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ANNUAL SALE

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Wishing one and all a Prosperous
and Happy New Year

McAllen & McDonnell

Cor. Third and Morrison Streets

The Store that has no competition Along Le itimate Lines

The farmers of the country are waking up to the fact that they are being made monkeys of by the trusts and especially by the tariff-fed manufacturers. The Illinois State Federation of Labor will probably organize every county in the state into a Farmers' Union. Organized farmers in Texas number 143,000; in Oklahoma, and Indian Territory, 108,000; in Louisiana, 80,000; Arkansas, 60,000; Georgia, 80,000; in Mississippi about 6000, with hundreds joining every day. The movement has also spread into Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana and

Beginning January 1, the American Woolen Company of New York City has decided to advance wages of operatives 10 per cent. About 30,000 workers will be benefited. This action on the part of the company was entirely voluntary. The increase does not affect the officials of the company nor the salaried employees, but is applied to mill operatives only. The thirty plants in seven states are to receive the increase. The management claims it will increase the payroll at least \$1,000,000 a year. Several independent companies have also announced that they will meet the advance of the American company.

LABOR NOTES

Over 200 laborers are suffering great privations in the desert between Yuma and San Bernardino, having been lured from Los Angeles by unscrupulous employment agencies.

The wives of the members of the Boot and Shoe Workers' Union of Chicago have started out on missionary work for the label. They are making a house-to-house canvass.

The Building Trades Council of San Francisco is preparing plans for the erection of a labor temple that will eclipse anything of the kind in the West. Within eighteen months the temple will be ready for occupancy.

The executive board of the United Mine Workers of America has decided to pay in a lump the assessment of the organization amounting to between \$11,000 and \$12,000 in support of the strike of the International Typographical Union.

The ministers and union laboring people of Everett, Wash., are following the example of Portland and other cities by becoming better acquainted with each other. A few days ago delegations from the Ministerial Association of Everett and the Trades Council exchange good will at a banquet prepared by the former.

Jacob Riis pointed out, in a talk on "Settlements and Their Meaning," before the Asaog Club at New York, that there are exactly nine less tenements in Brooklyn than in Manhattan. In Manhattan there are 18,129 tenement homes, and 18,120 in Brooklyn. In the greater city, said Mr. Riis, there are 350,000 dark rooms; of these 139,928 are in Brooklyn.

F. T. Hawley, grand master of the Switchmen's Union of North America, says that his union is not in the movement launched by the railroad brotherhoods to create opposition to the government regulation of traffic rates. Hawley doesn't take much stock in the anti-rate regulation agitation and says the switchmen have troubles enough without bothering with the fights among the politicians.

The United Cloth Hat and Cap Makers of North America have issued

a long statement charging the Industrial Workers of the World with attempting to disrupt their organization in New York, Detroit and other places by organizing scabs and spies in their trade and also playing into the hands of the bosses. The officials of the cap makers promise to expose the whole conspiracy in the January issue of the Cap Makers' Journal.

A New York report says that eight hours are to constitute a day's work in the diamond cutting and polishing industry hereafter, under an agreement reached by committee representing the Diamond Workers' Protective Union of America and the Diamond Manufacturers' Association. The employees of New York are about 400. They worked ten hours a day until January 1, last, when they insisted on a reduction of hours to nine. The question of wages for the coming year is also being considered.

Plans for a large Japanese immigration movement are being arranged at Honolulu as the result of the making of contracts by which the Olaa plantation, on the Island of Hawaii, is to lease 5000 acres to prospective settlers from Japan. M. Aoki, a member of the Japanese Parliament, who has been instrumental in bringing the deal about, will arrive next month to complete the plans. Contracts have been signed which provide that the plantation shall buy the sugar cane to be raised by the Japanese. It is reported that other plantations will make similar arrangements, thus attracting thousands of laborers.

The New York Bricklayers' Union and the Mason Builders' Association have renewed for two years the agreement now existing between them, and which expires on December 31. This agreement provides that the bricklayers shall be paid 70 cents an hour, and double for all time over eight hours a day and for all work done on Sundays and legal holidays. The new trade agreements affects about 11,000 bricklayers and carries with it the "fire-proofing provision," to-wit, that the installation of the fireproof arches and partitions, which now constitute 65 per cent of the work of the bricklayers, cannot be sublet or done by any but mason builders.

John R. Walsh, banker, politician, plunderer and union buster, has failed in Chicago, his indebtedness amounting to \$26,000,000. His daily paper, the Chronicle, was started to boost Democracy when it had not one defender in Chicago and was utterly and hopelessly corrupt. Walsh, by bulldozing tactics of the Otis kind, drove the politicians into depositing in his Chicago National Bank and Home Savings Bank, while his Equitable Trust Company had to handle all big city deals or he would "holter." No paper except the Los Angeles Times has been so unjust towards labor unions and so contemptuous of the workers who create all the wealth of the world.—Los Angeles Labor News.

An exchange says: The Los Angeles Union Labor Temple Association has paid off the last \$1000 on the property and the corporation is now debt free. The sum of \$19,500 has been paid for two lots, 100x150, at 540 Maple avenue. The temporary Labor Bureau, with furnishings, cost \$4500. This has all been paid in little more than a year. More than \$10,000 is outstanding on stock, which is being paid in monthly installments. Competent authority now estimates the property worth \$60,000, really on the opposite side of the street selling for \$600 a front front. The cornerstone for the eight-story structure will be laid next Labor Day and the building is expected to be completed by January 1, 1907.

First Labor Leader in British Cabinet.

The appointment of John Burns, of Battersea, as president of the Local Government Board in the Campbell-Bannerman cabinet is the first instance of a labor leader in the British cabinet.

It is remarkable that the innovation has been so long delayed. It is many years since Webster said to Lord Shaftesbury, "Resist to the very last the introduction of the ballot, for as a republican I tell you that the ballot can never co-exist with monarchical institutions"; but that still represented the view of Tory pessimists at the time of the last great extension of the British suffrage, with the secret ballot already won. The British governing oligarchy feared the mob.

They need not have done so. The labor leaders then in political life, Joseph Arch, Crawford, Mawdsley, Burt, Broadhurst, Abrahams, were solid, thinking men. The native ability that

had brought them out of lowly surroundings made them far superior to the average Commoner of inherited wealth, but they fitted ill with the old idea of the House as "a pleasant club." They were too earnest.

The extension of the franchise was in fact followed by the longest lease of power the Tories have had in many a year. The present Parliament has only thirty labor members, half a dozen of whom are classed as socialists and an equal number as independents, the remainder acting with the liberals. Practically all these men receive salaries by subscription from their constituents, as members of Parliament are unpaid. And this little group of men, less than one-twentieth of the House, numbers such forceful characters as J. Keir Hardie, Robert Smillie, Thomas Burt, Will Crooks, John Burns and W. R. Creemer, the only member of the House who ever received a Nobel prize.—New York World.

Eight-Hour Day in Silver.

Speaking with reference to the eight-hour work day for miners, the Silver City Avalanche says:

"The Avalanche favors an eight-hour law, though the Owyhee camps already have it and its passage would not in the least affect this camp, yet experience here has proven that it works no hardships on the mine owners, but is in fact beneficial. If the World would so mold public opinion in Washington County that the next delegation to a Republican convention would indorse an eight-hour law there would be some good effected."

This is certainly a pleasing testimony to the shorter work day. Sometime the eight-hour work day for underground miners will be general throughout the state, but the people will have to battle with the greed of a Standard Oil Corporation before this rational condition is brought about.—Weiser (Idaho) World.

Reduction In Rates

THE
PORTLAND GENERAL ELECTRIC CO.
ANNOUNCES A
REDUCTION IN RATES FOR
ELECTRIC LIGHTS

The New Rates Become Effective Monday, Jan. 1, 1906
The Reduction is from 20 cents to 15 cents a Killowatt-Hour, or Twenty-five Per Cent of the Base Rate.

The New Rate is Subject to the Usual Schedule of Discounts.

Rates Specified in Existing Signed Contracts with Lighting Customers will be Modified Accordingly, After Jan. 1, 1906, Without Further Notice.

Portland General Electric Co.
Telephone Exchange 13 Seventh and Alder Sts.

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