

LANSING AMAZED

At the Case of Mr. and Mrs. Horton—Their Friends Least in Wonderment.

Our representative called on Mr. A. Horton, by Andy Horton as he is familiarly called, at No. 1 Engine House, and the story he gives of the experience of his wife and himself is one of intense interest. Many a follow-up of Lansing is congratulating both Mr. Horton and his wife. He told the circumstances as follows:

"I feel that anything I could do in the interest of Don's Kidney Pills would be little indeed in comparison with what they have done for me. My wife has had as a result of a severe attack of the grip what the physicians who attended her pronounced 'illuminations of the heart' and during the last two years she has been almost totally helpless. No less than seven different doctors have treated her without doing her any apparent good whatever. Some of them gave her up to die, and a few months ago I just about gave her up myself. To tell what she has taken would hardly be believed, and nothing seemed to lift her. She got so weak I had to stay her up in the bed and she could only speak above a whisper. I read about Don's Kidney Pills and got a box at the drug store of Gardner & Robertson. She took the box and said she must have more, as the one did not seem to do her any good, and the pain in the back and lungs was gone, so I got them and she has now taken six boxes, and the result of this use has filled us all with joy. In two weeks from the first dose she was up and around. I could hardly believe my eyes. Her spirits were returned and she is actually doing her own housework, which she has been unable to do for a year and a half. But our experience does not stop here. I must tell you about myself. About a year and a half ago I strained myself from heavy lifting, and I have since been troubled with kidney disorders. My symptoms were those of diabetes. I was compelled to pass urine from sixteen to twenty times a day, and it caused me to lose my rest at night as well. I suffered very much from a pain across my back, which affected me whether sitting or standing. I did not improve, although I tried everything. When my wife began with Don's Kidney Pills, I also started taking them. I have used five boxes and I am almost entirely cured; urination is natural, back all right, and I am once more as spry as a boy. Do what you like with my statement, for the good news about Don's Kidney Pills cannot be spread any too far or any too quick in a medical and physical examination and have been pronounced sound. I owe it to Don's Kidney Pills. Don's Kidney Pills for sale by all dealers—price 50 cents a box. Buffalo, N. Y., sole agents for the U. S. Remember the name, Don's, and take no other."

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LABOR'S HOLIDAY

Food for Serious Thought
Sept. 6.

THE MACHINE AND INDUSTRY

Labor's Wrong and the Only
Remedy.

The Genesis of Strikes, Riots, Tramps and the Sweatshop—The Great Labor Problem Considered From a Standpoint of Justice to Both Employer and Employee—The Movement For a Reduction of the Hours of Toil.

Monday, Sept. 6, is Labor Day and a national holiday. More than 1,000,000 of active and enrolled representatives of labor will celebrate it, while twice this number from the ranks of unorganized toil will bear them sympathetic company.

A good deal has been said to the effect that no reason has ever existed for specifying such a holiday any more than there would be for a "capital" day. Yet few would object seriously if capital were to have a holiday, and it might likewise be said that whatever is beneficial to labor and permanently advances the interest of the general industrial world must necessarily operate to the advantage of all other branches of business and social life. Labor day is therefore properly everybody's day. Let those who labor with their brains as well as those who labor with their hands observe it.

As a rule, public holidays are not conducive to much serious thought. The Fourth of July oration is usually regarded as somewhat perfunctory, and the people who listen to it are anxious to get out under the trees and hear the band play or see the fireworks. Thanksgiving day very much belies its name, and Memorial day has likewise become a misnomer. Probably the parades of the coming Labor day will be the overmastering feature of the occasion, but the real and vital lesson will be found in the simultaneous teachings of those selected to lay before labor its grievance and the lawful remedy. It is as good a time as any for employers as well as employed to consider this problem. Most attempts to settle the labor question have been made without any effort to discover the real cause of the trouble. When a physician is called to see a patient, he first makes a diagnosis of the disease. To attempt to prescribe otherwise would be little short of a crime. Yet people are prescribing every day for the labor trouble without having made the slightest attempt to learn the cause of it.

First, the Wrong.

It is a well known axiom of law that there is no wrong for which there is not a remedy. Has labor a wrong or grievance? If so, what is the wrong and what is the remedy? First as to the wrong. Is there one? Yes. The wrong—the grievance—and the only one that the workman can justly complain of, is that his labor is a drug. It is all the time trembling on the verge of a declining market. The supply of workers far exceeds the demand. It is this that has caused all the strikes and riots. It is this that has multiplied the army of tramps and developed the sweatshop. It is this that has inspired labor organizations themselves, for all these are effects and not causes. They are simply the purulent sores that come from the common disease, a lack of work, for when an employer can say to the workman, "Take these wages or leave them; it matters not to me," we have the first requisite of tyranny and consequent discontent.

But while general conditions clearly indicate that the whole trouble is due to a lessened demand for labor and that strikes, riots, sweatshops and labor organizations are the result of it, Hon. Carroll D. Wright, commissioner of labor, uses a good deal of clean, white paper in the August Chautauquan magazine to answer the question, "Do Labor Saving Machines Deprive Men of Labor?" in the negative.

This question is quite as paradoxical as it would be to ask, "Does food deprive laboring men of hunger?" If a machine does not deprive men of labor, it is not "labor saving," of course, and likewise if it is "labor saving" it must deprive men of labor. Any other conclusion would make a plaything of reason, common sense and the English language. The fact that it requires labor to construct the machine that is designed to save labor is of no consequence. A machine that requires more labor to build than it will save after it is built would be useless, of course. In the article by Mr. Wright just referred to he says:

"When a linotype machine was first introduced successfully, some apprehension existed on the part of the compositors of the country, and many fears were expressed that their occupation would be seriously injured and many men permanently thrown out of employment. Many men were thrown out of employment, but I have been informed by members of the Typographical union, by publishers and by newspaper managers that at the present time, in all probability, there are as many men employed in setting type, either by the old methods or by the new, as were employed when the linotype was introduced."

That is not the question, Mr. Wright. Although as many men may be employed as ever, the issue is whether steady employment in printing offices is more difficult to obtain now than it was before the machines were brought into use. Let any printer whose experience goes back to the time when "sub lists"

were unknown and when he preferred the position of a "substitute" to that of a "regular" answer.

Effects of the Machine.

But let us see just what labor saving machinery has done in a very few channels of industry.

In the cotton mills in the United States the manual labor has been reduced about 50 per cent. Now one weaver manages from two to ten looms where one loom was formerly tended by one worker.

In cutting out clothing and cloth caps with dies one worker does the work of three by old methods.

In leather manufacture modern methods have reduced the necessary number of workers 50 per cent.

A carpet measuring and brushing machine with one operator will do the work of 15 men by the old methods.

In the manufacture of flour modern improvement saves 75 per cent of the manual labor that once was necessary.

In making tin cans one man and a boy with modern appliances can do the work of ten workers by the old process.

One boy, by machinery, in turning woodwork and materials for musical instruments performs the work of 25 men by the old methods.

In the manufacture of boots and shoes there has been a displacement of wage earners of 80 per cent by aid of machinery.

In the manufacture of fire brick 40 per cent of the manual labor is displaced by machinery.

In the manufacture of wall paper one worker, by the aid of machinery, does the work of 100 workers by manual labor, and in cutting and drying paper by machinery four men and six girls do the work of 100 operators by old methods.

In manufacturing gunstocks one man by manual labor can turn and fit one gunstock in one day of ten hours, while three men now by a division of labor and the use of machinery can turn and fit 125 to 150 gunstocks in ten hours. This displaces the work of 44 to 49 wageworkers.

In the manufacture of agricultural implements 800 operatives with machinery, including 15 classes of wage earners, do the work of 2,145 wage earners without machinery, displacing 1,545 workers.

Clothing is now chopped into shape by a cloth cutting machine. Fully three-quarters of the ready made clothing worn by the people today has been cut out of the piece by a machine. A pair of trousers or a coat is not cut singly. The machines cut two or three dozen trousers or coats at the same time. This means a large saving of labor. Where some dozen years ago in a large factory there were scores of men and women busily engaged in cutting buttonholes and threading the edges there are now two or three machines which cut and sew with as much excellence, more regularity and ten times greater rapidity.

There are also machines which measure cloth. Thousands have been thrown out of work by the introduction of these machines.

In the great agricultural regions the

WOMAN'S LONG HOURS.

SHE TOILS AFTER MAN'S DAY'S WORK IS DONE.

What She Has to Contend With—Work That Sooner or Later Breaks Down Her Delicate Organism.

The great majority of women "work to live" and "live to work," and as the hands of the clock approach the hour of six, those employed in stores, offices, mills and factories, halt closing time with

joy. They have won their day's bread, but some duties are yet to be performed, and many personal matters to be attended to. They have mending to do, and dresses or bonnets to make, and long into the night they toil, for they must look neat, and they have no time during the day to attend to personal matters.

Women, therefore, notwithstanding their delicate organism, work longer and more closely than men. They do not promptly heed such signs as headache, backache, blues, pains in the groins, bearing-down, "all gone" feeling, nervousness, loss of sleep and appetite, whites, irregular or painful monthly periods, cold and swollen feet, etc., all symptoms of womb trouble, which, if not quickly checked, will launch them in a sea of misery.

There is but one absolute remedy for all these ills. Any woman who has to earn her own living will find it profitable to keep her system fortified with this tried and true woman's friend, Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, which promptly removes the cause and effects a lasting cure.

We are glad to produce such letters as the following from Miss M. G. McNamee, 114 Catherine St., Utica, N. Y.: "For months I had been afflicted with that tired feeling, no ambition, no appetite, and a heavy bearing-down feeling of the uterus. I began to use Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. Soon those bad feelings passed away; I began to have more ambition, my appetite improved and I gained rapidly in every way, and now I am entirely well. I advise all my friends to use the Compound, it is woman's truest friend."

machine has created a mighty standing army. It is the army of harvesters, which, in divisions and in brigades, on the great farms and in squads and files on the smaller, stands always ready for action and at the sound of the harvest horn. Beginning at the south and proceeding northward, it moves on a military line of battle extending over 1,000 miles. In front of it are the waving grainfields; behind it lie the scattered bundles. When the few months of harvest toil are over, the standing army dissolves into bands of roving tramps.

A rolling machine has been in use for some time. Among other things it will make 18,000 boot calks a day. The entire manufacture of the country averaged 4,000 a day before it was invented. Two of these machines will make all the chair screws and letterpress screws demanded by the trade of the United States, and a few of the machines are capable of supplying the combined armies and navies of the world with spherical and conical shot.

By the use of coal mining machines 100 miners in a month can mine as much coal in the same time as 500 miners by the old methods.

The Individual Worker.

We might go on almost indefinitely to show how the machine has added to the productive capacity of man and how it has destroyed labor. That it has greatly benefited the consumer and turned what were formerly considered luxuries into common necessities goes without saying; but, as to the general results, they can best be determined by a consideration of the fact, so great has been the displacement of labor, that were it not for the various labor organizations, which may rightly be termed labor trusts, the employee would have absolutely nothing to say to an employer in the transaction of a sale and purchase of the labor of his hands. And when the condition exists that the worker has absolutely no control over the only thing he has in the world of any value—namely, the work of his hands—he might just as well be a slave. In fact, labor can never be free until the individual worker has as much power to determine what wages he shall receive as the employer has to say what he will pay. Nor is he free while labor organizations fix the price which he shall receive for his work.

Now, admitting the wrong, the grievance, the disease, which is simply a lack of steady employment—enforced idleness—what is the remedy?

Is it in the governmental control of great franchises and industries? No. Excellent as this idea may be, it would add little or nothing to the total amount of work to be done.

Is it in the use of more currency or in the contraction of what we already have? No. Because, while it makes a good deal of difference to the man who has debts to pay whether he gets many or few dollars for the sale of his labor, the workingman, per se, merely wants his labor to be high priced in comparison with that of other commodities.

Is it in arbitration, compulsory or otherwise? Emphatically no. Arbitration will not enable an employer to pay a penny more or an employee to work for a penny less per day than he can afford to do without arbitration.

Is it in co-operation between employer and employee? No. There can be no successful co-operation where all share in the profits and a part are compelled to bear the losses.

Is it in the application of the gospel of religion or benevolence to the transaction between the employer and employee? No. There is no more reason for religion or benevolence in the purchase and sale of labor than there is in the purchase and sale of a yard of cloth. The purchaser of labor can afford to pay the market price for it. The market price is the lowest figure he can buy it for. There is no more reason for insuring an employer because he will not pay more than this price than there would be in insuring the purchaser of a ham because he insists on getting it for as low a price as possible.

The Real Remedy.

The remedy and the only equitable remedy for both employer and employee is to reduce the hours of work so that the present enforced idleness shall be turned into leisure. In no other way can improved machinery prove a blessing and not a curse to labor.

But, says the employer of labor, you do not expect us to pay as much per day for eight hours' work as we now do for ten hours, do you?

We expect the employer of labor with a shorter workday to pay just what the market price compels him to—no more or less. The purchaser of wheat cannot afford to pay as much for two bushels as for three bushels, but when the demand for wheat equals the supply of it he can often afford to pay more for two bushels than he can afford to pay for three bushels when the demand is less than the supply. Let the demand and the supply control the price for labor as well as for any other commodity. It would, of course, be necessary for the worker to accept reduced wages for reduced hours at the outset, but by lessening the hours of work the demand for labor would equal the supply, and thus the rate of wages would rise to a fair level. The increased consumption caused by giving all steady employment would greatly stimulate the market for manufactures, and this in turn would give still more work and better business.

Nor would the lessening of the hours of toil affect employers of labor. Every buyer of labor can afford to pay as much for it as his competitors pay in an open market. The paying of less or more simply demoralizes business.

A reduction of the hours of labor from ten to eight per day would increase the cost of manufacture one-fifth, or, let us say, \$200 per day, which is a liberal allowance. This would add less than 8 cents per pair to the cost of shoes to the consumer, or, estimating the average price of shoes at \$2 per pair, it would compel the purchaser to pay 1 1/2 cent more for his shoes than he does at present. Adding a similar increase to the cost of the production of leather and machinery, it could not possibly raise the cost more than 5 per cent. And with steady employment to all labor and the better wages consequent to an equalization of its supply and demand what workman could complain of an additional cost of 5 or even 10 per cent to his living expenses?

An Economic Aspect.

In the discussion of this question we often hear it claimed, and as often hear it used as an argument for reduced hours of work, that men can do as much work in eight hours as they can in ten hours. If such would really be the case, then the proposed reduction is not enough, and those who make the statement as a reason for the shorter workday exhibit a painful ignorance of the economic aspect of the question. The reason for lessening the workday is not that men should perform as much in it as they do now, but that they should accomplish less. When it was first proposed to reduce the hours of work of the United States letter carriers, the postmaster general opposed it because it would take more men to do the work, yet this was really the only economic reason for favoring it.

The value of labor or anything else that can be bought or sold, no matter whether it be beans, brains, diamonds, money, potatoes or putty, depends upon the supply of it and the demand for it. The strike, the riot, the sweatshop and the conflict between capital and labor will continue until the hours of toil are so reduced that the demand for workers will be equal to the supply. The one exchange above all exchanges on which the well being and progress of society depend is that between those who purchase labor and those who sell it—between capitalists and laborers. It is pernicious that either of these classes should fall into the hands of the other. Combinations among workmen designed to restore something like equal terms of purchase and sale for the work of their hands are commendable. No motive could be more laudable, no effort more just. Strikes and riots are the undesirable and unfortunate incidents of this movement, but the movement itself is one absolutely essential to general prosperity.

The proposed effort for a shorter workday beginning May 1, 1898, is therefore a wise one and should be as much favored by the employer as the employee. Its consummation will greatly diffuse moderate welfare and advance general prosperity. Let every good citizen and wise citizen do all in his power to uphold it.

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