

MUNICIPAL OWNERSHIP.

Some of the Advantages Resulting From Cities Owning the Utilities.

The city of Glasgow, Scotland, has owned its street railway system, consisting of eighty-three miles of track, ten miles of which are operated by electricity. According to the official report for the year ending July 1, 1900, the total number of passengers carried during the year was 127,628,484, of which number 14,835,858 were carried on the electric lines. The gross receipts for the year were \$2,349,000, and the operating expenses, including taxes and insurance, were \$1,723,000, leaving a balance of \$626,000. After deducting rentals of leased lines, interest on capital, the annual sinking fund payment and a certain amount on account of depreciation of plant, the net surplus profits on the year were \$295,000.

The average fare paid by all passengers was slightly under 1 1/4 cents.

The operating expenses of the horse traction lines was 76.00 per cent of the gross receipts.

The operating expenses of the electric lines was 45.15 per cent of the gross receipts.

During the year the wages of all employees were increased 24 cents per week, the advance amounting to the aggregate of \$30,000 in wages for the year.

During the year the sum of \$8,850 was contributed by the management for the insurance of employees in friendly societies.

All employees who have served for twelve months receive five days' vacation with pay each day.

"Without venturing to assert that the municipal ownership of street-car lines in the city of St. Paul is altogether desirable at this time," says the St. Paul Globe in reviewing the above facts, "the above facts are well worth the serious consideration of all classes of citizens. The most striking point is the low rate of fare charged under municipal ownership in the city of Glasgow as compared with the rate of fare exacted by the St. Paul City Railway Company, and this, too, notwithstanding the fact that in St. Paul electricity is the motive power on all lines, while in Glasgow it is only used on less than one-eighth of the system. If, as stated in this report, the cost of operating by electricity is so much less than the cost of operating by horse traction, the Twin City Rapid Transit Company should be able to make a lower rate of fare than does the city of Glasgow. It is such facts as these that will force upon the people of the Twin Cities, ultimately, the necessity for some sort of control and regulation of the rapid transit facilities of St. Paul and Minneapolis. It is true that the Twin City system of street railways is a vast improvement on the old horse-car service, but it is not by any means the most perfect system in the United States, and it must be remembered that the substitution of electricity for horse power is just as liable to reduce the cost of operating in St. Paul and Minneapolis as it is in the city of Glasgow, and that the Glasgow people enjoy a fare of 1 1/4 cents while the people of the Twin Cities pay a 5-cent fare now, just as they did in the days of horse cars."

What is true of St. Paul is equally true of Detroit, Chicago, Cleveland, and all the larger cities where a 5-cent fare is still charged. The most monstrous extortion, however, is in Philadelphia, where an 8-cent fare is the rule and where the city government is practically owned by the transportation company.—Union Record.

HOW PATRIOTIC WE ARE.

This item from the Chicago Record shows what the family of the private soldier may get:

Evicted a Centenarian.—Mrs. Sarah Elliott, 101 years old, was taken to Dunning poor house yesterday, after having been evicted from a small room she occupied at Princeton avenue and Thirtyseventh street. Her daughter,

Mrs. Humphrey, is in a hospital, and her grandsons are soldiers in the Philippines. Policemen found Mrs. Elliott huddled in an alley. They believe she had been without food and shelter for 24 hours. She would not give the name of her landlord, but said that if he had been patient money for the rent would have been sent from the Philippines.

The fund for the widow of General Lawton amounted to about \$100,000. In addition, congress granted her a liberal pension. The pay of a major-general in time of war is \$9,575 per year, while the private gets the princely stipend of \$186. Therefore, General Lawton's salary for one week was as much as the private's for an entire year! A nice divide in this game of patriotism, where both "die to uphold the flag and extend our trade!"

WHAT FOOLS THESE MORTALS BE.

An Idiotic Woman and Her Pet Dogs.

According to a daily paper, Amy Crocker, the heiress, who is now Mrs. Harry Gilsey, owns three \$10,000 dogs, and spends as much upon their food and blankets, medical attendance and luxuries as would support several families.

The dogs are bathed in perfumed water in their private bathroom at the Gilsey House by their own dainty, skillful French maid.

They are taken out for a walk three times a day and rubbed down as often by a footman kept for that purpose.

They wear massive collars made of Japanese coins that cost a small fortune.

They breakfast and lunch and dine off the same expensive dainties that form their mistress' menu.

They sleep in imported baskets on eider down pillows.

Their blankets and boots, bought quarterly, cost \$100 per dog.

They have skilled medical attendance from one of the most fashionable physicians in New York.

And they had their miniatures painted by the famous animal artist, Mrs. Izora Chandler, at \$100 for each head.

The paper from which these facts are quoted states that the dinners shared by the dogs cost \$1.50; wages of dog footman, \$30 per month; wages of dog maid, per month, \$25; perfume for daily bath, \$1.00.

THE BEST IS NONE TOO GOOD.

The very best is none too good for the producers. We want it all, and should never be ashamed to say so. Our families are just as good as the next. Should we work under slavish conditions that the other fellow may enjoy all the blessings of life? Should we work for a pittance in order that the other fellow may dress his family in the latest fashion and send them to the sea shore or the fashionable mountain resorts? We think not. How can we prevent this condition of affairs; that is, where the other fellow and his family enjoy all those things, and we swelter away at the bench for a pittance. There is only one answer, organize the craft. This can be done, it will be done. Don't listen to the fellow who continually says, "You can't do it!" We have heard that cry ever since we have been in the labor movement, but the movement keeps right on growing and improving the condition of the workers. Let everybody take courage; there is reason for so doing. There never was a time in the history of the movement when the chance for organization looked better. The New York lockout is a sample of what can be accomplished by a little courage and determination.—Cigar Makers' Journal.

The matter of Mongolian labor should be taken up with your congressmen and senators. The Chinese exclusion act should be re-enacted, and a similar bill passed barring the Japanese. This action must be taken to protect our citizens and their homes.—Spokane Journal.

THE UNION LABEL.

How a Baltimore Clergyman Endorses the Workingman's Trademark.

A Baltimore clergyman in a recent sermon endorsed the union label in the following eloquent words, says the Erie People:

"What can be more sacred, more holy or more deserving of the reverence of men or the angels than the union label, which signifies that human life has been more highly valued in the production of human commodities than the mere profits sought for by greed!

"The label is an emblem of justice, of fraternity, of humanity. When you find a label on a garment, or box of cigars, or a loaf of bread, or a piece of printing, you can be sure that neither was made in a sweat shop, that no little children's fingers were compelled to sew or sort tobacco in the hours of the night intended for childish sleep. When you see this label on any commodity, you can buy it with a clear conscience, knowing that in doing so you are not becoming partner to an institution that degrades humanity for private profit. You can sleep soundly, also, and not be worried with thoughts of typhus fever, smallpox or leprosy, which are so often scattered broadcast from Chinese opium joints, penitentiary convicts' cells and tenement sweat shops, where the most degraded specimens of humanity put their life's blood into marketable goods, from which the poor, unsuspecting public suffers all manner of foul and loathsome diseases.

"The union label is a religious emblem. It is a religious act to buy goods to which this label is attached—an act blessed on earth and honored in heaven, while it is a sin to buy a cigar, a piece of clothing, a pair of shoes, or a loaf of bread, without this label, for then you do not know but what you are building up the business of some heartless tyrant, who is extracting a fortune from the drudgery and degradation of his fellows, at the risk of public health.

"God bless the label! And I hope that all of you, as you leave this house tonight, will carry indelibly impressed upon your minds the picture of the union label, surrounded by angels, and that you will always know that the favorite banner in heaven represents justice to labor; fresh air and sunshine, and healthful conditions to those who toil, and the truth that human life is of greater moment than gain of gold."

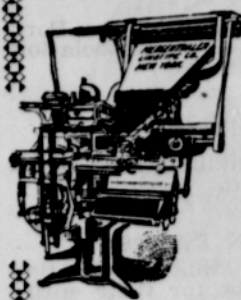
THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER.

Behold an advertiser went forth to sow. And when he sowed, some seed fell into hand bills and dodgers, and the street cleaner came and gathered them up. Some seed fell among concert and theater programmes, and as the people were interested in the performance and not in bargains, they were left on the seats and crumpled and thrown on the floor. And some fell among fake schemes and gift enterprises, popular contempt sprang up and choked them. But some fell into legitimate newspapers which found way into homes of the people who had time to read them, and they brought forth fruit some thirty-fold. Who hath ears to hear let him hear.—Exchange.

THE CZAR IS PROGRESSING.

The employment of children under twelve years of age in industrial establishments, whether conducted by the state or private individuals, is absolutely forbidden in the realm of the czar. Children from twelve to fifteen years of age are not allowed to work more than six hours in each twenty-four, exclusive of the time necessary for meals, school attendance and rest. Not more than four hours continuous labor shall be performed by such children, and under no circumstances can they work between the hours of 9 P. M. and 5 A. M., or on Sundays and holidays, nor can children be employed at work detrimental to their health.

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