

TWO CENTS.

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REPORT OF MR. GOMPERS

Presented at the Convention of American Federation of Labor.

GROWTH OF THE ORDER

The Evils of Admitting Complimentary Members.

Reference to the Firing Upon the Striking Miners at Lattimer—Much is Expected of President McKinley. The Injustice of Injunctions—The Right to Engage in the Boycott is Claimed—A Cordial Welcome is Extended to Messrs. Wilson and Harford, Fraternal Delegates from Great Britain.

Nashville, Tenn., Dec. 12.—The American Federation began its seventeenth annual session in this city today with an attendance of more than 100 delegates from different states and an equal number of visitors.

President Gompers presided. Harford, Wilson and Edward Harford, delegates from England, were introduced by the president.

Mr. Wilson is a member of parliament and Mr. Harford is ex-secretary of the Railway Employers' organization.

Reference to the firing upon the striking miners at Lattimer—Much is expected of President McKinley.

The injustice of injunctions—The right to engage in the boycott is claimed—A cordial welcome is extended to Messrs. Wilson and Harford, fraternal delegates from Great Britain.

There is a world of injustice to eradicate; there is a universal belief with us that the law is not being observed.

We started off in the year with twenty national unions from the local unions of the city.

With the growth and extension of our federal labor unions we occasionally find a difficulty which is increasing and one which requires constant correspondence.

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SURRENDER OF SANGUILLY

Said to Have Offered His Services to Gen. Blanco.

RICH SPANIARDS HEDGE

Preparing to Appeal to the President.

Gomez Reported to Be Hard Pressed.

Fate of Spanish Agents Sent to Insurgent Leaders in Doubt—Inducements for Members of the New York Junta to Give Their Adhesion to Autonomy.

THE CONVENTION.

If the judgment of this convention is that May 1, 1898, is the one upon which the bugle call for labor shall be sounded, it will be a day of great significance.

The decision of the Supreme court of the United States in a case involving the right of seamen to quit their employment at will is a landmark in the history of labor.

The municipal ownership of public works and postal savings banks and postal telegraph systems are advocated.

AS TO INJUNCTIONS.

On the question of judicial injunctions, Mr. Gompers says: The subject has been discussed in various phases of the subject, one passed the senate providing for trial by jury in contempt proceedings for violation of the injunction.

Within the past year the evil of these injunctions has been more fully demonstrated than ever before.

As to boycotts, Mr. Gompers declares that it is manifest that the workers should have the same right which other citizens enjoy—the right which neither constitutions grant nor courts can deny—the right to stand by their friends, patronize our sympathizers and co-operators, and to withhold our patronage from those who are antagonistic to our cause.

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SYMPATHY FOR THE PRESIDENT.

Messages of Condolence from All Over the Land.

Canton, O., Dec. 13.—The casket bearing the remains of Nathaniel McKinley is nearly buried in a sea of flowers.

The funeral service will open with a chant, "Rest, With Thee," and will be followed by prayer by Rev. E. P. Herbruck.

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DURVEA SWEEP BY BIG FIRE

Business Heart of the Town Laid in Ashes This Morning.

Durvea was visited by a disastrous conflagration this morning which left a big and blackened gap in the very heart of the thriving little town.

Nine business places and four barns were destroyed, and a number of other buildings, the postoffice among them, were attacked and partially damaged.

The flames started at about 12.20 a. m. in Dill's barn, which is situated on the easterly side of Main street, and fanned by the stiff breeze, spread with marvelous rapidity.

Simpson & Watkins' general store, adjoining on one side, Dill's livery and undertaking establishment, Percy Grumshaw's barber shop, located in the Dill building, Simpson & Watkins' barn, Thomas Connell's barn, all on the easterly side of the street, and closely adjacent to the Dill's barn, were entirely consumed.

The flames swept across the street, and ignited the Freeman block, in which were located Grimschaw's store, Hackett's tailor shop, Doherty's saloon, a small store and residences on the upper floor.

The Durvea fire company saw at once that it was unable to cope with the fire, and telephoned to Pittston for help.

The loss could not be fairly estimated at the time of writing, as the fire was still in progress and the excitement intense.

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CIVIL SERVICE OUTLOOK.

The Work of Changing the Laws Begins.

Washington, Dec. 13.—The outlook for changing the civil service law is looking actively canvassed among Republican members of the house as a result of the conference held Saturday night.

The members of the special committee having the matter in charge are trying to shape a bill that will command the support of a number of divergent elements.

One of these is the Democratic minority, which, combined with the Republicans opposed to the present law would be strong enough to carry a bill.

But in canvassing the situation it has been found that Democratic members would favor a complete repeal of the law, but would oppose anything short of a repeal.

As the Republican movement is not toward complete repeal, but rather for modification of the law, there appears to be no basis upon which the anti-civil service reformers of both parties can unite.

It is claimed, however, that a modification bill will receive the votes of two-thirds of the Republican members and will have a good chance of passing the senate and receiving the president's signature.

NINE HOUR DAY.

Granted by the Publishers of New York Printing Houses.

New York, Dec. 13.—President Samuel E. Donnelly, of Typographical union, No. 6, at a meeting of the union held in this city tonight, announced that 65 of the 102 publishers had granted the request of the union for a nine-hour day.

Among the publishers who consented to the request of the union were John Brisson Walker, of the Cosmopolitan; the Martin B. Brown Printing company; William T. Adkins, the New York Clipper; the Illustrated American; Mr. Frank Leslie, Funk & Wagnall's Publishing company; Chas. C. Burghove, the Lockwood Press; Nicol & Boyce, A. S. Seer, George P. Powell and Frank V. Strauss, Styles & Cash, Frank Tousey, the Dry Goods Economist, and the Williams Printing company.

About twenty book machine offices also consented to a nine-hour day. President Donnelly said that the other offices would doubtless come into the compact and that the impending strike will probably be averted.

Further conferences will be held tomorrow with the dissenting publishers, reports of which will be handed in at a meeting of the union tomorrow night.

GREAT NATION'S WEAKNESS

Comptroller Eckels Again Escapes and Points Out the Awful Condition of the Country.

St. Louis, Dec. 13.—Comptroller Eckels, who is in the city as a guest of the Commercial club, delivered a speech last night before the club, in which he pointed out the awful condition of the country.

He said, in part: "This nation stands out from all its sister nations as having monetary and financial laws, which invite public disgraces and private disasters."

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POSTAL BANK INSTITUTIONS

The Scheme Discussed at Length in the Senate.

Washington, Dec. 12.—Mr. Lodge (Mass.) made an effort in the senate today to secure an immediate vote upon his immigration bill, which is substantially the same measure that was passed by the Fifty-fourth congress and vetoed by President Cleveland.

Mr. Allen (Neb.) objected to an immediate vote and suggested that the final vote on the amendments and the bill be taken on Monday, Jan. 17, at 3 p. m.

This suggestion was accepted by Mr. Lodge, and the order for a vote at that time was made.

Mr. Gorman, chairman of the Democratic steering committee, presented a resolution which was adopted, rearranging some of the committee assignments of some of the Democratic members, made necessary by the incoming of some new members.

At the opening of the senate, Chairman Milburn made touching reference to the death of the president's mother.

Mr. Butler (N. C.) spoke at length upon amendments he had offered to the bill which he had previously introduced providing for a postal savings bank system.

Such a system would, in his opinion, insure greater comfort in the homes of the plain people of the land, as a great majority of them would certainly become depositors in such banks.

As another argument in favor of such a system, Mr. Butler declared that if the system were established there would never be another issue of bonds by the government in time of peace.

It would give men of small means an opportunity to increase their capital, and it would place a great amount of money in circulation and afford benefits to all the people of incalculable value.

Mr. Gorman (Md.), of the Democratic steering committee, presented an order making some changes in the Democratic representation on a special standing committee and of the senate. It was adopted without debate.

The immigration bill was then called up, with the result above stated.

Mr. Wilson (Wash.) presented a resolution providing for the appointment of a committee to transmit to the senate a statement by fiscal year since 1890, showing the total number of persons examined, the total number passed and the total number appointed in the several branches of the civil service at the beginning of those fiscal years.

The resolution was agreed to.

At 2:40 the senate adjourned.

HOUSE PROCEEDINGS.

Except the reporting by Mr. Bingham, of Pennsylvania, of the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill, which is to be considered tomorrow, the house did no public business today.

ARGUMENTS IN IT'S FAVOR

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