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**BY FRANK C. CARPENTER**

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One Year ..... 50c  
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Publication Office—422 Ohio Street

Entered at the Postoffice at Terre Haute, Ind., as second-class matter.

### IMPROVED CONDITIONS.

**Interesting Report Made by New York's Commissioner of Labor.**

The efforts of employers to establish model factories and institutions for the benefit of their employees has been investigated by John McMackin of New York, commissioner of labor.

In his report, showing the means adopted for the betterment of employees, he says:

"To gain the necessary knowledge as to the extent and effect of this movement to ameliorate industrial conditions in other directions than the granting of higher wages or shorter working hours and compliance with the statutory provisions the department of labor undertook a special inquiry into the subject, confining its efforts to firms and companies having more than thirty workers. The investigation embraced 108 establishments, employing 59,291 persons, that had in successful operation one or more of the activities that came within the scope of the research.

"An epitome of these measures follows:

"Ministering to the health and comfort of employees by providing wash-rooms, shower baths, working costumes, laundry facilities, ventilated lockers, bicycle sheds, dressing, dining and lunch rooms, free luncheons or food at nominal prices, sanitary drinking fountains, medicated drinking water, roof gardens and flower gardens on premises.

"Constructing costly and beautiful buildings, with assembly halls and clubrooms, in which are introduced diversions of various kinds to foster personal friendliness; establishing in factories clubrooms for social gatherings or meetings, rooms for games and encouragement of outdoor outings by contributing generally to the good of the community.

"Stimulating culture by the use of baseball, lawn tennis, door sport, dancing, etc.

"Efficiently providing for every employee."

### IT IS OPPRESSION.

**DESTRUCTION OF THE FREEMAN'S RIGHTS BY INJUNCTION.**

**The Old Struggle Between the "House of Hays" and the "House of Want," Address of Andrew Furuseth Before Congressional Committee.**

In the final day of the hearing before the house of representatives judiciary committee on the anti-injunction bill Andrew Furuseth of the International Seamen's union in an able review of the labor movement brought to the attention of the committee the doctrine of the employers that they have a vested right in the productive power of labor, and in the last analysis this meant industrial absolutism, which takes all liberty of action from the laborer. He said in part:

"This bill and the hearings thereon bring to your attention a conflict which is but another phase of that oldest of struggles in human society, the struggle between the houses of 'Hays' and 'Want,' on the part of labor 'the cry for freedom,' on the part of capital 'the argument of necessity.'

"The labor movement is but the fundamental Christian idea taking hold of the industrial field in an endeavor to transform it into its own image. This, gentlemen, is, in short, the labor movement. Absolutism has been removed from church and state; it still holds full sway in industry. Yet the employer says, 'This is my business; I am this business,' like the dictum of Louis XIV., 'I am the state.'

"We of the labor movement dispute this. We hold that since the business cannot exist without the worker he has something to say, about it. We do not claim that we are always right in what we say, but since the toiler cannot be divorced from his labor power this claim set up here of a vested right—so much labor power as will make a plant profitable—is not only un-Christian, but un-American.

"The evolution toward 'the kingdom' meets on the industrial field a most formidable power. There are plants which employ in different ways 150,000 men. Allowing five to a family, this means 750,000 men, women and children.

"The owner or owners claim the right to determine the hours of labor, which means what time the employee may be with his family. They claim the sole right to determine wages.

"It means the power to say in what hour the worker shall live, and what shall be worn, what shall be eaten, what shall be the education of his children."

### VICTIMS OF GREED.

**NEW YORK LANDLORDS GRINDING THE FACES OF THE POOR.**

**How the Toilers Are Enjoying "Prosperity" In the Metropolitan City. The Thoughtful Are Asking, "What Will the Harvest Be?"**

The eviction from their homes of hundreds of families in the east side of New York who are unable to pay the increased rents asked by the wealthy landlords or their lessors has presented many sad scenes during the past few weeks. The melancholy tableau of the evicted family gathered about a little pile of furniture in the street has been a common sight from the Bowery to the East river and from the Brooklyn bridge to Fourteenth street. Without warning rents were raised 20 and even 30 per cent. Many of the tenants who were evicted had saved the usual amount of rent money, but were confronted on rent day with the demand for an increase which they were unable to meet. Then came the city marshals with dispossession warrants, and the belongings of the unfortunates were dumped into the streets.

An article from the pen of the Rev. Thomas B. Gregory in the New York American at the beginning of the crusade of heartlessness and cruelty in Gotham accurately describes the situation. The article follows:

It is getting to be a puzzle with us as to whether we are living in Ireland or in the United States of America.

In Ireland, a land so blessed by nature, so cursed by man, it is no uncommon sight to see the landlord, backed by the constabulary, "evicting" some poor family from its wretched cabin, turning father, mother and children out into the world to find such shelter as they can.

But Ireland is now being outdone in this brutal direction by the landlords of the east side, Manhattan.

These humane gentlemen are about to turn thousands of poor families out into the street to become, like the birds, "com-mo-ners of the air," but, unlike the birds, with no place where they may rest when the night cometh.

The reason for this cruel action is not found in higher taxes, for the taxes remain the same, but in the rapacity of the landlords and the sublessees.

In plain English, it is greed, cold blooded greed, conscienceless, heartless greed, that is causing the trouble.

The men who own the east side property and the men who lease them are very religious. Their god is the almighty dollar, and they worship him with all their mind and heart and soul and strength.

They love money immensely; they do not care a "contiental" for humanity, and for the sake of a little more cash they are more than ready to see their fellow human beings suffer.


Justice Roesch goes straight to the heart of the matter when he says:

"If a man is trying to sell a property it is much better if he can say the property brings in \$2,000 a year for rentals than if he is compelled to admit that it brings only \$1,500. You see the point? He raises the rent to put his property in a higher class. The justice to the tenant in this case is not much considered."

But why, tenants! Why, the idea of these men care not to get as much as possible out of their property, turn him

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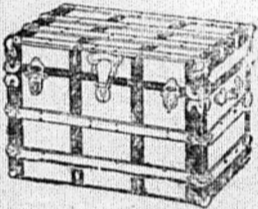
We elect a president next November. Are you going to vote with the Democrats, the party of the little capitalists, and try to put things back where they used to be?

Or are you going to vote with the Republicans, the party of the big capitalists, and help keep things as they are?

Or will you vote with the Socialist Party, the party of the workers, and help change things so that those who do the work will own what they produce? But possibly you do not know about the Socialist Party. Then send four cents in stamps, and receive by return mail three books, **Easy Lessons in Socialism, The Socialist Party, and What to Read on Socialism.** Address

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