

# NATCHITOCHESES POPULIST.

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## LABOR AND INDUSTRY

### SOME ITEMS OF INTEREST TO UNION WORKMEN.

The Modern Typewriter Industry—Some Labor in Germany Extremely Poorly Rewarded—General Notes Pertaining to Labor.

**A Song and a Sigh.**  
In summer skies what castles grew  
Along the shores of the ocean blue!  
How many a fleet of fancies fine  
Full rigged went sailing down the line!  
I wait upon this weary strand  
Looking for them, but they were manned  
By phantoms in a gay disguise  
That fitted well—in summer skies.

Those summer skies were blessed seas  
Of sweet, mysterious, wind-kissed seas,  
Sometimes I float thro' later dreams  
Above the mean, unworthy schemes  
For daily bread, upon the tide  
Where early hopes were trimmed and  
tried.

And often, to my glad surprise,  
They're anchored—in those summer skies.  
Some summer skies were painted gray  
Some portion of a troubled day.  
'Twas just a misty, tear-stained veil,  
Drawn where a laughing hope would sail.  
But now the veil hangs over all—  
A dismal, dreary, somber pall—  
Tho' now and then my tired eyes  
Find sunsets in some summer skies.

In summer skies of long ago  
The pictures caught a heavenly glow;  
And those I brought away are bright  
With an untarnished, precious light.  
It pleases me to hang them here,  
With other treasures old and dear,  
In my small bit of paradise—  
My window of summer skies.  
—George E. Bowen, in The Chicago Record.

### A Great Modern Industry.

One of the new and important American industries that has grown up during the last twenty years, along with the telephone, the bicycle, and the amateur's camera, is that of the typewriter. In 1880 the aggregate capital invested in all four of these industries was only a small part of what is now employed in the prosecution of any one of them. The telephone and bicycle lead in importance, the typewriter stands next. In 1890 thirty typewriter factories were in operation; they employed 1,735 men, and the value of their product was \$3,630,126. In 1893 one typewriter company gave regular employment to 2,300 workmen. During that year some of the leading makers were weeks behind in their orders. In 1895 a careful estimate placed the number of machines in use not less than 450,000. During the year following 3,426 typewriters were used in thirty-four office buildings in New York city. A statement published in the Photographic World of April, 1896, showed that in New York there were then more than 3,000 typewriters in use south of Fulton street and east of Broadway, and that throughout the city the number of high-class machines in daily operation exceeded 35,000. Chicago, it was estimated, used 15,000; Philadelphia, 14,500; Boston, 6,000; St. Louis, 4,700; Baltimore, 4,300; Washington, 3,500; Cincinnati, 3,500, and San Francisco, 3,000, while Cleveland, Buffalo, Pittsburg and Detroit used more than 2,000 machines each. In not one of the dozen smaller cities of the Union were to be found less than 500, and some of them had as many as 1,500. The total number in use in the United States was placed at 150,000. Since 1896 the manufacture and sale of typewriters has greatly increased. No statement of the exact number made and used at the present time is available; it certainly exceeds half a million, and reaches perhaps three-quarters of a million. Agencies for the sale of the machines and dealers in typewriter supplies are located in every city, and in many small towns in the country. The number of schools in which typewriting is taught is estimated to be 1,500, attended by more than 70,000 pupils, a large majority of whom are women. Perhaps no other distinctly American industry has been so little affected by foreign competition as has that under consideration. Despite repeated attempts on the part of people of other nations to devise writing machines which would supplant those made in this country, the American product is today as much a favorite abroad as it is at home. In fact, America practically supplies the demand for typewriters all over the world. The exportation of them during the past eight years has probably been about one-third of the entire production. The total value of the typewriting machines and parts exported during the fiscal year ending on June 30, 1897, was \$1,566,916. Progress closes old avenues of labor, but it opens new ones that are broader, longer and more remunerative.

### Some Labor in Germany.

Mr. Charles W. Erdman, United States consul at Breslau, Germany, has compiled a report of wages paid in the city of Breslau and the province of Silesia generally. In considering them it must be remembered that Posen, Silesia and adjacent parts of Austria are the places where lowest wages prevail. Mr. Erdman finds that in glass factories blowers get from \$5.95 to \$5.71 a week; cutters, from \$4.29 to \$5.71; engravers and painters the same; heaters, burners, sorters and packers, \$2.56, and binding girls only \$1.43. In shoe

making, cutters receive from \$2.86 to \$4.23, heaters, sorters from \$1.19 to \$1.90, and sewing girls from 95 cents to \$1.90. Even the skilled labor is underpaid. Railroad engineers get from \$8.33 to \$11.90 a week, switchmen from \$3.75 to \$8.09, conductors the same as switchmen, firemen from \$4.47 to \$7.61, and brakemen from \$3.57 to \$5.47. Shoemakers receive from \$2.86 to \$4.80, street cleaners from \$3.33 to \$4.29, laborers from \$2.86 to \$3.57, bakers from \$4.29 to \$5.24, policemen from \$4.53 to \$7.14, electricians from \$4.29 to \$9.52, blacksmiths and horseshoers from \$4.29 to \$7.14, machinists from \$4.29 to \$5.71, boiler makers from \$2.86 to \$5.95 and so on.

Mr. Erdman asks how a country where unskilled labor is paid at the rate of from \$1.25 to \$2 a day is to compete with skilled labor receiving as little as 50 cents.

Some American firms have taken advantage of conditions in Silesia. Thus, Mr. Erdman reports that the Arbucks coffee people placed a \$50,000 order for posters there, because they got a lower price than American printers could quote. Several printing firms have solicitors for American trade. Many factories of different kinds are running day and night on American orders.

While this is true of the district where Mr. Erdman is stationed, the trade report of the German empire as a whole tell a different story. It is a fact, as shown by the recent treasury bulletin published in Washington, that German importations have, to a marked and material extent, fallen off this year. From 1894 to 1897 inclusive, taking the fiscal years of each year (year ending July 1) German exportations to the United States steadily increased each year. In 1894 they amounted to \$60,000,000, in 1895 to \$81,000,000, in 1896 to \$94,000,000, and in 1897 to \$111,000,000, the high mark. Last year the fiscal year recently ended, there was a decline to \$69,000,000, a falling off of forty-five per cent. Other countries, it is true, exported less to the United States, last year than in some of the years preceding, the decline of French imports being about twenty per cent, compared with 1897, of British imports about thirty per cent, and of Holland imports about five per cent. Germany's excess of manufactured products is increased and diminished by the market for "cheap-made goods," and the present industrial conditions of the United States are not, and do not seem likely for many years to be favorable to a large sale of manufactured articles in the American market.

The American exports to Germany for which German goods or their equivalent are exchanged amounted to \$97,000,000 in 1896, \$125,000,000 in 1897, and \$155,000,000 in 1898. The chief article of American exportation to Germany is cotton. Lard, oil cake, hides and timber are other items. There is also a large exportation of American tobacco to Germany, and of copper in bars.

### Notes.

Cooper won strikes against reductions in wages in St. Joseph, Mo., and Detroit, Mich.

The Salvation Army has dedicated a farm of 288 acres near Cleveland, O., to the use of destitute working men.

The National Brotherhood of Blacksmiths offers \$10 and the Trunk and Bag Workers International union offers \$6 to organizers of the American Federation of Labor for every union formed by them of those crafts.

A roll of wall paper measures eight yards and it is twenty inches wide. There are 200,000,000 rolls of wall paper manufactured each year, and the price ranges from 4½ cents a roll to \$2 a roll. If joined end to end, this output of paper would be nearly a million miles long. This paper would cover an area of 133,542 acres.

The Coopers' International union has decided to admit machine workmen in slack barrel shops, but not in beer keg shops. The following national officers were elected: President, Charles W. Tenay of Milwaukee; first vice president, Isaac Miller of Sandusky; second vice president, Joseph B. Hammond of Buffalo; third vice president, Patrick J. Donnelly of Boston; treasurer and secretary, James Cable of Kansas City.

## THE PARTY IS RIGHT.

### THROUGH DEMOCRACY PLU-TOCRACY MUST FALL.

The Republican Imperialistic Plan of Suppressing the Right of People to Vote—Plan to Govern by Military Force—Hannanism Growing Wilder.

It is reported that government architects in making plans for a proposed public building in Chicago have laid out the lower story on the lines of a fortification. Their objects for this defensive plan is not to provide against foreign aggression, but to resist domestic riot. For some time an influential body of our citizens, with the same danger in view, has advocated an increase in the army and its concentration in the centers of population. The remedy thus proposed to meet a recurring and increasing crisis is not the removal of the causes, but only the suppression of a manifestation of discontent. Those advocating military concentration at centers of population are placed on one or other horn of a dilemma. Either our political economy and method of government is so partial and discriminating as to justify discontent to the point of violence and insurrection in the body or the workers of our free institutions and popular government have produced a lawless and dangerous class so large as to defy peace officers and to require military control. Either of these views is a deadly arraignment of the American republic. Those who advocate permanent military establishments at large centers of population assume by logical implication, first, that existing sources of discontent will grow to need military force for the control of the discontented; second, that a large army is required for domestic rather than foreign foes, and, third, that American free institutions and popular control of government are insufficient to preserve order, protect property, or even to secure the life of the citizen from violence. In other words, the American republic is a failure; the powers of government can no longer be derived from the consent of the governed, but must henceforth grow out of a certain class of the people and be supported by an efficient

army and have been the least secure. That there is an undercurrent of discontent in this country is true. It is also true that dangerous outbreaks in evidence of it occur from time to time. It is only reasonable to say that this discontent has its origin in real abuse and injustice, the lack of employment of labor due to the gold standard and its power to concentrate wealth in the hands of the few. It is folly for any one to say that our domestic discontent is without cause. Supporters of the American republic have but one course open to them. They must search out the abuses and injustice that breed discontent and remove them. The issue is a status quo of our political economy and methods of government, with an army establishment to suppress the insurrections which their unreformed continuance will bring on, upon the one hand, or, on the other, tireless and earnest work to remove the abuses and injustice and thus remove the discontent and avoid domestic insurrection.

### Wool Tariff a Failure.

The New York wool exchange has quit business. President Allen McNaughton, in explanation, says: "Owing to the depressed conditions of the wool market, and it appearing that improvement in that direction is not likely to occur for some time, it has been deemed for the best interests of the corporation and its stockholders to discontinue all further operations in wool until a better outlook presents itself." Wool growers ought to learn by this time what little use a tariff is to give them good prices for wool. They ought to learn that promises held out to them by the Republican campaign speakers are only like so much chaff, are only made to influence their votes. With 11 cents tariff on wool the price is so depressed that it doesn't pay to keep open the exchange.

### Cheap Men or Cheap Dollars?

From the Nonconformist: Shall we have cheap men and dear dollars, or shall we have dear men and cheap dollars? Shall the man go up and the dollar go down, or shall the dollar go up and the man go down? Shall manhood triumph over money and labor

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## NATCHITOCHESES DIRECTORY.

### CHURCH SERVICES.

Services at the Methodist church every First and Third Sundays at 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m., by the pastor, Rev. H. Armstrong. Prayer meeting every Wednesday night at 7:30 o'clock.

BAPTIST—M. E. Weaver, pastor. Regular services, Second and Fourth Sundays at 11 a. m. and 8 p. m.; Sunday school, 10 a. m.; prayer meeting, Wednesday, 8 p. m. All invited.

### LODGES.

Phoenix Lodge No. 88, A. F. & A. M.—Simcoe Walmaley, W. M.; J. C. Triebel Jr., Sec. Meets First and Third Wednesdays at 7 p. m.

Castle Hall No. 89, Knights of Pythias.—U. P. Breazeale, C. C.; Adolph L'Herisson, K. of R. & S. Meets Second and Fourth Thursdays at 8 p. m.

### COURTS.

DISTRICT COURT.

Criminal Term—First Mondays in June and December.

CIVIL TERM.

First Mondays in March and October.

CIRCUIT COURT.

First Mondays in April and November.

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SIXTEEN TO ONE.



O, what is the cry that is rending the sky,  
All over the South and the West?  
From far and from near the same slogan we hear,  
With never a pause or a rest.  
Though faint in the East, it is ever increased,  
As you follow the course of the sun,  
Till the Rockies are passed, with a wild trumpet blast,  
For silver at sixteen to one.

It sounds to the tramp of the far mining camp,  
Then comes over mountain and plain;  
Till caught in the mouth of the planter down South,  
While the farmer takes up the refrain.

Wherever 'tis found 'tis a magical sound,  
And a wonderful work it has done.  
Here, there, everywhere, it is filling the air,  
Free silver at sixteen to one.

From the far Golden Gate go Washington State,  
Thence east to Superior's beach  
Take your course, and then ship down the broad Mississippi,  
Till the shores of Kentucky you reach;

Up the fair Ohio, past Virginia go,  
Thence eastward the boundary run  
You will thus understand that three fourths of the land  
Is howling for sixteen to one.

Though gold-bugs berate, and their partisans prate,  
And their newspapers fill up their space;  
They tremble in fear when that slogan they hear,  
And find it growing apace.

Though they fume and they sweat, we will wallop them yet,  
And won't we have oceans of fun,  
As we bury them deep in their ultimate sleep,  
'Neath ballots for sixteen to one?

As fair futures ope through a glory of hope,  
To the vision enchanted of youth;  
As the forces of right come on like the light,  
And triumph with justice and truth;

So the prospect we see of swift victory,  
When the battle at last is begun;  
Things are coming our way, 'tis the break of the day,  
For silver at sixteen to one.

J. A. EDGERTON.  
Lincoln, Neb.

military organization. Those who have given attention to the experiences of the world in military governments, and especially to such as relied on military force for domestic peace, cannot but know that it is in such gov-

ernments that order, property and life are and have been the least secure. That there is an undercurrent of discontent in this country is true. It is also true that dangerous outbreaks in evidence of it occur from time to time. It is only reasonable to say that this discontent has its origin in real abuse and injustice, the lack of employment of labor due to the gold standard and its power to concentrate wealth in the hands of the few. It is folly for any one to say that our domestic discontent is without cause. Supporters of the American republic have but one course open to them. They must search out the abuses and injustice that breed discontent and remove them. The issue is a status quo of our political economy and methods of government, with an army establishment to suppress the insurrections which their unreformed continuance will bring on, upon the one hand, or, on the other, tireless and earnest work to remove the abuses and injustice and thus remove the discontent and avoid domestic insurrection.