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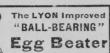
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## THE FRIEND OF LABOR

That is What the Republican Party Has Shown Itself.

LABOR LAWS OF FORTY YEARS

Sewing Women, Miners, Motormen, Slate Pickers, Children, All Classes of Bread Winners, Are Protected By Laws Passed By Republican Legislatures.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Philadelphia, Sept. 16.—One of the most important features of the pres-ent campaign will be a showing of the part that the Republican party has played in the life of the workingman of Pennsylvania. It is a marvelous showing.

The present reign of prosperity. shared alike by every toiler, whether it be in mill, forge, factory or on the farm, can be traced to the wise and beneficent working of national laws enacted alike for the protection of la-bor and capital. The Republican party in the nation has ever been the staunch friend of the workingman. The Republican party in the state has emphasized this by enacting laws cov-ering a period of 35 years, for the comfort, convenience and protection of the working man and woman. There has been compiled within the past week a complete list of labor laws passed in Pennsylvania by Republican legislatures since the close of the Civil War that is one of the most remark-able things of its kind in existence.

Pennsylvania leads every state in the character of its labor legislation. Nearly 100 bills directly affecting the men, women and children of the state who earn their living by the sweat of their brows have been enacted in the

WOMAN AND THE SEWING MA-CHINE.

At the close of the Civil War industrial and commercial enterprises were in a more or less chaotic state. Thousands of widows, mothers and daughters of soldiers were compelled to eek out a living as seamstresses and dress makers. One of the first laws passed by the legislature of 1869 was an act to exempt sewing machines belonging to seamstresses from levy and sale on execution or distress for rent.

At this time the great anthracite There were practically no laws look ing to the protection of human life in the mines, and it was a Republican legislature that took up this subject at this time, and during all of the succeeding years has passed laws whose object has been the protection of life and limb of the toilers in the darkness of the mine.

On page 852 of the pamphlet laws of

1869 will be found one of the first min-ing laws enacted, entitled "An Act for the Better Regulation and Ventilation of Mines, and for the Protection of the Lives of Miners in Schuylkill

This was only the beginning. It was followed by a general law for the safety and health of persons employed in coal mines, passed in 1870. In the same year laws were passed for the protection of miners in various counties of the state. ties of the state.

In 1872 an act for the better protect In 1872 an act for the better protection of the wages of mechanics, miners, laborers and others was passed, as well as a bill providing "For the Establishment of a Bureau of Statistics on the Subject of Labor and for Other Purposes." (P. L. 1872, page 59.)

In all the years up to the present there have been numerous similar enactments. In 1872 one of the most important measures ever enacted into a

portant measures ever enacted into a aw, the record of which can be found the pamphlet laws for 1872, on page 1.175, was the act to relieve laborers, workingmen and journeymen from certain prosecutions and indictments for conspiracy under the criminal laws of the commonwealth. This act has conserved the liberty of thousands wage earners in Pennsylvania in the past 30 years.

PROTECTING PREAD WIL

It was the Republican party in the legislative session of 1874 that passed a law in relation to suits for wages,

proventing stay of execution on judgments obtained for \$100 or less.

It was a Republican legislature that appropriated the first money to aid in the erection and maintenance of an anthracite hospital in Pennsylvania. This was in 1874.

England, with all its hogsted civili.

England, with all its boasted civili-England, with all its boasted civili-zation of centuries, is away behind Pennsylvania in the protection of women and children in their employ-ment. South Carolina today is a blot on the map of the south because of its absence of laws prohibiting the employment of children, and its lax legislation regarding the employment of women in various industries. In 1878 one of the most stringent laws enacted by any legislature relared to enacted by any legislature related to the employment of females in hotels, taverns, saloons and eating houses or other places for the sale of intoxicating and other drinks. It was a Pennsylvania Republican legislature that passed a law prohibiting female labor in and about the coal mines and manufacture.

in and about the coal mines and manufactories thereof, and for the preservation of the health of female employes in manufacturing, mechanical and mercantile establishments.

All through the years in which the Republican party has been in power in Pennsylvania it has endeavored to see that full and ample justice has been done by employers, whether firms, cor-

porations or individuals, to the citizens of the state in their employ. It was at the session of 1878 that a law was passed fixing the standard weight of a bush-el of bituminous coal. It was during the session of 1881 that the law was passed securing to operatives and la-borers engaged in and about coal mines, manufactories of iron and steel and all other manufactories, the payment of their wages at regular intervals and in lawful money of the United

States.
REGULAR PAY DAYS. This is one of the most important laws ever enacted. Middle-aged men laws ever enacted. Middle-aged men today remember the conditions that existed prior to the passage of this act. Employes, often of large concerns, were frequently deprived of their earnings tor from 30 to 60 days; often only paid in part and frequently with script, store orders or other alleged equivalents of value. The passage of this law made compulsory the payment to every employe, every working man and woman, the wages due him or her in lawful money of the country and at stated intervals

stated intervals.

Every field of labor has been covered by Republican laws enacted by Republican legislatures. The law limiting the hours of labor of conductors, drivers and employes of horse, cable and electric railways, was passed by the legislature of 1887. The legislature of that year struck the final blow at child that year struck the man blow at child labor in this state by prohibiting the employment of any child under the age of 12 years by any individual, firm or company, to do any work in any mill, manufactory or mine, or any work pertaining thereto.

Going a step beyond the mere enact-ment of laws protecting coal miners, the assembly of 1889 enacted the law compelling the examination of miners in the anthracite region for the pur-pose of preventing the employment of incompetent persons in those mines. The factory law of the state which

regulates the employment and provided for the safety of women and children in mercantile industries and manufacturing establishments, and to pro vide for the appointment of inspectors to enforce this law, became operative through the action of the legislature of 1889 ALL CLASSES PROTECTED.

So the long line of beneficial laws might be continued. The toner in the tenement house, the woman in the store, the mechanic at the bench, the young woman at the cigar table, the worker in the mine, the puddler in the mill, all enjoy whatever of comfort, convenience and protection they have to the wisdom of Republican legisla-tors and the efforts of Republican statesmen.

It is understood that one of the bat-

the cries of the Democracy this fall is to be the declaration that the Republi-can party has done little or nothing for the working man. It is felse, wretchedly false, as the Pamphlet Laws of Pennsylvania demonstrate in all the publications from 1865 to 1902

#### THE LEAGUE OF CLUBS

The Convention at Eric This Week and Some of Its Novel Features.

The State League of Republican Clubs, which is holding its annual convention in Erie this week, is one of the most unusual gatherings of its kind ever assembled within the bor-ders of the state. The attendance is larger, as indicated by the number of special trains engaged than ever be-fore in the history of the league. The enthusiasm is greater because of the novelties that have been introduced into the campaign.

Perhaps the most striking of these is a great ball marked with Pennsyl-vania's record of Republican patriot ism and carrying the pictures of Presidents McKinley and Roosevelt, Judge Pennypacker and the Republi-can candidates of this year, which is being taken to Erie on a special car and from there is to be rolled back-wards across the state to Philadel-phia. The idea, which was evolved from the fertile brain of a couple of Philadelphia Republicans, Joseph M. Huston and J. Hampton Moore, city treasurer of Philadelphia, is that at the border of each county a number of Republicans representing that coun ty shall take the ball in charge, roll it along the highways to the borders in turn pass into other hands, and so

on through the state.

It is expected that this novel spectacle will attract thousands to the line of the ball's progress and excite universal enthusiasm among the Re publicans of the state.

Read This, Republicans.
This contest is no mere local affair.
It is national in its scope. A victory for Democracy in Pennsylvania would for Democracy in Pennsylvania would send a shiver along the spinal column of the Republican party of the United States. Twice has Mr. Pattison been elected governor, and twice, at the suc-ceeding national elections, has a Demo-crat occupied the White House. We all remember with what dire results the last Cleveland administration was accompanied. We had the soup house where those who were turned from the where those who were turned from the doors of the closed mills were driven for food. The Inquirer opened distributing depots for bread, and for weeks — yes, for months—the distri-bution continued. This was what the folly of the people in electing a Demo-

could we look with confidence to a could we look with confidence to a continuation of prosperity under a new Democratic administration? By no means. One experience of that dismal sort is enough. Then why invite disaster by turning Pennsylvania over to the Democrats and sending a chill throughout the Union?—Philadelphia Inquirer.

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