

THREE COLOSSAL EXHIBIT PALACES AT THE ST. LOUIS WORLD'S FAIR .- From a Photo, Copyright, 1904, by the Louisiana Exposition Company.



H18 view in the heart of the World's fair at St. Louis conveys an idea of the completeness of the great exposition. Some idea of the size of the buildings shown in the picture may be gained from the fact that the cornice lines are sixty-five feet high. The corner tower of the Palace of Electricity in the center of the picture is 100 feet high. The building covers eight acres. The Plaza of St. Louis which sepa-

Carpenter's Letter

(Continued from Page Twelve.)

with the employers, they now receive a minimum wage of from \$3 to \$6 per day, according to the locality where they work. The minimum wage in New England is \$3, and men are paid higher than that according to their skill. In Butte City the lowest wage is \$5 a day, and in Helena, Great Fails and Spokane \$5 a day. In some other places it is \$3.50 and \$4, but where the weges are high the maximum and minimum rates are about the same.

"How about hours?" I asked.

"We have the eight-hour day all over the United States," was the reply.

"Do you mean to say that the men who cut granite in Butte City get \$6 for eight hours' work?'

"Yes, that is just what I mean," replied Secretary Duncan. "But wages of all sorts are high there. As for the hours, we have been fighting for the eight-hour day for a long time. We tried to get it through congress, and are trying still. In 1897 we got tired of waiting, and we then notified our employers that we should insist upon the eight-hour day beginning with the spring of 1900. Before then only one-third of our men were working eight hours. Since then we have all had that day, and that with increased profit to ourselves and our employers.

"What do you mean by increased profit, Mr. Duncan?" 1 asked.

"I mean that the workman is better off and that the employer gets more out of his

"What does it cost to belong to the granite cutters?' I asked.

"The initiation fee is from \$2 to \$50," replied Secretary Duncan. "A difference is made in accordance with the standing of the applicant toward organized labor in the past. If a man has been fighting us and asks to join he might be punished for the past by a high initiation fee, but the ordinary fee is under \$5. Apprentices puy only \$1."

What are your dues?"

"They are now 70 cents a month."

"How do you spend the money?

"The most of it goes to support our people in case of strikes and lockouts. We pay our men when they are out of work such accounts, and we also have a death benefit of \$125. One of our members who died recently had joined the union only three weeks before. His old mother was immediately paid the \$125 to which his death entitled her. As to our strike and lockout funds, we paid out an chormous amount during the lockout of 1892. At that time we used up all the money we had in the treasury and then issned promissory notes to those who still held out, agreeing to pay them out of the first money that came into the treasury. Those notes amounted to more than \$250,000. It took us five years to pay them, that we did it."

"Do you think, Mr. Duncan, that the members of your union get the worth of their money?"

"I certainly do," replied Secretary Duncan. "There is no investment in the world that has paid better than that bers in the National Union of Granite Citters. Take New England, for instance. In that part of the country we are strongest and there about one-third of our members. live For easy figuring we will suppose there are 5,000 granite cutters there. Now let me show you what those 5,000 men have gotten out of the union in the fifteen years from 1885 to 1990. During that time the average increase of wages has been equal to 75 cents per day. This on 5,000 men means a gain of \$3,750 per day and figuring 300 working days to the year of \$1,125,000 a year. Multiply that by the fifteen years and you have a gross gain of \$16,875,000.

rates the Palace of Electricity from the Palace of Education, seen in the right of the picture, is 600 feet across. The gray stone bottom of the grand basin is also noted. The Palace of Manufactures, in the distance, is 300 feet beyond the Palace of Education and covers fourteen acres. The view is from the west side of the Cascade gardens, looking north.

Trees Survive Fire

In the burned district there are two trees which, though having been subjected to a heat which melted iron and caused strong buildings to crumble and fall, are still standing and are apparently uninjured. One is on Frederick street, near Baltimore street, just opposite the site of the Odcon theater, and the other is in the rear of the ruins of the Southern Electric company's place, on Fayette street, near Calvert street. The iree on Frederick street is in remarkably good condition, and does not in the least show the effects of fire, although the heat at that point must have been intense, as not a building in that section was left standing. The limbs and

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branches of the other tree were burned to some extent and it was almost completely buried beneath a great pile of debris .- Baltimore American.



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work in the eight hours than he formerly did in the nine hours. Wages have risen as much as 28 per cent, but nevertheless the product is cheaper than it was under the long hours and lower wages.

"That sounds like a fairy story, Mr. Duncan," said L

"It may sound so to you," was the reply, "but it is a true story nevertheless. You must remember that granite cutting is hard work, and at the same time work that demands a high skill and great accuracy. To do it well one must be fresh and not tired out. In the long hours, as noon approached, the men were played out and they had to loaf or try to save themselves for the rest of the day. Now they put in only four hours in the morning, and after the noon rest go in and work for the remainder of the day. The employers are now interested in seeing that the men have better tools, and that the cheaper and rougher work is done by helpers. At any rate they have systematized matters so that the product is as great or greater during an eight-hour day than it was in the nine-hour day of the past. One of the largest employers at Barre, Vt. where about 1.500 of our men have regular work. recently told me that not only had his output been greater under the eight-hour day, but that the character of the work was finer."

"Do you think the time will ever come when the eight-hour day will be the rule for all classes of our mechanics?"

"I do," replied James Duncan. "It is so now in many of the trades, and it will be more so as time goes on."

"Now take the expenses. The dues paid during that time were only 50 cents a month per man, which in the fifteen years made a total of \$540,000 for the 5,000 men. Subtract that and you have a net gain of \$16,335,000, and all that from an investment of a little more than \$500,000.

"In other words, we have made our \$540,rco investment pay us 3.200 per cent and have received \$275,000 to boot, or more than half of all we have put in. I venture that very few of the big trusts can show as profitable returns.

"In addition to this," concluded Mr. Dun-"we have reduced our working time can; two hours per day, we have established cash payments; we have abolished company stores and we have provided that our paydays shall be regular. Yes, I think we may say that the granite cutters have more than gotten the worth of their FRANK G. CARPENTER. money."



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