

either wife or children or both to work in 1,887 of the families. Of the children 3,460, or more than one-fourth were at work.

Now suppose a man who was able to make the average surplus given above, \$103.51 a year, to put this in the savings bank regularly and let the interest (say at four per cent) accumulate; let him begin this at the age of twenty and continue till he was sixty, when he might reasonably wish to quit work, the whole amount of his savings, including interest, would then be less than \$7,400. Any one who has the slightest knowledge of present industrial conditions knows that the possessor of this amount of money is not a capitalist in any sense whatever. And yet this sum represents the extreme probable savings of a laborious life in one of our great industries.

Minneapolis.

Visit of Samuel Gompers.

President Gompers arrived at Negaunee on the 10:30 train of the C. & N. W. railroad and was met at the Union depot by President Robert Askew and Secretary-Treasurer William Mudge of the N. M. M. W. P. U., who gave him a hearty welcome to Negaunee and Northern Michigan on behalf of the mine workers unions. He was escorted to the Breitung house in time to watch the grand procession of the union men of the district. First of all came the newly formed federal labor union preceded by a band; next the retail clerks, then a band preceding the mine workers unions of Negaunee, Ishpeming, Cascade and Winthrop. After these had passed then came the calithumpians representing soldiers guarding scabs at the Queen mine, bringing to our memories the stirring times of twelve months ago. Also a counterpart of one of the medicine shows of which there are so many now-a-days.

The program for the day commenced with an address of welcome to the visitors of the city, also encouraging remarks to the citizens, by Mayor Kirkwood. Mr. T. H. Roberts took the chair and introduced the speakers with appropriate remarks.

Matt Koko delivered an address in the Finnish language on trades unions and the benefits to be derived from them, which was very interesting and well appreciated.

Robert Askew, president N. M. M. W. P. U., also spoke of unionism and advised the people present if they wanted to celebrate the day of independence in reality they should join their labor organizations and not keep outside else their independence would be a myth.

Mr. Primeau of Negaunee read the Declaration of Independence. The people then dispersed to the different parts of the city to take part in the sports of the day.

In the afternoon President Gompers accompanied by our local President Askew went over to Ishpeming where a large concourse of people had gathered.

Mr. Robert Askew briefly intro-

duced the able gentleman in a few appropriate remarks.

President Gompers took the stand and was received with rounds of applause. He spoke about an hour on various labor topics and was listened to attentively.

Mr. Gompers left for Iron Mountain in the afternoon, where he addressed a large and enthusiastic audience on Sunday afternoon.

Among other things he said: "There had been or there might be some objections to labor meetings on the Sabbath. But this question of labor teaches the highest morality. It is the holiest of questions, and the holier the day the holier the deed." He said he might take for his text "What must we do to be saved. What shall we do to be saved now? A peaceful and happy condition hereafter cannot arise from the damnation here. We must change the condition of men here to realize something better hereafter. You must struggle with present conditions.

"Mankind is endowed with certain inalienable rights, among which are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Who can hear or read these words without feeling a gratitude to the noble savants and heroic fathers of our revolution for national independence? Who has not been made better for their utterances, when calmly contemplating those lofty aspirations bursting forth from the innermost springs of pure human hearts? In celebrating this day of our national independence we should not be unmindful of the fact that beyond this there is coupled with it a higher, a nobler conception and charter of the rights of man. The right of 'life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.' Life—who can say that the man, as he plods his weary way from city to city in quest of work, ragged and forlorn, jeered and rebuffed, has the right to life?

"Who can say that a man has the right to 'life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness' when he is starving, dying for his dinner and there is no dinner for him?

"What an empty mockery to tell a man he has the right to sleep and there is no bed for him to lie on. We want more. Look at your homes, you who are getting \$1.25 a day! Look at your organs, your

pianos! Look at the carpets on your floors, four inches thick! It is human nature to want more. The man who gets \$1 wants \$1.10 per day; he who gets \$1.25 wants \$1.40; he who gets \$2 wants \$2.25, and so on. When a man gets a million he wants the earth. We want more. This brings to my recollection a story: A farmer had a mule which he kept tethered to a stake. The mule ate all the grass he could reach, and still not being satisfied, complained to his owner. 'How do you expect me to work if you do not give me enough to eat? So, please, give me a little more rope.' He replied: 'I cannot. You have more rope now than your father had.' 'Yes,' said the mule, 'but my father was a jackass.' Moral: If we receive more rope than our fathers did, we cannot help it that our fathers did not ask for more.

But you men of Negaunee do not want more. What I mean; you do not want more bad enough; if you did you would get into you organization.

"Here you are educated in the discernment of your wants. Trade unions are schools where we can learn more of our rights, a means by which our vigilance may be aroused, exercised and maintained. Trades unions to the wage earners are schools of political liberty and the hope for economic freedom. A pillar of clouds by day and a pillar of fire by night to lead the hosts of labor onward and upward to the goal of their emancipation. Still there are men who hold aloof and are a clog or a drag on the wheels to retard the progression of the movement. Not long ago there was a strike in Chicago in which the butchers all used the label. A lady entered a store and asked for a sheep's head. The same was given, when she desecrated the label hanging on the side of an ox. 'What is that, Mr. Butcher?' 'That is the label, ma'am.' 'Oh, my husband said I must not buy any union goods, etc., because the men called him an awful name—a word of four letters.' Taking the sheep's head from her hands and placing it on the block, he split it, extracted the brain and handed it back with the remark, 'Now it is non-union goods.'

"Arbitration, yes I believe in arbitration when the contending forces are equal; not arbitration of the lion and lamb sort. One night the lion and lamb arbitrated and slept in close proximity to each other. And the lion woke up in the morning on the outside of the lamb."

There were a great many more points of interest brought up and explained beyond any doubt. He then resumed his seat amid the applause of a thousand voices.

President Gompers left Iron Mountain by the evening train. At Norway he received quite an ovation, the local union turning out to meet the train at the depot. He gave a short address while the train stopped, and as the train pulled out the depot he was grandly applauded by the great concourse of people.

Negaunee, Mich., July 5, 1896.

More Infernalism.

BUFFALO, N. Y., July 22d, 1896.

S. G. AKIN:

MY DEAR FRIEND:—I shipped from Duluth last Friday on the North Land and did not have time to call as I promised. I have been discharged from the boat under the following circumstances: I shipped as a water-tender and had a battery of ten boilers to keep water in. The boat, for firemen, is a floating hell and not much better for water-tenders, and the firemen drop out at every port. On this trip some of them left us at the Sault, Detroit and Cleveland. Many of them get sick between these points and refuse to work. Five of them quit at Cleveland and the battery of boilers that I was caring for were out of service; the engineer