

## LABOR IN OLD TIMES.

Workers That Fed the People of Ancient Rome.

### MANY TRADES ORGANIZED.

Nearly All the Freedmen of the Working Classes Were Members of Unions. Bread Bakers Among the First to Organize.

The method of making and baking bread in ancient times seems to have differed very little from our modern methods. But the grinding of grain, which nowadays has been relegated to the machine process, was done in past ages by beating it into flour or meal with a pestle. This was the work of the bread bakers' union, members of which were engaged in supplying the people of Rome, rich and poor, with the three kinds of bread consumed in those days. It is held that the bread bakers were among the first of the ancient lowly to organize, their union dating back, according to the authorities, 700 years before the Christian era.

Nor in the important business of feeding the many mouths of antique Rome can the butchers be left out of account. The pasture lands were taken on shares from the government by cattle breeders. For the use of the land they paid a stipulated sum to the Roman taxgatherers, who were also thoroughly organized. But, strange to say, in the inscriptions found thus far no mention is made of any other butchers' union than that of the swill, or pork butchers, who prepared the meat for the poorer classes of this great capital of antiquity. Granting in his great contribution to sociology, "Histoire des Classes Ouvrieres" (History of the Laboring Classes), clears this mystery away by suggesting that the pork butchers conducted the whole of the butcher business, but sufficient evidence on this point is lacking. On the other hand, renowned archaeologists, like Gruter, Donati and Orelli, have proved conclusively that there were unions of men who foddered the stock and of haymakers and mowers who prepared the fodder. It is believed that these unions worked in conjunction with the butchers.

The labors of Orelli have brought to light the fact that a union of fishermen had many members at Rome, Ostia and Pisea, on the sea, and at the mouths of the rivers. Their business must have been extensive since fish was a delicacy greatly relished by the Romans and is mentioned frequently by the Latin authors in their accounts of the lavish banquets of the time. Besides these ancient organized fishermen, there were unions whose function it was to pack the fish in barrels, casks and packages.

Likewise engaged in helping to victual the population of the Rome of old were the fruit purveyors' unions, which were of various sorts. Ward speaks of a curious inscription found at Rome telling that a man of the name of Julius Epopha, a former cabinetmaker, had given up his trade to become an apple vender and that by the assistance of his wife, Helen, he made a living by keeping an apple stand near the Roman circus.

To pass on rapidly, numerous other unions, much the same kind as those already mentioned, were in evidence at this remote era. But different from any of the others was the union of hunters, who are supposed now to have furnished the tables of the nobles with the products of the chase and with food denied to the lowly. It has been concluded from inscriptions on stone slabs that some of these hunters' unions were formed by slaves who escaped into the wildernesses of Italy and supported themselves by the fortunes of the chase, and that still others were formed by gladiators who, weary of risking their lives in the arenas and the amphitheaters in deadly combat against one another and the wild beasts, sought the more friendly wildernesses.

Other inscriptions state that there was a union among certain of the gladiators for the purpose of undertaking remote journeys, officially sanctioned, to capture the great wild beasts—wolves, bears, tigers and leopards—that in the time of the emperors so often spilled human blood on the sands of the arena. It must be kept in mind that all these unionists were freedmen, whose chartered organizations existed according to the law.—I. K. Friedman in Chicago News.

### Finances of the Carpenters.

The Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners' International union's financial statement for June shows receipts of \$43,627.23. Death and disability payments aggregating \$23,374.50 were paid. The balance in the general fund July 1 was \$351,990.72.

### LABOR NOTES.

The Women's Trades Union league will hold a national convention in Chicago in September.

The marine engineers have a total membership on the coasts, lakes and rivers of the United States of 11,000.

Washington, D. C., will have the eighteenth annual convention of the Theatrical Stage Employees of North America in 1910.

The convention of the Wood, Wire and Metal Lathers' International union will be held in Boston the week beginning Sept. 13.

The new \$100,000 headquarters building of the International Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners was recently dedicated at Indianapolis by Secretary Frank Morrison of the American Federation of Labor.

## GAS TANKS AND TOWN BEAUTY

Louis Heaton Pink's Views on Their Proper Location.

The Consolidated Gas company of New York a few years ago erected a large gas tank along Riverside drive, shadowing Grant's tomb. There was opposition from the press, but nothing was done. The Flatbush Gas company, a subsidiary of the Brooklyn Union, recently completed a tank 191 feet in diameter and 237 feet high in Flatbush, in the borough of Brooklyn. This is the highest structure in the borough. It stands in a region of homes and immediately adjacent to the Kings County hospital and other public buildings. It has taken away from many the equity in their homes and is a blot upon the landscape for miles around. The public service commission was first appealed to by the property owners and civic associations of Flatbush, but it decided that it had no jurisdiction. Two suits for an injunction were brought, one by the property owners and one by the city of New York. The city was defeated at special term, and recently the appellate division dismissed its appeal with scant courtesy on the ground that an offense to the sight cannot be a nuisance. This is not good logic and should not be good law. If such a structure unreasonably destroys the comfortable enjoyment of property it comes within the definition of nuisance. No one of the senses should be discriminated against. It is to be hoped that the court of appeals will have opportunity to pass upon this question.

American cities were formerly concerned only with growth. Now they are placing their energies in development. Eyesores such as this, destructive of property and the beauty of a city or town, should not be tolerated. Gas tanks and all their kind and kin should be placed not where it is most economical, but where they will do the least harm. When erected in a city or town they should be built of moderate height. The "skyscraper" tanks are unnecessarily harmful. If the courts will not protect municipalities against such invasion adequate laws should be at once enacted. In England tanks may not be erected within 300 yards of a residence without the consent of the owner and occupants. In no continental city can tanks be placed without regard for public welfare. The location of gas works and tanks should be subject to the approval of the public service commission, and the consent of owners of houses used exclusively for residential purposes within a prescribed distance should be required. We guard residential sections against saloons by such a law. Who would not prefer a saloon as a neighbor to a huge gas tank?—Louis Heaton Pink in Survey.

### BEAUTY IN FRONT YARDS.

How to Plant Shrubbery For an Ornamental Effect.

If you wish to help in making your home town attractive, improve the front yard with some shrubs.

For a small front yard where it is impracticable to plant trees there is nothing better for ornamental effect than a few well placed shrubs. Once planted and established in the soil they require little attention except in spring, when they should be pruned back so as to keep them symmetrical. In planting shrubs much will depend upon the layout of the lot and its topography. It is easier to spoil an effect than it is to obtain a good one. It is a good plan to get the advice of a competent landscape gardener. If you can't, study your yard and its possibilities thoroughly before you set out a shrub. A plain greenward is far more desirable from an artistic standpoint than a lot littered with a miscellaneous collection of shrubs placed without regard to harmony in the general scheme.

For a small yard among the best shrubs, aside from the roses, are the hydrangeas, of which there are several varieties, some dwarf; the honeysuckles, Japanese snowball, barberry, rose acacia, Irish yew, Catalpa bungei, Magnolia conspicua, Magnolia soulangeana, Japanese cypress and the many varieties of evergreens. The evergreens, however, appear to better advantage in roomy yards.

Then there are the white and purple lilacs, Japanese quince, Strygia grandiflora, althea Jeanne d'Arc, pure white; Deutzia gracilis and the azaleas. These shrubs are hardy, rapid growing, attain large size and bear beautiful flowers. The azaleas should be given a northern exposure and be well protected in winter.

Many of these shrubs will be found growing in the park shrubberies, and those who have friends among the park gardeners can obtain valuable advice from them about the planting and care of shrubs.

### Profitable Shade Trees.

A stranger visiting Tallahassee, Fla., is surprised at the great number of pecan trees found in the yards, gardens and on the streets. They are everywhere, and thousands upon thousands spring up every season where the nuts are washed by the rains or dropped by the birds, which feast upon them. If these trees had been budded with merchantable varieties when young they would now be producing thousands of bushels of the finest nuts annually, but of even these inferior varieties Tallahassee sells hundreds of dollars' worth each year.

### Value of Advertising.

Don't forget that ever, bit of advertising you do does more than advertise the actual goods mentioned. It acts as a general advertisement of the store and possesses a cumulative effect that cannot be calculated by immediate results.

## WAYS OF THE ORIENT.

Queer Ideas About Alleviating Bodily Suffering.

### MAGIC CURES OF THE TURKS.

The Treatment to Which Crippled Children Are Subjected—Bunches of Garlic and Strings of Blue Beads as Panaceas Against All Kinds of Ills.

A stone strikes some part of the body of an oriental and inflicts a wound. The train of ideas that this accident would produce in his mind would run something like this: The stone is the cause of pain, the cause of the wound. It is the principal origin of the trouble. But the essence of every origin is hidden, secret and therefore sacred. The stone becomes an awe inspiring fetich. The wound is neglected. The fetich has to be propitiated. This simple illustration is borne out and supported by everyday experience which medical men encounter in the east.

Another instance may be derived from among the lower classes of the Greek population of Constantinople. A child falls and cuts his head. The first thought of the parent is to be sure not to wash and to bind up the wound, still less to call medical assistance, however grave the cut may turn out to be. This is always an afterthought, which very often comes so late that the help of a surgeon can prove of no use.

The first thing the father or mother of the injured child thinks of doing is to pour over the shoulder upon the place of the accident a libation of wine or sugared water and to whisper in performing this some mysterious formula supposed to possess supernatural efficacy against every form of evil.

The Moslems are addicted to the queerest practices for purposes of healing or alleviating bodily pain. A Turk, for instance, in distress or suffering from some disease, however severe, knows of no better remedy than to fix a piece of his dress, torn off with true oriental equanimity, to an iron bar of some saint's tomb or to drink water from a tumbler into which he has previously put a sheet of paper with writings from the Koran. Sometimes he will take a jar, the interior of which has been written all over with strange formulae and signs. He will then fill it with water, wait till these formulae and signs have been thoroughly dissolved and drink the singular solution with an absolute faith in its wonder working efficacy.

Sheltered by the somber cypresses of the great Mohammedan cemetery at Scutari (the ancient Chrysopolis on the Asiatic coast of the Bosphorus) there stands in picturesque solitude the tomb of a horse. Every Friday afternoon Turkish mothers carry to that tomb their crippled children to be submitted by a select "khoodja" (priest) to an extraordinary course of treatment. These children are dragged, with their diseased limbs dangling over the hillock, from one end of the tomb to the other and then back again in the same fashion. The occult influence emanating from this hillock is supposed to be an all efficient panacea.

It is not difficult to trace in this case the crude, imperfect association of ideas. The horse has long been considered an emblem of vigor, typifying, as Ruskin says, "the flow and force of life." Hence the belief of the orientals, inherited, no doubt, from the Greeks, in the all conquering virtue and influence of occult and mysterious effluvia which are supposed to emanate constantly from a horse's tomb.

The wearing of a necklace of blue beads or of garlic as a potent means of keeping away disease or of warding off the evil eye is quite a universal matter of sincere belief in the whole of Turkey. This superstition is shared, as is well known, by the lower classes of many a country in civilized eastern Europe. There, however, it is not so universal and fragrant as in the orient.

There is scarcely a house in the Moslem, Greek and Armenian districts of the population of Constantinople which has not hanging above its entrance door a collection of garlic and scarcely a beast of toil which has not attached to some part of it a string of blue beads. Among the uneducated it is impossible to find an individual who does not pin absolute faith to the all healing power of such charms, especially of blue beads, which are supposed to be an unerring panacea against every possible ill.

Less general is the belief in the east in the baleful influence of the planets Saturn and Mars upon the constitution of the human body, upon its four cardinal humors—blood, phlegm, yellow bile and black bile. These planets are considered by some orientals, especially in the far south, as the unmistakable causes of all sorts of ailments. Woe unto him who begins any work when Saturn or Mars is in the ascendant.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

### If Only.

Miss Enpee (engaged to Tommy)—When you proposed to me you said that if I would only say the right word you would be the happiest man in the world.

Tommy—Ah! if you had only said it!—Illustrated Bits.

### Perilous.

"Were you ever in a railroad disaster?"  
"Yes—I once kissed the wrong girl while going through a tunnel."—Cleveland Leader.

It's the fellow who minds his p's and q's that sleeps on flowery beds of o's.—Philadelphia Record.

## SIXTY YEARS A HARPIST.

Rosalie Spohr a Figure in Berlin's Musical and Social Life.

One of the most interesting characters in the musical life of Berlin is Rosalie Spohr, the harpist, who is a niece of the great violinist Louis Spohr. She made her first appearance in public on Dec. 13, 1849, at a concert given by Jenny Lind. She attracted attention first because of her distinguished musical descent, but after the world had once heard her her art made her famous.

There are few women before the public today who play the harp as virtuosa, although one sees them occasionally in the opera orchestras. So it is difficult nowadays to realize that Rosalie Spohr toured Europe in triumph. She found in Franz Liszt a devoted friend and enthusiastic admirer, and he was proud to play with her at Weimar as well as give her the benefit of his artistic advice. Her career as a public performer ended after about six years. Then she became the wife of Count Sauerma, and the stage knew her no more. She still lives in Berlin, more than eighty years old, but enthusiastic in her devotion to the instrument with which she won the triumphs of her brief professional career. For three hours every day she practices the harp, and her technique has for that reason remained very complete for one of her age. Her talent was in a measure hereditary, since her aunt was a well known harpist in her day. It was through her playing that Rosalie Spohr, who had begun her musical life as a pianist, turned her attention to the harp.

A widow for more than twenty years, it has been her devotion to her art that has made life interesting to her during all that time. Her education was sound in the first place, for she studied for two years under the harpist Grimm, who allowed her to play in public at the end of that period, although it was one of his principles that a harpist should study for ten years. Countess Rosalie has been an intimate friend of the German royal family, and both Friedrich and the empress were delighted to hear her play. Nowadays she is a unique figure in the musical and social life of Berlin and an inspiration to the younger students, who see what a joy and consolation an art may be to one who has acquired it faithfully.

### COOKING RULES.

Green Vegetables Should Be Dropped Into Salted Water.

If vegetables appear wilted they may be freshened by soaking them in cold water.

Perfectly fresh vegetables, however, may be cooked as soon as prepared.

Green vegetables should be dropped into salted boiling water and cooked very rapidly, but such vegetables as asparagus, spinach, beans, peas and corn should be cooked in as little water as possible, just enough to keep them from burning. Other vegetables, such as cabbage and cauliflower, should be covered with water and a pinch of soda added. In cooking onions they should first be scalded and the water changed twice during the course of cooking.

Spinach, if it is to be cooked immediately, may be washed in scalding water, which will remove the sand clinging to the stems much more thoroughly than cold water.

Green corn should not be washed. Some people prefer to boil it with the husks on.

Cabbage and cauliflower should be thoroughly washed and soaked head downward so as to remove any insects lurking inside them.

Every kitchen should have a scrubbing brush to be used exclusively for scrubbing vegetables. Potatoes, for instance, should be scrubbed thoroughly before they are pared; also parsnips and carrots.

In preparing beets do not break the skin before cooking them or all the juice will be lost.

In baking potatoes first scrub them well. Then grease them with a little butter applied on a piece of brown paper. Bake for an hour, testing one when they seem to be done by bursting it slightly with the fist. If the potato is soft and mealy they are ready to be served.

A little chopped parsley tied up in a small muslin bag will greatly improve the flavor of string beans.

Stewed tomatoes are improved by adding a little finely chopped meat and meat gravy; also a sliced onion fried in butter until brown. Stewed tomatoes are seldom cooked long enough and invariably have a raw taste. They should be cooked down until quite thick.

### Torn Buttonholes.

If a buttonhole tears out lay a piece of closely woven tape back of it, stitch firmly in place, hem the old buttonhole to it neatly and then cut and work in the tape a new buttonhole of the proper size. An extra fine way is to rip the band apart and take out the threads of the old buttonhole, stitch the tape on the inside of the back fold of the band, stitch up the latter in its original shape and proceed as before. When buttons have torn out it is comparatively easy to squeeze a small square of good tape through the hole, lay it flat in the proper position between the two folds of the band and stitch it in place. Hem down the ragged edges on both sides and sew the buttons to the tape. Any button or buttonhole that is to bear the strain should be stayed with tape when the garment is being made, the stay tapes for both buttons and buttonholes being placed in the band before it is stitched.

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