THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO.
HYDE PARK.

November 13, 1905.

Mr. John A. Cook,

Marinette, Wis..

My dear Sir:

"The statement that the value of every other commodity is determined by the value of gold," is entirely erroneous. The prices of commodities are expressed in gold, and if gold becomes cheaper, the prices of commodities might fall, although there are other elements in the problem. I venture to send you a couple of pamphlets which might state the general case; but if you wish to go more thoroughly into the matter, you will find the whole subject scientifically worked out in a book of mine published by Scribners, called, "The Principles of Money."

A day's labor is not the measure of value any more than gold. This also you will find fully explained in the chapter om "The Standard Question" in my"Principles of Money".

Very truly yours,

J. Laurence Laughlin

This letter rec'd from a woman in Evanston who found it in an old book while working in a Church rummage sale. 6-4-57

Copie

Berlin W, den 18ten März 1903.
Mohren Str.25.

Herrn Professor M a r r
M ü n c h e n.
Arcis Str.32.

Sehr geehrter Herr!

Unter Bezugnahme auf die gütige Empfehlung des Ihnen befreundeten Herrn Baurat Heinrich Kayser erlaube mir die ganz ergebene Anfrage an Sie zu richten, ob und unter welchen Bedingungen Sie geneigt sein würden, meinen in Freiburg i.Br. lebenden Bruder für die Universität in Chicago zu malen?

Zur Aufklärung des Sachverhaltes gestatte ich mir folgendes zu bemerken: Mein Bruder, Dr.ph. Hermann von Holst, geb.1841, ist nach Absolvirung seiner Studien in Dorpat und in Deutschland als junger Mann nach den Vereinigten Staaten von Nord-Amerika gegangen, wo er, hauptsächlich in New York, etwa fünf Jahre lebend, die Freundschaft hervorragender Deutscher wie Kapp, Schurz, u.a. gewann, schriftstellerisch und politisch sich lebhaft bethätigte und namentlich auch die grundlegenden Studien für seine im Laufe der Jahre erschienenen, in Amerika hochangesehenen Werke über die Verfassungsgeschichte der Vereinigten Staaten betrieb. Im Jahre 1872 folgte er einem Rufe der Deutschen Regierung als Professor an die Universität Strassburg. Von dort ging er 1874 nach Freiburg

i.Br., auch hier als Historiker, freisinniger charaktervoller Politiker und hervorragender begabter Redner,- zugleich Vice-Präsident der ersten Kammer,- sehr geschätzt.

Die Amerikaner hatten ihn indessen nicht vergessen und beriefen ihn 1892 an die mit grossem Aufwand creirte Universität Chicago unter ungewöhnlich günstigen Bedingungen. Obgleich schon damals ein kranker Mann, leistete er diesem Rufe Folge, der ihm endlich doch wieder eine Wirksamkeit auf seinem eigensten Spezialgebiet,- der amerikanischen Geschichte und Politik,- verhiess. Er hat dort mit Auszeichnung Jahre hindurch gewirkt, hat aber, da seine Kräfte völlig zusammenbrachen, vor Ablauf seiner zehnjährigen Vertragsdauer seine Stellung aufgeben müssen. Die Verwaltung der Universität hat ihn dadurch ausgezeichnet, dass sie ihm eine bedeutende Pension aussetzte, ohne dazu irgend wie verpflichtet zu sein.

Die letzten etwa zwei Jahre hat er als Ganz-Jnvalide abwechselnd in Jtalien, am Genfer See und in Freiburg i.Br. gelebt.

Diesen kurzen und trockenen Lebenslauf musste ich vorausschicken, um die nachfolgenden Zeilen eines aktiven Professors an der Universität Chicago an meinen Bruder verständlich zu machen. Da ich von Freund Kayser hörte, dass Sie Deutsch-Amerikaner von Geburt sind, gebe ich die betreffende Stelle des Briefes nach dem englischen Original.

Sie

Sie lautet:

The Senate and your friends in the city have raised the question of having a really good and satisfactory portrait of you painted for the University. J have been asked to make inquiries on the subject. We wish an artist, who can do a really good pice of work. Do you know of some in Munich competent?- We wish some rigorous young man of genius, just rising to his prime, who would make a picture which Germany would be proud to send to Amerika as a work of art, as well as a characteristik portrait of a great scholar. It is very essential that he should have himself seen you, and studied you in person,- even though you are now less strong, alert, and masterfull than a few years ago. He must be willing to come where you are, even though you would not be able to sit for him much. The earlier photographs would help him; but still we wish the character of the von Holst we knew and loved and admired in Amerika.

Some artist there must be, like Watts, who painted J.S.Mill; looking for the character, and so not painting him as he looked in any one photograph, and yet giving us the real Mill. We are much in earnest about this and very anxious, that it should not be delayed.- We are ready to offer a good artist a satisfactory price.....Only do not let the business matters delay the selection, and the early progress of the picture. I hope, the portrait will be a full length, with a composition artistic and

dis-

a misreading of the poorly penned copy for vigorous

distinguished. It should be such a portrait as Lenbach would have painted in his earlier years..... I hope we may find some one, younger, who might do something almost as good as Lenbach could do.....

Die Wünsche der Besteller sind gewiss deutlich genug ausgedrückt und zweifellos für meinen Bruder sehr ehrenvoll formulirt. Nur der rigorous "young man" of genius, yust rising to his prime imponirt mir nicht, und habe ich mir bei meiner vermittelnden Anfrage bei Ihnen, hochverehrter Herr, deshalb erlaubt vom Taufschein abzusehen und in jenem Satz in Rücksicht auf die Sicherheit des Erfolges einige Streichungen vorzunehmen.

Sie werden es aber meinem Bruder nachfühlen, dass es ihm peinlich ist, in dieser ihn selbst betreffenden Sache ohne Bedenken über den Beutel seiner Freunde und Verehrer zu verfügen, und deshalb bitte ich Sie ganz ergebenst, falls Sie sich für die Aufgabe erwärmen können und den nicht reisefähigen kranken Mann zu dem Zweck in Freiburg aufsuchen wollten, mir einen annähernden oder festen Preis für Ihr Werk bestimmen zu wollen. Ich denke, dass sich auf telegraphischem Wege ohne viel Zeitverlust die Zustimmung oder Ablehnung erhalten liesse.

Zur Charakteristik meines Bruders will ich nur noch hinzufügen, dass er seinen Ruf in Amerika nicht blos seinen wissenschaftlichen Arbeiten über das Gebiet der Verfassungsgeschichte

u.s.w.

u.s.w., sondern vielleicht mehr noch seinem unbeugsamen Freimuth und Muth verdankt, mit denen er in kritischen Lagen der Nation sich zu seiner Ueberzeugung ohne Schonung seiner selbst und seiner persönlichen Verhältnisse furchtlos bekannt und sie mit rücksichtsloser Energie, auch gegen den Strom schwimmend, vertreten hat. Auch seine Gegner und Feinde haben dieses anerkannt und ihn in dieser Hinsicht als ein Vorbild für die amerikanische Jugend der Universität, die er zu lehren und zu erziehen hatte, bezeichnet.

Wie sollte nun ein junger, selbst noch unreifer Künstler aus der lebenden Ruine dieses Mannes, wenn auch mit Zuhilfenahme von Photographien und verspäteter persönlicher Berührung, ein Kunstwerk auf die Leinwand bannen können, das Watts Portrait von J.S.Mill entspräche?

Mit der Bitte, mein ausführliches Schreiben durch die obwaltenden Umstände entschuldigen zu wollen, bin ich, höflichst um Ihre gefällige Antwort bittend,

Hochachtungsvoll

Ihr

sehr ergebener

gez. Mathias von Holst

u.s.w., sondern vielleicht sehr noch seinem unbeugsamen Freimuth
und Muth verdankt, mit denen er in kritischen Lagen der Nation
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Mit der Bitte, mir in gefälligen Briefes Schreiben durch die
obwaltenden Umstände entschuldigen zu wollen, bin ich, Hochgeehrt
um Ihre gefällige Antwort bittend,

Hochachtungsvoll

Ihr

sehr ergebener

mar, 19, 1903

Abschrift.

Hochgeehrter Herr!

Wie merkwürdig doch der Zufall oft sein Spiel treibt. Wer hätte es damals für möglich gehalten, dass einstens die Frage an mich herantreten könnte, ein Bildniss des Mannes anzufertigen, zu dessen Füssen ich in Freiburg begeistert lauschend sass, dessen Vortragsart mich fortriss, nachdem ich mich nach ein Paar Augenblicken schon, an eine Eigenthümlichkeit seiner Aussprache mancher Wortendungen (wahrscheinlich die Folge eines Gaumenfehlers) gewöhnt hatte. Damals war ich zufällig in Freiburg zu Besuch: ein junger Freund von mir studirte daselbst und konnte ich die Gelegenheit, von Holst einmal zu sehen, zu hören (bekannt war er mir schon lange) wahrnehmen: ich ging ins Colleg: Nie wird mir diese Stunde in Vergessenheit gerathen können.-

Natürlich würde ich mit der grössten Freude die so schöne, wenn auch ausserordentlich schwierige Aufgabe zu lösen suchen und mich wohl selbst am Meisten freuen, wenn es mir gelingen sollte, ein solches Werk mit solchem Zweck abgerundet hinstellen zu können ( abgerundet nach meinem Ermessen) . "The rigorous young man rising to his prime" ist wohl nur als eine Redensart hinzunehmen, so sich "rigorous" und young nicht in besonders gutem Sinne auf seine Kunst beziehen.

see note to my brother's letter to Prof. Marr.

Für die Arbeit würde ich beiläufig $ 4000 fordern: ich bin Ihrer gütigen Rückäusserung gewärtig und zeichne mit besonderer Hochachtung

Ihr ergebenster

gez. Carl Marr

19. März 1903

Address/Prof. Laurence Laughlin 32 III

Aug. 6, 1903

Prof. J. Laurence Laughlin
Chicago

My dear Sir

Yesterday August 5th I delivered to the Express company the portrait of Professor H. C. Adler and do hope that the picture arrive its point of destination safely and in good shape and — that the portrait please You, but it may give you, what you expected.

The express people told

me, that there is not the least doubt of the box arriving in due time; it may be in Chicago even by the 10th of Sep. and the 15th could be considered more than a safe time — however, they insisted upon letting it go at once.

About two weeks ago young Prof. Schmidt of your University stepped into my studio. I had known him as a former student with Prof. Holst in Freiburg. Later on in Chicago, Prof. Schmidt was socially connected with the Holst family and thus I had all reasons to consider Mr. Schmidts Criticism concerning the picture, a most valuable one. I suppose he will relate to you in person what he found and ~~saw~~ in my studio: as for myself I was deeply pleased to hear Mr. Schmidt appreciate it. That is # Prof. Holst, such as

we remember him. #

It was my intention to send the picture to Freiburg first, in order to show the family what was being done in honor of the Father. I failed in my Calender-calculations however. The alterations suggested by Mr. Schenk postponed the completion of the picture in the first place and now the shippers will not guarantee a arrival of the picture

aug. 9
1903

Leopoldstrasse
No. 32.
München

Professor J. Laurence Laughlin
Chicago.

My dear Professor:

Just a few days ago I wrote, that the picture was on the road to Chicago. It is going the other way at present backward-bound for Freiburg.

After I had reported what was done, Mr. von Holst's jr. came to was painful. The idea that his family and he himself should not view the picture before

it took its way to America, appeared unbearable to him. Besides he claimed to bear considerable responsibility concerning the matter.

By means of an expensive Transportation medium it proves possible that I direct the picture back to Fribourg and thus I can relieve the family members of the disappointment related to.

But the Gods must stand by me and not permit a tardiness in the final arrival of the picture in Chicago.

Jonny our Holsts distress is of course only too natural and I can quite understand that he together with the rest of the family feel deeply disappointed and yet, in the midst of calamity, I preferred to make sure of meeting with the arrangements made by you for the University. The disappointment is on my part as well and I deeply re-

pretted not being able
to favor the family.
However I trust to
good luck with the Ex-
press keeps now and
hope that the Freiburg
parties will be happier
in a few days.

Very Respectfully Yours
Carl Shaver

Aug 9th 1903

in Chicago by the 15th,
unless I let it go directly.
I do not see, that any
thing can be done, inasmuch
as I regret not being
able to favor the family
as I had intended in
the very beginning. Even
Prof. Roberts brother
living in Berlin, writes,
that he cannot come
to Munich before the
10th of this month, which
of course is far too late
for your arrangements.

Very Truly Yours
Carl Maas

Aug 6th 1903.

567 THE ROOKERY
CHICAGO

January 9. 1904

Prof. J. Laurence Laughlin.
University of Chicago.

Dear Sir: Yours of the 8th inst duly received. I have been waiting to hear from you about having a meeting with Dr Harper & Mr Hutchinson re the subject of the Von Holst Portrait Fund. If you will arrange one next week I shall attend promptly. The following week I shall probably be away.

I enclose memorandum of my disbursements on account of the fund including the bill for photographs & my check for $75.17 & your order which pays my subscription of $100.00

Yours sincerely
E O Stanwood

1159 THE ROOKERY
CHICAGO

Von Holst Portrait Committee

To. Dana Hull

To making 8X10 Neg. & 100 Photos
Von Holst painting $57.00

Paid
Dana Hull

Chicago, Apr. 15th, 1903.

Mr. E. E. Prussing,

in acct. with

Jessie F. Pierce,
521 Rookery

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|---|---|---|
| Apr. 10, | -----15 pages, single space, (3 carb. copies each) | $4.50 |

Received payment,

Jessie F Pierce

Chicago, Jan 9 1904

Von Holst Portrait Fund

IN ACCOUNT WITH EUGENE E. PRUSSING,

LAWYER.

567

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Eugene E. Prussing

A. M. WERGELAND, PH. D.,
PROFESSOR.

THE UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY
LARAMIE

Nov 24. 09

Professor J. Laurence Laughlin,
University of Chicago,
Chicago, Ill

My dear Professor Laughlin,

Thanking you for your kind consent and regretting that I can not take advantage of your invitation to appear again in the Journal I write to say that the volume was sent today by mail to your address and I hope it will arrive without delay. Wishing you a pleasant Thanksgiving, I am,

Yours very sincerely,

A. M. Wergeland

Columbia University
in the City of New York

PRESIDENT'S ROOM

October 2, 1913

Professor J. Lawrence Laughlin

University of Chicago

Chicago, Ill.

Dear Professor Laughlin:

Having just read and greatly enjoyed your article in the current Atlantic, on "The Monopoly of Labor", I want to thank you for it and to congratulate you upon its clear and cogent reasoning. I wish you might find opportunity to repeat its arguments before labor organizations and companies of industrialists generally. It would be a grand public service.

With best wishes, I am,

Faithfully yours,

Nicholas Murray Butler

Columbia University
in the City of New York

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University of Chicago

Chicago, Ill.

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With best wishes, I am,

Faithfully yours,

5747 University Ave.
Oct. 13th, 1913.

Dear Professor Burdick:

It was a fragrant breath of air from the climes of long ago to get your thoughtful note about my article on "Monopoly of Labor". I am very glad indeed that you liked it. A word of praise from such a source is a sufficient balm for all the rough attacks I may receive from other quarters. I hope the article will do some good; but I very much doubt it. The labor union are not open to conviction. They have made up their minds on a certain theory and evidently propose to ride that theory to the bitter end.

I hope all goes well with you and yours. My kindest remembrances to you and your family.

Sincerely yours,

Professor F.

5747 University Ave.
Oct. 13th, 1913.

Dear Mr. Sedgewick:

I am greatly obliged to you for your favor of the 9th with its enclosures. Some of them I had seen before. Also I have had many letters.

The comment of Mr. Thomas C. Morgan, of Brooklyn, arises doubtless from my unwillingness to muddy the clear stream of my exposition be excessive statistical matter. The statement as to the rise of wages and retail prices of food was taken from the Statistical Abstract of the United States, 1910, P. 251. The rise in prices of food had been the one thing most commented upon, and I took this as typical of a rise in prices of other articles of consumption. Had I wished to burden the article with more statistical data, I could have made my case stronger. The latest figures are to be found in bulletin of the Labor Bureau No. 114, April 4th, 1913, p. 12. The facts are as follows:

| | Clothing | Fuel, etc. | Lumber & Bldg Materials | House Furnishings |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1907----- | 126.7 | 135. | 146.9 | 118.5 |
| 1897----- | 91.1 | 96.4 | 90.4 | 89.8 |
| | 35.6 | 38.6 | 56.5 | 28.7 |
| | 39% | 40% | 62% | 31.9% |

By a rough computation the increase per cent in these other expenditures of the workmen seem to average about 40%. Then if a family with an income of $700.00 in 1897 would have spent 50% for food, or $350.00, this would have risen, as your correspondent shows, to $435.00 in 1907. Then if the other 50% of expenditure increased, as is shown, by about 40%, the other $350.00 of expenditure should have risen to $490.00, leaving a deficit to the workmen of $64.00. Moreover, the recent figures show that prices of food by 1907 had risen 34% instead of the 23% given in the earlier publications.

You are at liberty to make such use of this letter as you choose.

Sincerely yours,

Ellery Sedgewick, Esq.

4 Park St Boston Mass

FORM 136 2000 9 13 HWR

P. O. DRAWER 5173
TELEPHONE MAIN 5547

EASTERN OFFICE
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BOSTON, MASS. Oct. 16, 1913.
AFB/H

Prof. J. Laurence Laughlin,
University of Chicago,
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Sir:-

Your article in the "Atlantic Monthly" for October, entitled "Monopoly of Labor", is the best statement of the labor question I have seen anywhere in the last five years. I have wished many times recently that I might be able to put the subject in the form of such an article.

There is just one feature of the situation, however, which you seem to have overlooked, namely, that labor unionists in the more highly organized trades have been more successful in forcing shorter hours and higher wages in their own particular lines than in those unionized trades lower down. They have thus succeeded in bettering themselves at the expense of all the laborers less well organized or not organized at all. Have not they, therefore, exacted wage increases in excess of commodity prices, whereas unorganized labor has really had to pay the bill? It would be an excellent thing if labor could be made to appreciate this fact in addition to all of the excellent points so clearly described in your article.

Yours truly,

Albert Farwell Bemis

EASTERN OFFICE
BEMIS BRO. BAG CO.
MARSHALL BUILDING
60 CENTRAL STREET

P. O. DRAWER 6172
TELEPHONE MAIN 8847

BOSTON, MASS. Oct. 16, 1913.
AJFB\H

Prof. J. Laurence Laughlin,
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Chicago, Ill.

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Yours truly,

5747 University Ave.
Oct. 23rd, 1913

Albert F. Bemis, Esq.,

40 Central St.,

Boston, Mass.

Dear sir:

It was a great satisfaction to me to have your appreciative letter of Oct. 16th regarding my article in the Atlantic Monthly on "Monopoly of Labor". This point of view had long been in my mind, and it was absolutely necessary to get it out of my system. From one who has had such a share in important business operations, your praise is the more appreciated.

I note the point which you suggest I have overlooked. You will understand, of course, that any article like this could not be exhaustive. If it is made too long, few people read it. Obviously it was possible for me to touch only on salient points. The point you make, however, is one that has long been familiar to me, and should the occasion present itself, it ought to be included in any more extended discussion of the subject.

I have no belief, however, that the labor unions will pay attention to the arguments I have presented. I believe the Editor of the Atlantic has secured Mr. John Mitchel to answer this article in the January number.

Thanking you for your kindness, believe me

Faithfully yours,

5747 University Ave.
Oct. 23rd, 1913.

H. L. Gregory, Esq.,

Los Gatos, Cal.

Dear sir:

In reply to your letter of Oct. 14th, enclosing an editorial on my article on "Monopoly of Labor", I beg to say that it probably refers to the article published in the Atlantic Monthly for October, 1913. You will be able to find the magazine doubtless on any bookstand. If no, you can obtain it at 4 Park St., Boston, Mass.

Very truly yours,

SAW & SHINGLE MILLS:
SAYABEC, P.Q.
SALMON LAKE, P.Q.
ST MOISE. P.Q.
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KILNS & DRESSING MILLS
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OFFICE: SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS.,

October 28, 1913.

Professor J. Laurence Laughlin,
Chicago University,
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Sir:--

I read last night in the Atlantic Monthly with a great deal of interest an article on Labor written by you which to my mind better covers the actual situation and the needs of labor than anything I have ever read. In short, it expresses very beautifully, ideas which I have had for many years. I note in the latter part of your article a reference to plans for the betterment of employees.

I am very much interested in anything that will benefit my men and I believe at least to a certain extent, am unselfishly interested. In any case, I would be very glad to have you tell me, if I am not asking too much of you, where I could get definite ideas in relation to the various methods of working out the desired results.

Awaiting the courtesy of a reply for which I wish to thank you very much indeed, I remain

Yours very truly,

A. A. Denton

D/M

5747 University Ave.
Nov. 19th, 1913.

Dear Mr. Sedgwick:

Pressing inquiries have come to me as to the possibility of re-printing and distributing my Atlantic article on "The Monopoly of Labor". If it is re-printed, it should, of course, bear the imprint of the Atlantic. If you should consent to this, kindly give me an estimate for the cost of re-printing 20,000 or even 50,000 or 75,000 copies.

It may be wise to send out John Mitchel's reply with it. Consequently, I should like to raise the question as to your consent also for the re-printing of his article. Personally, I should prefer to have both go together, as this distribution would be made to a picked list of important business men, publicists, legislators and labor union officials all over the country. It might possibly be a means of carrying the name of the Atlantic Monthly to a considerably constituency, and therefore possibly justifiable from the point of view of legitimate pro-

for the Atlantic.

As soon as you have a revised galley copy of Mr. Mitchel's paper I should be very glad to see it, provided this early information causes no violation of your editorial confidence.

Even if it should prove impossible to reprint Mr. Mitchel's article, I am shure there would be a strong demand for a wide distribution of my article alone.

Sincerely yours,

Ellory Sedgwick, Esq.,
Editor, Atlantic Monthly,
4 Park St., Boston, Mass.

5747 University Ave.
Nov. 24th, 1913.

A. C. Dutton, Esq.,

John Fenderson & Co.,

Springfield, Mass.

Dear sir:

I greatly appreciated your letter of Oct. 28th in regard to my Atlantic article on "Monopoly of Labor".

In regard to practical plans for the betterment of your employees, I suggest that you follow up the plans of the International Harvester Co. I am enclosing you two small pamphlets giving a description of their welfare work. They will be very glad to have you ask further questions.

You will find the following books on the subject: N.P. Gilman, "Profit Sharing Between Employer and Employee"; E. T. Schloss, "Methods of Industrial Remuneration"; Fay, "Co-operation at Home and Abroad"; Ford, "Co-operation in New England; N. P. Gilman, "Methods of Industrial Peace"; E. L. Shuey, "Factory People and their Employers".

Hoping that these suggestions may be of use to you, believe me

Very truly yours,

5747 University Ave.
Dec. 4th, 1913.

Dear Mr. Sedgwick:

Thank you very much for your answer to my letter regarding the reprints of my article. I should very much like to have you get an estimate from the Riverside Press, or any Boston printer for the re-prints with cover in amounts from 20,000 to 75,000. The cover should have printed on the outside my name and showing that it was sent by me. Since you are so kind as to offer to lend me the plates, it would be easier to have them go to some printer near you. From every quarter come requests to have a large distribution of the paper.

Sincerely yours,

Ellery Sedgwick, Esq.,
Editor, Atlantic Monthly,
4 Park St., Boston, Mass.

5747 University Ave.,
Dec. 11, 1913.

Dear Mr. Greene:

The lowest figures I can obtain from Boston for a sixteen page pamphlet, folded and wired, all printed on text paper, like the Atlantic Monthly, cover-title with blank back, ten pages of text and four blanks at end, are:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 20,000 | copies | $123.00 |
| 50,000 | " | 279.00 |
| 75,000 | " | 403.00 |

These figures are from the Riverside Press. The Atlantic Monthly has nothing to do with this work.

Sincerely yours,

Jerome D. Greene, Esq.,
26 Broadway,
New York City.

5747 University Ave.
Jan. 24, 1914.

Mr. C. B. Spender,
Central Christian Advocate,
1121 Mc Gee St.,
Kansas City, Mo.

Dear Mr. Spencer:

I find some difficulty in giving definite answers to your inquiries of Jan. 16th. The best I can do is as follows:

1. It is very difficult to get trustworthy statistics in regard to the membership of particular unions. Computing on the basis of delegates to the Convention of Iron, Tin and Steel Workers in 1912, the Union must have had a membership of between 4,000 and 5,000. Both the American Federation of Labor and the Industrial Workers of the World have attempted to organize the unskilled workers of the steel corporation without any particular success. There may be other classes of workers employed by the U.S. Steel Corporation, such as engineers, firemen, blacksmiths, teameters, etc., who are organized with unions in their particular class, but it would not be possible to determine their numbers without a convass of each union, and then the results would probably not be reliable. My information is that relatively few of the employees of the U.S. Steel Corporation are members of unions.

2. I know of no way in which and accurate statement can be made of what the unions have accomplished for the betterment of the working class in this country. Wages are usually higher in industries well organized than in those in which organization is lacking; but organized workmen are usually skilled workmen, and there is no way of telling what effect the higher wages of this class of workmen has upon those in another class. There seems little doubt that unions have had an influence in shortening hours, regulating labor competition, improving sanitation and safety in shops, in mines and on railroads, and that they have had more or less educational effect. On the other hand, it is probable that they have interfered with efficiency in many cases and have seriously delayed industrial develop-

ment.

Very truly yours,

Union of Labor

ARTH[illegible]AN.

ARTHUR T. LYMAN.
P.O. Box 1717 Boston, Mass.

Boston, Mass., Feb. 7, 1914.

Prof. J. Laurence Laughlin,
University of Chicago,,
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Mr. Laughlin:

I have been reading the article by John Mitchell in the Atlantic Monthly for February. You can readily see many of the fallacies of it, but I should like to make a few comments.

Mitchell is quite different from Gompers, apparently a man of better education and type, both, however, having or having had similar failings. It is rare now, that any objection is made by employers to the joining of unions, though many, if not most employers are entirely opposed to the "closed shop" which acts very unfairly to the non-union man. There is very little difficulty, in textile trades at least, in fair conferences between employers or their agents and the officers or committee from labor unions, even in mills where a large part of the operatives are non-unionists.

Wages are kept up, sometimes in advance by the unions, but what maintains the advanced wages is the demand for labor on the part of competing employers. If it was not for that, a reduction in wages would often take place.

Page 163--certainly the Hatters' Union in the case quoted was in restraint of trade if anything ever was. If all employers combined in that manner it certainly would be held by the courts a restraint of trade. Certainly the labor unions would hold and the courts would also hold that a complete union of employers would be monopoly and restraint of trade.

The labor unions are certainly in the same position and in practice it is vastly more difficult to combine the employers. In a comparatively recent case of a strike in the building trades in New York for "closed shop", some of the employers gave away and agreed with the employees not to use any wood work or trimmings made in non-union shops. This combined was a joint monopoly of employers and unionists and was held by the courts to be illegal.

I think Mr. Mitchell's contention that in the original Sherman act it was not intended to include labor unions as entirely fallacious and that it was really so in terms is shown by the bills now before Congress to except labor unions from the provisions of the law.

Unions are certainly organized for a profit as much as employers are and employers in any trade that I am familiar with are subject to extreme competition.

Page 166--the original purpose of the unions for seeking better conditions in many cases and for advanced wages was justified and beneficial. The trouble is in the way in which they try to enforce their demands and the militant section of trade-unions is now practically in control and violence is almost always resorted to.

I think you were perfectly right in saying that the high wages are responsible largely for the high prices which the consumers are required to pay for what they buy. Of course it is perfectly plain that there are some other good reasons for the raise in price of beef as the number of beef cattle have diminished and the number of beef eaters vastly increased, but the high wages paid to brick layers, carpenters, plumbers, etc. increase enormously the cost of

buildings and make an advance in house rents unavoidable. The labor is not only high in cost but nearly all of the laborers are in a combination to reduce the amount of work performed in a day.

Page 167--Mitchell's statement that prices have little to do with wages but are arbitrarily fixed at monopoly figures is not only false but silly. Newspapers and magazines are cheaper than when the printing trades received lower wages but that is on account of the greater circulation and the enormous profits from advertisements in magazines, etc.

Freight rates have been constantly reduced but for similar reasons as the number of passengers and the tons of freight has increased enormously over Western railroads which in the beginning had very few passengers and very few tons of freight in parts of the country just open to settlement.

Employers do not often receive exhorbitant profits. He should have said "rarely" instead of "often" and there are many cases where they receive, as at present, no profit at all. The statement that very few union men are employed in the manufacture of woolen goods is not true.

I think his statement that trade-unionists would not wage war on society is equally fallacious. The recent strikes on railways have shown the public service establishments to be practically subject to the dictations of the unions. The unions certainly are responsible for the violence in such strikes and also for the dynamiting in all parts of the country ending at Los Angeles (or not ending there rather) and the officers of the Federation of Labor never expelled any one for violence and have supported those convicted by several courts for the explosions

referred to. Someone has said lately that the chief difference between the Federation of Labor unions and the I. W. W. was that the latter began by acts of violence and then made exhorbitant demands, while the Federation of Labor unions began by exhorbitant demands and if these were not speedily granted resorted to acts of violence.

Yours truly
Arthur T. Lyman

5747 University Ave.,
Feb. 9th, 1914.

Athur T. Lyman, Esq.,
P.O. Box 1717,
Boston, Mass.

Dear Mr. Lyman:

I was glad to receive your letter of Feb. 7th as I have been to receive others of like character in the past. Your comments are of value to me because they present the case from another angle than my own prepossessions.

I have some reason for believing that John Mitchel himself did not write the article, but that he had other assistance. Of course his article is a special plea, and, moreover, avoids the central point of my contention. However, no one expects the leaders of the unions to be fair in any such discussion. So far as I can see, the unions seem to be riding for a fall, and personally I believe it is just as well to meet the issue sooner rather than later. A code of political action and of ethics is being slowly crystalized by

the more radical unions which are wholly inconsistent with the generally admitted civil and moral codes.

Thanking you for your suggestions, believe me with great respect

Faithfully yours,

BARABOO HIGH SCHOOL
OFFICE OF
A. C. KINGSFORD
SUPT. OF SCHOOLS

J B Clarke
Atlantic Monthly Sept 7 1913

BARABOO, WIS., Feb. 9th 4. 191

Prof. Mc Laughlin,

Chicago, Ill.

Dear Sir;

We are to debate the question of Minimum Wage. Will you inform me of the best things printed onnthis question. Where can I find anything that you yourself amy have said on the question.

Yours sincerely,

A. C. Kingsford.

"Monopoly of Labor"
Oct 1913 Atlantic Monthly

5747 University Ave.,
Feb. 10th, 1914.

A. C. Kingsford, Esq.,
Supt. of Schools,
Baraboo, Wis.

Dear sir:

The only literature I can refer you to at this time on the question of minimum wage is an article by myself in the October, 1913 number of the Atlantic Monthly, entitled "Monopoly of Labor", and an article in the same magazine, I think in the September, 1913 number, by Professor J. B. Clark.. Copies of these magazines can be secured by writing to 4 Park St., Boston, Mass.

Very truly yours,

The Engineering and Mining Journal

PUBLISHED WEEKLY AT 505 PEARL ST., NEW YORK

Feb. 17, 1914.

Prof. J. Laurence Laughlin,
University of Chicago,
Chicago,
Ill.

Dear Sir:

I enclose herewith a copy of a letter that I have sent to the editor of the New York "Sun". I thought possibly you might be interested in my remarks.

Yours very truly,

W. P. Ingalls

J/EH.

Enc.

Dear Sir:

I enclose herewith a copy of a letter that I have sent to the editor of the New York "Sun". I thought possibly you might be interested in my remarks.

Yours very truly,

J/DH.

Enc.

JOHN MITCHELL ON ECONOMICS.

In the February Atlantic, John Mitchell has a paper on "The Economic Necessity of Trade-Unionism", replying to a previous paper by J. Laurence Laughlin. Mr. Mitchell's economic fallacies are comprehensive and stupendous, but one or two of them are worth mentioning.

He disclaims the charge that the unions by raising wages have contributed to the increased cost of living, saying in effect that of course the increased production of gold accounts for that, as the leading economists almost uniformly assert.

Now, the gold theory was a favorite one of some of the younger American economists, but it was never agreed to by all, or almost all, American economists; and not by Professor Laughlin and other leaders; while the British and French were rather general in their dissent. Nor in the light of recent events do we hear so much about the gold theory, not even from its former exponents.

Another point of Mr. Mitchell's is interesting, viz. that wages would never go up except by the pushing of the unions. In other words, the law of supply and demand does not rule in labor, but must be controlled artificially by a monopoly. Manifestly, Mr. Mitchell's trend of thought is in no wise different from that of the capitalistic trust magnates.

However, a broad class of employment that has not been unionized, at least not more than sporadically, which refutes Mr. Mitchell, immediately occurs to me. I refer to domestic service.

The oft-discussed problem of the house servant resolves itself to this. The market price of cooks,

"generals", etc., has risen in late years, and employers do not want to, often can't, pay what is demanded. Anybody who recognizes conditions and meets the market does not have any trouble. There is no doubt respecting the advance in wages in this vocation and it has been a very serious matter to many housekeepers, far more serious than the exactions of the sugar trust and others.

It would be unwise to attempt too much generalization from this, but it may be pointed out to Mr. Mitchell that here is a class of working people, generally illiterate and inefficient, acting in our homes in the matter of waste as if they had previously lived in some place where they had been wont to pick dollar bills from trees (although we know that in fact they didn't but lived more or less in squalor), whose wages have gone up strongly, not by the instrumentality of any union but simply because of the law of supply and demand.

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5747 University Ave.,
Feb. 20th, 1914.

W. R. Ingalls, Esq.,
505 Pearl St., New York City.

Dear sir:

I was greatly obliged to you for sending me a copy of your letter to the New York Sun on John Mitchel's article. It seems to be he has avoided the real issue presented in my paper which was that of the "monopoly of labor". He tried to change the point at issue to that of the grounds for the existence of unions. It does not seem to be exactly worth while to make a reply to his article, and besides, I suppose, no magazine cares to keep up a running discussion.

The points you made are effective, especially as relates to the theory that high prices are due to the large production of gold.

Very truly yours,

Quadrangle Club,
December 1, 1914.

Rev. John O'Grady,
Catholic University of America,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

You will find my position in regard to The Minimum Wage stated in an article in The Atlantic Monthly for October, 1913, entitled, "Monopoly of Labor". I answer very briefly your questions on the enclosed sheet.

Very truly yours,