

Here is The Gem Worker—Idaho's thriving and prosperous labor paper—made so by the loyal support of organized labor and the generous patronage of Boise's business firms.

THE GEM WORKER

And the IDAHO LABOR HERALD

All indications are for a prosperous year in Boise and The Gem Worker will do its share in the publicity work that is essential to progress.

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Unemployment Is Cause of Untold Misery and Suffering

Unemployment is the question which is uppermost in the thoughts of everyone. Unemployment, the cause of untold suffering, has itself a cause, therefore any effort to reduce unemployment, which does not take into consideration the cause of involuntary idleness will be at least partly wasted.

Our business system which demands so much from the toilers and gives so little in return is the chiefest cause of unemployment.

Our country is suffering from the fallacy of long hours and low wages. No greater mistake can be made than to attempt to lessen idleness by reducing wages, and every time it is done the problem is made more difficult to deal with.

There are a number of things that can be done to help indirectly. What would be the matter of organizing a company to build a woolen mill in

Boise. This industry alone would be a big help to citizens of this locality and furnish a pay-roll in the city something that is much needed at this time.

Public comfort stations could be built now in preparation for the time in the near future when they will be an absolute necessity. Regardless of when they are built, they are an asset to the city and would provide work at a time when so many of our citizens are out of work and in distress from lack of employment would be all the more commendable.

These projects and others can be gotten under way, and the city and county will lose nothing and humanity will be served. Every practicable and desirable piece of work already anticipated should be started, and what's more, every citizen ought to interest himself to that end.

WOULD END WIRE MONOPOLY

Washington.—"I expect to make an effort, together with other members of Congress, who have studied the question, to bring up a bill to turn the telephone system of the United States over to the postoffice department, during the present session of Congress, and I have reason to believe that we shall be able to pass it," said Representative Lewis, a member of the labor group.

"The American postal service averaged 60,000 pieces of mail matter handled per employe, in 1913; 13,000,000,000 in all. The average cost to

the consumer was about 2 cents. Private monopoly would require from 5 cents to 10 cents for such service. In June last the express companies were losing about a cent on each package carried, on an average charge of about 50 cents. The same month parcel post charged an average of 15 cents for the packages it carried, and after paying all costs, including the railway pay, has some 3 cents profit left on each package. Telephone communication is in the same class as express service. It is a natural monopoly, and must be in the hands of the public to be either cheap or efficient."

URGES BOYS TO JOIN UNION

Detroit, Dec. 15.—In an address to union newsboys, Judge Jeffries, the well-known police court official of this city, said:

"The world has come to the point where we must belong to some kind of an organization in order to exist. Men in unions are getting high wages because they are in an organization.

They are getting wise, and they are learning that by combination they can get better conditions. You boys, as you come together, one, two and three, help yourselves. The world is on longer beginning to rate men by physical strength. Some men accumulate fortunes and don't know how to spend them. What we want is to let all have better homes, better food and better clothing."

WANT STATE PRINTING OFFICE

The Typographical Union of Omaha, Neb., has appointed a committee and started a campaign to develop sentiment for a State printing office. The law now provides for a printing commissioner, and the typos ask that this law be extended so that the commissioner will have control of all

State printing. Idaho would do well to look into the matter of a State printing office. California has her own printing plant and it has proved a good investment for the people of the state by saving them thousands of dollars on the text books of the state alone.

THE NATION'S STRENGTH.

The average annual wage of industrial workers throughout the United States is about \$600 and 75 per cent of them earn less.

The United States Commissioner of Labor, when investigating labor conditions after the strike at Lawrence, Mass., in 1912, found that 7,275 of the 21,922 employes of the textile mills earned less than \$7.00 a week, even working full time—36 per cent of them less.

These are the statistics that tell the story of a nation's standing, not the proud report of the banks.

A nation is just as rich as its poorest class, as a chain is no stronger than its weakest link.

WIN LONG FIGHT.

The Retail Clerk's Association and the Tailor's Union have won a victory over a large clothing concern that operates stores in Oakland, Cal., as well as in Los Angeles and San Diego. The contest has been a stubborn one and has lasted for a year.

Most Boise business men are in sympathy with organized labor. Look for our ads Mr. Laboring Man and patronize the Herald's advertisers.

LABOR MEN DONATE.

The members of the Boise Trades and Labor council have shown themselves to be Good Fellows by donating \$25 to the Associated Charities in answer to their appeal for help for the needy so they may have a comfortable Christmas. The Electrical Workers have appointed a committee to look up some needy folks, and they will play Santa Claus to them.

BRISBANE MUCH BETTER.

Atlanta.—Distinct improvement was reported by attending physicians today in the condition of Arthur Brisbane, the editor, who has been seriously ill from intestinal trouble here for several days. Mr. Brisbane has been removed to a hospital, where his physicians, after a consultation early today, decided an operation would not be necessary unless some more serious complications developed.

CARPENTERS TAKE NOTICE.

We have a communication from the Great Falls Building Trades Council at Great Falls, Montana warning carpenters to stay away from that city as there are more men than jobs.

THE TRUE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT



LIFE DEPENDS UPON UNIONISM

Indianapolis, Dec. 15.—In an editorial on "Government Statistics Show Life Depends on Unionism," the United Mine Workers' Journal says: "The verdict of the coroner's jury in over half the cases of death from accidents in the coal mines should be, 'Death was due to lack of organization.'"

"Alabama, where they will tell you the operators lay awake nights figuring how best to advance the welfare of the miners, but where they have crushed out the union, killed eighty-four, as against twenty-five in Indiana, where the organization is 100 per cent strong; where the miners are able to safeguard their own interests, to a great extent, and to conduct their own welfare work.

NEEDS JUSTICE, NOT GUSH

Pittsburg.—What mankind needs is more justice and less love, said the Rev. C. R. Zahniser, in a sermon in this city. "Justice and love are not comparable," said the speaker. "They are not in the same category. Love is a function of the mind, of soul; justice is a characteristic of the actions and relations of man to man. To talk about substituting justice for love is like proposing to adjust the machinery of a mill so well that there would be no need of engines or power plant.

"The type of love we are needing is that which expresses itself in justice rather than in cheap, gushing sentimentality. The world is sick and tired of the 'love' that sends toys to a sick child and opposes child labor laws, gives nickels to cripples and opposes workmen's compensation, or 'pities' the poor and grinds labor below a living wage. Constructive service is indeed what the world is sorely needing. But that is the kind of love for which Christianity stands."

STIR UP HORNET'S NEST

Battle Creek.—The followers of the Dan Cupid are rushing to the support of the little gent because the board of education has put its ban on weddings among school teachers. The practice is verging on an epidemic, and the authorities have resolved to stop it by ordering the county clerk to refuse marriage licenses to any young woman employed in the schools, on the ground that the brides-to-be are "contract-breakers." The county clerk is "dared" to do his worst by parties of the first part.

Colorado, as usual, presents a terrible high per centage. With less than 10,000 miners employed her death list is fifty-two, as compared with twenty-four in Iowa, with some 20,000 miners employed.

"Compare Illinois, with her 82,000 miners; 111 fatalities, an unusually large number for Illinois, with West Virginia, partially organized only, with 468 fatalities.

"The evidence is here that the organization is directly responsible for the savings of lives of the miners, and those who have worked under union and non-union conditions can testify as to the vastly better sanitation in the union mines.

"If other reasons were lacking, the labor union has fully justified its existence by the fact that it can be traced the saving of life and health."

PROFESSIONAL LIST GROWS

Washington.—In ten years the list of persons engaged in professional pursuits in this country has increased 500,000 according to figures given out by the federal census bureau. In 1910 the number was 1,825,127, compared with 1,258,538 in 1900. Of those engaged in professional occupations in 1910, 1,151,709 were males and 673,418 females. This compares with 827,941 males and 430,597 females in 1900.

During the decade the proportion of males decreased in the professions from 65.8 to 63.1 per cent, while that of females increased from 34.2 to 36.9 per cent. In 1910 there were four women to every seven men engaged in professional service, a large proportion of the women being teachers.

Some of the noteworthy increases follows: Architects, males 110.5, females 200.7; literary and scientific persons, males 102.9, females 126.0; actors, males 95.0, females 88.1. The smallest increase was in the number of lawyers, being males 6.5 and females 33.0.

SURVEY ALASKA RAILWAY

Washington.—Chairman Edes, of the commission named by Secretary of the Interior Lane to select routes for the proposed government-owned railroad in Alaska, has returned to this city after a field survey, and is now preparing a report on prospective routes. It is believed the commission will also recommend the government taking over the Copper River or the Alaska Northern railroad.

Strikebreakers Will Now Have Opportunity to Join the Union

Denver, Colo.—Strikebreakers now working in the Colorado coal mines will be given an opportunity to join the United Mine Workers of America, now that the strike has been called off, according to John R. Lawson, Colorado member of the executive board of the organization. Mr. Lawson said today that many of the miners brought into the state by the operators had been for some time anxious to join the strike, but that the organization had not thought it wise to encourage them to quit their jobs.

A convention of District 15, United Mine Workers, voted last night to call the strike off, effective December 10, 1914.

The tent colonies will be continued for the present, according to Lawson. "The tents belong to the union."

he explained, "but they are the only homes the men have and they will be loaned to them until they are able to secure work."

J. F. Welborn, president of the Colorado Fuel and Iron Company, issued a formal statement on the termination of the strike. It follows:

"The calling off of the strike, now almost 15 months old, is naturally a cause for general satisfaction. It must, however, be borne in mind that: "First, the general trade conditions made it impossible for the mining companies to give immediate or early employment to all of the strikers who have been connected with any violence, though we will reemploy such men as fast as vacancies occur or improved trade conditions make it possible."

EQUAL SUFFRAGE TO EXPAND

Washington.—Even in the states where woman's suffrage was defeated last month, the largest vote ever cast for the suffrage cause was recorded, says the National American Woman Suffrage association, in a statement on the recent elections.

The statement also says: "A summary of the results of the November elections shows that the addition of Nevada and Montana to the number of suffrage states gives equal suffrage an opportunity to compete for seven more electoral votes, enfranchises 99,881 women, increases the

amount of suffrage territory by 256,901 square miles, and increases the suffrage population by 457,928.

"Full equal suffrage now prevails over 1,738,000 square miles of the United States, or nearly one-half of the total area.

"Woman now have an equal voice with men casting ninety-one electoral votes, or more than one-sixth of the total number in the electoral college.

"The total population of the full equal suffrage states is now 8,253,240.

"The total population of the states where women can vote for the President of the United States is 13,331,831, or 15 per cent of the total population."

WAR BUDGET IS GREATEST, YET

Washington.— Appropriations aggregating \$104,124,512, to carry the army through the coming year, are proposed in estimates which the war department has completed for submission to Congress. This is an increase of \$3,105,300 over the total carried by the army bill for the current year, although reductions are made in the allowances for many branches of the service.

A new item of \$150,000 for purchase of automatic rifles is asked. Altogether \$2,900,000 is sought for ammunition. For field artillery for the organized militia \$2,090,000 is asked, \$2,100,000 having been appropriated last year.

The estimates of the navy exceeds last year's total of \$145,000,000 by about \$1,000,000. This department also wants an increase of 240 additional officers and about 4,600 men to fully equip American warships.

WIRELESS USED TO RUN TRAINS

Seranton, Pa., Dec. 15.—After a six-month's trial, officers of the Delaware, Lackawana & Western railroad announce that they will replace the wire system of telegraphy for wireless telegraphy in the operation of their passenger trains between Hoboken, N. J., this city and Binghamton, N. Y. It is said that the company is equipping a wireless station in Buffalo, and when this is in operation will be able to communicate direct from its western terminal to its eastern terminal, Hoboken.

HE WAS FIRED—NIT.

One of the bosses at Baldwin's Locomotive Works had to lay off an argumentative Irishman named Pat, so he saved discussion by putting the discharge in writing. The next day Pat was missing, but a week later the boss was passing through the shop and he saw him again at his lathe. Going up to the Irishman, he demanded fiercely: "Didn't you get my letter?" "Yes, sir, Oi did," said Pat. "Did you read it?" "Sure, sir, Oi read it inside and Oi read it outside, and on the inside yez said Oi was fired, and on the outside yez said, 'Return to Baldwin's Locomotive Works in five days.'"

FINED FOR "CRIMPING."

New York.—James J. McNamara, one of New York's most prominent shipping masters, was fined \$7.50 in the federal district court for "crimping," the term used by sailors when money is taken from them with the understanding they will be given jobs. One of McNamara's agents was held in \$1,500 bond.

Eat Brink's New Home Made bread. A stick of candy with every loaf.

DEPUTIES SLIP ONE OVER ON ORGANIZED CHARITIES.

The deputies in the sheriff's office were so touched with a case of destitution which came to their notice Wednesday that they did not wait for the Associated Charities. In fifteen minutes Deputy Champlin had collected \$12.50 from the employes of the court house and in another fifteen minutes it was expended in groceries for a family living out of the city, consisting of a sick father, a mother and seven children, five of whom have recently recovered from typhoid fever. The family was absolutely destitute, the children not even having shoes and their story as told to the county commissioners was too much for the tender hearted deputies. The family will need much more than the money collected Wednesday to make it comfortable but the immediate necessities were secured through the money collected.

ONE HUNDRED YEARS OLD.

The Typographical Union of Washington, D. C., has appointed a committee to arrange a celebration in honor of its one hundredth anniversary. The event will take place Sunday, January 10, 1915.