President of the American Federation of Labor Reviews the Year.

Strikes Have Been Rather Numerous and Mostly for Higher Wages.

Shorter Hour Movement, Compulsory Railroad Arbitration and Other Questions.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Dec. 14.-President Gompers read his annual report to the convention of the American Federation of Labor. He said:

With two exceptions, all our affiliated national unions report a large increase of local unions and in membership. There is an increase of about 34,000

members in the organizations affiliated. There have been quite a number of strikes with the past year, but the change in the causes which have produced them are worthy of note.

The scrikes of this year with few exceptions have been for higher wages, shorter hours and the extension and recognition of union principles. Our organizations report with gratifying unanimity, the very large number of successes achieved, advantages gained and the growth and extension of the power of organization enjoyed.

The Movement For Shorter Hours

The movement to reduce the hours of labor is always one which commands the first attention of organized labor.

We hold that no condition is satisfactory nor any solution complete which fails to eliminate the curse and the degrading influences of non-employment, and so long as this evil shall be with us our best efforts will be concentrated to the reduction of the hours of labor of all until the desired end is attained.

The establishment of a postal savings bank system and also a postal telegraph system, long since demanded by organized labor, seems nearer accomplishment than at any previous time.

As to Compulsory Arbitration. It is submitted whether it would not be wise to modify our position in so far as to interpose no objection to the passage of a law providing for compulsory arbitration in disputes between the organized employes of the railroads and the railroad companies, and the giving of an award by such lawful arbitrators; but we should hesitate to give our endorsement to any legislation, state or national, empowering the compulsory enforcement of an award and the spe-

cific enforcement of a contract to labor. There should be no equivocation as to our position on any question, much less one of such importance as immigration.

"Recently one of the branches of the federal courts decided by a majority vote that the boycott is illegal. The suggestion is made that upon any letter or circular being issued upon a matter of this character, after stating the name of the unfair firm and the grievances complained of, the words 'we have been enjoined by the courts from boycotting this concern,' could be added with ad-

A NATIONAL UNIVERSITY.

Bill For Its Establishment to Be Introduced in Both Houses.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.-The bill to establish the University of the United States will be introduced in both houses of congress during the week.

The bill provides for an institution of the highest possible type for the graduates of accredited colleges or universities only, with special reference to the work of original research and investigation in all important fields of

inquiry.

The present bill is the outgrowth of more than a hundred years of agitation. The thought of a national uni-

ersity first came to Washington while commanding the Revolutionary army. Subsequently, as president, he repeatedly urged its establishment, and in his last will and testament left \$25,000 in stocks as a first endowment, the interest to be compounded.

It is the intention of the national university committee that the government shall co-operate in the establishment of the proposed university, and it is intended that the bill shall be pressed to early passage, so that July 9, 1899, the 100th anniversary of Washington's bequest, shall witness at least the practical beginning of what should become the leading university of the world.

AMERICAN BOARD ANNUAL.

Report Shows a Good State of Affairs in Various Fields, Especially in China. Boston, Dec. 14.—The American Board of Foreign Missions has made. public its 87th annual report. The re ceipts from the New England states amounted to a total of \$386,484.12, and

the total from all sources \$642,781.07.
The report deals at length with Turkish massacres, and says that while many Christians were killed or fled, the number of professing Christians exceeds that previous to the outrages. The wounds left by massacres and robbery have been slowly healing, though in several places the suffering has been quite as great as in the previous year. The generous gifts that have come well nigh from every European state for the sufferers by massacre and for the care of orphans are gratefully acknowledged, and have revealed the essential unity of the civilized world in a most

impressive way. Great Success in Southern China This has been by far the most fruitful year in the history of the South China mission. In the Foo Chow, China, mission, within the last two years, there has been an expansion of field and growth in churches, schools, and hos-pital work unparalleled in the history

of our missions in China. There are GOMPERS' ANNUAL but five ordained missionaries in a field that includes 2,000,000 souls for whom this mission is considered responsible. The North China mission, located near the political center of the empire, giving access to more than 20,000,000 souls, ably manned and well established in seven wisely chosen centers, is one of the most important and promising under the care of the board. In the Shansi mission, Northwestern China, an opium refuge was opened early in the year, which has attracted a large number of patients, and has been nearly

self-sustaining. The problems which face the missionaries in Japan today are entirely different from those of 25 years ago. The educated Japanese are carefully studying the social and religious questions in which the scholars of the West are interested, and always the beginnings of enlightenment are times of doubt and questioning.

FOREIGN MISSIONARY MEETING

Arrangements Being Made For a World's Conference in New York in 1900.

Boston, Dec. 14 .- A letter from a committee representing the foreign missionary societies of America, addressed to the secretaries of the Protestant foreign missionary societies of Great Britain and the continent of Europe, soliciting an expression of their views as to the desirability of convening an ecumenical foreign missionary conference (similar in aim and character to the world's missionary conference at London in 1888) in New York in April, 1900, and their readiness to co-operate in such a conference has met with a general and favorable response. In view of the cordial feeling and unanimity expressed, the American societies have authorized the holding of the conference and an invitation has been issued, signed by the Rev. Judson Smith, D. D., of Boston, as chairman, and Rev. H. N. Cobb, D. D., of New York, as secretary. This invitation asks each society to be represented by two or more delegates in ecumenical conference on foreign missions, to meet in New York on April 20, 1900, and to continue for 10 days from that date. The invitations are to be sent to all Protestant foreign missionary societies.

MRS. M'KINLEY'S FUNERAL.

Services Will Be Held in the Methodist Church at Canton.

CANTON, O., Dec. 14. - The funeral of Mrs. McKinley is to be held Tuesday afternoon at 1 o'clock at the First Methodist Episcopal church, of which the deceased had long been a faithful member. It was the preference of the immediate relatives of the deceased to have brief, private services at the old McKinley homestead but in answer to the urgent request of neighbors, old time friends and members of the church, they yielded their desires and consented to have public services.

Information is definite that all the members of the cabinet with the exception of Secretary Gage will be present. Vice President Hobart has just an nounced that he cannot come.

All churches will be represented a the services and distinguished men will be present from all parts of the country. Rev. Dr. Manchester, pastor of Mrs McKinley's church, will make a very brief address in order to permit the pas tors of other churches time to express a

SLUMP IN DECEMBER.

Sensational Decline in the Chicago Pit. The Alleged Cause.

CHICAGO, Dec. 14.—During the afternoon there was a sudden break of 71/2 cents a bushel in December wheat-the option that is supposed to be cornered The price went 2½ cents under the talismanic dollar mark. Last Thursday the File your winter order now. The December option sold as high as \$1.09. When shortly before the close the rumor became current that Armour was selling, that the bull deal was over and that the shorts had settled. This was not believed, however, by people close to the clique managers. They said the clique was anxious to keep the price of Decemier down and were working in that dire tion, but that the end of the deal was not yet in sight. The decline continued until the price reached 97½ cents. Then there was a reaction to \$1.01½. Five minutes before the close, however, December sold at \$1 again, and the final trading of the day was at 991% cents.

TO REFORM PRIMARIES.

Conference Called to Discuss Defects

the Present Laws. NEW YORK, Dec. 14.—The following call has been given out by Ralph M. Easley, secretary of the Civic Federation of Chicago, who has been acting for a large number of reform and quasipolitical organizations the past three weeks. The call is signed by Mr. Easley and others:

"Believing that our caucus or primary election customs and laws lie at the very root and source of our entire elective franchise system, and that the misrule of our larger cities is due in a large measure to the defects in such practices and customs, it therefore follows that to purify this system is to take a long step in the direction of honesty, economy and efficiency in every branch of the public service, and fur-ther, believing that the enactment of laws to prevent corrupt caucus practices and throw the safeguards of a regular election around the caucus or primary

Will Encourage More Good Citizens to take part therein, we, the under-signed, for the purpose of discussing and discovering, as far as possible, the precise defects in the various systems which now obtain and their remedies, and to take such action as may seem wise in the premises, do hereby join in calling a conference of persons interested in said question to convene in the city of New York on the 14th and 15th days of January, 1896. We deem it desirable that the conference be made up of men from all parts of the country, and without regard to party or factional affiliations."

bring together men with practical ideas from all the large cities, and especially from states where substantial progress has been made in caucus reform.

General Forsyth's New Play.

New York, Dec. 13.—General George A. Forsyth, U. S. A., retired, is in New York arranging for the production at a leading theatre of a play he has written. The piece, which is a four act society play of modern life with the scenes laid at Newport, was begun by General Forsyth several years ago, while he was stationed on the frontier. Recently he completed it and submitted it to a prominent New York manager, who suggested a few changes of a minor character, which have been

The End Close at Hand.

CANTON, O., Dec. 13. -The night at the McKinley residence was one of anxious waiting. The family believe that the aged invalid will live but little longer, and are sorrowfully waiting for

Only Two Escapea.

BRUSSELS, Dec. 13 .- The Mouvement Graphique, which on Tuesday last announced that a French expedition under Major Marchand while on its way up she Nile had been massacred near Bahrelghazel says that only two officers of the expedition escaped, one of whom is Major Marchand.

It is easy to catch a cold and just as easy to get rid of it if you commence early to use One Minute Cough Cure. It cures coughs, colds, bronchitis, pneumonia and all throat and lung troubles. It is pleasant to take, safe to use and sure to cure.

FRANK SMITH.

Just try a 10c. box of Cascarets, the finest liver andbowel regulator ever

Order for Hearing Petition.

Order for Hearing Petition.

In the matter of the guardianship of minor heirs of Chester O. Selland, deceased: Petition of guardian having been filed asking authority to mortgage real estate in the matter of above estate, it is hereby ordered that all persons interested in said estate appear before this court on Saturday, the 8th day of January, A. D. 1898, at ten (10) o'clock a. m., at the office of the county then and there to show cause, if any there be, why authority should not be granted to Inger C. Selland, as guardian, to mortgage the said real estate, for the purpose of obtaining funds for the payment of debts, charges, taxes, assessments and liens, and for the making of necessary improvements. Dated at Madison, S. D., this 10th day of De-ember, A. D., 18-7.

By the Court:
WM. McGRATH, County Judge.
Attest: J. M. PRESTON, Clerk.

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THE FASHIONABLE TAILOR,

I am a real tailor and a fellow-townsman of yours. If gar-

ments I make for you are not absolutely satisfactory, I am here for you to "kick at." I do "Custom Work" only. I give garments all the attention they need to make them hang well and retain their shape. "Sewing" as I sew never rips. I try on my garments before making them up.

They Must Fit and Do Fit.

It Pays You Better to buy of me, because one of my suits will outwear two of any of the "cheap tailors" productions, and my price are as low. Come and see me. I am showing the most attractive line of Staple and Novelty Worsteds I have ever had the good fortune to display. New Black and White Worsted Suitings; the latest Scotch Fabrics and some strikingly handsome shades in Kerseys for Overcoats.

MY PRICES ARE THE LOWEST.

Pants, \$4 up; Suits \$16 up; Overcoats, \$18 up. Trusting to

Yours for "Honest Tailoring,"

S. A. RONNING,

have the pleasure of waiting on you at an early date, I remain,

AND Is the Basis of All Wealth

and the demand for Lake County farms is increasing. If you are in search of a

Good Home in—

a Good Climate

Where you can raise Wheat, Oats, Barley, Corn, Flax, Potatoes, in fact everything adapted to this latitude, and where you can successfully carry on

Dairying & Stock Raising,

and where your family will have the advantages of

Good Society,

Good Schools, Good Church Facilities,

then come and see me, and I will show you just what you want. are renting land now, paying \$3 to \$5 per acre annual rental, I will show you just as good land and sell it to you at what you will pay out in rental, where you are, in three years, and will give you easy terms of payment.

If you want a good location in Madison I have such for you. ber of substantial buildings have been built in Madison the past season and the city is steadily growing in population.

Correspondence Solicited.

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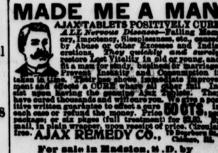
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