



MAY SEES PEACE IN LABOR WORLD

Less Strife Than For Many Years.

REPORTS FROM BIG CITIES

Industrial Centers Say Outlook Never Was Brighter.

WAGE CONTRACTS SIGNED

Carmen in Salt Lake on Strike and San Francisco Threatened.—In All Other Cities Troubles Are of a Minor Nature Only.

CONDITIONS IN EASTERN LABOR CENTERS. NEW YORK—Brighter than for many years; no trouble in sight. PITTSBURGH—Expect quiet May day; machinists only men on strike. CHICAGO—Never so harmonious. SAN FRANCISCO—Carmen threaten strike; not satisfied with increase in pay. ST. LOUIS—Bright outlook. NEW ENGLAND—Contentions few; unrest in cotton mills most serious.

NEW YORK, April 28.—The opening of the out-of-door construction season finds New York, both city and state, without apprehension of serious labor troubles. In the building trades, especially prosperous and reassuring conditions are prevalent. There is a large and well-met demand for both skilled and unskilled labor, due to the extensive private construction projects now under way and the tunnels and other undertakings of a public or semi-public nature. This contentment is generally reflected in the manufacturing and industrial centers, and beyond a few localized and sporadic strikes, the labor situation is regarded as brighter than for many years.

HARMONY IN WINDY CITY

Scarcely a Cloud on Industrial Horizon—Wages Going Up.

CHICAGO, April 28.—The relations between employers and employees were never so harmonious in Chicago as now. In the past on May 1, there has always been some sort of struggle on between the labor unions and the employers of Chicago, but this year there is scarcely a cloud on the industrial horizon. Every union in the building industry with the exception of the structural ironworkers, has renewed contracts with employers, and the ironworkers expect to reach a settlement, without a strike.

Machinists have demanded an increase of 25 cents a day in wages, but the indications are that there will be no trouble in putting in the new schedule into effect, as most of the large firms in the city have signified a willingness to grant the increase, and if any strikes are called on May 1 they will be confined to individual firms. Agreements covering all the woodworkers, mills and factories have been entered into so that there will be no trouble on May 1. A number of the teamsters are working under agreements and little trouble is expected in that direction.

The railroads, which recently granted wage increases to the men in the train service, are now doing the same in their mechanical departments.

FEW NEW ENGLAND STRIKES

Conditions in Boston Are Quieter Than for Many Years.

BOSTON, Mass., April 28.—According to officers of the workmen's organizations, the industrial situation in New England, May 1, will be marked by fewer contentions between capital and labor than for many years. In the building trades several small strikes are threatened in a number of cities, but in Boston there promises to be little suspension of work in any branch of industrial employment. The building trades unions, the members of which are unskilled, have requested new wage rates. It is understood prospects for settlement without a strike are favorable. The painters of eastern Massachusetts are endeavoring to establish a uniform wage of \$3 a day in Boston, but there will be no strike as the wage question will not be adjusted until later. The most serious condition existing in Boston is due to the strike a month ago of teamsters. In New England at large there are several causes for unrest in cotton mills, and it is said an attempt will be made to advance wages in Fall River some time next month.

BAY CITY FACES BIG STRIKE

Streetcar Men Want Eight Hours in Addition to Increase in Pay.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 28.—The approach of May 1 finds San Francisco facing serious labor troubles. Eleven unions, including every branch of the metal

trades, have called meetings to be held between now and next Tuesday night to consider the refusal of the employers to grant an 8-hour day with nine hours' pay. A vote will be taken to decide whether the men shall accept the offer of a continuance of the 8-hour day with a 5 per cent increase of wages or go on a strike. About 16,000 men are involved. The street-car men have issued a call for a mass meeting at midnight Tuesday for the purpose of taking a vote on the refusal of the United Railways to grant the motor men and conductors an 8-hour day and a wage scale of \$3 a day. If a strike should be voted, the entire street-car traffic of the city would be paralyzed. The strike of steam laundry-workers, which went into effect in this city and Oakland one month ago, is still on, with no immediate prospects of settlement.

ST. LOUIS OUTLOOK BRIGHT

Practically All Wage Scales Signed for 200 Miles Around City.

ST. LOUIS, April 28.—Employers and labor leaders of St. Louis and the Southwest report labor conditions better for May 1 this year than for many years past. Practically all wage scales in St. Louis and the surrounding territory for 200 miles are signed. In St. Louis alone, this includes 120,000 union men. The unions allied with the Building Trades Council here are all signed for the year, with the exception of a few men employed in small shops. There are about 40,000 men in these unions. Other branches of trade show a similarly good condition. The brewery workers, who were on a strike a few months ago, are now signed, as are also the other important trades.

Employers and labor leaders say there will be nothing this year in local circles to hinder a great building activity and that on May 1 there will be cause for justification for laborers and employers alike.

QUIET IN CITY OF PITTSBURGH

Machinists Are Only Workmen Out on Strike—May Be Content.

PITTSBURGH, April 28.—May day here is expected to pass off with fewer labor disputes than in previous years. Heretofore considerable difficulty has been experienced between the workmen and the building trades, but this year scales have been signed and the men are apparently satisfied.

With the exception of the machinists' demand it is believed that all wage scales will be amicably adjusted. The machinists are striking for an increase of wages and shorter hours. At two foundries the men are now out and the trouble may become general unless the union scale is agreed to by May 1.

SENDING UP SHOWER ASHES

Volcano on Stromboli Island Active, Peasants Are Terror-Stricken.

CATANIA, Sicily, April 28.—The royal observatory on Mount Etna registers an extraordinary eruption of the volcano on the island of Stromboli. The volcano is again in active eruption. The peasants are terror-stricken. The extent of the eruption is not known, as the cable lines are interrupted. The volcano is emitting large quantities of ashes and cinders, which are damaging vineyards in Sicily and Calabria.

M'CLELLAN HAS EYE ON TAMMANY

Plans to Bring Braves Into His Camp

NEW POLICE BILL HIS CLUB

Entire Force Must Fight Murphy or Lose Their Jobs.

SCHEME WELL WORKED OUT

Should Hughes, However, Decide to Take a Hand Himself, He May Upset Nice Calculations of the Mayor and His Followers.

NEW YORK, April 28.—(Special.)—Will the new police bill, passed by the vote of Republican legislators, result in the retirement of Charles F. Murphy as leader of Tammany Hall?

Mayor McClellan thinks so; his friends are of the same opinion. Commissioner Bingham declares its force will not be dragged into politics, but already rumors are afloat that the General will lose his job as soon as the legislature has adjourned.

The amended police law gives most remarkable power to the commissioner. No policeman can attain a higher rank than captain by his own efforts. The commissioner details captains to act as chief inspector and inspectors. While enjoying the high rank they receive increased pay, but at any moment the commissioner sees fit they can be degraded to precinct rank. Likewise any detective can be put on the pavement in uniform whenever the commissioner sees fit. Heretofore they had the rank of sergeants, and could not be removed except after a formal trial.

After Sullivan's Scalp.

McClellan intends to devote the final two years of his term to a desperate effort to control Tammany Hall. His campaign is in the hands of expert politicians, and they intend to use practical politics from start to finish. The Mayor made a mistake last year by tying up with "Tim" Sullivan, only to be thrown down at the last moment. Now he intends to make the Sullivan clan suffer for its treachery.

Maurice Featherston, Dock Commissioner under Mayor Van Wyck, Senator Patrick McCarren of Brooklyn, Fire Commissioner Francis J. Lantry and

Commissioner of gas, electricity and water supply John O'Brien, are the quartet relied upon to land the scalp of Murphy. And absolute control of the police department is the card upon which they rely to do the trick.

The backbone of the Tammany Hall strength in New York City is made up of the gamblers, saloonkeepers and smaller fry of criminals. They need protection and they have got it from Tammany. Now if they desire to be taken care of they must make terms with the Mayor and his lieutenants.

"It will mean a change of at least a dozen districts," confidently declared one of the Mayor's aides today. "The bulk of the silk stocking vote in Tammany is against the Murphy crowd. Now we are reaching out for the other fellows.

Price the Tenderloin Must Pay. "If a saloonkeeper wants to stay open after hours or on Sunday he can do so and it won't cost him a cent, but we will make him line his following up against Murphy, and will see that he does not give us the double cross. We will do the same with the gamblers and should have no difficulty in convincing them that their interests demand a hard and fast alliance with us.

"The trouble about previous wars on Tammany is that they have not been directed by practical men. This crusade is in charge of men who have made politics their life-long study. They know just what to do to bring about results, and will distribute rewards and punishments where they will do the most good.

"Murphy has no offices to give out and will be unable to protect any of his friends. You will find that before the Summer is over his boasted strength in the organization will have rapidly melted away."

According to the political wiseacre the next move of the Commissioner will be a general reorganization of the squads of favored men now on duty at the various Police Magistrate Courts in Greater New York.

Will Keep Tab on Men.

General Bingham has already started the ball moving by sending Lieutenant Thomas F. Casey from command of the squad at the Jefferson Market Court to do desk duty at the East Fifty-first-street station. He exchanges places with Lieutenant William J. Ennis. It might be explained right here that under the recent reorganization the grade of roundsman was abolished. All former roundsmen are now known as sergeants, while sergeants become lieutenants, although with no change in duties or in pay.

Astute students of the Mulberry-street dope sheet profess to see the hand of Mayor McClellan in the exchanging of Casey and Ennis. Casey has long been a favorite of "Big Tim" Sullivan.

For years he was a roundsman at the East Fifty-first-street station in the heart of the Sullivan ballgame, at the time when the precinct was the busiest part of the old red light district.

Then he was made a sergeant and put in charge of the Essex Market Court squad, a position in which he could be of tremendous value to his patron. After a short sojourn in an easy berth in the House of Detention,

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"INTERESTS" HIT BY NEW ASSESSOR

Rich Must Pay Tax on Real Valuations.

NOVEL REFORM IN SEATTLE

"Parrish Plan" Meets With Vigorous Opposition.

HE WILL GIVE NO QUARTER

Vast Timber Lands of King County to Be Cruised by Experts and Assessed Equitably—Big Corporations Are Showing Fight.

SEATTLE, April 28.—(Special.)—An Assessor has come to King County, and after the first shock of a real appraisal the "interests" are coming out of a trance to insist that they do not like it. Something like the real valuation of property so far as County Assessor T. A. Parrish can ascertain it is being written into the tax rolls and the cry has gone up that if the Assessor continues King County will have to pay an unjust share of the state's taxes. When he began the big property-owners cautioned him against radicalism and cited precedents, but that did not count. Now they have fallen back upon the burden that will be imposed upon King if a real assessment is made upon the taxable values of the county.

County Assessor Parrish has heard them out and retorted that he doesn't care. When that has been allowed to soak in, he has softened the blow by the explanation that the State Tax Commission has informed him that if he will make a real assessment; one that will stand the test, the Tax Commission will use it as a criterion to equalize values throughout the state and all other counties will be compelled to measure up to the King County standard. The inequalities in assessments elsewhere will bear down hard on some property-owners, but the counties as a whole will have to contribute their due as computed from the standard that the State Tax Commission has instructed Mr. Parrish to set.

Business Man and Politician.

Parrish doesn't claim to be anything but a business man and a politician—a machine politician at that. He won his nomination in the old-fashioned school of out-trading the other candidates and he had been at that game both in Wash-

ington, Michigan and Illinois for years, but usually as a political manager. He took the notion that one of the best bits of political maneuvering is to accept the law as it is found and to enforce it, and there isn't any brass band trimming with his reform in the Assessor's office. He recognized "the boys" when he gave out the places in his office and he put the drones or unstable workers on the toboggan slide. He didn't tell the public anything about it, but he did tell the material in his office that he intended to get at a square assessment and to discover the property that had evaded taxation for years.

The first intimation that came of Parrish's plans for complete assessment of property within King County came when the newly-elected Assessor asked the County Commissioners for permission to employ competent cruisers and re-cruise every foot of timber land in King County. Hitherto the ridiculously low valuation of \$5 an acre has been accepted without demur but Parrish conceived the idea that this value did not comport with actual values when timbermen were selling their lands at from \$1.50 to \$2.50 a thousand. He figured the county must be losing millions on its valuation of timber lands alone.

Has Long, Hard Fight.

The County Commissioners wanted authority to employ competent men and Parrish took the question to the Legislature, asking permission to employ experts in appraising property for purposes of taxation. The Legislature turned down his bill, so he came back home and induced the Commissioners to employ the cruisers anyway. For the first time in history, King County this year will have a complete cruising of all timber lands; showing on the assessment rolls this year. Lewis and Snohomish counties have taken up the idea and it is feared by timbermen that it may become epidemic on the West Side. That was the reason they defeated Parrish's bill.

A year ago the suspicion became pretty well founded that some of the Deputy Assessors sat in a corner grocery store and figured valuations thereabouts by gossip or guess-work. Parrish sent out a new set to make an actual examination of all properties and then set himself to work to check up their findings. One result of this work will be that the poorer class of property in the inaccessible localities will be valued at pretty near its real worth instead of being overestimated.

The big department stores have been paying taxes on practically the same valuation for six years. The fact aroused Parrish's curiosity and he instructed his deputies to learn whether there had been any additions to the stocks within recent years. They reported, or began to report, wonderful discrepancies between actual values and taxation reports. Then the department store managers waited on the Assessor in a body and attempted to show him they would be ruined if he persisted. The Assessor retorted that new appraisement would be made and that it would stand.

Washington assesses real estate biennially. This is the year that real estate is exempt, but from the start that the new Assessor has made the figures on property valuations fixed on realty next year are going to be startling to those who paid taxes at the old rates.

Quakers to Meet in Newberg.

RICHMOND, Ind., April 28.—An announcement was made today of dates for yearly meetings of Friends, which includes Newburg, Or., July 1.

PEARY MAKES AN APPEAL FOR AID

Must Get \$60,000 or Drop Trip to Pole.

SCHOOL CHILDREN TO HELP

Arctic Club Suggests That They Lend Helping Hand.

IS SURE MONEY WILL COME

Arctic Explorer Says Discovery of Pole Is Work for Which He Is Intended—He Is Anxious to Start Again Very Soon.

NEW YORK, April 28.—Lack of \$60,000 to finance the expedition may mean the abandonment of the dash to the North Pole, which Commander R. E. Peary has planned for this Summer. The explorer, who has earned the distinction of having reached "the farthest north," and who truly may be said to live for the purpose of revealing to the world the mysteries of the Pole itself, is deeply downcast at the possibility that he may not be able to try again.

Feels Called to the Task.

"This is a work which I must do, a great work for which I was intended," said Commander Peary today to the Associated Press, and with a confidence that his work must be helped from somewhere, he said:

"The money will come; somehow I feel certain of that. But if I was only assured now, what a relief it would be, and how I could concentrate all my energies on the details of the expedition. Remember, we were but 174 nautical miles from the goal on our last trip. It would be a pity indeed if we could not try again."

Peary wants to start from New York the latter part of June. His ship, the Roosevelt, which proved its high worth on the last expedition, is now being prepared for the next attack on the northern ice fields. The greater part of the \$40,000 already subscribed will be spent in repairing the boat, and \$20,000 more will be needed for general expenses.

Appeals to School Children.

The Peary Arctic Club is carrying largely for the retelling of the Roosevelt, and it has issued an appeal for contributions from the people of the country, so that a total of \$100,000 may be raised. The club feels, as does Commander Peary himself, that the people should share in the next expedition. The idea of permitting the public school children of the country to take part in the movement has been suggested to Peary. It met with his approval, but he is in doubt as to how such a programme could be carried out.

"I am not complaining," he said, "but it was certain about the material aspect of the expedition a great burden would be lifted. Did you ever think what the details of preparation for the invasion of the North means? If anything is left undone or anything

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AN OREGON CHERRY ORCHARD



SCENE ON THE WEBB FARM, NEAR TROUTDALE, WHERE 1100 TREES ARE NOW IN FULL BLOOM.

—Photographed by an Oregonian Staff Artist, April 24, 1907.

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