DRAWS SALARY OF CLERK FOR LEADING VAST DRAWS SALARY OF CLERK INDUSTRIAL ARMY.



ONDON .- Almost exactly \$26 week is the salary of a remarkable man who recently has become, and who is likely to remain for some time, one of the Important personages in this coun-This is Richard Bell, goneral secretary of the Amalgamated Society of Railway servants and, by virtue of his position, a more prominent figure in the public eye, for the time being, than the prime minister or the king himself. Many weeks must pass before he is dislodged from his leading place in the columns of British newspapers. For if

columns of British newspapers. For if there is to be a general railway strike—and that question will not be answered finally until some time after these lines appear in print—Richard Bell will lead the forces of labor to victory or defeat against a combination of capital aggregating \$5,600,000,000. If a fight between the railway companies and their men takes place it will be the most colossal industrial struggle that ever has been known in the United Kingdom. Mere fear of it caused a depreciation of \$50,000,000 in the value of British railway securities in the course of a few days. Whether it does or does not occur, the man who has won to the leader. days. Whether it does or does not oc-cur, the man who has won to the leader-ship of the industrial army of 100.000 men, which is now engaged in balloting on the question to strike or not to strike, is well worth taking stock of

He is two years on the right side of 50. He is just a trifle over the average height, deep-chested, powerfully built, and straight as a pine tree. His ruddy complexion. complexion proclaims his vigorous health. He is a good-looking man, with a pronounced aquiline nose, blue eyes, firm mouth, a capable chin, and a goodfirm mouth, a capable chin, and a goodsized thinking compartment; his high
forehead being accentuated by the scarcity of hair at the top. His face shows
none of the lines that come to a man
who worries much over his job. If he
were a peer instead of a plebeian, society
papers would very likely describe his
features as those of a typical aristocrat.
When I called to see him at the Loudon headquarters of the A. S. R. S. a
batch of English reporters were interviewing him on the developments of the
day; and I had to wait until they had
done pumping him. Now around the
American headquarters of a powerful inbor organization, when there is a crisis

bor organization, when there is a crisis at hand, one always finds a lot of hangers-on eager to load up the journalist with tales of grievances, and fight talk. But there were no agitators of that sort about the offices of the A.S. R. S. And the staff were all busy earning their nay.

Mr. Bell's Office.

papers.

"You are opposed to strikes." I said, picking up the cue he had given me.

"A strike is a form of war—industrial war—and war, as your General Sherman said, is hell. It is only to be thought of when all other means of settling a dispute fail. But just as there comes a time when a nation feels compelled to submit its cause to the arbitrament of the sword, so in the struggle between capital and labor a crisis may be reached when the workers have to appeal to the only weapon they can command to which the other side is vulnerable—a strike."

tures to the companies and each time the companies have replied, in effect, with a point blank refusal to discuss the affairs of their employes with a third party.' In other words they refuse to recognize our union. Between the maximum of our demands with respect to pay and hours of work, and the minimum of concessions the companies may offer, there is room for compromise. But on the question of recognizion of the union there can be none."

"Why do you regard that as the one point of vital importance"

shall allow the companies ample time in which to consider the gravity of the situation that confronts them. And for represented on their side by experts public opinion to crystallize and make its weight felt. We rely a great deal on that.

A Powerful Factor.

Men Are Pressing.

RICHARD

N. C.SL. SER

"We cannot be accused of acting pre-As the door of Mr. Bell's office opened cipitately in the matter. For two years to admit me I caught his last words to the men have been pressing the executhe representatives of the London tive committee to sanction this movement. Last November we formulated "Bear in mind that we want to get our program of grievances and set forth this thing settled without a strike if our demands for shorter hours and inpossible. Don't write anything that is creased pay in certain branches. To going to stir up strife and ill feeling; them was attached a demand that depuand make it harder for a policy of contations to the employes should be accelliation to prevail. Let the ink that companied by their official representations from your pens be as oil upon the tives. Three times we have made over-You are opposed to strikes." I said, tures to the companies and each time

"Industrial history proves conclusive, ly that trades unions have been a powerful factor in securing improved conditions for the workers. But to be of material benefit to their members they must be 'recognized' as it is termed by the employers. Industrial history in England, at least, again proves conclusively that it is in those industries in which labor is best organized and is afforded the fullest recognition that conditions are most stable and profitable and strikes least frequent. Of that the great cotton industry and the coal mining industry are shining ex-

rallway companies say that the recog-nition of our union means transferring the management of the roads to the men, chaos and bankruptcy. Such state-

SOME OF THE MEN

WHOSE BATTLE IS BEING POUGHT BY RICHARD BELL

> engine drivers not more than \$1.62; signal men average about \$6.25 a week; shunters, \$4 to \$4.25; ticket collectors, \$4.75 and checkers \$4.75 to \$5, and porters \$3.50. Of course the latter add to their earnings by 'tips.' Many of the porters at the big London stations get no pay at all and are entirely depend-ent on their 'tips.' The standard hours nt on their 'tips.' The standard hours or drivers and firemen are 66 a week hours for one class of shunters and for another. Signal men work 60 urs. Many workers are required to

into a firm upholder of authority in every form.

He did his best to impress his views upon his son. The result was a fresh demonstration of the revised version of the old sdage that if you train up a boy in the way he should go—or the way out think he should go—or the way you think he should go—or the way out he is not revolutionary enough. Dons Working Togs. He mastered the three "R's" at a national school, and at the age of 13 be-

HEADQUARTERS OF THE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY OF

RAILWAY SERVANTS.

gan to fend for himself. He entered the offices of the Cyfartha fronworks, but after three years' occupancy of an office stool he came to the conclusion that he was not cut out for a clerical 60 for another. Signal men work 60 hours. Many workers are required to work over-time, at regular time rates.

"The American railway companies recognize the unions of their men. It is to that I attribute no inconsiderable penjoy as compared with our men. Tell the railroad workers of America that we already obtained. I know we have already obtained. I know we have ordered to act as assistants to the dispute fail. But just as there comes a the maximum of our demands with retailed when a nation feels compelled to submit its cause to the arbitrament of the minimum of concessions the companies may offer, there is room for capital and labor a crisis may be reached when the workers have to appeal to the only weapon they can common."

"The nyou consider that a strike of the railway workers in inevituble?"

"The nyou consider that a strike of the railway workers in inevituble?"

"If the railway workers in inevituble?"

"If the railway companies persist in refusing to recognize their union—yes. That that will be the decision of bailors a full two thirds majority I do not for a full two thirds majority I do not for a full two thirds majority I do not for a full two thirds majority I do not for a full two thirds majority I do not for a full two thirds majority I do not for a full two thirds majority I do not for a full two thirds majority I do not for a full two thirds majority I do not for a full two thirds majority I do not for a full two thirds majority I do not for a full two thirds majority I do not for some 400,000 employes by means of their or passion of the ballots has been recorded we or 500,000 employes by means of their or passion to the manistant of the manistant of the manistant of the manistant of the minimum of concessions the components and bankruptcy. Such state ments are insults to public intelligence. The work have ments are insults to public intelligence. The minimum of concessions the components to the minimum of concessions the components to the minimum of concessions the components are insults to public intelligence. The work have ments are insults to public intelligence. The work have ments are insults to public intelligence. The work have ments are insults to public intelligence. The work have ments are insults to public intelligence. The work have ments are insults to public intelligence. The work have ments are insults to public intelligence. The work have ments are insults to public intell

NIGER TO BE OPENED--Measure

one of the clauses of the public works loan bill, pledging the credit of the government for f2,000,000 for the construction of a railroad up the Niger into

northern Nigeria. Nigeria has not thus far been at all a good investment. The Royal Niger company, after 13 years of failure to make it pay, abandoned it in 1900 and it was taken over by the British govern-

ment as a protectorate.

The protectionists of the house of commons halled the scheme as a "good tariff reform bill." But Mr. Churchill deprecated the introduction of that question. In his elaborate defense and exposition of the project he gave the first place to its administrative and strategic and financial usefulness. would enable the work of policing northern Nigeria, which is the princi-pal expense of the colony, to be done more cheaply than it can be done now as to allow of the imperial grant being reduced by an amount nearly or quite equal to the annual expenditure on the road and permit the diversion to the road of the contributions now made by

road of the contributions now made by southern Nigeria and Lagos.

Its effect upon the development of the country it is to traverse, and particularly its stimulation of cotton culture, he treated as "by-products" though by-products of the utmost importance. It can readily be seen how the road would diminish government expenses in a country of which Mr. Churchill said: "It takes weeks to send small bodies of troops from one garrison to another, and every quince of material and

at the mouth of the Mississippi and by utilizing the scour, it is hoped to double this depth of water and a British gov-ernment agent has been dispatched to

New Orleans to study the details of the

system of Eads From Baro, thus its western terminus, the road will run by Bida, Zang Zungeru and Zaria, to Kana, the capital of Haussland, a town of some 35,000 in-habitants, the eastern and inland ter-minus. Here the road is expected to connect with other roads building or projected. To the first of these points the road is expected to be completed in

the road is expected to be completed in 1909 to the second in 1910 and to the third and and last in 1911. The total length will be about 500 miles.

While Mr. Churchill emphasized the advantages of the road as a military and "administrative" expedient, he did not fail to dwell on the advantages it was expected to have in its influence. was expected to have in its influence on the world's cotton supply. The cot-ton industry of Lancashire, he said, had one weak spot. It was dependent on one particular source and when there one particular source and when there was a shortage in the American market the evil was aggravated by the operations of speculators. That introduced an element of fluctuation, uncertainty and gambling and had caused before now sharn pinches throughout Lancashire. It was the object of the British Cotton Growing association to vary and multiply the sources of cotton supply, so that, with many fields averaged and the deficiency in one direction made good by abundance in another.

At a farewell banquet given to him

FAR LABRADOR IS HIS GOL-CONDA-San Diego Man Makes Strike After Eighteen Years Continuous Search

Diego. Recently he returned, and has arranged to take his niece, Miss Ethel Van Haren of Berkeley, on a tour on his private yacht through the Mediterranean. He is still a young man.

but has seen a large part of the world, and has amassed a considerable portion of this world's goods.

In the little-known land of Labrador he has spent the last year or so. He has made two trips to Labrador, the first as an outing and the second on business, for both the Canadian government and himself. He was a newspaper man the greater portion of the time.

time.

Eighteen years ago Birdsall started for New York with one change of linen and a cheerful countenance. He 'succeeded in gaining the attention of John Brisben Walker of the Cosmopolitan Magazine, and was given a "berth."

Then he became superintendent of the magazine, and his rise began. He devoted himself assiduously to the mechanical end of the magazine and made rapid progress through several of the largest eastern publications.

Off for Far North.

Tiring of this, the young man started Ferocity of Dogs. for Labrador, where he sought new excitement in the wilds of this little known and almost inaccessible region. The stories of privation told by Birdsall would fill a book. He started into the frozen north in the first place more as a joke, but ended in making a for-

BRONZED young man walked into the lobby of the Angelus and registered as A. W. Birdsall of San Diego, California, and Rigolet, Labrador, says the Los Angeles Times.

Eighteen years ago he left California with nothing but a good physique and a record as a harum-scarum young blood, who bore the distinction of being he first white baby born in San Diego, Recently he returned and has a controlled by the Danish government. We have reason to believe there are extensive beds of it in Labrador, and government officials have taken up the matter."

Found Hubbard's Body.

Birdsall was at the head of the exploration party which found the remains of the late Leonidas Hubbard, magazine correspondent who starved to death in the vicinity of the Beaver river, in Labrador. The body was found, says Birdsall, by following

was found, says Birdsall, by following the directions of an Esquimau guide who accompanied Hubbard but escaped starvation by boiling his moccasins and chewing them.

"Hardships of this nature are now almost unknown," continued Birdsall, "for we use compressed food. The terrible coid of 60 degrees below zero has to be encountered and this is the one danger. Labrador is one of the most bleak and unhospitable lands in the world. It rises like a gigantic rock out of the ocean and would seem to be the last place in the world that human beings would select for their home. But the cod fisheries are excellent and a score of little towns have sprung up. The Esquimaux, who by the way, resemble our California Jap, are numerous.

"The Esquimau dog has been pictured as the friend of man in the north, and his one mainstay. The dog is useful, but he is the most treacherous animal living. I personally saw a pack of dogs as a joke, but ended in making a fortune out of his knowledge of the faraway land and his connection with the Canadian government, although he will talk little of the latter.

This is the first visit of Birdsail to California since his departure long ago. His home has been at Rigolet, Labration, for several years. Rigolet is just 1,800 miles from a railroad, and, like the greater portion of Labrador, is simply surrounded by rooks. Birdsail says that when a native dies they have to go about 100 miles to get enough ground to bury him in.

Birdsail served on the staff of Governor Waterman of California, and was instructor in a military college when he was 18 years oid.

He talks enthusiastically of the barren land of Labrador. He says it is cat a little baby before assistance could



Rev. Hugh Black.

unusual professorship. What was Even when a student he was noted needed, in the opinion of this layman for his elequence, and was known and of the seminary officials, was a among his classmates as "Demostrated with the ministry than the larger theres." His first work in the ministry

the Christian ministry.

The professorship having been established, it became necessary to find a man to fill the chair, and the choice fell upon Hugh Black, who was at the time associate pastor of St. George's Free church, Edinburgh. Mr. Black had previously made one or two visits to America and had created in this country an excellent impression, so that when the appointment was announced there was expressed in church circles general satisfaction that America had secured the services of this brilliant young Scotchman. Mr. Black has been at his new work for upward of a year and has

COUPLE of years ago a wealthy in the front rank. He was born at Presbyterian layman gave a large sum of money to Union Theological seminary, New York, for the endowment of an at the Free Church college, Glasgow, and at the Free Church college, Glasgow.

professor who would spend the larger part of his time traveling about the country visiting the men's colleges and presenting to the students the call to fame that was so quickly noised abroad

Scotchman. Mr. Black has been at his new work for upward of a year and has already made a lasting impression upon the many colleges he has visited.

Probably no man, American or English, could better represent the claims of the ministry to the young men of this country than can Hugh Black. For this country than can Hugh Black. For the is himself a young man, lacking still some months of being 40 years of age. For 10 years or so he had been the associate of the Rev. Alexander Shyte in St. George's Free church, Edinburgh, and had he remained there he would ministry in general, so that it is not too have succeeded to the senior pastorate. Edinburgh is famed for its great preachers, past and present, but Hugh Black, young as he was, filled a place

August 22 by the British Cotton Grow- the new cotton area, so that Lancaing association in Manchester before his shire trade would not be dependent on departure for British East Africa. Mr. an accident of the American summer or Churchill again expounded the advantage of the American speculative August 22 by the British Cotton Growing association in Manchester before his departure for British East Africa, Mr. Churchill again expounded the advantages of the projected road. He congraulated his hearers on having "got their two millions on the best possible terms."

money market

With a dreamy sigh the young bachelor quoted:
"'Tis better to have loved and lost—'"
"Than won,' snapped the middle-aged married man.

Wife (from the bed)-What are you doing there with my false teeth?

Husband (at the bureau)—Just cutting the end of my cigar, dear.

EDUCATION OF BLIND--System

Aims to Prevent the Weakness of Sight

A FEW years ago, while attending a concert in an Italian town, the Misses Holt, daughters of the well-known publisher Henry Holt, were struck by the pleasure which two blind boys took in the wise which two blind boys took in the music. They felt it was a pity that music and about 6.500 who would have been function. The association at presents when they blind here were the number of the same class could not be the number of the number of the same class could not be the number of the same class could not be the number of the nu more of the same class could not be eyes of the new-born. The association maintains a department for the many empty seats it.

more of the same class could not be there. On looking around and seeing many empty seats, it seemed to them that it would be much better to give the unsold seats to the blind, who would appreciate them, than to leave them unccupied. Therefore, when they returned to America in 1904, they applied to the managers of several theaters for their "waste paper" and established the worthy blind who could not afford to buy them.

The work of the bureau naturally led to a study of their capabilidies. This end a study of their capabilidies. This resulted in the establishment, a little more than a year ago, of the New York association for the blind, which held its first public meeting at the Waidorf-Asoria on March 28, 1906.

The association has since been in corporated, its president is Richard Watson Gilder; its vice-presidents, Miss Winifred Holt, No. '44 East Seventy-lighth street, is the secretary and active head of the organisation. From this street, is the secretary and active head of the organisation. From this street, is the secretary and active head of the organisation. From this street, is the secretary and active head of the organisation. From this street, is the secretary and active head of the organisation. From this street, is the secretary and active head of the organisation. From this street, is the secretary and active head of the organisation. From this street, is the secretary and active head of the organisation. From this street, is the secretary and active head of the organisation. From this street, is the secretary and active head of the organisation. From this street, is the secretary and active head of the organisation of the blind have not. Besides, three-fourths of the blind lawe not. Besides, three-fourths of the blind lawe not. Besides, three-fourths of the blind lawe not. Besides, three-fourths of the blind have not or a proper education. When both these classes face the problem work, and that they need an intermediation of a proper training for the world's continued to the proper decucation. T

ing public. To secure that confidence, to supply that training, to be that intermediary, are the aims of the New York association for the bilnd.

two ticket bureaus, a workshop for blind men at No. 147 East Forty-sec-ond street, where broom-making and chair-caning are taught and carried on: work for blind women; home teaching, in which six blind and two sighted teachers are employed to instruct in reading, writing, singing, type-writing telephone switchboard operating, hand and machine sewing, etc., and the Blind Men's Self-Employment club, a social This can oragnization.

oragnization.
Dr. Lyman Abbott, at the last meeting of the New Jersey association, said:
"It has been proven that it is possible for the blind to do their part in e world's industry.
'It is a terrible thing to feel energy throbbing in your brain and not be able to make use of it. I do not ask for charity for the blind. I only ask that justice be done them.

"There is practically no limit to what

they can do.
"We demand a full equipment for the blind. We cannot give them back their sight, but we can give them life."

When It Rises.

From the Chicago Tribune. Teacher (of geography)-Name the largest city on the Ohio river. Shaggy Haired Pupil - Cincinnati, ma'am; but it ain't on the Ohio river

only part of the time. Teacher-Indeed! Where is it the rest Shaggy Haired Pupil-In it.