

A BIG LABOR BUREAU

INTERNATIONAL IN SCOPE, WITH HEADQUARTERS IN SWITZERLAND.

A Man From Chicago In Charge, but the Scheme Has the Backing of Prominent Men in the Countries of Continental Europe.

The international labor bureau opened for business in Basel, Switzerland, May 1, in the same country where the central office of the Red Cross society, the international telegraph bureau, the bureau for the regulation of international freight tariffs, the Latin Monetary union and the International Postal union are in operation. Most of these institutions are the real organs of the associated governments of the world, the Red Cross society and the Postal union embracing all the civilized nations of the four quarters of the globe.

The director of the labor bureau is Professor Stephen Bauer of the University of Basel, once professor of political economy in the University of Chicago, who has just compiled an account of the origin and purpose of the bureau, from which George Gifford, American consul at Basel, has made a report to this government. It is already recognized by several governments.

The scheme was first suggested in 1876 by Colonel Emil Frey, a Swiss statesman, known in America as a volunteer in our civil war, afterward as Swiss minister in Washington, and finally as president of the Swiss republic. He suggested that international conventions establish uniform conditions of labor in all industrial communities, since the danger resulting from foreign competition is a great obstacle in the way of isolated social reform. But when, five years later, the Swiss national council unanimously voted to begin negotiations with other countries for this purpose, the answers were all unfavorable.

The idea did not cease to make progress, however. It was a second time recommended in 1888, and in 1890 the German emperor called an international conference at Berlin. Here all the propositions in regard to regulating hours of labor, the work of women and children and Sunday labor were rejected by the delegates of the different countries.

In 1897 Switzerland again took up the question, and the answers, though not so distinctly adverse as on the first occasion, were again unfavorable. Only four states gave the scheme some plausibility.

The workingmen, however, did not abandon the idea of an international understanding. The Swiss workingmen's society called an international congress at Zurich in September, 1897, to which they invited as guests government labor officials, factory inspectors and economists, and it was here that the project of an international labor bureau of a semiprivate character took definite form.

A congress held soon afterward at Brussels appointed a committee to make proposals for carrying out the plan. To this committee and to the parallel action of a meeting at Berlin in 1899 is due the foundation of the International Union For the Legal Protection of Workingmen. This association is designed to organize the efforts for social reform in every country as well as to serve as a financial basis for an international labor office. The committee which pursued this aim met at the international congress for the protection of workingmen, which was held at Paris in July, 1900, where the statutes of the new organization were approved.

The Swiss national council, on motion of the government council, has voted an annual contribution of 8,000 francs (\$1,544) toward the foundation of the international labor office and 1,000 francs to the Swiss section. The other governments are disposed to assist the office in a similar way.

It will publish first a code of existing labor laws in the English, French and German languages; second, an international bulletin, and, third, an international annual of labor.

The international code will contain the texts as well as the motives and the interpretation of the existing legislation. The international labor office hopes to enjoy the co-operation of experts of every country for this scientific work, who will be appointed as correspondents. The work of translation will be done by the office itself.

The bulletin will contain current legislative and administrative matter, extracts from parliamentary debates and from reports of commissions of inquiry concerning social reform, a survey of strikes and lockouts, a bibliography of official documents concerning labor legislation.

The annual will contain the annual report of the association, the proceedings of the congress for labor protection and the current supplement of the international code. Governments, industrial and labor organizations, as well as private members of the association, will receive information concerning texts and motives of foreign labor legislation. This branch of the international labor office is already in full activity. The office, in order to fulfill this mission, relies on the liberality of governments, which, by sending their labor laws and furnishing information through official authorities, can do much to improve the service of information.

It is not proposed to aim at a mechanical uniformity of labor legislation, which must adapt itself to differences of national character and administration in the various industrial countries. Labor legislation will be promoted by the international labor office, first, by finding the most adequate technical formulation of the regulations concerning certain protec-

tive purposes (e. g., the formulation of the periods of rest); second, by inquiring into industrial efficiency as far as it is affected by labor laws (e. g., shortening the hours of labor); third, by establishing a statistical standard measure for the degree in which social politics makes itself felt in each country.

The international labor office will be able, by means of its correspondents, to form an opinion in regard to questions of judicial, hygienic and technical importance which arise in legislative about labor. Committees consisting of manufacturers, workmen and economic experts will be convoked by each section and will report to the office on questions of industrial efficiency. The director of the office will request the inspectors of factories and directors of labor departments to give information on these points. If these documents should not be considered sufficient, international statistical investigations will be set on foot. The whole material will be compiled for the congress by the director of the office.

ALTRUISM IN FACTORIES.

Give Labor Fair Wages and It Can Get Along Without Charity.

The wage scale having been fairly adjusted, the employer need not worry himself about what altruistic measures he will adopt for the benefit of his employees. Once the interest of the latter in the success of the enterprise becomes established, suggestions regarding methods which will be to the common interest of employer and employee will come fast enough from the men. Conventions which good men need to do their work well and keep them in prime condition, mentally and physically, are of advantage, and they are bound to come, but they have their time and place of coming, which are after more important things are settled. It must be remembered that kind words and rest rooms and libraries and lectures and other so called altruistic measures, although excellent in their proper time and place, do not in themselves bring happiness and contentment, for they do not supply food and clothes and house rent and home comforts, and the latter are what men work for. Of such things, therefore, until the proper time arrives the men become suspicious, as they partake of the nature of charity, and honest workmen resent anything of such a nature. The men must be mentally happy and well advanced in modern thought and methods before such things can be introduced.

Not should an employer allow the announcement to become current that he has a "model shop" when he has made his business a success by adopting the methods outlined above and added such conveniences as he finds are of common advantage to his business and his men. Intelligent workmen are sensitive to being referred to as adjuncts to anything "model."

An attempt to advertise an enterprise by proclaiming that philanthropic principles dominate its management may be effective for a time, but men lose respect for such philanthropy and its projectors. There is no philanthropy about it; it is pure business. Nor should a manager announce to his men or to the public that he incorporates advanced ideas in his system of management "because it pays." No advantage can be gained by such a course. It will, in fact, be found that it does not pay. He should no more think of making such a statement than of saying that he keeps his own hands and face clean or changes his linen daily "because it pays."—H. F. J. Porter in Cassier's Magazine.

A Queer Strike in Florida.
Six thousand cigar makers of Tampa, Fla., struck recently owing to an unusual cause. A bridge which connects Tampa with her western suburbs had been broken for two days. The men had to be ferried across the river, and this was slow and unsatisfactory. It was proposed that they strike to force the manufacturers to bring pressure to bear for the quick repair of the bridge. All men employed on the western side of the river struck and marched across the other bridges and held a mass meeting in the heart of the city. This body of 2,000 in number then swarmed throughout the remainder of the city and demanded that the men employed in other factories quit work. Every man walked out, and as each factory emptied they joined the crowd, which numbered 6,000 at noon.

Several narrow escapes were made by boats being overloaded. Orders were given to place pottions in position. The strikers also boycotted the street cars because the management did not give them more cars. The strike was participated in by the International and Resistencia men alike.

Falling Wages in Great Britain.
Wages are coming down with a run in the coal, iron and steel trades, where sliding scales rule the roost and where the employer has learned how to rule the sliding scale. The decline has been threatening long enough, and now it is here in all its grim unpleasantness. Take the figures for February. In iron and coal mining close upon 200,000 men had to submit to decreases against a solitary small increase in the wages of underground and surface workers in Somerset. In the iron, steel, engineering and sundry metal trades the break is not so big yet, but 15,000 men have had their Friday pay sheet made out for smaller amounts. It is fortunate that in some things prices are coming down, as the workman's wife would be in a pitiable plight indeed when she was doing her marketing. These drops are indicative of the trade depression which is piling up, and the current talk among employers is that wages must come down a lot more yet before business will revive.—London Letter in American Federationist.

FOR THE HOUSEWIFE

Virtues of a Milk Diet.

Milk is the latest and most approved dietetic fad. The woman who is fair and with 40 starting her in the face and who is determined not to be fat makes her breakfast and lunch of milk and fresh fruit. She dines on a quarter of a pound of lean roast meat, with enough fresh green vegetables to "make bulk in her insides," as Tommy Atkins would say.

The fresh, wholesome beauty of the young queen of Holland is attributed to her frugal diet of the national milk and cheese, and the extraordinary vitality of the aged Roman pontiff is another evidence of what a rigorous diet will do for even so delicate a man as Pope Leo has always been.

The milk diet is of more value than many complexion washes, and as a means of adding to or diminishing one's weight it has no equal.

The popular superstition that milk is fattening arises from the fact that many misguided people, in addition to a heavy meal, drink milk sufficient for another meal and complain that it disagrees with them and increases their weight. In order to derive benefit from the milk diet one should get hold of a few fundamental facts.

In the first place, 1 1/2 pints of pure milk, or three glasses, contain besides water enough food in concentrated form and properly proportioned to make a meal for an adult human being. This quantity of milk, with the addition of a little fruit, is the regulation breakfast and lunch of the dieter. For dinner a quarter of a pound of lean roast meat, with some green vegetable, is allowed. A pint of milk is the limit where loss of flesh is an object, and one glass, with fruit, for breakfast and the same for lunch may be regarded as rather rigorous treatment.

An Outdoor Pantry.

People with plenty of ground space, yet constricted houses, may profitably take a leaf from the book of south country household economy. It is common there for country folk to have a sort of outdoor fresh air closet, a small



FRESH AIR FOOD SAFE.

detached structure set in the shade, place possible, standing upon four tall legs, with a flat shingle roof with barely enough pitch to shed rain. The floor is at least four feet from the ground and the whole structure only big enough to reach well across. There are shelves all around, and the weather boarding up next the roof is full of tiny auger holes. The door is tight and fastens with a lock. Around each of the four legs is commonly a tar bandage applied six inches above the ground. This traps venturous ants, spiders and their kin, thus keeping the inside clear. The structure is whitewashed inside and out twice a year. In hot weather floor and shelves are washed every morning and scoured twice a week. Such a fixture should not cost over \$3 or \$4 even if one hires it built, and it is certainly among the handiest things one can have about the house or yard.

"Cheap and Nasty."

There are a large number of housekeepers who have a horror of anything cheap and who of two things precisely the same would instinctively choose the higher priced. "Cheap and nasty," they quote, and there, for them, ends the matter. To be sure, some cheap foods are nasty, and much food is eaten by the poor that is not only cheap and nasty, but unwholesome. And much food sold in the markets is sold too cheaply—i. e., at a price that cannot pay the producer, whom it is nobody's interest to starve. The fact is that this disagreement, like so many in the world, depends upon the use of the same word by different people with a different meaning. "Cheap" by one party is taken to mean merely low priced, and it is a truism to say that low priced things are often not worth buying even at their price, while "cheap" by other persons taken to indicate the worth of a thing rather than its price. So the meaning attached to the epithet begs the whole question.

Hints.

Baked apples are the best healthful dessert that can be placed upon the table. Good pastry can only be made when the ingredients are absolutely cold. The colder eggs are the quicker they will froth. A spoonful of vinegar added to the water in which flesh is boiled will make it firm and tender. Pickles should never be kept in glazed ware, as the vinegar forms a poisonous compound with the glazing. Always well heat a gridiron before broiling meat, fish, bread or anything else. Lemons will keep a long time if covered with cold water.—American Queen.

Explanation.

"I hopes you'll 'scuse me for axin any question dat soun's pus'nal," said Miss Miami Brown, "but I would like to know what makes you walk so kind o' loose in de j'lints?"

"It's my musical disposition," was the reply. "Dey runs de bands so close together in a pubcession dat you's liable to be listen to a quickstep an a slowstep bof to once, an tryin to keep step to 'em simultaneous kind o' results in makin your ankles limber."—Washington Star.

The Emblem.

The landlady was helping her \$10 per week flock to sausage. "I hear that you are an Odd Fellow, Mr. Danks," she said, pausing in her work.

"Proud to say that I am," responded the new boarder.

"Ah, then I shall just give you three links."

And as his table mates received from four to six links the new boarder knew that he had spoken unwisely.—Chicago News.

The Elderly Caller and Johnny.

"I hope, Johnny, you are a good little boy and mind your parents. You must never forget how anxious they are that you shall grow up to be a good man. Never do anything to give them sorrow, Johnny, and let your conduct always be such that they may be proud of their son, who?"

"Say, them new teeth of yours don't match the other ones at all!"—Chicago Tribune.

The Acme of Comfort.

Husband—Don't forget to wake me at 7 o'clock, as usual, tomorrow morning.

Wife—Why, you don't have to go to the office. It's a holiday.

Husband—I know, but wake me at 7. I want to have the satisfaction of rolling over and going to sleep again.—Philadelphia Press.

Late Apologies.

Lady—Do you remember, professor, that 20 years ago when we took dancing lessons together you stepped on my toe, almost causing me to faint?

Professor—Oh, yes. I beg a thousand pardons.—Meggendorfer Blatter.

A Hopeless Case.

"After years of effort I have succeeded in learning how to pronounce 'Goethe.'"

"Well, are you satisfied now?" "No; every time I say it somebody corrects me."—Chicago Record.

Uncle Allen.

"The seven ages of man," Uncle Allen Sparks was saying, "as I have observed the creature, are these: 1. Cribbage. 2. Nonage. 3. Suffrage. 4. Marriage. 5. Bondage. 6. Breakage. 7. Dotage."—Chicago Tribune.

They All Lead Us.

Towne—Blugore's not very interesting himself, but there's a born leader of men in his family.

Browne—You don't say?

Towne—Yes; it's a girl; arrived last night.—Philadelphia Press.

Pan-American Exposition.

Low fares via the Lehigh Valley Railroad to the Pan-American Exposition. Five-day tickets, good only in day coaches, will be sold on Tuesdays and Saturdays, May 1 to October 31, from Freeport at the rate of \$7 for the round trip.

Ten-day tickets will be sold from Freeport every day, May 1 to October 31, good on any train, except the Black Diamond express, at the rate of \$10 for the round trip.

Mr. James Brown, of Portsmouth, Va., over 90 years of age, suffered for years with a bad sore on his face. Physicians could not help him. DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve cured him permanently. Grover's City drug store.

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RAILROAD TIMETABLES

LEHIGH VALLEY RAILROAD. June 2, 1901.

ARRANGEMENT OF PASSENGER TRAINS.

LEAVE FREEPORT.

6 12 a m for Weatherly, Mauch Chunk, Allentown, Bethlehem, Easton, Philadelphia and New York.

7 34 a m for Sandy Run, White Haven, Wilkes-Barre, Pittston and Scranton.

8 15 a m for Hazleton, Weatherly, Mauch Chunk, Allentown, Bethlehem, Easton, Philadelphia, New York, Delano and Pottsville.

9 30 a m for Hazleton, Delano, Mahanoy City, Shamondah and Mt. Carmel.

11 42 a m for Weatherly, Mauch Chunk, Allentown, Bethlehem, Easton, Philadelphia, New York, Hazleton, Delano, Mahanoy City, Shenandoah and Mt. Carmel.

11 51 a m for White Haven, Wilkes-Barre, Scranton and the West.

4 44 p m for Weatherly, Mauch Chunk, Allentown, Bethlehem, Easton, Philadelphia, New York, Hazleton, Delano, Mahanoy City, Shenandoah, Mt. Carmel and Pottsville.

6 35 p m for Sandy Run, White Haven, Wilkes-Barre, Scranton and all points West.

7 29 p m for Hazleton.

ARRIVE AT FREEPORT.

7 34 a m from Pottsville, Delano and Hazleton.

9 12 a m from New York, Philadelphia, Easton, Bethlehem, Allentown, Mauch Chunk, Weatherly, Hazleton, Mahanoy City, Shenandoah, Mt. Carmel and White Haven.

9 30 a m from Scranton, Wilkes-Barre and White Haven.

11 51 a m from Pottsville, Mt. Carmel, Shenandoah, Mahanoy City, Delano and Hazleton.

12 48 p m from New York, Philadelphia, Easton, Bethlehem, Allentown, Mauch Chunk and Weatherly.

4 44 p m from Scranton.

6 25 p m from New York, Philadelphia, Easton, Bethlehem, Allentown, Mauch Chunk, Weatherly, Mt. Carmel, Shenandoah, Mahanoy City, Delano and Hazleton.

7 29 p m from Scranton, Wilkes-Barre and White Haven.

For further information inquire of Ticket Agents.

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THE DELAWARE, SUSQUEHANNA AND SCHUYLKILL RAILROAD.

Time table in effect March 10, 1901.

Trains leave Drifton for Jeddo, Eckley, Hazlebrook, Stockton, Beaver Meadow Road, Roan and Hazleton Junction at 6:00 a. m., daily except Sunday; and 7:07 a. m., 2:48 p. m., Sunday.

Trains leave Drifton for Harwood, Cranberry, Tomhicken and Deringer at 6:00 a. m., daily except Sunday; and 7:07 a. m., 2:38 p. m., Sunday.

Trains leave Drifton for Onedia Junction, Harwood Road, Humboldt Road, Onedia and Shepton at 6:00 a. m., daily except Sunday; and 7:07 a. m., 4:41 p. m., Sunday.

Trains leave Shepton for Onedia, Humboldt Road, Stockton, Hazle Brook, Eckley, Jeddo and Drifton at 6:20 p. m., daily, except Sunday; and 8:11 a. m., 3:44 p. m., Sunday.

Trains leave Hazleton Junction for Beaver Meadow Road, Stockton, Hazle Brook, Eckley, Jeddo and Drifton at 5:40 p. m., daily, except Sunday; and 10:10 a. m., 5:40 p. m., Sunday.

All trains connect at Hazleton Junction with electric cars for Hazleton, Jeanesville, Auderick and other points on the Traction Company's line.

Trains leaving Drifton at 6:00 a. m. makes connection at Deringer with P. R. R. trains for Wilkes-Barre, Sunbury, Harrisburg and points west.

LUTHER C. SMITH, Superintendent.