

BATTLE OF LABOR.

It Will Soon Be on With Tremendous Force in Various Parts of Britain.

CODDLING LABORING MEN.

They Can Have Anything They Wish to Ask For Just Now From the Politicians.

FOR THEIR VOTES ARE NEEDED.

In the Spring, However, Things Will Be Different, as Employers Are Bent on Crushing Labor Unions.

A POOR OUTLOOK FOR THE WORKMEN.

Small Hopes for Their Coping With Success Against the Gigantic Shipper's Organization Opposed to Them.

ULTIMATE ISSUED BY THE EMPLOYERS

BY CABLE TO THE DISPATCH. LONDON, Feb. 21.—[Copyright.]—British legislators, Lords and Commons, Tories and Liberals, are just now displaying a wonderful amount of interest in the welfare of the working classes, which is to be explained by the fact that a general election, in which the labor vote will be a most potent factor, cannot be far off. No fewer than four bills in the Commons and two in the Lords have been introduced this week, and it is probable that all will be referred to a special committee, whence they will emerge as one comprehensive measure.

The bills fully justify Sir William Harcourt's sarcastic remark in Parliament a couple of years ago: "We are all Socialists now." As soon as they are passed into law, the Government contracts must be given only to firms paying "fair rates" of wages to their workmen. Ventilation and sanitation, even in domestic workshops, must conform to the latest scientific ideas. Mills and factories must provide the simplest means of egress, in view of fire. Machinery must always be fenced in. Operatives must be allowed to inspect their employer's books to prevent cheating in piece work.

Protecting Women and Children. Adult women must not work more than 12 hours daily. Local authorities, or, failing them, Government inspectors, must see after the workpeople's health and provide against danger in injurious occupations, such as white lead making and wool sorting.

So tender is the regard paid to the susceptibilities of the workingmen voters, that Home Secretary Matthews, in deference to their wishes, has struck out of his factories bill the clause raising to 12 years the limit of age in the employment of children, notwithstanding that such limitation was recommended by the Berlin Conference and assented to by the British official representatives.

So far as the politicians are concerned, the British workmen have but to ask and he will receive, and at the present rate of progress he will soon be in a position to inspire envy throughout the world. Nevertheless, with the advent of spring the labor world shows emphatic signs of an early convulsion in the spring trade. The employers, taking a high hand, are seeking to break up the unions of the seamens, firemen, dockers and mill-hand workers.

War Against the Unions. Trouble was started with the unionists' refusal to work with non-unionists. In one or two incidents revolts in London the non-unionists demanded the right to wear union badges while at work, they were immediately beaten, two non-unionists being ready to fill each place vacated by the society men. At Cardiff fresh bands are permanently engaged to do the strikers' work. The dock directors decline to discharge them, and the strike there has only recently in the fact that several hundred men have lost good situation. That was the position at the beginning of this week. Naturally the men's leaders would have the prospect with some concern, and opened up communications with the employers, who naturally were as exultant as the men were downcast.

The employers demanded that a certain manifesto should be withdrawn. This was done. Then they discussed a proposal for a union men and employers' organization of free labor, the men to work amicably together, but the nation men and free labor men will each show their tickets on being taken on for employment, and the unionists were profoundly disgusted by hints that the free labor men would have the preference over them in the matter of engagement.

A Deadlock Between Them. Yesterday, the employers declared that they would not continue negotiations unless all the men returned to their work in loading and unloading ships. Naturally there is a deadlock. The men talk of a general strike, but their funds will not stand the strain of maintaining so many thousands. They speak of other trades supporting them, and of public sympathy. That is an unknown quantity, upon which it would not be wise to rely. When the dockers' and seamens' leaders called out all the allied trades at Cardiff in support of the strikers, the response was not equal to ten per cent. It was an ill omen for the laborer.

The employers on their side seem bent on crushing the labor organizations. The Employers' Labor Association of Liverpool has joined the Shipping Federation, which now represents 7,000,000 tons of shipping, or about seven-eighths of all the British vessels trading from British ports. It is a tremendous organization and well calculated to crush any union of labor.

The cost of the struggle, if it is resolved upon, and the damage to British commerce which must result therefrom, will be incalculable. In Durham, also, the disturbance among the miners, which has just started, threatens to have far-reaching effects. The colliers at the Marquis of Londonderry's Silkworth pit have been at play for three months. The Marquis, saying that there

was no likelihood of the strikers' coming to terms, determined to evict those who resided in colliers' cottages, and accordingly 600 persons were yesterday turned out on the roadside.

Thousands had gathered to witness the spectacle, and so increased was the crowd that the men at 12 neighboring collieries forthwith ceased work, and to-day several other mines are idle. The men assert that they will not return to work until those evicted are reinstated, and as Lord Londonderry is equally determined not to yield, the prospects in the Northern coal trade can only be described as gloomy.

FRAUGHT WITH PERIL.

THE LATEST MOVE OF THE TORIERS WILL BE CHALLENGED.

Secret of the Opposition to Newfoundland's Proposed Commercial Convention with the United States—A Strong Feeling Against Sir John Macdonald.

BY CABLE TO THE DISPATCH. LONDON, Feb. 21.—The action of the Government in withholding royal assent to Newfoundland's commercial convention with the United States, in deference to Canadian representations, will be challenged in Parliament at the first opportunity.

The secret of the opposition to Newfoundland's proposed commercial convention with the United States is a strong feeling against Sir John Macdonald. It is maintained that in thus allowing one self-governing colony to intrude successfully with the Imperial Government against another, is a precedent fraught with peril to the empire. The feeling will be intensified when the secret history of the intrigue now given becomes generally known in this country. The question very nearly caused a Cabinet crisis here.

Lord Knutsford, Colonial Secretary, approved the convention, and warmly supported it at several Cabinet councils; but before leaving England to join in the electoral struggle in Canada, Sir Charles Tupper had a long talk with Lord Salisbury, and actually persuaded the Premier to give his sanction to the convention. The Premier's consent to a convention at the present moment would place in the hands of Canadian Liberals a weapon that might be used against the Conservatives, and with such effect as to bring about the defeat of Sir John Macdonald.

It was not difficult for Lord Salisbury to see that the convention would give the accession to power of Sir Richard Cartwright and his friends would be followed, if not by annexation, at any rate by a "United Kingdom" in the fishery dispute with France. He was, however, not in a complacent mood, England's claims had been once more ironed down over her cors in Egypt. But if it comes to the worst, Lord Salisbury thinks he can better afford to offend Newfoundland than Canada.

LATEST LONDON SCANDAL.

Ashmead Bartlett's Name Unpleasantly Connected With Domestic Troubles.

LONDON, Feb. 21.—The name of Ashmead Bartlett, M. P., is persistently connected by a parliamentary rumor with domestic difficulties, which appear to be breaking up the household of Captain Hozier, who did such brilliant service as the Times correspondent in Germany in the Franco-German war, and who is now secretary and manager of the great establishment known throughout the world as the "Hozier's."

Captain Hozier married in 1878 Lady Blanche Ogilvie, a sister of the present Earl of Arlisle and of Lady Clementina Milford. Lady Blanche was the daughter of Lord Alderley, an illustrious name in the past, and highly esteemed woman in London. Lady Hozier has two young daughters, and proceedings are now pending between her and her husband for separation, which it is thought may be aggravated into a divorce.

AN IMPREGNABLE POSITION.

The Big British Salt Trust Carrying Everything Before It.

BY CABLE TO THE DISPATCH. LONDON, Feb. 21.—The great salt trust in now in a position believed to be impregnable against attack, and although it has just declared only a modest dividend of 8 per cent, the business of the coming year is expected to yield profit justifying a 20 per cent dividend. During the past year the trust sold 629,000 tons of salt, or 60,000 tons more than the previous year, and the price increased by about 7 1/2 pence per ton. The severe winter increased the cost of fuel by 250,000 tons, and has increased with their workmen the trust increased wages by over £20,000.

An immense expansion in the colonial trade is expected, and a friendly arrangement has been made with the North American Salt Union by which the British trust will pay a certain percentage on all salt exported to ports between Mexico and the United States. There is reason to believe that the trust will soon buy up the few remaining private salt firms, so that the outlook is cheerful indeed, except to the users of salt.

NEED FOR REFORM.

Shirts Supplied to British Soldiers Supposed to Cost Seven Years.

BY CABLE TO THE DISPATCH. LONDON, Feb. 21.—The House of Commons discussed the army estimate Thursday, and sympathetic attention was called to the fact that a shirt supplied by a generous country to Private Thomas Atkins upon enlistment is supposed to last him seven years. Furthermore, it remains to the last rag the property of Queen Victoria, and as such, has to be returned into the store at the end of the period named.

The impudent radicals suggested that the trade in shirts scarcely have any use for the latter rendered in the case of a soldier, and the so-called Tories urged that until science shall have supplied an imperishable wool shirt, the wearer should be permitted to do his duty with it at the end of two years. But the bureaucrats of the War Department remain impervious to sarcasm and deaf to argument, while recruits decrease in numbers and deteriorate in physique every year.

AUSTRALIA'S WHEAT CROP.

The Surplus, as Now Estimated, Amounts to but 1,250,000 Quarters.

BY CABLE TO THE DISPATCH. LONDON, Feb. 21.—A cable dispatch estimates the wheat crop of South Australia at 12,000,000 bushels, or about 2,000,000 bushels less than that of last year. The Victorian crop, on the other hand, is believed to be about 4,000,000 bushels more than that of 1900, but the production in New South Wales and New Zealand is so

much smaller than it was last year that the surplus of Australia cannot be great. One Beecham estimates it at 1,200,000 quarters for Europe, but it is considered doubtful here whether sufficient allowance is made for the disastrous character of the New Zealand harvest, one of the worst ever known in that country.

NOT READY FOR WAR.

THE PEACE SOCIETY HAS NOTHING TO WORK ON IN EUROPE.

A Peaceful Outlook There Just at Present—Dudley Field Declines Against Blood-Letting, Words of Pleasant Import Are Received From Him.

BY CABLE TO THE DISPATCH. LONDON, Feb. 21.—The peaceful outlook in Europe has enabled the International Arbitration and Peace Association to turn their attention to the United States, Africa and other benighted regions where war is the order of the day. The association is proceeding to the point of view that the Egyptian expedition to Tokar has prostrated them with grief, but consolation has reached them from Venezuela and from Washington.

A big map, obligingly sent by the Peace Society to London, has convinced the members that England is in the wrong in regard to the frontier dispute with Venezuela, and the Hon. David Dudley Field has informed them: "You may rest in peace regarding an entirely unimportant peace question. If the dispute is not settled by the courts, it will go finally to arbitration. Public sentiment in the United States is increasing toward a conciliatory attitude of all international disputes. Nine persons out of ten are for arbitration instead of war."

There was some talk recently about the Peace Society sending a deputation to every European capital to urge peace not to go to war. But, as every one of these rulers has for years past been swearing that his only object in preserving the peace, it was felt that the appointment of a deputation would convey by implication that the Czar, the Kaiser and all the rest of these liars and perjurers and the idea was obviously preposterous. The peace societies, at the suggestion of Mr. Field, are just now actively engaged in obtaining signatures to a memorial to Lord Salisbury, urging him to persuade the Emperor to invite all nations to a congress on disarmament. Lord Salisbury's Government has indicated in advance the character of the Peace Society's mission to the Emperor, by pushing on with almost feverish haste the arming of the coast stations, the strengthening of the forts and the manufacture of new fighting rifles, while his war and marine ministers are even now asking Parliament for more money and more men.

Lord Salisbury writes for the consolation of the English peace-mongers: "Europe is dancing on a powder magazine, but every Government seems to be standing ready with a fire engine to put out the first lighted fuse that starts a conflagration." The holding of the convention stands alone in believing that as soon as Russia shall have completed her military reorganization, those fire engines will be exchanged for gun carriages.

But the opinion is practically unanimous that Russia will not be ready this year, and the optimistic Peace Society has fixed next October as the date for the holding of its annual international congress.

TURNING ON THE HOSTS.

The London Gambling Scandal Seriously Affecting the City.

BY CABLE TO THE DISPATCH. LONDON, Feb. 21.—The feeling in the Gordon Cumming affair seems to be growing more hostile to the hostess, in whose house the matter originated, than to Sir Gordon Cumming himself. It appears to be undoubted that this lady allowed some of her own relatives, who were staying in the house, to play cards in a particular spot in the house, which was not intended for such a purpose as the South was at Huntington. This must be over 300 miles ahead of any development, and it shows that the hostess was not only ignorant of the particular spot is pretty well exploded. Indeed, it may be said that this idea was exploded by the opening up of the Washington scandal.

When Pittsburgh becomes the center of the oil business it may be said that developments are moving to the southwest pretty rapidly. When the oil business is in the hands of a few men, it is not surprising that the theory of the able geologists has become a condition, and the man who has enough brains to see that there is grease his hair is accounted a lucky guy.

John McKeown on Oil Territory. The last time I saw John McKeown was on a Valley train between Oil City and Pittsburgh. He had been to the upper country, and was in a very good mood.

There was at that time some talk of the Eastern newspapers about a generally letting go of the oil business. It seemed to the journalist in New York that there would soon be much distress of a lack of oil for light and for greasing machinery. The newspaper mind was disturbed on this point, particularly in the case of Mr. McKeown, and getting wilder all the time.

Mr. McKeown very emphatically did not care with the Eastern newspapers in their opinion that the oil business was a dead end, and was getting wilder all the time. He probably is oil enough taken out of the ground to float a navy, and anyhow he expected there would be plenty to supply all the wants of the present and the future. It is true that at that particular time Mr. McKeown had no apparent reason to believe that the oil business was a dead end. He was going to be scarce, as his own production was about to be exhausted. He had 50,000 barrels a month. He was a man who did not believe the State of Pennsylvania held all the illuminating oil, and he said at that time that the present oil field in the region over in West Virginia. Perhaps his investments in Turkeyfoot had a tendency to change his opinion, but I do not believe it.

Big Producer in Kentucky. He told me of an old well in Kentucky that had produced nearly \$100,000 worth of heavy oil, which had been taken down the Cumberland river in boats, shipped to Louisville, and sold to the C. & O. Railroad. Mr. McKeown thought there might be more oil found in that neck of woods, but he had no idea of going there to look for it. He said the immediate territory had been pretty well tested, with poor results, but still he did not think that one small pocket of oil was all there was to be found that far to the southwest. Altogether he seemed to be pretty well satisfied that there was a thing that was pretty widely distributed.

The Russian oil statistics which have been brought in by THE DISPATCH are still the subject of a surprise to many oil men who usually keep well informed on everything relating to oil. There was a general idea that the Russian oil production was still pretty well in the hands of the Government, and that it was very far from being generally known that the output of the Baku district was equal to that of the great Pennsylvania fields. It is a fact that the Government is still pretty well in the hands of the Government, and that it is very far from being generally known that the output of the Baku district was equal to that of the great Pennsylvania fields.

Getting Machinery From America. Some machinery was shipped from New York this week for the Eastern coast, and consisted of outfits for drilling wells, and was complete even to the cordage. The outfit is still closed, and on this account there is less activity in the prospecting of oil fields. More than the usual amount of stocks were accumulated at the wells and refineries on account of the obstructed navigation, and the tendency of prices has been downward.

Russian refiners continue very aggressive in buying new markets for their oil as against the American product, and compe-

ARRESTED FOR TREASON.

A Retired Officer Accused of Complicity in the Oporto Revolt.

OPORTO, Feb. 21.—General Silva, a retired army officer, has been suddenly arrested and taken to the fortress. Other arrests have followed, a number of persons suspected of being connected with the recent revolutionary movement being taken into custody.

WILDWOOD'S WEALTH.

The New Field Good for Six Million Barrels of Golden Grease.

HOW THE ESTIMATE IS REACHED. Is Significant in the Question of Oil From the Southwest.

RUSSIA IS BECOMING AGGRESSIVE.

GOV. HILL'S TWO OFFICERS. A Great Deal of Speculation as to Whether He Will Resign March 4.

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"If I remember aright," said the Governor, "Van Buren was Governor of this State and held the post until he resigned. He held the office of Secretary of State at the same time under President Jackson. And Van Buren did not surrender his office of Governor until the Legislature adjourned, although he was nominated for the office of Secretary of State on March 5, 1829, and accepted it."

Only some such intimation on the part of the Governor would have induced the people who are watching him that he was disposed to imitate Van Buren's example and hold on to his present office until the Legislature adjourned. The Governor has not yet decided whether he will resign or not. In Van Buren's case, an appointive office, discretion was given to the President to select a substitute to hold the post until the chief was ready to act. In an elective office, such as United States Senator, no choice or discretion is given to the person chosen or to any one else. The term of office begins on March 4 and the office, except in case of sickness, ought to be taken on that day; nor can the authority of the office be delegated to any one but the person elected. It is held that the Governor Hill has no alternative except to resign the office of Governor on March 4.

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Here, as well as in Paris, Vienna and Berlin, there is known to the few initiated to be a ready market for curious maladies if their possessors know where to go and offer themselves for sale to the surgeons' knives. And not by any means do these willing sacrifices go to death. For the redeeming feature of the horrible tortures of any of these ailments is that the patient is cured, and that the income of money kings could buy better treatment.

Human Vivisection a Myth. Nineteen out of twenty of the horrible tortures of human vivisection are myths. With the other one of the ten the victim and the law, which never hears of them—alone have to do. The most common of these ailments are, of course, eminent medical men, connected either with some famous public hospital or who have a private hospital or residence in which they can carry out their researches. Often they are clinical professors who wish to show a rare form of disease to their classes at the college. The value of the purchase as material for experiment or demonstration.

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Hunting the Highest Bidder. The young doctor then went to a well-known surgeon and offered him the patient for \$500. The surgeon demurred at this sum, but was willing to pay \$300. The young doctor then went to another, who finally agreed to pay \$385, and to several more who would pay \$400. He returned to the dispensary without deciding which he would take, when he found all the surgeons whom he had been to see waiting for him. They all wanted the case, and soon bids ran high among them, at last, says my informant, \$635 was tendered on the success of the case. The operation was successful for the amount, and invited him to come to his private hospital and see the operation. He then drove away with his purchase.

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A CALIFORNIA EXPERIMENT. An Association Proposes to Establish Wine Houses in the East. SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 21.—About 20 of the leading wine men of this State have formed an association to establish an exhibit of California wines and a cafe where wines may be sold at Chicago.

It is the intention to establish similar institutions in large Eastern cities if the Chicago exhibit is a success.

Bombarded by French Ships. SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 21.—At the Island of Kalaia two French ships, the Champlain and Volage, have been shelling the villages. Landing parties from the ships have continued the native tribes on the coast, but the natives living in the mountains have not been subjected.

DO YOU NEED CARPETS? Do You Need Lace Curtains? If so, read the "ad" of the special insert in this issue. It contains a list of names and addresses of the best carpet and lace dealers in the city. Note the prices—these 1247 Penn. av., two squares east of Union depot.

Before renting consult the special list lettings appearing Mondays and Thursdays in THE DISPATCH, leading agents contribute choice lists on those days.

ONE more week of our clearance sale. Call at once. MICHIGAN FURNITURE CO., 437 Smithfield st.

Have You Found a House Yet? If not, you can probably get one to suit by consulting the To-Let advertisements in this issue. They are inserted Mondays and Thursdays at special rates.

TO-MORROW Kaufmann's store will close at 12 o'clock (noon).

A HIGH-GRADE BEVERAGE is the Planer brew by the Iron City Brewery. Kept at first-class bars.

Good Tenants Are Soon Secured. By advertising your houses and rooms in THE DISPATCH, Mondays and Thursdays are special rent list days.

Open To-Morrow. Hendricks & Co.'s photograph gallery open all day Monday, 12 elegant cabinets \$1. 68 Federal street, Allegheny.

OUR immense assortment of chamber and parlor suits cannot be surpassed in the city. Call and see for yourself. MICHIGAN FURNITURE CO., 437 Smithfield street.

tion is sharp. As a rate enter the Russian is a success, and this enables him to maintain a monopoly in a great many markets. His customers are not always sticklers for quality, and are often willing to accept a very inferior article so long as it is cheap. This condition of affairs accounts for the lessened value of refined oil exported from America last year, although the amount of oil exported was considerably more than the previous year. The exact figures were: 699,042,728 gallons, valued at \$11,600,000, an increase of a valuation of over 676,151,405 for the previous year and a decrease in value from \$32,792,473. The Russian and his oil field will bear pretty close watching. H. W. CRISWELL.

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A CALIFORNIA EXPERIMENT. An Association Proposes to Establish Wine Houses in the East. SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 21.—About 20 of the leading wine men of this State have formed an association to establish an exhibit of California wines and a cafe where wines may be sold at Chicago.

It is the intention to establish similar institutions in large Eastern cities if the Chicago exhibit is a success.

Bombarded by French Ships. SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 21.—At the Island of Kalaia two French ships, the Champlain and Volage, have been shelling the villages. Landing parties from the ships have continued the native tribes on the coast, but the natives living in the mountains have not been subjected.

DO YOU NEED CARPETS? Do You Need Lace Curtains? If so, read the "ad" of the special insert in this issue. It contains a list of names and addresses of the best carpet and lace dealers in the city. Note the prices—these 1247 Penn. av., two squares east of Union depot.

Before renting consult the special list lettings appearing Mondays and Thursdays in THE DISPATCH, leading agents contribute choice lists on those days.

ONE more week of our clearance sale. Call at once. MICHIGAN FURNITURE CO., 437 Smithfield st.

Have You Found a House Yet? If not, you can probably get one to suit by consulting the To-Let advertisements in this issue. They are inserted Mondays and Thursdays at special rates.

TO-MORROW Kaufmann's store will close at 12 o'clock (noon).

A HIGH-GRADE BEVERAGE is the Planer brew by the Iron City Brewery. Kept at first-class bars.

Good Tenants Are Soon Secured. By advertising your houses and rooms in THE DISPATCH, Mondays and Thursdays are special rent list days.

Open To-Morrow. Hend