

AMERICAN WORKMEN

How Better Paid and More Efficient Than Those in Other Lands.

Support of British Commission After an Investigation of the Iron and Steel Industry of the United States.

Labor conditions in the iron and steel industries of the United States, in contrast with those in the United Kingdom and European countries generally, are discussed at great length by the commission appointed by the British Iron Trade association, which recently visited the United States and thoroughly studied the great iron and steel manufacturing establishments. The report of this commission, according to some estimates which have reached the treasury bureau of statistics, points out that in the United States the iron and steel industries are able to produce under conditions that make both the dearest and the cheapest in the world—the dearest in point of nominal remuneration and the cheapest in industrial and economic results.

"The workmen at American mills," says the report, "are generally supposed to be working much harder than they do in England, but this is not our view. After much conversation with many men in various branches who had been employed in similar works in England, the conclusion is reached that the American workmen do not work so hard as the men in England. They have to be attentive in guiding operations and quick in manipulating levers and machinery. They are also much more desirous of getting out large quantities than in England. They are better paid and more regular in their attendance at the works, less of time through drinking habits or otherwise not being present."

"American workmen generally aspire to the higher grades of labor," continues the English report, "leaving the purely manual labor to workmen from other countries. Thus it is that around American blast furnaces the American is found in a decided minority. He may be a foreman, master mechanic, blast engineer, locomotive driver, or stove tender, but he will not work 84 hours per week shoveling ore or wheeling scrap. For those duties are employed in the south the negro and in the northern furnaces immigrants, mostly Irish, Slavs or Italians.

"On this question of higher grade work and higher grade wages of American workmen, attention is called to the fact that in certain works Polish and Hungarian laborers were receiving \$1 to \$1.50 per day, while American rollers working alongside of them were receiving on the average \$18 per day of eight hours."

SCHWAB BUYS BIG TRACT.

President of Steel Corporation Invests \$400,000 for Magnificent Site on Long Island.

Where the beach of Oriental Grove jets into the sound at Great Neck, L. I., Charles M. Schwab has purchased in the neighborhood of 340,000 worth of land, comprising in all about 100 acres. The transactions involved in the acquisition of the property had their inception more than a year ago, but so quietly were they conducted that no inkling reached the public. Mr. Schwab's intention was to merge the various parcels into one magnificent country estate, but now, after spending more than \$100,000 in improvements he has abandoned his idea, and without occupying the property at all, has leased it for a term of years. Shortly after Mr. Schwab took up the duties of president of the United States Steel Corporation, which involved his residence in New York, he determined to buy a country home, but enjoined his broker to absolute secrecy.

KING WANTS AMERICAN WIFE.

Alfonso XIII, of Spain Sees in Matrimony a Chance to Mend Spain's Finances.

King Alfonso continues to startle the nobility of Spain by his eccentric actions. He has disregarded all the proposals of his counselors that he marry a European princess, and has announced his intention of wedding the daughter of some South American capitalist to mend the shattered state finances, reconcile the republican element by taking a plebeian consort and restore Spanish prestige in Latin America.

The king has instructed the representatives of the Spanish crown in South America to forward him full details of the millionaires possessing eligible daughters.

The king has thrown a bombshell into the ranks of the nobility by stating his intention of dissolving the grand order of the Annunziata, the oldest order in Spain, and substituting for it the new order of Alfonso XIII.

Prisoners American Army.

Replying to a correspondent who asked Field Marshal Lord Wolseley if the report was correct that he had described the American army as "the best in the world," the field marshal writes that he believes the quotation accurately describes that army.

Will Become Swift Then.

The Shah of Persia refuses to travel faster than 20 miles an hour. But, explains the Chicago Record-Herald, wait till he gets an automobile.

GOOD PLACE FOR CATTLE.

Phenomenal Opportunities in Madagascar for the Raising of Live Stock.

Phenomenal opportunities in live stock raising in Madagascar are presented, according to Consul Covert, at Lyons, who in a report to the department of state says: "Business men interested in Madagascar state that a profitable cattle trade may soon be opened between that colony and the Transvaal. The southern part of the island is a rich field for raising cattle and is good for little else. The cattle now there, owned by the natives, number from 800,000 to 1,000,000. In Madagascar cattle can be bought for \$19.30 per head or less, and they will sell in the Transvaal for \$27.50.

"It is announced in one of the Paris papers that 4,000 head of cattle were transported from Madagascar to the Transvaal this year at a profit of \$115,900. Parties embarking in the business should own a steamer and have capital enough to purchase several thousand head of cattle at once. Many of the native chiefs own as many as 10,000 head of cattle, which they want to sell, and they will know enough to advance their prices whenever appearances indicate the opening of a good market.

"Prospective farmers, it is noted in a pamphlet, should be settled in small colonies numbering 20 or 30 men each. The type of settlement will vary with the character of the district in which it is placed, the individual holdings consisting of irrigated land for tillage, mixed tillage and grazing ground, or larger allotments for grazing, according to circumstances may suggest. In the larger colonies model farms, managed directly under the government by salaried agents, will be provided. The first colonies will be placed in good districts with an assured water supply, reasonably near both railroads and markets, and the less promising areas will be occupied only as the country is gradually opened up by more extended irrigation and improved transit.

"As to the size of the farms, 20 acres is pronounced sufficient for fruit or tobacco farming, and the same extent of ground, well watered and with a certain amount of grazing land added, is the minimum suggested for mixed farming. For stock raising pure and simple 2,000 acres in a good district, or 3,000 in one not so good in character, is asserted to be the minimum."

SALARIES TOO SMALL.

Dr. Andrews Thinks That Instructors in Chicago Schools Are Not Paid.

Teachers' salaries are too small in Chicago as well as in other cities, according to the opinion of Dr. E. Benjamin Andrews, to encourage young men of brilliant intellects to enter the profession. For this reason Dr. Andrews maintains that bright young men who are needed in the schools are going into other business, while women are overcrowding the profession. Dr. Andrews declared that salaries should be paid sufficiently large to induce young men of ambition to enter the field. He maintained that as long as the salaries were kept down where a young man could not hope to rear a family and "lay up" anything young men would seek other work.

"The city of Chicago pays pretty good salaries compared with the general run of teachers' salaries," said Dr. Andrews at the University of Chicago, "but the salaries are not extremely encouraging to young men of promise. To a man who expects to rear a family and get ahead a little in the world the salaries offered in teaching as a life work are not at all inviting. The result of this is that most of the best young men go into other business and the public schools lose the best intellects that the colleges turn out. Women then take the places that might be filled by men and the number of women teachers grows out of all proportion to the number of men.

"It is a mistake to think that women make better kindergarten teachers than men. The best kindergarten teacher I ever saw was a man. We need men in all grades. We need men teachers in the kindergartens, first, second and third grades, as well as in the grammar and high schools. Kindergartens are not necessary for children who have good homes and proper environment. Only the children who cannot be taught and helped at home and who are surrounded by vicious environments at home really need the kindergarten."

PEASANT BOY FOR THRONE.

King Alexander, Ruler of Serbia, in a Dilemma Over Question of a Successor.

There is a sensational story afloat about the succession to the Serbian throne that King Alexander, recognizing the fact that Queen Draga can never bear an heir, has been considering how to find a candidate so as to prevent his enemies from seizing the throne. It is said that he has decided to adopt a healthy peasant boy and educate him to be his successor.

It is thought it is doubtful if the Serbians will accept the idea, despite the fact that the founder of the present dynasty was a swineherd.

Queer Delays at Centralia.

News comes from Centralia that a brick cistern floated away during the recent freshet. Centralia, says the Chicago Chronicle, is undoubtedly the scene of the historic exploit attributed to the gentleman who dug up and carried off a well.

HER VOWS RENEWED

Kenosha Woman Makes New and Solemn Pledge to Her Husband.

Allowed to Continue to Preside Over Home After Agreeing to Various Restrictive and Binding Rules.

The wife of a Kenosha (Wis.) man has taken an oath renewing her marriage vows. For some time the family had been badly broken up by internal troubles. The husband had started an action for divorce, and when the wife heard of his action she was deeply penitent and, going to her husband, she asked that all be forgotten and that the papers be withdrawn.

The husband decided to be lenient with his wife, but, lest the same troubles should arise again, he insisted that she go before a notary and take a binding obligation to show her penitence and to give assurance of her actions for the future.

The woman consented and, going to the office of the attorney who had drawn the divorce papers, she subscribed her name to an oath, which is probably the most unusual pledge ever exacted by a husband from a wife. The oath was as follows: "State of Wisconsin, County of Kenosha: ss—I, \_\_\_\_\_, being duly sworn, take upon myself the following solemn obligation, the other party in interest being my beloved husband, \_\_\_\_\_, to hereby renew the marriage vows made by me to my husband at the time of our marriage, 44 years ago, and solemnly promise and swear in the future to love and honor my husband, the said \_\_\_\_\_, and obey only him. I promise to keep our home in a clean and neat manner, and to give my entire time to the care of my husband and his children. I will not at any time leave my home after seven o'clock in the evening without the expressed consent of my husband and without his accompanying me. I will yield to him in all affairs touching the care and education of our children, and will ask in return that he see to it that the children are brought up in a proper and godly manner.

"I solemnly promise that in the future I will not invite any person to my house, either male or female, without the full consent of my husband, and that I will not be seen in any public place with any man unless my husband shall have fully consented to my making such an appearance. I promise now and forever to give up the use of all intoxicating liquors of every nature, and I will not touch wine, ale, beer, whiskey, or any other sort of intoxicating drink unless it is brought to me in the presence of my husband with his full consent.

"I further promise to keep all the provisions of my marriage vows in a literal and not in a figurative manner, and as far as is possible for a woman to do I will love, honor and obey my husband in all things. I agree to render to my husband a true and approved account of all moneys entrusted to me for the care and keeping of our home and to expend no money without his consent.

"All this I swear to freely and may God help me to keep my oath."

The oath was approved by the husband and both were given copies of it. They went away happy and contented.

NEW AND RICH GOLD FIND.

Prospector from Cape Yaktag, Copper River Country, Tells of Wonderful Discoveries.

The steamer Excelsior brings news to Tacoma, Wash., of an important placer strike on the coast of Cape Yaktag, Copper River country. Three weeks ago a prospector arrived at Valdes from Yaktag with the locations for record. He told friends and they started to locate more claims. The discoverer related that while prospecting the vicinity of Yaktag they found good prospects on one creek, which became better toward the source. They finely saw gold plentiful in the sand and gravel on either side of the creek. Going 12 miles farther, they worked 30 hours and cleaned up 3 1/2 ounces of gold. They staked three claims for others without powers of attorney. They were anxious to keep the discovery quiet until they could return and stake more gold. The gold comes from large deposits of cement conglomerate which lie at the head of the creek.

Chosen to Go to Chili.

An astronomer, William H. Wright, of the astronomical staff of the Lick observatory, has been chosen to take charge of the D. O. Mills' exhibition, now being fitted out at Mount Hamilton to spend two years in Chili in making special researches among the stars of the southern hemisphere. Director W. W. Campbell will go with the party to direct personally the erection of the observing station and the beginning of the two years' astronomical campaign. Harold K. Palmer, fellow in the Lick Observatory for the past four years, will be astronomer Wright's assistant.

Prospect of a Peat Trust.

There is talk of developing the New Jersey peat bogs in order to get fuel which will supplant coal. This need not cause anybody to get hilarious, though, says the Chicago Record-Herald. A peat trust may be expected as soon as the people turn to peat for relief.

RUNG UP HUSBAND'S WAGES.

The Conductor's Wife Makes a Fine Tissue Paper Lamp Shade with Her Hands.

Mackenzie is a conductor on an owl train on the "L," consequently he does his sleeping in the daytime, says the Chicago Record-Herald.

Now, as everyone knows who has had occasion to use the elevated after 12 o'clock, the fares, after passing certain points on the line, are collected by the conductors, wife for the purpose of registration, carry the little bell punches once so familiar on the surface lines.

One afternoon lately he was roused from his diurnal slumber by his industrious little wife, who brought out for his admiration a lamp shade made of colored tissue paper. She made it with her own pretty hands, and its scalloped border was perforated with innumerable little holes, through which the light of the parlor lamp would fall on the table.

"Tell me if you think it pretty," demanded Mrs. Mackenzie, holding the shade out for her husband to inspect it.

"It looks lovely," began Mackenzie, but as he scrutinized it more closely, he turned pale and said, hoarsely: "You made those holes with my bell punch."

"Yes, dear," said his dear little wife, blithely, "while you were asleep. It was so convenient to punch holes with. But what makes you speak that way?" demanded the little woman, greatly alarmed at the sudden change which had come over the unfortunate Mackenzie.

"Oh, nothing," he replied, "only you've rung up enough fares on that lamp shade to use up six months' salary. Every one of those holes will cost me five cents, that's all."

And the unhappy Mackenzie, in the agony of his spirit, groaned aloud.

RESTING THE CLOTHING.

An Occasional Period of Seclusion in a Dark Closet Works Wonders in Colors.

Clothes last much longer and look far fresher if not worn too frequently. If a woollen dress looks dusty and shabby, it may be wonderfully rejuvenated by brushing and airing it well out of doors and then hanging it away in a dark closet for a week or two. When taken out it will look quite fresh and wearable; the wrinkles gone, color revived and odors imperceptible. A color that responds to this treatment especially well is dark green; there seems to be some quality in the dye that renews it remarkably and seems to eat up small spots of dirt or grease, after hanging away in the dark, says American Queen.

Take off the dress you have worn all day, shake the dust off, turn it wrong side out, and hang it out in the sun or frosty air. This will soon disperse the odors caused by the exhalations of the body which give such an unwholesome air to woollen clothes that are worn constantly without proper airing. Take off the shoes you have worn all day, brush or wipe off the dust and set them on the window sill or in a good current of air over night.

In the morning put on another dress and another pair of shoes. Keep two or more sets going in this way, and you will feel yourself well repaid, not only in the greater length of days afforded the garments, but in the added freshness and sweetness that will surround you daily.

SHOULD GO TO COLLEGE.

Why a Girl Should Have the Privilege of Attending a School of Higher Learning.

The best answer that can be given to the question: "Why should the girl go to college?" is the college girl herself as she goes forth equipped in body, mind and soul for her life work. Indeed, to those who know her best, no other answer seems necessary. But until she and time shall have convinced the questioners, another answer—the most obvious one, perhaps—is to be found in the declared purpose of the college; that is the intellectual. In a broad sense it comprehends not only that which disciplines and enlightens the understanding, but also whatever corrects the temper, cultivates the taste and forms the manners and habits. What girl able to secure it will not be the stronger, nobler woman for the development and training afforded by the many-sided life of the woman's college of today?

Surely not she who has her own way to make in the world, says Woman's Home Companion. Whatever the difficulties and problems of her field of labor, she will meet them with the power and confidence she has gained by meeting similar ones in the college world. She has served an apprenticeship to the business of life—has come to know others and, more important still, to know herself.

Codfish Omelet.

Shred cooked salt codfish finely. To each cupful allow one of milk and one of egg, sprinkle with pepper; add one tablespoonful of flour and one of butter for each pint of milk; cook together as for cream sauce, and bake half an hour.—American Queen.

NEWPORT'S REVELRY

Famous Peace Ball of 1789 is Duplicated in Dress and Festivities.

Colonial Style of Dress Prevails Among the Guests of Mrs. Stuyvesant Fish, and the Decorations Are Unique.

Mrs. Stuyvesant Fish's colonial ball marked the Newport season with still another elaborate entertainment. It was intended as far as possible to duplicate the famous peace ball of 1789, which was held at Mount Vernon.

At the right of the dining-room was constructed a temporary ballroom, 50 by 80 feet. The ceiling was covered with panels of white muslin, from which depended colonial chandeliers, with electric lights in place of candles. Old portraits, colonial mirrors, colonial furniture and even an old harpsichord carried out the idea in detail.

At the eastern end of the ballroom there were six white columns trimmed with garlands of laurel and fifty electric lights. Over the arch of these columns was an electric motto, "Peace Ball," in red, white and blue lights. A reproduction of the original American flag was hung between the columns. The side lights were electric candles in colonial design. The American flag predominated in the decorations.

Mrs. Fish received her guests near the entrance of the ballroom. She wore a tulle of white satin, festooned with flourishes of cream-colored lace with a brocade train of pink, white and pale blue, trimmed with pink roses. The bodice, which was laced with white ribbons, was of the same brocade, with elbow sleeves of lace. On her powdered coiffure was worn a chaplet of tiny pink roses.

The favors included, white and blue sashes and colonial orders, miniatures of George and Martha Washington and others equally reminiscent. In the matter of costume the colonial period was not followed so closely as in the detail of house decoration. Many of the women went to some care and trouble in having gowns made expressly, but the majority of them refurbished old ball gowns. It cannot be said that any of the men went so far as to sacrifice their mustaches, though some of them did wear white wigs of powdered hair. Their costumes were a sort of compromise, black satin knee breeches, black silk stockings and buckled pumps, their dress coats being faced with buff satin. Most of them wore jabots of lace.

The men servants, however, were dressed in true colonial fashion, with liveries of dark blue, faced with buff, and most of them had blackened faces, looking as much as possible like the African servants of old slavery days. Some of the men guests went in hunting coats, with small clothes and other conventional evening attire.

FAST ROAD IS PLANNED.

Train Building in the East for Line in Illinois, Which Will Run 100 Miles an Hour.

An electrical company at Lynn, Mass., is building a train which is soon to be used in Illinois, says a special dispatch from Lynn and which the engineers estimate will make 90 to 100 miles an hour.

It is added that the track for the train in Illinois is almost completed; that the line is about 150 miles long and is remarkable for solidity and strength. As far as possible grades have been eliminated. Electricity will be the motive power and the third-rail system will be used.

A train of three cars has been built for the first trials. The train will be equipped with 12 motors of 120 horse power each. Instead of the high speed increasing the danger, it is claimed that the train will be safer and run less risk of leaving the rails than an ordinary street car.

The theory held by electricians is that the train is practically welded to the track and cannot leave it while the power is on. The location of the track is not given in the dispatch.

PASSING OF MANSION.

Five Residence of Mr. Walker at Kingsland Point, N. Y., to Become Fine Resort Hotel.

The news that John Brisbane Walker had signed preliminary papers with the superintendent of the Tarrytown, White Plains and Mamaroneck railway company agreeing to lease his property at Kingsland Point to the company for a period of five years for a mammoth picnic grounds caused a sensation to-day. The plans are to turn the old Kingsland homestead into a fine hotel, erect bathing houses, a large summer theater, swings, dancing platforms, and all kinds of games that attract excursionists.

The Kingsland Point property is the choicest land in this section, and is bounded by lands of John D. Rockefeller and William Rockefeller. Mr. Walker seems to have given up his ideals of the proper surroundings for a magazine publishing house.

Doesn't Have To.

J. Pierpont Morgan, it is said, refuses to "tip" hotel waiters. This is another advantage of being all-powerful.

GOVERNMENT IN GUAM.

Legislation Needed by Congress to Straighten Out Some of the Complications on the Island.

The navy department will recommend that congress enact some legislation which will clear up the anomalous situation which at present exists on the island of Guam. Acting Secretary of the government of that island is giving the great deal of consideration, but has arrived at no definite conclusions concerning the recommendations which he will make.

The administration of justice is one of the things which calls most greatly for action. It is possible that a way out of the difficulty might be found by extending over the island the provisions of the act which extends the federal statutes over the guano islands and gives the United States court into whose jurisdiction an officer from those islands is first brought jurisdiction over his case. This statute was tested in the supreme court and held to be constitutional. If the provisions of the statute were extended to Guam petty offenses could be tried there in the existing court, and graver crimes, including those for which capital punishment is prescribed, could be tried in any United States court into the jurisdiction of which an offender was brought.

Legislative action is also necessary to insure the stability of the tariff laws now in force on the island. This tariff was created by an executive order of President McKinley, and, according to the decision in Insular cases, is unconstitutional. The receipts from customs duties have made the island self-supporting, but unless legislation is enacted by congress such a case could be brought in the United States court, which would nullify the present tariff and thus destroy the revenues of the island. Commander Schroeder is expected here in October, and he doubtless will be consulted before the final recommendations to congress regarding what is needed in the way of legislation are drawn.

MAN BEHIND THE GUN.

Not the Machine, But the Operator Which Give American Industrial Supremacy.

"The importance of the human factor," says a London statistician, in summarizing this report, "is fully realized by all the members of the commission. It is all well enough to admire American plant, ingenuity of machine tools, the devices for saving labor, etc. But it is not the guns which win the battles, but the men who stand behind them. What the American admires and honors is the ability to do; that capacity in a man, through his own sagacity, nerve, enterprise, and skill to create and employ a fortune.

"Nobody is above his work. Everybody works, and for the sake of work, and thus has been produced in America within a generation an industrial potentiality more wonderful and more to be feared than all the factories and machinery and plants that these workers have created.

"It comes to this, then, that American labor is not more efficient, though it is better paid than ours; and that American manufacturing development is due to the persistent, unrelenting industry which once characterized the Briton, but for which trade unionism and athletics have given an apparently growing distaste. All the commissioners, however, seem struck with the strenuousness of American life.

"The comparative absence of a leisured class is noted as one of the prominent characteristics of the principal cities and industrial centers of the United States. In the avenues of industry a man without a regular business, or who is not concerned in the development of some industry, is as a fish out of water. Nowhere, it is asserted, is the struggling youth more kindly encouraged, more generously aided, and more readily trusted than in America, and it is pleasant to read of an esprit du corps among work managers which one would hardly expect to find in a land of such strong competition.

PREFERS AMERICA TO CANADA

Newfoundland Would Rather Have Reciprocity with United States Than Union with Dominion.

Sir Robert Bond, the premier of Newfoundland, who sailed for New York from London, carried with him full power from the imperial authorities to reopen negotiations with the United States government for the ratification of the Bond-Blaine reciprocity treaty arranged ten years ago, but never completed.

The Newfoundland premier has declared himself in favor of free trade with the United States as against the union of the colony with Canada.

Sir Robert Bond has worked 12 years on his plan for reciprocity with the United States.

Trying to Adjust the Time.

Parisians are likely soon once more to be in arms against England. The reason is the discrepancy between the meridians of Paris and Greenwich, amounting to sixteen-thousandths of a second, making Greenwich appear that much nearer Paris than it should be, according to the time-honored records. Mathematicians are working night and day at the problem with special instruments costing thousands, and hope to finish next year.

Other Fast Game Contemplated. Young Willie K. Vanderbilt says he's going to quit being an automobile scorcher. He must know of some other fast game, says the Chicago Record-Herald, that is less dangerous.