39,000 (\$189,794) a week. Changes affecting 78 per cent of the total number of work people affected were arranged by arbitration, wages boards, sliding scales or other conciliatory agencies. The changes in the first six months of 1904 resulted in a net decrease in the weekly wages of £13,038 (\$63,450), affecting 275,227 work people, against a decrease of £10,354 (\$50,388), affecting 325,389 work people, in the corresponding period of 1903. The trades mainly affected were the same as in 1903.

DESECRATED GRAVE OF MILTON.

Diabolical Act of Drunken Men Committed a Century Ago.

There are probably many, even among the subscribers to Milton's statue, who will be surprised to learn that the body of the great poet was once on view at a charge of threepence a head within a few yards from the site chosen for this splendid tribute to his memory.

It was in 1790, after a carousal, that two overseers and a carpenter entered the Church of St. Giles, Cripplegate, where Milton lay buried, and, having discovered the leaden coffin which contained his body, cut open its top with a mallet and chisel. "When they disturbed the shroud," Neve says, when telling the story of the ghoully deed, "the ribs fell. Fountain confessed that he pulled hard at the teeth, which resisted until someone hit them with a stone. Fountain secured all the fine teeth in the upper jaw, and generously gave one to one of his accomplices. Altogether the scoundrels stole a rib bone, ten teeth and several handfuls of hair; and, to crown the diabolical business, the female gravedigger afterward exhibited the body to any one willing to pay threepence for the spectacle."—Westminster Gazette.

Fire Steels of Our Grandfathers.

The housewife who presses a button and lights the house with electricity or furnishes the heat for cooking on an electric range will look with interest upon this picture of fire steels of the fifteenth century, where with the folk of that time secured



the necessary heat and light. To the first crude pieces of metal of years and years before the art of this period was added taste in design and ornamentation. Some of the steels showed a high degree of art, and today are valued highly by antiquarians. The best collection at present is in England, and comprises the make of several countries.

Gift for Texas University.

The museum of Baylor university at Waco, Texas, has recently received as a gift from the Rev. Z. C. Taylor, Bahia, Brazil, the complete skull, the blade bones, several vertebrae, and three ribs of an immense specimen of the common fin whale or orqual, captured in the South Atlantic. The length of the skull is 15½ feet, width across the top 8 feet, height from the ground 5 feet, length of lower jawbones 13½ feet, length of ribs 6 feet 4 inches, length of bladebone 5 feet 4 inches, width 4 feet. Weight of skull 2,884 pounds; of each of the lower jawbones 545, of the bladebones, 85 pounds.

Shower Proof Hats.

An Austrian genius has made the discovery that celluloid, prepared in a special way, provides a material out of which hats and the most delicate flowers can be made. These hats are not only beautiful in themselves and cannot be told from those made of the usual material, but will stand the most severe shower and look even better after than before. They are used to some extent in Germany, especially in Vienna. They would be exceedingly popular in London during the rainy seasons, for many a charming bonnet is ruined there by the persistent drizzle, from which no umbrella can protect a woman.