

DIRECTORY of CENTRAL BODIES

CENTRAL LABOR COUNCIL—Meets every Friday, 8 P. M., room 201 Labor Temple. E. H. Crandall, secretary, Labor Temple.

DIRECTORY of LOCAL UNIONS

AMALGAMATED CARPENTERS No. 821—First and third Wednesday, Labor Temple, Second and Morrison. T. J. Seward, secretary, 394 Harrison street, Marshall 4467.

The Dangers of Speeding Up

By Rear Admiral Edwards, United States Navy

An important element of industrial success is efficient, systematic, and complete supervision by the administrative and technical officials of the plant. Where intelligent, considerate, and capable supervision exists the best energies of the employees are aroused.

In a pamphlet issued by the London Board of Trade regarding the industrial conditions of the state of New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut for 1910, there is contained the following extract from a report submitted by the British consul general of the port of New York:

"Every worker in America puts more energy in his work than does the European in his own country. Speeding is partly responsible for this, but the reserve of energy is no greater in America than in European stock. American energy is consequently exhausted more rapidly.

"So long as there is an abundant supply of labor through foreign immigration the vacant places can easily be filled. If the stream stops there will not be so much heard of the superiority of the American workman, for America would then have to depend upon her own children, whose stock of vitality is not greater than that of their parents, whether American or foreign."

Brighter and more energizing conditions of work are required. The daily task idea is simply another step to enervating work and exhausted vitality, and it is not surprising that welfare experts believe that a halt should be called in the attempt to increase the work pace.

The minute subdivision of operations and the speeding up of machines constitute two of the basic principles of scientific management, although it may result in financial benefit to highly skilled or experienced individual employees.

It is not difficult to train common labor and boys to operate some special machines with rapidity and skill. Such training, however, is neither of permanent benefit to the nation nor the individual, for after the laborer is detailed to such work it will be the exception when he will cheerfully go back to manual labor.

The most serious evil connected with automatic work is due to the fact that it makes for mental retrogression of the employee. It is likewise responsible in considerable part for the general socializing process that is going on even

PREFERENTIAL VOTING STANDS TEST.

That enterprising laboratory of election experiments the western United States, has supplied through the recent city election in Portland, Or., a test of preferential voting which goes far to establish the merits claimed for it. Indeed it shows a working out of results that deserve the serious consideration of cities where government has not yet come to satisfactory form.

It was Portland's next step after the adoption of the commission form of government, and the object of the election was the choice of four members to join with the mayor in complete replacing of the elaborate system of boards and departments that had grown up in the familiar fashion.

First—According to Mr. Taylor's own statement, it does not increase wages in proportion to the increased output produced by the employee.

Second—The employees bitterly resent the implication that they do not render either efficient or conscientious service and that "soldiering" is the rule and not the exception when daywork is carried on.

Third—The labor leaders regard the movement as a step to general piecework payment—a system which the average artisan believes to be of some benefit to the highly skilled workman when first introduced, but of eventual detriment to his belief that the compensation for piecework is generally reduced just as soon as the employer finds out the maximum output which can be secured from the high-grade man.

Workers Win Through Organization

Progress of Efforts for Shorter Day and Better Conditions of Labor, Throughout the Nation.

Ten thousand Canadian Pacific railroad shop employees, covering the eastern division, have received a 10 per cent increase in wages. The men affected by the changes which will remain effective for one year, are machinists, boiler-makers, blacksmiths, brass workers, buffers, plumbers, general car builders and car men employed in the running department.

A mass meeting to organize salesmen employed in shoe stores in Greater New York was held Tuesday night. The salesmen are going to present demands for fewer working hours. They will ask that they work until 2 o'clock in the afternoon Sundays and that their working hours on week days be from 9 o'clock in the morning until 9 o'clock in the evening.

The strike of the machinists of Buffalo, N. Y., is being won by the workers. At the beginning of the strike about 3000 men were out, including practically every shop in the city. As a result of the strike the Machinists' Union has increased its membership in this city to over 4000.

In every district in New York state where the demand has been made for the 54-hour work week, with 60 hours pay, including Little Falls, Utica, New York Mills, and Auburn, the United Textile Workers have made successful settlements.

The strike in the Cudahy Packing plant has spread to Armour & Co. at Sioux City, Ia., where 500 men quit work. Fifteen hundred workers are idle and both plants are shut down. The laborers demand 26 cents an hour.

Minneapolis and St. Paul printers ask a seven-hour day and 64 1/2 cents per hour for day work and 71 1/2 cents per hour for night work. The present scale is \$24.50 a week for day work and \$27.50 for night work (eight hours).

Minneapolis painters' 1913 scale of wages went into effect May 1. When the members of the union began to receive 50 cents an hour for an eight-hour day, with half holiday on Saturday.

The union was granted all its demands, and the men will work three eight-hour shifts with the same pay as formerly received when working 11 and 13-hour shifts.

About 2000 teamsters are on strike today in Buffalo. They seek increases in wages, as well as fewer hours and other improvements in their conditions.

Of the 11,852,273 people engaged in trade, transportation, manufacturing and mechanical pursuits in the country about 18 per cent are organized.

The painters of Cheyenne, Wyo., are on strike.

Big Baking Concern Adopts Short Work Schedule.

Changes in working schedules which many in the Spokane labor movement believe will bring about the early closing of factories and mechanical establishments in general, have been inaugurated at the plant of the Inland Empire Biscuit Company.

As a result more than 100 employees of the place will hereafter quit work at 4 o'clock Saturday afternoons, from an hour to an hour and a half earlier than has been the practice.

German Employers Organize.

The German Union of Employers' Federations, which numbers 50,000 members and covers 1,300,000 workpeople (employed by its members), has recently been amalgamated with a second combination of employers, called the National Center of German Employers' Unions.

JAPANESE COLONIZING IN SOUTH AMERICA

Peru and Brazil Become Meccas for Workers from Orient, Who are Willing to Toil in Tropical Climate for 65 Cents Per Day.

In a recent issue of the London Times there appeared the following article from a correspondent in Tokio:

There is a great deal of interest being taken in Japan as present in emigration to South America. An emigration steamer is shortly to leave for Brazil, and the Morioka Emigration Company, in conjunction with the Toyo Kisen Kaisha, is at present recruiting emigrants for Peru. The emigrant has to make a payment of \$70. Out of this the emigration company takes \$10 commission. Consular fees are paid, and the emigrant is given \$7.50 to land with; the balance is kept by the steamship company as fare.

The emigrant, on arrival in Peru, goes to assigned plantations and receives, to start with, a wage of 65 cents a day and free quarters. After the first year the emigration company allows each emigrant \$25 a year toward his passage money home, so presumably the emigration company gets paid by the employers. The Morioka Company has already shipped some thousands of Japanese to Peru. Wives of the emigrants are also taken and many of the Japanese have stayed some years there, while more and more seem to be settling in the country.

The Toyo Kisen Kaisha Steamship Company issues very attractive little books with descriptions of the voyage, hints as to clothing, and a Spanish-Japanese phrase book. In several villages in out-of-the-way parts of Kyushu, the southern island of Japan, these booklets were brought to me, and every detail that could be given about South America was listened to with eager attention. Especial interest was shown about the climate, the flora and fauna, and some pictures of llamas, vicuñas, sloths, anteaters and armadillos have been so much handled by so many people as to be quite in tatters.

There is a strong wish among the Japanese to emigrate to the United States, which the Government, for political reasons, has put a stop to. Many were eager to know whether they would be able to go after a year or two from South America to the United States, and were very crestfallen when the impracticability of this was pointed out.

Japan has for some years turned her attention to Brazil as a field for Japanese labor, and recent political events will have a marked influence on this. When Prince Katsura was premier, some three years ago, a company was formed under the auspices of the minister of agriculture and commerce, Viscount Oura, to acquire some good agricultural land in Brazil, and to settle a number of Japanese upon it.

Emigration of Japanese to Brazil has been going on for some time, but this state-aided scheme of sending out farmers and their families to land leased by Japanese owners will give a better status to the Japanese in Brazil and should give an impulse to the whole emigration movement.

Now that the Japanese Government is actively interested in the question, the various South American governments wanting labor of this class might help by supplying literature and pictures to the various emigrants and shipping companies, in order to attract emigrants, by improving the existing hotels for the emigrants on their arrival, and by the erection of hotels where these are inadequate or not in existence.

There are various societies in Japan, such as the Latin-American Association and the Brazilian Colonial Association, which would no doubt do all they could to help any such propaganda, but it must not be forgotten that Japan is very poor and that the selection, printing, reproduction and distribution of such pamphlets (which to the writer's knowledge have a great effect on emigration) involve a considerable outlay.

It is in this respect that those countries of Latin-America desirous of Japanese immigrants could be of very material assistance, at a cost infinitesimal compared with what many other countries spend in endeavors to obtain suitable settlers.

Help Comes When Needed.

St. Paul Typographical Union No. 30 has made a record in provision for the widow of a deceased member. Just one hour after the death of E. J. Corcoran, the secretary of the union paid Mrs. Corcoran \$175, the amount due as mortuary benefits.

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STAPLES THE JEWELER

162 First Street Near Corner of Morrison

Law Helps Dependents.

The new compensation law of Massachusetts gives the dependents of a workman meeting death at his employment 50 per cent of his wages for 300 weeks. The minimum weekly payment is \$4; the maximum \$10.

Grand Rapids, Mich., papermakers who went on strike for the eight-hour day, returned to work complete victors.