

## LABOR AND INDUSTRY

### SOME ITEMS OF INTEREST TO UNION WORKMEN.

**The Freight Brakeman Impresses Himself on the Whole Passenger Service of a Railroad—Discussing Re-enactment of the Chinese Exclusion Act.**

**THE GIRL WITH THE HOE.**  
Adown through the Lone Star cotton lands,  
In the fields wherever I go—  
She is there, she is fair, she is every-  
where—  
The matchless girl with the hoe!

And I love to think as I ride the lanes,  
And she leans on her hoe and looks,  
Of the times gone by and the Muller  
tale  
That I read in my childish books—

"A form more fair and a face more  
sweet"  
Are words that ever occur,  
And again and over I find myself  
Applying the line to her.

She may not see in the skies of night  
The things that a Lockyer sees;  
She may be blank on Plato's themes  
As she is on the Pleiades.

But she plants the flowers in the old  
home yard,  
And not on the sands of Mars;  
And she gives her love to the folks at  
home,  
While Tesla talks to the stars.

A soldier brave in the bloodless war  
That makes for the good of men,  
She wields a weapon of higher worth  
Than the man with the sword or the  
pen,  
—Paul Avon in the Galveston News.

### THE FREIGHTS THE THING.

"About three-quarters of a railway's receipts come from the freight department. The passenger department supplies nearly all the rest, the income from mail, express and other privileges being comparatively small. Carrying passengers is a simple matter, or would be if state legislatures did not now and then take a hand in prescribing added specifications for railway passenger service. In Ohio a law was passed decreeing that the height between the platform and the lowest steps of passenger coaches should not exceed twelve inches. This cost the railroad nearly one hundred thousand dollars, and the reform led to the abolition of a number of flag stops where the passengers had been quite willing to scramble up off the ballast. Legislatures in the west have been known to hamper and exasperate railway men apparently for the pure pleasure of the art, a state of things that seems almost inconceivable in some eastern states, where the legislatures represent themselves. Compared with the freight business, the passenger traffic presents few complications. The great simplifying factor is that passenger rates are stable, while freight rates are not. Passengers pay a fixed rate per mile for transportation. But the price of freight transportation varies according to the kind of freight, and according to the size of the lot. It is curious to notice that the freight trains, scarecrow processions of shameless packing cases on wheels, interminably squeaking through our streets, are the ones that really count when you come to make up the profits. The magnificent trains of vestibuled Pullmans which glide swiftly through the country on velvet roadbeds make ten times the show that their real value to the road warrants. Nothing, surely is more disreputable in appearance than the procession of battered freight cars that jolts and creaks into the yard in the sunny mist of a Sunday morning—unless it is the physiognomies of the pair of brakemen trailing their legs over the roof. Yet the train is doing something more than its share toward keeping the line going. The two rowdies on the roof are, after all, gilded conductors in the making. It is a democratic business. Freight brakemen to freight conductor, freight conductor to passenger conductor—that is the order of promotion on most American roads. So the freight train man impresses himself on the whole passenger service."—Carl Hovey in *Ainslee's*.

### GOLDEN AGE A MYTH.

A certain popular conviction of the day ascribes to the condition of the workman, urban or rural, a constant deterioration. His wages are held to be declining and his comforts lessening; his security of employment is declared to be less stable, and his economic freedom to be disappearing. Growing out of this conviction has arisen the notion of a sort of golden age somewhere back in the early days of the republic—an age when the workers of town and country enjoy a life of almost idyllic comfort and independence. The mass of testimony, however, from the time of Yorktown to that of Bull Run, tells a story of

anything but a golden age for the American workman. It tells, on the other hand, the narrative of a nation built up by hard work, resolutely performed under the keenest privations. It tells of the growth of a gigantic national wealth, and the heaping up of immense fortunes; but at the same time it reveals the earlier condition of the common workman, the mechanic, the farm laborer, often even the farmer, as generally one of pathetic destitution, the maximum of comfort being found toward the end of the century and the minimum toward the beginning. Not even in the worst days since the civil war—in 1873, for instance—have conditions been as bitter as they were in some of the earlier periods; and no one could write of any of the recent years of average prosperity such a tale as Horace Greeley wrote of the "good years" of 1831-32.—W. J. Ghent, in the *Forum*.

### THE CHINESE EXCLUSION ACT.

That there is little sentiment among much business in all matters that go to the purse is a proposition that is receiving its latest demonstration in discussion of re-enactment, with modification, of the Chinese exclusion act, a question that must be met by the next congress. Last year there were \$9,800 Chinamen in the United States, against 107,475 in 1890. There is in California, Oregon and Washington a dearth of some sorts of laborers, and the suggestion is frankly made by the department of agriculture that if California's possibilities as a producer of beet sugar are to be developed there must be an influx of workers from China, Japan, Porto Rico, Hawaii, or the Philippines. In some quarters in the south the opinion is expressed that that section could profitably use 1,000,000 Chinamen. If for nothing else than to stir up home negro labor to a sense of what it can and should but doesn't do. So far has this sentiment extended, that western interests are maintaining a lobby at Washington, D. C., to urge a modification of the stringency that characterizes the statute about to expire, so that under the law to be enacted, low-priced Asiatic brawn may be brought into the country for more or less specifically defined uses.—Pennsylvania *Grit*.

### SAVING THINGS.

There is an old saying, "Three moves are as good as a fire," in the filtering out of household goods and the lessening thereof. Applied to the multifarious savings of the attic and cellar the sentence is literally true, for no one, however courageous, can move often and carry along the vast accumulations which the saving man or woman will heap together. The sensible woman is the woman who will consider all these things when any article from kitchen to drawing room is about to be banished from its original use. All the tenets of economy will arise before her and cry, "Save," but, on the other hand, she should marshal an array of common-sense argument, and she should never, however great the temptation, yield to saving anything which has not at least half its usefulness still undisipated.

### DISTURBING TAX ROLL.

The Norwegian storting recently passed a bill which, having received royal sanction, constitutes a serious menace to property owners in that country. The bill provides for an extension of the municipal suffrage granting to non-taxpayers the right to vote. Under existing laws the municipal government are authorized to levy a limited tax on real estate and net capital, besides an unlimited tax on income. When the majority of the taxpaying citizens have been voted out of the municipal councils throughout the country the non-taxpayers will have it in their power to levy taxes and apply the funds thus raised practically as they see fit.

### MINERS WILL NOT STRIKE.

There will be no strike on the part of the 6,500 Missouri and Kansas coal miners in district No. 25. The joint scale committee composed of ten operators and an equal number of miners, which was in session in Kansas City, reached an agreement on every important point in the new wage scale. Mr. Mitchell, president of the United Mine Workers of America, who went to Kansas City to assist the miners in their fight, is satisfied with the new agreement, which is a victory for the miners.

### INDUSTRIAL NOTES.

Never was labor better organized and more alive to its interests than now, and never was America's foreign trade so stupendous as now.

An international congress of machinists, blacksmiths, boiler-makers, pattern-makers, etc., was recently held in Copenhagen. The British Society of Engineers was not represented in the congress.

In Vermont the federation had a bill introduced asking that women be appointed on the boards of control of the asylums where women are confined. This unreasonable (?) demand was slain forthwith.

### Mind Free in the Aged.

In a recent conversation with a friend, Count Tolstol referred to the effect of age in freeing the mind from its dependence on the body. As a young man, he said, any bodily illness depressed his mind also, whereas in his present illness the mind has retained all its freshness and power of lucid thinking.

A committee appointed by the Canadian Roadmasters' association, has reported that the best way to prevent the creeping of rails, is to lay ties ten to twelve feet long by seven or eight inches thick, and to bed them in eighteen inches of cinders.

For his smoking, the king of the Belgians prefers above all outfits, his favorite briar pipe and a certain brand of English bird's-eye tobacco. The latter he keeps constantly on hand in a quaint old jar.

How many actions, like the Rhone, have two sources, the one pure, the other impure.—Julius Hare.

### Value of a Man's Life.

The Supreme Courts have decided that the life of the average man is worth just what he is able to earn. A man's earnings depend to a great extent upon his physical health. The stomach is the measure of health and strength. Every man may be bright and active if his digestion is normal. If it is not, Hostetter's Stomach Bitters will make it so. Try it for dyspepsia, indigestion, constipation, biliousness, flatulency, liver or kidney troubles.

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Price 50 cents. For sale by all druggists.

When women learn not to get off moving cars backward, it will be time enough for them to begin thinking about their right to vote.

Brooklyn, N. Y., Sept. 16.—The Garfield Tea Co., manufacturers of Garfield Tea, Garfield Headache Powders, Garfield Tea Syrup, Garfield Relief Tablets, Garfield Digestive Tablets and Garfield Lotion, are now occupying the large and elegant office building and laboratory recently erected by them. For many years the Garfield Remedies have been growing in popularity and their success is well deserved.

Georgia farmers and planters are appealing to negroes to help them with their turpentine getting. Builders of new cotton mills are greatly concerned as to where they will get hands to run their mills.

The secret of success is constancy to purpose.—Diarrell.

FIT'S Permanently Cured. No risk of recurrence after first day's use of Dr. King's Great Nerve Restorer. Send for FREE \$2.00 trial bottle and treatise. DR. R. H. KING, Ltd., 261 Arch St., Philadelphia, Pa.

Lots of men would rather lose a friend than a dollar.

### Professional and Business People!

If you would clear the head of pain and heaviness, take Garfield Headache Powders, a remedy that acts quickly and effectively and that does not derange the system.

Manuel Garcia, the greatest singing master of his time, is still living. He was born in Madrid in 1805, and has numbered among his pupils Jenny Lind and Mathilde Marchesi.

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Germany still imports 75 per cent of her steel pens from England.

**Wall's Catarrh Cure** is taken internally. Price, 75c.

Praising a rival may be good Christianity, but it's poor politics.

**Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup.** For children teething, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, allays pain, cures wind colic, &c. &c. &c.

The oftener a man is sold the cheaper he feels.

Pain relieved, sickness prevented, by timely use of Wizard Oil. Keep it always in the home.

With some women it is find a baby and loose a husband.

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**3600 Bottles**  
Yucatan  
Chill Tonic

sold the first season in Texas by the well-known drug firm of Heaton Bros., of Victoria and Coero. The reason for this is not hard to understand—it is pleasant to the taste and does not upset the stomach like the so-called sweet, tasteless tonics. Your druggist has it, or can get it for you from his jobber, listed on Yucatan Chill Tonic (Improved).

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From the richest to the poorest  
Has the "striving" fever spread,  
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Try to get a head or two,  
Elders and the youngest scions  
When they LION COFFEE buy,  
Cut the heads from off the lions  
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Thus they get ahead of others  
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