

Making Big Profits.

The fiscal report of the Krupp Gun company showed a surplus for the year of \$12,500,000. The payment of \$4,250,000 for taxes, \$1,100,000 in workmen's insurance and \$1,750,000 for welfare among the families of the 50,000 employees of the gunmakers left a net profit of more than \$8,000,000.

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The Living Wage—What Shall It Be?

Pope Leo XIII, in 1891.

"We now approach a subject of very great importance, and one on which if extremes are to be avoided right ideas are absolutely necessary. Wages, we are told, are fixed by free consent, and therefore the employer, when he has paid what was agreed upon, has done his part and is not called upon for anything further. The only way, it is said, in which injustice could happen would be if the master refused to pay the whole of the wages, or if the workman would not complete the work undertaken; when this happens the state should intervene to see that each obtains his own, but not under any other circumstances.

"This mode of reasoning is by no means convincing to a fair-minded man, for there are important considerations which it leaves out of view altogether. To labor is to exert one's self for the sake of procuring what is necessary for the purposes of life, and most of all, for self-preservation. 'In the sweat of thy brow thou shalt eat bread.' Therefore, a man's labor has two notes of character. First of all it is personal; for the exertion of individual power belongs to the individual who puts it forth, employing his power for the personal profit for which it was given. Secondly, a man's labor is necessary; for without the results of labor a man cannot live; and self-preservation is a law of nature which it is wrong to disobey. Now, if we were to consider labor merely insofar as it is personal, doubtless it would be within the workman's right to accept any rate of wages whatever; the same way that he is free to work or not, so he is free to accept a small remuneration or none at all. But this is a mere abstract proposition; the labor of the workman is not only his personal attribute but it is necessary; and this fact makes all the difference. The preservation of life is the bounden duty of each and all, and to fail therein is a crime. It follows that each one has a right to procure what is required in order to live; and the poor can procure it in no other way than by work and wages.

"Let it be granted, then, that as a rule workman and employer should make arrangements, and in particular should freely agree as to wages; nevertheless, there is a dictate between man and man that the remuneration must be enough to support the wage-earner in reasonable and frugal comfort. If, through necessity, or fear of a worse evil, the workman accepts harder conditions because an employer or contractor will give him no better, he is the victim of fraud and injustice."

John Mitchell, Miner.

"The American standard of living should mean to the ordinary unskilled workman with an average family a comfortable house of at least six rooms; it should mean a bath room, good sanitary plumbing, a parlor, a dining room and a kitchen and separate sleeping rooms in order that decency may be preserved and a reasonable degree of comfort maintained.

"The American standard of living should mean to the unskilled workman carpets, pictures, books, and furniture with which to make a home bright, comfortable and attractive for himself and his family; an ample supply of clothing suitable for Winter and Summer, and above all a sufficient quantity of wholesome, nourishing food at all times of the year.

"The American standard of living moreover should mean to the unskilled workman that his children be kept in school until they have attained the age of 18 years, and then to be able to lay up sufficient to maintain himself and family in times of illness, or at the close of his industrial life, when age and weakness render further work impossible, and to make provision for his family against premature death from accident or otherwise.

"This, or something like this, is the American standard of living as it exists in the eyes of the unskilled workman. For the great majority of men who are willing to work, and are not incapacitated by physical or mental or moral defects, the manner of living above described is an approximate estimate of what that standard should be, and with the great productivity of American labor, I believe it not unreasonable to say that these things should now be possessed by every workman, however unskilled."

Professor John Ryan, Author.

"The laborer should have food sufficient in quantity, quality and variety to maintain himself and the members of his family in a normal condition of health and vitality.

"He should be able to provide himself and family with clothing adapted in quantity and quality to the reasonable requirements of comfort. In addition to being protected against the inclemency of the climate, he ought to have the means of appearing in becoming attire on 'social' occasions, in school, in church, and in public gatherings. It is impossible to state precisely the minimum that is reasonable for this purpose, but speaking generally, we may say that the laborer and his family should possess an outfit of 'holiday' apparel, distinct from their ordinary or 'everyday' garments. This is essential to enable them to appear among their fellows without hurt to that self-respect and natural pride which are indispensable to decent living.

"Shelter. Under this head it is sufficient to say that the dwelling occupied by the laborer and his family

ought to consist of at least five rooms, and in general conform to the requirements or reasonable comfort. Three rooms (one for the parents, one for the male and one for the female children) are the minimum for sleeping accommodations, and it would seem that at least two rooms are required for all other purposes. As to equipment, the house must, of course, be provided with a reasonable stock of furniture and utensils, with the amount of heat, light and drainage essential to health and comfort.

"The material requisites of decent living may, therefore, be summed up as a reasonable amount of food, clothing and shelter for himself and his wife as long as they live; and for four or five children until these have reached the age of 16 years.

"Besides the needs that are constant, actually existent, there are others that are intermittent, and still others that will be felt only in the future. The laborer's remuneration ought to be sufficiently large to enable him to provide against accidents, sickness and old age. If it does not, he will, when temporarily or permanently incapacitated for work, become a burden on the community or on his children. In the latter case, the wages received by the children would have to be increased beyond their own requirements. This is not in accord with the normal order of things which suggest that man's life toil should bring him sufficient provision for his life's needs.

"Finally, the laborer and his family have certain mental and spiritual needs, the satisfaction of which is essential to right living. The chief among them are: A moderate amount of amusement and recreation; education in the primary branches of instruction for the children; some periodical and other literature; membership in certain organizations, such as benefit societies and labor unions; and last but by no means least, the means of fulfilling in a becoming manner the obligations imposed by charity and religion."

Albion W. Small, Sociologist.

"No man can live, bring up a family, and enjoy the ordinary human happiness on a wage of less than one thousand dollars a year. All wages should be paid within a certain scale. Let no man be paid less than the purchase capacity of one thousand dollars, which I think is the least a man can live on comfortably, educate his children, provide comfortably for a family, and enjoy some human comforts. Let no man be paid more than fifty thousand dollars, which is the salary of the President of the United States."

W. D. Mahon, Carman.

"We are not simply to be guided in considering this question by the theory that dividends and interest must be paid upon watered stock before men live. God pity the day, if the day ever comes in America, that such a declaration as that can be made to stand; that workingmen's wages could not be regulated and adjusted until the interest and dividends on the millions of watered stock that the papers of the last few days have been showing us exist in America, have been paid. It has been asserted by the representatives of the company that certain stakes have been driven to protect the financial interests, to protect investments, protecting dividends and protecting the interests of the city, but they have shown no stake driven to protect the interests of the workingman. Is it not a fact that the most important factor involved in the successful operation of the street railway is its labor? Without labor it could not operate. Without labor it would be helpless and hopeless."

The only sure way of helping oneself is by uniting with one's fellows to help all.

RIGID ARBITRATION LAW IN AUSTRALIA

New South Wales Passes Statute Intended to Prevent Strikes and Lockouts. Law Gives Labor Short End in This Instance of Legal Procedure.

In New South Wales, Australia, the capitalistic class has succeeded in passing an arbitration law which promises to put out of existence the lockout and the strike. The law seems to have been carefully planned with the purpose in view of protecting industry against strikes, while as a matter of fact it prohibits lockouts and other efforts to control labor coming from the employers.

The law provides that the persons involved in a labor dispute may prove that at least nine-tenths of the employees who are locked out did not at the time of the giving of the notices belong to an industrial union, that no industrial agreement or award was then in force in relation to the industry in which the lockout occurred and that the employer carrying on such industry or some person on his behalf had given to the minister reasonable notice of the intended lockout or of such conditions of dispute or unrest as would be likely to induce a lockout.

Fines May Be Heavy.

The court may order any person who does any act in the nature of a strike or takes part in a strike or instigates or aids in a strike to pay a penalty not exceeding \$250, but it shall be a defense if such person proves that at least nine-tenths of the employees who were on strike did not at the time of the giving of the notices belong to an industrial union, that no industrial agreement or award was then in force in relation to the industry or calling in which the strike occurred.

The novel provision of the new act is that where a person is ordered to pay a penalty the court shall order that the amount of such penalty shall be charged on any moneys which are then or may become due to such person from his then or future employer, including the crown, for wages or in respect of any work done.

Unions Held Liable.

The law goes further and makes the union liable to contribute to the payment of a penalty. The union, however, has a right, through its trustees, to be heard. The court shall not make such order if the union proves that it has by all reasonable means endeavored to prevent its members from strikes or taking part in a strike.

The union itself may be penalized heavily, if any industrial union or trade union of employees instigates or aids in any act for which any person is liable to be ordered to pay a penalty. The court may order such union to pay a penalty not exceeding \$5000 and may at its discretion suspend the operation or cancel the registration under this act of such union and may cancel any award so far as it relates to the members of such union or both. The union may urge in its defense that it or some person on its behalf had given to the members reasonable notice of such intended strike or of such conditions as would be likely to induce a strike.

Ballot Provided For.

Another interesting innovation is the minister may at any time before or during a strike direct that a secret ballot be taken among the employees concerned or the persons on strike as to the declaration or continuance of the strike. Any one hindering or trying to defeat the taking of this ballot is liable to a penalty of \$100.

The court may prohibit any injunction, lockout or strike. Any one disobeying the written injunction shall be guilty of misdemeanor and liable to imprisonment not exceeding six months. So much for the strike and lockout

A Letter to the Public

Dear Sirs:

If all the cigars smoked in Portland were made here, employment would be given to at least 2,000 more cigarmakers and the increased payroll would be over \$2,000,000 a year.

More cigarmakers in Portland means more business in Portland; more business in Portland means more merchants in Portland; more merchants in Portland means more prosperity in Portland; more prosperity in Portland means more buildings in Portland, and so on until there is no end to the good that Portland would derive from a more liberal patronage by its citizens of the goods manufactured here.

The Cigar Makers' Union is for Portland first, last and all the time. Your prosperity is our prosperity. Help us make Home Industry a success by patronizing Portland Manufacturers and Merchants; it will cost you nothing, you have all to gain, no chance to lose.

The Blue Label is our Emblem; see that it is on the box when you buy cigars, whether at wholesale or retail.

Very truly yours,

Cigar Makers' Union No. 202 PORTLAND, OREGON



provisions. There are also provisions to punish breaches of awards and other offenses. The employer is liable, without any deduction, for the price or rate fixed by an award or an industrial agreement. An employe may, within six months after such money has become due, apply to the registrar for an order directing the employer to pay the full amount of any balance due. The registrar may make any order he thinks just and may award costs to either party and assess the amount of such costs.

When Money Talks.

"Well, dear, I guess the honeymoon is over."

"Why do you say that?" pouted the bride.

"I've been taking stock and find I'm down to \$2.65."—Detroit Free Press.

Ingratitude is the child of pride.

Never Was Sensible.

Belle—How silly men are when they propose? Why, my husband acted like a perfect fool.

Nell—That's what everybody thought when your engagement was announced.—London Opinion.

Friendship is the wine of life.

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Every Keg of Beer and Every Barrel of Bottled Beer From This Brewery Bears the Union Label

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Unexcelled in All Respects.

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Office, 320 Union Ave., Cor. Market St.
Phone East 1423, B-2515.

Horse ambulance for sick or disabled animals at a moment's notice; prices reasonable. Report all cases of cruelty to this office. Open day and night.

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High Grade Goods Only

All Makes of Cutlery

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Phones: Main 1682; A 1682

74 Sixth Street--311 Oak Street

UNION BAKERIES

Two Reasons

Why you should patronize our Bakery: First, we are fair to organized labor, and last but not least, we turn out the best loaf on the market. So be sure to ask for

LOG CABIN

5 cents a loaf, or

BLUE RIBBON

10 cents, the large wrapped loaf

Don't Accept Any Substitute

Log Cabin Baking Company

Vancouver Avenue and Fremont Street

Blue Ribbon Bakery

Mrs. E. Fisher, Proprietress

WE USE THE UNION LABEL

PHONE EAST 2502

294 RUSSELL STREET

GAMBRINUS

Our Beer Never Fails to Please

Gambrinus Brewing Company

Main 49—Portland's Favorite Beer—A 1149

Kratz Buffet

Third and Alder Streets

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The Columbus

CALIFORNIA WINE DEPOT

Fine Wines Five Cents Per Glass. Chefs' and Kitchen Helpers' Headquarters. We Serve a Merit Lunch from 11 to 2

285 Yamhill Street

Bert Roberts Emil Johnson

Phone Main 8111

THE XXX SALOON

HIGH GRADE IMPORTED AND DOMESTIC LIQUORS

Sixth and Glisan Streets Southwest Corner

The Portland Labor Press

Respectfully invites the Merchants of this locality to place a portion of their advertising in the columns of this paper and thereby prove to their own satisfaction and material benefit the truth of the following statement.

"Printer's Ink," the recognized authority on advertising questions, after a thorough investigation on the subject, says:

"A labor paper is a far better advertising medium than an ordinary newspaper in comparison to circulation. A labor paper, for example, having 2000 subscribers, is more valuable to the business man who advertises in it than an ordinary paper with 12,000 subscribers."

On request, a representative of the "PRESS" will call and furnish rates and such information as may be desired regarding the Official Organ of Organized Labor of Oregon.