

THE TIMES

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SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1911

Each man should have the right to earn his way,
 And each should have for fair day's work a fair day's pay,
 Each man should be governed by Justice's right
 And gain his ends by peaceful means—not dynamite.

MAYOR FORBIDS GAMBLING.

THREE-CARD MONTE will receive the deuce. The Jack of Clubs is out of sorts. The King of Diamonds no longer may flirt with the Queen of Hearts, and the dice no longer may rattle to the undoing of man. Mayor Rushlight's conscience has awakened. He has "given it out cold" that games of chance are henceforth taboo. The "Gentleman's Club" will not be permitted to have "quiet little games" in the new Multnomah Hotel, or anywhere else. So says the Mayor. He declares, also, that the card sharps will not be allowed to ply their dubious trade anywhere in Portland. Good! THE TIMES will stand by the Mayor in this matter, and hopes he can make good. All along we have contended that it is unfair to "round up" the Chinaman, playing fantan and running a little lottery, or our colored brothers for "shootin' craps," and let the white offender go unscathed.

The decent element in Portland will look with leniency upon any mistakes Mayor Rushlight has made if he will stamp out gambling. It is a matter of common report that a certain high-toned club on Park street has its little games, but no one is ever molested there for participation. A prominent hotel on Sixth street, it is alleged, has been the rendezvous for many years of shrewd manipulators of the pasteboards, but no one ever heard of police interference there. Like the knotholes in the floor, supposed to be the portals of the rodents, it might be well to look into these places. If Mayor Rushlight would win favor and not show any favoritism in gambling matters, he has a great chance.

THE NEGRO QUESTION.

DURING the Civil War, at the time four millions of blacks were freed and given the elective franchise, a problem was forced upon the Republic, whose solution has not even yet arrived. Since that time the colored people have increased in numbers, until now there are about twelve millions in the United States. To the negro was held out great promises when he should have fitted himself for advanced conditions. Schools have been established and he has been given the same education as that provided for whites. The negro, in special instances, has shown up more than favorably in nearly every great city in the country. We find that he has given an excellent account of himself in the professions. We find instances where the negro has proven a successful banker, merchant, manufacturer.

The white man, instead of giving him encouragement, has tended to frown upon his efforts. Despite all handicaps, the negro has advanced, and is entitled to great credit therefor. We have not the figures at hand, but the government census reveals the fact that the negro has acquired much wealth and is an element that must be considered.

By this time, through poverty and hardship, the negro has learned that no matter how hard he may try to rise "above the fortune of his mean estate," the white man cannot or will not treat him as a social equal. But he is entitled to his legal rights.

The other day a colored man, who by thrift and industry, has gotten along in the world, voiced the sentiments of his people. He said:

"The white people have given us education. They have taught us useful trades, but after we have equipped ourselves so as to earn our way in a field of competitive endeavor, they forbid us to proceed. Because of our color (for which we are blameless) we are shoved into menial pursuits. I am learning to believe that too much education for the negro in general is a mistake. He cannot usually profit by it. It seems to me that the negro is best qualified to become an agriculturist. The negro has been too much a consumer and too little a producer. I believe that the negro would do better as a tiller of the soil than in any other pursuit. I speak of the great majority of negroes. To those who are sufficiently gifted to make their mark as doctors or lawyers, such should, of course, be allowed to develop themselves fully."

SCHOOL BOARD WAKES UP.

AT LENGTH the School Board has really begun to wake up. Scarcely could the public believe the news that a new and more modern and sanitary system of plumbing has been ordered for the Irvington school. We learn, also, that improvements in the matter of proper and sensible ventilation are not among the impossibilities. Well, these would be a beginning, to say the least, but there is a great deal more overhauling necessary.

These teachers' meetings on Saturdays, as conducted, according to report, are a sheer waste of time of a most worthy body of workers. Teachers lead a pretty strenuous life at best. To their care we commit the education of our children. They are entitled to a full day's rest on Saturday, except on special occasions. The whole business is an evidence to any sensible minded person that there is altogether too much "system" and too little common sense.

Then there are the fire drills. What sense is there in making the children waste valuable time in looking after their wraps and books, when a few seconds saved might mean the preservation of precious human lives? Here is another overdose of "system." We hope every questionable and absurd practice in our present school system may be crowded into the limelight. We trust The Evening Telegram will keep everlastingly at the work of airing these matters. Agitation in so worthy a cause is sure to produce results.

Another matter is the frequent changes in text books. People of moderate means cannot afford to have this burden constantly added to, yet it is done. Why does not Portland adopt the satisfactory system in vogue in many eastern cities, where the books and all school supplies are furnished the children? Such plan would aid materially.

CONCERNING "SCABS."

THERE HAS been considerable discussion of late concerning the use of the word "scab." There is a city ordinance prohibiting its use toward another, though Judge Tazewell opines that if it is applied in non-offensive tones, it may be allowable. Webster thus defines it: "A nickname for a workman who engages for lower wages than are fixed by the trades unions; also for one who takes the place of a workman on a strike."

In a communication to an evening paper, a correspondent says on the subject:

"Concerning the use and abuse of the word 'scab,' the writer is no enemy of organized labor within its lawful rights, neither is he an admirer of the rough-house tactics in industrial or political strife. In the early '80s Terence V. Powderly, then head of the Knights of Labor, defined a 'scab' as one who voluntarily obligated himself by oath or affirmation to a labor union and then became recreant to his associates and his obligations, or words to that effect. It is true

that many workmen are too independent to submit to the discipline of labor unions, but who are often found among the most enthusiastic and effective strikers, but should they elect, as other non-union men frequently do, to stay with their jobs for any reason best known to themselves, they are not 'scabs,' nor can they be properly called strikebreakers. A professional strikebreaker may be another matter, but he is not a 'scab' within the meaning of Powderly's understanding of the appellation, whatever else he may be. As to those men who take the places of strikers by exercising what they call the right of contract or any other right of an American citizen, in dealing with such men, some of the labor leaders in these latter days have yet to learn the admonition of Lincoln, that a drop of honey brings more results than a gallon of gall."

The above is a clear and lucid explanation of a decidedly unclean and objectionable word. No man of gentlemanly instincts or good breeding would ever be fowl his tongue in applying such a term.

The man who chooses to labor unentangled with unions has the unquestioned right to do so. He has the right to be let alone, and others who molest him deserve arrest and punishment.

SAN FRANCISCO'S MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 15.—A preliminary statement of the general results of the Thirteenth United States census of manufactures of the City of San Francisco was issued today by Census Director Durand.

There has been a considerable decrease in manufactures since 1904, due to the earthquake and fire which occurred shortly after the census of the year mentioned.

The only increases were in capital invested, 31 per cent; miscellaneous expenses, 5 per cent; number of salaried officials and clerks, 18 per cent, and cost of materials used, less than 1 per cent.

There were 1795 establishments in 1909 and 2251 in 1904, a decrease of 456, or 20 per cent.

The capital invested, as reported in 1909, was \$133,760,000 and \$102,362,000 in 1904, an increase of \$31,398,000, or 31 per cent. The value of products was \$132,929,000 in 1909 and \$137,788,000 in 1904, a decrease of \$4,859,000, or 4 per cent. The average per establishment was approximately \$74,000 in 1909 and \$61,000 in 1904.

The cost of materials used was \$76,175,000 in 1909, as against \$75,946,000 in 1904, an increase of \$229,000, or less than 1 per cent. In addition to the component materials which enter into the products of the establishment for the census year to year included fuel, rent of power and heat and mill supplies.

The value added by manufacture was \$56,754,000 in 1909 and \$61,842,000 in 1904, a decrease of \$5,088,000, or 8 per cent. This item formed 43 per cent of the total value of products in 1909 and 45 per cent in 1904. The value added by manufacture represents the difference between the cost of material used and the value of products after the manufacturing processes have been expended upon them. It is the best measure of relative importance of industries.

The salaries and wages amounted to \$30,452,000 in 1909 and \$31,645,000 in 1904, a decrease of \$1,193,000, or 4 per cent.

The average number of wage-earners employed during the year was 28,239 in 1909 and 38,428 in 1904, a decrease of 10,190, or 27 per cent.

MEDDLESOME UNIONISTS.

IT HAS COME to the knowledge of THE TIMES that two labor union representatives recently called upon Adolphe Wolfe, of Lipman, Wolfe & Co., to attempt to align the firm with the unions. Mr. Wolfe is reported to have written a check of \$1000 at the time to back his statement to this effect: That the contractor erecting the firm's new building had assured him that more than two-thirds of the men employed in constructing the building are union men. Mr. Wolfe then said as to the affiliations of the remaining men at work, that was none of the representatives' business, and they had better make themselves scarce, unless they had \$1000 to back up their talk.

Two unionists on a car recently talked over matters that should have been discussed in their hall and so loudly that the other passengers overheard them. This is what they said: That it was costing the unions \$4 a day to have the banner boycotting Lipman, Wolfe & Co. carried; that the Federation would not back the expense and that the unions would not, so it was called off.

Just another word or two concerning the Lipman & Wolfe matter: The firm's head house carpenter was expelled from his union on account of this mess, and his assistant was fined \$25. The head carpenter was reinstated with money furnished by the Lipman & Wolfe Co. The assistant carpenter said he knew when he had a good job; that he was getting \$5 a day and overtime; had no further use for the unions and proposed to nurse his good job.

Thus was written Chapter One of the prophecy recently made by THE TIMES regarding "Boycotts That Will Prove a Fizzle".

THE MAN FOR THE PLACE.

THE SECRETARY of the Portland Ad Club has been instructed to communicate with all other Ad Clubs of the Pacific Coast. He will try to secure their co-operation to procure the appointment of D. O. Lively as Livestock Commissioner at the Panama-Pacific Exposition. THE TIMES heartily endorses the idea. Mr. Lively deserves this position. Ever since he has been identified with Portland's business interests, he has been a public-spirited and progressive man. Early and late Mr. Lively has devoted his ablest efforts not only toward building up the livestock industry, but toward anything and everything that should place Portland and Oregon on the map. There is no Western man better equipped in knowledge, training and experience than he for the position named, and THE TIMES sincerely desires to see him appointed.

Sometimes we see very bad examples among so-called educated people. If education does not teach refinement, good manners and gentlemanly behavior, then there is much effort and much money expended in vain. There was sufficient evidence in a certain prominent hotel grill last Saturday night of the foregoing statement. In the event of a great football victory one can excuse the successful team for voicing their joy. That is perfectly natural; but when their glee finds expression in drunken sottishness and conduct unbecoming gentlemen, it is time to condemn them, as we do. Their actions were entirely comparable with San Francisco or New York hoodlums or the hooligan element in London.

There are ordinances forbidding boys to play pool or to drink in saloons. The law forbids the sale of tobacco, cigars and cigarettes to boys. Despite these laws, anyone visiting pool rooms, saloons and cigar stores in Portland knows full well that boys do play pool, drink and smoke. If a person has passed the age limit, he is supposed, if he indulges at all in these things, to do so with judgment. That is his business. It is not the proprietors of these places who are entirely to blame, but the parents of the boys. THE TIMES desires to see that every Portland boy shall have the right to make a man of himself. If the parents cannot look after the boys, the police had better keep their eyes open.

Rushlight—emerged from the twilight, stepped through the starlight, rushed into the limelight, flashed through the sunlight, swept into the moonlight—absorbed into the no-light. Place won through gall, loved not at all—not beyond recall.

There are two questions that there is never any profit in debating—religion and politics. When all is said and done, each of the contending parties still retains his own original belief. Such discussions begin nowhere and end nowhere. They produce enmity, oftentimes, and thus accomplish no good.

If you have anything to be thankful for this Thanksgiving, try to scatter a little sunshine among the sick and deserving; then they will have something to be thankful for. If you haven't, do some good anyway, and you'll feel much the better for it.

THE POLLY OF STRIKES.

There are numberless reasons why workmen should avoid strikes as a means of adjusting differences with employers. The certain loss of wages is never counterbalanced by any wage increase. Bitterness and ill-feeling, always engendered by a strike, are sure to remain, especially if the struggle be long-drawn out and hard fought. And those who are urged to strike ought ever to remember that any strike is likely to be lost, and that there is a strong possibility that the defeated must accept whatever terms the victors may impose.

No matter which side wins, no strike ever settled anything. The men may be able, under favorable circumstances, to compel the employer to grant the terms they desire; but, they may be sure that the employer, smarting under the sting of what he believes to be an injustice, will bide his time; and when he is well prepared and ready, he will recover all that he has given up. The fight will then have to be fought over again, with the chances this time in favor of the employer.

On the other hand, if an employer, knowing that the daily bread of his men depends upon their daily wage, takes advantage of his position and forces unjust and unpalatable conditions upon them, he may be sure that he is only inviting trouble, for the time will come when his employees will feel themselves strong enough to take up the fight again.

In these labor disputes public opinion is always an important factor, and often the public is forced to stand a large part of the inevitable loss. Every strike, whether gained or lost, strengthens the public in its feeling that it has been "made the goat"; and there is little wonder that the general public is as much opposed to strikes and boycotts as to lock-outs. It has little sympathy with men who plunge their fellows into such struggles through a desire to gratify personal spite or selfish ambition.

These are strong reasons against striking when there is a possibility of settling grievances by any other means; but there is still another reason that should deter old employees' especially heads of families, from being persuaded into strikes. The real tragedy of a strike centers not in the young and unmarried men, but in those who have grown old and gray-haired in the service. Ordinarily, a strike is brought about by the young men, who can hang up their hats anywhere and be at home. The demand for young men is larger than the supply and they are sure of work. It is easy for the young man, with no responsibilities and no family, to shout for a strike. Nine times out of ten they are the ones who precipitate strikes. And just as often it is true that those who shout the loudest are the first to shirk the responsibility and try to get their places back. The older men, the heads of families, who will be the chief sufferers, forced out by what they believe to be public opinion, are usually true blue union men, and believe themselves bound in honor to live up to their union obligation. They will be the last to try to get back at the expense of their fellows.

Think of the consequences to these old men, brought to the parting of the ways and torn by the necessity of choosing between their union and their employers. They must face the problem of being unable to provide either themselves or those dependent upon them with the necessities of life, since they have given up their positions and, perhaps, are too old to take up another line of work.

Many old employees, over-persuaded to join a strike, have never been able to get their places back when the strike was called off. Even an indulgent employer, who would have been loath to discharge them when old and unable to do their work, respecting their usefulness in the days when they were able and willing, may now feel that they have forfeited all claim upon him. The young, active and energetic men will be taken back; but the old employee, too old to do the work he once did, will be set adrift upon a cold and heartless world. Within a few years he might have been eligible to a pension which would have enabled him and his aged wife to live in comfort for the remainder of their lives. After surrendering his position and his right to the pension, what remains for him? There is nothing for him but to live off the charity of his children, or spend his declining years pattering about at odd jobs that he may stave off the bitter day when, perhaps, he must go "over

the hills to the poorhouse." What wonder, then, that the old employees are conservative whenever strike talk is bandied about the shop?

THE COST OF STRIKES.

Labor pays a heavier part of the cost of needless and fruitless strikes than capital and is in no position to recover it, because the capital upon which it depends for employment and for wages is in other hands. That must be used to afford work and wages to labor. Capital is in constant competition with capital in different employments, and there is a certain established rate of return from its use necessary to keep it at work employing and paying for labor. Where it does not get that return it shrinks or slips away to find other use. In so far as it is diminished in amount or impaired in productiveness by strikes labor suffers loss. Workmen have less to do and get less pay. Where capital has borne its temporary loss and the strikes have failed, it can get labor on easier terms than before and will make all haste to recoup its losses, while labor must struggle along worse off than before, because it cannot shrink or slip away and find other use—where capital is not in control. It cannot recover what it has lost and what it can get has been lessened by its own behavior. Another economic effect of strikes, where they are frequent, extended or prolonged, is to increase the cost of production as well as to curtail its fruits, and that has its effect upon the price of the products of industry. Here the cost is diffused among consumers. Strikes must of necessity cause loss and diminished production. Nobody wholly escapes the consequences, but they fall most heavily upon laboring men who depend upon wages. For these consequences those who instigate or cause the strikes are responsible.—From the New York Journal of Commerce.

ANENT THE KAMM MATTER.

Editor THE TIMES:
 In your issue of November 18th you criticize Mr. Jacob Kamm for not permitting his property to be cut up into 200-foot blocks.

Has it ever occurred to you that one of the greatest items of expense the property-owner in this city has to contend with is the number of street assessments he has to pay?

Would it not be far better if our blocks were 400 feet long, with an alley, and save nearly one-half the amount paid for streets?

The city desires to erect an auditorium suitable for our needs ten years hence, and must have a larger block than 200x200 feet. If all property-owners permitted their property to be cut up into small blocks, where would you erect an auditorium or any other large public building?

If the city desires to put streets through Mr. Kamm's property, and will pay for the land they take (as they did in the Morrison-street case), I have no doubt he would sell, but as I understand the facts to be, some people desire the streets opened and improved at Mr. Kamm's expense.

If you owned such a tract would you consider that fair treatment? Mr. Kamm's wisdom in keeping his tract intact should, in my opinion, be commended.

Yours respectfully,
 W. R. M.

IN RETROSPECT.

"In fact, messieurs," the professor, still addressing his class, went on to say, "history affords the record of no fewer than two migrations sufficient to have shifted the weight of population from one part of the world to another, namely:

"First. The incursion of the Scythian tribes of the fifth century, whereby the Western Roman Empire was extinguished, and the modern nations of Europe had their beginning.

"Second. The invasion of the United States of America in the twentieth century, by Russian dancers."—Puck.

Your business should be represented in THE TIMES. We interest ninety-two and one-half per cent. THE TIMES will give you the best run for your money you ever had. Figure it out with us.