

APPELLATE COURT SAVES BOSSES \$50,000 WRUNG FROM MAIMED WORKMEN

Result of Cases in 1909 Shows Character of Court's Action

BY E. DOWNEY

The Illinois Appellate Court annually reverses about twenty employers' liability cases in which juries have found for the plaintiffs. At least that was its record for the calendar year 1909. The amount thus saved to employers—and withheld from the families of injured workmen—aggregated nearly \$50,000. But this sum represents only a small part of the actual results of these employers' liability decisions. The rulings of the Appellate Court on points of law are of course binding upon the trial courts and those rulings steadily narrow the worker's already slight chance of recovery for death or injury in the course of his employment.

Law One of Worst
The Illinois employers' liability law is one of the worst in the Union, and far worse than in any civilized country, being, as respects most employments, the unregenerate common law of master and servant. In the first place, no employer is liable except for injuries caused by his own positive negligence—and this means maintaining conditions more unsafe than the generality of employers maintain. The workman assumes all the risks of his employment as usually carried on. Secondly, the master is exempt from liability even for his own negligence if only that negligence is habitual and notorious. As soon as a workman discovers that a machine or a scaffold is unsafe he assumes the risk of injury therefrom—his alternative being to quit his job, and perhaps to be blacklisted in the bargain.

Thirdly, by the fellow servant doctrine, the employer escapes responsibility to employees for the carelessness of other employees. Fourthly, the worker, or his heirs, cannot recover for any accident to which his own "want of care"—often caused by over-driving—in the smallest degree contributed. (Doctrine of contributory negligence.)

A Precious Right
Lastly, all that the workman or his family have in any case is the right to sue—to fight a wealthy corporation through a series of appeals, to wait an average term of four years for final judgment and to give half or more of whatever is finally recovered to his attorneys. The upshot of this barbarous law is that very few of the victims of industrial accidents ever bring suit against their employers and not one-sixth of those who make the attempt recover any compensation.

VOTE CAMPAIGN OPENS SAT. EVE.

The first meeting of the campaign for woman's suffrage this summer by the Socialist women of Cook county has been arranged for Saturday evening, July 9, at Walton place, in front of the Newberry library. The inaugurators of the campaign will open the fight with enthusiasm and confidence.

Mrs. May Wood-Simons and Mrs. Ellen Mergow will be the speakers at the opening meeting, Saturday evening, and will show how the demand for equal political rights for women at for men, is incorporated in the platform of the Socialist party.

"The working women," said Mrs. Simons in an interview, "have a definite end in view in gaining the ballot. They want it in order to change economic conditions. The factory girl, to free herself from wage bondage, the mother to liberate herself and her children. The women of the Socialist party will secure the ballot and use it in the interest of their class."

The support of the Twenty-first Ward branch of the Socialist party has been promised and a banner will be displayed with the words: "The Socialist Party Stands for Woman's Suffrage." A supply of Socialist and Suffrage literature will be available at the meeting.

Miss Emma Pischel will act as chairman. All interested in the suffrage question and maintaining the equality of woman's rights with those of men are urged to attend the meeting.

CHURCH AS INDUSTRIAL KING IS FEARED BY SPANIARDS

Madrid, July 8.—Commercial bodies have signed a petition to the government in favor of limiting the growth of monastic orders. They assert that the orders are monopolizing many branches of industry and commerce.

The republican organizations have pledged support to the government's religious program.

King Alfonso today signed the bill forbidding further religious orders to enter Spain until the pending negotiations with the vatican for a revision of the Concordat are ended.

The premier will present the measure to the cortes tomorrow.

The government fears the liberal tendencies against church control of national life and reaching out of monastic industries, a condition against which Ferrer fought hard, and which had much to do with the riots recently. Further revolutionary measures were forestalled, it is said, by the government action.

Are you a booter? Read Tuesday's issue.

FOREST PARK

Best Fifth Avenue Museum and Display
Best Museum Exhibits
Best of the World's
Best of the World's
Best of the World's

70,000 STRIKE FOR REFORM OF GARMENT TRADE

Abolition of Sweating Demanded by Strikers Who Enter Fight

BULLETIN

New York, July 8.—Whether or not there is to be a speedy settlement of the strike of the New York garment workers, which involves 50,000 men and women, was expected to be determined at this afternoon's conference of the manufacturers. The employers are badly divided. Many want to settle the strike on the best terms available because they fear

great loss on rush orders now on hand. Others, and they are for the most part the makers of the poorer grades, are opposed to this, saying that if they grant the demands of their former employes they will be forced into bankruptcy. This is the biggest general strike, so far as numbers is concerned, that this city has had since the tie-up of the building trades several years ago. More than twice as many are out as were concerned in the recent shirt waist strike, and the officials of the union issued a statement today, saying that when all of the union employes and their sympathizers are out there will be more than 70,000 affected.

New York, July 8.—Seventy thousand cutters, tailors and operators are now involved in the strike of the Cloak and Shirt Makers' union here, tying up 1,350 shops and factories.

The vote on the strike, which has just been made public, was 18,771 in favor of the walkout with only 615 voting against it.

The demands of the union are as follows:

First—An eight hour day. At present the workers are forced to labor as many as eighteen hours a day.
Second—Abolition of the rule of working seven days a week. At present very few work only six days a week. In the rush season men are forced to work at such high speed that they land in the hospital.

Sweating Attacked

Third. The abolition of the subcontract system. At present a presser contracts for the entire output of the shop and employs men at low prices to do the work for him. The same is done by others in the trade, such as finishers, basters and operators. This makes a uniform scale of wages impossible and the workers are placed in competition with one another.

Fourth. No work should be carried home for the wives and children of the employes. At present this system is much in vogue and thousands of families are working under sweatshop conditions and in violation of the anti-child labor laws.

Fifth. An increase in wages. There will be no uniform scale, due to the various styles in the garments. This demand will have to be adjusted by each shop individually.

Sixth. Double pay for overtime. Only a few shops now pay extra for overtime.

Seventh. The abolition of the foot-power system. Thousands of men and women are injuring their health by turning the wheels of the machines with their feet.

Eighth. The abolition of the charge for electric power. The practice at present, where electricity is installed, is to charge the workers for power. The charge amounts from 3 to 5 cents on a garment, and aggregates about \$1 a week.

Ninth. Recognition of the Union.

The strikers assert that this is the beginning of the busy season in their trades and that it is the most important time to enforce their demands. The employers declare that business is slow in some of their shops and that they will be able to get along without the workers who have struck.

The strikers, it is said, expect to remain out until a majority of the manufacturers agree to the demands. The strikers do not recognize the Manufacturers' association in the trouble, but will treat with the individual manufacturers.

Officials of unions say that a great many offers of settlement have been made by manufacturers, and these will be considered by the settlement committee of the strikers. This would permit some of the strikers to return to work if the terms are found satisfactory.

NORDBAELLES LODGE HAS PICNIC SUNDAY AT CRAGIN

The twenty-fifth annual picnic given by the Nordbaelles Supreme Lodge, at Kosciusko Grove, at Cragin, Ill., Sunday, July 10. Three prizes will be awarded to societies arriving in a body with the largest number of members.

Tuesday's Hustler's Column will interest you. Watch for it.

MAN KILLED IN A FIRE

Harry Ostenwon, aged 55, a photographer, was burned to death yesterday when his studio was destroyed by fire. Spontaneous combustion of chemicals in the laboratory caused the fire.

SHIP COMPANIES PUT BAD STEEL IN WAR ARMOR PLATE

Washington, D. C., July 8.—Investigation has been started by a commission of the navy department to find out why defective plates were used in the battle ships North Dakota and Utah. The New York Shipbuilding company and the Midvale Steel company, which built the ships, were represented at the inquiry.

At the last sessions, it is understood, examination was made to see if any foreign capital was represented in the American shipbuilding companies. The whole matter will probably be presented to congress. In the meantime the defective plates and the super dreadsnaughts were removed.



Open—
Tuesday
Thursday
and
Saturday
Evenings

The Famous CLOTHIERS

Madison AND Halsted

HERE is a special sale that you cannot afford to miss. Remember, it lasts all during the month but the best always goes first; so be among the first to take advantage.

Beginning Saturday July 9th

AND continuing throughout the entire month of July you can save from \$5 to \$12 on a new summer suit. This is our third "Half-Yearly" clearing sale, and if you were one of the lucky purchasers at any of our other sales, you surely know what big values we give for the money.

\$15 and \$18 for \$9.85
SUMMER SUITS

HONEST statements in our advertisements are the only means of building up our business, and we want you to come here and see our very best \$15 and \$18 suits that we are selling at \$9.85. The line consists of every fancy pattern in light and dark colors—some very fine blue serges and regular black goods—in fact any summer suit in the store that sold for \$15 or \$18 during this sale at \$9.85.

\$20 and \$22 for 14.85
SUMMER SUITS

AS a rule you pay \$15 for a fair suit of clothes (surely it's good value for your money) but when you can buy a \$20 or \$22 suit for \$14.85 you are getting more than your money's worth. Don't overlook this snap. These suits come in fine all-wool worsteds and chevots in all the new shades of gray and brown, fine blue serges and plain blacks—every one is strictly hand tailored, and worth \$20 and \$22 but during this sale you pay only \$14.85. Values of this kind you don't get every day.

\$25 and \$30 for 18.75
SUMMER SUITS

DID you ever hear of such a snap? Just think of it! Fine imported all-wool worsted suits with that fine soft finish and feel. Just what you have been wanting but maybe a little higher than you cared to pay. Now you can buy them for the price of a medium grade suit and save from \$6 to \$12. You ought to see these even if you don't buy; it will help you to know where to come the next time you want a suit. These are our regular \$25 and \$30 suits that you get during this sale at only \$18.75.

Practically every article in our entire stock will be reduced during this July Clearing Sale. Lack of space does not permit us to mention all here. We have planned many surprises in the way of extra values.

WATCH OUR WINDOWS

