

## LIFEBOATS MANNED BADLY ON TITANIC

**Congressional Committee Hears Facts  
Relating to Cause of Loss of Life in  
the Great Disaster; Says the Com-  
pany Practiced Needless Economy.**

In considering the seaman's bill in Congress the whole problem of ocean transportation has been studied. The report of the proceedings are illuminating to the layman who has no idea of the disposition to enforce economy on the great ships. One of the interesting events which compose considerable of the testimony before the committee, the Titanic disaster, appeals to the American citizen as being of unusual importance. A great mass of evidence showing that the Titanic was not properly manned was introduced. The charge was not denied seriously.

Immediately after the loss of the Titanic a statement was issued by a number of the survivors, containing the following:

"The insufficiency of lifeboats, rafts, etc., lack of trained seamen to man the same (stokers, etc., are not efficient boat handlers); not enough officers to carry out emergency orders on the bridge to superintend the launching and control of lifeboats."

The question of efficiency was thoroughly investigated by the committee of inquiry on the Titanic. From the report of that body we quote the following:

Except in isolated instances there was no panic. "In loading boats no distinction was made between first, second and third-class passengers, although the proportion of lost is larger among third-class passengers than in either of the other classes. (The disproportionate loss of life among the third-class passengers is due to the fact that they were not warned of the real danger until after most of the boats had departed.) Women and children, without discrimination, were given preference.

The failure to utilize all lifeboats to their recognized capacity for safety (due to the lack of understanding between the officers) unquestionably resulted in the needless sacrifice of several hundred lives which might otherwise have been saved.

Had the sea been rough it is questionable whether any of the lifeboats of the Titanic would have reached the water without being damaged or destroyed.

The lifeboats were manned so badly that, in the absence of prompt relief, they would have fallen easy victims to the advancing ice floe, nearly 30 miles in width and rising 16 feet above the surface of the water. If the sea had risen, those toy targets, with over 700 exhausted people, would have been helplessly tossed about upon the waves without food or water. One witness swore that two of the three stewards in her boat admitted that they had never had an oar in their hands before and did not even know what an oarlock was for. The lifeboats would have easily carried 1176 and only contained 704, 12 of whom were taken into the boats from the water, while the weather conditions were favorable and the sea perfectly calm.

### PROTECTING WORKERS' HEALTH.

**Australia Fails to Prevent Crowding  
of Factory Hands.**

New South Wales regulates air space thus: Where employees are, when at work, grouped in a factory or shop and whenever in the opinion of the inspector such grouping is so close as to be dangerous to their health the employer may be required to make a rearrangement so as to remove such danger. But, as the commission points out, it is certainly illogical to lay down a definite minimum of air space for each

employee without laying down some means by which the enjoyment of that air space shall be in fact secured. The inspector reports having entered a factory which has "a bountiful floor space, a standard amount of air space and a tremendous lot of windows, but all the girls were grouped together around one table. They were too close together." That is a point that is often lost sight of not only in factories, but in schools and other places where people congregate. The usefulness of the air space in factories is often nullified by the use of gas heaters. In all cases where gas heating is extensively used additional ventilation by fans should be provided.

Factory air is dusty as a rule. The law states that factories shall be ventilated in such a manner as to render them harmless as far as practicable. There are regulations to cover the case of gases, vapors, dust or impurities generated in the course of manufacturing processes. But the commission is of the opinion that factories are still woefully behind in employing dust-collecting processes and urges the necessity for a definite stipulation in this connection.

In spite of the new regulation, which provides for a definite standard of natural light and empowers the inspector to insist upon additional natural light or artificial lighting where necessary, many factories are still imperfectly lighted. The commission recommends that the use of gas, because vitiating to the atmosphere, be forbidden where it is possible to employ electric light. It further urges that care be taken in factories where the light is directly overhead and strikes on the polished plate of machines, reflecting in the machinists' eyes. This causes eye strain.

### Woman's Way.

He—Does a woman when she's married expect her husband to tell her his business affairs?

She—I don't know, but a woman expects a man to talk business when he's courting her.

## UTAH COPPER MINES HARD HIT BY STRIKE

**Production of Property at Bingham Cut  
Down Two-Thirds Since Trouble Be-  
gan; Desertions Keep Working Force  
Short.**

The result of the strike on the property of the Utah Copper Company at Bingham, Utah, is shown in the report of production for the last year. The figures show that during the month of August, before the strike, the production was between 11,000,000 and 12,000,000 pounds; during the month of September, the first month of the strike, the production was between 6,000,000 and 7,000,000 pounds; during the month of October, a month after the strike had been in force, the production had slumped to between 2,000,000 and 3,000,000 pounds. Never has there been a more fatal admission on the part of the company and more eloquent testimony of the success of the strike.

According to the news, from the miners' headquarters, the company is still in deep trouble over the question of manning the property. Although the company is bringing in all the men it can gather with the most desperate efforts all over the country, the desertions more than counterbalance these efforts, and the best the management can do is to make a pretense at running nine shovels.

### The Real Reason.

Stranger—How does it happen that your name is Smith and your mother's name is Brown?

Small Boy—Why, she married again, and I didn't.

### Cotton Trade Problems.

The two great problems of the British cotton trade are the proposed 48-hour working week and the reduction of fines.

### UNION TRUTHS.

Who has started the long list of social advances now being accepted everywhere? The union. The unions do things. Every hour of the day they advance inch by inch and step by step. They have beaten down opposition. They have compelled judges, clergymen, economists and educators to revise their views of our cause and movement.

The union is the best investment a worker can make. It is here to stay, and its usefulness will expand only as fast as our nonunion fellows join with us.

There is no limit to what we can do by united action.

### DUTY OF UNIONISTS.

Some merchants are experts at telling customers that they do not handle union made goods because they have no demand for them, yet the same merchant who handles nonunion goods cannot say that he handles them because he has a demand for them. Such talk is deceitful, and union men should see to it that such merchants put in union goods or forfeit their custom.

Do not forget that the trade union has done much more for you than any or all the political parties put together.

The goods that are produced by union labor are the only kind that union men should purchase.

### UNION MEN IN CONGRESS.

**Sixteen Congressmen and One Senator  
to Represent Labor.**

There will be at least three members with paid up working cards of the International Typographical union in the next congress as a result of the recent elections, notwithstanding the regrettable defeat of Victor L. Berger of Milwaukee. Isaac R. Sherwood of Toledo union and John R. Farr of Scranton union were re-elected, and Albert Johnson of Aberdeen (Wash.) union is a new member. Another successful candidate listed as a member of the typographical union is Edward Keating of Pueblo, Colo.

According to unofficial figures, the labor group at Washington will consist of sixteen congressmen and one senator. William Hughes of New Jersey in early life he was a textile worker and still retains his union membership.

The union men in congress are members of the following trade organizations: Typographical, telegraphers, structural ironworkers, coal miners, hatters, blacksmiths, metal miners, iron molders, stenographers, plumbers and street car men.

Members of organized labor everywhere will regret the defeat of W. B. Wilson of the Seventh Pennsylvania district and for several years secretary-treasurer of the United Mine Workers. During his two terms in congress Billy Wilson proved himself a broad, liberal minded, persistent and studious legislator, and as chairman of the committee on labor in his second term he is said to have accomplished more than the combined efforts of all preceding committees on labor in the lower house.—Typographical Journal.

### PROTECTION OF WORKMEN.

**Wisconsin's Method of Enforcing  
Factory Regulations.**

Wisconsin's unique way of enforcing labor laws was recounted by Professor John R. Commons of the Wisconsin Industrial commission at Boston at the sixth annual meeting of the American Association For Labor Legislation.

"Under the Wisconsin plan of leaving details of factory regulation to an industrial commission," said Professor Commons, "the highest expert talent and the best practical shop experience are brought to the service of the state. Manufacturers because of the relation established between the state's compensation law and the safety and sanitation law, finding it to their advantage to protect their employees and to aid in the framing of safety regulations, have given their hearty support to the work of the commission."

Three thousand orders covering points of danger in the factories of one city, issued and complied with, and reductions from 40 to 85 per cent in accidents in various plants, and the traveling safety exhibit, which is sent about the state with lectures and stereopticon views, were described. Professor Commons concluded, "The manufacturers who formerly appeared in the legislature to oppose labor legislation have given the most splendid cooperation in assisting to draw up these rules and to stand for high standards."

**Labor in the Steel Trade.**  
"Labor unions have been disrupted. The American wage earner has largely disappeared." These words are taken from the report of a field worker of the United States Immigration commission who has investigated the iron and steel industry in the United States. Employers who turn their backs on American labor, which is conceded to be the best labor in the world, are not patriotic Americans and deserve and receive but little respect.—Typographical Journal.

### LABOR UNION BRIEFS.

There are twenty-two members of farmers' and trade unions holding seats in the Colorado legislature.

The pension plan of the International Bricklayers, Masons and Plasterers' union did not go into effect on Jan. 1, as was expected.

The street sweepers of New York city have petitioned to have their wages increased from \$790 a year to \$920. Extra pay for Sunday work is also asked for.

The Plumbers and Steamfitters' International union has increased its membership by about 6,000 within a year. The total membership is now about 30,000.

The paving cutters have voted to make the eight hour work day universal in their organization on June 1, 1913. At present about 25 per cent of the members are working nine hours a day.

### LIVING WAGE FOR WOMEN.

**New Jersey Corporation Establishes a  
Nine Dollar Minimum.**

The Public Service Corporation of New Jersey, beginning on Jan. 1, established a minimum wage scale for women and girls in its employ of \$9 a week because an investigation conducted by the welfare committee of the corporation disclosed the fact that on a weekly wage of less there could be no assurance that a girl or woman could live in freedom from "the pitfalls and temptations which beset young women who are thrown in contact with the world." In announcing the new scale President Thomas N. McCarter referred to it as in the nature of a Christmas gift because of the time of the year when it would become effective.

Mr. McCarter was careful to point out, however, that the motive that had inspired the company to establish this increased minimum wage was not the wish to remember the employees at Christmas. It was because the company recognized a moral obligation, the president said, to pay not only a living wage, but a decent living wage.

Mr. McCarter called attention to the fact that the duties of women employees of the public service corporation were light, their hours easy and their business environment the best. He continued:

"In pursuing its policy of promoting the material well being of its employees, however, the public service corporation gave serious consideration to the problems which confront the average young woman who must needs support herself, and whose natural instincts are to preserve her self respect and jealousy to guard her good name. A careful investigation led to the conclusion that a young woman could supply herself with the necessities of life, so that she could live decently and have a fair margin for our ordinary comforts on an income of \$9 a week. That she could do so on a less sum and be free from the pitfalls and temptations which beset young women who are thrown in contact with the world was not so obvious."

The new minimum wage rate affects a large number of young women now in the employ of the public service corporation, and it will be applicable to all employed hereafter.

### New Industrial Spirit.

In the opinion of William C. Redfield, congressman from New York and a manufacturer of large experience, success is coming less and less to be regarded as the mere amassing of wealth. He has written a book, "The New Industrial Day," in which he declares in effect that profits are ceasing to be the sole and supreme law of the manufacturer and that successful employers are thinking of other things besides the pay roll. They are beginning to be unwilling to lay themselves open to the criticism that will come if dividends are all out of proportion to salaries paid. The largest output is no longer always demanded for the smallest wage, and manufacturers, moreover, are coming to realize that shorter hours sometimes mean a bigger output and that the cheapest labor and the cheapest plant are often the costliest. Ideas of this sort, heretofore judged by the standards of an older day, are now a part of the new day's thought, according to the author.

This view is one which should appeal strongly to persons of all classes. It represents a mingling of humanity and practical mindedness, of which a great deal should be seen in the immediate future.—Chicago News.

### TRADE UNION NOTES.

British trade unions in 1911 increased their membership by 304,976.

The union steamfitters of San Francisco have voted to amalgamate with the plumbers.

Union painters of St. Paul have adopted a new wage scale, to go into effect next April. The new scale raises the pay of union painters to 50 cents an hour.

Claims amounting to \$4,904.22 were paid during the past year to employees of the United States bureau of engraving and printing who were injured in the course of their work.

One person is either killed or injured every seven minutes on the railroads of this country, according to statistics presented by experts who have been investigating accidents and their causes.

Beginning Jan. 1 every clerk in the employ of the Pullman company in the United States received an increase in salary. The increases are graduated and range from 6 per cent for the highest paid clerks to 12 per cent for employees of lower grade.

## \$25,000,000 MERGER TO CONTROL MILLINERY

**Manufacturers and Jobbers Meet in  
Chicago to Form Great Central Trad-  
ing System to Knock Out Small  
Concerns.**

Wholesale milliners of the large cities are planning to form a great merger of interests to control the business. A meeting was held in Chicago early last week to form a tentative organization and outline a policy.

Fourteen cities outside of Chicago, extending from Pittsburgh to San Francisco and from Louisville to St. Paul, were represented. One hundred men were present, representing twenty-one millinery manufacturing and jobbing concerns.

According to plans, it was said, large warehouses and branches in each city outside of Chicago will supplant the present scattered method of conducting the millinery business by individual concerns. According to rumors, the new concern is to be capitalized at \$25,000,000. The merger will be put through by a New York financial institution.

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| Weekly<br>Dep.<br>of<br>Savings | Rate of<br>Interest                                                 | Will in<br>Years<br>Amount to | Will in<br>Years<br>Amount to | Will in<br>Years<br>Amount to | Will in<br>Years<br>Amount to | Will in<br>Years<br>Amount to | Will in<br>Years<br>Amount to |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| \$ .25                          | FOUR Per cent                                                       | \$ 73.162                     | \$ 403.81                     | \$ 1,294.50                   | \$ 3,258.58                   | \$ 7,316.20                   | \$ 16,294.50                  |
| .50                             | per annum Com-<br>pounded twice a<br>year, January 1<br>and July 1. | 146.324                       | 807.62                        | 2,589.00                      | 6,517.16                      | 14,632.40                     | 32,589.00                     |
| 1.00                            |                                                                     | 292.648                       | 1,615.24                      | 5,178.00                      | 13,034.32                     | 29,264.80                     | 65,178.00                     |
| 2.00                            |                                                                     | 585.296                       | 3,230.48                      | 10,356.00                     | 26,068.64                     | 58,529.60                     | 130,356.00                    |
| 5.00                            |                                                                     | 1,463.24                      | 8,076.20                      | 25,890.00                     | 65,171.60                     | 146,324.00                    | 325,890.00                    |

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