

WAGES BEING RAISED

GOING UP FASTER THAN THEY EVER WENT DOWN.

Prospects Indicate that Wage-Earners by Next Year Will Have Regained All They Lost by Reductions During the McKinley Period.

Republicans Silenced.

There is a conspiracy of silence among Republican newspapers just now in regard to the rapidly increasing wages in woolen and cotton and other textile mills, and in various other mills and mines. It is perhaps fortunate for the Republicans that the tariff is not likely to be the leading issue next year. Present prospects indicate that by next year the wage-earners will have regained all that they lost by thousands of wage reductions during the McKinley period. They certainly will not care to experiment with another such wage-advancer as was the McKinley bill.

We got free wool on August 28th, 1894. Before a week had passed wages had advanced in the woolen mills of Rawitzer Bros., Stafford Springs. A score or more of wage advances were reported in large textile mills before the end of 1894, and the disease was beginning to spread to other industries. Early in 1895 everybody was surprised to learn that H. C. Fried & Co., and other coke producers had voluntarily advanced the wages of 15,000 workers 15 per cent. Below is given a partial list of wage advances from April 1st to April 22d. The most startling feature of the situation is the fact that in all but one or two cases wages have been advanced "voluntarily"—that is, without a strike.

The 200 employees of the Pakachag worsted mills at South Worcester were surprised on April 1st at the announcement that their wages had on that day been advanced about 18 per cent—a restoration of a 15 per cent. reduction made a year or two previous.

On April 1st a 15 per cent. restoration of wages took place in the three woolen mills of ex-Congressman Moses T. Stevens & Sons, in New Hampshire. These mills represent the most extensive woolen manufacturing business carried on by any one firm in this country.

Thomas Dolan & Co., large manufacturers of woolens in Philadelphia, on April 4 advanced the wages of all weavers employed 15 per cent. Other firms were expected to follow suit.

The Globe Iron Works, of Cleveland, Ohio, on April 14th restored the 10 per cent. reduction of wages made in 1893.

Wharfholder, Shore & Co., Cardington, Pa., posted notices in their mills on April 4th, restoring 5 per cent. of the 10 per cent. reduction made some time ago.

Notices were posted in the Washington Mills at Lawrence, Mass., on April 5th, restoring wages reduced a year or two ago. Nearly 4,000 employees were affected.

Representatives of the Bricklayer's Company, Philadelphia, Pa., on April 5th agreed to advance wages to bricklayers.

The 400 employees of the Belding Bros. & Co.'s silk mills were notified of a 5 per cent. advance in wages on April 6th.

On April 6th the Willimantic Linen Co., Willimantic, Conn., employing 2,000 hands, decided to advance wages generally 5 per cent.

The American Linen Mills, Fall River, Mass., ordered an increase of wages on April 10th.

Five hundred silk-ribbon weavers in New York City on or before April 10th had their wages raised, and 200 others were threatening to strike for an advance.

Worumbo Mills, Lisbon Falls, Me., ordered a 10 per cent. advance about April 10th.

The Fall River Iron Works mills (cotton goods), Fall River, Mass., posted notices on April 11th, advancing wages 10 per cent. in all departments. It has 1,800 employees.

Two hundred employees in the mills at North Grosvenordale, Conn., had their wages advanced 10 per cent. on April 13th.

E. W. Chapin & Co., manufacturers of woolens, Chapinville, Mass., advanced wages 10 per cent. about April 12th.

The Lakeside Manufacturing Company, Leicester, Mass., promised to "shortly restore the 10 per cent. reduction which went into effect a year ago."

United States Cotton Company, Central Falls, R. I., gave notice to its employees on April 11 that their wages would be increased 5 per cent. to 10 per cent.

All the cotton factories in Fall River, Mass., following the example set by Mr. Borden, on April 16 ordered an increase of 12½ per cent., restoring the rate prevailing before Aug. 20, 1894, the change to take effect on April 22. More than 25,000 employees are affected, and the wage payments will be increased, it is stated, by \$18,000 per week.

At the cotton factories in New Bedford, Mass., a restoration of the rate paid before Aug. 20, 1894, was ordered on April 17, an advance of about 5 per cent., affecting about 25,000 operatives.

The Quinebaug and Danielsonville Manufacturing Companies posted notices on the 15th in their mills at Danielsonville, Willimantic, and Waukon, Conn., announcing an increase of wages to take effect on April 22. More than 4,000 operatives are affected by the advance.

B. S. Stevens, manufacturer of woolens at Quinebaug, Conn., on the 17th increased the wages of his 200 employees by 15 per cent., restoring the rate paid in 1893.

The Slater Woolen Company of Webster, Mass., gave notice on the 20th inst. that the wages of its employees would be increased on May 1. An increase has been ordered by the same company in its cambrian mills at East Webster for May 1. The rate paid before the reduction of last year is to be restored. In both mills 1,500 employees are benefited.

John Chase & Sons, manufacturers of cassimeres at Webster, Mass., have increased the wages of their 300 operatives by 10 per cent.

Vassalborough Woolen Mills, near Augusta, Me., increase of 10 per cent. Burke Holl Company, Rowley, Mass., increase of 10 per cent., restoring old rate.

Weybosset Woolen Mills, Olneyville, R. I., wages increased in certain departments on the 18th inst.

About 400 loom hands at the silk mills of John M. Stearns & Co., Wilhampton, Pa., had their wages advanced 1 cent per yard on April 19.

The firm of William H. Grundy & Co., the largest worsted mills at Bristol, Pa., increased the wages of all employees 5 per cent. on April 18, and promised another increase of 4 per cent. if business shall continue to improve.

The strikers in the Linwood mill, North Adams, Mass., returned to work on April 18, the old schedule of wages demanded by the strikers having been granted.

The weavers in the Westerly Woolen Companies' mills were notified on April 18 that they could return to work on the following Monday at an increase of wages and steady work.

A Good Showing.

The current impression that the farming interests of the country are in a bad way has not all the elements of fact about it. The farmers have without doubt suffered from the depressed prices of the past few years, and those who have staked everything on wheat have sometimes come to actual loss. But, as the low prices have come to most other industries as well as agriculture, probably the average farmer has been able to exchange his products for as much machinery, clothing and food as he got in years when his products sold at higher prices. The chief burden has fallen on those who borrowed money at the time when a dollar was worth a bushel of wheat, and have to pay interest and debt when a dollar is worth two bushels of wheat. Yet even this class is not so badly off as the calamity howlers have asserted.

Estimates are misleading, but the returns of the money-lending companies furnish the best kind of evidence of the actual condition of the farmers. An insurance company that lends large sums on farm property makes the following report of its farm loans for last year:

"Of the total interest that fell due in 1894, amounting to \$2,953,968, only \$200,151 remained unpaid December 31st, and this amount, the greater part of which was due until the latter part of the year, has since been largely reduced. The entire amount of interest due and unpaid December 31, 1894, (including the \$200,151), amounted to \$233,058, or less than 5 (4.5) per cent. of the interest (\$5,623,340) that fell due in 1893 and 1894. Even this small amount is in no danger of loss, however, as it is amply secured by the property mortgaged. The interest accrued but not yet due on mortgage loans amounted to \$784,325. The total real estate acquired under foreclosure and now owned after an experience of over thirty-six years, during which time more than \$115,000,000 were invested in mortgage loans, amounts to but \$431,372 during the year. Included in the amount acquired by foreclosure in 1894 were but three farms, involving only \$9,781."

This would be a good showing in what are accounted good times. When it is reflected that the statement covers the year of greatest depression in recent history, it is safe to assert that our farming industries are on a solid and enduring basis.—San Francisco Examiner.

The Supreme Court's Duty.

There can be no two opinions as to what the court ought to do in the matter of again taking up the income tax. As it now stands the court has nullified a part of the law as unconstitutional, and has failed to render any decision whatever as to the rest of it. The law as it is now being enforced is left to rest upon negation alone. The court has not ruled either that it is constitutional or that it is not. Four Justices have decided one way and four the other. The ninth Justice has not heard the case. This is unfair alike to the Treasury and to the people subject to the tax. It compels the Treasury to collect the tax in uncertainty whether or not it may have to refund it. It compels the people to pay without knowing whether they are bound to do so or not. It leaves the country in perilous uncertainty as to its resources, the extent of its taxing power and the policy it should pursue.

We who have advocated the income tax as a just and equitable apportionment of the public burdens, equally with those who have opposed it, want all the questions touching its validity settled. The whole country wants to know whether it is or is not a constitutional tax, and the Supreme Court has no right to withhold its decision upon so important a point. It is intolerable that the revenues of the government and the rights of citizens should be left dependent upon a mere failure of the court to decide as to the validity or invalidity of a disputed statute.

A Blessing, Certainly.

The New York Press says: "California fruit growers desire that currants should be taken off the free list, as their business suffers in consequence of the importation of foreign currants in large quantities. This is one of the blessings of the Wilson tariff bill, the practical workings of which have everywhere been fraught with disaster to the industries of our country, both large and small."

Certainly this is one of the blessings of the Wilson bill. To have cheap currants is a blessing to all of the people in this country, except the few fruit growers, who have been trying to monopolize our markets and advance prices. Not having a tariff to keep out foreign currants, the California currant trust people are having trouble in compelling Americans to pay trust prices. Of course they want the McKinley bill back again—what trust does not?

There are only 71,805 divorced women in this country; there might have been more.

Too many men never praise their wives until after they bury them.

CHARTRAN'S PICTURE OF CALVE AS CARMEN.



OUR BUDGET OF FUN.

HUMOROUS SAYINGS AND DOINGS HERE AND THERE.

Jokes and Jokelets that Are Supposed to Have Been Recently Born—Sayings and Doing that Are Odd, Curious and Laughable—The Week's Humor.

Let Us All Laugh.

Strawber—Was her father willing to help you out? Slingerly—That's the way he acted—Brooklyn Life.

"Tom, who did you say our friend Lawley married?" "Well, he married \$40,000. I forgot her other name." Tit-Bits.

"Do you think the new boarder is permanent?" "Yes, indeed! He threatens continually to leave."—Chicago Inter Ocean.

"Is your editor a man of letters?" "Don't know, stranger, but you find out by axin' the postmaster."—Atlanta Constitution.

Applicant—Please, mam, the lady wot washes the steps for that woman which lives opposite says as you wants a girl. —Pall Mall Budget.

"Oh, doctor, how do you do? You look killing this evening." "Thank you; but I'm not; I'm off duty, you know."—Brooklyn Life.

"I wonder why taxes are generally due in March?" said the suburban. "It's easier to raise the wind then, I suppose."—Harper's Bazaar.

Tommy Asker—Now, if you was to git to be a artist, what would you like to draw? Andy Quick—A check on the bank.—Philadelphia Inquirer.

"De man dat comes round makin' de mos' noise," said Uncle Eben, "doan' generally hab' nuf time lef' ter make any'tink else."—Washington Star.

Squidig—He's a great criminal lawyer, isn't he? McSwilligen—Well, I believe he always stops short of actual criminality.—Pittsburgh Chronicle Telegraph.

First Boarder—What's the star boarder making all that hubub about over that berry pie? Second Boarder—I guess he found the berry.—Syracuse Post.

Johny fools his parents—It's very sad to state—They think he's making good. When he's only digging bait.—Washington Star.

Mrs. Jackson—Do you call this sponge cake? Why, it is as hard as a stone. Cook—Yes, mam, that's the way it is—a sponge is before it is wet. Soak it in your tea.—Truth.

Figgs—My! but isn't that a picture? Pogg—Quite stylish. But what is it? Looks rather large for a parlor lamp, and rather too small for a woman.—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

She—So the conj's relatives consider it mesalliance? He—Decidedly. The girl has only a quarter of a million, and the count owes three times as much as that.—Judge.

Professor (to his wife)—Elise, I have promised to deliver an address to-morrow evening on the rational exercise of the memory. Don't let me forget about it.—Flagg's Blaetter.

"Oh, my dear Mrs. —, how glad I am to see you. It is four years since we met, and you recognized me immediately." "Oh, yes, I recognized the man, too."—Flagg's Blaetter.

She—I know I'm cross at times, John, but if I had my life to live over again I should marry you just the same. He—I have my doubts about that, my dear.—Philadelphia Times.

The lady arrives a little late at the sewing circle. Servant—Excuse me, madam, but I'd advise you to wait a few minutes. Just now they are talking about you!—Humoristic Blaetter.

Gussy—Why do you so persistently wear the hair of another woman on your head? Beatrice—For the same reason that you wear the skin of another calf on your feet.—The Great Divide.

Artist—I'm half distracted trying to paint up a subject for my picture, "The Queen of May." Practical Friend—Why not paint a picture of a servant girl taking up carpets?—Chicago Record.

Goutran burst like a whirlwind upon his friend Gaston. "Going to fight?" "No, to get married." Gaston (after a pause) "Can't you apologize?"—Los Angeles Herald.

She—I can't help thinking I have seen your portrait in the newspapers somewhere. He—Oh, no doubt; it's often been published. She—Then I am not mistaken. What were you cured of?—Judge.

Mrs. Kicksey—I see by the head line in this paper that Spain has her hands full. Kicksey—Yes, and if she fools with this country she'll have her whole anatomy full of holes.—Philadelphia Inquirer.

"Here comes the carriage, Mauldin Fancy having to go and pay calls in such weather! It's enough to give one man's death of cold!" "Worse than that, mother! Everybody's sure to be in!"—Boston Budget.

Bruce—Makin' ma'am, the twins have been makin' a fuss all day, Mrs. Olive Branch—What about? Nurse—It's because they can't have a birthday a-piece, like the Dawson children next door.—Tit-Bits.

Mother—"Don't you feel able to sit up to day?" Boy—"No, mamma, I am too weak." Mamma—"Well, let me see. I guess you will be able to go to school Monday. To-morrow is Saturday, and—" Boy (jumping out of bed) "Saturday! I thought it was Friday."—Harper's Bazaar.

She (after the unmasking)—I see that strawberries are on the bill of fare, George. He (nervously)—Yes, but they are very sour at this season of the year. She—Of course; but I think I will take a few. One cannot expect strawberries to be at their best in March, you know.—Harlem Life.

The wife—"One half the world doesn't know what the other half lives." The husband—"Well, it isn't the fault of your sewing society, anyway."—Life.

So few women know how to use dry goods after they get them.

PULSE of the PRESS

James W. Scott.

Mr. Scott was personally a most genial and likable man.—Buffalo Courier.

It was impossible to be acquainted with him and not like him.—Scranton Truth.

The city was eminently for the man and the man for the city.—Kansas City Star.

Long will his memory live in the annals of American journalism.—Springfield News.

Fortune failed to change him from the genial, kindly spirit that he was.—Milwaukee Journal.

There is no man in the profession whose loss could be more severely felt.—Minneapolis Tribune.

He intelligently labored to the achievement of the public interest.—Rockford Register-Gazette.

He was a man of high private character, and this was reflected in his newspaper.—Toledo Blade.

He inaugurated a new era and injected a new spirit in the Western newspaper field.—Oshkosh Northwestern.

Mr. Scott has been a force in Western journalism and politics that commanded national recognition.—Kansas City Journal.

Mr. Scott was a man of great energy and enterprise and possessed wonderful executive ability.—Rochester Post-Express.

He had just attained the zenith of the popularity and success for which he had striven so long and deserved so well.—Peoria Transcript.

Above all he had a high sense of the duties which belong to newspaper work, believed in making a paper of clean character, attractive in its typographical appearance, and edited in its own office.—Springfield Republican.

Mr. Scott was a grand type of a true American. He was eminently a practical man, and many editorial conventions have been instructed and benefited by his addresses and instruction. Few knew him but to love him.—Elgin News.

Opinions on Various Subjects.