

THE LABOR WORLD

There are 2,400 mineral water bottlers in New York city.

Albany, N. Y., union tailors will submit a new scale of wages.

A union of candy workers is about to be organized in Ontario.

British India now employs over 1,000,000 people in its cotton industries.

Plans will be made for the thorough organization of the stationary firemen at Montreal.

The union label has been discarded by 20 wholesale clothing manufacturers of Rochester, N. Y.

Among the New York bricklayers the lowest wage is \$26.20 a week, and the highest is over \$30.

The Western Flint Glass Workers' Union has again joined the American Federation of Labor.

English workmen in the engineering and allied trades are but moderately employed at the present time.

Copper miners in Michigan have increased in number from less than 7,000 in 1893 to more than 14,000 in 1903.

In January and February the membership of the Order of Railway Clerks of America increased 1,239 in membership.

It is altogether likely that the labor party will put a full municipal ticket in the field at the fall elections in Detroit, Mich.

A bill has been introduced in the Maryland Legislature to limit the hours of employment on street railways to ten a day.

A threatened strike of Buffalo, N. Y., tailors has been averted, the employers conceding the demands of their workmen.

The Musicians' Union, of Toronto, is said to be the largest organization of the kind in the Dominion. The membership is about 500.

February returns of the English boiler-makers and iron shipbuilders show a total of 9,533 members on the funds, as against 10,252 in January.

In all about 892,000 workpeople in England were affected by changes in wages during 1903, as compared with 800,000 in 1902 and 932,000 in 1901.

There are now affiliated with the Pennsylvania State Federation of Labor 208 labor organizations, composed of 31 central bodies and 177 local unions.

Bristol, Conn., plumbers have issued a manifesto to the master plumbers demanding \$3 for an eight-hour day. The present scale calls for \$2.50 for nine hours.

An eight-hour day is demanded by the engineers and firemen employed in the stockyards at Chicago, Ill. The union demands are endorsed by the Packing Trades' Council.

Continued depression at the east end and partially in other industrial districts of London, Eng., has caused the Lord Mayor to open a relief fund. Thus far \$7,000 has been raised.

Muskegon, Mich., union carpenters have agreed with local contractors to arbitrate all differences in the future. The wage is to be 32-1/2 cents an hour, with an eight-hour day.

At Lyons, France, 10,000 employees in the silk trade have struck work, their demand being for an increase in wages and shorter hours. Efforts have been made to effect a settlement.

Returns from local trade unions and from branches of the amalgamated Bodies show a general increase in the number of unemployed among the machine-tool makers throughout England.

In St. Louis, Mo., a few years ago the water girls got \$4 per week salary; now they get \$9, no breakage charges, and their hours of labor are much shorter, and conditions generally are better.

The Employers' Association of Steel Ingot Makers, representing the West of Scotland and the northeast coast of England, have intimated a 5 per cent. reduction in wages, to take effect this month.

A new wage schedule has been arranged by the Cloth Hat and Cap Makers' Union, at San Francisco, Cal., and the same will be presented to the proprietors. The present scale will expire on May 1.

Reports of a general strike of employees of the New York & New Haven road, which emanated from New York, are not borne out by statements made by officers of different railroad organizations.

At Boston, Mass., the strike of book and job printers, which has been in effect for several weeks, has been settled by means of a compromise, and a contract between employers and employees signed.

The Contractors' Association of Sacramento, Cal., has decided to close all mills in that city. This will put a stop to all building operations in that city for the time being, throwing 800 men out of work.

In the Australian Post Office Department the minimum salary for women was formerly \$300; but since women received the ballot this has been raised to \$550. Women teachers who do equal work with men receive the same pay, a right not granted to them in this country.

The new wage schedule of the Stamben's Union, at San Francisco, Cal., asks for a \$2.50 increase weekly over the present \$15 rate. The day is to be of twelve hours, and union men only are to be employed.

About 800 non-union employees of the American Tobacco Company, at Richmond, Va., have struck for an increase in pay. The strikers are all negro stemmers, and they ask for an increase of one-half a cent a pound.

It is stated that the wages paid to team drivers in Ontario are lower than in any other city on the American continent with a population of 200,000. The men are planning to organize a union.

Bridgeport, Conn., boss bakers have organized in order to cope with the demands of the union bakers, who, it is understood, intend to demand the abolition of night work and an eight hour day schedule after May 1.

San Francisco, Cal., union bookbinders have received an increase in wages by

which men who are now receiving \$16 per week will be gradually raised to \$18.50. The union agrees to recognize none but first-class craftsmen.

The British Government continues to be denounced by the workers' union for the low wages paid at Government workshops, shipyards, arsenals and gun factories, but all denunciations and resolutions seem to have no effect.

Unions in all the building trades are rapidly voting in favor of the proposed Structural Building Trades Alliance of America, which aims to combine 500,000 workers in one compact body. The object is to put a stop to "wildcat" strikes.

At a conference of miners held at Cardiff, Wales, recently, it was declared that the men would never go back to the sliding-scale system. Whatever the faults of Conciliation Boards, they were better than the old sliding scale.

Nearly 100 Lincoln, Neb., women have applied to the International Women's Labor League for a charter, and propose to organize a union at least 500 members. Employers cannot discharge women contrary to the terms of their contract, nor impose fines except in accordance with the rules of the Department of Labor.

At Sharon, Pa., the Builders' Exchange has asked all members of the building trades to accept a reduction of 10 per cent. in wages on May 1, at the expiration of the present scale. There are more than 2,000 members in the building trades in Sharon.

In 1903 Minnesota showed an increase in the total number of wage-earners of 11.91 per cent. over 1902; that of the male adults was 12.67 per cent.; and of the female adults, 9.26 per cent.; and of children, a decrease from last year's number of 4.53 per cent.

Because of the united action on the part of the master plumbers in ordering a nine-hour day and open shops, Erie, Pa., journeymen plumbers have quit work and refuse to do another tap until the masters back down from their position and re-establish unionism.

A resolution was adopted at the last meeting of the Masters' and Fillets' Association, Cleveland, O., Lodge, demanding that the members of the Advisory Board get together as soon as possible to reconsider the action taken in regard to the wage schedule and classification.

Two new international unions to join the American Federation of Labor have been formed. The first is the International Brotherhood of Foundry Employers, the unskilled workers in foundries; the other is the International Brotherhood of Shinglers, formed at San Francisco.

In the past 20 years, according to the figures of the Labor Bureau at Washington, there have been more than 22,000 strikes, involving a loss to employees and employers of over \$400,000,000. The loss to the workmen themselves has been more than twice that of their employers.

Portable hoisting engineers, who are members of Steam Engineers' Union, at Rochester, N. Y., have asked for an increase in their wages in an agreement presented to the employers by the Association. These engineers are now getting \$2.50 and \$3 a day. They are asking for \$3.50 a day.

A novel plan has been evolved in Chicago by E. P. Dwyer, a prominent labor leader of that city, to place an army of union men on farms in England. He said that 30,000 acres have been secured, and the idea is to parcel it out in five-acre tracts, making homes for 6,000 union families.

At a conference held between representatives of the Electrical Workers' Union and their employers, at Buffalo, N. Y., a settlement has been reached. The employers agree to maintain the present schedule of pay, \$3 a day, and an eight-hour day. Non-union workmen now employed are to be retained.

The International Brotherhood of Blacksmiths and Helpers, at Toronto, Ont., has secured an increase of 10 per cent. in wages and a nine-hour workday. At present they work ten hours. Blacksmiths receive from 20 to 27-1/2 cents an hour at present, and helpers from 15 to 18 cents an hour.

United Garment Workers at Baltimore, Md., are putting up a vigorous fight this year to have the uniforms of the police manufactured by persons or firms who have the right to use the union label. For the last four years one firm has furnished the uniforms, and the work has been done by non-union workmen.

Although the time for the opening of navigation on the great lakes is near at hand, few of the maritime workers' unions have made settlements with employers. The marine unions will submit to no reduction in wages this year unless the shippers and vessel owners prove better argument than they have been doing so far.

Representatives of the Licensed Tugmen's Protective Association, in conference with the Dredge and Tug Owners' Protective Association, in Toledo, O., are fighting for the same scale at Chicago and South Chicago. Representatives of the owners wished to change the scale at the expense of South Chicago dredge crews, it is said.

The Master Plumbers' Association, of Reading, Pa., has refused to sign or consider the recent proposition made by the members of the Plumbers' Union in their new wage scale. The plumbers, under the scale adopted and signed last year, were given \$2.75 a day in wages for nine hours. In their new scale they want \$3 for eight hours work.

Intercolonial Railway employees are making a concerted effort to get their pension scheme before Parliament at the present session. The scheme originated with the Employers' Insurance Association, and is designed to cover cases that are not included in the insurance scheme, as well as to promote greater efficiency in the various branches of the railway service.

Between 7,000 and 8,000 fishermen on the shores of Lake Erie have affiliated

with the I. L. M. and T. A., the last ports to come in being Huron and Sandusky. The membership embraces workers afloat and ashore. It is estimated that there are 20,000 men engaged in the industry on the great lakes, and an effort is making to organize them into a powerful international body.

An agreement has been reached as to the scale of prices between the Alaska Packers' Association and the Fishermen's Union. The unions in all the northern cities have agreed to abide by the decision of the San Francisco Union. This matter is of importance, as a strike now would have been most serious, because the Oriental war is making a marked improvement in the salmon industry.

The Central Labor Union, at Brockton, Mass., has called upon the Government to favor a resolution calling for the passage of a bill to come before this session of the Legislature, which will legalize peaceful communication with strike-breakers by union men, and the picketing of plants.

Employees of the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad are planning to organize a union of unions on the scheme of the Trades Union of New Haven, in which shall be included car workers, trainmen, machinists, conductors, shopmen, boiler makers and switchmen. To secure such amalgamation will require several weeks of consideration by the locals.

With the object of promoting women's trades unions in the United States, the Executive Board of the Women's National Trades Union League, at its annual meeting in Boston this week, voted to send a general organizer and secretary throughout the country, who will act as a business agent, organize unions among women and investigate lockouts and strikes.

In New South Wales, the country of universal unionism and federal ownership of public utilities, the working hours are usually eight, and the minimum wages for laborers \$1.70 per day, with half-holidays at the expense of employers. Both employers and employees are unionized, the number of separate organizations of the latter being fully 30 per cent. larger than the former.

The 18-months' strike at Wheldale and Frystone collieries, Cattleford, Eng., ended in victory for the masters. Recently most of the 800 men out present themselves at the pits, but more than two-thirds of the places had been filled.

Sacramento, Cal., Plumbers' Union went on strike recently because the employers would not grant an increase in pay. The members desire \$4.50 per day, an advance of 50 cents. It is thought the fight will be a stubborn one.

The National Miners' Federation of Great Britain has formulated the terms for the renewal for five years of the Conciliation Board for the coal industry. The board is to be a serious disagreement between the representatives of both parties.

Nearly all the salt consumed in Italy is produced in Sardinia. For this work about three thousand men are employed, most of whom are convicts. The wages paid are 10 cents a day, and a convict a day, of which the convicts receive only half.

When I noticed these verses I referred them to Rev. W. Wye Smith, of this city, than whom there is no better Scots authority on this continent, or any other, and having in mind that he had paraphrased this beautiful Psalm in the braid Scots, asked him to give it to me. I had thought it was in verse, but was mistaken. His prose version, which he kindly handed me, reads thus, and very prettily:

THE TWENTY THIRD PSALM.
"David is eye unreein' a pinn about Christ. Here he pants him as a shepherd, and his sel' as a silly bit lammie. It evens weel wi' the tenth of John."

"The Lord is my shepherd; my wants are a' kent; the pastur I lie in is growthie and green."
"I follow by the lip o' the waifers o' peace; He heals and steriles hands my salt; and airts me, for His ain name's sake, and in a' the fit roads of His holiness."
"Aye, and though I bade gang thro' the howe whaur the deil-shadows fa', the fear nae skaithin' ill, for that sel' is eye aside me; yere red and yere cruek they defen' me."
"My table ye hae penished afore the een o' my gae; my heid ye hae crystie wi' oyle; my cup is teemin' fu'."
"And certes, tenderness and mercies sal be my fa' to the end o' my days, and syne I see bide at home in the howe o' the Lord for evir and evir mair."

It was then suggested that we should both versify the Psalm, and these are the results.

THE TWENTY-THIRD PSALM.
(By William Wye Smith.)

The Lord is my shepherd; my wants are a' kent;
The pastur I lie in is growthie and green;
I follow by watis o' peace and content,
And when weary and wae He restores me again,
He airts me, for sake o' his name and his law,
In paths o' holiness, fearless and free,
And certis, tenderness and mercies sal be my fa' to the end o' my days,
His rod and his cruek my reliance sal be.

My buird is weel-greened, in the sicht o' my foes,
And my heid is annointit wi' heavenlie oyle;
My cup that ye filled a' the length o' my days,
Is a' rinnin' over at the end o' my toil.

Sae guidness and grace, ilka day that I follow,
Shall follow and bless, on my hame-gang way;
And at the lang-last, an' wi' a' that believe,
I see bide in God's palace for evir and aye.

Psalm Twenty-three—In Pasturs Green
I Bide.
(By Jno. S. McClelland.)

Wi' God for Shepherd I'll no want,
He kens my every need;
In growthie, green and flowerin' haunt
He louts me rest my heid.

By peacefu' watis wi' his haum
He airts me as I gang;

Our Scotch Corner

THE PSALMS IN BRAID SCOTCH.

John S. McClelland as a Translator of the 23rd Psalm.
(St. Catharines Star.)

To the Editor of the Star:
My attention was arrested by the following verses, published in the Breakfast Table columns of the Toronto Globe, on the 25th inst., under the heading "Twenty-third Psalm" (Scotch version), by John Moir, Bridge of Feugh, Banochry, Aberdeenshire. Surely a long way to go from home to get a "wee bit Scots," and I am of opinion the Scottish editor of the Globe was "out" when it came in. Please print the verses:

"Vha is my shepherd, weel I ken
The Lord Himsel' is he;
He louts me whaur the girrs is green
An' burnies quat' that be;

Aft time I fain stray wad gang,
An' wann' far awa';
He fins me out, He hits me richt,
An' brings me hame an' a'.

Tho' I pass thro' the gruesome
Clens, I ken He is near;
His muckle cruek will me defen',
Sae I hae nocht to fear.

Ilk comforth wark a sheep could need
His thochtfu' care provides;
Tho' wolves an' dogs may pawd
about,

In safety me he hides.
His guidness and His mercy bairn
Na doot will bide wi' me,
While fauld on the fields o' time
Or o' eternity.

I have made good some typographical blunders, for which, of course, the author was not responsible, but may I be privileged to say a word or two as to the subject matter of the effusion itself. The twenty-third Psalm is the twenty-third Psalm, or it is nothing. It says just what it means or it means nothing. The line closing the second stanza—"I guess that's Scotch"—"An' brings me hame an' a'"—literally "and brings me home and all!" Where is there sense or poetry in that jargon, except, possibly after a St. Andrew's night celebration? In the next verse we can pass over the "Fin' I ken He is near," but his "muckle cruek" is a staggerer that will knock all Canadian Scotchmen out of business. And then when "wolves and dogs" are brought in to intensify the situation, the Scotch versionist must have been fairly driven to his wits' ends to horrify this otherwise magnificent theme. Wolves and dogs prowling about through the beautiful sentiment of the twenty-third Psalm ought to frighten a Scotchman or anyone else.

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"I follow by the lip o' the waifers o' peace; He heals and steriles hands my salt; and airts me, for His ain name's sake, and in a' the fit roads of His holiness."
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He kens my every need;
In growthie, green and flowerin' haunt
He louts me rest my heid.

By peacefu' watis wi' his haum
He airts me as I gang;

Loof link'd to loof I firmly stau'
The burnies quat' amang.

An' tho' I graip mid shadows deld,
No fankit sal I be,
His poer's my strength; his stok an'
reed
Sal comforth tae me gie.

My buird wi' muckle plenish is;
My crasie een is fu',
An' guidness, mercie, a' o' His
Gairds me the fit road thro'.

When e'enin' comes, an' I see gaen by,
Wi' blessings fu' an' free,
In His ain hoose aboon the sky
My biddin' place sal be.

It might be well in this connection to give the P. Hately Waddell version, as it has long been recognized as having something of an official character, and many Scots will no doubt be glad to have the different interpretations in concise form:

Psalm xxiii.
The sheep-keepin' o' the Lord's kind
An' canny, wi' a brow howl' at lang last;
David keeps his sheep; the Lord keeps
David.

An' heigh-lilt o' David's.
The Lord is my herd, nae want sal fa' me.
He louts me tae lie amang green
houses; He airts me atowre by the lown
watis.

He waakens my wa'gaen saul; He
weises me roun', for His ain name's sake,<
Intill richt roddins.

Tho' I gang thro' the deadmirk-
dail', e'en tho' sal I dreed nae skaithin';
For yersel' are nae-by me; yere stok an'
yer stay haud me bairn fu' cheerie.

My buird ye hae hamsell'd in face o'
my foes; ye hae drookit my heid wi' oyle;
My buird ye hae hamsell'd in face o'
my foes; ye hae drookit my heid wi' oyle;

"E'en sae, sal guid-guidin' an' gude-gree
gang wi' me, ilka day o' my livin'; an'
evir mair syne, i' the Lord's ain howl',
an' lang last sal I mair bydan.

Yours truly,
John S. McClelland.

WHY LUNACY GROWS

After the great fire at Colney Hatch Asylum an eminent authority on mental diseases, strongly criticized the County Council for their habit of regarding the increase in lunacy as a temporary phenomenon, and on this pretext building temporary asylums to cope with it.

It is no temporary phenomenon," said the specialist, "but a steady, consistent and alarming growth."

This fact is now abundantly recognized by the Council. Their latest report on lunacy makes no attempt to explain away the sad truth; on the other hand, the committee, tacitly confessing that things are becoming worse rather than better, call for power to send the old harmless cases to the workhouse, so that there may be room in the asylums for the treatment of patients for whom there is some chance of recovery.

Why is it that we are becoming madder as the years go by? Four reasons are suggested—drink, vice, imprudent marriage, and the stress and rush of modern city life.

The case was put in a nutshell by one specialist yesterday.

"By better methods of sanitation," he said, "the great saving of life has been effected in the zymotic diseases, and the death rate ought to have been decreased enormously thereby. It has not done so owing to the increasing increase in nerve and heart disease, the result of wear and tear."

"General paralysis of the insane is steadily on the increase, and that is very often the result of disease produced by vice. Unfortunately public opinion will not permit us to attack that evil at its source. All we can do is to endeavor by careful scientific research, to trace the evils of their first cause, and to devise methods for prevention and cure."

"What is the good of restraining thousands of poor wretches in huge asylums for the fate of their natural lives? The latest report shows that there are seven people in the London asylums over the age of ninety, and that a centenarian died in one of the asylums last year!"

"How much better it would be if, instead of boxing up the insane, we could discover how to cure them! Nervous diseases call for investigation and study as loudly as cancer."

Practically the same point was made by another specialist whose views were sought by the Express. "You have only to visit the asylums," he said, "to see how large is the number of people incarcerated there who might well be looked after at home—weak-minded persons, who have sunk to the level of automatons, and who would never by any chance become harmful either to themselves or to anybody else. They crowd the asylums and there is no room for new cases."

"And if the surroundings of an asylum are unnecessary for cases such as this, they are positively harmful to cases of another kind. Say that a person steps over the borderland of sanity—one foot on each side of the line. Shut him up in an asylum where he sees none but the hopelessly insane, and the chances are that he becomes permanently insane himself. Like beggars."

"What is needed in such a case is a half-way house, where every endeavor will be exerted towards curing the inmates. If they show no signs of recovery within six months, then send them to a real asylum. But very many of them would recover and become useful members of society instead of a dead-weight and an expense."

"The germs of insanity are, of course, carried down from generation to generation. I have heard it rumored that some of the best should be allowed to marry unexamined, or she had been examined as to mental soundness. That suggestion is more ideal than practical, but men and women who have the talent of hereditary insan-

ity ought really to see that it is criminal on their part to marry. And I do solemnly say that chronic insanity ought, after a period of five years, to be a good and sufficient ground for divorce."

In a letter to the Express, Dr. Forbes Winslow says:

"It is not a difficult problem to solve why there should be more lunacy in London than in other towns. Drink stands out prominently as the chief cause for this terrible state of affairs."

"In a recent published report issued by the County Council's committee, the medical superintendent stated that out of 1,355 patients admitted 217 of these were due to intemperance in drink—thus one-fourth of the lunacy is due to a wicked vice which can be avoided. The painful but only consolation can arrive is that London is the most intemperate city in the world."

"There are many lunatics at the present day who might be mastered outside the precincts of an asylum, and it is to be hoped that when any new Act is passed provisions will be made for an intermediate class of persons, alleged to be insane, who are deemed curable and ought to be given a chance of recovery before being thrust into a lunatic asylum, and so branded for life."

"At the present time, notwithstanding the advancement in civilization, there is no receptacle for such cases. If certifiable, though harmless, they have to be legally placed in hospitals, and many lunatics whose very conduct aggravates the mild form of mental malady from which they may be suffering, and frequently converts a curable attack into a chronic one, so long as this state of affairs exists so must the amount of lunacy gradually increase."

"For many years I have had upwards of 2,000 attendances of poor people mentally afflicted at my hospital. Some of the histories of the cases would well account for the increase in insanity. Persons who have been incarcerated in asylums are allowed to marry. Some who suffer from recurrent insanity go back home between the attacks and bear children. Speaking generally, the children of drunken parents either become insane or are afflicted with the same vice as their parents."

"Let us frame a law to regard habitual drunkenness as a form of lunacy, and it really may be possible to reduce the victims to it in a proper way, by legally restraining them, and lunacy will soon rapidly decrease."—London Express.

EVOLUTION OF THE BAYONET

Originally It Was a Long Rapier Blade Carried in a Sheath.

The swines-foot (hog's bristle), which seems to have been the original prototype of the bayonet, was a long rapier blade, fixed in a handle and carried in a sheath, which was given to a musketeer for defence after he had discharged his piece. Stuck by its handle in the muzzle of his gun, says Pearson's Weekly, it constituted a very efficient weapon for acting against pikemen, to diminish his momentum, the swines-foot and musket rest were combined, the latter forming a sheath for the former, in the reign of James I.

Toward the latter end of the Civil War the use of the musket rest was abandoned, and it became the practice to attach the bayonet by its handle into the muzzle of the piece after discharging it.

In 1689 two rings were added by which the bayonet was placed on the muzzle without interfering with the firing. This improvement, the invention of Gen. Mackay, and English officer, was introduced into the French army in 1703, by the English themselves it was not adopted until after the battle of Fontenoy, 1745, where the advantages its use conferred on the French were only too plainly manifested, the Duke of Cumberland's army being defeated with the loss of 15,000 men.

The Modern School of Aliteratists.

We walk in the wide, white wood and in wistful wile, with the whiskers wan,
And the wounded, whimical waves we weep,
Are woven in W.

For the whinnying wind to woo,
In wistful wile, with the whiskers wan,
And the wounded, whimical waves we weep,
Are woven in W.

Of the wee, wet, wisps of dew;
And the wounded, whimical waves we weep,
Are woven in W.

We wander and wate, and we wate to wate,
Who wonder well at the winning way
We wate into wisps now;
And the wistful, weird and woolly web
We find out of W.

OL, to weep and wile is a woman's wile,
And to wate, in the water, too,
Yet wate wants to wate and wate
The wiles of a wizard too.

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We wate into wisps now;
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