

THE LABOR WORLD

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THIS WEEK'S THOUGHT.

The workmen of America have been given a veritable emancipation by the legal recognition of a man's labor as part of his life, and not a mere marketable commodity.—President Wilson.

SENATOR NELSON AND THE SECTION MEN

Senator Nelson struck a sentimental note before the senate during the consideration of the railroad employees' eight-hour bill when he pretended to manifest such sudden sympathy for and interest in the condition of section men and car repairers, the poorest paid men on the railroads.

The venerable Minnesota senator is equally as astute in politics as he is able in statesmanship. His retort in the senate was good politics. It made a hit with everyone in sympathy with workmen, save those who are familiar with Mr. Nelson's record on labor both as Governor of Minnesota and as senator.

Who does not sympathize with the underpaid section man, car repairer and such railroad employes. Short sympathy for them will not raise their wages, shorten their hours of labor or improve their condition. If it were left to Senator Nelson to help them they would die in despair. They have the same chance as the engineers, firemen, trainmen and conductors to raise themselves up. Their hope for improvement is not in depending upon sympathy, but by organizing as their fellow employes have done, and as all wise laborers everywhere are doing. Better conditions come to the dependent worker as charity is doled out to the poor. An independent organized worker demands them as a matter of right.

Where section men and car repairers have organized themselves into trade unions they have very materially increased their wages and improved their working conditions. All section men on the Canadian railroads are organized and their minimum wage scale is \$2.25 a day. The unorganized section men on the Great Northern road are paid a minimum of \$1.30 to \$1.50. That is the difference between unionism and non unionism. It is the difference between the union shop and the so-called open shop. Effective economic organization of the workers strengthens their political power. It was this that counted the most at Washington when the eight-hour bill was up for passage.

The section men and car repairers will get the eight-hour day when they shall have learned the lesson of organization, and not until then, unless the government should decide to take over the railroads.

But getting back to Senator Nelson. How long has he been possessed of real sympathy for the laborer and his demands for more liberty and better economic conditions?

When Governor of Minnesota, Mr. Nelson sent the state militia on two occasions to assist mill owners and mine owners to break strikes, and at a time when there was no call for the militia because the civil authorities in each instance were able to cope with the situation, that is if they had attempted to make an honest effort to do so.

The section men and car repairers will get eight-six o'clock in the morning until eight o'clock in the evening every day, working a 12-hour day in a 14-hour spread. They were paid the munificent wage of \$1.50 a day. These men rebelled against such long hours and poor pay. They demanded the 10-hour workday, and a \$2.00 wage scale. They struck, and twenty-four hours after they went out Governor Nelson sent the state militia to Clouet to drive them back to the long work day and the low wage scale.

The iron miners at Tower and Ely also went on strike for higher wages. There were a few fist fights and other slight mix-ups, and with these for an excuse Governor Nelson sent the militia to the Vermillion range to help his friend Joseph Sellwood, the then political boss of St. Louis county, break the strike.

As a member of the United States senate Mr. Nelson has consistently voted against every labor measure of importance intended to assist the working classes in protecting their right, or promoting their interests. Only recently he ridiculed the labor provision of the Clayton anti-injunction act, the child labor law and other legislation affecting labor passed by this Congress.

In view of such a record are not the real friends of labor justified in doubting the sincerity of Senator Nelson's sympathy for the section man?

RAISING LOW WAGES.

The railroad press agents found one of their most popular arguments against the demands of the brotherhood men in the fact that the great mass of the railroad employes who do not belong to the brotherhoods, are so poorly paid. The fact that trackmen receive the slowly dying wage of \$1.50, average per day for the entire country, was used as an argument against raising the wages of the engineers, firemen and conductors.

One would think from the sympathy that has been lavished upon these miserable ones that no corporation would willingly pay 1 cent additional wages to any person receiving a higher income until the wrongs of the trackmen had been righted.

But there is another class of employes that are paid much higher wages than the brotherhood members. According to a bulletin of the National Geographic society "general officers" receive an average daily wage of \$16.06, as contrasted with \$5.24 which is given as the average compensation of the next highest paid employes—the engineers.

During 1914, the last year for which figures are available, the railroads increased the wages of its "general officers" an average of 39 cents per day, which is more than four times the increase granted to any other class of employes.

But there was no call upon the public for protection against the "exorbitant demands" of these "highly paid representative of aristocracy of labor." Neither was there any claim on the part of the railroads that no such increase should have been granted while trackmen were receiving but \$1.50 per day.

THE EXAMINER'S REPORT ON HIBBING

Victor L. Power, mayor of Hibbing, is reaping the harvest of his daring. If he had been a mere wishy-washy mortal, ready "to bend the cringing hinges of the knee that thrift may follow fawning," mighty little would have been said about the report of the public examiner relative to the affairs of Hibbing.

We have read the printed extracts of the examiner's report with exceeding care, and we have failed to find wherein Mayor Power is involved in the slightest degree. There might have been extravagances in public expenditures, but it is not necessary for Duluth newspapers to go all the way to Hibbing to find and expose them, when there is so much to be said about the cost of administering the affairs of St. Louis county from our court house in Duluth.

If a crime or crimes have been committed why poison the public mind before the evidence has been submitted to the court, and thus make it difficult and costly to secure a jury of unbiased men?

If it is true that the report in the Hibbing case has been prepared for several weeks, and was not made public until now, and its publication at this time was for political purposes, then the office of Public Examiner surrenders it right to popular confidence. If Governor Burnquist takes this means to crush a political enemy his success in public life will be brief. No man ever permanently succeeded who climbed to the top on the ruins of a rival's reputation, or who contributed to the assassination of his character.

It will take more evidence than has so far been produced to shake our faith and confidence in such men as Victor Power and Claude Atkinson. They have played the game too daringly in opposing the will of the Steel Trust to take any chances at wrong-doing. And then besides they are not built that way.

YOU SHOULD HEAR PASTOR RUSSELL.

Duluth people, or as many of them who can, should make it a point to hear Pastor Russell at the Auditorium next Thursday evening. The great author and lecturer has selected for his topic: "The World on Fire."

Pastor Russell, whose home is in Brooklyn, is president of the International Bible Students association. He came to Duluth at the invitation of the Associated Bible Students of this city.

Pastor Russell's recent public utterance have attracted special attention because of the fact that during the past forty years he has frequently expressed the conviction, based upon the interpretation of Bible prophecy, that a time of unprecedented trouble was impending and would become world-wide. The time set by this Bible scholar was the autumn of 1914. Since the outbreak of hostilities in Europe he has been delivering a series of lectures specially relating to the war and Bible prophecies respecting its outcome. His address here next Thursday is one of these.

The present conflict in Europe is but the prelude to an even greater struggle, according to Pastor Russell's view. He believes the following conflict will be largely the results of the poverty and distress occasioned by the war and the discontent these will cause, finally leading to social revolution and anarchy. This succeeding conflict, the Pastor declares, is clearly marked in Bible prophecy and termed, "the battle of Armageddon," and described by Christ as "a time of trouble such as was not since there was a nation." This final trouble, the venerable preacher believes, will prepare the world for, and usher in the long-promised reign of "peace on earth and good will among men," at the hands of the Prince of Peace.

Pastor Russell is an independent religious worker, and has won world-wide distinction as a defender of the Bible and because of his "anti-hell-fire" preaching. He is a familiar figure here, having visited this city a number of times during his long career of public life as author and lecturer. During the past year, the Pastor created quite a sensation by the launching of a moving picture exhibition detailing the story of the Bible from the creation to "Paradise Restored." This progressive method of carrying an evangelistic work has proven eminently successful according to the report of the Bible Students Association which financed the production. The Drama, styled "Creation," has been shown during the past year throughout this country and Canada. Many millions have witnessed the production. As usual, it has been announced that no admission charge will be made at this lecture, and no collection taken.

SETS 250,000 CHILDREN FREE.

The signing of the Federal Child Labor bill by President Wilson marks the end of a long hard fight for the protection of the working children of the country from the consequences of too early toil.

The house passed the measure in the first half of President Wilson's first term, but it reached the senate too late in the session for it to be enacted into law. This session it again passed the house and when there was shown some disposition to put the bill over until the December session the President went himself to the Capitol to urge its passage before congress adjourned. It passed the senate by a vote of 52 to 12.

The bill prohibits the shipment in interstate commerce of the products of any mine or quarry where children under 16 years are employed, or of any factory or cannery where children under 14 are employed, or children under 16 are allowed to work at night, or more than eight hours a day. About a quarter of a million children are affected by the new statute, according to the figures of 1910, who in that year were found at work in mines and factories. It is easy to see that an army of children there will be, as the years go by, freed from the curse of child labor.

It is really a second emancipation proclamation that President Wilson put his hand and seal to when he signed the Keating Child Labor bill. From the point of view of human welfare, it is perhaps the most important act of his administration.

IT DOESN'T FIT.

It may not be fair fighting, but when the nights are getting longer and 'one hasn't much to do, and he looks over his scrap book and finds this from the New York Sun, it is a temptation to ask what has happened since May 16, when the Sun uttered these words:

"The administration may well concentrate its attention upon the essential fact, and that fact is that an immeasurable and apparently imminent calamity has by Germany's act been averted without the obliteration of a single bright band in the spectrum of the republic's honor."

That, somehow doesn't seem to fit very well with what Mr. Hughes and The Sun are saying now.

"Hughes Means What He Says," declares a Republican newspaper. Even so, but what does he mean when he says?

The Republicans seem to have acquired a hundred per cent jinx.

KNIGHTS OF LABOR

BEGAN LABOR DAY

Since 1882, when the Knights of Labor resolved to hold their parades on Labor day, that holiday has been kept before the public in various localities, until now almost every state has followed the example of Colorado by making the first Monday in September a legal holiday. The idea of parading on that day has, however, lost popularity with labor organizations, as the holiday is celebrated in many forms of recreation by the several million strong army of wage earners who live by the exercise of brain or brawn. One day each year is therefore set apart for workers of all classes to relinquish labor and pursue the enjoyment of their individual bent. When there is such a diversity of sports every man demands his choice as to whether he shall spend the day at fishing, baseball, motoring or become an excursionist.

Old English Festivals. Nothing commends the good old days as strongly as the accounts of the feasts and festivals of the old English craftsmen, who kept certain holidays in revelry or ceremonious pageant even before America was discovered. In the present century it is almost impossible to imagine the influence of some of these old guilds of workmen, or to comprehend the occupations in which they were engaged. No longer is there any demand for horners, who engaged in making cups, spoons and window panes from the horns of cattle; nor is there but little demand for those whose business it was to dislodge chimney soot. Even the tinker who went from place to place mending pots and pans for housewives, and who passed them down to succeeding generations, has disappeared. There is no industry today, however, except perhaps that of building airships, but was represented in some crude way in the labor of the craftsman, and if honesty and quality of work are considered, our hats must be off to those men of old.

First Day of May.

That Labor day in Europe today is the first day of May is probably the theme of this day having been celebrated by many of the old craftsmen before the age of invention. Among other merry-makers, the chimney sweeps spent a frolicsome Mayday, and in some localities still keep up some of their old customs. In former times London's chalk-faced chimney sweeps carried shovels and brushes as they paraded the streets dressed in cheap finery and decked with strips of gilt and colored paper. To them no Mayday was complete without a May dance.

The beribboned milkmaids who danced on the same day also aspired to have music at their jollification, and often marched behind a cow with gilt horns in procession. On that day these rural workers borrowed silver cups and tankards, which they hung around their milkpails, decorated with ribbons and flowers. Such attractive paraphernalia helped them in collecting coins from their customers, before whom they danced.

EASILY GIVEN

It was only a sunny smile
And little it cost in the giving;
But it scattered the night
Like morning light,
And made the day worth living.
Through life's dull warp a woof it
wove,
In shining colors of light and love.
And the angels smiled as they
watched above,
Yet little it cost in the giving.

It was only a kindly word,
And a word that was lightly spoken;
Yet not in vain,
For it stilled the pain
Of a heart that was nearly broken.
It strengthened a fate beset by fears
And groping blindly through mists of
tears
For light to brighten the coming
years,
Although it was lightly spoken.

It was only a helping hand,
And it seemed of little availing;
But its clasps were warm,
And it saved from harm
A brother whose strength was falling.
Its touch was as tender as angels'
wings,
But it rolled the stone from the hid-
den springs,
And pointed the way to higher things,
Though it seemed of little availing.

A smile, a word, a touch,
And each is easily given;
Yet one may win
A soul from sin
Or smooth the way to heaven.
A smile may lighten a falling heart,
A word may soften pain's keenest
smart,
A touch may lead us from sin apart—
How easily each is given!
—From "Poems with Power," com-
piled by James Mudge.

LITTLE BROTHER

Playing in the city street,
Little brother,
Running errands with swift feet,
Passing me with footsteps fleet,
Ought we not to know each other,
Little brother?
Care comes early at our call,
Little brother,
Fat too heavy, burdens fall
On your shoulders slight and small,
Would that I could lift them all,
Little brother,
In the world's relentless mart,
Little brother,
Each must bear his many part,
Bare his bread with toil and smart,
But your course breaks my heart,
Little brother,
Surely there are unconfest,
Little brother,
Longing in your boyish breast?
Teach me how to help you best,
How we each may help the other,
Little brother,
—May Preston Stinson in Independent.

New Fall Suits \$10 to \$35 at The Big Duluth



Select Your Winter Suit or Coat While Stocks Are at Their Best!

We show hundreds of Nobby Garments just fresh from the makers—and comprising the latest styles and colorings!

At \$22.50

Fine Suits, made of American poplin, well lined in black and colors; good fitting and well tailored.

At \$29.50

We feature a collection of the best suits in Duluth at this price, in plain serges, whip-cords, check velours and poplins; all colors and black; extra values at \$29.50.

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Made of fine chevots, mixtures and wool velours, specially priced at \$10.00, \$12.50, \$17.50 to \$22.50.

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Save Security Vouchers

Start filling a book today. They are worth real money to you. A complete book of Security Vouchers is redeemable here for \$2 in merchandise.

Crepe de Chine and Taffeta Blouses; white, flesh, navy, black and browns; very nobby ripple models, at \$3.95

New Sweaters

Nobby new rope sweaters with belt or sash; gold, green, white, red, maroon, navy and oxford, \$6.75 to \$12.50

\$3 Crepe Kimonos at \$1.95

200 Handsome Crepe Kimonos or Negligees, in rose, pink, Copenhagen, helio, champagne, lavender and light blues; all embroidered and made in Empire styles; worth \$3.00, special \$1.95 at only

—Bargain Square—Main Floor.

STRIDE TOWARD SOCIAL JUSTICE

The enactment of a law by both houses of congress last week providing for an eight-hour standard workday for railroad employes was a great stride towards social justice. It was the recognition of a fundamental principle the establishment of which organized labor and all advanced thinkers have contended for since the advent of the new industrialism.

That Wall street and the railroad officials should be up in arms is to be expected. They have been forced to give by law that which they refused to give by right. They tried to stay the march of progress and deny a standard that is now generally recognized by society, but found that the president and majority of our national representatives, heeding the voice of public opinion for a shorter workday in industry, had the courage to respond to the demands of the governed, notwithstanding the threats of the privilege-seeking minority who would undermine the health and intellect of the nation in their mad greed for wealth, power and autocratic domination.

Naturally the captains of finance are shocked and bitterly resentful, for it is a new thing in American life to know that Wall street does not control Washington.

Anti-administration newspapers are raving. Not one of them contends that the eight-hour standard is not right, but they object to the way in which it was brought about for the railroad employes. The necessity of the eight-hour standard for social advancement has gripped the public mind so firmly that they do not dare attack the justice of it.

The legislators at Washington who wrote the eight-hour standard for railroad employes into the national policy of our country have not only paved the way for better conditions for the workers, but they have made for a more intelligent, a more virile manhood and womanhood, and therefore for the advancement of the citizens of our country as a whole. They have enacted into law the spirit of the times.

The shorter workday in industry has come to stay. Progress demands it and the health, intelligence and ability of our people to maintain their standing as a nation depend upon it. Neither Wall street nor a prejudiced press can stem the tide of public opinion that the shorter workday is necessary to the welfare of the American people.—Exchange.

WHAT LABOR WANTS FROM OHIO ASSEMBLY

The Mansfield convention of the Ohio State Federation of Labor, 1915, outlined the legislative demands of the Trade Union movement in Ohio, when it unanimously adopted the final report and recommendations of its committee on legislation. Those recommendations provided:

1. Regulation and limiting the use of the injunction.
2. Prohibiting the importation strikebreakers.
3. Prohibiting the exercise of police authority by others than those in control of the state.
4. That the incoming executive board and the legislative agent be instructed to prepare and introduce in the next general assembly a bill to amend the Workmen's Compensation act, prohibiting self-insurers under the act from transferring their insurance risks to liability insurance companies.
5. Eight hours for women workers.
6. Providing for the Australian ballot system at primaries.
- Vote for no legislative candidates opposed to this platform.

MACHINISTS REDUCE HOURS.

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 14.—Striking machinists are gradually winning their eight-hour battle. Thirty-five shops have accepted the shorter workday and signed an agreement. About 2,000 are still on strike, although this number is being lessened because many strikers are leaving the city to work under other conditions.

THE GOWN.

By BELLE ROBINS.
She sat in a room that was dingy and bare,
That the sun would not tease with his glorious light;
The heart full of gloom that languished in there—
The soul without hope that languished in there—
Languished and tolled from morn until night—
And the form that once was young and so fair,
Now wasted and withered with toil and with care.

She threaded the needle; how quickly it whirred
Through the goods, as so deftly she sewed and she seamed!
Her soul was so wretched, so stunned and so blurred—
Her eyes were so strained, so swollen and blurred—
That she hardly could see the thing she had dreamed—
A gown whose great beauty was marvellously rare,
A gown for some fair one to fondle and wear.

That other I then saw arrayed in the gown—
A young girl so handsome, in Youth's tender bloom;
Nothing of hardship her young life had known;
Nothing but pleasure her young soul had known—
Nothing of toil, or hunger, or gloom—
Full of smiles and of dimples, with never a frown—
Nor a thought of the cost of her beautiful gown!

The world was so fair, so joyous and glad—
Of Life's sweetest nectar only she quaffed;
All that she wished and yearned for she had;
All that her heart but longed for she had—
She danced and she sang, she played and she laughed;
Thus passed the days, and soundly she slept—
While the woman who toiled? She sewed . . . and she wept.

CORN CROP SHORT.
The corn crop will be short this season, but not as short as the wheat crop. It is estimated that there will be 2,600,000,000 bushels, or 400,000,000 bushels less than last year. The decrease in yield is likely to maintain meat prices strongly.

ICE DRIVERS STRIKE.
Memphis, Tenn., Sept. 14.—Because seven ice companies refused to better working conditions of their drivers the ice delivery system of this city has been completely tied up.

WAGE INCREASES NOT UP TO PROFITS

NEW YORK, Sept. 14.—The 5 and 10 per cent wage increases of United States Steel corporation, so widely heralded recently, cast a feeble shadow beside what is termed the most brilliant quarter in the financial history of this concern. In the three months ended June 30 its net income, after all operating expenses and repairs have been accounted for, was \$81,126,048, compared with \$60,713,624 in the preceding quarter, and \$27,950,055 in the June quarter last year.

The astonishing business of the corporation this year is best shown through comparisons. Net income was \$8,000,000 greater in the quarter than in the whole of the 1904 year. Each month brought a larger return than any quarter in 1914 and 1904, while, in addition, June's earnings were larger than in any quarter in 1908. The half year's balance for the common stock exceeded the annual balance in every other year since the corporation was formed, the closest being 1907, when 15.6 per cent was earned.

WILSON RECOGNIZES CLAIM OF LABOR

I have recommended the concession of the eight-hour day—that is, the substitution of an eight-hour day for the present ten-hour day in all the existing practices and agreements. I made this recommendation because I believed the concession right. The eight-hour day now undoubtedly has the sanction of the judgment of society in its favor and should be adopted as a basis for wages even where the actual work to be done cannot be completed within eight hours.—President Woodrow Wilson.

SEEK TO IMPROVE CONDITIONS.
NEW YORK, Sept. 14.—Several thousand striking girls in the paper box industry are counting on the lack of immigration to improve working conditions which they declare are "absolutely immoral." A. F. of L. Organizer Frayne says their average pay is from \$4 to \$5 a week, and the men employed receive about \$10. The union seeks an average of \$8 a week for the girls and \$12 for the men. A 50-hour week, time and one-half for overtime, and double pay on Sundays is demanded. The workers also ask recognition of their union and wage increases of from 10 to 20 per cent for piece work.

If you want to reach the union men of Duluth, run a small ad weekly. Results are sure to follow.

French & Bassett Co.

Furniture of Great Interest to the Fall Bride

For weeks, perhaps, the Bride-to-be has been planning the furniture for the New Home. Living-room, Dining-room, Bedrooms have been pondered carefully. Now—the selection! Here—a store fully of exquisite pieces of the very best made furniture—very reasonably priced to make a certain appeal to limited incomes.

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Established 1864. FIRST ST. AND THIRD AVE. WEST.