

WORKMEN'S ADVOCATE,



Series 2, No. 24

New Haven, Connecticut, Sunday, March 14, 1886.

Price 3 Cents

ORGANIZED LABOR.

THE CONTEST BETWEEN LABOR AND CAPITAL.

Reports From Many Places—Reverend Arbiters—They Couldn't Run the Mill—No Knobsticks Wanted—The Great Strike.

CLERGYMEN ON DUTY.

PITTSBURGH, Pa., March 9.—One of the most remarkable methods of strike settlement known in this section is now in progress in this city. W. P. Rend of Chicago operates extensive coal mines west of this city, employing 250 men and 18 coal mining machines. In consequence of depressed trade, Mr. Rend offered a reduction to the men from 91 cents per ton to 65 cents. The men objected, and a strike was threatened. As Mr. Rend has always been favorable to arbitration, to-day President Costello of the Miners' Union and State Secretary Davis visited the mines, where they met Mr. Rend, Superintendent Black and the miner's committee. It was decided to arbitrate the question. The men selected Rev. Fr. Hickey of St. Thomas Catholic Church of Brad-dock, the umpire in the famous Carnegie steel works' strike, and Mr. Rend selected Rev. E. R. Donohoe of the Eighth Presbyterian Church, this city. Both gentlemen have agreed to act, and will choose a third party, if necessary. To-morrow Messrs. Costello and Davis will go to Chicago, where Mr. Rend will submit his books and show prices for his coal. Next Tuesday Mr. Rend will take the arbitrators and miners' officials to his mines in a special car, where the hearing will be held. Mr. Rend and his superintendent, Mr. Black, will argue for the reduction, while three miners, Leloshie, Stans-frey and Carr will argue against it, backed by the miners' officials. Rend's mines are the only ones employing machines to dig coal, and the selection of two clergymen is a novelty, even in this great labor centre.

COULDN'T RUN THE MILL.

FALL RIVER, March 10.—The weavers of the Barnaby gingham mill, who struck over a week ago are still out, and insist upon their demand for an advance of 10 per cent. on gingham. Yesterday morning the weave room was opened for the first time since the strike, and five weavers reported for work. This morning a large number of the strikers assembled at the mill gates, but only the same five returned to work. During the forenoon the five knobsticks were sent home by the overseer, and the weave room shut down, the attempt to run with knobstick help being for the time abandoned. The strikers met this afternoon and voted to continue the strike, and adjourned to meet again to-morrow afternoon.

The Spinners' Union, at its monthly meeting last night, voted to form an assembly of the Knights of Labor, and adjourned to Friday night, when members will be initiated. The union also rejected a number of spinners who had worked as knobsticks during the last strike.

MALDEN KNIGHTS OF LABOR.

MALDEN, MASS., March 9.—The carpenters and master builders of Malden held a meeting in Bailey's Hall last night, and organized a K. of L. Assembly. A uniform rate of wages was advocated. The journey-men carpenters in Malden now are paid more by some of the builders than others, the prices running from \$1.75 to \$2.10 per day.

STRIKES COMING.

ALBANY, N. Y., March 9.—It is understood that the Car Drivers and Conductors' Union have decided upon a strike here on the surface road

lines, but the day has not been fixed. It will probably not take place before Saturday.

The carpenters and masons have planned a strike, but it is not to occur until spring, when building begins.

NIGHT AS WELL ORGANIZE.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., March 9.—The managers of the Missouri Pacific railway offices in this city to-day notified their clerks that they had decided to relieve them from duty indefinitely. This action has been taken to curtail expenses as much as possible during the continuance of the strike up the road. The order affects 60 telegraph operators and 200 office clerks.

A STRIKE AT "HELL'S MILLS."

NORWICH, Ct., March 10th.—A strike occurred at the Sprague mill in Baltic to-day, in which 1,000 operatives participated. The immediate cause of the strike was the system of fines imposed upon the operatives for dropped threads, oil on the cloth, etc. The strike to-day originated with the weavers, and was caused by the return of a quantity of cloth with \$50 damage to it. This damage the superintendent proposed to assess upon the weavers, who would not submit. In going out they took all the other operatives with them.

THE GREAT RAILROAD STRIKE.

The General Superintendent of the Missouri Pacific Railroad issued an order last Wednesday expelling all Knights of Labor from the railroad yards at St. Louis.

No freight has passed over the great bridge into or out of St. Louis since the employees of the Bridge and Tunnel Company struck at the command of the Knights of Labor, except over the St. Louis and San Francisco line, and its trains can penetrate the city as far as the Grand avenue depot, for from thence to the union depot, a distance of about two miles, they are obliged to use the Missouri Pacific tracks, if any, and this the strikers will not allow. Outside merchants are now beginning to understand the seriousness of the situation, and at points along the Gould system shipments have entirely closed, or in very urgent cases the orders are filled by express. All through freight from the West and Southwest, is also diverted from the city, for it is impossible to transfer any of it from this to the east side of the river, or vice versa. The effect of all this upon business interests has already become apparent, and many prominent business men express the opinion that the diverting of trade from this city on account of the strike is not only temporary, but will be permanent. Passenger traffic has not been interfered with. The Knights of Labor have offered to furnish men to do this work, but their offers have been refused. Everything is quiet, and the Knights are under excellent discipline. Alarmist despatches have been sent out, but there is no ground to fear anything save that the companies will have to deal fairly by the Knights.

COLORES STRIKE.

ALBANY, N. Y., March 10.—The anticipated strike in the Colores knitting and woolen mills, a few miles from this city, employing 1,000 persons, began to-day. The advance in wages granted by the manufacturers did not terminate the difference between the capitalists and employes, as the former hoped they would. The demands of the spinners for increased and uniform wages were not acted on. After a few days of consultation the Knights of Labor ordered the spinners to quit work and insist on their demands. Accordingly they struck this morning.

That every American mother shall have a roof over her head, free from debt, where she can rear her children amid virtuous and refining influences, is more important to the country than all the wealth of the world.—Lynn Knight of Labor.

THE GREAT BALL.

A GLORIOUS AND JOYFUL DEMONSTRATION.

The Big Armory Filled with Knights and Ladies—The Largest Affair of the Kind Ever Held. Rivaling Metropolitan Soirees.

Never in the annals of pleasure-giving entertainments was there such a spontaneous response to the seductive promises of laughing Terpsichore as that exhibited at the K. of L. Soiree last Monday night. Notwithstanding the threatening weather and the very moderate advertising, the immense floor was fully occupied by the largest company of dancers ever gathered together in the "City of Elms." At a quarter past ten the gentlemen's hat room could accommodate no more hats and overcoats.

The "grand march" was performed by upwards of 350 couples, led by Captain Theodore Sacher, of the Light Guards, and Miss Elsie Hanay. Meanwhile a steady stream of pleasure seekers was pouring into the great building, and it is estimated that there were over 4,000 people in attendance. Excellent discipline and the best of sociability prevailed.

The floor committee's duties were lightened by the prompt manner in which sets were formed; the dancers acted as if they had practiced the evolutions; and so everything went smoothly and without friction. Crowded as the floor was, the enjoyment of the evening was rather enhanced than otherwise by the throng of New Haven's working people come together as much for congratulating each other upon the efficiency and power of their organization as for personal enjoyment.

The remark that "we are the people" seemed to be verified to its fullest extent. It was like the population of a busy village of workers come together in a democratic way for a village festivity, to see the young folks, and old ones too, enjoy themselves. The hearty clasp of hands and mutual congratulations between members of the various assemblies were many, while visiting friends were favorably impressed with the imposing magnitude of the great assembly, as well as with the fraternal spirit displayed. A lady, prominent in the theatrical profession, and who has witnessed many entertainments of the kind in various cities, pronounced this one superior to any in point of numbers, decorum and sociability.

Great credit is due the committees for their efficient management. The following named gentlemen officiated:

Grand Conductor—Theo. H. Sacher.
Assistant Conductor—Charles Stadel.
Floor Committee—T. F. Shanley, S. J. Blakeslee, W. B. Doran, D. F. Stanford, J. O'Connell, J. E. Hugo, S. L. Gross, C. E. McGregor, T. Ford, T. Foley, R. Winston.

Executive Committee—H. H. Lane, chairman; P. P. Lynch, J. E. Norton, J. F. Baker, E. L. Gannis, N. J. Yates, G. Corrie, J. F. Brannigan.

The dances were eighteen in number, and lasted till past two o'clock, according to the following program:

ORDER OF DANCES.

Grand March—"Mikado," K. of L.
1. Quadrille—"Scheuteger,"
Urish S. Stephens.
2. Lanciers—"Cavalier," T. V. Powderly.
3. Waltz—"Carlotta," G. S. T. Turner.
4. Caledonians—"Robert Burns," Carl Marx.

5. Polka—"Three Little Maids," Henry George.
6. Lanciers—"Amoria," F. Lasalle.
7. Waltz-Redowa—"Dream Faces," John Swinton.
8. Quadrille—"Irish Song," Wendell Phillips.
9. Schottische—"Happy Hours," C. S. Darnell.
INTERMISSION.
10. Lanciers—"Gasperone," Ed. J. King.
11. Waltz—"A Night in Venice," August Babel.
12. Quadrille—"Orpheus," Michael Davitt.
13. Waltz—"Nanon,"
Woolman's Advertiser.
14. Lanciers—"Trumpets,"
The Noble Order.
15. Redowa—"Union," Carl Schum.
16. Quadrille—"Our Visitors,"
To Our Lady Knights.
17. Waltz—"Blooming Meadows,"
Ye Gentle Boycat.
18. Lanciers—"Nanon,"
Success to K. of L.

"Home, Sweet Home," by the orchestra, signalled the end of the festivity, and the merry company dispersed, more than satisfied with the first Soiree of the Knights of Labor. While the crowd was slowly leaving the Armory some one suggested the propriety of a "grand time" on the anniversary of the founding of the first Assembly in the city—the 14th of June; and if we are not mistaken, that day will be celebrated.

BRANFORD.

While the Knights, of New Haven, were holding their soiree, Mechanics Assembly, of Branford, with its friends, were enjoying a similar affair at the armory there. It is estimated that over a thousand people attended. The hall was tastefully draped and the motto of the Order and name of the Assembly on hunting formed a part of the decoration. The ladies wore calico dresses and the gentlemen neckties of the same material. During intermission refreshments were served, and then "on with the dance." The affair was a decided social and financial success, and like that of the New Haven Knights, was the greatest affair of the season.

A COWARD.

There is employed at the L. Candee rubber shop as "inspector" an individual who is remarkable physiologically on account of his ludicrously enormous ears and proboscis, and by his diminitiveness psychologically. His ambition to lord it over those who are unfortunate enough to be under his dominion for ten hours per day is fully equalled by his ardent desire for amassing wealth. Last Wednesday a young woman who was employed in the shoe room was ordered to sit at a table near a draughty door, though there were many other tables unoccupied. She requested that she be allowed to occupy another seat, but the inspector coarsely told her that he had got her just where he wanted her, and would place her where he pleased. Not being anxious to follow two other girls who had become ill from working in the uncomfortable and exposed place, she felt herself compelled to leave. The brute has triumphed for the time, but there is a disposition on the part of those who will exert their power to bring this man to a realization of his cowardly and inhuman action at no distant day. Of course, the Company will be held responsible for allowing such a person to have sway.

NOT GOOD ENOUGH FOR CAT PRIZES.

Bunnell, the show man, says he will not give out the Derby Silver Co. prizes which he has on exhibition for winners in the cat show. The Derby Silver Co. is being boycotted.

ROAD OFFICIALS.

A DEMOCRATIC PLAN OF ELECTION.

The People Vote—Giving Bonds, Avoiding Party Rule—The Law Enforced—The Same For All—Rich and Poor Alike—Facts.

On all level ground, on long lines, the divisions could be 100 miles long, while on all mountain roads, where the grades are high, travel slow and expenses greater, it would be well to make the divisions shorter, then charge a fixed rate per trip (and not per mile) over each division; because it would cost as much to haul a train slowly over a heavy grade a short distance, on a mountain, as it would to move the same train faster, over a longer distance, on a level. Where there are short lines or a branch road, less than 100 miles in length, very often it will be better to organize it as a separate division, and operate it differently from any other division with which it may connect. Then it would not be necessary to have any two divisions equipped or operated alike. One division would use more men and more locomotives than another, but through trains would make close and rapid connection over each and every division alike, and would waste no time on any division, and the passengers would not have to lay over or wait at any point of connection on either through lines or branch roads. The train men, track men, tank and water men, and all necessary men for the work on each division, should be appointed by the division superintendent, or by those under his direction with his approval. The men working in the station and yard should be appointed by the station agent. The division superintendent should be elected by the people along the division and living within five miles or less of the track. The station agent should be elected by the people living within five miles or less of his station. These officials will give bonds to execute the laws passed by Congress in regard to transportation, just as the postmasters execute these in regard to the rates of postage or the movement of the mails. They can not send you or your freight over the line for any less than they send mine any more than a postmaster can send your letter cheaper than mine. By the people electing these officials and the postmasters of the United States, the President would be relieved from the unnecessary work of appointing a host of men whose appointment is not so much a matter of National as it is of local political importance. The President would then have more time to devote to pushing the commercial interests of Americans abroad, and paying more attention to our foreign affairs, which have been so long neglected. The people, by electing their local officers for these departments, can relieve themselves of the fear of centralizing too much power in the hands of the President of the United States. They can also avoid the fear of any one party having too many offices, for the people of one station or division would elect a Democratic agent or superintendent, while those of another locality would elect a Republican, and in a third locality Greenback officials would be chosen—all under bonds to faithfully execute the laws of Congress. The locomotive headlight would shine as brightly under a Democratic fireman's supervision as it would under the charge of one whose entire family, from himself to his remotest ancestors had been Republicans, while the whistle and bell would as clearly sound the announcement that a locomotive was approaching under the control of a Greenbacker, as engineer, as it would if he and all his kith and kin had the firmest faith in some

other political party, and a draw-bridge or a switch stand would work as quickly and correctly under the manipulation of the most conservative Republican as it would by the muscular exertion of the most pronounced and radical communistic or socialistic Democ. The law would be the same for all, and it would be enforced on rich and poor alike, and those who failed to execute it, equally and justly, would soon be found out, exposed and punished.

Respectfully,
WILL D. SOUTHWORTH

IN HOLLAND ALSO.

AMSTERDAM, March 6th.—Three thousand Socialists and unemployed workmen to-day held a public meeting here to discuss their grievances. The proceedings were conducted in an orderly manner throughout. The meeting deputed a committee to call upon the mayor and present, through him, a demand upon the city for the inauguration of public works for the employment of labor.

THE BELLS.

While the Knights were enjoying themselves at their grand soiree at the Second Regiment Armory last Monday night, some wakeful citizens heard the fire alarm bells strike shortly after midnight. Anxiously the strokes were counted: One, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten, eleven, twelve, thirteen, fourteen, fire!—no—fifteen—great heavens! the Knights have captured the armory!—sixteen, Ah,—and with a sigh of relief rat and capitalist subsided into slumber. But it was a "close call." Just suppose it had struck fifteen!—the militia call.

BOSTON.

The Central Labor Union of Boston and vicinity, held its forthrightly session at Wadham Hall, Saturday evening. After minor business had been transacted, an animated discussion took place on the putting into effect of the demand for eight hours on May 1st, by all the Unions and Assemblies of the Knights of Labor represented in the Central Labor Union. A motion was made and carried to the effect that the delegates present report back to their local bodies, and that the secretary correspond with all the bodies whose delegates were not present, asking them to report at the next meeting of the Central Labor Union whether their organizations would strike on the 1st of May, for eight hours.

NEW BRITAIN.

The Executive Committee of Union 97, New Britain, of the "Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America" submitted the following resolutions to the contractors and employers of New Britain as a basis of agreement between said contractors and employers and Union 97 for one year from April 1st:

Resolved, That \$2.25 be the minimum price per day of ten hours for Union men on and after April 1st, to continue for one year.

Resolved, That the committee ask the contractors to agree to hire none but Union men, except by mutual agreement between the contractors and the committee of Union 97.

Resolved, To ask the contractors to adopt the custom of making eight hours a full day on Saturday.

Resolved, That we will do no work overtime unless we receive pay for the same at the rate of time and a half, or 50 per cent. more than our regular pay except by permission of the Executive Committee.

Resolved, That the committee will use their utmost endeavors to protect their employers, that Union 97 will do the same, and so instruct its delegates to the Central Labor League.

This was agreed to and signed by twelve contractors and builders, and the Executive Committee of the Union.