

## WEST SHORE.

JUL 11 1949

It has been decided by the American Federation of Labor that only the carpenters shall make a fight on the first of May for eight hours a day, it being deemed necessary for other trades to continue at work in order to earn money with which to support themselves and the striking carpenters. This is evidently the choice of two evils. It was recognized as a probability—almost a certainty—that a strike of all the trades could not last long, since there would be no income upon which the strikers could live, and they would soon be compelled to work as the alternative of starving. But the success of a strike confined exclusively to carpenters is also doubtful. There are thousands of non-union carpenters—inelegantly denominated "scabs" by union men—and members of the federation belonging to other trades will have to work with them or not at all. Any strike because of the employment of non-union carpenters would be equivalent to a general strike and would, no doubt, be followed by a general lockout of all trades, precipitating the very conditions under which the federation says success is improbable. To say the least, it is doubtful if contractors will permit themselves to be defeated in detail as per the announced plan of the campaign. It is more probable that they will make an attack, not only on the skirmish line of carpenters sent out against them, but upon the line of battle of other trades behind them. There is more in this movement than a mere strike of carpenters, and both sides will find it out before the end is reached.

In moving in the matter of organizing an industrial exposition for the Inland Empire, the scope of which shall take in the representative industries of the whole northwest, the people of Spokane Falls have taken the surest means of making known the character and extent of the resources of its tributary country. The region has reached a stage of development that will enable it to make a very creditable showing. The evidences of progress which a large exposition will present will surprise many who fancy they are tolerably well acquainted with the country. But a large part of the value of such an institution, properly managed, lies in the opportunity it will afford for capitalists and others interested in the northwest to gain a definite knowledge of the nature of the wealth upon which Spokane Falls bases its growth. To enlist capital in the development of the natural riches of the country is one of the objects to be obtained by a representative display of its wares. It will attract many people who otherwise would never take the trouble to investigate the merits of the northwest, and especially of the interior northwest. Its benefits can scarcely be overestimated. Spokane is a most suitable point for an enterprise of this character, and the characteristic

energy of her business men is a sufficient guaranty of its success.

Blaine, it seems, has been engaged in practical work to accomplish the status of commercial reciprocity between this country and other American countries recommended by the international congress recently in session in Washington. Should such treaties be negotiated, especially with Mexico and the Argentine Republic, much of the quarrel over the terms of the tariff bill will prove wasted energy. The fight on free hides, wool and lead can then be made direct in the senate in considering the question of ratifying the treaties. This would leave the house out in the cold in this matter, no doubt to the relief of those who are oppressed with the burden of doing the impossible.

There promises to be a greater split in congress over the silver question than the tariff revision movement. The extreme position taken by the radical silver men is so far beyond any point to which the conservatives can be either coaxed or driven that any legislation is impossible unless the radicals compromise on the Windom measure. Even this is one of doubtful success, for the democrats will not aid the republicans if they can help it, and there are many republicans unalterably opposed to any further coinage of silver than now authorized by law.

Has not Cleveland a right to his own flesh, and is there any political significance in his fatness? Those republican papers that ape the *New York Sun* in criticism of the ex-president's personal appearance would do their party cause more good if they confined their remarks to more important subjects, besides keeping closer within the bounds of decency.

A brewery or distillery at Valley Forge! what desecration! Congress should purchase the grounds for a national park to preserve the memory of the time "that tried men's souls," a distillery of the spirit of revolutionary days for the great mass of the un-Americanized now in this country to imbibe.

The first immigrant to land at the new landing in New York was presented with a \$5.00 gold piece by the superintendent. It would be a good investment for the government to present \$5.00 to every one of them, and then send three-fourths of them back again.

Stanley thinks that Africa will in the future become what America is to-day. If that be so, Europe and Asia will have to hurry up and change their ways, or they will be of little account in the affairs of this mundane sphere.